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STUDENT SENATE

Jenkins fields academic freedom questions

By MADDIE HANNA
Assistant News Editor

University President Father John Jenkins discussed “The Vagina Monologues” and broader issues of gender and sexuality with senators at a special session of Student Senate Friday afternoon in the Goldroom of North Dining Hall—a chapter in the unresolved campus debate over academic freedom and Notre Dame’s Catholic character.

Jenkins, accompanied by Executive Assistant to the President Frances Shaver, delivered brief preliminary remarks before telling senators he was “all ears.”

White encourages leadership, diversity at SMC

By MEGAN O’NEIL
Saint Mary’s Editor

At the closing dinner of the Saint Mary’s Student Diversity Board (SDBI) Diverse Student Leaders Conference (DSLSC), Vice President and Dean of Faculty Pat White encouraged attendees to turn to people such as Rosa Parks and Corretta Scott King as examples of strong leaders.

White said he did not invoke their names simply because they were black women, although that fact played an important role in shaping their leadership styles.

“I call our attention to Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King as American leaders and American heroes because all of us, whatever our race, gender or ethnicity—even this gray-haired white guy—must study their way of leadership and learn from their example,” White said.

According to White, Parks is remembered in national folklore as a tired seamstress who refused to give up her bus seat to a white man and was subsequently arrested. However, she was not just physically weak, White said, and it is important to note exactly which Parks was really tired of—oppression.

King, though emblazoned in the public mind as the grieving window at her famous husband’s funeral, was also a strong leader in her own right, White said.

“Coretta Scott King’s opposition to the war in Vietnam was not just an isolated incident,” White said.

Donors recognized over weekend

University benefactors gather on campus, interact with students

By MARY KATE MALONE
Assistant News Editor

This weekend’s Scholarship Fellowship Weekend welcomed more than 230 University benefactors to campus from around the nation for two days of exclusive tours, speeches by high-ranking University officials and student testimonials.

The recognition weekend honored donors who together have given more than $16.5 million to University scholarships, fellowships and grants in aid.

“The big highlight of the recognition weekend for our guests is always the chance for them to get to know some of the students studying under their benefaction,” said Vice President for University Relations Julie Nunn in a press release. “I’m not sure who enjoys these meetings more, our students or our donors.”

On Saturday the University invited benefactors to a panel discussion featuring University Provost Thomas Burish and Associate Provost Dennis Jacobs.

Two undergraduates and one graduate student sat on the panel as well, sharing their vastly different academic experiences at Notre Dame to a full audience in McKenna auditorium.

Seniors Peter Quadrato and Alicia Lachiondo spoke about the role experiential and service learning played in their Notre Dame education.

“We want all of our students to enjoy those experiences,” Burish said. “Almost all are engaged in giving back to the community in some way. By service learning, we take those experiences and bring them back into the classroom to learn from them and learn how to influence the world.”

Burish told donors their contributions gave two gifts—monetary aid and “a lifelong bond” between the donor, the scholar and the person who

Big East bid gives Irish hoops fans more hope

By KAREN LANGLEY
Assistant News Editor

After a frustrating regular season, Notre Dame fans found another reason to support their men’s basketball team after Saturday’s win against DePaul propelled the Irish into the Big East Tournament. On campus, students lauded the outcome to the team’s precipitous journey towards a Big East bid, but predictions of the team’s success in the tournament remain mixed.

Freshman Chase Smerdinezki contrasted Saturday’s game to many others throughout the season.

“I’m definitely excited,” he said. “It’s definitely nice to win a big game after so many tough losses.”

Smerdinezki applauded the way the Fighting Irish fought the DePaul game, saying he was “pumped” to see so many students enthusiastic about the game.

Sophomore Amelia Ulmer, a member of the basketball band, was also glad to see a win after witnessing so many nailbiting losses.

“It was nice to see them win,” Ulmer said.
INSIDE COLUMN

Following my dad’s advice

It was Christmas break freshman year when all of this started. I had written for The Observer during the fall — covering interhall football — but didn’t feel like doing any writing after that finished. I was more interested in having a few fun days around the dorm during my first semester at ND — doing a little homework, eating quarter plates of food and heading over to TC with my buddies on the weekends. College was relaxing and free … but I wasn’t doing much.

I’m on a run with my dad during that Christmas vacation that he gave me some of the best advice I’ve ever received — get involved.

I’d waited my whole life to go to Notre Dame, he reminded me, and it would be a shame if I didn’t at least do something with my time there.

I went back to South Bend that January and signed up to work layout at the paper once a week. Today, after two years that sailed by in what feels like two minutes, I’m taking over as Editor in Chief of The Observer.

My dad never told me during December that I should spend 30 hours a week below South Dining Hall checking pages and calling writers — but I know now that my advice was given.

If I had known that this paper would take up more of my time than I would like, I might never have signed up to work in the first place.

But I’m lucky I did.

I am lucky to have made friends that I never would have known were it not for The Observer.

Some see it for 10 minutes a week. Some say hi to every morning when they walk into LaFortune on a Friday afternoon.

I am also lucky to work with a staff of about 150 people who give at least a part of themselves to this paper.

Some work for just an hour or two writing one short article a week. Some dream up a new cartoon every day. Some sit in the back of The Observer’s office reading photography a lecture.

No matter who they are, I know that everyone at The ‘O’ is proud when they walk into LaFortune on a Friday afternoon and see the paper in everyone’s hands.

The Observer has become a large part of Notre Dame since its beginning in 40 years ago — and my biggest challenge over the next year will be to make sure it remains an integral piece of Notre Dame/Saint Mary’s campus life.

But with the people working here right now, I have no doubt the paper will be fine.

Growing up with two little sisters and no brother, I spent a lot of time with my dad — if for no other reason than we were the only people in my house who didn’t watch E.R.

The two of us talked about a lot over the last 21 years — with topics ranging from who should have won the 1995 Heisman Trophy (Tommy Kramer) to when I had to be home on New Year’s Eve as a high school sophomore (too early) to whether Paul Simon was better solo or with Garfunkel (toto).

But I never learned more from a conversation than I did on that jog over Christmas break.

Contact Mike Gillison at mgillison@nd.edu

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

OFFBEAT

Bicyclist takes blindness

SAN RAFAEL, Calif. — A motorist accused of blinding a bicyclist in a hit-and-run accident was cleared of charges after a doctor determined the victim was faking his injury.

James Artignoni, 45, of San Anselmo, had been accused of swerving his pickup truck into a cyclist who made an obscene gesture with his finger a year ago.

Torrin Arnold, 26, of San Anselmo claimed he hit his head on the pavement and lost his vision.

He appeared at Arrigoni’s San Francisco County Superior Court judge on Thursday that he decided to drop the charges after reviewing medical records from an ophthalmologist who determined Arnold was pretending to be blind.

Park to play the classics

HARTFORD, Conn. — Residents of one Hartford neighborhood hope Beethoven and Mozart will help drive drug dealers and prostitutes out of a local park.

Activists propose playing recordings of classical music in Barnard Park in hopes of annoying petty criminals so much that they’ll leave. They also hope the music will make the park more pleasant for other people once it is cleaned up.

Resident Carol Gobedi said she came up with the idea after reading about similar efforts in West Palm Beach, Fla., where she said crime decreased as much as 40 percent in parks where classical music was played.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR SPRING BREAK?

Ted Somers senior Keough

"Checking out law schools."

Matt Williams-Kovacs junior Morrissey

"I don’t have any plans. I’ll be here."

Tommy Forr junior O’Neill

"Home sweet home."

Demise Bayona freshman Walsh

"I’m going home — and it happens to be Miami, Florida."

Marissa Najera sophomore Lyons

"I’m going home to Minnesota, even though it’s probably even colder than here."

Keri Dugan freshman Lyons

"I’m visiting friends at other colleges, even though Saint Patrick’s Day there won’t be half as good as it would be here."

IN BRIEF

A conference titled “Reading Between the Lines: Scripture and Community in the Dead Sea Scrolls” will take place at 10:30 a.m. today in the McKenna Hall auditorium.

Best Buddies will sponsor a perspectives discussion panel at Reckers from 8 p.m. to 9:30 tonight as part of Notre Dame Disability Awareness Month. Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students are invited to enjoy a free smooch while listening to the panel.

The Swing Club will host an open swing dance tonight from 8 p.m. to 10 in the LaFortune Ballroom. The event is free for full-time students.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs will host speaker Margaret Montoya Tuesday from 12 p.m. to 2 in the Vander Vennet Theater in the Student Center.

John Carr, Director of the Department of Social Development & World Peace, will speak on Political Responsibility and Religion: Faithful Citizenship in the 2006 Elections” on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Ecke Visitors Center Auditorium.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obnews@nd.edu.
ND groups hold fair to promote ‘Safe Spring Break’

By RYAN SYDLIK
News Writer

Spring break might be a long mid-term exam week away, but various campus groups and offices are getting a jump on the break by giving information to students about how to enjoy it safely.

Friday’s Safe Spring Break Fair in LaFortune fullroom was part of a week-long program hosted by Student Government, Pillars and the Office of Drug and Alcohol Education. Gina Firth, the Director of Alcohol and Drug Education, said other events earlier in the week included distributing blood alcohol concentration awareness cards in the dining halls and giving away safe spring break T-shirts.

Firth also said speaker Randy hazeon addressed students as part of safe spring break week Wednesday on how to party with a plan and “how to decrease your risk if you choose to use alcohol.”

The Safe Spring Break Fair was the final event of the week. Firth said its purpose was to give students harm reduction information to stay safe over break.

Many campus offices were present at the fair to provide information about safety, including University Health Services, the University Counseling Center, gender relations, security, transportation and even international student services.

Firth said aspects of spring break addressed at the fair included advice to students traveling abroad to Latin American countries, preventing “Montezuma’s revenge,” sexual assault and rape prevention, what to do during car-jacking attempts and “the realities of hooking up.”

"We are here to give people information so that they can make good judgments.”

Jessica Nelson Pillars member

The fair also addressed issues in relation to alcohol, such as drinking and driving with impaired vision goggles, a pledge not to drink and drive and blood alcohol intoxication awareness information.

In addition to information tables, the fair had fun attractions such as “mocktails” (fruit drinks sans alcohol, popcorn, a basketball toss with beer goggles, music and tropical scenery.

Unlike spring break send-offs at other colleges, however, Firth said the Spring Break Fair did not provide condoms.

“Notre Dame is a Catholic University and we do not promote that,” she said.

This was the second year for the fair. Firth said this year’s fair was an “absolute success,” citing the large amount of people that arrived as soon as it started.

Sophomore Sarah Waller, the tobacco prevention committee prevention chair for Pillars, said she was surprised to see the number of people at the event.

“It’s hard to tell if you are making a difference, but even if it only makes a difference with one person, it is better than no effect at all,” Waller said.

University staff psychologist Carl Williams said his role at the fair was to promote healthy decision-making about sexual activity and drinking.

“We are helping people to slow down and give it more thought,” he said. “The University values this fair and is putting in a large number of resources to help students make decisions.”

Sophomore Jessica Nelson took part in the fair as a Pillars member.

“We are here to give people information so that they can make good judgments.”

Erin Robertson
freshman

*PHOTOS BY ALLISON AMBROSE*

Senior Laurel Thomson said she was attracted to the event because of the posters and free giveaways. However, Thomson also said she “thought it would be valuable because I will be heading down south and the Mexican stuff interested me.”

Freshman Erin Robertson also attended the event.

“My friend mentioned she had heard about the event, and I was coming through LaFortune and heard noise,” she said.

Robertson said she enjoyed the fair and felt the presenters put forth their information in a positive way.

“I think this is a really neat way to make this information as well as fun,” she said. “Sometimes people get bogged down by people merely saying don’t drink, but this is a nice way to get the point of safety across.”

Contact Ryan Sydlik at rysdlik@nd.edu

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Apply for 2006-2007 Judicial Council

President
Vice-President of Elections
Vice-President of Peer Advocacy
Parliamentarian

Descriptions of the positions can be found on the Judicial Council website at www.nd.edu/~jcouncil.

Applications can be picked up in the Student Government Office (203 LaFortune) or downloaded from the Judicial Council website. Applications are due Thursday, March 9.

If you have any questions about the positions please email the Judicial Council at jcouncil@nd.edu.
Kindt clinched the presidency when her ticket received 113 votes compared to Goeppinger’s 106 votes during the runoff election. Goeppinger’s ticket — comprised of vice-presidential candidate Christina Molnar, secretarial candidate Bridget Gorman and treasurer candidate Maggie Wickstrom — had received 109 votes, but three votes were deducted by the elections committee due to a violation of the College’s “active campaigning” clause.

“Of my ticket mates, I was not someone who was sleeping with my away message up so reminding women to vote for our ticket starting at midnight,” Goeppinger said.

“We contested it due to the fact that the (message) was not sent to anyone and it was an honest mistake made in exhaustion,” she said.

They attempted to repeal the decision, but it was not appealed since the away message was printed off and turned in as evidence of the violation, Goeppinger said.

Goeppinger’s ticket also was found in violation for sending instant messages after midnight, her ticket mates were not able to appeal this decision since the messages were actually sent before midnight and not viewed by the receiver until after the deadline.

All members of both Kindt’s and Goeppinger’s tickets are current members of the junior class board, and election results may generate issues that strengthen and divide class unity.

Kindt said she plans to address these issues at an open discussion forum in April where students can address their concerns.

“I feel that our class may be split in some aspects, but overall that this will pass,” she said. “Both candidacies have great representation for leadership and ability.”

Goeppinger said she along with her ticket mates are looking into ways to help the class and the College community during their senior year.

“The women on my ticket are amazing and strong leaders and I am very proud of them for their integrity and class,” she said. “We are disappointed, but will be holding our heads high on knowing we won the first election and we will continue to work this year to provide our classmates with a fantastic year.”

Kindt’s ticket said they look forward to planning Senior Dad’s weekend, an ovarian cancer walk and the senior class board, and election results may generate issues that strengthen and divide class unity.

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receives it, anonymously or otherwise.

“Tuition doesn’t cover the cost of an education,” Burish said.

“It might cover the cost of 60 or 70 percent of education but philanthropy provides most of the rest. All of us have a scholarship, if you will. Someone else, someone we may have never met, gave us the opportunity to have an education.”

Quaranta told donors about his work in Uganda — sharing photos and explaining the role that Notre Dame played in providing the opportunity for him to work there.

“Nowhere else but Notre Dame,” Quaranta said. “Without your support, none of this would have been possible. These experiences are not static ... they are relationships that have ripple effects that are changing our world one step at a time.”

Quaranta has worked to promote awareness of the devastation in Uganda by co-founding the Uganda Conflict Action Network.

Last Kindt spoke about her undergraduate research on incidences of breast cancer screening among African American women — and her love of the University despite “standing onto the idea” of going to school at Notre Dame during her junior year of high school.

“My ultimate decision to attend Notre Dame had nothing to do with geography, prestige or academics — my decision was made from page 4

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The Notre Dame Club of New York’s 90th Anniversary and St. Patrick’s Day Weekend in New York City

The Notre Dame Club of New York invites Notre Dame and St. Mary’s Alumni, Faculty, Family, Students and Friends to our 90th Anniversary Celebration March 16th and 17th 2006!

All the details are on www.ndnyc.org

- Universal Notre Dame 90th Anniversary Gala - March 16th 6:30PM (with Fr. Jenkins!)
- NDNY 90th Anniversary After Party at McFadden’s Saloon - March 16th 9:30PM till ???
- NDNY 90th Anniversary St. Patrick’s Day Parade - March 17th 3PM

What better way to spend the end of Spring Break than celebrating with NDNY! Join us for our Anniversary Dinner, meet us at the after-party, or march with NDNY up 5th Avenue in the traditional St. Patrick’s Day Parade! All the details are on our website — sign up today!
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Scientists struggle to save chimps
MISHIELE-MOKELE, Congo — Scientists are struggling to save the fast-disappearing bonobo, the gentle “hippie chimp” known for resolving squabbles through sex rather than violence.

Unfortunately, bonobos are prized by Congolese for their tasty meat, and many villagers who are illegally hunting the wiry, wizen-faced apes don’t realize how close their prey is to extinction.

“Bonobos are an icon for peace and love, the world’s ‘hippie chimps,’” said Sally Cox of the nonprofit gorilla-focuse<br>Endangered Primate Conservation Initiative. “To let them die off would be a catastrophe.”

The animals are known for greeting rival groups with genital hunchbacks and sensual body rubs. Bonobo spats are swiftly settled — often with a French kiss and a quick round of sex.

Militants threaten oil facility attack
LAGOS, Nigeria — Militants threatened more attacks on Nigeria’s oil facilities and vowed Sunday to cut daily oil exports by 1 million barrels, adding to concerns for OPEC as it prepares for a strategy meeting next week.

The attack is the third in less than two months in which a Charlottn-area parent has been charged with killing two children.

Shaken and tearful, Olga Miranda picked through the debris of their home in northeast Charlotte and declined to talk about her husband, Gilberto Miranda Correa.

Twins Hall of Famer suffers stroke
FORT MYERS, Fla. — Hall of Famer Kirby Puckett had a stroke at his Arizona home Sunday and was taken to a hospital for surgery, the Minnesota Twins announced from their spring training camp.

The 44-year-old Puckett, who led the Twins to World Series titles in 1987 and 1991, was taken to a Scottsdale hospital.

"The Minnesota Twins and major league baseball ask fans to keep Kirby and his family in their thoughts and prayers," the team said in a statement.

LOCAL NEWS

Governor’s approval rating drops
MADISON, Wis. — Gov. Mitch Daniels says his approval rating has dropped to 37 percent among many Indiana residents, objecting to the pace of cuts in government spending during his first 14 months in office, an Indianapolis Star poll published Sunday shows.

Respondents to the statewide telephone poll of 501 residents taken last week also show overwhelming disapproval of one of the changes Daniels has sought since becoming governor: the $3.85 billion lease of the Indiana Toll Road.

ENGLAND

Childhood obesity slated to rise
Associated Press

LONDON — The number of overweight children worldwide will increase significantly by the end of the decade, a new report says, as global economic growth increases demand for energy and food. The report says that, “If current trends continue, the number of overweight children worldwide will rise by an estimated 77% between 2005 and 2015.”

The report predicts that the number of overweight children will increase from 165 million in 2005 to 297 million in 2015. The study also found that the number of overweight children in the United States will increase from 24 million in 2005 to 36 million in 2015. The report also notes that the increase in overweight children is likely to be driven by rising levels of poverty and lack of access to healthy food and active lifestyles.

The report calls for policy makers to take action to address the problem of childhood obesity. It recommends changes to the food environment, increased physical activity, and improved access to health care. It also calls for better data collection and monitoring to track the progress of policy interventions.

The report is based on data from the International Obesity Task Force and published by the International Journal of Obesity. The report is a comprehensive review of the evidence on childhood obesity and highlights the urgent need for action at the global level.
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"I think one of the great challenges of this discussion [is] it touches on issues around which there's a great deal of energy and strong views," Jenkins said. "The challenge is when you speak on those issues, there's such an urgency to simplify...that makes discussion difficult."

He said two-sided "for or against" questions—such as "Are you for or against academic freedom?"—were overly simplistic and dangerous when applied to such a nuanced subject matter.

"Senators are expressing their views and feedback from their constituents as well as questioning Jenkins on a variety of subtopics, including fundraising, violence against women, the Keenan Revue and sponsorship.

The breadth of responses to the questions led to a discussion on listening attentively. Jenkins mentioned how he occasionally took notes while "thank you" was being said.

He seemed deeply engaged in the institutional deliberation.

"I'm curious what are the events you think are the most significant in the history of the place?" a senator asked Jenkins. Jenkins said he thought a production "to compare our own reflections...our stories, in a certain way" would better serve the Notre Dame community than the "Monologues.""I've heard an executive committee chair Matt Walsh said the campus culture was "male dominated" and even like the Keenan Revue and the Pep Rally were "pretty chauvinistic.""

"I'm not saying that everyone belongs at Notre Dame...but there's not a void on this campus where we need to talk about the concerns of the same sex..."and sexual orientation...without compromising our Catholic character," he said. "Do you think it's important to allow these events to exist?"

While Jenkins' answers confirmed his position, he asked follow-up questions.

"[Issues of gender and sexuality] need to be addressed, and we need to engage with [people] to address them," Jenkins said. "And we need to be creative in finding ways to address them...Look, I don't think we can.

Jenkins said he was concerned about the "science" behind discussing these issues but told senators the creativity was required on the part of the campus.

Welsh Family senator Brenna Doyle asked Jenkins about sponsorship and endorsement specifically, if he would feel the same about "The Vagina Monologues" if they were sponsored by a form other than an academic department or the University.

Jenkins said he would have "some concerns." "The same goes with the Keenan Revue," he said. "Is that appropriate? We have to talk about that.

Regarding the frequency of "The Vagina Monologues" performances, Jenkins said he was concerned about having the production at Notre Dame year after year.

"Suppose that we have George Bush come speak five years in a row and we didn't have a prominent Democrat," he said.

But Walsh senator Erin Hankins compared repeat performances of the "Monologues" to watching a movie multiple times.

"You pick up different ideas," she said. "It was struck by how different the Monologues were this year than last year. [This year's production] was wonderful in a different way...it's practically, basically.

Jenkins expressed some concern about the timing of the "Monologues." He said the concern was about the timing of the act and whether the production discussion had become too limited, overly focused on "The Vagina Monologues" and the former Queer Film Festival—a statement similar to an earlier comment made by Jenkins.

"This is much more than that," Lindley said. "This discussion is definitely not restricted to just the two events."

He said Kough residents discussed the issue of fundraising for women's organizations—an option previously associated with the "Monologues," which last year raised $15,000 for the SOS and YWCA organizations of St. Joseph County.

Jenkins said this year's productions in DeBartolo would not be able to charge for tickets.

"This restriction can only hurt us in the long run," Lindley said.

He also said he hoped debate would continue to promote year-round awareness of problems confronting women.

"The discussion in certain places seems to get polarized," Lindley said. "If it's stagnant and only rises around Vagina Monologues..."and the Monologues are traditionally performed...it makes the polarizing surface."

Like Lindley, Community Relations committee chair Niki Guzman stressed the importance of the "Momologue" discussion—"a discussion he believes we cannot afford to have."

"If it were to happen, the Monologues would not be held annually.

"I was trying to create a balance, I would try to do it with more instead of less," he said. "Seeing the Monologues more than one time—I think it's important.

Jenkins paused before responding to Guzman's question. "Do you think it's a question," he asked. "It does take energy and time into something like that...That's kind of the start of the answer." We can't limit the performance...to balance the anti-Catholic themes of the 'Monologues' every week."

But Siegfried senator Ben Gusty said the testimony of other senators to a certain polarization within the student body means there are "enough differing opinions on campus to put together different performances or discussions."

He said it was important students have "the ability to react, through debate..." a theme he called central to the intellectual history of the Catholic Church and a "unique opportunity" for Notre Dame.

For Minority Affairs committee chair Rhea Boyd, the question is what Notre Dame wishes to teach students.

"If we really want our students to be honest and open about their sexuality, we can do it," Boyd said. "How can we limit the ways in which they express themselves...?"

"It's our responsibility and privilege to ask difficult questions. To me, that's our mission."

Student body president Dave Baron acknowledged the difficulty of Jenkins' situation.

"I appreciate the seriousness with which the whole student body has taken this issue, and I am proud."

Father John Jenkins University president

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pull off a win and lose it in the last second or over time," she said. "The games are all exciting, but it's definitely better when you have a chance to do well, he said.

Smerdzniski also said he has high hopes for the tournament. "We're capable of beating every team in the Big East," Smerdzniski said. "You can see throughout the season we didn't give up in the second half by any teams in the Big East."

Nothing the necessity for consistency from the players, Smerdzniski suggested the team has a substantial mental battle ahead of them.

"As long as the guys on the team think we have a chance, I think we can do it," he said. Sophomore Nick Green dissented.

"It's delaying the inevitable," he said. "Obviously, they haven't been able to win [throughout the season]."

While his loyalty remains, Green said the team's performance thus far has preoccupied him. "I'm holding on to any high expectations for the postseason."

"I'm hoping they do well, but I'd be surprised if they advanced very far," Nick Gergen sophomore

In the end, he said, but he's surprised if they advanced very far," he said. Freshman Diva Hira also remained unconvinced. "I think we would probably have to go into the tournament to have a chance to win," she said, adding that throughout the season, "every game they played, they would come close to winning and then lose."

But even if Hira's enthusiasm about the prospects for winning are winning were emerging from writing off the tournament, she said students could be optimistic. "There's always next year," she said.

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Mittal Steel Co. plans merger

Executives cater to European reporters in effort to promote bid for Arcelor SA

Mittal Chief Financial Officer Aditya Mittal predicted Sunday, Feb. 26, 2006, that the proposal to combine Mittal and rival Arcelor SA will close by the end of June.

AT&T close to deal with BellSouth

Associated Press

NEW YORK — AT&T Inc. is nearing a deal to acquire BellSouth Corp. for around $56 billion, according to reports published today.

The companies were expected to announce the terms of the deal as soon as today, according to reports in the New York Times and on the Web sites of the Wall Street Journal and Atlanta Journal-Constitution and USA Today.

The papers cited unidentified sources close to the talks as saying the companies have agreed in principle to the negotiation.

Atlanta-based BellSouth is the dominant local telephone provider in nine Southeastern states, while San Antonio-based AT&T’s local-service customers are concentrated in 13 states, including those in the Midwest.

Together, AT&T and BellSouth could create the world’s second-largest telecommunications company with revenue of nearly $160 billion, dwarfing rival Verizon Communications Inc.

The merged company would have 70 million local-line phone customers and nearly 10 million broadband subscribers. The two companies also own Cingular Wireless L.L.C., the largest wireless carrier in the United States, and Yellowpages.com, an online directory.

The Cingular brand would be phased out in favor of the AT&T brand, according to the Journal and USA Today. The name will be familiar to wireless customers: AT&T Wireless Inc., a spin-off of AT&T, was acquired by Cingular in October 2004.
West Nile virus does not increase defects

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Pregnant women who get West Nile virus likely will have normal babies, although a small risk of birth defects could exist if they become ill during early in pregnancy, when development of fingers and toes occurs. The other two mothers got sick during mid-pregnancy.

Seven, or 10 percent of the infants, had either birth defects including Down syndrome and cleft palate, about double the rate in the general population, but premature births was lower than in the general population. However, the researchers believe only the three cases might be linked to the virus.

CDC-funded research is investigating whether any of the women had other factors that might have increased their risks for having children with birth defects, the report said.

The CDC collects nationwide data on pregnant women infected with West Nile disease, the mosquito-borne virus that has been reported in humans in at least 42 states.


Most infected people never get sick, but up to about 20 percent develop mostly mild flu-like symptoms. Severe symptoms, including strokes times fatal brain inflammation, are rare. Since 1999, when the virus first appeared in this country, 782 West Nile deaths have been reported in the U.S.

Dr. Shari Goldman, an obstetrician affiliated with Chicago’s Northwestern Memorial Hospital, said none of her pregnant patients contracted West Nile, but she said that some women have asked her about it when they get sick. Goldman said, “I raise it as a concern that they ask me think about, however I do not want to alarm my patients because the risk of them contracting West Nile virus is low.”

High tuition troubles the poor

Programs make college more affordable for low, middle-income students

The signs are everywhere, from the BMWs parked on campus, to the students’ designer cell phones, to the number of families paying full price for college, but with only mixed success. At the most selective schools, a 2003 study found, just 3 percent of students came from the poorest socioeconomic quarter of families, while 74 percent came from the richest.

Now, a small group of selective colleges is turning its attention to what may be an untapped reservoir of able, low-income students: the 6.5 million people who attend community colleges. Historically, these students have been ignored by elite colleges, which recruit mostly at high schools and often accept few or no transfers because they want to offer a distinctive four-year experience.

Five well-known private colleges entered into a highly selective public schools — the flagship campuses of the Universities of California, which represent a third of low-income students. Though the numbers amount to a relative handful — with Cal taking by far the most transfers — the sign is that the variety and prestige of the schools involved will persuade others to take a chance on students who have started at two-year schools for financial or family reasons.

“There’s a lot of focus at Harvard and lots of other places on the fact that there are no low-income students at those schools, or very few,” said Joshua Wyner, the Cooke Foundation’s vice president for programs. “The places where a lot of them are that nobody seems to be looking is community colleges.”

A 2005 Department of Education study found more than one-third of 12th graders in 1992 who went first to community college and earned more than 10 credits eventually transferred to a four-year college. But few go to the most selective schools. On those campuses, typically only about one in 1,000 students transferred from a two-year school, Wyner said.

Some of the participating colleges, like Cal and Mount Holyoke, already have close ties with “feeder” community colleges and will expand existing programs. Mount Holyoke, a women’s college in Massachusetts, will provide a full-time academic counselor inside nearby Holyoke Community College to identify transfer candidates and help them prepare. It hopes to add about 10 slots per year.

Kurt Thiede, vice president for enrollment management at Bucknell University, walks across campus Friday.

Sponsored by the University of Notre Dame Department of Music

Daniel Schlosberg

Daniel Schlosberg shares his time on collaborative performances as well as with a wide variety of recording projects. His recordings feature works by composers such as Pergolesi, Beach, Mendelssohn, and Rossini. He has recorded with many of the leading conductors of our time, including Sir Simon Rattle, Daniel Barenboim, and Sir Andrew Davis. His recordings have been called “masterful” and “captivating.”

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Channel One's ads pack more punch than news features

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Students remember more of the advertising than they do the news stories shown on Channel One, the daily public affairs program shown in 12,000 U.S. schools, a study has found.

Students reported buying — or having their parents buy — more food-oriented products advertised on the show, including fast food and video games, researchers said.

Schools that agree to show Channel One on 90 percent of school days receive free television and satellite dishes, a deal critics say turns students into captive audiences for advertisers.

Nearly 8 million students see the program, according to Channel One's parent company, Primedia.

"The benefits of having Channel One in schools seem to have some real costs that should create an ethical dilemma for schools," said study co-author Erica Ausin of Washington State University. The study appears Monday in the journal Pediatrics.

Channel One CEO Judy Harris questioned whether the students' purchases were influenced exclusively by Channel One ads or by other advertising and the preferences of their peers.

"These children weren't in an isolation box," Harris said.

Advertising pays for Channel One's news, heath and fitness content, Harris said. Advertisers don't influence the news content, and the company has high standards that keep ads appropriate for students, she said.

The show won a Peabody Award for reporting on Sudan's civil war last year. The 12-minute daily broadcast has 10 minutes of news and two minutes of either ads or public service announcements.

Channel One produces some of its own news programming, but it also airs Associated Press Television News videos. Associated Press news service stories appear on Channel One's Web site.

Researchers surveyed 240 seventh and eighth-graders at a school in Washington state. The students reported that during the previous three months they bought an average of 2.5 products advertised on Channel One.

The students remembered, on average, 3.5 ads compared to 2.7 news stories. However, they didn't remember much about either, retaining only 13 percent of the news stories and 11 percent of the ads shown during one week.

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PLUTO HIMSELF!

Mt. Olympus

Oracle

INSIDE:

Jupiter turns himself into a FLY!!!

Euridice thinks he's HOT!!!

SCANDAL IN PARADISE!

Eurydice. Does Orpheus CARE?

FIND OUT ON APRIL 7 AND 8 IN WASHINGTON HALL!
Mendoza policy offends transfer student

When I received my letter of acceptance into the University this past summer, I thought it meant that I was a Notre Dame student. Like all the freshman "star students" that were privileged enough to be accepted into such a prestigious school, I was issued an ID card, assisted to a dorm room and was helped when scheduling my classes. The only difference between my experience and that of Notre Dame's other future alumni was that I was a transfer student. No problem, right? I didn't think so. I fit right into the transfer student category, but, apparently, the joke was on me.

According to the recent Observer article "Mendoza rejects 'gates,' external transfers," (March 3) the Mendoza School of Business does not see students from "external schools" as Notre Dame students. The article failed to mention, however, that transfer students cannot declare business as a major until completing a full year at the University. I can help but feel a bit offended by Dean Carolyn Woo's claim that "we're not obligated to accept external transfers." What I fail to understand is why she should even see it as an obligation to accept an intelligent, hard-working transfer student into a certain major. Woo continues saying, "We should have more facts about incoming students before external students." I am now enrolled in the University, which means that I am now a Notre Dame student. I wasn't a Notre Dame student last year, but last year I wasn't trying to take classes at Notre Dame. Should I have a transfer sticker on my ID card so that both faculty and students know that I am an "external student?"

I understand that Mendoza has to cut their numbers down. I do not understand why we as transfer students are being cut off. Don't we have the right to continue our education? Aristotle and Shakespeare as I study the liberal arts, but please at least recognize me as a Notre Dame student.

Meghan Lauk

nowhere

Howard Hall

March 5
Music isn’t what it used to be, but change is on the way

It is often said that music is the universal language. That, in math, I can’t remember which one. Or maybe it’s both. Whatever.

Anyway, universal language or not, music has found a way to transcend geographical, cultural, ethnic and linguistic boundaries.

This can be seen everywhere you look, such as kids singing “The Marareas” at a high school homecoming dance or the Mexican guys I’ve worked with the past two summers singing along to “My Heart Will Go On” during their lunch break.

As beautiful a phenomenon as music is, it, along with pretty much everything in this world (except for Chiptole), has a dark side.

I’m not talking about rap music that critics say cause misogyny among youth (it doesn’t) or industrial metal that others say cause uncontrollable swin. I’m talking about bad music.

Really bad music.

What is really bad music, you ask? The stock answer from most music elitists would be to simply turn on MTV, and they would be right.

However, unless you tune your television to the “music” channel early in the morning, you will not see any music videos, and “Meet the Barkers” doesn’t serve as a good case study for the state of modern pop music. But if you’ve ever eaten a meal in Commons, you know what I’m talking about.

Two years ago, when I lived in Blanding II, I was often subjected to the sonic filth that poured fourth from televisions around the dining hall. As if “I Love the Way You Move” wasn’t annoying enough already, it can truly drive a person mad when they hear it at least six times a day.

But this column isn’t meant to pick on OutKast, a group that I believe has good intentions at heart. I’m here to address the other senseless pap that most of you uncultured swine in campus listen to.

I’m talking about bands like Nickelback, Creed, My Chemical Romance, Simple Plan, Evanescence, Tohey Keith, Ashley Simpson, Gretchen Wilson, Bright Eyes … I could go on, but I don’t think I need to.

Whether it’s prepackaged pop music or some random guy who plays guitar and only writes songs about ex-girlfriends, the standard by which music is judged today has been lowered dramatically from where it once stood in the past.

Although some of this has to do with the democratization of music and the availability of recording equipment, this sort of development should be a good thing. However, this revolution, along with giving many musicians the opportunity to make and distribute mediocre music, where they previously were unwelcome, also gives many unsavory musicians the opportunity to ravage your eardrums with what they will constantly refer to as “their art.”

For example, I’m sure at one point in your time at UK you’ve seen a poor soul playing guitar and singing outside White Hall, the Student Center or even your dorm on a sunny day. These people must be stopped.

Don’t think that by any means I’m advocating a return to listening to “oldies” or what have you. Some of music’s greatest treasures were committed before any of us were even born (think The Eagles, John Denver, post-Genesis Phil Collins).

What I am proposing, however, is a return to what makes music music, such as, I don’t know, playing your own instruments. Or, egad, writing your own songs. Or … wait wait wait … doing something original for once.

The John Mayer Trio may be superior to most live acts in the field of musicianship, but I’ve already heard their act before when it was called Stevie Ray Vaughan. In much the same fashion, The Killers sounded a lot better when they were called 1980-1989 and rap only sounds good under the names De La Soul, A Tribe Called Quest, and the Sugarhill Gang.

The Barenaked Ladies once said in a song as equally moronic as their name, “It’s all been done before.” They’re right. If I have to hear another band trying to be The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, U2, The Clash, O.A.R. or Dashboard Confessional, I am going to gouge my ears with a skewer.

There is a musical revolution on the horizon, and it doesn’t involve guys wearing girls’ jeans, cowboy hats, hemp necklaces or oversized black jeans with chains. Prepare thyself.

This column first appeared in the March 3 edition of the Kentucky Kernel, the daily publication of University of Kentucky.

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

I am writing in response to the recent letter to the editor written by the men’s basketball coach, written by John F. Chute, class of 1976 (“Higher standards for men’s basketball,” March 6).

Before I begin, let it be known that I work at DeMatha Catholic High School, Brenau University, and DeMatha with Brey so I make no bones about being an avid supporter of the basketball team.

What surprises me is that the student newspaper would print such an error-filled, arrogant letter by an angry alum who clearly has an agenda.

I’m permit me if you will as I would like to dispute a few of Chute’s points.

1. This is Notre Dame’s 11th season in The Big East (not 14th). Without question, The Big East is the best basketball conference in the nation. Without taking anything away from bigger Phelps, but Coach Phelps’ teams played a much easier independent schedule.

2. The author’s contention that he is not talking about Notre Dame’s success is a disservice to the team.

3. His assertion that a “prima donna” brought down the squads of ‘05 and ‘04 without mentioning that Notre Dame was a “prima donna” did in his first two years at Notre Dame.

4. His absurd comparison of the recent Marquette-Notre Dame game to that of a matchup that “would have been historic” in the 1970s.

5. His assertion of Chute’s points.

6. His criteria for criticism of Athletic Director Kevin White.

7. His comment that the program is in a “vegetative state.”

8. His absurd comparison of the program to a “reality TV show.”

9. His criteria for criticism of Athletic Director Kevin White.

10. His comment that Notre Dame was not going to make The Big East Tournament.

I could go on, but I don’t think I need to.

My complaint, however, is the author should understand that Notre Dame is not Notre Dame. Whether you agree or disagree with Coach Brey’s points, he has found considerable success in his time at Notre Dame. As beautiful a phenomenon as Notre Dame is, it, along with pretty much everything in this world (except for Chiptole), has a dark side.

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CONCERT REVIEW

Chieftains' powerful music energizes campus

By SEAN SWENY
Some Words

Young and old celebrated together when the Chieftains visited the Legends Center in Durham. After a performance at the Hellieto Performing Arts Center (DPAC) Thursday night, the group understands the power of collaborative effort in music and included other musicians and the audience in their performance.

The Chieftains, under the lead of the energetic uilleann pipes and tin whistle player Paddy Moloney, combined their legendary talent with Irish harpist Triona Marshall, guitarist Jeff White and fiddle player/irish dancer Jon Piazeke. They were also joined by The Cottars, a young brother-sister pair from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and the Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra. This diverse group was led by Moloney, who was in his element performing and leading the toe-tapping songs.

The concert began with the Chieftains playing some of their traditional songs from various albums. The group is renowned for its unique ability to combine Irish music with other forms of folk music and this was showcased when they performed the bluegrass song “Country Blues” with guitarist Jeff White. The group also played a lively song featuring Oriental and Irish melodies called “Full of Joy” from The Chieftains’ tour of China.

When The Cottars were joined by The Cottars, Moloney began telling jokes and the energy in the theater rose to a new level. The teenage group from Notre Dame began telling unrelated jokes like “The attack is during a game of charades,” and “Perhaps no one expected magic by bringing the same youthful enthusiasm to every spectator in a night that will not be forgotten for a long time.

Contact Sean Sweney at sweaney@nd.edu

SHOW REVIEW

Martin’s ‘new-age’ comedy delights, appeals to young crowds

By CASSIE BELEK
Some Words

Demetri Martin has some jokes and he does them well. In addition to telling these jokes, Martin also plays instruments. He did both Saturday night at Legends. After a warm-up that included one-liners and music to gear towards a younger and more aware audience.

Demetri Martin came to Legends with a new style of comedy that utilizes sharp one-liners and music to gear towards a younger and more aware audience. Martin displayed his comedic talents to an eager and thankful audience. When he questioned why one audience member was recording his set, the young man answered that Martin was the best thing to come to Legends this year.

The Chieftains, led by Paddy Moloney (center), delighted the audience Thursday with a selection of Irish music, joined by the Notre Dame Orchestra.

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu
**Movie Review**

**Pépé Le Moko** is a stepping stone for entire genre

By MARTY SCHROEDER
"Pépé le Moko," the famed 1937 film, was recently screened as part of the Film Noir Festival. The film provides a prime example of French cinema's poetic realism genre, which emerged in the 1930s. "Pépé le Moko" is also a marvelous paradigm of the poetic realism genre and is considered by many to be one of the genre's most influential films.

Jean Gabin stars as the suave gangster Pépé le Moko. The plot revolves around the French police force in Algiers as they attempt to capture Pépé le Moko, who has evaded them by hiding out in the winding and narrow streets of Algiers' Casbah. Informants, loyal friends and women all surround Pépé as he plays his game of cat and mouse with the police. Most of the film is dominated by the love affair between Pépé and the beautiful Gaby Gould played by Mireille Balin. She is a Parisian who has come to Algiers. While there, she and her friends go into the Casbah wherein she encounters Pépé. They fall in love immediately and the conflict revolves around the jealousy that Pépé feels for Gaby. Le Moko, Cuba, has for Goudi and Pépé's attempts to see Goud outside of the Casbah. The only catch is the police have the Casbah surrounded and he will surely be captured upon leaving and entering the other sectors of the city.

This film is not considered Film Noir per se, but it does contain many of the elements that would come to define the genre by the 1940s. The characters give off an air of nostalgia for past and bitter truth for their current situations. There is one scene in particular when Pépé discourses with Gaby about his life and his future. He evades the police through the Casbah, Pépé has money, women and friends in the Casbah but Paris still calls his name. This interplay between nostalgia and bitterness would provide a basis for the nihilistic feelings that would come to typify the characters of Film Noir.

*Pépé Le Moko* is a prime example of the Poetic Realism movement and is also considered to be one of the primary influences of the "Film Noir" genre.

**Movie Review**

*Flores de Otro Mundo* goes beyond typical foreign fare

By MICHELLE FORDICE

"Flores de Otro Mundo," or "Flowers From Another World," addresses racism, the difficulties in the search for companionship and the meaning of family through several characters in Spain. Despite these heavy underlying themes, director and writer Iciar Bollain still allows the film a realistic balance with a little humor, sweetness and hope.

As the opening credits roll, a bus packed with laughing, talkative women travels across the Spanish countryside towards a secluded village. What are they looking for? Two young lovers of rural town with a disproportionate number of eligible bachelor men are left unindulged and some things aren't actually related. Rich middle-age construction worker Carmelo has brought a beautiful Cuban girl to live with him primarily in the hopes that she will meet his physical needs. Milady sees Carmelo as a way out of Cuba and into a life of more luxury, but her social personality and emotions make her reluctant to finally commit to a life that is better, but not necessarily the one she wants. Dominican Patricia veers away from the men who see her primarily as a sex object and comes to Damían, an unsuiting and quiet man, whom she hopes can become a father to her two children. But Patricia is haunted by her past and her struggles with Damían's dominating and disappointing mother. Finally, Marírosi and Alfonso have a sweet courtship, but the long distance nature of their relationship and Marírosi's ties back to the city prevent them from taking their relationship further.

From the first lines of dialogue to the final moments of the movie, strains of racism prevent any chance of "Flores de Otro Mundo" from becoming a simple romance. The women on the bus are not there simply because they are hoping for a romantic fling, but rather because they love their husbands and will protect them from the constant demand for identification papers that relentlessly debilitates their lives for these women who are often seen as sex objects because of both their gender and their ethnicity.

"Flores de Otro Mundo" also is a statement about the human need for companionship, particularly the relationship between a husband and wife. "Flores de Otro Mundo" often does this by painting all the wrong ways relationships can exist, but also through the great celebration that occurs when each bus full of women arrives — a band follows them as they are paraded through the streets and children look on them with amazement.

"Flores de Otro Mundo" also approaches the subject of family. The audience watches as Patricia takes great risks for the sake of her children after their father left them and struggles with Damían's mother, Milady longs for the family she tore herself away from for the chance of a better life and as people band together to make their own families, even if they aren't actually related.

Despite its depressing themes, "Flores de Otro Mundo" does not devolve into melodrama and manages to remain a buoyant and enjoyable film. It is spiced with jokes (some dirty, some sweet) and an upbeat soundtrack. One cannot help but laugh at Milady's interesting choice of fashion or the two old men that watch on them with amusement. But love has not disappeared.

"Flores de Otro Mundo" follows the path of a group of young women seeking protection from their harsh environments through the safety of companionship.
Irish make statement at Alex Wilson Invite

Seven individuals and one relay team well enough to qualify for the NCAA Championships in Fayetteville, Ark.

By JASON GALVAN
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's and women's track and field teams put on a stellar performance this past weekend at the Alex Wilson Invitational, with seven individual Irish athletes qualifying for the NCAA championships to be held Friday in Fayetteville, Ark.

The men's distance relay team also met the standard at Loftus Sports Center. In addition, an old school record fell, as Sophie Moore Jacobson broke a 13-year-old standard in the 800-meter run. Carter's time of 2:08.75 was enough to surpass Erica Peterson's mark of 2:10.13 set in 1993.

Maryann Enigha (women's 60-meter and 200-meter), Jacqueline Carter (women's 800-meter), Thomas Chamey (men's 800-meter), Amy Kohlymer (women's 3,000-meter), Tim Moore (men's 3,000-meter) and Amy Mickle (men's 5,000-meter) all met the provisional qualifying standards.

Senior distance runner Stephanie Madia (women's 5,000-meter) earned an automatic bid to the NCAA championships. In addition, her time of 16:02.14 was enough to break the old record in the women's 5,000-meter of 16:15.06, set by Wake Forest's Ashley Spence in 2003.

"I'm really proud of our girls, stepping up to the competition." Stephanie Madia

Irish distance runner

"I had wanted to win it, in front of the home crowd and all." Thomas Chamey

Irish distance runner

"We have a very young team, and I think they did their best," assistant coach Zoltan Dudas said. "They were much more nervous than last year's team, since they are mostly freshmen fighting and they don't know the qualification system.

Sophomore women's sabreist Amy Orlando (7th) to help the fencing team qualify for the NCAA Invitational. Despite what he described as a "messy" race, fencers running for qualification, the Irish junior was still able to step up at the end of the race and make a strong finish.

"I had wanted to win it, in front of the home crowd and all, and I was disappointed not getting the auto-bid," Chamey said. "The way it's going to be stepped up by this," said. "I was very confident coming out of the regionals, but what the race going a "double field," Maddie said. "It was also really proud of our girls, stepping up to the competition and taking ownership of the meet with their fast times."

FENCING

The fencing team currently sits at No. 16 in the nation, with the other two squads from Illinois, Villanova, Ohio State, and is tied for the No. 2 slot in the region.

"The official qualifying list will be made public on Tuesday. "I think we have a really good chance to maybe have a lot of freshmen, but we have a lot of talent and I think we have a lot of potential," Maddie said.

The team will practice throughout the spring, before heading to Texas for the tournament, which begins the Thursday during Spring Break.

"We will have a full week to recover. I just want to do the little things that help any athlete feel great, like getting enough sleep and not working too much stressed. Things like that will help keep me ready to go for Friday."

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 205 South Main Hall. Deadline for classifieds is 3:30 p.m. every business day. The charge is $5 per character, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content or electronic reason.

Contact Jason Galvan at jgalvan@nd.edu
**NHL**

**Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division**

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<th>OTL</th>
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**Western Conference, Pacific Division**

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**Big East Basketball**

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<td>12 Notre Dame</td>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>15-12</td>
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**NFL**

**NFL Players Association Executive Director Gene Upshaw talks with reporters on Feb. 3. Talks between the NFL and its players' union have been at a standstill for over a month, and discussions once again started Sunday.**

**NHL labor talks break off once again**

Associated Press

**NEW YORK — The NFL and its players' union broke off talks Tuesday, leaving dozens of veterans in danger of becoming salary-cap casualties before free agency begins a minute after midnight Monday.**

The breakdown, though surprising, was typical of the stop-go-turvy negotiations so far: Just when things seemed darkest, they got back on track; and when it appeared a deal could be struck, talks broke down. As they did when the union called off the talks:

"The talks ended after the NFL gave us a proposal which provided a percentage of revenues for the players which would be less than they received over the last 12 years," said Gene Upshaw, executive director of the NFL Players Association. "After suggesting we extend the waiver deadline from six o'clock to 10 this evening, they gave us a new proposal which was worse than their prior offer. Quite naturally, we rejected that proposal and saw no need to continue meeting."

But Harold Henderson, the NFL's executive vice president for labor relations, said the union never rejected a proposal that would have added $577 million for players in 2006 compared to 2005 and $1.5 billion in the six years of the extension. "It's an unfortunate situation for the players, the fans and the league," Henderson said. The cuts started almost immediately.

Oakland cut quarterback Kerry Collins, saving $9.2 million for players in cap space. Center Kevin Mawae was cut by the New York Jets, although he probably would have been gone anyway because he is 35 and missed the final 10 games of last season with a tripes injury. Other big names could go as teams try to squeeze under a salary cap of $94.5 million. If a deal had been negotiated, the cap might have been $10 million higher — in other words, allowing teams to keep some of the players.

These negotiations were by far the most difficult since the NFL and the union first agreed to free agency and a salary cap in 1993, ending years of labor unrest that included player strikes in 1982 and 1987. The contract has been extended several times since then, most of the time with ease.

**IN BRIEF**

**Cole to miss 6-to-8 weeks**

PITTSBURGH — Carolina left wing Erik Cole will miss at least the rest of the regular season with a compression fracture in a vertebra in his neck caused when he was driven headfirst into the boards by Pittsburgh's Brooks Orpik during a 7-5 Hurricanes victory Saturday night.

Cole, tied for second on the team in scoring, will be out at least 6-to-8 weeks — a major loss for what is currently the team with the NHL's best record. The Hurricanes have not ruled out Cole returning for the playoffs, which begin in mid-April.

Cole had scored two goals for the second night in a row before he was rammed into the boards from behind by Orpik as the Hurricanes were trying to hold off the Penguins, who trailed 5-0 and 6-1 before rallying.

Cole was slammed into the boards near the right circle after he appeared to lose his footing just before Orpik hit him.

Hall of Famer Puckett hospitalized after stroke

FOOT MYERS, Fla. — Hall of Famer Kirby Puckett had a stroke at his Arizona home Sunday and was taken to a hospital for surgery, the Minnesota Twins announced from their spring training camp.

The 44-year-old Puckett, who led the Twins to two World Series titles that was taken to a Scottsdale hospital.

"The Minnesota Twins and major league baseball ask fans to keep Kirby and his family in their thoughts and prayers," the team said in a statement.

Ron Shapiro, who was Puckett's agent, said he had been in contact with Puckett's family Sunday but would not confirm his whereabouts.

"We're all praying for his recovery," Shapiro said.

Twins center fielder Torii Hunter sat out Minnesota's exhibition game against the Red Sox after learning of Puckett's stroke.

**Bryant will be centerpiece of revamped U.S. team**

Kobe Bryant will be the centerpiece of the rook-usa Basketball Basketball team that is expected to improve upon a disappointing bronze medal at the 2004 Olympics.

Bryant brings NBA championship credentials and high-powered scoring, joining 20 other players selected Sunday for a possible spot on the world championship and 2008 Beijing Olympic teams.

"It's his time," USA Basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski said of Bryant. "He's 27 years old now. He should try to assume a position of leadership in the team. I would think he's very, very strong. I hope he's fitting in very, very well."

Bryant will be making his Olympic debut. He was supposed to play in Athens, but withdrew because of his sexual assault trial. Criminal charges eventually were dropped, and he settled a civil suit with his accuser.

**around the dial**

**MEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL**

Colo-nial Athletic Conference Championship, 7 p.m., ESPN

Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championship, 9 p.m., ESPN

**West Coast Conference Championship, 9 p.m., ESPN**

**WOMEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL**

Big Ten Conference Championship, 7 p.m., ESPN2

**NHL**

New York Islanders at Washington, 7 p.m., CNN


**BASEBALL**

**Offense struggles in the Metrodome**

By KEN FOWLER and HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN

Sports Writer

Notre Dame suffered two shutouts and scored just one run in this weekend's Dairy Queen Classic at the Metrodome in Minneapolis, Minn., ending a streak of 215 games in which the Irish had scored at least once.

After Nebraska blew out Notre Dame 11-1 Friday, the Irish surrendered eight runs to host Minnesota Saturday and lost an extra-innings affair with Arizona Sunday, leaving the team on a five-game losing streak.

"Confidence is a very fragile thing," Irish coach Paul Mainieri said. "Obviously, it's frustrating when we only score one run in three games — it's hard to win."

**Arizona 2, Notre Dame 0 (10)**

Notre Dame found its pitching groove Sunday behind Jeff Manship's 10 strikeouts and Jeff Williamson's perfect inning in relief, but the Irish failed to produce for the Irish as they fell 2-0 to Arizona in 10 innings to drop their fifth straight.

The Wildcats used a hit batters, a triple and a sacrifice fly in the tenth to score their two runs in the final contest for the two teams in the Dairy Queen Classic.

"With no outs in the extra frame, second baseman Brad Boyer tripled home third baseman Colt Sedbrook off Irish reliever Kyle Weiland, and Arizona's Jason Donald drove in a run with a sacrifice fly to center."

"Kyle Weiland was really good," Mainieri said. "But sooner or later, something has to break."

Notre Dame looked like it would get on the board early, but a strong defensive play kept the game scoreless.

On a 2-2 count, Irish freshman first baseman Jeremy Barnes lined a two-out single to right field in the first, but Arizona's John Gaston threw Brett Lilley out at the plate, ending the bottom of the inning.

Barnes' single was the first Irish hit with a runner on base since Friday but failed to get Lilley across. Barnes finished 3-4 on the afternoon.

"Unfortunately, the runner got thrown out at the plate, but that was a big hit," Mainieri said. "If he doesn't get thrown out at the plate, maybe when we get that first run, we relax a little bit more and pull through."

Manship gave up just three hits and two walks in six innings before handing the ball over to Williamson in the seventh. Manship's 10 strikeouts were a career high and the most by an Irish mound-dweller since Tom Thornton struck out 12 Golden Flashes in a 2004 NCAA elimination game.

"Jeff Manship today was absolutely phenomenal," Mainieri said. "Joey Williamson was great when he came in for an inning."

**Minnesota 8, Notre Dame 0**

The host team not only defeated but shutout Notre Dame on Saturday, as Minnesota (1-4) rightfielder Cole DeVries threw six shutout innings, giving up four hits and striking out three.

"Even though we got shut out, I think we showed good signs at the plate," Mainieri said of his team's seven-hit performance. "We really hit the ball hard, so we've got to remain positive."

The Irish were unable to convert on multiple scoring opportunities, going 0-for-7 at the plate with runners on base. The shutout marked the first time the Irish have been held scoreless since the 2002 season.

"Things just didn't go well for us," Mainieri said. "We had a couple chances early in the game but didn't take advantage of them."

Notre Dame righthander Jeff Samardzija got the loss after allowing five runs in four innings of work, even his record to 1-1. The Golden Gophers got on the board in the seventh, pushing three runs across after a two-run double by freshman Nate Hansen, followed by an RBI single by Tony Leseman. In the fifth, the Golden Gophers added two more after two RBI doubles by Dan Lyons and Mike Mee. Minnesota finished off the scoring in the sixth when it scored three more runs.

Meanwhile, the Irish offense struggled, registering only seven hits, two of which were by shortstop Greg Lopez.

"I have all the confidence in the world that things will be all right," Mainieri said. "This is so normal for us, to start slow. The important thing is that we keep our chins up and keep battling."

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BENGAL BOUTS - FINALS

McGill wins in nailbiter

"The mail never stops" Shapot delivers in the 150-pound division

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

Under the lights of the Joyce Center on Saturday, the Notre Dame Glee Club belted out the national anthem, just in time for the start of the annual Bengal Bouts finals to belt each other in pursuit of the coveted championship.

125: Matthew Gelichon v. Will Marra

Percy Coogan defeated Matthew Gelichon outlasted Will Marra in a split decision victory in the 125-pound division.

Marra stayed lower than Gelichon, dodging and then exploding with strong left and right headshots to an exposed Marra, resulting in an early standing eight count. Marra rallied in the second round, jarring Gelichon's headgear loose with a hit and eventually hitting him into his own corner after a facial blow that sent spitting flying.

The third round turned into a playground slugfest, as both fighters traded punches to exposed heads — including an uppercut that knocked Gelichon into a standing eight. With strong crowd support from the men of Fisher Hall, an exhausted Gelichon hung in for the win.

132: Kris "El Arteca" Perez v. Chris Izaguere

The 132-pound fight lasted just more than a minute after the referee stopped freshman Kristopher Perez's Mambo offense against Chris Izaguere. From the bell, a fiery Perez threw hard left and rights to Izaguere's head as if he were looking for lunch money to add to his trophy.

140: Michael "My real name is Merci" Hennig v. Landing's "The Boston Massacre" Sullivan

In the 140-pound class, junior Michael "My real name is Merci" Hennig unanimously defeated Landing's "The Boston Massacre" Sullivan. At the bell, Merci, last year's runner-up, squared the upper hand as his fists flew at Sullivan with robust technique. Merci's quick lateral movement and boundless energy set the tone for the match, dawking away from attacks and countering with crushing blows that twice knocked out Sullivan's mouthpiece — silencing a Fisher Hall contingent's chants of "Sully!"

Sullivan had a chance to pin Merci at the end, but again Merci slid away from him and delivered his own take to the fight.

145: Andrew McGill v. Tommy "Fightin' for milk" Forr

The 145-pound match pit­ted power versus speed, as junior Andrew McGill narrowly defeated junior Tommy "Fightin' for Milk" Forr. McGill, whose hair stood up to an Ivan Drago-like spike, seized back and launched powerful punches into big first-round points. A taller, trimmer Forr countered, tak­ing the second-round edge by throwing quick jabs and darting away from a frustrat­ed McGill, whose fists cut the air on one occasion by Forr.

McGill responded in the final round with a sudden barrage of blows that put Forr in the corner early. Forr could not keep up his earlier pace, and one of McGill's fierce right hands connected with Forr's face, the smash reverberating throughout the audience. Before doing in the typi­cally vacant plush seats of the basketball arena, McGill's clout proved just too much for Forr's agility in the split decision.


O'Connell and McGill battled it out in the 150-pound level, sophomore Brett "The Mail Never Stops" Shapot, rising on Sunday, delivered a split-decision victory against sheltered John "The Highlighter" O'Connell.

Though the fight was close, Shapot — evidently com­pital — was the fighter's aggressor throughout. Shapot connected on several big left hooks from the lefty's inverted­ed address, taking the edge in round two with a left-right package that put O'Connell against the ropes, before a big blow to the head at the bell.

O'Connell recovered strong­ly in the third round, until Shapat again backed him against the ropes. O'Connell fought him off and returned to sending a crunching punch at the final bell, but the high­light of his match was enough to stop the bleeding, or The Mail.

155: Chris "The People's Champ" Calderone v. Zachary "Zach Attack" Jara

Junior Chris "The People's Champ" Calderone also became the official champ, knocking off Zachary "Zach Attack" Jara by unanimous decision.

In a test of two technically sound boxers, successful punches were hard to land. Though many fists flew, they connected with the fists of the opposing fighter.

As the match turned, Calderone was able to penet­rate Jara's arms, landing a couple shots to the face that put Jara on defense. The final round remained a stale­mate of blocked blows and tie-ups, until Calderone forced in a couple of hooks to take the point lead over Jara in a match closer than the decision implied.

Contact Tim Dougerty at tdoughe08@nd.edu

Irish come back but not enough to beat Cornell

Big Red score three late goals to hold off ND in Saturday's loss

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

In a battle of top-15 teams, No. 12 Notre Dame (1-1) rallied but could not overcome its slow start in a 9-6 loss to No. 8 Cornell (2-0) Saturday. The game, played on the campus of Benedictine University, was the first ever Division I lacrosse game played in the Chicago area, according to und.com, and was attended by 3,523 fans.

Trailing 6-4 entering the fourth quarter, Notre Dame gave up three unanswered goals, pushing Cornell's lead to 9-4 with only 1:44 remaining in the game. Cornell senior All­American midfielder Joe Roulloukos scored two of the three goals and finished the game with a hat trick.

"Roulloukos is an All­American, and he played like one," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said after the game.

"He was very assertive, and he made a number plays when he had the chance to."

The Irish fought back as sen­ior attack Pat Walsh and senior midfielder Matt Ryan scored goals 18 seconds apart to cut the deficit to 9-6 with just over one minute left to play. But that was as close as Notre Dame would get on Saturday.

"It just seemed like we were in a funk out there," senior co­captain Patrick Benedik said. "When they jumped out to a three goal lead, it got in our heads, and we overreacted. We were only down by two at halftime, but the look in the guys' eyes was like we were down by five or six.

The Irish played from behind the entire game.

Cornell jumped out to an early 3-0 lead, as the Big Red tallied the first two of their runs on three straight goals on the day.

"We didn't come out the way we wanted to," Corrigan said. "We didn't execute our game plan, and we didn't play with the intensity that we needed to get.

Notre Dame recovered from its shaky start to cut the Big Red lead to 4-2 at halftime. Less than a minute into the second half, senior midfielder Matt Karweck scored an unas­sisted goal to bring the Irish within two. The goal extended Karweck's point streak to ten straight games.

Saturday's loss events Notre Dame's record at 1-1, and the Irish will have little time to dwell on their game against Cornell as they face North Carolina, another top 25 oppo­nent, next weekend.

"We need to start preparing ourselves for that game right from the beginning on Monday," Corrigan said. "We have to start doing the little things that pre­pare us for the game, and that's something you have to do every week. We didn't do it last week, but it's something we're very capable of."

Notre Dame takes the field against North Carolina Saturday at 1 p.m. at home.

Contact Greg Arboagast at garbog@nd.edu
**ND WOMEN'S TENNIS**

**Irish beat Illini in third shutout of the season**

**By DAN TAPETELLI**

The No. 5 Irish (11-0) kept their undefeated record in tact as they shut out the No. 49 Illini — their third shutout this season. The win extends Notre Dame's streak to five straight matches against Big Ten Conference opponents.

"We don't look at it as a shut out as much as a big victory," sophomore Brook Buck said. "It took a lot of fighting from us.

The Irish began this hard-fought victory by claiming both of the three doubles matches to earn the doubles point.

However, the No. 2 team of juniors Christian and Catrina Thompson suffered their second loss this season.

"The contest was difficult at first because everyone is out to get us since we're undefeated," senior Lauren Connelly explained. "But after the doubles, points it went pretty smoothly."

"We started off slow, but after the doubles point, it went pretty smoothly," Lauren Connelly Irish senior.

The senior trio then walked off the court.

The Irish was the No. 49 pairing of Connelly and senior Kiit Stasny with an 8-3 triumph over the Illini's Momet Qu and Shivani Dave at No. 3. The Irish duo now stands at 10-1 this season.

Next off the courts were Notre Dame's No. 29 senior threesome of Buck and freshman Kelly Tefft, who topped Illinois' Brianna Knudtson and Alexandra Meza Cuadra 8-4 at No. 2, securing the doubles points.

However, the Irish pairing of Christian and Catrina Thompson could not overcome Illinois' Macall Harkins and Emily Wang, losing 8-3.

"Christian and I weren't at our best today and that really hurt us," Catrina Thompson said. "We are just going to have to rebound for next week and keep practicing hard and not overlooking any of our opponents."

Singles No. 7. No. 27 Catrina Thompson recorded a 6-4, 6-3 win over Harkins at No. 1. The win improved Thompson's record to 15-6 on the season.

Playing at No. 2 for the Irish was Christian Thompson, who downed Qu 6-0, 6-3. Following at No. 3 was Buck with a 6-0, 6-2 win over Knudtson and now stands at 13-6 on the season.

The win at No. 4 came from Tefft as she defeated Wang 6-4, 6-4.

Postseason has completed the sweep in singles as she defeated Dave 6-4, 6-1. "Everyone is on top of their game," Connelly said. "Illinois is really energetic, so it was a good win for us.

The Irish return to play on Friday when they face Western Michigan at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at 3:30 p.m.

Contact Dan Tapetello at dtapetel@nd.edu

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**ND SOFTBALL**

**Two extra innings losses lower team’s record to even 7-7**

**By JAY FITZPATRICK**

The Irish continued their season with a disappointing performance in Tulsa, Okla., this weekend, losing three of five games played in the Big Ten Georgia World Tournament and dropping their record to 7-7.

Notre Dame lost its first game against No. 17 Nebraska, 5-3, in eight innings Friday. Despite leading into the seventh inning, the Irish, behind pitcher Heather Booth, gave up a crucial sacrifice fly to pinch hitter Brittany Pancake in the top of the seventh. Notre Dame was unable to post the winning run in the bottom of the seventh, and the game moved into extra innings.

Although Booth was able to get the first two outs of the inning, a misplayed ground ball by third baseman Linda Kohan extended the Huskers' eighth, giving them the one extra out needed to start a rally. Nebraska tacked on three unearned runs in the inning, and Notre Dame could not respond in the bottom half, adding only one run.

Notre Dame's second game, a 2-1 loss to Tulsa, showed more promise for the Irish. The squad was only 4-for-26 as a team and failed to record an extra base hit. Notre Dame's only run came in the bottom of the fourth inning, on a RBI single by shortstop Sara Schoonaert. But the Golden Hurricanes responded in the bottom of the fourth with RBIs by left fielder Brook Smart and catcher Leanne Pepper.

After the rally by Tulsa in the fourth, the Irish could not muster any offense, despite pitchers Brittany Bargar and Katrina Meza Cuadra.

"When you lose a couple of games, you really try to get that last hit to drive in the run and end the inning, but could never find that last hit to drive in the run and end the inning," Booth said of the loss.

Although the three weekend losses are disappointing, the Irish are still 7-7 overall. Due to travel delays no members of the Irish team could be reached for comment following the games.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

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Bengals continued on page 24

I65: sign of things to come, stopped the...of shots on the first round, and both fighters seemed to abandon their conservative plan as both charged toward the center, taking quick punches in an attempt to gain control of the fight. Again, however, Nicholson used his long reach to keep the smaller Breslin at a distance. Nicholson landed a number of jabs and then, backing Breslin into the corner, landed the first solid combo of the fight.

Breslin struck right back, however, landing his own combo just a few seconds later.

Toward the end of the round, Breslin got underneath Nicholson and landed a number of hooks, including one to the face the got the crowd in an uproar.

The momentum — and the crowd — in Breslin's favor. Nicholson again used his reach to take control of the fight. Nicholson landed a very solid hook about midway through the third round, and Breslin swung again, but it was a case of the fighters traded punches until the bell.

180: Dan "Poundtown" Ward v. Jeff Koenan

In the 180-pound championship, John Bush was able to use his height advantage to keep the small Koenan into the corner. Koenan on his way to a TKO for the Super Heavyweight championship.

In this Super Heavyweight championship, Bush fighters came out very wildly and seemingly out of control. Albeit, one of the fighters to compete, according to the fight announcer. Griffin was a slamdunk in the winner in a walkover.

Heavyweight: Nathan Schroeder v. John "Can't Beat around this" Bush

In a disappointing turn of events, Nathan Schroeder was unable to finish off John Bush. The fight was halted in the third round, but the fighters again used a time out to strategize, and Bush was able to get underneath Ward a number of times, landing a string of solid punches early. The fighters traded punches for much of the third round and neither fighter really separated himself.

In the closing seconds, however, Gough again lost a few punches to close out the bout and secure the split decision victory.

Super Heavyweight: Tony Cunningham v. Brian Koenan

In the final fight of the 2006 Bengal Bouts, junior Tony Cunningham was able to overcome the challenge. Koenan on his way to a TKO for the Super Heavyweight championship.

In the final round, both fighters came out swinging, knowing he had to win the round in order to win the bout. After the first round, both fighters continued with their attacks, but Bush, landing a number of punches to the head. It was the first of a number of combos to the head that Koenan would suffer.

In the second and final round, Koenan came out swinging, but Bush was able to use his height advantage to keep Koenan into the corner. Koenan on his way to a TKO for the Super Heavyweight championship.

The third round was much of the same as both fighters came out swinging. Cunningham was able to back Koenan into the corner and landed a number of shots to the head. It was the first of a number of combos to the head that Koenan would suffer.

In the second round, Bush landed a few punches to the head. It was the first of a number of combos to the head that Koenan would suffer.

No matter how hard Bush tried, Schroeder seemed determined to take away his height advantage. In the second round, Bush landed a few early punches on Schroeder, successfully keeping him at a distance. Unfortunately for Bush, this newfound success was short lived, as Schroeder connected with a very strong right hook that sent Bush lolling on the floor. Bush was able to get to his feet, but it was too little too late. Schroeder closed out the fight with a series of right moves, and in the third round and came away with the championship in the unanimous decision.

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

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

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

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

Nominations are due by Thursday, March 9, 2006.
Big East
continued from page 24

No. 10-seed Notre Dame averaged a 68-64 Jan. 28 over-time loss Saturday, opping the No. 7-seed Bulls in the Big East tournament. McGraw feels she could cement Notre Dame's position in the NCAA tournament.

"I think this [win] is enough," McGraw said. "We're playing very well right now. We've got four seniors in her troubles as it had four players, the Irish had five players, junior forward scored at least ten points. The Irish did an excellent job containing South Florida containing 60 points, the Notre Dame defense held them to just 6-of-21 shooting.

"I've been thinking about this [win] is enough," McGraw said afterwards. "We weren't getting enough offense out of our other players," McGraw said, explaining the LaVere's first half re-entry. "We felt like she was scoring, we weren't getting any production out of the other posts, so we needed to come back with her. She's smart enough to play with two fouls.

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HOCKEY

Despite the loss, Irish team still on the rise

More and more evident as the season wound down from fresh-faced, green-eyed, 19-year-old Finnish forward Alkio Makinen to senior captain Justin LeBlanc, Notre Dame's zone allowed six goals on its way to a 3-1 loss on Feb. 24.

"I think they thought we were going to lose," said LeBlanc. "It was a great game." The Irish had the game going in their favor until a late power play goal by Ferris State to put the Irish back in the hunt. The Irish had a chance to tie the game late, but couldn't bury it in the net.

"The game was in our hands," said LeBlanc. "We had the game going and then we couldn't put it in the net."

Despite the loss, the Irish team continued to ride high. Their consistency, led by senior captain Justin LeBlanc, has been a key factor in their success this season. "We have been playing well for most of the season," said LeBlanc. "We have been playing well for most of the season, and we have been playing well for most of the season." The Irish have scored 15 goals in their last three games, including a 9-1 win over Ferris State in their last game. "We have been playing well for most of the season," said LeBlanc. "We have been playing well for most of the season." The Irish have scored 15 goals in their last three games, including a 9-1 win over Ferris State in their last game.

The Irish also improved their conference standing this season, going 13-9-4 in the CCHA. They have played 35 games so far, and have lost only one of those games.

LeBlanc said that the team's goal this season has been to improve and to build for next season. "We have been playing well for most of the season," said LeBlanc. "We have been playing well for most of the season." The Irish have scored 15 goals in their last three games, including a 9-1 win over Ferris State in their last game.

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Irish improve 4-0 on year

By CHRIS WILLIAMS
Sports Writer

The No. 17 Notre Dame women knocked off No. 18 Connecticut, 70-61, Sunday afternoon at the Joyce Center.

The Irish continued to defend the top ranking in the country.

The Irish women have been ranked in the top five for most of the season.

Byers and Alicia Billings — all four Notre Dame starters produced.

Trailing 1-4, the Irish went on a 9-0 run, scoring off a 3-0 lead for a 5-4 lead.

Leading 1-8, the Irish pulled away and held on for a 28-23 victory.

The Irish improved to 11-1 in the Big East and 17-12 overall.

The women's team is the only team in the country to rank in the top five for most of the season.

The Irish have been playing well for most of the season.

Byers has been improved her performance.

Another reason for the Irish's early success could be the immediate impact of the talented freshman class.

The Irish have struggled in the past few weeks.

But the Irish went on a 9-2 run, scoring 28-23 victory.

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ND defeats DePaul, earns No. 12-seed in Big East Tournament

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

It might as well have been Junior Night.
 Notre Dame junior guards Russell Carter and Colin Falls made key baskets down the stretch on Senior Night — and combined to score their team's final 10 points — as the Irish downed DePaul 66-61 Saturday at the Joyce Center.
The win clinched Notre Dame a Big East tournament berth.
On a night when seniors Chris Quinn, Torin Francis and Rick Cornett remained quiet in the scoring column, Carter led the Irish with 22 points, including 15 in the second half, to earn a victory he said his senior captains deserved.
"We want to keep these seniors playing as long as possible," Carter said after the game. "If we could have them play until next year and give them another year of eligibility, I would do that." Quinn scored just 11 points, but dished 10 assists in two turnovers, and the seniors went out with a win despite a grueling stretch (7-0 overall) victory over the Bulls in the first round of the Big East Tournament.
He wants his team to dream. How quickly things change. Notre Dame's focus all season has been making the Big East tournament.
It was the team's pre-emptive measure to get back on the board, and to continue to be with every league game.
But now that the Irish have accomplished the goal they set out for, things are different.
Sure, No. 12-seed Notre Dame is concentrating on beating No. 5 seed Georgetown Wednesday. The Irish want to prove to any remaining doubters they belong in New York and are better than their 6-10 conference record.
And the seniors don't want the season to end.
But now that they have locked up a spot, the Irish are free to see DREAM/page 22

Irish forward Rick Cornett rises for a layup during Notre Dame's 66-61 win over DePaul Saturday at the Joyce Center.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
UConn knocks squad from Big East tourney

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

HARTFORD, CONN. — Megan Duffy had one shot at halftime of Notre Dame's first round Big East Tournament game with South Florida Saturday, and she didn't score a point until almost nine minutes into the second half.
But that didn't stop the senior captain from taking control of the game's latter stages and ending the game as the team's leading scorer.
Duffy, whose three-pointer with 11:05 left in the game finally got her on the board, finished with 16 points, and her free throw shooting down the stretch (7-of-7 overall) helped the Irish take a late lead and hold on for a 73-66 victory over the Bulls in the first round of the 2006 Big East Tournament.
At the end of the game is when she seems to just play better," Notre Dame head coach Muffett McGraw said. "No matter how tired she is, no matter how many minutes she's played, no matter how many times she's been on the floor, you know that she's going to step up, get to the line, and make free throws ... I think she's a really smart player, and that's something that doesn't really show up on the stat sheet."

BENGAL BOUTS — FINALS

Captain Schaefer prevails

Cunningham, Golen, Gough, Nicholson also win their weight classes

By JOE QUINN
Sports Writer

Senior captain Greg Schaefer used patience and precise punches to gain a split decision over sophomore Jeffery Hausfeld in the 160-pound championship. Schaefer sat back and withstood Hausfeld's sometimes-wild punches, and when the opportunity presented ...

Dan Ward, left, throws a punch as Jeff Golen throws one of his own during Golen's split decision victory in the 185-pound class.

BASKETBALL

Hockey

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

The lack of power-play success in a series check full of special teams action — and a red-hot Nanooks goaltender — sounded the death knell for the Irish as the Nanooks sweep the host Irish.

Based on the content of the image, it seems to be a mixed Bukk and sports page, with articles and sections covering basketball, fencing, hockey, track, and tennis. The content includes game summaries, player statistics, and media comments from various authors. The page appears to be from a March 6, 2006, issue of The Observer. The sports coverage includes games such as Notre Dame versus DePaul in basketball, Notre Dame versus South Florida in basketball, and fencing matches. There are also references to the Big East Tournament and various team performances. The page is titled "Shrugging off the Demons" and includes an article titled "Irish free to dream of bigger, better things."