ND, SMC review gay-straight organizations

BOG approves club status of SAGA

By KELLY BALE
News Writer

Emotion flooded the last official meeting of the 2004-05 Saint Mary’s Board of Governance as members debated and ultimately approved the Straight and Gay Alliance (SAGA) of Saint Mary’s as a membership club.

BOG members, by way of secret ballot, voted 12-3 to approve SAGA as a club. There were three abstentions. By receiving club status, SAGA is allotted an initial $500 in funding from student government. The club also gains the ability to advertise events on campus and to use campus facilities.

Members of the Saint Mary’s community attended the meeting, including one student who asked BOG to reconsider the decision.

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Seniors oppose dome regilding

Class president seeks support to halt process

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

As the scaffolding inches closer and closer to the Virgin Mary, senior class president Darrell Scott sought and obtained the Council of Representatives’ support of his initiative to halt the regilding process of the golden dome at last night’s meeting.

“I am asking to delay the scaffolding procedure until after May 16, my day of graduation,” Scott said.

The regilding began March 7. Since the process is highly contingent on the weather, its duration is unknown. However, it is certain the scaffolding will completely cover the dome on graduation day.

Scott said there is little time to waste if the senior class hopes the dome will be visible come graduation.

Scott said he plans to organize an online petition pending the approval of the Office of Student Affairs. He told representatives he met with two administration officials last week and was waiting for the support of the Council before continuing the discussions.

Student body president Adam Istvan expressed firm support of Scott’s initiative.

“It is ridiculous to not start the process after May 16,” Istvan said. “I give full support of my office to Darrell.”

After receiving many e-mails from his constituents, Scott delved into the University’s media archives to investigate the details of the last time the dome was regilded, which occurred in 1988.

“I have been looking through Observer and Scholastic articles and have conclusively found that the last time the dome was regilded they waited until after May 16,” Scott said.
INSIDE COLUMN

Honk if you like runnners

As I was running along Juniper Road in the glorious 45 degree weather this past weekend, and no that is not sarcasm — something very strange happened. Well, strange to me at least.

In the middle of a hill seven on my playlist, a quick beep-beep-man aged to wrestle its way within the notes of the song. After realizing the noise was external — R. Kelly's "Ignition (Remix)" was further down the list — I looked elsewhere to find the origin of the sound. By the time I had identified its source, the large silver vehicle from which it had originated had already long whizzed past me.

In a moment of self-consciousness I immediately glanced down at my feet to make sure I hadn't veered onto the road. After quick inspection I had verified that I was, indeed, entirely on the sidewalk. So, why the honk?

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I am firmly believe that there are just some things that simply cannot be comprehended across gender lines. It's a known fact that men team with countless inexplicable enigmas. However, I implicate just the most puzzling "I've encountered in quite some time.

How exactly did this potential suitor want me to respond to his 50 mile-an-hour advances? Perhaps I should have tossed my iPod into the adjacent bushes, or maybe I should have had him implicate with a pencil and paper, ready and eager to record the rapidly-vanishing license plate — which was now a good 20 feet in the distance — for future reference.

The more I thought about it, the more I realized that the more I failed to uncover an ounce of rationality. Of course I was reading into the situation far too much, as I guess I was just dumbfounded.

As I continued on my run, I found myself in the middle of South Quad during the first day of spring.

A robin perches in a tree while observing carefree students frolicking on scenic South Quad during the first day of spring.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS THE BEST CAMPUSS JOB AND WHY?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Job Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben O'Connor</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Alumni</td>
<td>&quot;The tray pusher-inner, because it's a good cardio workout.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brendan O'Connor</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Alumnus</td>
<td>&quot;My job is a cluster consultant. You're like, 'I can't print!' I point to the sign that says, 'The printer is down. You're like, 'Oh.'&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Brenner</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Dillon</td>
<td>&quot;Preventative maintenance — if it's not broke, how hard could it be?&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.J. Rees</td>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>Dillon</td>
<td>&quot;Dining hall item checker.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rozann Carter</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Walsh</td>
<td>&quot;Walsh Hall football coach, because no one expects anything from us.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Crnich</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>Dillon</td>
<td>&quot;Running the 7:00 pick-me-up, because of the women.&quot;</td>
</tr>
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OFFBEAT

No sign of wayward pet on doggy death row

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OFFBEAT

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ZIPPY, Mass. — Zippy the pit bull is on the run. At least, that's according to animal control officers who must find the dog and its owner, Austin Zipp, after a judge ordered the animal destroyed on Friday afternoon after months of legal wrangling.

Zippy has again skipped town, said Timothy Houlihan, the animal control officer in Sandwich where Zippy and Zipp last lived. "We find that dog moments he was, indeed, entirely on the sidewalk. So, why the honk?

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Approval of Straight and Gay Alliance raises questions

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Saint Mary's Editor

Board of Governor's (B0G) approval of the Straight and Gay Alliance (SAGA) Monday grants the group official club status at Saint Mary's and makes it eligible for student government funding. The decision, however, came after hours of group deliberation and a week of B0G members’ individual research.

At the forefront of board members’ concerns was whether recognition of a gay-straight alliance would contradict the official position of the Catholic Church on homosexuality and, therefore, violate the Saint Mary’s Mission Statement.

In a letter of support distributed at yesterday’s meeting, Sr. Kathleen Dolphin, director of the Center for Spirituality at the College, said she did not feel granting the group club status would violate Saint Mary’s Mission. Dolphin cited a letter, “Always Our Children,” published in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Web site, which advocates human rights for homosexuals.

SAGA’s intent is to foster such communication among members of the College community regarding issues related to sexuality and gender,” Dolphin wrote. “This fits with the College’s mission.”

Dolphin added questions of sexuality “rank rather high” among the “complex needs and challenges” the Mission statement promises to address.

“Providing opportunities for people to address these challenges within a faith-based institution seems not only reasonable but necessary,” Dolphin wrote.

Freshman Maggie Harrigan attended the meeting wearing an orange “Gay? Hate me!?” T-shirt and described the 14-3 vote as in line with Catholic tradition of accepting.

“I think this is a great day for Saint Mary’s,” Harrigan said. “I’m really proud that the board finally stood up and did something that is right. I am glad that they are showing people that we are really Catholic because we are living and supporting our members.”

Women’s studies coordinator Astrid Henry also addressed a letter to B0G urging them to approve SAGA’s petition. Henry said sexual orientation was added to the college’s non-discrimination policy in 2003 and wrote that “if SAGA is denied club status merely because of its focus on lesbian and bisexual students, this denial may be a violation of the college’s own anti-discrimination policy.”

SAGA founder and president Megan Schaeffer, who attended both meetings in answer to officers’ questions about the purpose of the club, grunted as the board’s decision was announced at the end of the meeting.

“I’m very pleased and very excited,” Schaeffer said after. “I can’t say it came as a huge surprise but you never know how things are going to go.”

Schaeffer said while she was afforded by the repetitiveness of some of the questions posed to her, such as whether the club would promote "homosexual arts," she said she was simply thankful they chose to go ahead and vote.

“It’s a big decision for people to make,” Schaeffer said. “When people are presented with an issue such as this for the first time, it is stressful.”

SAGA treasurer Sara Nielsen said she doubted whether other clubs would have received the same scrutiny but said she understood officers’ concerns.

“I’m just so glad that they voted yes because there really is a need for a club on campus,” Nielsen said. “I don’t know many gay students on campus besides myself, but I think straight students, especially straight students, will benefit.”

Public relations director Melanie McDonald said the College was unable to comment on the B0G decision at this time.

SAGA is not the first gay and lesbian group to be recognized by Saint Mary’s, nor is the surrounding debate the first controversy at the College concerning sexuality.

On March 3, 1997, The Alliance of Lesbian, Bisexual, Straight and Questioning Women (ALBSQ), led by Saint Mary’s student Carol Jones, applied for club status. After researching the need for such a group on campus, B0G approved the petition on April 7.

A week later, then College President Bill Hickey deferred the vote and promised to make a decision by the end of the academic year. Hickey, however, retired at the end of May without addressing the issue and left it to his successor president Maribou Eldred.

Nearly a year after Alliance members submitted their original request for recognition, Eldred denied the group club status on Feb. 27, 1998. Eldred’s decision spurred major student protests. Supporters of the gay-straight group covered their mouths with duct tape and crowded in on the Mars Hall outside of Eldred’s office for as many as eight hours at a time.

Shortly thereafter, student leaders renamed the group The Feminist Collective, reiterate their constitution and reapply to B0G. They were approved unanimously on March 5 and held their first meeting on March 19.

A few years later, however, after failing to properly file paper work with student activities, The Feminist Collective dissolved.

Currently, other groups on campus, such as Feminist United, aim to address a wide variety of women’s issues, but none specifically are intended for gay students.

Monday’s vote once again established such a club at Saint Mary’s.

“I just think that this vote goes along with Saint Mary’s including all women and educating on diversity issues,” said student diversity board president Adriana Puente.

Student body president Sarah Catherine White said it is unclear whether the College administration has the power to veto B0G’s decision such as what occurred in 1997 but expressed doubt that such action would be taken.

Contact Megan O’Neill at onel0907@ saintmarys.edu

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Dome continued from page 1

Rejection continued from page 1

accomplished through the structure already in place," Coughlin said.

The structure alluded to in Coughlin's statement is programs and committees sponsored by the University-based Standing Committee for Gay and Lesbian Student Needs. Comprised of administrators, faculty and students, the committee oversees programming pertinent to issues facing gay and lesbian students.

"The current (system) is designed to bring all members of the University community together to support gay and lesbian students and heighten awareness of our campus," Coughlin said.

But for the organization behind the proposal, the status quo is unsatisfactory, Anna Gomberg of AllianceND said. While the organization took last year's demise into account when formulating this year's request, the current University-run program does not fully meet the needs of gay and lesbian students at Notre Dame.

Since last year, AllianceND has upheld its position that a student-run group would prove more valuable than one managed by the University, Gomberg said.

"A student-run group is very different than one headed by faculty or ministry, taking into account the different tenor and allowing for a different type of discourse, student-run opportunities and general campus involvement," Gomberg said.

Additionally, AllianceND sees fundamental flaws in the composition of the current system. According to Gomberg, the present system of a University-run program does not provide a structure that allows students and gay students to foster the climate needed to make Notre Dame a more accepting environment for all.

The Standing Committee is first and foremost an advisory board and campus resource, made up of eight students, not a club or open

membership organization that puts itself in the involvement of the many individuals who would like to belong to a student-oriented body," Coughlin said.

Coughlin said that while an entirely tolerant environment has yet to be achieved, gay-straight relations have improved of late.

"There is still much work to be done, but I believe we have seen progress in recent years in terms of Notre Dame becoming a more welcoming environment," Coughlin said.

Gomberg reinforced AllianceND's commitment to a student-run gay-straight alliance and assured the students who make up AllianceND are some of the most spirited, optimistic, brave and determined folks I've ever had the pleasure to work with," Gomberg said. "They and I aren't going anywhere.

The first student gay-straight alliance of the University for official recognition did so in 1986, according to an article in the March 18, 2004 edition of The Observer. That year, the Office of Student Affairs denied Gay and Lesbian Students of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's (GLND/SMC) official status but offered the group Campus Ministry resources.

"The struggle to form an AllianceND Web site, similar proposals have been refused nine times since that decision.

Regardless of the obvious differences in opinion, Coughlin invited AllianceND and others anxious to address these issues to continue to work with the Standing Committee, Campus Ministry and the Office of Student Affairs on this work," Gomberg said.

"This collaboration will assist the University in accomplishing the goals articulated in the Spirit of Inclusion statement, of making Notre Dame "a place of mutual respect, hospitality and welcome in which students, faculty and staff are strangers and all may flourish," Coughlin said.

Contact Katie Perry at kperry@nd.edu

Weis continued from page 1

the couch's family founded its own charity — Hannah & Friends — for people affected by autism and global delays. Weis and wife Maureen, 26, have been put in a position to use his visibility as a National Football League coach to help people with disabilities other than Hannah.

"I have some resources most people don't have," Weis said. The charity recently organized a Myrtle Beach golf outing that attracted celebrities including New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady. The quarterback also serves on the Hannah & Friends Board of Directors.

In the long term, Weis and his wife plan to build a farm with a petting zoo, horse stables and a house for four young adults with disabilities who can work the farm. Hannah will be one of those four residents.

"When Hannah gets on a horse, she's not worried about what the horse thinks of her," Weis said. He also mentioned that a recent milestone for Hannah was being able to swim in the ocean during a recent family vacation to the fatherland.

Best Buddies, an organization that pairs people with disabilities with a friend in an effort to integrate, the disabled junior kicker chose Weis because of his prominence and popularity.

"We thought it'd be great to get someone well-known so that people would come to see him and then maybe get involved," said president of Best Buddies junior Kai Robley said.

Weis commended the Notre Dame-Saint Mary's community for being "so proactive" about disabilities awareness.

"You should be proud of what you do," Weis said to the Best Buddies who attended the talk.

Contact Lisa Schulte at lschulte@nd.edu

FLY for FREE NEXT WEEK!

If you've ever dreamed of being behind the controls, now is your chance to find out what it's really like.

A Marine Corps pilot is coming to Notre Dame on Wednesday, March 30, to take you on trial flights. We're looking for a few college students who have the skills, smarts and interest to be a Marine pilot.

If you're interested, we'll guarantee you a free flight, after full instruction and some fun you'll put in a Harrier, Cobra or F/A-18 Hornet. Get in the air. Get some information. The flight is on us.
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Annan plans to repave U.N.

UNITED NATIONS — Secretary-General Kofi Annan unveiled a plan Monday to overhaul the United Nations and began the task of selling his vision to all 191 U.N. member states, urging them to back the proposals as the only way when they meet again in just six months.

He acknowledged that getting agreement so quickly would be tough, given the 21 years where members historically have been loathe to sacrifice national interests, and nations on issues large and small often hinge down in political wrangling.

But Annan struck a pragmatic and urgent tone for his proposals, which would see the most significant makeover of the world body since it was founded after World War II by putting more emphasis on development, security and human rights issues.

"This hall has heard enough high-sounding declarations to last us for some decades to come," Annan said at a press conference.

**Town given to Palestinian security**

TULKARAM, West Bank — Israelis and Palestinians reached a deal Monday about handing over security control of the West Bank town of Tulkarm — another boost for a floundering peace process.

The handover could help Palestinian officials carry out a new directive rewriting weapons in the hands of the Palestinians, who insist they’ll 필요 only if Israel withdraws from West Bank towns.

Tulkarm is the second of five towns to be delivered to Palestinian security as part of an agreement to end four years of bloodshed that Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon announced at a summit, eight years ago.

**National News**

Sex offender charged with murder

EVANDER COUey, 46, was charged with first-degree murder for allegedly pulling a child out of a baby stroller and beating him with a baseball bat. The victim was formally charged Monday with capital murder and other crimes in the abduction and death of a 9-year-old Florida girl.

John Evander Couey, 46, was also charged with sexual assault and kidnapping and will face a trial in May for the death of Michelle Barnett, a 10-year-old girl. The trial of Barnett's parents was set for Tuesday.

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Scheduling prevents band's trip to Fresno

By KAREN LANGLEY

The Band of the Fighting Irish may be most famous for its half­time shows during football season, but the band also serves as a social reminder of school pride at both home and championship basketball games.

At Saturday's women's basketball game against UC Santa Barbara, however, Irish fans were left to cheer on their team without the help of the band.

Basketball band conductor Lane Weaver attributed the trip cancellation to academics.

"Basically, the travel schedule precluded enough students that we were not able to go because of academic demands," he said. "They would have to miss too much class."

The band is typically presented with better traveling options we were given because of circumstances we were told that we were going to get a high school band in Fresno, which did not occur," Payne said. "Instead, they played a fight song on tape at halftime and again at the end of the game when we won.

"I don't think band members expressed disappointment about the missed trip."

"We weren't happy because we were kind of pumped to go out there," Payne said. "We were told up until the night before that we were going to get to spend the weekend in California and see the team play Saturday and Monday."

Weaver, who has attended past post­season tournaments with the band, agreed.

"We were really mad because we were set on going to California," he said. "When it snows in South Bend, it gets kind of hairy. It's time to go out and support the team in the post­season."

Contact Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu

BOG continued from page 1

made a non­verbal statement by wearing a "Gay? Fine By Me" shirt.

The meeting opened with continued discussion of concerns about SAGA raised at the previous meeting. Officers tabled the decision last week after realizing members needed more time to think about the issue.

Student body president Sarah Catherine White repeatedly thanked board members for their work and asked them to be respectful of the various views voiced.

"It is a huge step to be able to stand up for what you believe in," White said. "It is our duty to represent Saint Mary's."

Individual board members spent the week considering the issue and discussing it with their respective boards.

"A vast majority of the [Junior] Board felt that this would be something good for Saint Mary's," junior class president Danielle Lerner said. "Saint Mary's SAGA founder and president Megan Schaeffer was present at the meeting to reiterate the purpose of SAGA and to answer any BOG members' questions."

"Addressing students that are close­minded about gay issues is why we are forming this group," Schaeffer said. "Every event we hold is open to the campus to try and address that awareness."

Schaeffer also clarified SAGA does not have a national affiliation.

"SAGA would be our own group and address the needs of our campus," Schaeffer said. Some BOG members expressed concern with how SAGA would integrate a spiritual aspect, though board members like student trustee Sarah Brown thought the discussion of spiritual integration with SAGA was overdone.

"To assume that this club has to integrate the Catholic teaching into everything it does is offensive," Brown said.

Other BOG members wondered whether or not the group would promote the physical practice of homosexuality.

"The social aspect of this club is not going to in any way promote sexual acts between its members," Schaeffer said. "To keep bringing that up and making it an issue is ... humopho­bic."

Schaeffer said the college already brings speakers to campus to address sexuality from various perspectives, including the homosexual perspective. She also said it is impossible to avoid offending every individual on campus.

Board members addressed concern that the off­campus commissioner Meghan Hanfin said after much consideration she too would support the group's application, even though a homosexual lifestyle contradicts the official stance of the Church.

"There are times when you need people to help you through things and you need people to talk to," Hanfin said. "I have had moments in my life when I haven't lived my Catholic faith through."

Schaeffer reminded the board of the non­discrimination clause in the Saint Mary's College Handbook that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation. Schaeffer said she felt if BOG denied SAGA status based on its focus on gay and lesbian issues, they would be in violation of the clause.

Contact Kelly Bale at kbale01@saintmarys.edu

NAMIBIA

Pohamba sworn in as president

Associated Press

WINDHOEK — President Hifikepunye Pohamba was sworn in Monday, taking the reins of a divided nation and promising to work with the opposition and committee to address the country's deep poverty.

"There is much we will do to address the challenges and problems of the people of this country," he said. "We will maintain social order and safety so that peace, development and prosperity are achieved for the Namibian people."
### Time Warner, Inc. settles fraud charges

**Company will pay SEC $300 million and allow examiner to review finances.**

In a settlement with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Time Warner Inc. agreed to pay $300 million and give the Securities and Exchange Commission the right to conduct an independent examination of the company’s records.

The settlement, announced Tuesday, comes after the government said it had evidence that Time Warner had misled investors about the financial condition of its AOL subsidiary.

The company said in a statement that it had agreed to pay the $300 million in order to resolve claims that it had failed to disclose material information to investors.

The SEC said it had charged Time Warner with violating federal securities laws by failing to disclose the true financial condition of AOL.

The company said it did not admit or deny the government’s claims.

### Pedestrians pass by the AOL Time Warner headquarters in New York City.

Time Warner Inc. settled with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Monday to resolve charges of civil fraud against its AOL unit.

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### Graco agrees to pay record civil penalty

WASHINGTON — Graco Children’s Product Inc. agreed to pay a record $4 million penalty for deliberately reporting problems with car seats, high chairs and other products that resulted in hundreds of injuries and at least six deaths.

The company is also recalling 1.2 million Graco Toddler Beds sold nationwide from 1994 to 2001. The beds are linked to scores of injuries, including broken bones and hip fractures. Graco has also voluntarily recalled 80,000 Graco and Fisher-Price car seats after receiving reports of children being seriously injured in them.

The company said in a statement that it did not admit or deny the government’s claims.
Rural health officials unprepared for terror

Small states do not have resources to face attacks on food supplies, nuclear power facilities

WASHINGTON — Rural health officials in 26 states also found that rural areas were woefully unprepared to respond to a possible terror attack on food supplies, nuclear power facilities or other critical infrastructure.

A survey of health officials in 26 states also found that rural areas were woefully unprepared to respond to a possible terror attack on food supplies, nuclear power facilities or other critical infrastructure.

"There are specific, direct targets in rural America," Michael Meit, director of the Rural Health Practice Center, told Associated Press. "One thing we found is that there are very few resources that urban America is getting." said Michael Meit, director of the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Rural Health Practice in Bradford, Pa. "We just want to make sure that rural America isn't forgotten about, and that we're getting enough resources to be prepared at an adequate level.

There are specific, direct targets in rural America," he said.

The survey took a second look at 26 states that ranked among the lowest and lowest in a 2003 assessment of bioterrorism preparedness. It also examined which states received funding from the Cities Readiness Initiative, a pilot program by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to ensure local-scaled public health emergencies, such as bioterrorism or nuclear attacks.

Eighteen of the states surveyed were rural and were ranked in the University's list of "not in the top 10 states" for preparedness and 6 percent received the readiness funding. By comparison, 63 percent of the urban states ranked high on the preparedness list, and 75 percent of the funding.

"There needs to be some equality in preparedness," said Rep. John Peterson, R-Pa., who endorsed the survey with Sen. Tim Johnson, D-S.D. "If you let the cities, they will have all the preparedness. That is a mistake.

Also involved in the study was the Maine Center for Public Health, the University of Pittsburgh, the University of North Carolina, Texas A&M University and the University of Minnesota.

The survey grew out of a September conference of rural public health officials in St. Paul, Minn.
President signs bill ‘to save a life’
Congress intervenes in Schiavo case after Friday tube removal

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Congress’ intervention in the case of Terri Schiavo accelerated as Florida Gov. Jeb Bush warned key Republicans that state efforts were faltering. It ended Friday when President Bush signed a bill designed to save a life.

The intervening few days were marked by legislative and legal maneuvers, lofty talk of morality and political calculation — and a moment of senatorial trust in a Congress where polarization often prevails.

“It is wise to always err on the side of life,” President Bush told an audience in Tucson, Ariz., hours after signing the measure. Spouses hope the bill will prompt a federal judge to order the reinsertion of a feeding tube that provides the nourishment necessary to keep the brain-damaged Schiavo to survive.

The tube was removed Friday after a state court ruling. Florida, Gov. Bush had hoped the Republican-controlled Senate would step in beforehand to keep the tube in place.

But efforts to pry a bill from the legislature failed, and the measure appears to have united several leaders of both houses of Congress during the week. “He said, ‘If there’s anything you can do please don’t stop. You need to be doing it,” ’ recalled Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, a Tennessee Republican.

Among those was Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, a Tennessee Republican quoted in an anonymous political textbook. He said he had viewed a court-ordered videotape of Schiavo and talked with one of the neurologists who had examined her. Emphasizing that he was “speaking more as a physician than as a U.S. senator,” Frist concluded, “there seems to be insufficient information to conclude that Terri Schiavo is in a persistent vegetative state.”

He cast her situation in starkly moral terms. “She is not in a coma. She is not allowed to die, she is in perpetual suffering,” Frist said.

Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., a prominent abortion foe who won a tough re-election race in 2000 and also holds presidential ambitions, also injected himself into the issue.

He told fellow GOP leaders last week that he had prepared to pass up any legislation if necessary, including the tube that would allow a boy at his Neverland ranch to continue to talk.

As a boy at his Neverland ranch on April 15, 2000, Jackson was rushed to the hospital with a trauma specialist's diagnosis that he was suffering a stroke. His doctors have said he has gradually been regaining his strength and mobility.

None of the legislators mentioned, however, that the Schiavo situation — and Bush’s role in it — was being studied as a guide for his campaign.

But Bush did not spare himself in the standoff. Bush had told Frist that the national debate over life and death was “an integral part of the debate over morality, a debate that the Republican-con­

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Springtime at Notre Dame

It’s springtime at Notre Dame. I know this fact despite the frigid winds, which accost me as I make the trek from the C lot to DeBartolo. Let’s face it. No one ever said they came to this school for the weather. This year the changing dates on my calendar were not my sole reminder this winter season had arrived. I’ve been receiving a plethora of graduation information, so I’ve been perusing the emails from my mom reminding me to get my act together and figure out my family’s plans for the weekend. (Trust me, mom. Just as soon as I finish my thesis.) However, something is different about campus this spring. And it’s not just the nostalgia I feel every time I realize I’m experiencing another “last.” (I look for the seedy girl in the home-style line at North Dining Hall.) Last week, I was walking on God Quaid. The sun was brightly shining, perhaps reflecting off of the...hiding gray scaffolding obscuring the golden dome? “Now that’s attractive,” I thought, and continued to ponder other more pressing matters, such as when it was going to pass and which class I was supposed to be heading toward at that particular hour.

Avoid reader of The Observer Viewpoint that I, at least, I am troubled by a letter to Kevin Byrum a week earlier in the week, which informed me that this scaffolding is not merely a fleeting eyesore, but part of a regilding project which is to continue throughout the summer months and will not be complete before the first home game. While I understand the administration’s announcements not to offend the legions of plaid pants-wearing alumni who are not fond of seeing the University of Notre Dame, I am appalled at their lack of consideration for the graduating senior class. (Hey, we might not have plaid pants someday too.) Parents, family and friends will be in from all over the country and world, poised to take that graduation picture in front of the golden dome. Many of these groups will never all be together and figure out their lack of consideration for the...scaffolding has yet to reach Notre Dame, but I doubt much progress will be made on the regilding project prior to graduation. The fall is typically a regilding project which is to continue throughout the spring in Indiana, which again forces me to question the administration’s decision to begin the regilding process now.

While it’s easy to merely complain about the scaffolding, a school that I love, the University of Notre Dame, has taught me that I must do much more. With this object in mind, several of us signed last week, “Last week, I was walking on God Quaid. The sun was brightly shining, perhaps reflecting off of the...hiding gray scaffolding obscuring the golden dome? “Now that’s attractive,” I thought, and continued to ponder other more pressing matters, such as when it was going to pass and which class I was supposed to be heading toward at that particular hour.”

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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

A changed nation: what do we stand for now?

Never before were President Franklin D. Roosevelt's immortal words more applicable. "There is nothing to fear but fear itself." Since the attacks of Sept. 11, widespread national fear has proven this nation's most crippling and non-fictitious enemy. Look at what fear has done to this country, and look what fear has made us do. Gone are the days of defiance and idealism that characterized our nation's birth. Quickly we crawled back into our protectionist hole when attacked, surrendering the rights that our forefathers died defending so that our government would make us safe. Easily we accepted the words passed along by this administration as fact, not questioning. Where did democracy go? When did a person who questions become un-American?

How much more will we sacrifice at the altar of National Security? Already burnt are some of the very pillars of our existence. The dignity of all humans, will take a long time to gain acceptance among the world's community as a principle that America stands and fights for. Acceptance is possible as long as we detain without just cause torture and murder in cold blood. Acceptance is possible as long as we deport them without due process and throw them in concentration camps. If they will do it to us, we will do it to them. Acceptance is possible as long as their written and spoken words are a lie to our people. Acceptance is possible as long as we continue to violate international laws. Acceptance is possible as long as we deny the rights of due process to anyone, at anytime.

What will we not destroy in the name of our own safety? Already we have taken what was not ours: the lives of 100,000 Iraqi civilians, none of whom asked for these Christian savors. We have taken what was not ours: the lives of millions of Sudanese civilians, none of whom asked for their freedom. We have taken what was not ours: the lives of 3,000 innocent Americans, none of whom had a say in this. We take a long time to gain acceptance at the altar of National Security. Already burnt are some of the very pillars of our existence.

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What do we stand for now?

Opportunity? Not as long as millions of immigrants, starving, weary and persecuted are annually turned away at our borders. "There is no room at the inn." Democracy? Not as long as government propagandists are passed off as unbiased news. Not as long as swing votes count for more and the second place finisher assumes control.

Human dignity? Not as long as 43 million Americans lack health care and our administrators aim to take away the security earned by those from whom we inherited this country. Not as long as hundreds are put to death each year in the state's name, in my name, in the name of every American tax payer.

Freedom? Not as long as my library records are fair game for intelligence officials, and peace-ful activist organizations are infiltrated by spies.

Equality? Not as long as poor inner city areas and prisons overflow with an inordinate percentage of the minority population.

Natural Beauty? Not as long as even our natural reserves fall victim to our own oil-lust.

What is America now? Where is that sanctuary for the tired, the weak and the huddled masses yearn to be free? Wake up America and look at our country from the perspective of our children 50 years from now. Will today be remembered as the day that the greatest nation succumbed to the violence, lies and hatred brought upon us by our attackers? Or will this be the day that America rises to the challenges of our times, and, armed with the same ideals that spawned this nation's greatness, combats oppression with freedom, with peace and fear with hope.

Dan Schnoor
off-campus
March 21
MOVIE REVIEW

‘The Ring Two’ more juvenile, less creepy than the original

By BRIAN DOXTADER  Scene Movie Critic

The Ring was a remake of Hideo Nakata’s 1998 film “Ringu,” which was a massive success in its native Japan. “The Ring Two” is directed by Nakata, though it bears only a passing resemblance to “Ringu 2,” which he made in 1999.

Naomi Watts and David Dorfman represent their roles from the first film as reporter Rachel Keller and her son Aidan. They have just moved to the sleepy town of Astoria in order to fully extricate themselves from the events of “The Ring.” Of course, it’s not long before dead bodies start showing up with the same symptoms as the victims of the first film. Interestingly enough, “The Ring Two” only uses the first film’s plot as springboard; its narrative deviates so much that any passing resemblance its predecessor. This rearranging, as well as Hollywood sequels tend to play it safe and rebuild the formula that was so successful the first time around. The videotape, which was so key in the first film, is almost a non-entity here, as “The Ring Two” concentrates more on the relationship between Aidan and Rachel. As expected, most of the other characters are cardboard cut-outs. Simon Baker’s reporter, Max, is particularly wasted.

Yet the film is never as creepily effective as either “Ringu” or “The Ring” precisely because it doesn’t follow the same pattern as before. It’s still pretty scary, but it’s credited more to the camerawork and sound design than the actual premise and plot of the picture. Nakata is to be admired for departing so much from the original idea, but the result is only partially successful.

The biggest problem is that “The Ring Two” gets bogged down by a terrible script and implausible events. Inane dialogue and impossible strung together behavior are trademarks of this genre and this film has them in spades. That might be what is most disappointing—despite often falling into standard horror cliches, which kill this film.

“Ringu Two” feels like it should be a deeper, more hauntingly disturbing experience than it is. It’s disheartening. At moments it seems like it’s going to develop into something more, with the particularly pertinent theme of motherhood coming across, but Nakata never fully explores this. The Ring Two is not a bad film—it’s an enjoyable and sporadically scary way to spend a couple of hours, but it often feels like wasted potential.

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MOVIE REVIEW

No cheers for Tommy Lee Jones in ‘Man of the House’

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA  Scene Editor

Tommy Lee Jones has done this dance once before. Actually, make that several times.

Playing a gruff, harsh and uptight mentor armed with a dry wit has been a choice role over the course of his career. In the “Men in Black” series, for example, Jones’ dry wit teamed with Will Smith’s youthful energy added up to major change at the box office. Unfortunately, Jones’ latest offering, “Man of the House,” is a mediocre attempt to capitalize on his comedic value and falls short with what could have been an intriguing concept.

In the film, Jones plays Roland Sharp, a Texas Ranger assigned to protect the only witnesses to the murder of a key figure in the prosecution of a drug kingpin. These witnesses turn out to be five female former Longhorn cheerleaders and present quite a handful for Jones. Sharp is forced to go undercover as an assistant cheerleading coach and move in with his daughter Morgan (Christina Milian) as a way to protect them and solve the murder.

As if that wasn’t enough to cover all the major plot points, there’s still the obligatory feel-good effect that Jones has on the girls and vice versa. He helps them realize their individual skills, whether it be to write an eloquent essay on Romeo and Juliet or be the father figure they never had. And, naturally, they help him tap into his hidden sensibilities and break out of his harsh shell to get closer to his estranged daughter and impress a new love interest.

It’s really not the clichés that kill this film. There are still some laughs to be had and the ladies cast as the bubbly cheerleaders are all easy on the eyes, particularly R&B star Christina Milian and actress Paula Garces. There are moments when the film flashes a little Southern charm. Cedric the Entertainer toos in a chukka boot in a supporting role as an ex-Longhorn cheerleader.

But the laughs are few and too far between to justify making “Man of the House” when a comedic gem like “Hitch” is still in theaters. As it turns out, in that latter film, Smith outshines his “Men in Black” cohort and shows that it takes a lot more to make a heart-warming comedy than a handful of punch lines.

Jones does an adequate job with the role of the gruff Sharp in this film and manages to make audiences sympathize with him. “Man of the House” is morality play with one of the bare essentials to a good film—a decent screenplay. The material just doesn’t seem fresh or funny and this dooms any attempt Jones makes to stamp his comedic wares on audiences.

As funny as it is to see Jones forced to have a make-over by his female charges, the appeal is quickly lost due to poor dialogue and poor pacing. If they’re not paying close attention, casual viewers may even be left scratching their heads at why the initial murder has an impact on Sharp’s drug case.

The stale script causes all sorts of problems for the film. According to the International Movie Database website, no one—not cast or crew—could think of an appropriate ending until director Stephen Herek came up with one months after the rest of the film was shot. Ouch.

It seems like a long time ago, but Jones once won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor in “Fugitive.” The Harrison Ford trilogy that made him “Man of the House,” he might be better pressed to flex his acting muscles in another dramatic role. A role in the next Clint Eastwood-directed film probably couldn’t hurt.

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**DVD Review**

‘Finding Neverland’ blurs fiction and reality

By MARK BEMENDERFER  
**Some Movie Critic**

At what age do people lose their innocence? It is undeniable that children are born something that they shed as years go by. However, some people do not seem to grow old as easily do — some remain young and innocent, even though they may physically age. "Finding Neverland" is a movie about such a man. "Finding Neverland," directed by Marc Forster and starring Johnny Depp, is a movie about the London playwright Sir James M. Barrie. For those who are not familiar with the name, he was the creator of the Peter Pan story. The movie begins with the general public viewing Sir Barrie’s latest play, which is received poorly at best. This spurs Sir Barrie to create a new play, one that is good not only in the public’s eye, but his own as well.

To create the play, however, he needs inspiration. One day in the park, Sir Barrie meets the Davies family, widower Sylvia Ewlewyn Davies and her four sons. Within them Sir Barrie finds inspiration, and creates a play based upon the family and their imaginary adventures. Some drama ensues, but nothing that detracts from the fantasy nature of the film.

To bring up an earlier point, Sir Barrie is the man with the child-like innocence. He plays with the four children as if he were one of them. Even more, he drives most of the games and leads them into what later becomes Peter Pan scenarios. Sir Barrie brings some joy into the children’s lives.

But things don’t go too smoothly for Sir Barrie. Because he spends much of his days with the widow and her family, his own wife feels neglected, and even cheated on. But even worse, there is a rumor going around as to why he spends so much time with the little boys. They lack a father, and Sir Barrie slowly moves towards that role, but this is not seen by the people around them.

Which leads to the one real complaint about the film, which is it never truly feels like the characters leave the fantasy. The Michael Jackson-esque rumors were rebuffed by Sir Barrie, and never really became much of an issue. The bears that did become serious never felt too integral to the plot. The focus of the movie was always solely on Sir Barrie and the family, with all other characters being of secondary concern.

The ending, although bittersweet, does not quite have the emotional punch that one would expect. Given the nature of the film, and how it likes to blur the lines between reality and fiction, the ending didn’t quite have the emotional pull that similar movies had.

However, this is not due to a lack of acting ability. Depp once again turns in a fantastic performance as the London playwright. He even nails the accent that causes many actors to stumble. Kate Winslet also does a decent job in her role as Miss Sylvia Ewlewyn Davies. All of the children were believable, to say the least. A lot of movies trip up a little when portraying children, but “Finding Neverland” doesn’t have this problem.

The DVD itself was decent. Video and sound were both of mediocre quality. No serious issues arose from either one. The special features were good, but not great. There is a commentary, a special making-of, a feature called “The Magic of Finding Neverland,” one called "Creating Neverland," some deleted scenes, and some outtakes. It’s the usual stuff, with nothing of any real depth.

Was “Finding Neverland” worthy of seven Oscar nods? Perhaps, but for some it was not. It’s a light, fun movie that never truly delves into the darkness that is implied.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at mbemende@sd.edu

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**MOVIE REVIEW**

‘Robots’ delivers sharp humor for all ages

By MARY MIGLIOZZI  
**Some Movie Critic**

“Robots,” directed by Chris Wedge, is every bit as enjoyable as its computer animation and celebrity-heavy cast make it appear. Clever dialogue and characters as well as humorous voice acting, especially by Robin Williams, make “Robots” as fun for a college audience as it is for its intended younger audience.

Ewan McGregor voices Rodney Copperbottom, the son of a dishwashing machine. Rodney grows up dreaming of being an inventor, and as a young man travels to Robot City to get a job at Bigweld Industries. However, he quickly discovers that his role model, Bigweld (Mel Brooks), is nowhere to be found, and his replacement, Ratchet (Greg Kinnear), is a greedy tycoon whose evil plans will destroy poor and sick robots everywhere. Rodney is joined in his quest to free Ratchet by the devious Robin Williams, an eccentric Robot City resident, Cappy, a Bigweld executive (Halle Berry), and numerous others along the way.

The plot, while at times bordering on cheesy, has the type of feel-good theme that one expects from a movie of this genre, illustrated from the beginning by Bigweld’s slogan, “You can shine no matter what you’re made of.” Though it may seem overly sentimental when the hero learns up a pep talk from Dad, and some plot twists are rather predictable, it is fitting with the overall atmosphere created for the intended audience and genre. Even the sometimes subtle, sometimes not-so-subtle social commentary does not detract from the usually humorous tone.

The humor is clever enough to appeal to any age group, at times jokingly referencing other films and at other times utilizing subtle, more mature jokes such as the movie “Sings” in the Rain.” Amanda Seyfried, the voice of Ratchet’s little sister Piper, is disappointing compared with the truly memorable scenes and lines. An early scene involving Rodney and Ratchet on a crazy transportation system drags on for a bit too long, but Ratchet more than makes up for it when he performs a spoof of “Singin’ in the Rain.” Amanda Seyfried, the voice of Ratchet’s little sister Piper, is disappointing compared with the truly memorable scenes and lines.

Even the humor has weak points, but they are far outnumbered by the truly memorable scenes and lines. An early scene involving Rodney and Ratchet on a crazy transportation system drags on for a bit too long, but Ratchet more than makes up for it when he performs a spoof of “Singin’ in the Rain.” Amanda Seyfried, the voice of Ratchet’s little sister Piper, is disappointing compared with the truly memorable scenes and lines.

Contact Adam Welder at awelder@nd.edu

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*Photo courtesy of www.movieweb.com*
**Women's NCAA Basketball**

Michigan State survives early scare against California

**Bulldogs oust Longhorns; Washington sends Mississippi packing; Tennessee breezes past Western California**

**Associated Press**

MINNEAPOLIS — Rene Haynes saved top-seeded Michigan State from an embarrassing early exit from the NCAA tournament. Haynes came out of a wild scramble with the ball and made a layup with 2.9 seconds left, giving Michigan State a 61-59 victory over eighth-seeded Southern California in a second-round game Monday night.

It was a scary game for the Spartans (30-3), who were outscored 12-9 in the second half, and Haynes, who scored nine quick points at the start of the second half to get the Spartans back in it after they trailed by as many as six in the first half and finished with a career-high 18.

The Spartans then got the ball inside, shot the inside, and made the basket.

Cameron's press forced two turnovers, and the Trojans made four huge 3-pointers in the second half. Her final 3 gave the Spartans a 59-56 lead with 37.3 seconds remaining.

Michigan State, which couldn't get a big game from freshman Camille LeNoir, who scored nice quick points at the start of the second half to get the Spartans back in it after they trailed by as many as six in the first half and finished with a career-high 18.

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**NOTICES**

During the women's game for years Summitt's record in the second round. Fittingly, Summitt tied Smith's record in the second round.

“Georgia,” Thompson-Boling Arena, where Tennessee opened in 1987. Tennessee has advanced to face host North Carolina in the final four.

The Lady_algo. (23-8), who scored more than 20 points, fell behind big early.

Statistically, the Colonials threw the ball away 12 times with 7.9 seconds left and saw the 27-6 Lady Rebels' collapse. They cut 90 points Sunday night to help Mississippi Women's NCAA game in Knoxville, going 6-3 since the women's tournament began in 1982.

And this is the most appropriate time of year for Summitt, who has won the NCAA tournament with an 86-17 NCAA tournament record.

The Lady Vols and, in particular, Shanna Zollman made it known that this tournament was their last.

Western Carolina (18-14), the No. 16 seed in the Philadelphia Regional, was undersized and outmatched from the beginning. Catamounts coach Kellie Harper, a point guard on Tennessee's three straight titles from 1996-98, could only watch her team fall behind big early.

Washington 60, Mississippi 57

Jessica Simmonds scored 14 points Sunday night to help George Washington rally from a 14-point second-half deficit to beat Mississippi in the second round of the NCAA tournament.

Anna Montanana added 13 points and came up big in the Colonials' 70-68 win over 23-7 Southern Mississippi. Montanana, who scored a team-high 15 points, hit a 3-pointer with 10.5 seconds left to lose the ball for the first time for four years.

George Washington took 37 points over the Lady Rebels (23-7) for 7-11, 15 points in the second half of the second round.

Georgia coach Andy Landers holds player Alexis Kendrick around the neck as he protests a foul call in the second round of their game.
Colts find stadium finance plan

INDIANAPOLIS — A 1 percent tax on local businesses in Marion County would help pay for a new stadium for the Colts under a funding plan announced Monday by a leading state senator.

Senate Tax Committee Chairman Luke Kenley, R- Noblesville, said the tax proposal on all Marion County services except medical and construction work would bring in about $38 million a year for the stadium.

"This is a broad-based way to pay for this," Kenley said.

But Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson said the tax would drive business outside the city, and that other surrounding counties would also need to pay the tax if it is to work.

Services are not taxed under the state's current sales tax. The proposed tax would affect large service providers like law firms, engineering and architectural businesses and financial companies. It would also add to the price of smaller transactions such as car repairs and haircuts.

If Kenley's proposal passes the General Assembly, the tax would become an option for Marion County voters. The Indianapolis City-County Council would have to vote to increase the tax for it to take effect.

Peterson said he would fight the tax as proposed because service providers could move across the Marion County line to avoid it.

"If there has to be a tax, it ought to be a regional tax," Peterson said.

Kenley's plan also includes a $5 million annual payment from the Colts, a $1 stadium admission tax on events at the new venue and a 1 percent increase on income tax for professional athletes at the stadium.

Peterson said asking the Colts for more money would change the deal the city struck with the team. He said it would be nearly impossible to renegotiate another agreement by the time the General Assembly is scheduled to adjourn at the end of April.

"If we had to start over, there'd be a real risk of losing the team," Peterson said.

Kenley is working with a group of representatives from the city, the Indiana House and the governor's office to come up with a funding plan.

"There's plenty of room to work," Kenley said.

Although Peterson did not like the details of Kenley's plan, he said, "If there's a way that it includes money for both the stadium and the convention center expansion, that's a huge step forward and a major sign of progress," Peterson said.

The stadium is projected to cost between $550 million and $700 million, and with the planned expansion of the neighboring Indiana Convention Center, the total project could reach $900 million.

Several bills to finance the project have died in the first half of the legislative session, including plans to increase taxes and get slot machines at horse racing tracks.

Kenley said such gambling options were out because they would have a difficult time winning approval in the legislature.

"It's been suggested there will be a lot of people that will not respect it or recognize it as being women in comparison to men. That doesn't bother me. It's just the way we do things, add up, and the two were combined," Summit said Monday. "Obviously I think it in some regard is more significant and more meaningful when it includes both the men's and women's game."

Summit's record stands at 879-171, while Smith was 879-254 in 36 years at North Carolina. He retired in 1997.

Summit passed Texas' Jody Conradt on the women's list early in the 2002-03 season.

Summit spoke to Smith last week and he encouraged her to go for the record.

"It left a message because we had played phone tag and he just said, 'Good luck going for the number. I can't remember what the number is exactly,'" she said. "When I called him back I said, 'I can't either.'"

Purdue's Krissy Curry could end her being part of the history of the coach on the losing end of No. 800 — or her team could put off the record-breaking until next season.

That's a personal degree in my heart, I have to be pulling for a little bit tomorrow night. That's her, too, nature," she said.

"I've just respect and admire her as a mom, as a basketball coach, her intensity and passion. It's wonderful that we all as young coaches aspire to be like and hope we can have just as little bit of the impact she's had on the game."

All four teams playing Tuesday night have the same goal — advancing to the regional semifinal. The LSU-Arizona winner goes to Philadelphia, and the Tennessee-Purdue winner goes to Chicago.

The third-seeded Purdue (17-12) got past New Mexico 68-56 in the first round and has been to the NCAA regionals seven times, including the last two seasons.

LSU (20-12), the tournament's overall No. 1 seed, is trying to cap the most successful season in school history by making a second straight run to the Final Four. The Lady Tigers have reached the regional level eight times.

If the Wildcats (20-11) win, they would be making only their second appearance in a regional. They made it to the final 16 in 1999.

Summit took over the women's basketball team at age 22 and has been at Tennessee the last 31 years. At the time, there were no scholarships for players, and she posted signs around campus calling for students to try out for the team.

Summit recalled speaking to Ali's group when she had to build a huge homecourt advantage for Tennessee. Partly as a reason, the Lady Vols are 42-0 in NCAA tournament games played at home.

Arizona coach Joan Bonvicini believes Knoxville is the ideal place for Summit to get the record.

"This is a great site — the center of women's basketball. And I think it's great for Pat Summit to probably break my record," Bonvicini said. "I think it's great for her to do it in the NCAA tournament. It's such a big stage and it's the opportunity to do it at home."

Thompson-Holing Arena and Knoxville have hosted more NCAA tournament games than any other venue or city.

Counting the four first-round games on Sunday, there have been 52 games in the venue, which opened in 1987, and 67 games in Knoxville.

"I think our fans are going to be the reason that we hopefully win tomorrow night? No. I think that Purdue is going to come out and play their game, and they're going to be even more inspired because they are on the road," Summit said.

Women's College Basketball

Summitt goes for home record in tournament

Coach looks to set all-time mark for most collegiate victories
Liberty seeks encore; Buckeyes prepare for road game

Associated Press

Liberty (25-6) and Ohio State (26-4), which will face each other in the Sweet 16, are two of four finalists from the mid-major conferences to make the round of 16. There wasn’t a lot of buzz on campus Monday, however, because spring break just started.

“ Enumerable, yet I still feel the support, I’ve gotten lots of e-mails,” guard Eric McCants said.

About 50 people, mostly friends and family, greeted them at the Philadelphia International Airport upon their triumphant return Sunday.

On Monday, players entering the Klotzke Center in practice weren’t met by a throng of fans but by two men seeking autographs on four deflated basketballs, items that might have been picked up at a champagne bottle store.

It’s quieter than usual today except for you guys,” forward Adrian Tigert said of the 50 or so reporters who converged on the campus.

Some students did gather at the campus bookstore to buy commemorative T-shirts, among them Nicole Dzomba of Milwaukee.

“It’s real exciting, it’s very cool,” she said as she picked out a yellow T-shirt. “I think everyone’s happy but nervous, too.”

Other students raced to the ticket office to put their names in for the 1,250 tickets made available to the school for the Panthers’ next game, against No. 4 seed Connecticut. 

Pearl hoped the biggest crowd of reporters to gather at the Sweet 16 for the first time since 1993.

Maryland hasn’t gone that far in 13 seasons.

“I’m really excited. I tried to make history,” he said.

He even pitched a story about Illinois coach and native Chicagoan Don Buske, alma mater, where he unsuccessfully tried out for the UWM basketball team.

But what just about everyone wanted to know was Pearl’s latest thoughts on the Deen Thomas scandal at Illinois 16 years ago.

Pearl was an assistant at Iowa when he secretly taped a conversation with Thomas during which the player appeared to confirm that Jimmy Collins, then an assistant at Illinois, had offered him $80,000 and an N-V to sign with the Illini.

Thomas has always denied the allegations and the school was cleared of them, but the 16-month investigation found several other infractions and Illinois was barred from post-season play by the NCAA in 1991.

ESPN’s Dick Vitale criticized Pearl for committing “career suicide.”

To this day, Collins, now the coach at Illinois-Chicago, refuses to shake Pearl’s hand.

But Pearl said he would do what he did again.
Schilling pitches in the minor leagues

Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — Curt Schilling made his first game appearance of the spring Monday, allowing two runs and three hits over three innings against a team of Boston Red Sox minor leaguers.

Schilling, recovering from ankle surgery, already knows he won’t be ready for the opener at the New York Yankees on April 3.

"Today, to me, was a very big day," he said. "I guess you could call it a breakthrough day, in a sense. Everything that I was hoping kind of would happen happened from a physical standpoint. I feel like I threw the ball better than I’ve thrown it all spring."

Manager Terry Francona has said David Wells will start opening day and Boston can get by without a fifth starter until April 18, Schilling, who underwent right ankle surgery last November, said it was too early to tell whether he’d begin the season on the disabled list.

"I’ve known for a couple of weeks now that it just wasn’t going to work out" for him to pitch on opening day, he said.

The only other major leaguers in Monday’s game were Jason Varitek, who caught Schilling, and third baseman Bill Mueller, who had minor knee surgery and wanted extra at-bats. The other players came from Boston’s minor league camp.

Schilling threw 25 of 37 pitches for strikes and allowed doubles by Mueller and Dave Berg and a two-run homer by Chip Ambres. Schilling’s first pitch to none of the 12 batters was a strike and he struck out three while walking none.

"I feel very good about it," he said.

Schilling said his surgery was more extensive than he anticipated and involved four separate operations.

He said a bone bruise that bothered him most of the season was more severe than expected. And he revealed that the dislocated tendon which had been slipping out of place sustained a 6-inch tear during Game 6 of the AL championship series against the Yankees.

"The tendon stopped dislocating because it had split in half and wedged itself over the bone," Schilling said. "So it wasn’t dislocating as much, which was actually a good thing."

Before those two games, a unique procedure was done to stitch the tendon to the skin so it would stay in place.

Schilling’s recovery affected his normal offseason preparations for spring training and kept him out of games until Monday.

Mueller said Schilling’s ball had "a lot of life" in the third when he doubled.

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Duncan placed on injured list

Associated Press

The 7-Footers activated forward center Sean Marks from the injured list to take Duncan’s roster slot. Robert Horry started in Duncan’s place against the Knicks.

Duncan — the Spurs’ leading scorer, rebounder and shot blocker — crumpled to the floor in the opening minutes of a 110-101 loss to Detroit on Sunday after scoring inside and coming down on Rashed Wallace’s foot. After the landing, Duncan’s ankle turned in a gruesome fashion.

A 57-Second Missed two games earlier this month with a sprained right ankle.

"It’s the same ankle he hurt previously, and he really did a number on this one," coach Gregg Popovich said. "It’s not broken, but he can’t walk on it or anything right now. Two week minimum, I’m sure."

San Antonio (30-16), the Western Conference leader, has 16 more games over the next 28 days before the playoffs start. The Spurs clinched a playoff spot last week and are contending with Miami and Phoenix for home-court advantage throughout the postseason.

"If he’s ready to play, we’ll play him. If he isn’t, we won’t," Popovich said. "He won’t allow me to let him sit there if he’s healthy and ready to go. If he doesn’t play any more regular season games, it’ll because his ankle’s not ready and he’s not able."

Duncan entered Sunday’s game averaging 21.2 points, 11.5 rebounds and nearly three blocks in 62 games.

The Spurs went 1-3 without him earlier this season.

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How the Media Told the Story of Pope John and the Council

Kenneth Woodward

Contribution Editor at Newsweek

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VENICE

Relieve the Revolution, Revive the Spirit!

Cardinals to host 49ers in Mexico

Associated Press

KAPALUA, Hawaii — The NFL will play its first regular-season game outside the United States on Oct. 2 when the Arizona Cardinals play the San Francisco 49ers in Mexico City.

The league confirmed the matchup Monday at the annual meetings. ESPN will televise the Sunday night game from Azteca Stadium. Arizona won the 1994 Super Bowl for many decades.

"Mexico is the country with the most NFL fans outside of the United States," commissioner Paul Tagliabue said. "Our fans in Mexico are knowledgeable and passionate and they are ready for this next step. They have supported our American Bowl games in record numbers and NFL programming has been part of television in Mexico for many decades.

"The Cardinals and 49ers play in markets with large Hispanic communities, including many people of Mexican descent. This game will generate new excitement both in Mexico and in Hispanic communities throughout the United States, and it promises to become a milestone in the NFL’s history as a global sport."

Arizona was an obvious choice to switch a home game in Mexico City for the rare opportunity to host a World Cup game this week.

The Cardinals are honoring the 50th anniversary of the 1954 World Cup championship team, and the 49ers are celebrating their 75th season.

Associated Press

The 49ers are hoping to improve to 4-1 and remain in the thick of the NFC West race.

"The Cardinals are a good team," said 49ers Coach Mike Nolan. "We know we have to play good ball to beat them."
Paul Silas was hired to mentor the NBAs next superstar. While he succeeded with LeBron James, his failure with the rest of the team cost him his job.

Silas was fired as coach of the Cleveland Cavaliers on Monday, his team fighting for a playoff spot after losing its division earlier this year. Longtime NBA assistant Brendan Malone was appointed interim coach.

The dismissal came with 18 games left and the team clinging to the fifth playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. James seems to have been the only player who saw the move coming.

"You could kind of tell the way the air was, how things were going around here, there was going to have to be a change," said James, who scored a franchise-record 56 points Sunday. "I didn't know it was going to be so soon."

Silas told The Associated Press he was informed at a morning meeting with general manager Jim Paxson and new owner Dan Gilbert.

"They didn't think the team was performing as well as it should be and they wanted to make a change," Paul Silas said.

Malone will coach Tuesday night's game at home against Detroit. He acknowledged hes in a tough situation, taking over a team late in the season that is expected to reach the playoffs.

"I'm still in a state of shock about what happened," Malone said after a morning practice.

Despite James and fellow All-Star Zydrunas Ilgauskas, the Cavaliers have slumped since the All-Star break. They have lost nine of 12 and nine straight road games, including Sundays 105-98 loss to Toronto when the 20-year-old James became the youngest NBA player to score 50 or more points.

"We're 64 games into the season and we still don't have a consistent rotation, substitution pattern, those type of things," Paxson said. "We didn't see that this was going to happen.

"We felt the change today was necessary. Its going to put us in a better position to win," Gilbert said.

Last week, Silas was fined $10,000 by the team for a derogatory comment about Utah forward Carlos Boozer, who left the team as a free agent last summer.

**NBA**

Cleveland Cavaliers LeBron James, left, looks to pass in Fridays game against the Philadelphia 76ers. James, who scored a franchise record of 56 points on Sunday, said he was not shocked by the news of Silas firing.

**Struggling Cavaliers fire head coach Silas**

Associated Press

CLEVELAND Paul Silas was hired to mentor the NBAs next superstar. While he succeeded with LeBron James, his failure with the rest of the team cost him his job.

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"We felt that if we didn't make this decision that were jeopardizing our ability to be a playoff team this year," Paxson said.

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**IN BRIEF**

Davis to remain as Indiana head coach next year

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. Mike Davis will remain as Indias basketball coach for next season, a source close to the program said Monday.

The source, who spoke with The Associated Press on condition of anonymity, declined to elaborate pending an official university announcement.

That announcement is expected Tuesday, according to a spokesman for IU's sports information office.

The decision by IU athletic director Rick Greenspan would resolve doubts about Davis' future that were spurred by the Hoosiers 15-14 season, which ended with a 67-66 loss to Vanderbilt last week in the NITs first round.

Greenspan has said he would evaluate Davis' body of work before making any decision about the coach's future. He and Davis met last week and again Monday, The Indianapolis Star reported.

Bogut does it all for Utah, soon for the NBA

SALT LAKE CITY There are times when he acts like the tallest point guard in the country, and other times when hes merely the most dominating inside presence in the NCAA tournament.

BNA executives salivate when his name is mentioned, though youd be hard-pressed to find many basketball fans east of the Rockies who know much about him only a few weeks ago.

Without Andrew Bogut, Utah wouldnt even be playing this time of year, much less have an outside chance of making the Final Four. Heres a superstar who just happens to need four other players on the court with him, much like Gladys Knight needed the Pips or Tom Petty the Heartbreakers.

"I think all his teammates understand theyre probably very fortunate to be playing with him," Utah coach Ray Giacoletti said during a telephone interview Monday.

Iverson says he may share blame in altercation

PHILADELPHIA Allen Iverson said Monday hed been contacted by the NBA regarding his allegation that a referee made inappropriate comments to him during a heated exchange following the 76ers loss to the Chicago Bulls.

He also said he expected to be fined or suspended because he started the argument.

Iverson, upset about calls, challenged referee Marc Davis after the 94-88 loss on Saturday. Iverson had to be restrained by teammates, and a few minutes later was seen heading in the direction of the referees dressing room before general manager Billy King interceded and calmed him down.

"From the history of it, I suspect something will happen to me," said Iverson, who did not practice with the team because of a thumb injury.
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Teamwork for Tomorrow
No. 3 singles player suffered knee injury against BYU

By ANN LOUTHY
Sports Writer

The Irish have seen better days.

Last Friday in the absence of sophomore Christian Thompson, the No. 25 Irish (6-7) fell 6-1 to No. 23 Tennessee (10-3).

Christian Thompson, who plays at No. 3 singles and accounts for the other half of the No. 2 doubles team in the country, suffered a knee injury during his singles match against No. 53 Purdue (20-7), but the time of her return is still unknown.

Until then, the team is finessing the skills of its newly-formed doubles teams and modified singles lineup in anticipation of Purdue's talent-laden lineup. "I feel very good about our new doubles teams," Louderback said. "The big thing will be how well we play in singles and that's what we will be working on in practice. For us to win, our kids need to play with confidence. They have to play hard and not think about what position they're playing," Louderback said. He was impressed with how confidently the team played versus tennis last 1998. "We're a bunch of experience. Adjustments were made last minute.

Prior to the meet, Louderback modified the game plan to ensure the team's depth would be able to help them secure a win. Junior Kiki Stastny taking the place of Christian Thompson at No. 1 doubles with Cartrina Thompson and junior Jennifer Smith taking Stasny's place at No. 3 doubles with senior captain Janan Connolly. In singles, Stastny assumed Connolly's position at No. 3 while junior Liz Connelly and sophomore Sarah Smith moved up to No. 5 and 6 singles respectively.

Although the doubles teams did not do as well as expected, Buck said, the freshmen said she was proud of their teammates' efforts.

"I never doubt that each one of us is playing our hardest at this point," Buck said. "I think we played well today. This group always plays hard; they're always out there fighting for every match."

The Irish will take on Purdue tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. at Eck Tennis Pavillion at 4. Contact Ann Louthy at sloughey@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Coyne hopes for a rebound

By MATT PUGLISI
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame is looking to rebound from a brutal spring break road trip. The Irish (1-4) dropped three consecutive games to Cornell, No. 16 Vanderbilt and James Madison and fell out of the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Athletes' Association (IWLCA) national rankings for the first time since late April of 2001. The team returns to action this afternoon when they host California at 4:30 p.m. at Loftus.

After playing four of their first five contests on the road, coach Tracy Coyne and the Irish expect the friendly confines of Moose Krause Field to help set the tone for a game that can propel them into conference play. The Irish have eight games remaining in the season.

"Including California, seven of our next ten games are at home," Coyne said. "I'm hoping that being at home is going to help us build some momentum moving forward." Although the visiting Golden Bears (4-0) don't have the same program history as some of the Eastern squads Notre Dame will lock horns with later this season, Coyne expects California to give the Irish a challenge. "The Bears are very athletic and really fast," Coyne said. "They're definitely a newer problem, but that's something we'll have to develop some momentum from a recruiting standpoint so they're getting ready in practice."

California enters today's contest on the heels of an 18-6 destruction of Arizona Western in Evaston, Ill. Sunday. The Wild Cats wilted the Irish with a 18-11 defeat at Loftus when the two met March 3. Beginning with an 18-9 loss to Texas A&M in Athens, N.C. March 6, the Notre Dame spring break is starting to sour and not only got worse in the following week.

Three days later, the Irish lost the second of their three spring break games in a 10-9 flameout to a No. 12 ranked St. Thomas. "We're still working on defense, our offense is better," Coyne said. "It's posting positives - things the team is doing well that we come away with." "We just need to get both [offense and defense] on the floor. We need to play our game - how we want to control the tempo or how we want to dictate on our attack or what we want to dictate on defense. Once those two things come together, I think we're going to be fine," Coyne said. "We're starting to feel a little bit disappointing, the Irish realize the team's potential, they've moved up to No. 5 in the Big East conference rankings yet to be played, Notre Dame still has a chance to make some noise, both in the Big East and nationally, come season's end."

"That's another thing - we haven't played any games in the Big East yet," Coyne said. "If we win the Big East, that would be a huge accomplishment because that's never been done before (by a Notre Dame team)."

After battling California this afternoon, the Irish travel to Chestnut Hill, Mass. Saturday for their first conference tilt against Boston College before returning home for consecutive games to begin April.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

Women's College Basketball

BC keeps fighting without top player

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. -- Jessica Deveny's season-ending injury threatened to end Boston College's hopes of making the NCAA tournament and reached its third straight round of 16.

Yet the Eagles are preparing to play Duke in a matchup of future Atlantic Coast Conference rivals in Tuesday's second-round game. It's been an unusual season for BC, which is 23-8 this year and has averaged just 55 points in the last 10 games since the injury.

The Eagles have gotten contributions from throughout their roster, with six players leading at least one category. The Eagles are preparing to shoot 88 percent from the foul line in their next game, Boston College averaged 71 percent in 17 games with her 18 points per game.

If you have someone "you have someone named Buck said. "I wasn't sure if we were going to play Duke in the first place." Boston College averaged 10.5 points in 17 games with her 18 points per game.

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Honors
continued from page 24
14th place finish in the same
14th year this year in the 200-yard
The sophomore also finished
While there was the usual
amount of pressure that goes
along with a championship
event, this year's was different
for Perry-Eaton, who was com-
peting for the last time as a
Notre Dame student-athlete.
"It seemed like I was putting
most of the pressure on
myself," she said. "I felt a lot
of pressure to finish with a
bang."
Perry-Eaton's bang may not
have been as loud as she
wanted, but it was still a fitting
ending to her historic Notre
Dame career.
Her final point score of 303
in the one-meter event was
only 24 behind champion
Qiong Huang from Hawaii,
and was good enough to beat
Indiana's Christina Loukas
who had bested Perry-Eaton in
the Zone C Championships last
week.
The only higher finishes by
an Irish competitor were
Perry-Eaton's third place finish
last year off the lower board
and Nixon's 2000 finish.
Now an assistant with
the team, Nixon played a key sup-
porting role for Perry-Eaton.
"She stayed with me during
all my events," Perry-Eaton
said. "Usually divers feel like
they're all alone out there, and
I had never had that close
support before.
Also competing over the
weekend was junior Christiel
Bourvon, who finished 41st in
the 100-yard butterfly and
then 22nd in the 200-yard ver-
sion of the swim.
While it was still a bitter-
sweet meet in some respects, it
will be memorable for all the
Irish competitors involved.

Irish diver Meghan Perry-Eaton somersaults in a Jan. 14 meet against Illinois at Rolfs Aquatic Center. Perry-Eaton and team-
mate Katie Carroll earned All-American honors this year.

University Hair Stylist
Walk-ins
get
Worked-In
faster
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Bearcats
continued from page 24
Louisville. Prior to those loss-
es, the Bearcats had some
quality wins. They are 4-2
against ACC opponents Duke
and Wake Forest. One of those
losses was a 12-inning, one-
run defeat to the Demon
Beacons.
Cincinnati is led by shortstop
Mark Blase, who is batting a
team-leading .359. Third base-
man Jon Deluca has 16 RBIs.
On defense, the Bearcats' pitch-
ing ace is right-hander
Tony Maynard, who has a 2.95
ERA and an unblemished
record. Maynard — the
Bearcats' workhorse — has
already thrown 39.2 innings.

With eight players at seven
or more RBIs, Notre Dame's
offensive pro-
duction continues
to climb.
But the defen-
sive and pitch-
ing efforts con-
tinue to slide —
which is why
Mainieri feels
the need to mix
things up.
"Some guys
just haven't
played very
well," he said.
"Some guys that
have been here
in the past and have done well
just are not doing well at this
point."
Undecided on the starting
outfielders as well as on the
starting pitcher, Mainieri said
it will be a game time decision.
"I honestly
don't know," he
said. "We are
actually going
to pitch at least six
or seven differ-
et guys tomor-
row. They'll all
pitch an inning,
sos that we can have them all
ready for the con-
ference weekend.
With confer-
ce play looming,
the Irish
simply hope to find the most
effective starting nine in time.

Be a Cut
&
A Cup
BECAUSE YOUR FUTURE CUTS

Contact Mike Tennant
mtennant@nd.edu

Bearcats
continued from page 24

"It was easy to focus on what was
good ... in the end it was a
lot of fun," Perry-Eaton said.

Contact Tom Dorwart at
tdorwart@nd.edu

Bookstore
Basketball
Team
Registration
Extended!!!

$20 per team

Due to an overwhelming response near the deadline, team
registration has been extended until 11:59pm tonight. Go
online to WWW.ND.EDU/~BKSTR to register your team!!!

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

Captain’s Meeting: Tuesday, March 29 @ 7:30pm, 101 DeBartolo

Irish diver Meghan Perry-Eaton somersaults in a Jan. 14 meet against Illinois at Rolfs Aquatic Center. Perry-Eaton and team-
mate Katie Carroll earned All-American honors this year.
trailing by 13 points, Arizona State rolled off an unmatchable 56-34 run to end the game, leaving Notre Dame frustrated and exhausted in a 70-61 final defeat.

"We were cut and bleeding," Notre Dame’s Jacqueline Batteast said. "They smelled blood, and they didn’t let up."

Just like that, a season that had so much promise came to a crushing and abrupt end in the middle of California long after anyone expected. Notre Dame tallied the third most regular season victories in school history this season with 26, but this team will be remembered more for its early exit in the Big Dance than for any of those successes.

After Arizona State began the game on a 7-0 run, Notre Dame promptly responded with a 27-2 spurt that placed the Sun Devils squarely on the ropes with just 3:47 left in the half. The Irish needed one more punch for the knockout. They never got it.

As the second half played out, Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw knew the ship was quickly sinking. During one timeout early in the half, she screamed at her players to play more as a team. It was more of a plea than a demand.

The Irish simply couldn’t wrest back the momentum Arizona State built up during the end of the first half and beginning of the second. All-Big East freshman Chareen Allen, Notre Dame’s No. 1 option off the bench, went down with a torn ACL in the 14:23 mark of the second half and the Irish trailing 32-32.

With 10:37 left, Batteast missed a lay-up and Arizona State’s Kristen Koveyss drained a jumper on the other end to put the Sun Devils up nine. After cutting the lead down to just five at the 6:13 mark, the Sun Devils Emily Westerberg sank an off-balance shot in the lane, drew the foul and made the free throw, putting her team back up by eight at 52-44. Finally, Arizona State point guard Kylan Lodey put the nail in the coffin ending Notre Dame’s season with a 41-33 lead to put the Sun Devils into the locker room with a 9-1 run. Betsy Boardman drilled a 3-pointer at the end of the half.

Megan Duffy put the Sun Devils on the ropes for its toughness and sticking with things.

"We’re happy to be going home," said Batteast. "It was a hard fought battle," said McGraw.

The Sun Devils came out quickly, scoring on three of their first four possessions, and jumped out to a 7-0 lead. Then the Irish defense buckled down. Notre Dame’s 2-3 zone stifled the Arizona State offense — forcing turnovers and bad shots. But the Sun Devils made adjustments to get quick baskets on fast breaks, lay-ups off passes from the high post and open looks from behind the 3-point arc.

Once the 3-pointers started falling — the Sun Devils finished 5-of-13 after starting 1-of-9 — the tide turned quickly. "We knew that we have great shooters. That was the key to the game," Arizona State coach Turner Thorne said. "Their key word was ‘out’. Our top shooters were aggressive."

Notre Dame’s Jacqueline Batteast, Big East Player-of-the-Year, ended her collegiate career with 20 points on 8-of-19 shooting and eight rebounds.

Seeing the season hanging in the balance, Megan Duffy put the Irish on her back, keeping them in the game when nothing else was working offensively. The junior scored 20 of her 24 points in the second half, draining 3-pointers, driving to the basket and getting to the foul line where she made 9-of-10 overall.

But at the time the Irish tried to make a run — they got as close as four points — the Sun Devils had an answer. Arizona State made the defensive stops the Irish couldn’t. McGraw cited for defensive futility frustrated her.

"We looked (tired mentally)," she said. "I don’t know what that was. We had to dig down and play harder. That’s what was so disappointing."
**Peanuts**

Mary's Tuesday, March 22, 2000

"Draw one,"

Straight from diner slang

Wildebeest Tarzan

Baker who sang

Radio tuner

ANSWER

Ending with

Burn _crisp

10

Work over, as a Clifford

Many a short

11

Happen?"

Broken arms

57

Companion for the garden

62 Holds close

65 Gaming table

67 four (leacake)

68 Marsh plant

69 Clutter

70 Perfect places

71 Lake

Skywalker's mentor

72 13,000 years:

Down

1 plane (military craft)

2 Comparison

3 Blow one's top

4 Marvin's dad

5 Tattoo

6 You should have asked me that

7 Drillhead

8 Not flexible

9 Three-masted

10 In a 1986 song

11 Happy birthday!

12 It may go in them fee

13 (military craft)

14 Ending with

Baker who sang

Radio tuner

ANSWER

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5 Tattoo

6 You should have asked me that

7 Drillhead

8 Not flexible

9 Three-masted

10 In a 1986 song

11 Happy birthday!

12 It may go in them fee

13 (military craft)

Across

1 Swear at

2 "What's the _

3 Foes of Dems.

4 "I'm only leading the top

I MAN, I WISH I DIDN'T KNOW THAT "

Horoscope

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matthew Broderick, 43; Rosie O'Donnell, 45; Gary Oldman, 47; Timothy Dalton, 59

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: You may be torn between what you should be doing and what you want to do. You will have to satisfy both sides of the coin in order to be successful. Seek the help of someone who is responsible for you at this time when you are most uncertain as to what you are passionate about. Finding the right balance will be the key. Your numbers are 1, 17, 19, 31, 37.

Aries (March 21-April 19): A new job or an opportunity to make some money is evident today. A relationship that you value will bring you added pleasure. You can influence and influence someone younger who looks up to you.****

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Too many changes without proper preparation will come back to haunt you. Be careful what you say to others; you may be questioned later about a particular comment you made. Stick to the truth.****

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You should be able to finish what you started today. If you just stick to what you do, the rest will fall into place. A new friendship may open doors or turn a new opportunity. Watch the above cartoon.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Concentrate on what you can do to get ahead financially. The odds are in your favor, and the ability to put a deal together is looking good. Change will bring about a whole new outlook.****

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Someone tall and proud to grab everyone's attention today. You will be right on target, and you should be able to make some interesting suggestions. You could inject some humor into your own statements.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Something may be going on behind your back. Don't want too much time trying to figure out what everyone else is up to. A surprise may be coming your way with the possibility of a financial gain.****

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): There will be plenty of action going on around you today. Love is in the picture, making the possibilities endless. Consider what you can do to make personal improvements.****

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may think you have everything taken care of, but chances are good if you have to make some adjustments. You may feel like your efforts are not going to pay off. You may need to ask what is going to happen in the future for you. Consider the above cartoons.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If you are clever you will do quite well today. The more you manage with others, the further ahead you can be. New beginnings today will offer you opportunities to take on something that is too much for you. A good deal is only worthwhile if you can handle your end of it. Cancer must be taken with warnings.****

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll be impacted today. Guard against making leap decisions that will get you into trouble. Get involved in something that is a sports activity that will help you take on your future responsibilities in a safe environment.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may feel like daydreaming today, but you should focus on being productive and getting a lot done. If you are in love you will advance. Don't be personal manner interfere with what you know you should be doing.****

BIRTHDAY BABA: You are sensitive, sympathetic and sociable. You are self-sufficient and unique in your approach to everything you pursue. You attract a crowd and hold your own.


The Observer

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Jumbles:

Answer:"()

I I I I J'

TODAY SCOTT ADAMS

That Scrambled Word Game by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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**Irish host ‘Cats in home opener**

**Future Big East foe begins Frank Eck Stadium schedule**

By TOM DORWART  
Sports Writer

For the first time this season, the Irish will sprint to their respective spots on the natural grass at Frank Eck Stadium when they take on the Villanova Wildcats (8-8) tonight at 5 p.m.

Which nine players will make that first sprint, however, is up for debate. There are 29 players on the Notre Dame roster, and coach Paul Mainieri has gone to his bench often already.

"I'm just debating a lot of things right now — what the best way to go into this week would be," he said. "Certainly, we need to make some changes, because we just did not play good baseball this weekend at Evansville, so I just got to look at the big picture here and make a decision on who we want to go with."

"I just feel that we might need to shake things up this week and give some other guys a chance." The Irish are happy to be home after finishing 7-9 in the first 16 games of the young season.

"I can't even describe how good it is to be home after being on the road for five straight weekends — our first sixteen games of the year on the road," Mainieri said. "We'll finally get a chance to play at home where traditionally we've played very well. Hopefully it's going to be just what the doctor ordered. We just need to settle in a little bit, play well at home and get things going in the right direction."

The meeting with the Wildcats marks the first game of a seven-game home stand for the Irish. This weekend, the Irish open Big East Conference play with double-headers against Georgetown on Thursday and Seton Hall on Saturday. Cincinnati is coming off a winless effort in three games against Conference USA foe Rutgers.

**ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Finished in Fresno**

Irish bow out of 2005 NCAA tournament in the second round

By MATT LOZAR  
Senior Staff Writer

FRESNO, Calif. — A promising season came to an end Monday night when Notre Dame’s strength became a liability.

After building a 27-14 first-half lead, the Irish (27-14) couldn’t strop Arizona State (24-10) to be defeated in the second round of the NCAA tournament at the Save Mart Center at Fresno State University.

The Irish do not advance to the Sweet 16 for the first time since 2002.

"They jumped out to a quick 17-0 start, but we came back in," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "I thought we lost the game at the end of the first half and beginning of the second half.

"During that stretch, we couldn’t do anything right."

**Irish bring home the nets**

By MIKE TENNANT  
Senior Staff Writer

Add two more Irish All-Americans to the list.

Sophomore swimmer Katie Carroll and fifth-year senior diver Meghan Perry-Eaton both earned All-Americans honors this weekend at the NCAA Championships at Purdue University. Led by its two stars, Notre Dame finished the weekend with 32 points and a 22nd-place team finish, the third highest in Notre Dame history.

Perry-Eaton ended a historic diving career at the University by taking fifth place off the one-meter springboard, earning her All-American honors. She also finished a career-best 15th off the three-meter board, earning honorable mention All-American status in the event.

"I know it was my last out and I wanted to be happy with it no matter what," she said.

This was the second year in a row that Perry-Eaton was named an All-American, finishing third in one-meter action last season.

"I really wanted to be in the top three or at least," the five-time Big East Champion said, "but All American is a pretty neat thing to say."

In the pool, Carroll finished sixth in the 400-yard individual medley, earning her All-American status. Her time of 4:13.56 broke her own school record and put her nine seconds behind the champi­on, Aubur­no’s Krissy Co­vent­ry, a gold medalist in the Athens Olympics.

It was also the second-best performance ever by an Irish swimmer in the NCAA Championship meet, behind only Carrie Nixon’s fourth place finish in the 2009 50-yard freestyle.

Carroll was seeded 19th going into the event and became the fifth Irish swim­mer ever to earn All-American honors. She was an honorable mention All-American last year after a

**ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING**

**Carroll, Perry-Eaton named All-Americans**

By MIKE TENNANT  
Sports Writer

**BASEBALL**

**Notre Dame pitcher Jeff Samardzija throws a pitch against Villanova April 9, 2004. The Irish will play their home opener against Cincinnati today.**

Notre Dame pitcher Jeff Samardzija throws a pitch against Villanova April 9, 2004. The Irish will play their home opener against Cincinnati today.