College Park busted for third year

Police stop St. Patrick’s Day party

By KATE ANTONACCI
Associate News Editor

For the third straight year, local police agencies busted a large student St. Patrick’s Day party at the College Park apartment complex Thursday.

The Indiana State Excise Police issued citations to four students at the 18027 Bulla Road apartment complex, district 1 excise Lt. Greg Deitchley said.

One male was cited for both minor in consumption and for presenting an officer with a false identification, Deitchley said.

Three other individuals were cited for minor in consumption, but no custodial arrests were made, Deitchley said.

The excise police arrived at College Park in six unmarked vehicles and entered the complex at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Laetare winner named

Murray to be honored for milestone surgery

By KATE ANTONACCI
Associate News Editor

Dr. Joseph E. Murray, the first surgeon to perform a successful organ transplant 51 years ago, has been chosen to receive the University’s 2005 Laetare Medal.

“Human lives and hopes have been wonderfully invigorated by J. Joseph M. Murray’s, 1954 medical triumph,” Murray University President Father Edward Malloy said in a press release. “The genius, erudition and skill he brought to the surgical arena are all gifts from God which this good doctor has made gifts to humankind.”

The University selected Murray for his deep Catholic faith and his many contributions to science. He successfully transplanted a donated kidney from one brother to another on Dec. 23, 1954. In 1962, Murray performed the first successful kidney transplant using a kidney from a donor unrelated to the patient. For the developments made in lifesaving organ and tissue transplant techniques, he won the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 1990.

“Dr. Murray’s vision of medicine as a means to serve others, and his deep faith in God made him an excellent candidate. His faith is what provides the context for his work and has shaped his life,” said Father Peter Jarret, counselor to the President.

The award is meant to recognize the contributions of men and women whose faith energizes their work. Jarret said.

Symposium to debate women in battles

By MEGAN O’NEIL
Sue Macy Editor

In this time of world conflict, conscientious Saint Mary’s students may wonder what their roles as women in a troubled society should be.

To help answer this question, the Saint Mary’s women’s studies program is hosting a week-long symposium entitled “Women, War, and Peace: Feminist Interventions in a Time of Conflict” in conjunction with Women’s History Month.

The third annual women’s symposium, which will run through next Wednesday, features several women’s studies scholars and feminist artists and is focused on the role of women in situations of armed conflict.

“It seemed like an appropriate theme given what is going on in the world,” women’s studies department chair Astrid Henry said. “We thought it was a very timely and important subject.”

The week of events officially began Tuesday with a lecture given by Cynthia Enloe, a feminist author and professor at Clark University. Enloe discussed military intervention, women, and war.

Students snap up internships as semester ticks down

Summer spots seen as vital for careers

By KATIE LAIRD
News Writer

As the semester begins to wind down and summer approaches, many students are searching for internship opportunities and using the various resources the Career Center has to offer.

Susanne Thorup, manager of internship development at the Career Center, works closely with students from all colleges to help them find internships that best suit them.

“Intership(s) provide good exposure in a field to see if it’s really what you want to do,” she said.

In addition to resume writing tips, practice interviews and internship workshops, the Career Center has many online resources to make applying for internships accessible to students. Two popular resources are Go Iron and NaceLink Global, which provide listings of internships by city, major, company and various other factors.

Caitlin Leiva, a junior accounting major, is currently studying abroad with the London Program. Leiva learned in full that she had received a summer internship with the accounting firm Ernst & Young in San Francisco.

“I think it will be a good chance for me to see if accounting really is the thing for me,” Leiva said. “I am excited about the chance to get some real world experience and hopefully make some good connections in the process.”

Leiva said she used resources at the Career Center to help her write a resume and searched Go Iron to help her find the Ernst & Young position.

“Overall, the Career Center is helpful for fine tuning things and getting the ball rolling, but...
A universal accessory

Up until last week, I think I was the last person in America not to own a cell phone. What once was reserved for doctors on call or lawyers appearing in court has now become a universal accessory. Even elementary school children have them now. When I was 12, the big thing was pleading with your parents until they folded and let you get your ears pierced. My little sister, a sixth grader, is working on getting herself a new Nokia.

My aversion to cell phones stemmed first from my remarkable inertia. Rare is the day that I walk out the door without checking my cell phone. I'm not the only one who has become a cell phone slave. Megan O'Neil, Saint Mary's junior, said she spends an average of 12 minutes each day looking at her phone. Meanwhile, young students and faculty members alike have grown attached to their cell phones. Rare is the student who does not have his or her cell phone close by. Megan O'Neil, Saint Mary's junior, said she spends an average of 12 minutes each day looking at her phone. Meanwhile, young students and faculty members alike have grown attached to their cell phones. Rare is the student who does not have his or her cell phone close by.

| Question of the Day: What was the best thing about St. Patrick's Day? |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Lara Casham | Nick Albares | Katie Zaznek |
| freshm Anbourn | freshm Alumn | junior Badin |
| Katie Lancos | Derrick Testa | Erica Wells |
| freshm Alumn | freshm Alumn | freshm Pangborn |

"My glowing-dark green ring." "Losing my prospect." "Making green eggs and green pancakes." "Forgetting that I have any classes tomorrow." "I don't have anything appropriate to tell you.""
Standing parents.

Counter. University President

Cultural

in

Association (AAA) will

Asian-American Association's event to focus on generation gap

"Growing up, I kind of had American culture, and at the same time I had my parents' Korean culture," he said. "At that time it was kind of tough communicating."

Applicability to a broad range of Asian cultures is also among the conference's goals. Yu said the events feature speakers from a variety of backgrounds, and that the publicity posters for the conference feature scenes from many cultures as well.

"I feel that it's valid to all the cultures," he said. "I don't think it favors any one of them ... it kind of encompasses all of them."

Registration for the conference is $7, and lunch, activities and the InFocus Banquet at 6:30 p.m. in the Mendoza Atrium are all included. The conference will conclude with the banquet, featuring a talk by professor Bradley Malkovsky of the Notre Dame Theology Department and his wife Mariam. Saturday's events draw to a close with Shangra Bash, a celebration featuring Indian food and music at 10 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom.

Contact Steve Kerins at skerins@nd.edu

By STEVE KERINS

New Writer

Today and tomorrow, the Notre Dame Asian-American Association (AAA) will explore bridging the gap between generations in workshops and presentations at their fourth annual InFocus conference.

"The conference's format is kind of similar every year," AAA member Eddie Yu said. "But every year it's a different theme. This year the theme, "Generations: Bridging the Gap," deals with family perspectives within the culture itself, with our parents ... I feel like a lot of it's about understanding parents and progeny."

"I feel like a lot of it is understanding parents and progeny." Eddie Yu

AAA member

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Contact Steve Kerins at skerins@nd.edu

Jenkins appoints alum as executive assistant

Special to the Observer

Frances Shavers, a 1990 Notre Dame graduate who previously served in the Notre Dame athletic department and Alumni Association, will return to the University to serve as executive assistant to President- elect Father John Jenkins. She currently manages the Community Education Academy at the University of Southern California, Shavers will begin her new duties at Notre Dame on April 27.

"Frances is an extraordinarily talented individual with equally impressive interpersonal skills," Jenkins said. "She has a deep understanding of and appreciation for Notre Dame, and I could not be more pleased that she has accepted our invitation to return to her alma mater and serve on my administrative team."

After earning her bachelor's degree in sociology, Shavers worked for two years with the Aetna Life and Casualty Company in Dallas and Buffalo, N.Y. She returned to Notre Dame in January 1992 to serve as director of alumni clubs and student programs in the University's Alumni Association. Her responsibilities included supervision of the activities and programs of the University's student-alumni group and serving as liaison between Notre Dame and its network of more than 100 alumni clubs nationwide.

Shavers was appointed the first coordinator of the Notre Dame athletic department's Life Skills Program in 1996. Under her direction, the program created academic, personal and career support programming for the more than 700 Irish student-athletes, and has since been recognized as a model within intercollegiate athletics.

At USC, Shavers was responsible for overseeing a collaboration of the university's major educational outreach initiatives. She facilitated communication among various programs, developed programming that integrated services and managed the academy's strategic planning process.

Shavers began work on her master's and doctoral degrees in 1998 in the Graduate School of Education at Harvard University. She earned her master's a year later in administration, planning and social policy and completed her doctorate last year in the same field with a concentration in higher education.

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Mini-Golf Bonanza

Benefiting ALS Research

March 19, 2005

9:00pm to 12:30am

Stepan Center

Free Pizza and Subs

Great Prizes:

- i-Pod
- i-Pod Docking Station
- Digital Camera
- i-Shuffle

and much, much more!

Note: TVs on location will be playing NCAA Basketball
Pulitzer Prize winner passes away at home

Associated Press

PRINCETON, N.J. — Diplomat and Pulitzer Prize winning historian George F. Kennan, who gave the name “containment” to postwar foreign policy in a famous but anonymous article, died Thursday night at his Princeton home, his son-in-law said.

Kennan was 101.

“He was a giant. Many people have called him the most important foreign service officer of the past half-century,” said son-in-law Kevin Delany of Washington, D.C. “He was a very thoughtful man with an elegant writing style.”

Identified only as “X,” Kennan laid out the general lines of the containment policy in the journal “Foreign Affairs” in 1947, when he was chief of the State Department’s policy planning staff. The article also predicted the collapse of Soviet Communism decades later.

“It is clear that the main element of any United States policy toward the Soviet Union must be that of a long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment of Russian expansive tendencies,” Kennan wrote.

When the Cold War started Kennan was finally driven from power in the Soviet Union after the failed hardline coup in August 1991, Kennan called it “a turning point of the most momentous historical significance.”

In his 1947 article, Kennan disagreed with the emphasis on military containment embodied in the Truman doctrine. That policy, announced three months before publication of Kennan’s article, committed U.S. aid in support of “free peoples who are resisting armed subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressure.”

Kennan doubted a Soviet Union exhausted by war posed any military threat to the United States or its allies, but was a strong ideological and political threat.

Kennan renounced containment and called for a new policy of “engagement.” He advocated dialogue with the Soviets, and foresaw the world as a two-way street with powers starting from an equal footing.

Kennan returned to the foreign service in 1952 because of differences with the new secretary, John Foster Dulles. He again won the Pulitzer Prize in 1967 for “Memoirs, 1925-1950.” A second volume, taking his reminiscences up to 1950, was published in 1969.

Kennan returned to the foreign service in the Kennedy administration, serving as ambassador to Yugoslavia from 1961-63. In 1967, he was assigned to meet Svetlana Alliluyeva, the daughter of Josef Stalin, in Switzerland and helped persuade her to come to the United States.

In the 1960s, Kennan opposed American involvement in Vietnam, arguing that the United States had no vital interest at stake. In Kennan’s view, Washington had only five areas of vital interest, and Kennan thought them to be weak.

Associated Press
LETTERMAN RANSOM PLOT EXPOSED

Man charged with planning to kidnap the talk show host's son and his nanny

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Any permanent reduction in the number of U.S. troops in Iraq isn't likely until sometime between late 2008 and 2009, a top Army general said Thursday.

For there to be any drawdown, Iraq security forces must continue to improve their ability to fight the insurgent groups, Gen. Richard A. Cody, Army vice chief of staff, told reporters.

The military is planning a staggered rotation of soldiers and large units that will begin in late 2008, early 2009, Cody said. That planning is expected to include the possibility of a significant reduction in U.S. forces.

He said he could not be more specific in numbers or timeframe, nor did he say how a reduction would be achieved. Sending fewer or smaller units to Iraq is one possibility; shortening the time each unit spends in Iraq is another.

The military has not selected which units will serve in Iraq during that rotation. They would replace the Army's 4th Infantry and 101st Airborne divisions, which are slated to go to Iraq in the coming rotation.

The insurgency has forced the United States to keep a permanent force of 138,000 troops, or 17 brigades, in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion two years ago. They are primarily Army soldiers and Marines, members of units who stay in Iraq for a year before going home.

About 150,000 U.S. troops are in Iraq now because 12,000 extra were sent for security during the Jan. 30 elections. The additional forces are scheduled to leave within two weeks. Another 22,700, all non-Iraqi troops are also in the country, a number that has been dropping as more countries have pulled out forces.

Senator Richard Lugar, R-Ind., said Wednesday that a new law was passed in Iraq that could allow foreign forces to stay in the country.

Associated Press
Summer continued from page 1

all of the logistics are still up to you," she said.

The Career Center hosts several fairs throughout the year in order to help students meet potential employers. In January, the Winter Career Fair boasted 140 employers. Over 2,000 students attended.

Thorup said hundreds of phone and on-site interviews took place throughout the year, but roughly 150 students—very high-figure were actually granted on-campus interviews for internship positions as a result of the fair.

"Typically employers don't come to campus for internships," she said.

Junior Katherine Exline found summer employment at the Winter Career Fair.

Exline, a psychology and pre-professional student, was granted a job as a counselor at Camp Sweeney, a stay-over summer camp for children with diabetes. She first heard about the camp in an e-mail, and attended the career fair, where camp representatives interviewed her on the spot.

"It'll be a good opportunity for me because it brings together medicine and children which are two fields I am interested in," Exline said.

Students are starting career exploration much earlier, Thorup said. Many sophomores attended the career fair and are hoping to obtain internship positions this summer.

For unpaid internships in Indiana, the Indiana Careers Consortium provides a $3,000 stipend to students.

"It's opened a lot of possibilities for students," Thorup said.

Some students have found employment and internship opportunities without using the Career Center's databases.

Megan Hagerty, a junior biology major, said she acquired a summer internship through her experience on campus as a Teach for America (TFA) Representative. She will spend the summer in Texas as the Operation Coordinator for Houston Summer Institute, performing office jobs in schools where TFA teachers will be teaching kids. Hagerty hopes to get accepted into the two-year low-housing teaching program after graduation.

"I hope to gain experience through this internship," she said. "It will provide me with a good insight into the training I will receive as a TFA teacher."

As application deadlines draw near, Thorup said students still have time to apply for internships. More opportunities will be available to students in the upcoming weeks, including the Non-Profit Career Fair on March 22 and the Chicago Career Connection on April 4.

Thorup also said that whether students reply to a Career Center posting online, use networking connections with alumni or relatives or contact an employer directly, the best advice she has for students is "don't be afraid to be aggressive."

Contact Katie Laird at klaird@ind.edu

Fla. court fights for woman's life

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Last-ditch efforts to block the removal of Terri Schiavo's feeding tube founded Thursday as courts rebuffed her parents' appeals and lawmakers failed to agree on legislation to intervene in the contentious battle to keep the severely brain-damaged woman alive.

Under court order, the feeding tube was set to be removed at 1 p.m. Friday, in what could be the final act in the long-running right-to-die drama.

The Florida House passed a bill 78-37 to block the withholding of food and water from patients in a persistent vegetative state. The Senate defeated a different measure 21-16, and one of the nine Republicans voting against indicated that any further votes would be futile.

"As far as we're concerned we don't want anything to change the existing law," said Sen. Jim King, R-Riverview.

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Family, Senate battle over feeding tube

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THE OBSERVER is accepting applications for student comic artists for the 2005-06 publishing year.

Please submit five samples of your work with a name and campus phone number to Claire Heininger in The Observer office in the basement of South Dining Hall by Friday, March 25.

Questions? Contact Claire at 1-4542.
Corporations oust executives

WorldCom, Boeing search for new CEOs after string of corporate scandals

NEW YORK — Walter longtime
Chief executive to leave major
company. Must be proficient in
accounting and finance, values being a
true player, understands current
regulatory environment and
urgencies need not apply.

The new credentials for
CEOs are being drawn up
not just by executive
search committees or corporate
boards. They are coming,
too, from shareholders and
even from jury boxes
where the verdict is clear
and clear about what is appro-
priate behavior for top exec-
utives.

The guilty-on-all-counts verdict Tuesday for former
WorldCom Inc. CEO Bernard
Ebberts was a dramatic
element, but just one of sev-
eral instances in recent
months where the wikis
and queues of corporate
industry have been drawn sharply
to account.

No one is expecting CEOs to
flail into the backdoor
corporate crime. But the result
Executive are being
reminded to put their busi-
nesses, their employees and
their shareholders first —
and to be responsible for how
their businesses operate,
however.

Ebberts was convicted of
 engineering the colossal
 accounting fraud that sank
his telecomunications
company, leaving
thousands of
investors
whined, jobless
and leading to the biggest
corporate bankruptcy in U.S. history.

He relied on the "I didn't
know even though I was the
CEO" defense in his trial. But
the jury didn't buy that the man
who had the name and face
of WorldCom didn't have a
hand in the manipulation
of company books.

The jury's decision can be
read as a strong signal that
CEO's job is one of the
most responsible and prestigious
in American business. But the
jury's decision can be read as
"We're going to do business
correctly and aggressively.

We are redefining ourself, deploy new
software that will help increase capacity
and put
ting them in place," Blakely said. "We
will be right by.

Lawmakers and aviation advocates were not so

Building is not keeping up with the increase
in passengers, said David Stemple, president of
the Air Travels Association. "Just that builds con-

Alleys, flights have been limited at Chicago's
O'Hare International Airport because too many
planes were trying to take off and land, causing
delays throughout the country. The FAA negoti-
ated an agreement with airlines to cut 37
daily flights and limit the number of domestic arrivals
by 88 an hour between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Internet tobacco sales stopped
ALBANY, N.Y. — Major credit card companies
will refuse to participate in Internet sales of cig-
ettes nationwide under a government agree-
ment made Thursday.

The decision by Bain Capital, Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives, the companies and state
attorneys general agreed to work together to
prevent the long unchecked use of credit cards
to buy cigarettes over the Internet across state
lines. The agreement is effective imme-

The result is that virtually all credit card
will no longer participate with Web-based
in the United States and abroad that sell cigarettes and
tobacco products in every state, said New York
Attorney General Eliot Spitzer. The card compa-
ies also agreed to take action against Internet
sellers that authorities identify as violating state
and federal laws regulating cigarette sales.

Stanley Gold, right, points to a reporter as Roy Disney sits beside him. Disney and Gold are
keeping the heat on the Disney board as it searches for a replacement for its CEO.

Group acquires Toys R Us stores

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — Toys "R" Us Inc.,
the nation's second-largest toy sell-
er, agreed Thursday to be acquired
good for about $6.75 billion.

The deal includes a parent

In private, executives
told The Observer
the search for a
new CEO is
underway. The
company said
it would
delay
announcing
a successor
for about
six months

Varden Realty Trust, who
will be equal partners.

"We look forward to building on
the many strengths of the company
to make the stores a better place
to work and work," said Michael M.
Calhoun, a director at KKR.

"The decision was made to
suit the best interest of the
shareholders, and is expected to
to be settled in December,
the company said.

Toys "R" Us, second only to
Wal-Mart Stores Inc. in toy sales,
nounced in August it would sepa-
rate its toy business from the Riders
US segment, but did not say how.

Wednesday's close. With roughly
215 million Toys "R" Us shares out-
standing, the bid is worth $5.72 bil-
ion.

Toys "R" Us shares jumped $1.38 to
$26.13 in late morning trading on
the New York Stock Exchange.

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American photographer self-portrait series includes said. Recently on display in the Cushwa-Leighton Library. The images of Alshaibi, some of the last five years working to end occupation of the Palestinian territories. In addition to her talk on mid-east peace activism in the American Journal of Poetry.

"It seemed like an appropriate theme given what is going on in the world." Astrid Henry professor

Founder and director of Women in Media & News (WIMNN) Jennifer Pozner will speak Tuesday March 22 in a lecture titled "Media, Women and War: How Does the Visibility of Women's Voices in War Coverage Affect Accuracy in Reporting," a national media watch group. The symposium will wrap up Wednesday with a poetry reading by Palestinian-American writer and scholar Lisa Sabra Majaj. Born in Iowa and raised in Jordan, Majaj currently lives in Neonico, Cyprus and studies issues of self-identity in Arab-American literature and culture.

Meledez called the symposium especially significant for the all-women's environment of Saint Mary's. "I think it is especially exciting [to have the event] on a women's campus so students can have access to difference women's perspectives ... and can see the women can have powerful voices," she said.

Contact Megan O'Neil at ocn0907@stmarys.edu

The Hispanic Law Students' Association cordially invites the Notre Dame community to attend this year's Graciela Olivarez Award Ceremony

Saturday, March 19, 2005

This prestigious award is given in honor of Graciela Olivarez, the first Hispanic and first female to graduate from NDLS. The Award is bestowed each year upon a Hispanic lawyer or judge who best exemplifies Graciela Olivarez's commitment to community service, demonstration of the highest ethical and moral standards, and dedication to justice. This year's recipient is Mercedes Colwin, Partner, Correspondent, & Community Activist.

Award Ceremony begins at 11:00 am in the Law School Courtyard

Women

continued from page 1

cussed feminist perspectives on the U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq. Another part of the symposium, a large photography exhibit by Iraqi-Palestinian-American photographer Sama Alshaibi titled "Where Do Birds Fly After the Last Sky," is currently on display in the Cushwa-Leighton Library. The self-portrait series includes images of Alshaibi, some of them nude, well advanced in the stages of pregnancy.

"We were trying to balance more intellectual and scholarly approaches with more creative approaches," CWL fellow and symposium organizer Maria Meledez said.

Events yesterday featured poet Yosefa Itaz and Israeli author and peace activist Rulaiazal Mazali.

Itaz is currently a professor of world mythology at Diablo Valley College in California and her writing appears in numerous publications including Jewish Currents and Margie: The American Journal of Poetry.

Mazali is the former director of projects and development for the Association of Israeli Palestinian Physicians for Human Rights and has spent years working to end occupation of the Palestinian territories. In addition to her talk on mid-east peace activism today at noon in Madeleva Hall. The symposium continues Monday at 7 p.m. with a showing of the film "Independent Media in a Time of War" featuring Amy Goodman, Psychology Chair Professor Joe Miller will lead a discussion about media coverage of war following the screening.

"Human lives and hopes have been wonderfully invigorated by Joseph Murray's 1954 medical triumph." Father Edward Malloy University President

"In honoring this splendid generosity, we mean to think of the benefactor, who is ours as well," Malloy said.

Established in 1883, the Laetare Medal is one of the oldest honors given to American Catholics who have made contributions to the arts and sciences in particular.

Past recipients include President John F. Kennedy, Catholic Worker founder Dorothy Day and death penalty abolitionist Sister Helen Prejean.

"There are many people — poets, artists, musicians, scientists, scholars, statesmen, priests, religious, others — whose professional lives are animated by their Catholic faith, and who seek through their professions to make the world a better place and to give glory to God," Jarret said.

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

Medal

continued from page 1

"A candidate for the Laetare Medal must be a practicing American Catholic who is said to have made a distinctively Catholic contribution to his or her intellectual or professional life. Ideally, the person's professional life would be one of service to others," Jarret said.

The recipient of the Laetare Medal is selected by a committee comprised of representatives from different academic disciplines within the University, Jarret said, on behalf of the committee.

"The Committee generally solicits names from all the faculty and staff at the University, and then narrows down the field to two or three candidates. The Officers of the University then vote on the recommendations of the committee," Jarret said.

Murray, who was born in Milford, Mass., graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. with concentrations in Latin, Greek, Philosophy and English. He graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1943. After completing his surgical training at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Murray served as a surgeon at the U.S. Army's Valley Forge General Hospital in Philadelphia from 1944-47.

The Laetare Medal is unique in that it is an external award given by Notre Dame to someone outside the University.

Murray will receive the award during the University's Commencement ceremony on May 16.

"By honoring this splendid generosity, we mean to think of the benefactor, who is ours as well," Malloy said.

Established in 1883, the Laetare Medal is one of the oldest honors given to American Catholics who have made contributions to the arts and sciences in particular.

Past recipients include President John F. Kennedy, Catholic Worker founder Dorothy Day and death penalty abolitionist Sister Helen Prejean.

"There are many people — poets, artists, musicians, scientists, scholars, statesmen, priests, religious, others — whose professional lives are animated by their Catholic faith, and who seek through their professions to make the world a better place and to give glory to God," Jarret said.

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

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New study finds coeds crave T.V.

College viewing was something of a frontier for Nielsen. The company has been able to track the TV habits of college-age men and women when they’re living at home, but until last fall had no reliable measurement of what students were watching in their dorms, fraternity or sorority, or college apartments.

TV networks are eager to see this information. Young people, particularly young women, represent a demographic for which some advertisers will pay a premium, and Nielsen’s data can prove whether a show draws this audience.

For college men, the ten most-watched programs last October were all baseball games, primarily postseason games involving the Boston Red Sox as the team marched to its first World Series championship in 86 years. For college women, their favorite show in October was NBC’s “Desperate Housewives.” Nielsen said the women also liked ABC’s short-lived “Life As We Know It” set in a high school.

In an era when many people watch television alone, it was different in dorms: a large amount of college students watch with their roommates and others, meaning they have to negotiate over which programs to tune in, Nielsen said. By almost 2-to-1, college students watched more shows on cable than on broadcast television. It’s much closer among the audience as a whole.

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Peterson prosecutors reveal details of case

Freed from gag order, police field questions

Associated Press

MOHREO - The prosecutors and detectives who helped send Scott Peterson to death row made their most in-depth public comments on the case Thursday, acknowledging “taking a hit” early in the trial but expressing relief that they were eventually able to prevail.

Authorities discussed the case hours after Peterson, secured with leg irons and shackles around his wrists and waist, was taken to death row at San Quentin State Prison.

Peterson “froze” preparation for his death Wednesday at an emotional hearing. I learned from a gag order that prevented them from discussing their investigation, police and prosecutors declined to offer any evidence or theories on how Peterson carried out the slaying.

But they expressed hope that the public never forgets the young mother-to-be who was murdered by her cheating husband just before Christmas more than two years ago.

“Never is a sense of joy or jubilation. The job that needed to be done has been done,” Moderate Police Chief Roy Wadson said. “There will never be a time we won’t regret that this incident took place, but justice has been served.”

Moderate Police Chief
Roy Wadson

“Peterson killed her and then dumped her body in San Francisco Bay. The badly decomposed remains of Peterson and her fetus washed ashore four months later. Scott Peterson was convicted of two counts of murder in November,” Brochini and Detective Jon Buehler, another homicide detective assigned to the case, said they would relish the chance to interview Peterson again and would do so on their own, if it meant they would finally learn how he killed her wife and disposed of her body.

But Buehler predicted they would never get the chance. “I don’t foresee him becoming a Ted Bundy, to sit down and give an in-depth interview about what happened,” he said. “I think he will go to his grave with his mouth tightly sealed, just like he has all along.”

Rome Campus Contact Information:
Via di Santa Maria Mediatrice, 24 - 00165 Rome, Italy
U.S. Ph. (212) 815-9216 Ext. 2
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In recent years, the hunt for a suitable commencement speaker has grown increasingly intense. Genealogies and universities turned to their oldest and quirkiest faculty member, complete with bow tie, to deliver the farewell address. Now, nearly all elite institutions maintain commencement speaker committees which meet as early as a year in advance to evaluate their options for graduation day.

A big name, of course, means happy students and proud alumni. It is also reeks in good press for universities. During the traditional graduation months of May and June, media outlets are full of sound bites and news briefs recapping commencement ceremonies. Congressmen and distinguished intellectuals are a staple of the fanfare but pop culture figures such as Sarah Winfrey and Queen Noor of Jordan are not uncommon and are highly publicized.

In 2001, Notre Dame had the most coveted of all commencement speakers. President Bush, who according to a May 2004 USA Today article receives as many as 100 requests each year, was available.

But the national attention the president brought to Notre Dame had a drawback—it set students' expectations sky-high. Indeed, subsequent speakers—who political commentator and Meet the Press moderator Tim Russert in 2002, Indiana Sen. Richard Lugar in 2003 and Minnesota Supreme Court Justice and former Notre Dame football standout Alan Page in 2004—all seemed a bit of a letdown after the commander in chief's classic oratory.

While he spoke, he tightly gripping his garment in the middle of his back with his right hand and so it would not shake. It reminded me of Adolf Hitler whose same right hand violently shook by the end of World War II. Why would God afflict the deacon with the same punishment for a dictator?

As he climbed the stairs to the altar and placed the box, he lost his balance, tripped, fell, regained back a step but did not fall. His courage to continue fought complete exhaustion. I read the intercessions this time because he could not. It was the second time I did my small part for our next mass.

Deacon Nick's speak every time I did my small part for our next mass. Deacon Nick stood right behind the altar directly in front of him looking like one of the military guard at Arlington National Cemetery. His shaved head and tall profile stood almost at attention while he tightly gripped his robe square in the middle of his back.

When I again served together two weeks ago, Deacon Nichols swallowed pills with several glasses of water before mass. I asked him if he and the Pope had the same affection to which he said yes. He had thought of the why of the coincidence. Feeling awkward, I blurted out, "You are lucky. You know your path. It is an honor to have the same cross to bear as the Pope."

During the prayer prior to our departure, he mentioned the recent passing of a 39-year-old woman he knew. While we stood in line before our procession, he joked that the period before mass is an honor to have the same cross to bear as the Pope.

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

**Gary Caruso**

Capitol Comments

—Poll

**The Observer**

www.ndsmcobserver.com

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**Observer Poll**

**EDITORIAL**

Let speeches speak for themselves

Most students recognize that it is impossible to bring the president of the United States to campus every year. Yet most do not realize that it is equally difficult to select someone who will appeal to every graduating class of students.

While this year's commencement speaker, Vartan Gregorian, does not have what can be described as a marquee name, he has clearly led a life of leadership. Born in Tabriz, Iran and raised in Lebanon, Gregorian received his education from Stanford University, one of many fine institutions in higher education both as a professor and administrator. He has served both as president of Brown University and the New York City Public Library, and currently heads the philanthropic organization Carnegie Corporation.

The idea of Vartan Gregorian, which has been honored with awards such as the National Humanities Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom presented by President Bush in 2004, prove him to be an exemplary figure in academia, which is, after all, the overriding purpose of the commencement exercises.

Notre Dame does not need to continue to a balance between speakers who are high profile figures and with impressive backgrounds. Ideally, every speaker selected could be both. But in the meantime, Notre Dame students should reserve their judgment of the University's selection until after the 2005 graduates hear Gregorian speak.

Because no matter which university, no matter who the speaker, the name can't say more than the speech itself.

**Gary Caruso**

Notre Dame, ’73, served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton’s 1994 campaign. He has written many articles for the Observer, and is a competent journalist with no speed. We may learn about God, but none of us knows God unless we hear his whispers of worth, dignity and rights for all mankind. Those whispers come in many forms and events. For me, reading these few lines for over 25 years has been meaningful and understanding to life. I am fortunate to have heard a meaningful Lenten message.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taco Bell boycott finally ends

On March 8, history was made. The three-year national boycott against Taco Bell ended after Taco Bell and its parent company, Yum Brands, agreed to meet the demands of the farm workers who pick the tomatoes they use in their products. The Coalition of Immokalee Workers was demanding a one cent increase for every pound of tomatoes that Taco Bell boys to nearly double the salary of tomato pickers who had to pick two tons to earn $50 and had been earning the same wages since 1976; a strict code of conduct that guarantees that there are no violations of human and farm workers' rights and a ban on violations that get just a little debate. I have lately become aware of the extent to which the Church is rarely involved in the Church's Social Teaching, for examining to our concern and taking action to cut our agricultural and industrial activities. The boycott was an important step in this campaign because we understood that this struggle was also our struggle. While on the one hand, corporations like Taco Bell benefit from the exploitation of workers at the bottom of their production chain, these corporations also exploit us by calling the "New World Order" and claiming that we are mindless consumers who do not care about what is behind the products we consume. The student pressure in this struggle proved that students do not want products that are produced under conditions of exploitation and even-day slavery. Twenty-two universities cut contracts with Taco Bell or prevented Taco Bell restaurants on their campuses since the beginning of the boycott. The last name was one of those schools.

And so I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped this struggle. I thank the administration for standing behind our principles of Catholic Social Teaching, for examining to our concern and taking action to cut our agricultural and industrial activities. The boycott was an important step in this campaign because we understood that this struggle was also our struggle. While on the one hand, corporations like Taco Bell benefit from the exploitation of workers at the bottom of their production chain, these corporations also exploit us by calling the "New World Order" and claiming that we are mindless consumers who do not care about what is behind the products we consume. The student pressure in this struggle proved that students do not want products that are produced under conditions of exploitation and even-day slavery. Twenty-two universities cut contracts with Taco Bell or prevented Taco Bell restaurants on their campuses since the beginning of the boycott. The last name was one of those schools.

Thes zggestion to us that, by the This Station was left with two choices: Either accept zero and see their faith destroyed or reject it and preserve their theology. They chose the latter and zero soon became labeled as a device of heretics, and the teaching of it was banned by the church. However, not even the Catholic Church could contain zero. Despised by the Papal ban, the teaching of zero continued and eventually the West was forced to accept this most dangerous of all concepts. Ultimately, zero puts it best when he reminds us that, "No other number can do such damage. Computer failures like the one that struck the Yorktown are just a faint shadow of the power of zero. Cultures have grappled against it, and philosophies have crumbled because of it. This why it has been feared, hated and even outlawed.

Learning from the Yorktown and from past civilizations, the zero is not a thing to be feared. It should be revered. This column originally appeared in the Daily Trojan, March 17. The views expressed in this article are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Taco Bell boycott finally ends

As a Double Damer and parent of two current Notre Dame students, I think I have spent enough time and money on campus to ask this question—can we ask only 2500 people attended the NIIT game? What a misprint? At the risk of being labeled an old-timer, we used to have students hanging from the rafters watching Notre Dame vs. East Carolina University. We had a number of people behind the bookstore to watch a Sweet 16 game in the Iron Man contests. Life is full of disappointment, where missing the NCAA's a flea on the elephant's butt, no excuse to abandon a basketball team. They say the team got performed down the stretch. So be it. The fans never have to answer this question again.

Dennis Kearney, class of 1976, JD 1980
March 17

I appreciated Holly James' Mar. 16 article "Consider it Christian" because she touched the important issue within the larger discussion of Christianity (as well as probably most other religions). What is the importance of the conservative vs. liberal debate? I have lately become frustrated with such labels, not because they do not help you to gauge where someone stands on a particular issue, but because they seem to me to be somewhat irrelevant. The much more important question to ask is whether the stance is Christian or not, and to look closely at many of the discussions, discussions here at Notre Dame, is the stance Christian or not. This change in semantics brings the discussion to a question of orthodoxy and heterodoxy which get much more to the heart of the matter. The difference between the conservative and liberal do little to help us understand if the stance for which we stand. If the stance is adhering to an orthodox view or a heterodox view because heterodoxies exist. I used that nasty, forbidden word can go both ways as they have through the history of the Church and continue to do so today. So when you come across a Maas said in Latin on Saturday morning and want to write it off as the product of old-folk conservatis­ vists wanting to return to the days before Vatican II, ask your- self if this is a perfectly acceptable and approved way to celebrate the Eucharist, or if you can go by those protecting the plight of migrant tomato farmers and start to think about liberal social jus­ tice as a right, it might be better to ask what the greater Christian tradition of helping the poor is or what the Catholic idea of solidarity means.

And yet such a semantic change does not mean that we do not need to judge us a safeguarding our own judgments and actions such as immigration or economic policies, but rather that our judgment is put in its proper place: the tradition of the Church instead of in our own opin­ ions, which whether conservative or liberal can quite easily become wrong and heretical. Because the biggest question and gauge is not initially political, but on our own personal preferences but on whether or not we are following Christ and the teachings of his Church.

Shannon Berry, grad student, off-campus
March 17

U-Wire

Zero changed the world

The USS Yorktown was a billion-dollar missile cruiser. Warships like it are designed to withstand the strike of a tor­ pedo or the blast of a mine. Though it was heavily armored against physical attacks, no one thought to defend the Yorktown from zero.

On Sept. 21, 1997, while cruising off the coast of Virginia, zero, zero, zero, 80,000 horsepower became worthless. The Yorktown's computers had just received new software to run its engines. Unfortunately, a single zero that was supposed to be removed from its engine had not been stripped by engineers. It lay hidden until the ship's computer system dividend, by zero, and everything shut down.

Charles Seife relates this story in his 2000 book, "Zero: The Biography of a Dangerous Idea." He notes, "The biggest questions in science, religion, philosophy and mathematics are about nothingness."

Too often, we have not paid attention to our history and the evolution of concepts. In particular, the concept of nothing or zero has important implications for where our society has been and where it is going.

It is difficult for us to imagine it today, but there was a point in time when nothing wasn't anything at all. Dr. Robert Kaplan writes in his book, "The Nothing That Is," that zero first appeared in the Babylonian civilization around 300 B.C. The Greeks did not respond favorably to this Eastern concept. The most impor­ tant reason for the West rejecting zero is that it broke the rules of mathematics established by Western civilization.

One of these basic rules is the axiom of Archimedes, which states that if you add a number to itself enough times, it will exceed any other number in magnitude. We see that 1 + 1 = 2 and 1 + 1 + 1 = 3.

However, this is not true of zero. Add zero to itself, and all you get is zero. Zero refuses to change. Because of this, the West could not accept it for nearly two millennia.

Mathematics was not the only area in zero clash with Western life. Zero challenged the West's belief in God. Aristotle wrote a theory to justify the existence of God. In that theory, he rea­ soned that there was no such thing as nothing, thus something had to have created the heavens and the Earth. Something must be moving the sun, the stars and the moon, and that something was God.

Christianity adapted Aristotle's theory to much of early Christian theology. Everything was fine until the 1500s when Renaissance thinkers rediscovered zero and realized that if nothing existed, then Aristotle's theory is flawed at a very fundamental level. The Catholic Church was left with two choices: Either accept zero and see their faith destroyed or reject it and preserve their theology. They chose the latter and zero soon became labeled as a device of heretics, and the teaching of it was banned by the church. However, not even the Catholic Church could contain zero. Despite the Papal ban, the teaching of zero continued and eventually the West was forced to accept this most dangerous of all concepts.

Ultimately, zero puts it best when he reminds us that, "No other number can do such damage. Computer failures like the one that struck the Yorktown are just a faint shadow of the power of zero. Cultures have grappled against it, and philosophies have crumbled because of it. This why it has been feared, hated and even outlawed.

Learning from the Yorktown and from past civilizations, the zero is not a thing to be feared. It should be revered.

Aaron Duncan
Kansas State University Kansas State College

The Observer
VIEWPOINT
Friday, March 18, 2005

Examine Christian traditions

I appreciate Holly James’ Mar. 16 article “Consider it Christian” because she touched the important issue within the larger discussion of Christianity (as well as probably most other religions). What is the importance of the conservative vs. liberal debate? I have lately become frustrated with such labels, not because they do not help you to gauge where someone stands on a particular issue, but because they seem to me to be somewhat irrelevant. The much more important question to ask is whether the stance is Christian or not, and to look closely at many of the discussions, discussions here at Notre Dame, is the stance Christian or not. This change in semantics brings the discussion to a question of orthodoxy and heterodoxy which get much more to the heart of the matter. The difference between the conservative and liberal do little to help us understand if the stance for which we stand. If the stance is adhering to an orthodox view or a heterodox view because heterodoxies exist. I used that nasty, forbidden word can go both ways as they have through the history of the Church and continue to do so today. So when you come across a Maas said in Latin on Saturday morning and want to write it
Forty years ago, the members of Ladysmith Black Mambazo could not have dreamed they would end up where they are today.

It isn’t easy for a group to carve its own niche in the musical world, but this is exactly what Mambazo has done. Their unique music, strongly based in the traditional South African style called isicathamiya, can easily be recognized wherever it is played, and it is played often. Since being catapulted to world fame in 1986 with their performance on Paul Simon’s “Graceland” album, Mambazo has performed for Noble Peace Prize ceremonies, movie soundtracks, commercials for Life Savers, 7-Up and Heinz Ketchup, Sesame Street tests, but was so good that the singers dreamed they would end up where they are today. There are several things that set Mambazo apart from their fellow isicathamiya musicians as well as from other genres of music. Mambazo’s polished harmonies and ability to meld their voices tightly together were not the only thing that distinguished them in competition. Mambazo has the ability to be loud and joyous, but also performs softer and subtler numbers than many of their peers were able to do. According to Greg Downey, a professor of anthropology and ethnomusicologist, “These contests were amazing. Because of curfews on weekend nights the men had to go to the barracks before curfew started and leave in morning, so they went on all night.”

Mambazo also competed in the competitions, but was so good that the singers were soon asked not to enter the competitions. They were of course welcome to come and entertain. The name Ladysmith Black Mambazo came about as a result of their success in competition. “Ladysmith” is the hometown of former farmer and factory worker Joseph Shabalala, the founder of the group. “Black” refers to black oxen, considered to be the strongest animals on the farm. “Mambazo,” a Zulu word for ox, refers to the group’s ability to chop down their competition. Mambazo has the ability to be loud and joyous, but also performs softer and subtler numbers than many of their peers were able to do. American music often emphasizes tenor voices, but Mambazo’s sound is characterized by the rich and full bass. Although Shabalala himself often sings higher parts, the majority of the group often sings a complicated bass harmony that sounds new and original compared to most choirs.

Mambazo’s music is a point of pride for many South Africans, not least because it represents a sort of artistic victory over apartheid. Mambazo’s success is proof that the regime, which was so devastating to so many people, was still unable to silence the artistic voice. Their music is not strictly traditional, but the vocal style and many of the other elements certainly reflect their home.

“There are rural elements, like a distinctive call boys will make to call cattle,” Downey said. “These are elements that remind South Africans of life in the rural countryside.”

As members of the original group have retired, Shabalala has begun to recruit members of his own family to fill the ranks and keep the group performing. Four of his sons now perform with the group.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo is only one of several institutions of the musical world to visit Notre Dame this year, but they are certainly one of the most unique. Students who get a chance to go are certainly in for a fantastic show.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo will perform Sunday at the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts at 8 p.m. Tickets cost $15 for students, $26 for seniors, $28 for faculty and staff and $35 for the general public.

Contact Maria Smith at msmith4@nd.edu

THE OBSERVER
SCENE
Friday, March 18, 2005

RAISING SPIRITS HIGHER

AFTER 40 YEARS,
LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBazo CONTINUES TO MAKE JOYFUL MUSIC

STORY BY MARIA SMITH

13 for their recent album "Raise Your Spirits Higher."

Mambazo’s roots go back to the mines of their native South Africa where isicathamiya was born. Under apartheid many black South African men were forced to leave their homelands and find work, and often lived in large barracks or dormitories. The men often formed choirs and competed against each other in contests as a way to pass the time and remind them of their homes.

“It was important to sing about their homes and families when living in these inhuman conditions,” professor of anthropology and ethnomusicologist Greg Downey said. “These contests were amazing. Because of curfews on weekend nights the men had to go to the barracks before curfew started and leave in morning, so they went on all night.”

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Contact Maria Smith at msmith4@nd.edu
IN A RHYTHM
Galen Loughrey focuses on his first Bengal Bouts title
Loughrey dancing way toward first Bouts title
Club president, Dillon RA eager to finish senior season on a winning note

By ERIC RETTER Sports Writer

In the past four years, Galen Loughrey has spent lots of time moving, honing the precision of his lefts and rights, growing into a rhythm and learning to take control of his partner. A lot of it has been done outside of the boxing ring.

Loughrey, the senior president of the boxing club, has also been an active dancer during his time at Notre Dame, both recreationally and as a member of the Ballet Folklorico, which performs every year at events such as Latin Expressions.

"Dancing has been something I've picked up a lot more here at Notre Dame," he said. "I danced before but here it fostered the environment to dance even more. There's a lot more people with that same interest."

Undoubtedly, Loughrey recognizes that his time on the dance floor can profoundly strengthen his work in the boxing ring.

"Muhammad Ali, they considered him the best dancer, just because in the boxing ring, a lot of it takes footwork. You can't just stand in the ring and expect to pound down the other guy," Loughrey said. "If you watch some of the greatest boxers, they knew how to dance around the ring."

While naturally inclined to the more harmonic aspects of the sport, Loughrey also felt himself quickly drawn to boxing's more frustrating sides.

"Physically, it was one of the more difficult things I've ever done. I never expected to do so many pushups, so many situps. My body was tired at the end of the day, but it felt good to be exhausted and be able to be mentally focused on other things," Loughrey said.

Loughrey's boxing career began conventionally enough for a Notre Dame fighter, stemming in large part from an athletic curiosity in the mind of a freshman former athlete. In four years, however, that curiosity has developed itself into a definitive facet of his student life.

"Now, it's become almost like a religion for me. You get up with that expectation, 'oh yeah, I get to go to the boxing room today," he said.

Perhaps the biggest draw that room had for Loughrey doesn't even involve the work-out or the gloves, but the other people inside. Dating back to his upbringing in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Loughrey has always had an affinity for a community based way of life.

"Looking back on everything, I like to have people around me, because I think it's nice to see when people develop and to be able to add something to the development of somebody else," he said.

With this in mind, it comes to no surprise that, in addition to his leadership responsibilities for the boxing club, Loughrey also serves as a resident assistant in Dillon Hall. It is there where he can even more comprehensively nurture the environment around him towards a greater community character.

"When I'm in my room, I always keep my door open just for my residents in case they want to stop by," he said.

Judging strictly by his leadership positions, discipline seems to play a strong role in Loughrey's approach to his day-to-day activities. Indeed, he has always tried to use his time well and to make his work as constructive as possible, and since becoming a boxer, that sense has only grown stronger.

"Boxing really forced me to make my time management a lot better," he said. "I couldn't be wasting these minutes just sitting around. I was constantly on my feet moving, and it kept life interesting for me."

However, an interesting life isn't always an easy one, and he points out that his busy schedule sometimes forces him to make sacrifices between two positives.

"I feel real bad for my residents, because sometimes I feel I'm not there as much as I should be. In that sense I feel like I've kind of neglected them," he said.

In all of his work, it is not surprising that he already has some idea of what the Galen Loughrey of 2025 will look like. Loughrey, an ALPP Spanish major, hopes to return to his home in Albuquerque, where he can put the skills that he cultivated in the boxing club and Dillon Hall into a real world application, intending to start a family one day and become a pediatrician in the local community.

"Mostly, I'll go back to the community to return the favor that was given to me," he said.

"That's a big draw for me to go back home, to not just take what was given to me and run, but to take what was given to me and give back."

In talking about his experiences as a part of the Notre Dame Boxing club and student body, Loughrey gives the impression of man deeply in touch with the university that has served as his home for the past four years.

"More than anything, Notre Dame has come to mean giving, were all giving something, but I think at Notre Dame you learn how to give even more," he said. "There are so many different ways that you can give, I think that reflects a lot in the community building.

While he may already have ideas of himself as doctor or family man, Loughrey has by no means looked his final weeks as a Notre Dame boxer.

Through his three previous tournaments, Loughrey has yet to win a Bengal Bouts title, losing in a first-round split decision as a freshman before falling in the semifinals his sophomore and junior year. While he looks forward to competing for a championship this year, Loughrey has already reached his loftiest boxing goals.

"My biggest achievement this year has been to see the amount of people who have stuck through with it and who have done well, especially first year boxers," he said. "It's always a dream to be there at the finals, but more than anything, it's been well worth it.

This year, whether Galen Loughrey the boxer wins or loses in this year's Bengal Bouts, Galen Loughrey the man has already come out of the experience dancing, with his head held deservedly high.

Contact Eric Retter at eretter@nd.edu
A family affair

Kevin Kerrigan and son Colin have both won multiple Bengal Bout titles

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Colin Kerrigan was only in high school when he learned what so many boxers before him had found out the hard way.

"My dad had his hands up, I was hitting him and it was getting to the point where I was actually hurting his hands," said Kerrigan, a senior and two-time Bengal Bout champion. "He was telling me to stop and I wasn't stopping because I was having so much fun. He kept warning me and eventually he hit me. I fell to the ground with the breath knocked out of me and I learned my lesson."

As he hit the floor that day a few years back, Colin's name was added to the list of men who had challenged their fathers' boxing skills — and ended up on their backs.

His dad, Class of 1972 alum Kevin Kerrigan, slugged his way to three Bengal Bout championships in the early 1970s. He was known around campus for his fierce punch and aggressive style.

"I would just go out there whaling," Kevin said. "I was more of a fighter than I was a boxer."

More than 30 years after Kevin decided to join the Notre Dame boxing club, Colin finished up his Bengal Bout career this past Friday night when he was upset by Brian Nicholson in the 165 lb. semi-finals.

Despite this setback, the Kerrigans' five Bengal Bout championships solidify their place as one of the best father-son boxing tandems in school history.

"Yeah, I'll give that a try."

Kevin was a member of the Irish wrestling team his freshman year of 1968. But late in the fall semester he received two pink slips notifying him of poor academic performance. So he quit the team to focus on studying.

His grades soon improved and when the new semester began he searched for an activity.

"It was too late to go back to the wrestling team. So I was looking around for something to do and the Bengal Bouts were advertised." Kevin said. "My dad had been a Golden Gloves boxer so I thought 'Yeah, I'll give that a try.'"

Like his father, Colin had a wrestling background before competing in the Bouts. His high school team won the state title during his senior year in Summerville, S.C. But the wrestling room was not the only place where Colin developed mental and physical toughness.

"I'm the youngest of five boys," Colin said. "We all wrestled in high school so there was a lot of wrestling and roughhousing. It was interesting having so many older brothers. You get beat up a lot and you get used to getting hit a lot."

"All of his brothers take credit for his being able to take a punch," Kevin said. "They were his early training experience."

Colin Kerrigan, right, throws a punch at his 165 lb. semifinal opponent Brian Nicholson. Nicholson won in a split decision, dashing Kerrigan's hopes for a third Bengal Bout championship.

Now a doctor residing in Summerville, Kevin noticed Colin had a talent for boxing even at a very early age.

"All the boys loved to punch me but he always had a harder punch for his age than his brothers did," Kevin said. "Just like his dad, Colin doesn't consider himself very skilled in boxing technique. "I would say I'm more of a brawler," Colin said. "I try to do technique. But when it comes down to it, if I'm getting hit, I generally try to hit back."

Fighting for others...

The Kerrigans have bloodied noses and handed out black eyes in the boxing ring. But outside the ropes they are soft-spoken, modest and giving. Colin is an RA in Fisher Hall and is involved in Air Force ROTC. Kevin worked overseas as a doctor in the Navy until Colin was in the fifth grade.

It may be this passion for serving others that has given the Kerrigans the drive to compete in the Bengal Bouts.

"It's nice to know that you're getting your face beat in for a good reason," Colin said. "The Bengal Bouts show the way that Notre Dame uses everything to give back to the community. I think that's one thing that Notre Dame is really good at — Finding ways to use all of its good fortune and success to help others who aren't as fortunate."

His father agrees.

"The Bengal Bouts have gone on for so long and I think they've played a big role in the lives of so many young men," Kevin said. "It's all for the joy of the sport. It's just about going out there and trying to perform and raise money for a good cause."

Still the same...

"Thirty-three years after graduating from Notre Dame, Kevin appreciates what his time in South Bend did for his successful career in medicine. "I attribute my Notre Dame degree to getting me into medical school," Kevin said. "When I went to interviews I could tell they were very impressed I was from Notre Dame."

Now with his son about to graduate, Kevin sees a Notre Dame community very similar to the one he belonged to in the 1970s.

"It's been such a wonderful experience seeing two of my boys go through the school," Kevin said. Kyle Kerrigan graduated from Notre Dame in 2002. "The same traditions are there. They're striving for excellence in the atmosphere."

Colin is a civil engineering major, yet will work in communications for the Air Force after graduation this May.

"I don't know what I really want to do for a career," Colin said. "I'm not even set on civil engineering."

No matter what career Colin eventually settles into, he will be helped by the lessons he has learned from his father.

"My dad is a very kind person," Colin said. "He's modest, he's got good integrity. That's something I try to emulate."

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu
### 126-pounds

**PETER SARPONG VS. DANIEL GALLEGOS**

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Quick-foisted Peter Sarpong will square up against Daniel "Too Short" Gallegos in the featherweight division. Sarpong operates with a fast pace, throwing a barrage of left jabs. Gallegos will have to overcome a slight reach difference if he wants to win the bout. He did so in his semifinal match against Steve Buchanan with powerful, efficient right hooks and strong jabs.

With Sarpong and Gallegos each winning unanimous decisions in their semifinal fights, this match has all the potential of lasting the full three rounds. Sarpong will hope to have a better final round than he did in his last bout, where he let David Rowinski take control for the final minute.

### 155-pounds

**MIKE PANZICA VS GALEN LOUGHREY**

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Mike Panzica fights Galen Loughrey in the final of the 155 lb. weight class. Panzica will look to keep his hands up better than he did in the semifinal and continue his trend of effective right hooks.

Loughrey's long reach will help him exploit any poor positioning of Panzica's hands.

Loughrey showed a commitment to keeping his elbows tucked in during his semifinal match against Chris Caldeiron, rarely throwing outside punches. However, Panzica may have the advantage if the fight goes the distance.

Loughrey was shaky in his third round but Panzica won his fight with a great final round performance.

### 160-pounds

**MARK BASOLA VS. BOBBY GORYNSKI**

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In the first semifinal match of the 160 lb. weight division, top-seeded Mark "Turn the Other Cheek" Basola showed little mercy for his opponent Adam "Steel Ghost" Burns. Basola withstood a third-round rally from Burns to secure a unanimously decided victory.

The junior will take on Bobby "The Polish Pistol" Gorynski in the finals. Gorynski came out firing against Morrissey junior Daniel Liem. Liem's quick feet could not save him from Gorynski's powerful right hand, and the judges ruled unanimously in favor of the Polish Pistol. Gorynski will need all his strength to outduel Basola.

### 180-pounds

**JIM CHRISTOFORETTI VS. DOUG BARTELS**

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The 180 lb. weight class final pits technically sound Doug Bartels against hard hitting Jim Christoforetti.

Bartels is lightning quick and displayed effective combinations in routing Dana Collins in the semifinal. He also counterpunched well, knocking Collins down on a counterpunch in the first round of that fight.

Christoforetti hits like a train but is prone to use long arm movements and can be caught with his hands down by quicker fighters. He will try to land a few punches early and dazzle faster Bartels. Even if he fails at this, his confidence and toughness will keep him fighting back until the last bell sounds.

### 200-pounds

**BILLY ZIZIC VS. JOHNNY GRIFFIN**

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The 200 lb. weight class features the quickness of Johnny Griffin against the precision of Billy Zizic. Griffin, who got a bye all the way to the semfinals, shows no mercy to his opponents and will try to attack the entire fight. His flurry of punches come early and often, but his accuracy is questionable.

"Zizic, on the other hand, is an extremely accurate boxer. However, he has been caught flat footed and may be vulnerable to Griffin's attacks.

His counterpunching has been effective, but it will not matter if he can't avoid Griffin's attacks. He will try to hit Griffin with some early jabs to try to put the quicker fighter on his heels.
**Friday, March 18, 2005**

**The Observer • BENGAL BOUTS**

**140-pounds**

**MIKE MCCANN VS. MICHAEL HENNIG**

The 140 lb. final pits Mike McCann against Michael Hennig. McCann relies heavily on his right hook to wear down opponents, but that may be his undoing in this fight. While he has over-utilized his right, Hennig has proven that he can win with an effective combination of lefts and rights while keeping his elbows tucked in close to his chest.

Furthermore, Hennig’s ability to block punches should open up offensive opportunities for him against McCann. One of Hennig’s problems against McCann may be the pace of the match. Hennig expended enormous energy early in his semifinal, but was able to survive a late comeback by his opponent Will Benzuska. He may not be so lucky against the durable McCann.

**150-pounds**

**NATHAN LOHMeyer VS. TIM HUMl**

In the 150 lb. final, Nathan "The Brnal Kitten" Lohmeyer will fight quick-handed Tim Huml. Lohmeyer’s strongest asset is his excellent reach, which he uses well on jabs. His ability to counter Huml’s hooks with jabs will play a key role in how the bout pans out, as Huml relies on his strong, outside rights against his opponents.

Those punches have proven to have limited accuracy, and Lohmeyer will try to land one of his big right hooks if Huml swings and misses early in the fight. One area where Huml should have an advantage is if the fight lasts the entire three rounds. He won his semifinal match with a split decision thanks to a splendid third round.

**165-pounds**

**MARK DESPLINTER VS. BRIAN NICHOLSON**

Mark DeSplinter will take on Brian "Honeyboy" Nicholson in the 165 lb. final. Both fighters are tall and rangy and have used this advantage to great effect in earlier rounds.

Their advantage will be gone in the final, however, as they are nearly the same height. DeSplinter is the better technical fighter, and has shown his toughness in outlasting Patrick McMorrow in the semifinal despite taking a flurry of punches in the first two rounds.

His weakness, also shown in that bout, is his inability to fight at close range. If Honeyboy is able to adapt and attack DeSplinter, he could win the fight.

**170-pounds**

**JUSTIN ALANIS VS. DAN WARD**

The 170 lb. weight class is home to the heart-wrenching story of Justin Alanis. Alanis, ranked number one in the class, broke his hand in the semifinal and will be forced to forfeit the championship.

He is a senior who trained four hours a day over the summer with undefeated professional middleweight Sechew Powell. Alanis is now out of chances to fulfill his lifelong dream and win the title.

Alanis’ injury gives the title to Dan “Poundtown” Ward, who withstood two standing eight counts to beat Andrew Breslin in the semifinal match with a split decision thanks to his excellent reach, and Lohmeyer will try to land one of his big right hooks if Huml swings and misses early in the fight. One area where Huml should have an advantage is if the fight lasts the entire three rounds. He won his semifinal match with a split decision thanks to a splendid third round.

**HEAVYWEIGHT**

**MATT HASBROOK VS. NATHAN SCHROEDER**

The heavyweight final features former Irish defensive tackle Matt Hasbrook against Nathan Schroeder.

Hasbrook fights like a football player, relying on his strength to daze the other fighter before he can mount a counterattack. His technique has been questionable, but he hits like a school bus. Schroeder is more of a pure boxer. He is aggressive, but he also blocks well. If he can block an early flurry it could rattle Hasbrook.

He has displayed a lot of toughness throughout the tournament and should not be easily dazed even by Hasbrook’s explosive crosses.

**75th ANNUAL BENGAL BOUTS**

**Date:** Saturday, March 19, 2005

**Time:** 8 p.m.

**Location:** Joyce Center Arena

**Defending 2004 Champions**

Nathan Lohmeyer - 155 lb.
Colin Kerrigan - 160 lb.
Jim Christoforetti - 180 lb.
Johnny Griffin - Light Heavyweight

Fight Previews by Ken Fowler and Chris Khorey
Photos by Erin Vranish
Aiming for perfection

Captain Mark DeSplinter shoots for his third Bengal Bout title in three tries

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

Mark DeSplinter is used to adversity, even though his 94-minute career record would indicate otherwise.

Taking this undeniably marked into the finals this year, DeSplinter is the No. 1 seed in the 165 lb. weight class.

He is a two-time champion as a 160 lb. fighter, and would likely be a three time winner had it not been for his decision to go abroad in London as a junior.

DeSplinter started off his career in a very impressive manner, with his two consecutive championships.

"My freshman year I won," DeSplinter said. "I beat a senior in the finals."

"Going into the fights, I knew I was in pretty good shape," he remembers. "I had a pretty easy route into the semis, but after that I didn't know if I was going to beat him."

These wins are quite the accomplishments for a kid whose boxing career was very close to ending following his meteoric rise freshman year.

Early into DeSplinter's sophomore year at Notre Dame, months before the Bouts started, DeSplinter was climbing over a broken bathroom stall when the door broke, splitting in half, and subsequently severing the champion's foot.

DeSplinter looked down to find a deep gash above his right ankle, bleeding profusely, much worse than any right hook he could possibly elicit.

"I almost cut my right foot off in December," DeSplinter said. "There was like a wall that fell on my foot, that almost cut my foot off."

The sophomore had cut through three tendons and cracked a portion of the bone in his foot.

Confined to a cast, DeSplinter hobbled into the first day of practice focused on successfully coming off the injury and working hard to return to his previous form.

He did.

The boxer won his second consecutive Bengal Bout title only months later, against a fighter named Tom Pierce, a good friend of DeSplinter.

"I almost didn't get to fight but I annoyed the people enough to where let me at least try," DeSplinter said. "It's not surprising that DeSplinter was able to come off this injury in such a successful manner.

Mark "Bambo" DeSplinter comes across as an intense worker, relentlessly jumping rope when few others are in the gym. He carries himself with an air of confidence, but in a non-imposing way.

The boxer is friendly, but at the same time, he gives off the very focused attitude that you would expect from a skilled fighter.

DeSplinter laughs about his injury now, almost embarrassed to actually admit how he injured his foot.

However, the senior becomes more serious when discussing the hard work he had to put in to defend his championship following the accident.

"That was one of the bigger challenges I've had just during boxing, coming back to practice the first day and not being able to get on the balls of my foot, or run, or hop on my feet," DeSplinter said. "There were a lot of times I just wanted to give up and say 'screw this, I don't want to fight anymore.'"

Of course, DeSplinter did not give up, and this dedication is likely the reason why he is so successful in the ring.

This year, DeSplinter is clearly focused on winning his third title in his three years of competition. However, he realizes that the task is difficult.

"Our weight class is absolutely stacked, especially at the top," DeSplinter said before the second round.

"Patrick McMorrow was really good. Brian Nicholas went to the finals last year, and Colli Kerrigan has also won two championships," DeSplinter said.

Brian "Honey Boy" Nicholas, a fighter that DeSplinter will have to be worried about Saturday night.

"This is the last year, you know, I want to do really well," DeSplinter said.

While many of Notre Dame's sports fans will be crowding around their TVs to see who will advance to the Sweet 16 on Saturday, DeSplinter will be doing everything to becoming a champion.

With one No. 2 seed and DeSplinter's opponent, has had a challenging road to the final, delving back to the elimination of fear.

With success DeSplinter has had during his time at Notre Dame, it is surprising that he was not particularly interested in boxing when he came to school as a freshman.

"Looking for something to keep his healthy body busy, his brother introduced him to boxing at Notre Dame, who was a senior at the time.

DeSplinter also had a cousin who had been involved with Bengal Bouts as well.

"I just decided to try it out and I just kind of fell in love with it when [I found out] how hard it was, and the dedication it takes, and what if requires of you like everyday just to come out here and beat yourself to death," DeSplinter said.

DeSplinter has also learned valuable lessons from his boxing, intangibles that he will take on when he takes off his gloves and steps out of the ring for good.

"It just kind of gives you the confidence you need to go through life. There is a great quote by Tyson's trainer [Cus D'Amato], 'Boxing isn't the elimination of fear, it's just a way to face it'" DeSplinter said.

"If you can get in the ring with another guy who is ready to beat your head off, and you can stay in there and fight back, you can do basically anything else that comes at you in life."

DeSplinter is a bright individual, who is destined for success in whatever forum he chooses. The lessons that he learns from his time as a Bengal Bouts champion will surely manifest themselves in a positive manner.

But before that can happen, DeSplinter is focused on other things.

After all, he still has one more fight to win.

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffi3@nd.edu

Broken hand derailed Alinis' dream of Bouts championship

Senior trained with pro boxer in LA to prepare for fights

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

All the hard work was finally paying off for Justin Alinis.

After a summer spent working out six days a week and a spring break spent sparring against a professional middleweight, the No. 1 seed Bengal Bout fighter had earned the top seed in the 170 lb. weight class.

He sat through the preliminaries with a bye and cruised past Tom Ryan in the quarterfinals.

In the semifinals Alinis had his opponent Brad Wanchuk back on his heels.

Alinis took the offensive and caught Wanchuk upside the head.

Then everything changed.

Alinis felt a sharp pain in his right hand as it was trapped as the bout continued.

"It hurt really bad but I kept going cause I thought I had sprained it or something, plus the adrenaline was so much that I just had to keep going," he said.

After a unanimous decision victory, Alinis came into the finals with one thought to consider the pain in his hand.

"I got through the third round and won unanimously but when I went back to the doc­ tors I tried to take my glove off and my hand was just killing me," he said. "When I finally got my wrap off there was this huge bump on my hand where the bone was almost sticking out."

It was then that Alinis realized the stunning truth. His right hand was broken just below the pinky and he would have to forfeit the final.

The dream he had worked for a full year was shattered and, as a senior, he wasn't going to get another shot.

He was inconsolable.

"When I found out I couldn't fight, I was really upset. I didn't sleep that night," he said.

Alinis developed an interest in boxing when his roommate competed in Bengal Bouts during his sophomore year. Alinis fought for the first time his junior year.

"When junior year came around I decided to do it," he said. "I went to all the training before Christmas where the rookies basically go."

I won my first two bouts, but got beat in the semifinals.

The loss in the semis instilled a fire in Alinis.

"Since I lost, I wanted to taste victory," he said. "The day after my loss I was back in the gym. I worked out six days a week, boxing for two hours and working out for two hours."

After his grueling summer, Alinis continued working out at Notre Dame. Over spring break, his training took on a professional feel when he sparred with undefeated middleweight Ray Powell.

"I pretty much walked into his training facility and asked him if he wanted to spar and he looked at me like 'you want to spar?'" Alinis said. "He beat the crap out of me a couple times, but I learned his techniques.

Alinis plans to continue boxing recreationally when he leaves Notre Dame, but he isn't sure he'll fight again competitively. He has two years of Bengal Bouts eligibility remaining, but he can only use them if he attends Notre Dame for graduate school, which he says he doubts will happen.

Dan Ward will be declared the 170 lb. champion by forfeit at Saturday's Bengal Bout finals in the Joyce Center.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Mark Basola, left, reaches for Adam Burns during their 160 lb. semifinal bout. Basola won by unanimous decision.
Black eyes, bloody noses help poor

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

The Saturday morning practices, hundreds of push-ups and struggles to learn a new technique are all worth it once a boxer feels his fist lifted by the referee to signal his victory. But win or lose, the sacrifices boxers make at Notre Dame are ultimately worth it for another, more lasting reason — the contributions they make to the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh.

The black eyes will fade and the trophies will gather dust, but every Bengal Bouts participant, as well as every fan who buys a ticket, will know he or she changed lives for the better in one of the world’s poorest countries.

"I would say that the Bengal Bouts are quite unique," said Father Tom Smith, director of Holy Cross Missions. "The Holy Cross Mission has been in Bangladesh for more than 150 years now and the Bengal Bouts have been supporting that mission for 75 years."

The past 75 years have seen a number of changes in the University, but the support for the Holy Cross Mission in Bangladesh has remained constant.

"It's an unusual commitment that was started by some very good people concerned with supporting our mission in Bangladesh, but also just concerned with stretching the hearts of people here at Notre Dame to include poor people at a distance," Smith said.

The "philanthropic side" of Bengal Bouts is important to boxers as well, according to two-time captain Nathan Lohmeyer.

"All the money that we raise from ticket sales and from donations and merchandise sales goes to support the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh," he said.

The finance major is also able to explain how the money raised in the US can make such a significant difference in the lives of those in Asia.

"We raise on average, in the past, 55 grand a year," Lohmeyer explained. "One U.S. dollar converts, more or less, to 10 dollars in Bangladesh because of the exchange rates and the volume of the dollar."

In the four years Smith has been directing the mission, he said that the bouts have raised between $40,000 and $75,000 per year.

"The number of uses is immeasurable," Smith said. "It depends on the year on what that mission is actually given to, but it's really a very important source of support for the work our community does among the poor and the very poor in Bangladesh."

The money is split evenly between the province of priests and the province of brothers that the Holy Cross Mission maintains in Bangladesh.

"They use the money according to what their priority projects among the poor are in the given year that they receive it," Smith said.

Every ticket buyer can know that he or she has made an important contribution to life in Bangladesh. "(The money) has been used to build hostels for students who have no other way of attending school, to care for orphans, (and) to sponsor students in technical schools that we have in order to give them skills to enable self-support," said Smith.

Although education is a foundation of the mission, health care receives funding as well.

"It funds an program we have for medical care for the indigent — the poorest of the poor — who have no other ways to get medical care," Smith said.

In a culture very different from America, Bengal Bouts also assist young women in Bangladesh who are looking for jobs.

"Funding has been used in programs to support young women in terms of life skills training," said Smith.

The swollen lips and sore knuckles will soon be forgotten, although the chipped teeth and dental bills could take more time to forget. But the main purpose of the Bengal Bouts — supporting those in need halfway across the world — now boasts 75 years of staying power.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

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Bookstore Basketball Team Registration

$20 per team

GO ONLINE to WWW.ND.EDU/~BKSTR to find out how to register your team! The online registration service will close at 11:59pm on Friday, so register your team today!!!

All registration will take place online — payment by credit card.

Captain’s Meeting: Tuesday, March 29 @ 7:30pm, 101 DeBartolo
From Nappy to Now

The Bengal Bouts celebrate 75 years of flying fists and dedicated Darners

By ERIC RETTER

Sports Writer

Knute Rockne would never have guessed it. The Notre Dame Boxing Club, a team he founded in 1923 for the primary purpose of keeping his football squad conditioned in the off-season, is now the largest collegiate boxing club in the country outside of the military academies, and arguably the most famous and viable intramural athletic program in America.

This year, the club celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Bengal Bouts, the annual boxing tournament first started in 1931 by Dominic "Nappy" Napolitano, a name deserving the same respect as Rockne, Parseghian and Leahy in the lore of Notre Dame athletic history for his efforts with the Bengal Bouts and the Boxing Club. In the half century spanning their inception in 1931 through his retirement as coach in 1980, Napolitano put all his energy into the Bengal Bouts, and he came to personify the Notre Dame tradition he created. "Nappy" was the coach for almost 50 years, current boxing coach Tom Suddes said. "This was his life at Notre Dame."

In his passion for and dedication to the program and to the young men who fought in it, the childless Napolitano turned a countless number of fighters into his surrogate sons over the years. "He was a great coach and a wonderful man," Suddes said. He was literally a father figure to so many kids coming through.

Suddes should know. He was not only one of those sons, but has been the coach and the man, along with Terry Johnson, most responsible for continuing the program since Napolitano's death in 1986.

"I got very close with him my freshman year [1967]," he said. "I came back to be in the development office in '73 so I was able to be there when he tried the training that was in the coaching." While he was the mentor to many of them, Napolitano was always their coach, and under his tutelage, numerous noteworthy accomplishments took place in the boxing ring. The most impressive of these achievements is also the rarest: in the history of the program, only 9 fighters have won the championship for four straight years, the first of these, Bill "Zip" Roemer, won his titles in the early 1940s. These achievements become even more impressive when one realizes that, especially in more recent years, they exactly match the length of the champion's boxing career.

"Very few people who have gone through this program have had any boxing experience before," Suddes said. "You come in, its new, you learn it, you throw yourself into it, and sometimes you only fight one year and sometimes you fight all four.

However, champion or not, every boxer has made a serious physical commitment in return for membership and the right to compete in the Bengal Bouts. Each year, boxers have typically gone through 6 weeks of intense training and preparation leading up to the tournament. The Bengal Bouts serve as the culmination of up to a half-semester's worth of pushups, situps, sparring and conditioning.

The boxing reputation as one of the most demanding sports holds true, especially here in the boxing club, current Boxing Club president Galen Loughrey said. Throughout these 75 years, thousands of young fighters have willingly traded countless hours of sweat and practice time for the opportunity to fight in the Bouts — an opportunity that ends each year in 4-and-a-half minutes or less for exactly half of them.

Why then, have so many men committed so much of their time and energy for a guarantee of a 1 match that might not even last as long as the time it takes to dress for it?

Maybe it's because the Bengal Bouts represent something bigger than a chance to win a championship.

"I think that's what kept it alive so long, the passion behind it, to be able to be part of something that's greater than you'll ever become," Loughrey said. The Boxing Club has been growing recently, and this year 135 people participated in the bouts. At the 75th anniversary of the Bengal Bouts, there has been much reflection and recommitment to the values of the club. This year, the Nappy Legacy Society was founded, celebrating Napolitano's contribution and also raising money for the missions by inviting Boxing Club alumni to make a $750 dollar donation.

Former Bengal Bouts director Dominic "Nappy" Napolitano, second from left, talks with club presidents [from left] Val Bernabo, Matt Connelly and Tom Suddes in 1971.

The tournament derived its name from the Holy Cross Mission compound in Daka, Bangladesh, a city that was formerly called Bengal. The mission, which has been in Daka for over 150 years, is made up a school, college, seminary, orphanage and hospital, all of which depend upon donations. Each year, after covering expenses, the Boxing Club donates 100 percent of the money raised from the Bengal Bouts to the mission. Annually, the Boxing Club's contribution is the highest single contribution the missions receive. In 1931, the missions received $500 from the Boxing Club.

This year, the fundraising goal is $75,000.

"A dollar here is ten dollars there. We send over 50, 60, 70 thousand dollars. That's like a half a million dollars over there, so you can actually buy an awful lot of stuff and take care of an awful lot of people," Suddes said.

The charitable aspect of the program is what set it apart in its foundation and continues to set it apart today.

Napolitano's slogan "Strong body, light mind. Weak bodies may be nourished" has become the mantra of the Bengal Bouts. However, even in defeat, the program has shown to have enriching qualities for the boxers just through their participation.

"I've gotten a bunch of e-mails from guys who just said, "my gosh, it was the best thing that ever happened to me at Notre Dame, and I use the stuff I learned in the boxers every single day,"" Suddes said.

Because their time is dedicated to the well-being of others, boxers come away with an intensely personal sense of achievement. This enables the Bengal Bouts to forge a unique status.

"I was the best fight I've ever seen in all these years. Those guys went at it toe-to-toe for 10,000 people in the ACC who just stood up the whole time. Those guys just never gave an inch," recalled.

However, some details have been lost by memory. "I honestly don't even remember who won. I'm not even sure who was there remember. People were just standing and yelling and cheering," Suddes said.

And that's why they're still putting on the gloves.

Contact Eric Retter at eretter@nd.edu

The Observer • BENGAL BOUTS
Friday, March 18, 2005

Andrew McGill, left, and Mike McCann exchange blows during the 140 lb. semifinal of the 75th annual Bengal Bouts. McCann won the fight by unanimous decision.
LEGENDS PREVIEW

Whild Peach and Stroke 9 to perform this weekend

By BECCA SAUNDERS
Some Women

St. Patrick’s Day has come and gone and many students are looking for something to fill up the rest of their weekend. Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross students need look no further than the club side of Legends on Friday and Saturday night, as an exciting lineup of entertainment is set for this weekend.

Tonight Legends will feature a band called Whild Peach. While most people may think they have never been exposed to this band, anyone who has ever watched Outkast perform has already seen Whild Peach in action. The band performs their own brand of what it calls “Stanka” music. Hip-hop would not be possible without the instrumental work of a band like Whild Peaches behind the rappers. In the last 10 years, Whild Peach has worked on projects with various musicians, including Sleepy Brown, Goodie Mob and J.I. It has also been featured on “The Scooby Doo Soundtrack” and “The All Movie Soundtrack.”

Most recently, it has worked with Outkast since its second record. According to their press information, “Ourkast and Whild Peach formed a relationship that included co-writing, leading a band on vocals and instrumentation and eventually manifested itself as Whild Peach becoming the backup band on the groups tours.” Whild Peach will be performing some of their original works as well as all the songs it performed on Outkast albums including “Ms. Jackson,” “So Fresh, So Clean,” “Hey Ya” and “The Way You Move” tonight at Legends at 10 p.m.

The mood of Legends will be very different on Friday than on Saturday night, but the quality of the acts will be just as good. Stroke 9, a rock band originally from Northern California, will be rocking Legends on Saturday. The band is currently a rock group with three members. What began as a class project for academic credit quickly became the basis for Stroke 9 in the fall of 1990. Saturday night’s show will be one of the first promoting the group’s latest album, “All In.”

The history of the band members performing solo work, but began with Luke Esteryk, the lead guitarist, when he started Stroke 9 for his senior thesis for academic credit in California. Esteryk, following that John McDermott joined Stroke 9 as the guitarist. The band continued to develop as Eric Stock joined the band on drums in 1997, Gouldiner moved to bass and the band took on the shape it continues today.

Stroke 9 has released three albums entitled “Buy Meets Girl,” “Harper to Harper” and “Nasty Little Thought,” which is set for release in 2000. Stroke 9 unquestionably has experience and will certainly rock the crowd at Legends. Both Whild Peach and Stroke 9 are well known bands and promise high-quality performances this weekend. Both shows start at 10 p.m. and are open to all Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross students.

Contact Becca Saunders at rsaunder@nd.edu

PAC REVIEW

Ronan Tynan’s performance powerful but lengthy

By BRANDON HOLLIHAN
Scene Writer

A night of music provided by Ronan Tynan and Gill, as the Notre Dame Glee Club performed some powerful moments, but it could have definitely been used more in the philosophy of ‘less talk, more action.’

Tynan, accompanied by a well-sized orchestra directed by Brian Byrne at the Leighton Concert Hall, began his performance with a great rendition of “Man of La Mancha,” a song that perfectly fits his gourmanter tenor voice. The man is definitely larger than life; it was surprising to see how much taller he is in front of a concert audience as compared to when he’s on a TV screen singing at Yankee Stadium.

“There’s a reason they know me as ‘Shrek’,” Tynan joked, flicking back his ears back.

Throughout the evening Tynan displayed two different types of vocal timbre: his naturally deep and carrying voice in such songs as “Amazing Grace” and “Coming from the Rain,” but a more unchained voice in quieter ballads such as “EJJie.” Several times he made the dynamic transition from soft to full, and each time his voice changed radically. Listeners would probably have identified the deeper sound as Tynan’s unique, wonderful voice. Perhaps he can find a way to better connect that sound to the lighter (and lower) moments of his repertoire.

Gill came on in spots of each of the acts, performing selected works on guitar and accompanied by cohort John Hobbs on piano. Gill played some good country music - but he sure loved to talk. “Are you guessing you’re wondering what the hell I’m doing here, isn’t you?” he asked the audience, looking at the concert’s association with contemporary classical and country music.

Between each of his songs Gill told jokes, exchanged banter with Tynan, and reminisced about the severities of his father. Both musicians had the audience laughing several times, but it definitely prolonged the evening. It’s a shame too, because when they finally did make music together, they were fantastic. As Ronan Tynan once said, “Everything is better in threes.”

Tynan and Gill also used their music to relay their relationships with their families, and they did so very poignantly. Tynan performed “Passing Through,” a song he wrote along with help from Byrne in tribute to his mother who ails from Alzheimer’s disease. In a recent Primetime Live interview, Tynan spoke about how his mother pushed him through his physical handicaps and struggles with lower limb disability, and how this song conveyed that the woman who guided him so valiantly could never have known all her son had accomplished. Meanwhile, Gill performed works dedicated to his father, including a hilarious anecdote about his mother verbally terrorizing dad all day long.

The Glee Club performed several traditional songs from the upper chorals seats of the Leighton, featuring Gabriel Torres, Collin Poggo and John Plifer as soloists. Violinist Gregory Harrington also had the opportunity to perform a couple of well-known solo works. Byrne, for his part, kept everything in the orchestra running smoothly, as did Dan Snow with the Glee Club. The concert finished with some great encores, including U2’s “I Still Haven’t Found What I’m Looking For” and Tynan’s signature interpretation of “God Bless America.”

All in all, it was quite a fun night, but it was also around eleven o’clock when the show ended, and picking up of the pace wouldn’t have hurt things that much.

Contact Brandon Hollihan at bhollihan@nd.edu
Wisconsin-Milwaukee pulls off first upset of tourney

Wisconsin-Milwaukee cruised past Penn; Eastern Kentucky falls to Wildcats

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Wisconsin-Milwaukee, which made an unexpected charge to the NCAA Tournament, pulled off a first-round upset of the Big East champion Providence College, Tuesday.

Wisconsin-Milwaukee, whose players were briefly barred from a friendly arena, was focused, Wednesday when they couldn't produce their student-Ds, pulled off the first upset of the tournament, beating Alabama 83-73 and knocking out the Crimson Tide.

Now everyone knows the Panthers. Tucker and Ed McCants scored 21 points apiece as Milwaukee (25-5) won its first NCAA tournament opener in 19 years.

The 12-seeded Panthers nearly knocked off Notre Dame, losing 76-69. The underseeded Horizon League champions finished the job this time, outplaying one of the top programs and continuing a trend of No. 12s pulling off the upset.

Eastern Kentucky 64

The Bears pulled off a second round upset of the Eagles, which didn't happen until Feb. 8.

Boston College's defense held the Quakers to 33 points and forced 19 turnovers in the first half of the 33-19 win over Eastern Kentucky (26-5), which won its first NCAA tournament victory over an SEC team.Projected in the first round, Eastern Kentucky (26-5), which won its first NCAA tournament victory over an SEC team. It's the second straight season that the Panthers have knocked off a team ranked in the Top 10.

The Bears (25-7) advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament for the first time in program history.

Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Adrian Tigert, left, and Jason McCoy celebrate yesterday in Cleveland after upsetting Alabama in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Adrian Tigert, left, and Jason McCoy celebrate yesterday in Cleveland after upsetting Alabama in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

"I just felt comfortable with my range and shot it," said Dudley. "I wasn't so I decided to take a second one."

The Cincinnati bench erupted.

"I knew he had it in him," teammate Eric Hicks said, laughing. "One, maybe, but not two."

With the 250-pound Maxwell dominating the inside, Cincinnati showed a decidedly more physical game and threat­ened to run away from the Hawkeyes (21-12) almost from the start.

The Bears (25-7) advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament for the first time, beating Eastern Kentucky (26-5), which won its opener over Eastern Kentucky at the RAC Arena.

Maxwell had missed all five 3- pointers in the first half of his first 127 games with Cincinnati. But in the closing minutes against Iowa, with the game already decided, he shot twice from long range and hit both.

"It was obvious from the first half that we needed some ener­gy, somewhat of a spark," Hayes said. "I challenged myself to get every rebound and work my way around the block.

Kentucky (26-5) extended its NCAA record of tournament victories to 94 and is now 37-9 in NCAA tournament openers. The Wildcats actually have won 96 NCAA tournament games, but were forced to forfeit two wins in 1988 because of NCAA rules violations. They will face Cincinnati in Saturday's sec­ond-round game of the Austin Regional.

The Colonels (22-9) weren't about to let the Wildcats coast. Instead, they limited Kentucky to 10-of-11 shooting from 3-point range and got within five points in the last two minutes.

The difference was Kentucky's dominant interior game. Hayes and Azubuike combined for 15 rebounds, and Kentucky had a 42-24 scoring advantage in the paint.

"They're a very physical team," Colonels forward Michael Haney said. "(He) Hayes is very strong. He always kept a body on me and pushed me out of the post."

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 1318 South Dining Hall. Deadline for one-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid.

The charge is $5 cents per character, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without inquiring.
Bonds has second knee surgery

Giants slugger likely to miss opening day and more of early season

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Bonds pushed his surgically repaired right knee so hard that the San Francisco Giants became concerned he might be doing too much. Yet, after 19 major league seasons, the team trusted Bonds knows his body best.

But on Thursday, Bonds underwent a second operation on the knee — a setback that makes it unlikely the slugger will be ready for opening day. While the Giants offered no timetable for Bonds' return, it took the seven-time NL MVP more than time expected to recover from the original surgery on the knee on Jan. 31.

"This is certainly a setback, and a significant one," general manager Brian Sabean said. "Obviously, we didn't know we were going to go down this path. Barry did what he felt he could tolerate on any given day. I'm glad this happened now instead of days before the season."

Trainer Stan Conte said he could not rule out the possibility of Bonds being ready for the opener on April 5 against the Dodgers, but said it is "not an unreasonable thing" to assume he'll be sidelined past that date.

"It would be pretty incredible, but I've learned with Barry I never say he can't do something," Conte said from spring training at Scottsdale Stadium in Arizona.

The Giants said in a statement that Bonds had arthroscopic surgery to repair tears in the knee, similar to his earlier operation. Both procedures were performed in the Bay Area by Art Ting.

Bonds, 40, has "experienced periods of swelling in his knee following an incident when he accidentally hit his knee on a table at SBC Park Feb. 4. Neither rest nor his current rehabilitation program has helped alleviate the periodic swelling," the Giants said in a release.

"It was a big blow to begin with and now it's a bigger blow," manager Felipe Alou said before the Giants played the Rangers in an exhibition game. "Now it's real, he's going to be out.

Conte said the swelling initially was considered a normal part of Bonds' recovery, but when it wouldn't go away he knew something was wrong.

Bonds returned to San Francisco on Wednesday from spring training to be evaluated by Ting, and the process took all day, Conte said. An MRI showed "new tears that had to be addressed."

"One reason we were so tight-lipped is because the procedure was all day yesterday and into the night to get the results," Conte said. "We had to talk about options and we made the decision last night. Bonds made the final decision. "This was a necessary procedure to get him back. The new tears had to happen after the original surgery. His knee would swell, we would take a couple of days and he'd be fine. It's not unusual in rehabilitation. We felt it was a normal process."

Bonds, who is expected to return to Arizona next week, might move over from right field to take Bonds' spot in left. Other teams.

Bonds met with the Giants eight days ago and rejected an offer that was almost the same as the one he agreed to Thursday. He then fired agent Michael Harrison and signed with Drew Rosenhaus.

Burrells had also visited with the Minnesota Vikings and other teams.

Burrells, who spent the last five seasons with Pittsburgh, brings considerable size and big-play ability to a Giants offense that sorely needs both.

At 6-foot-5 and 226 pounds, Burrells has the size and speed to get down the field and catch the fade pattern in the end zone, which no doubt is attractive to Eli Manning heading into his first full season as a starter.

Burrells had 35 catches for 609 yards and five touchdowns last season. His finest season was in 2002, when he had 78 catches.

The Giants went through most of last season without a deep threat. Tim Carter was lost early in the season with a hip injury and rookie Jumaar Taylor showed flashes coming back from knee surgery in college.

Starting receivers Amani Toomer and the Hilliard had sub-par seasons, failing to catch a touchdown pass. Toomer is coming off a hamstring injury that bothered him for most of the season, and Hilliard was released Thursday after never fulfilling the promise he had when the Giants drafted him seventh overall out of Florida in 1997.

The Giants have been one of the most active teams in free agency, signing linebacker Antonio Pierce from Washington for $26 million and giving Jets tackle Kareem McKenzie $37.75 million to protect Manning.
Mark McGwire, left, becomes emotional as he testifies to a Congressional panel about the role of steroids in baseball today. Rafael Palmeiro, Curt Schilling, Sammy Sosa and Jose Canseco also spoke under oath.

Players testify to Congress about steroids

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Siting biceps-to-biceps, some of baseball's biggest stars told Congress on Thursday that steroids are a problem for the sport but denied they are widespread. Mark McGwire nearly came to tears and refused to say whether he took the performance-enhancing drugs during the historic home run summer of 1998 or any other time.

On a day of extraordinary theater, the House Government Reform Committee attacked baseball's new steroid policy, questioning five current and former players.

Under oath, Jose Canseco — whose best-selling book, "Juiced," said steroids were rampant in baseball — repeated his admission that he used them. Sammy Sosa and Rafael Palmeiro said they didn't. McGwire repeatedly avoided a direct response, saying his lawyers advised him not to answer certain questions.

"If a player answers 'No,' he simply will not be believed," McGwire said. "If he answers 'Yes,' he risks public scorn and endless government investigations."

"I can guarantee you that, without change, there won't be many of us left," he told the lawmakers.

"He finally looked like them.

With great anticipation over the threeomes of Woods, Ernie Els and U.S. Open champion Retief Goosen, the world's No. 1 player led off on the first tee by taking a 6-inch divot with a 3-wood that was lucky to reach the fairway.

"I've never done that before," Woods said of his 199-yard drive. As for a PGA Tour event suspended by weather? "Seems like that happens every week.

Nearly 2 inches of rain saturated the field around an assured program full of endless government investigations."

Jason Giambi of the New York Yankees.

In a tense scene, Canseco sat at the same table as the other players as he told the lawmakers that he could not fully answer their questions because of concerns his testimony could be used against him.

During a break after the players' opening statement, five of the stars gathered in one nearby room, and Canseco went to another.

McGwire, choking back tears, said he knew that steroid use could be dangerous and would discourage young athletes from using them.

IN BRIEF

Soccer referees fear for safety amid threats from fans

LONDON — Swedish soccer referee Anders Frisk retired a few days ago, hounded out by death threats sent by e-mail, fax and phone. Swiss colleague Urs Meier needed police protection last summer after receiving 16,000 hostile e-mails in 24 hours.

Referee Luis Carlos Silva got in a fistfight in Brazil last weekend when a fan attacked him on the field.

Who would want such a job?

"I can guarantee you that, without change, there won't be many of us left," said French referee Bertrand Layec, who fled a police complaint recently by his family was threatened.

Referees are used to abuse. But Frank's abrupt departure, after what he termed the "worst three weeks" of his life, put the issue on the agenda when European soccer officials meet next month in Tallinn, Estonia.

First round of Bay Hill called because of weather

ORLANDO, Fla. — Rain halted play in the Bay Hill Invitational after only three hours Thursday, still enough time for Tiger Woods to hit a shot that made fans nearly drop their umbrellas in utter amazement.

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NCAA TOURNAMENT

Zags survive upset attempt by confident Winthrop

Arizona beats Utah State; Texas falls; Wake Forest wins big

Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Going into this weekend's NCAA tournament, no one expected Arizona or Winthrop to do much of anything in the second round. But that's precisely what both teams did.

Arizona, the No. 3 seed in the West Regional, rallied from an 11-point deficit to beat Utah State 74-64 on Thursday night in Tucson, Ariz. The Wildcats made it more difficult for the Aggies (24-8) to do much of anything in the second half, especially after Utah State shot 53 percent from the field this season, but was just 8-for-30 (26.7 percent) in the second half Thursday.

Winthrop, the No. 13 seed in the East Regional, upset No. 4 Virginia 70-64 on Friday night to advance to the Sweet 16. The Eagles, led by forward Chris Brown, beat the Cavaliers for the second straight year.

Wake Forest, the No. 15 seed in the East Regional, pulled off another upset with a 61-57 win over Texas on Saturday night. The Demon Deacons, led by guard J.J. Hickson, forced the Longhorns to shoot 33 percent from the field and 13 percent from behind the arc.

Texas is that it can still do some post-season damage. Wake Forest 70, Chattanooga 54

Chris Paul sat down on Wake Forest's bench to soak in the final seconds. He pulled on his warm-up top, leaned back and smiled. The view was much better than he remembered.

Paul had come back and made the Demon Deacons whole.

"With him, it's like we're one big happy family again," said forward Eric Williams. "It's like the puzzle is complete."

Paul returned from a one-game suspension for punching a player and he and the second-seeded Demon Deacons shook off a horrid first half for a 70-54 win over Chattanooga in the NCAA tournament on Thursday night. Paul scored 20 points — 13 in the second half — and added six rebounds and five assists to pace Wake Forest (27-1), which didn't play like one of the pre-tournament favorites until midway through the second half.

The Demon Deacons struggled with the Mocs (20-11), who threatened to become just the fifth No. 15 seed to win a first-round game since the tournament expanded in 1985.

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NCAA TOURNAMENT

Zags survive upset attempt by confident Winthrop

Arizona beats Utah State; Texas falls; Wake Forest wins big

Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Going from plucky underdog to a favorite in the NCAA tournament hasn't gone smoothly for Gonzaga. Fourteenth-seeded Winthrop flitted with a Gonzaga-like upset against the third-seeded Bulldogs on Thursday night before the Zags grabbed control late and won 74-64 in the first round of the Albuquerque Regional.

"They had a swagger about them, they were playing with a great deal of confidence," Gonzaga coach Mark Few said about the Eagles. "It reminded me of our first one in 1999."

That year, the 10th-seeded Zags pulled off three stunning upsets of higher seeded teams before losing to No. 1 seed Connecticut in the West Regional final.

They were a 10th seed in 2000 and stunned No. 7 Louisville and No. 2 St. John's. In 2001, they fell to a 12th seed and still made the South Regional semifinals.

But they lost in the first round as a sixth seed in 2002, got beaten in the second round as a No. 9 seed in 2003 and were bounced out after two games as a No. 2 seed last year.

This year almost looked like another washout.

"They had the slipper on for a bit, but we tried to take it off and we did," said Tagg Morrison, who led the Zags with 27 points.

The loss snapped Winthrop's 18-game winning streak, longest in the nation. Gonzaga (26-4) won its 12th in a row and now has longest winning streak in Division I.

"It set itself up pretty well for them to come in here and let it rip and they did," Few said about the Eagles. "We played a little tight at the start and to get through this one feels great, hopefully, we'll play much better in the second round."

Neither team led by more than two points until late in the game, which was tied four times in the final 20 minutes.

J.P. Batista added 14 points and Bonny Turiaf had 13 points and 13 rebounds for Gonzaga. Torrell Martin scored 22 points and made six 3-pointers — both career highs — for the Eagles (27-6), who are 0-5 all-time in the NCAA tournament. Phillip Williams tied his career high with 17 points and Craig Bradshaw grabbed 11 rebounds.

Arizona 66, Utah State 53

If Arizona plays the way it did in the second half against Utah State, the Wildcats could be going deep into the NCAA tournament.

The Wildcats made a complete turnaround after halftime, quickly overcame a three-point deficit and dominating the Aggies the rest of the way in a win Thursday in the Chicago Regional.

Arizona (26-4) apparently learned after losing in the opening round a year ago, when it blew a 14-point lead in the second half and lost to Seton Hall. The Wildcats haven't lost consecutive first-round games since 1992 and '93. In the second half we picked it up and put pressure on them and made it more difficult for them to complete passes," Arizona coach Lute Olson said.

The Wildcats made it more difficult for the Aggies (24-8) to do much of anything in the second half, especially after Utah State shot 53 percent from the field this season, but was just 8-for-30 (26.7 percent) in the second half Thursday.

Arizona kept turning the misses into extra points, getting the ball inside to Channing Frye as he scored 13 of his 17 points in the second half.

"Our defense definitely comes from our defense," Frye said. "That kind of takes the heart out of other teams and once we get those easy buckets we just confide in the halfcourt."

Frye also pulled down 10 rebounds and had five blocks, four of them coming in the second half as the Wildcats ended all hopes of an upset for the Aggies.

Nevada 61, Texas 57

Nevada still has its NCAA tournament magic working. The Wolf Pack made an improbable comeback in the final 7 minutes Thursday night, scoring the final eight points of the game to beat eighth-seeded Texas for their second straight first-round victory.

"This tournament can break your heart," first-year coach Mark Fox said. "At the end, everybody's going to be crying but one team."

The Wolf Pack 125-41 fed off last year's surprising run that sent them into the round of 16. They played with confidence, matching Texas shove for shove, as they earned their NCAA tournament record at 3-3 and tied last season's victory total.

But reaching the regional semifinals a second straight straight time might take the biggest upset in-school history. They will face top-seeded Illinois on Saturday.

What Nevada proved against Texas is that it can still do some post-season damage.

Wake Forest 70, Chattanooga 54

Chris Paul sat down on Wake Forest's bench to soak in the final seconds. He pulled on his warm-up top, leaned back and smiled. The view was much better than he remembered.

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Magic fire coach Johnny Davis after six straight losses

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — In the midst of a six-game losing streak, the Orlando Magic decided it was time for a shake-up.

Coach Johnny Davis was fired Thursday, with the Magic moving closer to falling out of playoff contention. Assistant Chris Jent was named interim coach.

"Certainly it's not the way we would like things to play out," said general manager John Weisbrod, who signed Davis to a two-year deal in 2003. Davis was dismissed along with assistant coach Ron Eckler hours after Wednesday night's 110-102 road loss to the Los Angeles Clippers, dropping the Magic to 31-33 and leaving them still feeling like they have their fate in their own hands, but I don't know how much longer we would have had that if we didn't get some kind of a jolt," Davis told the Orlando Sentinel.

"If I had thought our team was less capable than I think it is, then it would have been easier here down the stretch to accept our fate. ... But I happen to think it's an awful lot about our team." Davis, a low-key coach, seemed to lose control of his players. In Sunday's 98-82 home loss to New Jersey, the Magic received several technical fouls and scuffled with the Nets.

Weisbrod said via conference call from Seattle, where the team is in the middle of a West Coast road swing, "I had thought our team was less capable than I think it is, then it would have been easier here down the stretch to accept our fate. ... But I happen to think it's an awful lot about our team.

Reserve guard DeShawn Stevenson booted the ball into the stands at the buzzer and forward Stacey Augmon squatted in reporter's lockers.

"We're in trouble. We haven't won for like a week or so," Magic guard Steve Francis said after Wednesday night's game. "This is definitely our lowest point of the season. We just need to get back to playing the up-tempo style of game that we're used to."

Davis told the Orlando Sentinel he was "surprised and disappointed" by being fired with just 18 games left in the season and the club still trying to make the playoffs.

"It caught me completely off guard," Davis said. He wasn't alone.

Miami Heat coach Stan Van Gundy said he was "absolutely shocked" by the firing.

"At this late date, I'm just very, very surprised. A team right there in the playoff hunt, tied for the eighth spot on March 17th, I don't know what to say about it," Van Gundy said. "Not much in the NBA surprises me, but this does, coming on March 17th with a team tied for a playoff spot."

"We're still trying to make the playoffs," Weisbrod said via conference call from Seattle, where the team is in the middle of a West Coast road swing. "I had thought our team was less capable than I think it is, then it would have been easier here down the stretch to accept our fate. ... But I happen to think it's an awful lot about our team.

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**NBA**

**Shaquille O'Neal scorched night**

MIAMI — Shaquille O'Neal wants nothing to do with Kobe Bryant. And Bryant soon may not want anything to do with Shaq's underwhelming in Miami.

Dwyane Wade — pumped up by a comment Bryant made as the first half expired — scored eight of his 27 points in the fourth quarter, and O'Neal had a 25-point, 12-rebound game that helped lift the Miami Heat to a 102-89 victory over the Los Angeles Lakers on Thursday night.

It was the 11th straight win and a single-season record 14th straight at home for Miami (51-16), which moved nine games ahead of Detroit in the Eastern Conference standings and within seven percentage points of San Antonio (49-15) for the league's best record.

"We just look at this game as another game," said O'Neal, who enjoyed a career sweep at his former teammate's expense. "We wanted to stay focused and our guys did a beautiful job of not letting anything enter into the locker room that would break our focus."

Bryant, according to Wade, told Miami's second-year guard "Stop crying" as the teams were preparing to leave the court following a first half in which Wade was often agitated over non-calls.

"I don't want to say what I said," Wade said. "I told him that I wasn't talking to him, for one. And for two, I pretty much told him a lot of stuff. I don't want to get into it."

"He just did the talking. Wade aided eight rebounds and five assists, then he pumped his fist in exhilaration as the final seconds wore down.

Bryant had 23 points in the first half but missed his first nine shots after halftime and finished with 26 points on 8-for-23 shooting.

Chuckie Atkins had 23 for the Lakers, who dropped their third straight and fell 1-3/2 games behind Denver for the final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

"I think we're at our best when the odds are against us," Bryant said.

Keyon Dooling scored eight of his season-high 17 points in the fourth quarter for Miami, which outscored the Lakers 35-22 in the last 12 minutes — even though the Lakers countered on six 3-pointers in the final 10:03.

"Keyon was obviously fabulous, and Dwyane and Shaq were very, very good again," Heat coach Stan Van Gundy said.

It was the Lakers' first visit to Miami since last summer's trade sending O'Neal to the Heat for Forward Lamar Odom and Brian Grant — all key players in last season's run to the East semifinals. There was plenty of hype, although it paled to the mania surrounding the Heat's 104-102 Christmas win in Los Angeles.

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**ND Women's Track**

Iris send partial squad to Willie Williams Invitational

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

A partial squad of Irish track athletes will travel to the University of Arizona this weekend to open the outdoor portion of the Notre Dame women's track schedule at the Willie Williams Invitational.

Notre Dame will send sprinters, hurdlers and a few field athletes to the desert Friday with hopes to jumpstart the team's quest for outdoor Big East qualification times.

The mid-distance and distance teams will stay in South Bend to rest and try to get healthy. Kerry Meagher, Lauren King and Molly Huddle, all Irish cross country stars, are still rehabbing long-term injuries.

Among the group of athletes that will compete this weekend are Big East Champion Okachi Ogugbokie, promising freshmen Ririvon Davie, Dominique Manning and Cysta Swayze and Maryann Ergha, who was one spot out of qualifying for last weekend's NCAA indoor meet.

While this meet represents a transition from the climate controlled Loftus Center to the dry heat of Arizona, Irish coach Tim Connelly maintained that his team's focus must be on the season as a whole.

"Indoor is not the end of a season," Connelly said. "We don't start all over again when we go outside."

"The indoor and outdoor make up one complete season. We need to view it like this to make a smooth transition to the outdoor portion of our schedule."

This weekend will also provide the opportunity for Notre Dame's two NCAA athletes, 3000-meter specialist Stephanie Madia and high jumper Stacey Cowan, to refresh and get refreshed for another NCAA push. Madia finished 12th and Cowan finished 19th last weekend at the indoor NCAA's.

The rest of the Irish track team is expected to make its outdoor debut in one of two meets scheduled over Easter weekend.

Contact Ryan Kiefer at rkiefer@nd.edu

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ND SOFTBALL

Irish set for yet another road trip

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Senior Staff Writer

The Irish will put their five-game winning streak on the line as they head east this weekend to the Buckeye Invitational in Columbus, Ohio. Notre Dame (11-7) will open the event with a game against Marshall Saturday at 3 p.m. and follow up with a match against Ohio State at 7 p.m. The Irish close out play with games against Oakland (noon) and Eastern Michigan (2 p.m.) Sunday.

Heading into its spring break trip, Notre Dame was only 5-6, but the Hawaii Invitational allowed the Irish to find their offensive stroke. Notre Dame scored 25 runs in its four-game sweep at the tournament, and the Irish ended the trip with their second tournament title of the early season.

"Hawaii was good for us because we played well as a team," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "We made things happen, our pitchers both did well and we did a really good job of minimizing our mistakes.

"Coming into Hawaii we were averaging two or three errors a game, and at Hawaii we played errorless ball — we didn't give our opponents any mistakes to take advantage of." At the Buckeye Invitational, Notre Dame will face one of the better teams in the Big Ten conference. Ohio State is 11-6 in 2005, and the Buckeyes are currently hitting .310 as a team.

"(Ohio State) can really hit," Gumpf said. "Their pitchers are pretty solid. That's what we've seen this year, but Ohio State really stands out because of their hitting and their speed on the basepaths. Marshall is another very fast team that really makes things happen with the baserunning game.

Notre Dame's other opponents don't appear as powerful as Ohio State, but for an Irish team that has struggled on offense this season, they're not likely to take anyone lightly.

Marshall (11-8) will face Notre Dame for the first time in history, with the Thundering Herd entering the matchup favored. Notre Dame enters the game with a .417 batting average.

Oakland (1-8) will face the Irish for the second time ever, with Notre Dame winning the earlier meeting 12-0 on April 30, 2002. The Grizzlies have struggled offensively this season, hitting just 197 as a team.

In Eastern Michigan (5-15), Notre Dame faces an opponent that they will see later in the season — the Irish face the Eagles at Ivy Field for a doubleheader on April 5. Kelli Jeziorski, who leads the team with a .326 batting average, paces Eastern Michigan's offense.

A big reason for Notre Dame's turnaround this season has been the impressive play of junior Kellie Middleton. Middleton, who missed 61 games last season due to injury, is second on the team in batting average with a .333 mark, and is a perfect 10-for-10 in the stolen base department.

"(Middleton) really got hot over spring break," Gumpf said. "Every time she gets on base you can see the other team get scared. We really believe as a team that if she gets on base then she's going to come around and score as well."

Middleton was recognized for her efforts, winning the Big East player of the week honors on March 14.

The Buckeye Invitational is Notre Dame's final road tournament of the season and the sixth consecutive weekend in which the Irish have had to travel.

The team will finally open its home season Wednesday.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu

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NCAA BASKETBALL

Huskies give Romar extension

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Washington basketball coach Lorenzo Romar agreed to a new eight-year deal with the school Thursday after guiding the Huskies to their first No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

The terms and conditions of the deal that will keep him in Seattle through the 2012-2013 season will be released when Romar signs the contract. He was working under a six-year contract that paid him $700,000 a season.

"Lorenzo has done an unbelievable job of revitalizing Washington basketball and we felt this was the appropriate time to make the announcement that he will be our coach for a long time to come," Washington athletic director Todd Turner said in a statement. "The announcement came before the Huskies' 88-77 victory over 16th-seeded Montana in a first-round tournament game in Boise, Idaho. Washington went 27-5 this season, winning the Pac-10 tournament championship for the first time. The Huskies were eighth in the final Associated Press poll.

"I'm ecstatic," Romar said in a statement. "I would like to thank the administration, Todd Turner and our president, Mark Emmert, for believing in me. Whenever something like this happens, there is always a lot of attention on the individual coach. The reality is, without the outstanding work of my staff and the accomplishments of our players, this may not have happened."

Romar, a former Washington player, has rejuvenated a program that finished 11-18, 5-13 in the Pac-10, before Bob Bender was fired as coach after the 2001-2002 season.
Butler

continued from page 24

automatic bid," Corrigan said.
"It's the old coaching cliché here, we can only worry about one game at a time, and that's Butler, but it does put a lot of emphasis on these games."

So far this season, Corrigan has been happy with his team's play, but sees areas of improvement that still need to be addressed.

"I think we've played hard in every game, and I think that we're learning how we need to play to be effective," Corrigan said. "I was disappointed at Cornell. I don't feel like we played with enough discipline and didn't make enough plays to win that game, and yet we came back and did very well in those areas playing against Carolina."

Following up the North Carolina game with a good win, performance against Butler will be important for the Irish in order to position themselves in their league.

They will need to play with discipline in order to make sure that the youthful energy of Butler does not sneak up on them.

"Hopefully that's a sign of progress and maturity in our team and something that we can continue to do," Corrigan said, regarding the team's victory against North Carolina after losing to Cornell.

Notre Dame and Butler will face off at 1 p.m. Saturday at Notre Dame. The game will be televised on Comcast Sports Local.

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffin@nd.edu

MEN'S TRACK

Irish head to Williams Invitational

By JOHN EVERETT
Space Writer

Several members of the Notre Dame men's track and field team will be soaking up the sun this weekend, enjoying a weekend away from South Bend. The team has sent a contingent to Tucson, Ariz. to partake in the Willie Williams Invitational to be held at the Roy P. Drachman Track & Field Stadium on the University of Arizona campus.

The meet is the first of the outdoor season.

The meet will start today at 3:30 p.m. with the hammer throw. The first event on the track will be the men's 400-meter dash at 6 p.m. Friday's schedule will close with the men's 5000-meter race which will begin at 9:05.

The starting gun for the men's 4x100-relay at 12:30 p.m. will signify the commencing of Saturday's action, which will last until the men's 4x400 relay at 2:30. The meet will not feature team scoring. At Tucson, the Irish competitors will be taking on athletes from the University of Arizona, Arizona State, New Mexico State, Washington State and others.

Doug Walker, associate director of sports information, believes the meet is a good start to the outdoor campaign.

"Most of the people going to this meet are people who didn't get to compete last week at the NCAA Indoor Championships, so this is a good opportunity for them to work on some things," Walker said.

With the Willie Williams Invitational, the Irish kick off an outdoor season that will hopefully take them all the way to the NCAA Outdoor Championships in Sacramento, Ca., from June 8-11. Along the way the Irish will travel to all parts of the country to compete.

The schedule features events in places like Walnut, Calif., Atlanta, Ga. and Piscataway, N.J., the site of the Big East Outdoor Championships March 6-8. This marks the last season for a number of Irish seniors, including Trevor McLain-Duer and Selim Nuruksen.

Contact John Everett at jeverett@nd.edu

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Illini continued from page 24

However, the final three sets were all hotly contested. Askildsen posted a point for the Irish over Damir in the fifth spot.

D’Amico came close to an upset of Deheart, ranked No. 4 nationally, in the second set spot in the singles lineup. Winning the second set 7-5 after losing the first 6-2, he fell 7-5 in a fiercely competitive third frame.

“Brent played one of the best matches he’s played all year,” Bayliss said. “I can’t ask him to play any better.”

Buchanan finished the match with a difficult loss at No. 6. “You work for opportunities like this,” Bayliss said. “It’s disappointing not to do better in the matches we had chances to win.”

However, he is optimistic about the team heading into the rest of the season.

“One day at a time — you work hard and you try to get better,” Bayliss said. “There’s no simple, easy way to do anything. We didn’t really do anything badly, we just didn’t win.”

Next time on the courts, No. 48 University of Michigan will visit the Eck Tennis Pavilion on Saturday, March 26.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

Vols continued from page 24

the team against the Lady Vols as she plays No. 1 for the team in both singles — where she is currently No. 39 in the nation — and in doubles. In doubles, she will be joined by freshman Brook Buck. Buck currently plays No. 2 for the team and is nationally ranked at No. 29 in singles.

The rest of the lineup in singles includes juniors Kiki Stansty, Lauren Connelly, Liz Donohue and senior captain Sarah Jane Connelly. This solid Irish lineup is hoping to bounce back from a disappointing 6-1 loss to No. 24 BYU over spring break.

The team’s lone point came from Catrina Thompson at No. 6 over Lauren Jones 6-2, 6-2. Lauren Connelly was the only other player to win one of her sets.

Although the Irish displayed great efforts all the way down the lineup, they felt the loss of Christian Thompson after she was sidelined with a knee injury and were unable to secure the victory.

The Lady Vols are looking to take advantage of the team’s disjointed lineup after that injury.

“We are looking forward to the (Tennessee match) because it gives us a chance to compete.”

Jay Louderback
Irish coach

“This season, the Irish are off to their best start in two seasons behind junior Sahila Maharaj, ranked No. 44 in the nation in singles.

Both the Lady Vols and the Irish have seen similar opponents this season, holding 3-2 records against Ohio State, Michigan and Wake Forest. Further, both have suffered losses to Duke and North Carolina.

However, the Lady Vols hold one advantage over the Irish — in the last 15 meetings against Notre Dame, Tennessee has earned a 11-4 record and has won the last five matches.

Despite the advantage Tennessee holds, Irish coach Jay Louderback is eager for today’s meet.

“We are looking forward to the (Tennessee match) because it is another chance for us to compete.”

Louderback said, “Our kids love to compete and Tennessee gives us a chance to play some tough competitors.”

Following the match against Tennessee, the Irish return home to face Purdue on Tuesday before then traveling to Oklahoma.

Contact Dan Tappeil at jtapelli@nd.edu

Freshman Brook Buck hits the ball against Iowa Feb. 27. Buck won the match in straight sets, 6-2, 6-2.
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LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You have the opportunity to open a door that will lead to some inspiring concepts. You have plenty to be grateful for, and the more gracious and humble you are, the more you will be offered in return.****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may have to do a little friendly persuasion today. As long as you coax gently and are complimentary, there will be no problem.***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You have a big heart, and you are willing to go the extra mile for no one. You can make the people around you happy today with your soothing words. They may look back at them as long as they need you. You know how to work on people.****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Today is all about looking for your best and spending time with someone you feel deeply about. Changes are coming your way, so be prepared for the emotional aftermath.***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): This could turn into a push-pull sort of day - one person wanting you to do one thing and another trying to convince you to do something altogether different.***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Try not to be too critical of your plans. You may need to pay attention to some people. You may not expect to be standing in your corner. You may want to be a little less critical about your plans.***

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You may not know which end is up and it today, especially if someone you care about is confining you with his or her actions. Be diplomatic but don't let anyone know where you stand.

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, emotional and very good at getting your own way. You have big ideas and creative talent. You don't give up easily, and you are known for your charm.

Eugenia's Web sites: astrostyle.com for fun, eugeniasize.com for confidential

Friday, March 18, 2005

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
Wishing you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
**MEN'S TENNIS**

"Ill" showing

No. 18 Irish fall to No. 3 Illini 6-1

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

Although it was St. Patrick's Day, the Fighting Irish were no match for the Fighting Illini Thursday.

An afternoon of near misses saw the No. 18 Irish fall to the nation's No. 3 squad, featuring another of 6-1 in favor of the Illini.

"They're a good team, and they played well," coach Bobby Bayliss said. "I was just disappointed in our slow start."

Since the beginning of the season, Bayliss has called the bottom of the lineup a strength. The team proved his thought correct Thursday, as No. 5 Iracki and Archiviediani posted a 6-1, 7-5, 6-3 victory for the first Irish point of the match.

Patrick Buchanan was last on the courts at No. 6 with another close third-set match, but ultimately fell 6-4 in the final set to leave a final score of 6-1 in favor of the Illini.

"I thought once we got into the matches we were fine," Bayliss said of the team's performance. "We had little windows of opportunity, and we really had to close the door on them, which we really didn't do."  

In doubles, Stephen Bass and Barry King were first off the courts, losing 6-5 to Brandon Davis and Chris Martin. Illinois clinched the point at No. 1, with G.D. Jones and Ryler Deheart defeating Ryan Kecskely and Brent D'Amico 8-2. The Illini completed the sweep with another 8-5 victory, this time putting Kevin Anderson and Pramod Damar over Sheena Parbhoo and Eric Langenskamp.

"If we had gotten one break early on in doubles, gotten up a service break, given the crowd a chance to get into it, it might have been different," Bayliss said of the outcome of the match. "But we didn't do it. We didn't manufacture it."

Singles saw the Irish fall in their first three matches to clinch the match for Illinois. In the top spot, Bass was the first to finish, as the sophomore fell 6-1, 6-4 to Anderson. Anderson is ranked No. 18 in the country in singles play. Parbhoo finished next, losing 6-2, 7-5 in a fierce battle for a third set to Monte Tucker of the Illini at No. 4. Jones clinched the match for the Illini with a 7-6 (7-0), 6-3 win over Barry King at No. 3.

**BASEBALL**

Bickford steps up for Irish

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

It's a cliché in March basketball — "New heroes always step up." That saying fits the Notre Dame baseball team's victory Thursday over the Northern Illinois Huskies (3-9).

Seldom-used senior left-hander Scott Bickford pitched perhaps the best innings of his Notre Dame career to allow his team to rally for a 10-6 win at Evanville's Aces' Classic.

"I told the team after the game it was one of the highlights of my career at Notre Dame — watching how well Scott Bickford pitched today — because here's a kid that hasn't had that many opportunities in his career," Irish coach Paul Mainieri said. "He's kept a good attitude, he's worked really hard and today he came in and really saved the game for us."

"He kept us in the game and gave us a chance to rally. Here's a kid that in his

**ND WOMEN'S TENNIS**

Team travels to Knoxville

No. 23 Irish ready to lock horns with No. 25 Lady Vols today

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

Heading into today's crucial match against No. 23 Tennessee 19-31, the No. 25 Irish (6-1) will be relying on the team's depth to pull out the victory.

Notre Dame will be competing without sophomore Christian Thompson, half of the No. 2 doubles team in the country. The former No. 1 pairing of Christian and her twin sister Catrina holds an 11-1 record on the season.

Catrina Thompson will lead the Irish against the Volunteers with her brother Scott.
Senior Jacqueline Batteast gets one last crack at the NCAA Tournament
UCSB eyes upset bid against Notre Dame

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

There is just one NCAA bracket in the Irish locker room. It has Notre Dame and UC Santa Barbara playing at 4:30 p.m. Saturday in Fresno, Calif. For the No. 10 Irish, who have high aspirations for the NCAA Tournament, this is the only game that matters right now.

"We haven't talked about any of the other games, haven't talked about what we're doing afterwards, we're just focusing on this game," Coach Muffet McGraw said.

The fourth seeded Irish (26-5) have a tough first-round matchup in the 13th seeded UCSB Gauchos. Senior Kristen Mann was a factor in the Gauchos' loss to Connecticut two years ago, knocking off the Irish 67-54 March 7, 2003.

"They're a dangerous team," McGraw said. "We all agreed that they're better than a 13 seed. It's definitely going to be a tough first-round game.

"Coming off that game against Connecticut we were a little frustrated," McGraw said. But the Irish say they are ready for the NCAA Tournament.

"I feel like we have the overall experience to push it a step more, and I think that helps with our confidence," Duffy said. "Especially going out West, away from home a little bit, I think we'll be ready to go.

Duffy will have to play well if the Irish are to advance in the tournament. The junior is averaging 11.8 points and 5.5 assists per game, the complement to All-American forward Jacqueline Batteast. Batteast is averaging a career high 17.1 points to go along with 6.5 rebounds for the Irish. Fellow senior Teresa Burton is averaging 8.4 points and 5.8 rebounds per game.

Freshman Cheryl Allen averages 7.9 points off the bench, and Crystal Erwin gives the Irish big minutes off the bench as well.

McGraw said the only concern she has going into the tournament is the bench.

"We have great depth, and it's very young," McGraw said. "That's the only question mark going into this year's NCAA Tournament since it is their first NCAA Tournament." Duffy said a balanced attack will be key for the Irish.

"For the NCAA Tournament, everybody has to step up, it can't be one player," Duffy said. "I think we've shown this year that it can't just be Jackie. I think that Charee, myself and [player] one through 11 have to be ready to go.

The only common opponent the Irish and Gauchos have is Purdue, whom UC Santa Barbara lost to 66-65 in overtime Dec. 3, and the Irish defeated 86-69 Jan. 16. But Notre Dame knows the Gauchos are a tough first round game.

"They're a dangerous team," Duffy said. "We all agreed that they're better than a 13 seed. It's definitely going to be a tough first-round game.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvahoeg@nd.edu

Guard Megan Duffy dribbles past Ohio State's Kim Wilburn on Nov. 20. Duffy and the Irish face California Santa Barbara in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

McGraw has led Notre Dame to 10 straight tournament appearances, the longest streak in the nation. Her Irish reached the Final Four in 1997 and the national title in 2001. She's a master at making in-game adjustments that help Notre Dame win.

"French is a seven-year Big West Coach of the Year since 1992. He's compiled a 478-278 record during more than 27 years of head coaching. This is the ninth straight year French has the Gauchos in the Big West.

Mann does it all for the Gauchos on both ends, so the Irish must either shut her down, or the rest of UCSB. Notre Dame must also keep watch on Nicholls and Richardson, who combine for more than 13 points and 12 rebounds a game.

Duffy has produced the best all-around game and may be just as important as Batteast for Notre Dame's success. Allen and Gaines can hold their own off the bench, and both could see significant minutes against UCSB.

Both teams need success with the ball and defense, but UCSB relies on an array of others to provide scoring, defense and rebounding.

The Irish are eight deep and all eight have made crucial contributions at certain points throughout the season. Allen adds a burst energy, while Erwin gives the team toughness and a physical presence.

The Gauchos play nine women and average more than three assists per game, while Bonds adds almost six points, 3.5 rebounds and two assists. O'Bryan is a spark off the bench, notching 5.9 points per game in 17 minutes.

Mann and Batteast could cancel each other out so it leaves the other players to decide this category. Notre Dame has more firepower in the paint, in terms of scoring and defense, but UCSB rebounds better.

Both teams need their benchas to play well for a victory and both have received consistent contributions. The Irish bench struggled in its last game against Connecticut in the Big East tourney.

McGraw has been known for defense and this season is no exception. The team allows just 56.6 points per game. Offensively, Batteast and Duffy are the pacemakers, but any of the eight-player rotation can contribute on a given night.

Notre Dame has already said anything less advancing past the Sweet 16 is not good enough. The team has extra motivation after receiving what they thought was a "disappointing" seed. The Irish have played well all season, but have nothing to lose when facing the mighty Irish.

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Coaching Style of Play Post Players Perimeter Players Bench Intangibles

UCSB Notre Dame

French is a seven-year Big West Coach of the Year since 1992. He's compiled a 478-278 record during more than 27 years of head coaching. This is the ninth straight year French has the Gauchos in the Big West.

The Gauchos can put up points — tallying more than 71 per game. Their offense leads the Big West and with All-American candidate Samantha McCaffrey and Kate McCaffrey. On defense, UCSB holds opponents to less than 40 percent shooting and just 61 points a game.

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Fisher averages a solid 13.7 points and all average more than three assists per game, while Bonds adds almost six points, 3.5 rebounds and two assists. O'Bryan is a spark off the bench, notching 5.9 points per game in 17 minutes.

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UCSB can play loose and carefree, while Notre Dame bears all the pressure after going 10-7 in the regular season. The Irish struggled a little in its only loss to Oregon State and their style of play is an efficient, measured attack.
After losing in the Sweet 16 the past two seasons, senior All-American Jacqueline Batteast has one last chance to reach the Final Four

By HEATHER VAN HOGEARDEN
Sports Writer

Big East Player of the Year. All-American. First team all-Big East. Big East Rookie of the Year. These awards, among many others, belong to senior Jacqueline Batteast. But it's the one accolade that has eluded her for three years that matters most. "Final Four," she says without hesitation.

And if the Irish are going to make it to Indianapolis, they will need plenty of help from their senior All-American, who is having the best season of her career playing in front of her hometown crowd.

Go-to player

This season, Batteast has faced constant attention from opposing teams. Some play man, others play zone, but regardless, Batteast is guaranteed one thing — someone will be guarding her.

"Their whole team seems to be more aware of where I am," Batteast said. "So if it's not an actual double, there's three people in the lane, so it's a lot more difficult, and teams are being a lot more physical than usual.

Despite facing constant double teams, Batteast has put up the best numbers of her career, averaging 17.1 points and 6.5 rebounds per game, one year after averaging 16 points and 6.5 rebounds per game. Batteast is the Irish's go-to scorer, coming up big in big games.

In the Preseason WNIT, Batteast had 17 points in Notre Dame's semifinal upset of Duke, and in the finals, Batteast had 32 points on 11-for-23 shooting in the Irish upset of Ohio State. But Batteast's biggest play in that tournament was on defense, when she blocked a game-tying shot to preserve the championship. Batteast took home tournament Most Valuable Player honors, the first of many honors she would receive during the regular season.

Against Rutgers at the Joyce Center, Batteast scored 12 straight points in the second half, finishing with 27 to bring Notre Dame back from a 13-point deficit. "I'm still getting used to more defense," Batteast said. But overall, Batteast has used the extra attention she has received to her advantage. She's averaging 2.7 assists per game, which is second on the team behind only point guard Megan Duffy. For the first time in her career, Batteast's assist total (84) is more than her turnover total (70).

"It feels good that I can rely on my teammates and know they'll be able to hit an open shot," Batteast said.

Hometown hero

At a high attention as Batteast gets on the court, off the court she might get even more.

After games, young girls and boys flock to Batteast, asking for pictures, autographs or anything for a piece of their South Bend star. Batteast, a Washington High School product, is glad she stayed close to home, despite originally wanting to move away for college. "I think a lot of people don't realize how nice it is to be at home," Batteast said. "I really cut down on 10 minutes from my house, and it's great — I can get a home-cooked meal because the dining hall can get a little tiresome after a while. It's easy to be around my brother and sister, and it's been great."

The senior is a celebrity in town. When she and Duffy go out, everyone turns to — but it's not at the junior point guard.

"Honestly, nobody really cares about who I am," Duffy said with a smile. "Everyone knows Jackie is. It's gotten to the point where she sees a little, because otherwise she'd be talking to everyone."

The media has Batteast shies away from the spotlight. But when she goes out in town, Batteast has no choice but to be the talk of wherever she is.

"It's more the loud whispers when people recognize me," she said. "People are whispering, but you can hear them. No one really comes up to me, but you can see them doing a double take."

"I wish they would just come up and talk to me then I would feel a lot better. I feel like I'm not a nice person when I just walk by and I hear them talking and I can't even tell them I'm here, and I want to smile and be polite — I'm still getting used to that."

The usually low-key Batteast has never cried the spotlight, but since her breakout freshman year at Notre Dame, she's been the one who gets more attention from the Notre Dame women's basketball.

"After freshman year, I couldn't go anywhere without being recognized," Batteast said.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw said the community has adopted the senior as one of its own.

"It's been a great thing for the program to have a local player succeed," McGraw said. "I think it's just been really good to her. They've really embraced her; they've treated her like their own daughter.

Getting back to the elite

Batteast has left her mark on the Irish basketball program as a player and as a person. When she graduates in May, Batteast will be in the top five of the Notre Dame record books for almost every major statistical category, including points, rebounds, blocks and double-doubles. Batteast also joined All-American Bush Riley as two of the three players in Notre Dame history with at least 1,000 points and 500 rebounds in their careers.

But Batteast's impact on the Notre Dame program goes farther than just the numbers. She has been an example of a great player and a great person for others to look up to and strive to emulate.

"It's great for the younger players to look up and see, this is a role model for me, this is the somebody I aspire to be like," McGraw said.

For freshman Chareen Allen, who scored more than 3,000 points in high school in Moneenon, Pa., Batteast was a big reason the talented guard chose the Irish.

"I knew coming in that she would be here, and she was the all-star that she was, so that played a big factor in me coming here," Allen, who was named to the Big East first team All-Freshman team, said. "I wanted to play with somebody at her level. She's very good, I love playing with her. She brings excitement to practice, to games, to the locker room, off the court, so she's a very good person.

The promising freshman said that one day she hopes her career can earn her similar accolades to Batteast.

"Look at her, look at all the accomplishments she's made," the freshman said. "Just want to follow in her footsteps." Duffy, a first team All-Big East performer this year and the Big East Most Improved Player last season, said playing with Batteast has helped make her the player she is now.

"I think we've become very good friends, and I know that's why my game has gotten so much better in the last three years," Duffy said. "I've had her to look up to, her being the All-American. I always try to emulate my game a little bit like her just because she's so talented and has a lot going for her. I've always looked up to her."

One last chance

Batteast has one final shot to add the crowning accomplishment to her list. And she knows now is the time.

"This year, this is it," Batteast said. "The tournament starts on Saturday, and I think we did a pretty good job during the regular season. I think we're in a good bracket, even though we were disappointed with our seeding (No. 4)."

Batteast, who came in the year after Notre Dame's 2001 National Championship, has never made it past the Sweet 16 in her three years, getting to that point the last two years. But this year, she is determined to have more after losing a close game to No. 1 seed Penn State in last year's Sweet 16.

"If we don't get past the Sweet 16 this year, I think the season will be a disappointment," Batteast said. "We were 40 seconds away from going to the Elite Eight last year, so we know we're right there. This year we know we're supposed to get there — it won't be a shock, it won't be a surprise, we just trying to go take that class, not missing. So, here it is, it's time now to start playing."

And if all goes according to plan, Batteast will leave Notre Dame with a basketball the way she found it — on top.

Contact Heather Van Hoguearden at hvango@nd.edu
Three factors will decide Irish fate

Starting this weekend, Notre Dame has the opportunity to make history or be history. Whether they do the former or latter will depend on three factors — confidence, rebounding and Jacqueline Batteast.

The Irish have had, without a doubt, one of the best regular seasons in school history by going 26-5 and winning seven games against top 25 opponents. They have succeeded at home and on the road, in easy and difficult matchups.

But in the few instances when Notre Dame was tripped up, the team lacked confidence, lost the rebounding battle and their All-American couldn't produce. These factors combined to be Notre Dame's Achilles heel. They are the only reason the Irish could be sent home early from this year's tournament.

Notre Dame has plenty of motivation. They are still hoping to get into its 10th straight tourney appearance. The selection committee slapped the Irish in the face not only by giving them an unfair No. 4 seed, but also by removing them a thousand miles away in California. While the West Coast players are happy, no one else should be — if this draw wasn't a worst-case scenario, it was darn close.

Batteast recognized that. While her teammates cheered when the seed was announced, the senior All-American didn't show much emotion. She was visibly ticked off during the ensuing interviews with media. If Batteast needed any more motivation during her senior season, the selection committee took care of that. Now, it's up to Batteast to set the tone for her team in this tournament by playing as she has for much of the season — fearless and unyielding.

After struggling in the NCAA Tournament in 2004 as a sophomore, Batteast rebounded to have outstanding junior and senior years. The difference between her first two years and her final two? The South Bend native gained confidence — and she hasn't looked back.

It's a pretty thing to watch Batteast on her game — her low, slow cross-over dribble, deadly accurate jumper and the ease with which she drives past a helpless defender to the basket for an easy layup.

When Batteast is on her game — which is often — the rest of the Irish feed off her confidence and improve their games. Teams focus their attention and schemes on stopping the All-American, freeing up Teresa Burton and Charel Allen a clear field goal attempt.

With Batteast, Notre Dame plays with a swagger that borders the line of confidence and cocky. It's exactly what championship teams need to grind through the rigors of a one-and-done tournament scenario. It's exactly what the Irish had during those 26 wins and exactly what they lost, at least for part of those five defeats.

For Notre Dame to advance deep into the tournament, the other seven regular players must stay confident, even if Batteast falters. Basketball is a game of swings, and overall this season, Notre Dame has been able to withstand most opponents' runs and then respond with a spurt of its own. Things must change now.

If Batteast continues to play well and the Irish maintain their confidence, there's only one major weakness in this team's play — rebounding, or lack there-of.

McGraw has preached all season that her team must rebound to beat good opponents. If they can execute in the paint by boxing out and not backing down, the Irish will be as good as any team in the tourney. But in many instances this season, Notre Dame has been whipped inside. It's not that the Irish don't have the ability to rebound well, they just play soft at times. When that happens, good teams take advantage.

It's an exciting and scary time for this Notre Dame team.

They've just finished an outstanding regular season and a so-so Big East Tournament. Now, what lies ahead is opportunity. A chance to cement their names as one of the very special teams during this year's March Madness.

A good team that underachieved in the tournament? Or a great team that played its best when the spotlight shone brightest? By the beginning of April, Notre Dame will know the answer.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

THE TEMPE REGIONAL

CHAPEL HILL, N.C.

No. 1 North Carolina (27-3)
The Tar Heels beat Duke three times this year and have 13 straight victories.

No. 16 Coppin State (23-7)
Sherri Tucker leads the Lady Eagles who haven't lost since Feb. 2.

No. 8 Mississipp (19-10)
The Lady Rebels finished fifth in the SEC and lost to Georgia in the tourney.

No. 9 George Washington (22-8)
The Colonials won the West section of the Atlantic-10 with a 13-3 mark.

FRESNO, CALIF.

No. 5 Arizona State (22-9)
Only 29-2 Stanford beat out the Sun Devils in the Pac-10 standings this season.

No. 12 Eastern Kentucky (23-7)
Miranda Erickson was one of two Colonels to average double figures in scoring.

No. 4 Notre Dame (26-5)
The Irish have seven wins over top-25 foes and earned its third highest seed ever.

No. 13 USC (21-8)
The Gauchos won both the Big West regular season and conference titles.

No. 1 North Carolina (27-3)
The Tar Heels beat Duke three times this year and have 13 straight victories.

SUNDAY 7 P.M.

SATURDAY 2 P.M.

SATURDAY 9:30 P.M.

SATURDAY 4:30 P.M.

SATURDAY 9:30 P.M.

SATURDAY 7 P.M.

SEATTLE, WASH.

No. 2 Baylor (27-3)
The Bears won the Big 12 regular season and conference tournament.

No. 15 Illinois State (13-17)
This Cinderella story revolves around nowhere to win the Missouri Valley Conference.

No. 7 Texas Christian (23-9)
The Horned Frogs finished fourth in Conference-USA regular season standings.

No. 10 Oregon (20-9)
Catherine Krausveld has paced the Ducks to a 12-5 Pacific-10 record.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

No. 3 Minnesota (24-7)
The Golden Gophers reached the Big 10 tournament championship game.

No. 14 St. Francis (PA) (21-9)
The Red Flash captured both Northeast titles and went to the conference.

No. 6 Virginia (20-10)
The Cavaliers finished fifth in the ACC and lost to North Carolina in the tourney.

No. 11 Old Dominion (22-8)
The Lady Monarchs have three players averaging double figures in scoring.