NCAA awards ND student-athletes

All 26 Irish sports teams surpass national Academic Performance Ratings standards

By KATIE PERRY Assistant News Editor

Boston College is no longer just a rival on the football field.
In a report released last Thursday, the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) presented the Irish and Eagles with the most public recognition awards as based on a two-year aggregate of Academic Performance Rate (APR) scores.
The awards were given to the top 10 percent of teams by conference, as well as to the top 10 percent of teams by sport. No other Division I-A institution had more programs honored in the by-institution category than both Notre Dame and Boston College, each with 14.
All University programs exceeded the NCAA’s APR standards, with 14 Irish teams earning perfect scores of 1,000 points. The average for all teams was 941.5.

see APR/page 6

WNDU officially acquired

Most profit will go to ND’s endowment

By MADIE HANNA Associate News Editor

Gray Television, Inc. officially acquired WNDU-TV from the University Monday for $65 million — a purchase that will help inflate Notre Dame’s endowment.
The company’s CEO, Michael A. Neeley, said in a statement Monday that the sale of WNDU from the University of Michigan Telecasting Corp., a par of Gray, will increase the University’s endowment and will allow the University to invest more in student-athletes.

In addition, the sale will help fund the University’s $81 million endowment.

see WNDU/page 4

Rectors praise job despite continued turnover

By JOE PIARULLI News Writer

Despite the recent appointments of two rectors to higher University posts, Notre Dame rectors insist that sitting at the helm of a residence hall is not just a stepping stone to higher position.

This year, Father Peter Jarret and Sister Susan Dunn will leave their positions as rectors of Keough Hall and Lyons Hall, respectively, to take administrative posts at the University. In 2003, seven rectors left their positions.

But neither Dunn nor Jarret believes the noticeable turnover rate indicates a lack of job satisfaction.
“I love being a rector and would have stayed being a rector for as long as I could have, so I never saw it as a stepping stone to anything else,” Jarret said.
Jarret and Dunn will take up their new posts July 1. Jarret will take over as the superior of the Holy Cross community at Notre Dame, and Dunn will become Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs.

“Although I’m very excited about working in the Office of Student Affairs, I’m very sad to be leaving Lyons after five years,” Dunn said.

Sister Carrine Etheridge, who has been Farley Hall’s rector since 1993, finds no problem with rectors pursuing other opportunities.

“Everyone becomes a rector for a different reason, and life moves on,” Etheridge said.

“It’s very normal nowadays for people to have several careers in their lifetime.”

see RECTORS/page 6

Virus strikes students in dorms

Gastroenteritis has hospitalized 31 since start of spring semester

By RYAN SYDLIK News Writer

An outbreak of a gastroenteritis spread through several University residence halls last week, bringing the total number of infected students to 100 since the start of the spring semester, a Health Services official said. Thirty-one of those infected were hospitalized.
The virus — which affects the gastrointestinal tract and can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, low grade fever and dehydration — hit Alumni Hall particularly hard, said Patricia

see SICK/page 4

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group gives updates on recent initiatives

By KAREN LANGLEY Assistant News Editor

Amid nominations for various Council of Representatives (COR) positions, Monday’s COR meeting provided brief updates of student government’s Feb. 27 presentation to the South Bend Common Council and of potential Grab-and-Go selection increases.

Student body president Dave Baron briefed COR members on the Common Council members’ generally positive response to the student speakers’ presentations.

“It went as well as we could have realistically hoped,” Baron said. “They said we have put together some good initiatives.”
The Community Relations Committee, which will further discuss the issue, is scheduled to meet Tuesday.
The student government delegation accomplished a significant goal at the Common Council meeting, Baron said, by having the disorderly housing ordinance assigned to a committee for discussions.

While Student Body Vice President Lizzi Shappell agreed the Common Council meeting
I'll admit it: I am back on the TV bandwagon. After several years of only having random Simpsons and Seinfeld reruns to turn to, I've now contracted moderately bad addictions to both "24" and "Lost." These überdramas have you on the edge of your seat every week, and usually leave the viewer with more questions than answers.

I don't need to explain what the premises for those shows are; if you don't know yourself, chances are good that there is someone within ten feet of you who does.

I would rather dedicate this bit of newspaper to the last television program for the sake of humor. Everything I was doing, and watching, was done just because there was something on. And last summer, "MST3k" may have been a slight before your time. The show centered on a normal guy (Joel, then later Mike) who was shot into space and diagnosed with a couple of evil scientists. The experiment was to see if a man who was forced to watch terrible movies at the same time would go insane. Fortunately for us, Joel built a couple of robot companions on board the "Satellite of Love," and hilarity ensued. Tom Servo, made out of an old gumball machine, has a tendency to sing. And Crow T. Robot, his golden-beaked cohort, is just "different." We see these three sidelined against the movies and are privy to their comments on the films in progress.

The worst for funniest part of "MST3k" was that all of the movies were originally made to be profit-making pieces of cinema. Somehow, somewhere, writers and directors took time and money to actually produce these terrible movies. While many of these flicks should never have seen the light of day, "MST3k" was nice enough to abuse them for our amusement.

Classes include: "The Pumaman," the story of an Incan superhero in England, embodied with the powers of a puma. As Robot puts it: "Now I know that if ever I come across a puma in the jungle, I can just push it over the ledge." Santa Claus Conquers the Martians, when, yes, Santa is kidnapped and taken to Mars in order to bring the joy of Christmas to all the little Martians. It also teaches us that Dressing a Christmas tree on Mars is a bad idea.

Perhaps the most infamous movie shown on "MST3k" was entitled: "Manos: The Hands of Fate." The fact that it was made in 1966, shot, edited and produced by a Texan manure farmer, should be warning enough. Although it really doesn't have a plot, it generally follows the experience of a family that decides to lodge with a strange man in the boondocks who has a servant named "Torgo" and a barn of wolves locked up in his back yard. Even with the commentary of Joel and the bots, Manos is hard to watch.

"MST3k" also taught me how to survive modern films that are an affront to the movie industry. I laughed all the way through "Anconinda" when it came out. And last summer, "The Island" was a disaster similar to a movie that had aired on "MST3k" ("Parts: The Clonus Horror").

"MST3k" is no longer on the air Saturday mornings. Thankfully, the show is constantly being released onto DVD these days. So while I look forward to this week's Lost, I may just pop in my copy of "The Pod People" and relive the glory of Trumpy. Huzzah!

Contact Geoff Matteson at gmatteson@nd.edu.

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

**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Old TV favorites**

Geoff Matteson

The weekend snowfall inspired students to build a snowman outside Lyons Hall Monday, but warmer temperatures threaten to melt Frosty by the end of the week.

**In Brief**

The Office of Multicultural Affairs will host speaker Margaret Kentoya today from 12 p.m. to 2 in the Vander Venet Theater in the South 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" today at 7 p.m. in the Erk Visitors Center Auditorium.

Baritone Ryan de Ryke and pianist Daniel Schlosberg will perform the works of Schuman, Liszt and Vaughan Williams at 7:30 p.m. today in the Annenberg Auditorium in the Sante Museum. Tickets are $8, $6, $5, and $3.

Notre Dame RecSports will hold a body fat percentage screening from noon to 2 p.m. today at Rolfs Sports Recreation Center. No registration is required.

The Notre Dame women's lacrosse team will face Lehigh University at 4 p.m. Wednesday at Moose Krause Field.

The film "Pride and Prejudice" will be shown at 7:00 p.m. Thursday in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Call 1-2800 for tickets.

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

**OFFBEAT**

Prosthetic leg returned; police stampede

LOUISIANA — Two prosthetic legs stolen from a 16-year-old California girl have mysteriously turned up in her mother's van, the second in three months that an artificial limb belonging to the teen has been taken and then returned, police said on Friday.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Sgt. David Austin said investigators dusted the slightly damaged limbs for fingerprints and had interviewed a "laundry list" of people but were baffled by the thefts.

"We're treating this as a crime," Austin said. "We have a residential burglary to deal with. This is a great big burglary and if we find out who's responsible we'll take appropriate action."

Hearse driver arrested for biting police officer

BERLIN — A drunken hearse driver has been arrested in the western German town of Krefeld after biting a police officer taking him in for an alcohol test, police said on Monday.

Police had called for a hearse at a funeral home to transport a body to the cemetery.

"The hearse driver nearly fell over when he lost control of the car. Then he had to hold onto everything he could find as he stumbled to the house," said police spokesman Dietmar Greger.

Police decided to take the man to the station to test his blood alcohol level, but when they tried to get him out of their car he started a fight and bit an officer several times in the hand.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

**QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING TO AVOID GETTING SICK THIS WINTER?**

Joe Boland

"I don't get sick."

Erin McGlinn

"I take Airborne."

Chris Harrington

"I'm running around in short shorts with the band rugby team."

Noel Carlson

"I'm staying away from the dining hall."

Shannon Reabe

"I'm taking naps for extended periods of time."

**TODAY**

**TONIGHT**

**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**LOCAL WEATHER**

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Division for Mission seeks student input

By LIZ HARBER
News Writer

A representative from the Saint Mary's Division for Mission told Board of Governance BOG members Monday that the Division is seeking student input on the importance of having Catholic faculty at the College.

Mission commissioner and Saint Mary's senior Jenny Robbins said the Division — an administrative body of the College — is examining College hiring practices, and she asked BOG members whether Catholic professors are vital to Saint Mary's Catholic identity.

Robbins said the Division is evaluating how the religious affiliation of professors affects the mission of the College but has no immediate plans to institute a quota for Catholic professors.

"The Division for Mission wants me to be able to report on what the student body thinks about this," Robbins said Monday.

Many Catholic institutions require a certain percentage of their faculty to be Catholic. While Saint Mary's does not have such a policy, Norris Hone, chair of the Student Diversity Board, said 50 percent of its faculty be Catholic.

"I think if you make a requirement like that, ... it gets sticky," student body president Kelidy Mitros said.

Some people are baptized Catholic but never attend mass, Mitros said. Others, while not official members of the Church, are knowledgeable about Catholic principles.

Student body vice president Susan Meldluff said a quota system could disqualify otherwise excellent candidates.

"If you are doing it just to maintain the status quo, you might not be benefiting the College," Meldluff said.

Treasurer Jillian Waters reminded members that Saint Mary's students do not have to be Catholic and that non-Catholic applicants might be turned off by an overwhelmingly Catholic faculty.

The Catholic identity of the College is not at risk, Student Diversity Board president Amanda Shropshire said. She said having only a Catholic perspective in the classroom limits intellectual growth.

"It is a fact you learn very different things in different ways when you have different people in the classroom," Shropshire said.

Senior class president Lauren Condon said any variation in perspective, even in the religious affiliation of professors, is a positive addition to the College.

"I think if we are going to look at hiring issues, we need to look at diversifying," Condon said.

A professor's religious beliefs are less significant in certain subject matters, junior class president Heidi Goepipinger said in clarification. She said religion rarely becomes a point of discussion, for example, in her science classes.

Condon requested the discussion be tabled until Robbins could provide the Board with more concrete information.

In other BOG news:

- BMX sweatshirts and sweatpants are being sold in the Student Center this week.
- The week after Spring Break, sold together, the items are $50 this week and $55 the week following the break.
- Student Diversity Board president Amanda Shropshire said the Student Diversity Board will sell daffodils in the Student Center from March 20 to March 24. All proceeds will go to a new Diversity Scholarship Fund.

Contact Liz Harter at chartel1@saintmarys.edu

Hesburgh to receive Sachem

Special to The Observer

University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh will receive the Sachem, which recognizes a lifetime of excellence and virtue, at 11:30 a.m. today at the Indiana Statehouse.

Created more than three decades ago by former Indiana Gov. Edgar J. Whitcomb, the Sachem was considered a higher honor than the Sagamore of the Wabash. Gov. Mitch Daniels brought back the Sachem last year and returned it to its status as the state's highest honor. The award's name comes from the Algonquin term applied to village leaders, implying wisdom, judgment and grace.

Hesburgh, 98, and college basketball coaching legend John Wooden (2005 honoree) are the inaugural recipients of the new Sachem.

Noirre Dame's president from 1952 to 1987, Hesburgh has played an active and influential role in national and international affairs over the past half century. He has held 16 presidential appointments that involved him in virtually all major social issues — including civil rights, peaceful uses of atomic energy, campus unrest, treatment of Vietnam offenders, and Third World development and immigration reform.
APR continued from page 1

APR score for all Notre Dame teams was approximately 996.

Notre Dame was also included in a select list of schools that don't exceed APR standards.

The NCAA introduced the new rule as part of an April 2007 Mitchell report for March major for division I sports programs to keep stu-
dent-athletes scholastically on track for a degree.

The APR point system requires a school to score 925 or higher out of a possible 1,000 to avoid sanctions.

Each player begins with two points. If the student-athlete stays in school and maintains an adequate GPA, he or she will lose one point if he or she departs school early, one point is lost.

Two points are deducted if he or she is reported for injurious contact. Points for each athletic area vary depending on a school's total, which is then divided by the total number of athletes and multiplied by 1,000.

Last March, Notre Dame's overall APR score was 979 — 35 points higher than the national average for all I-A sports programs.

The first rankings served as a dry run for institutions to learn how the APR works and find out which policies are necessary.

Dillon Hall rector Father Paul Doyle said several dorm residents experienced episodes of the flu late last week, including two resi-
dents who were hospitalized.

But Brubaker said Dillon had fewer reported cases com-
pared to past years.

The numbers could not provide specific information regarding the number of students infected in a more formal residence hall.

In addition to gastroenteri-
tology, Brubaker's research focus has been an equal number of cases of upper respiratory infections.

"Our results are especially telling when one considers that other institutions in Notre Dame'scal-
culating their APRs," he said. " dra with all APRs average out to be 976.5 percent.

The NCAA sanctions will have no effect on Notre Dame's points in all sports.

Seven teams were in six conferences — Atlantic Big, Big East, Big Ten, Big 12, Southeastern and Pac-10 — were penalized for sub-par APRs. Only Virginia men's wrestling team, the DePaul football and men's basketball teams were the only Big East programs to incur penalties.

Dutile said the program is a crucial part of aca-
demic reform efforts and a great environ-
ment of intercollegiate athletics, especially in the Big Ten, he said.

"APR will do a long way toward improving the academic environ-
ment of intercollegiate athletics, which is what we're trying for," Dutile said. "Penalties will remain, as long as we have to do, but the common
Council have a continued relationship, and that's only just begun.

In other news, student body vice president-elect Shappell reported they have met with Food Services Director Dave Prentkowski and South Dining Hall General Manager Marc Polkinkowski about examining the Grab-and-Go.

"They didn't comment on changing the allotment of points, but they were supportive of examining the selection," Shappell said.

"The way to approach this is to give students choices in the items offered," Brubaker said.

Contact Kaie Perry at kpperry@nd.edu

Sick continued from page 1

Brubaker, assistant direc-
tor of the Student Health Center, said it seems to always get worse during periods with students being more stressed with exams or being in more group contact.

"Even when students are ill, they continue to go to class and try to make it," Brubaker said.

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WN DU continued from page 1

President Father John Jenkins said multiple firms had bid for WNDU.

He expressed confidence in the future of the station and said both WNDU and the University would benefit from the sale of the station.

"We'd be better off if we do our best at running the University, and I think a company is going to buy WNDU that knows this business and it's going to flourish," Jenkins told The Observer in August.

As a result, Brubaker, Jenkins said Notre Dame stu-
dents working and interning for WNDU would not be adversely affected by a sale.

"Any educational benefit we got from it we can still get from it, even if we don't own it ... it's not an impendiment to the educa-
tion of our students," Jenkins said in August.

COR continued from page 1

went well, she emphasized work on community relations would continue into its term as Student Body President, which will begin April 1.

"I was very small in what we have to do," she said. "It's not a monumental task. The Common Council have to have a continued relationship, and that's only just begun.

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Bush pushes for line-item veto
Clinton the most recent president with selective vetoing power a decade earlier


Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Seeking new power to weed home­ town projects from legislation passed by Congress, President Bush on Monday asked lawmakers to give him a modified version of the line-item veto struck down by the Supreme Court eight years ago.

Like presidents dating back to Ulysses S. Grant, Bush wants to strike individual items from a bill without having to veto the entire measure.

President Clinton got that wish in 1996, when the new Republican majority in the House pushed through a line-item veto law that allowed him to kill individual spending items and special-interest tax breaks.

Two years later, the Supreme Court declared the law — one of the key planks of the House GOP’s “Contract With America” — unconstitutional because it allowed the president to amend laws passed by Congress.

Bush is now pressng for a modified, weaker version. Instead of being able to strike items from bills, he would send one or more items back to Congress for an up-or-down vote. Present law lets Congress ignore his proposed rescissions, but under the Bush plan, lawmakers would have to vote on them. If majorities in both the House and the Senate agreed with the president, the changes would take effect.

“Forty-three governors have this line-item veto in their states,” Bush said at the Capitol.

“Now it’s time to bring this important principle of discipline to Washington, D.C.”

Bush has not vetoed any legislation during his two years in office, but he said the modified line-item proposal would help reduce wasteful spending, reduce the budget deficit and ensure that tax­ payer dollars are spent wisely.

House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R­Ill., and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R­ Tenn., issued statements supporting Bush, as did several conservative lawmakers.

And Sen. John Kerry, D­Mass., who promoted a similar approach in his presidential campaign against Bush in 2004, immediately jumped on board.

“It’s no secret that President Bush and I don’t agree on much, but I fully support giving him the line­ item veto,” Kerry said. “I’m going to introduce this legislation. Congress should immediately put it into effect, and I want to see President Bush use this veto pen to get tough on wasteful spending.”

“Giving the president line­ item veto authority is essen­ tial to enforcing the budget and restoring fiscal sanity in Washington,” said Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R­Texas.

The proposal may be helped along by the drive on Capitol Hill for so-called earmark reform.

Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada said he was opposed to the idea, even though he supported a similar plan in 1992 when offered as a weaker alterna­ tive to the GOP version.

The earlier version of the line-item veto was used by Clinton in 1997 against a $39 billion package, and a handful of special-interest tax breaks. Lawmakers’ enthusiasm for the earlier veto power waned sharply, leading law­ makers like Sen. Robert Bennett, R­Utah, to change their minds and oppose the idea.

Bush, a huge marga­ gian, overrode Clinton’s vetoes of 38 military con­ struction projects.

Bush’s veto was actually vetoed down by the House two years ago on a 237­174 vote, with three out of four Democrats voting “nay.” Some 89 Republicans, including then-Maj ority Leader Tom DeLay of Texas and Rules Committee Chairman Dick Armey of Texas, Calif., also opposed the measure.

In return, the diplomats said Iran would be asked to recommit to in­ depth IAEA probes of its program on short notice — something Tehran canceled last month after the agency’s 35­nation board voted Feb. 4 to alert the Security Council passing on Iran’s nuclear dossier resulting from almost three years of agency investigations.

Russia and China, which both have economic and strategic ties with Iran, voted with the majority of IAEA board members but insisted the council do nothing until after this week’s IAEA meeting in Vienna.

AUSTRIA

Iran deal could be close U.N. says

Associated Press

VIENNA — The head of the U.N. atomic watchdog agency said Monday a deal on Iran’s suspect nuclear pro­ gram was in sight only a few days away, making U.N. Security Council action unnecessary.

International Atomic Energy Agency head Mohamed ElBaradei did not elaborate on expectations believed to be linked to a confidential Russian proposal to allow Iran to enrich some ura­ nium domestically, diplomats said.

They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to divulge details of the plan.

“I am still very much hopeful that in the next week, an agreement could be reached,” ElBaradei told reporters, without elaborating.

However, the plan — which Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and officials with officials in Washington — was expected to meet strong U.S. resistance over fears it could be misused to make nuclear weapons.

The Russia proposal would allow Tehran to conduct small-scale enrich­ ment and ask the IAEA to set the parameters of such activity to minimize the chances of abuse.

In return, the diplomats said Iran would be asked to recommit to in­ depth IAEA probes of its program on short notice — something Tehran canceled last month after the agency’s 35­nation board voted Feb. 4 to alert the Security Council passing on Iran’s nuclear dossier resulting from almost three years of agency investigations.

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Pursue fraternity faces suspension

Associated Press

SUPTAUL, Ind. — A student at the University of Notre Dame has suspended the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity chapter for more than a year for violating hazing rules after a pledge was hos­ pitalized for drinking too much at a party.

A university investigation showed that fraternity members during a Nov. 15 party at their chapter house provided alcohol to minors who were encouraged to play drinking games and consume dangerous amounts of alcohol.

Irish, 18, died of alcohol intoxication the night after the party.

An Associated Press

War criminal commits suicide

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM — A Croatian Serb convicted one time of war crimes for his role in other war crimes cases.

Milan Babic showed no sign of despair before he killed himself Monday evening, a tribunal spokeswoman said. But his suicide came just three weeks after he reaffirmed his remorse for his crimes, telling a tribunal that his guilt was a “pain that I have to live with for the rest of my life.”

Once a close associate of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, Babic was convicted in 2002 of war crimes and crimes against humanity for his role in the ethnic cleansing of Muslims in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In the Swiss resort of Lauterbrunnen, an American resident of Germany skiing well off the run was swept away by a snow­slide and killed, police said. Police did not identify the victim but said a second American caught up in the avalanche escaped unhurt.

A U.S. citizen died across the border in the French resort of Tignes after appar­ently falling into a lake while snowboarding on unmarked territory, rescue services said. The victim’s identity was not revealed.

Avalanches snorter resort skiers

Associated Press

(FL) — Machine guns, which were on high alert Monday after heavy weekend snowfalls caused avalanches that killed at least three people in the last three days, mostly skiers who had ventured off marked trails.

In the Swiss resort of St. Moritz, a Croatian Serb convicted one time of war crimes for his role in other war crimes cases.

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Rectors continued from page 1

But Etheridge said Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Powless has been a great supporter and said that background in the residence hall community was important to bring to the Main Building.

"Frankly, I'm delighted to see rectors being appointed to administration [posts] here at the University," Etheridge said. "I think that's a real positive thing, because they bring an intimate knowledge of the place."

The position of rector at Notre Dame is distinctive both in what it offers and how it is structured, and thus invites a unique perspective, Jarrett said.

"The way that the rectors set up at Notre Dame is, it's much more than just watching over people to make sure people follow rules," Jarrett said. "It's a privilege of entering into people's lives in every kind of manner."

"The way that the position is set up at Notre Dame, it's much more than just watching over people to make sure people follow rules," Jarrett said. "It's a privilege of entering into people's lives in every kind of manner."

The reason for this is that the rectors are part of a community that is unique in that it's a pastoral ministry position and that is, in fact, what it is," Dunn said. Jarrett said the religious structure of the University led him to his new position.

"In a religious community, you do what your religious superiors tell you to," he said. "Overall, he said, rectors just want to be there for their students and for Notre Dame."

"I think sometimes it can be good for the hall if, in some circumstances, its turnover every five, ten years," Jarrett said.

Contact Joe Piaralli at jpiaralli@nd.edu

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10% off All Shorts
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Come in or call for T-shirts for your team
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CONGOLESE EAT ENDANGERED PRIMATES

Associated Press

MBIE-MOKELE, Congo — Scientists are struggling to save the fast-disappearing bonobo, the gentle "hippie chimps" known for resolving squabbles through sex rather than violence.

Unfortunately, bonobos are prized by Congo for their tasty meat, and many villagers who are illegally hunting the wily, 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 Coxe of the Washington-based Bonobo Conservation Initiative. "Let them die off would be a catastrophe."

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

Despite all the sex, however, female bonobos give birth to a single infant only once every five years, making the species especially vulnerable.

"Bonobos, or pan paniscus, is native only to the vast rain forest in this huge central African nation, living high off the ground in treetop nests."

As few as 5,000 may now remain in Congo, down from an estimated 100,000 in 1984, said Ivo Goodson, a primatologist with the World Wildlife Fund.

"There is no question that bonobos are seriously threatened," Goodson said, speaking over the shrill forest symphony of birds, animals and insects. "We need urgent measures or there is no way we can protect the species."

But for poor villagers, bonobos can be lucrative business, with much of the meat heading for expensive, clandestine meals at restaurants in the cities.

The bonobo sells for $200 for Richard Ipaka, a 30-year-old part-time poacher who lives in the wild only in his country. And like many others, he was skeptical that the ape is endangered.

"Our ancestors have been eating bonobos for centuries. How could they disappear?" Ipaka said.

But the peace-loving bonobos are increasingly difficult to sight, and not just because they're good at hiding, suspended from trees or swiftly traversing the lattice of thick, muddy roots strewn over the forest floor.

"As the first place to glimpse them this may be the Bonobo Paradise sanctuary in Congo's capital, Kinshasa, which is home to a few dozen rescued from poachers by police."

Poachers have devised an array of methods to bag bonobos.

"But the poachers use guns, and we have no formal regulations to control hunting," Ipaka said. "We often see the bodies of bonobos sleeping in their nests, suspended from trees or swiftly stripped of their clothes."

The burnout rate for rectors is high, Etheridge said, because the job can be very demanding.

"It's an avalanche all the time," Etheridge said.

Some people who thrive on flying lessons and other privileges, Etheridge said. "I think that's a real positive thing, because they bring an intimate knowledge of the place."

"Rectors have been very compatible with what I've elected to do here at the University," she said. "Currently I'm just happy being a rector."
**Market Recap**

** Stocks

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**BRIEF**

GM workers oppose health care hike

DETROIT — General Motors Corp. retirees asked a federal judge Monday to reject a settlement that would require them to pay more for their health care, saying it violates their contracts.

But GM and the United Auto Workers said the agreement is critical to the struggling automaker’s future.

“This is the only hope that there is that GM will be able to continue to survive,” said Judy Penny Clark, an attorney for the UAW. “GM is at risk of not being able to provide these benefits.”

But Leroy McKnight, 56, of Haslett, called the settlement “an unprecedented attack on retirees.” McKnight retired in 2001 after 35 years at GM.

He dealt with General Motors that is a contract I signed and they signed on the day of my retirement,” McKnight said. McKnight’s comments brought cheers from some of the 100 GM retirees who filled overflow space in another courtroom and a hallway.

GM and the UAW, who reached the agreement last fall, said the automaker is in dire financial trouble and could run out of cash, related to declining sales and future model losses. The company last year announced $13,000 in additional cuts, $5 billion in 2008 and spent more than $5 billion on health care.

Stocks waver amid economy worries

NEW YORK — Stocks fluctuated Friday as today’s report of the first-quarter revenue forecast added to worries about a slowing economy and slowing corporate profits.

The economic outlook was brightened somewhat by news that the pay service sector grew faster than expected last month, but downbeat consumer confidence data and Labor’s warning helped drive the market’s decline amid a wave of errant thinking.

On the other hand, retail appeared to be fighting to keep stocks from falling too far, and investors have been shielded by concerns about more interest-rate hikes and rising energy prices, said Steven Goldman, chief market strategist for Weeden & Co.

“Overall, there’s still a decent amount of momentum coming off the start of the year, which typically tends to support the market,” Goldman said.

**In Brief**

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**Deal may cause massive job cuts**

AT&T’s acquisition of BellSouth Corp. could eliminate as many as 10,000 jobs.

According to AT&T, the merger would allow the company to save close to $2 billion annually at first, increasing to $3 billion a year by 2010. Slightly more than one third of the savings would come from reduced labor costs and consolidation of support functions and corporate staff, Lindner said. The combined company would be based in San Antonio, depriving Atlanta of one of its largest corporate headquarters.

Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue and Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin said Monday they both will fly to Texas soon to try to persuade AT&T’s executives to move their headquarters to Atlanta.

“It’s hard to replace BellSouth,” Franklin said. “They’ve contributed so much over the last decade. We’re anxious for their national headquarters to move here.”

Cingular’s headquarters would remain in Atlanta.

More savings from the proposed acquisition would come from reduced advertising expenses and combining the backo file network and information-technology operations of the companies.

“Over the last couple of years as we have operated Cingular and our Yellow Pages venture, it became clear that there was a lot of duplication that could be eliminated,” said Juan Arismendi, chief executive of BellSouth.

“This merger will allow us to move to a single brand for wireless, for all that, for business and consumer, and that’s AT&T,” said Randall Stephenson, AT&T’s chief operating officer. “A single brand is much more cost efficient and far more effective.”

Under the terms of the deal, AT&T is paying 1.325 of its own shares for each BellSouth share. BellSouth shares closed Monday down 97 cents, or 3.2 percent, at $27.02 on the New York Stock Exchange.

That put the value of the offer at $35.80 per BellSouth share. Those shares rose $3.04, or 9.7 percent, to close Monday at $34.50.

**Fed expected to raise interest rates**

Special to The Observer

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** This is the first in a monthly series of economic update articles as a member of the Student International Business Council.

After raising short-term interest rates 14 times in a year and a half, Bernanke, the new chairman of the Federal Reserve, is expected to raise rates as well.

Bernanke’s predecessor, Alan Greenspan — inflation. Because of this, it is likely that when Bernanke, the Federal Reserve will probably raise interest rates by at least one-quarter of a point at least one more time.

Bernanke has made it clear in his speeches that price stability is his primary monetary policy goal. He believes that keeping inflation low and stable will help foster economic growth and increase jobs. The economy is currently so strong that many believe even if the Federal Reserve raises rates too high, the economy will be able to absorb a slight hit without serious consequences.

This belief is supported by stronger than expected first quarter growth for the economy. The data slowed significantly in the fourth quarter of 2004, due primarily to high oil prices and falling consumer confidence in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. But first quarter growth shows a rebound from last quarter with expected growth rates of at least 4.5 percent. There is a predicted first quarter GDP growth of 4.6 percent — up from the hit to growth last quarter, when growth rate dropped from 4.1 percent in the third quarter to 1.6 percent in the fourth quarter.

The consumer confidence index was down to 101.7 in February, though an index of 106.8 in January was a vast improvement over the low consumer confidence of last quarter.

Overall, the rising interest rates are expected to control inflation but will continue to limit economic growth.

In other news, the Federal Reserve Vice Chairman Roger Ferguson announced his resignation last week, leaving another position open for President Bush to make an appointment to the Federal Reserve.
The Observer

VIEWPOINT

To scorn an ally

The pro-American, westernized, economi­cally modernizing United Arab Emirates' state-run Dubai Ports World, owned by a deashing sheikh as renowned in poetry as in horse racing, acquires a business company responsible for the operations of American ports. Sounds like a great idea, no? It is a chance to bring a key American ally in the region even closer. Few things bind states' hearts more firmly than jointly shared economic interest. The congressional opposition to the Dubai Ports World deal is a shocking travesty that runs the risk of alienating an essential American ally in a region where true allies are as scarce as the sand is abundant.

Congressional opposition either comes from a general desire to oppose the president or a sincere, though deeply misplaced, opposition. Many Democrats have become accustomed to opposing the president in most everything he does, whether right or wrong. This is a political tactic designed to distance them as much as possible from the declining popularity of the current regime so that they may benefit in the upcoming election. These politicians have made this choice to stand together. They are playing upon the hysteria of a terrified population to win the worst qualities of human nature. Shamed and debase themselves are the times we live in. The aim of politics is to produce a healthy, pros­perous and strong state. Many woes will attend the state where personal ambition replaces the general good as the aim of politics.

If the opposition does not come from the aforementioned general opposition to the president, the state of affairs is indeed more troubling. This form of opposition implies that the United Arab Emirates is either not a trusted ally or that if the U.A.E. is such an ally, there is another reason why the U.S. should not run the ports. The first alternative is patently false; the U.A.E. has allowed the United States to use her land, bases, ports and airspace during our military operations in that theatre. She has also functioned as a loyal ally during the "War on Terror." Congressional opposition must stem from another cause that tarnishes the reality of the U.A.E.'s faithful alliance.

The vast concern that overtakes Dubai's friendship is that an Arab company will be running an important and sensitive industry. There was no commotion or uproar when a British firm was operating our ports. Chaos and indignation erupts the very second that an Arab company is about to take over. "How could we com­promise our security in such a way?" There is no compromise occurring, as we are merely transferring the operation from one trusted ally to another trusted ally. Britain and the United Arab Emirates have both rendered crucial support and service to America. If our government should trust the former more than the latter, it implies that there is some inherent quality present in the Arab Muslim world that makes even our best allies from the region suspect at best.

The racism howling through the hollow theatres of this sort produces a mutual interest. The more the United States lends its interests with the rest of the world, the less incentive there will be for conflict and violence — on both sides of the relationship.

Ian Ronderos is a senior majoring in the classics with a supplementary major in ancient Greek and Roman civilizations. Having retired from the College Republicans and adopted independent politics, he has entered the private life of peaceful contemplation. Ian can be contacted at irondero@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Even Holocaust deniers deserve free speech

The Bill of Rights opens by forbidding Congress from passing any law "abridging freedom of speech." But what happens when ideas are addressed to those who listen to them or, worse, when those ideas are completely and utterly wrong? Nowhere is this question more pertinent than in the problem of dealing with Holocaust deniers, people who either deny the basic facts or who claim that the systematic extermination of six million Jews occurred.

Holocaust denial is not an historical or philosophical issue; these people are engaged in a form of hate speech that is a direct attack on human rights and equality. The Holocaust was not just a political or ideological event; it was a mass murder on a scale that has no precedent.

Holocaust deniers deny the basic facts of the Holocaust, including the existence of Nazi concentration camps, the systematic murder of Jews and other groups, and the role played by the Nazi leadership in these events. They also deny the role of the German people in the Holocaust, and they often blame Jews for their own persecution and murder.

Holocaust deniers often use negative stereotypes and propaganda to spread their ideas. They may claim that Jews are responsible for the Holocaust, and that the Holocaust was a lie created by Jews to gain sympathy and wealth. They may also claim that the Holocaust was a myth, and that the evidence of its existence is false.

Despite the evidence in favor of the Holocaust, Holocaust deniers continue to spread their ideas. They use the internet, print media, and other platforms to reach a large audience. Their ideas are often supported by other groups, such as white supremacists and neo-Nazis, who share their beliefs.

In conclusion, Holocaust deniers deserve free speech, but their ideas should not be given the same level of exposure as those of legitimate sources of information. The Holocaust is a tragedy that should not be allowed to be ignored or denied, and its victims deserve recognition and respect.

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Welcome to the Notre Dame bubble, where one can find a legion of Jep­
to the opponent’s chagrin. A
ean redeem his loss by blaming
etral day may

“Rent” hit Broadway in 1996, and ten
years later, it came to movie theatres with a
faithful, but stagnant movie adaptation
from director Chris Columbus (“Home Alone,”
“Harry Potter”). Though it translated some­
what poorly to the screen, this is a
movie perfectly suited for DVD.

“Rent,” a modern, loosely-based version
of the Puccini opera, “La Boheme,” was
released into movie theatres in November
2005, and after about two months there,
it made less than $30 million. Now it quickly
heads to DVD where its biggest fans, or
“Rentheads,” as they are called, will likely
carry it on. Old and new fans alike will enjoy
what is essentially a 135-minute music
movie that has every chance to jump from
scene to scene and skip to favorite song.

All through the film production process,
there was much ado about being loyal to the
vision of Rent’s late composer, Jonathon
Larson, as there had been when making the
big move to the Broadway stage. Though
this was a good idea in 1996, the film
craved a new direction. Six of the eight orig­
inal Broadway cast members reprised their
roles, but they are now a little too old for
young lovers they play. Thus further limiting
what could have been a wonderfully fresh
interpretation of a great story.

That’s not to say the cast isn’t talent­
ed—it is. Phenomenal Jesse L. Martin as
“Colins” steals the screen, the only one born
to play on stage and on screen. The
chemistry between him and Wilson
Philipp is very sweet and intimate, but not
contagious. Tracie Thoms as uptight yuppie
“Joaanne” is a pleasantly surprising, smart
addition to the group.

But “Rent” is stuck somewhere between
the musicals-turned-films “Chicago” and
“The Producers.” Whereas “Chicago” is a
fresh, exuberant, Oscar-winning adaptation
of that musical, “The Producers” is very
much a bland filmed version of what is done
nightly on stages in New York and London.

In “Rent,” Columbus rarely tries anything
brave or different. One successful attempt
is a delighted extended dance break during
“Tango: Maureen” successfully creating
something not found in the stage version.
Columbus also has created a barely-gritty
enough early-90s New York City as the
film’s setting, but the camerawork is seem­
ingly always moving and all too often mere­
lonely functions to observe inactive acting
and horning staging.

All that being said, the music and
story of “Rent” are as strong and relevant as ever.
The two hours and six minutes of DVD shows
the many strong musical numbers, especially
the aforementioned “La Vie Boheme” and
“Fantine’s” poignant “I’d Do Anything.”
Also included are behind-the-scenes
activities, including a alternate ending that would have better

So shot on a budget

Jim Bemenderfer
Assistant Scene Editor

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The Observer

SCENE

Tuesday, March 7, 2006

page 11

Roger (Adam Pascal), left, shares a tender moment with Mimi (Rosario Dawson) in Chris Columbus’s “Rent.” This 2005 film was a remake of the hit play.

Ins the ‘Saw’ legacy

By MARK BEMENDERFER
Assistant Scene Editor

Explosions rock the protagonist in Criterion Game’s “Black.” Distributed by Electronic Arts, the game features Hollywood-style action.

By MARK BEMENDERFER
Assistant Scene Editor

The first person shooter genre has been flooded in recent years with the success of titles like “Halo” and “Half-Life.” Enough derivatives have seen the market that they have begun to overlap.

Criterion Games noticed this trend and - fresh off their success with the “Burnout” series - has decided to inject a fresh perspective. With “Black,” they wanted to simplify things and remind gamers what makes the genre fun.

To stand out, Criterion made “Black” an explosive, exhilarating experience that focuses on the guns and explosions. The closest equivalent being the Hollywood action film, the game is light on plot and heavy on property damage. Cars explode, windows shatter and buildings collapse under the barrage of rampant explosions caused by the player.

There is a plot however, despite how light or worthless it is. At the beginning, the gamer finds the main character under investigation for his renegade actions while pursuing a high profile terrorist. The story unfolds gradually with acted cut-scenes before each level, but it bears little impact on the actual action.

The characters about which the game bears during the investigation do play a role in the game itself, as they act as invisible squad members. However, their limited artificial intelligence makes them little better than mobile shields and bullet magnets for the main character. They do shout commands and warnings to the player that are very beneficial when trying to pinpoint a sniper or hidden rocket launcher.

But these characters only play a limited role within the game, and most of the time the player will find this game to be a solitary event. That fits the focus of the game, however, as relentless action and explosions are main course of the film.

The action consists of some of the most frenzied, chaotic scenes ever witnessed in an action game. To refer-
NHL

Kozlov leads Atlanta to 4-3 win over Florida

Flyers beat Canadiens in shootout; Ovechkin leads Capitals in win

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Slava Kozlov scored the lone goal in the shootout to help the Atlanta Thrashers beat the Florida Panthers on Monday night.

Hossa was largely respon­sible, as he made a one-handed stop when he stationed himself large for his second shutout of the period. The Hurricanes have won five straight to open the season and have dropped to fifth in the overall standings. They have won 11 of their last 14 games and 20 of 24.

Kozlov, who gave the Thrashers their last shootout win Feb. 11 at Montreal, beat Luongo with a glove-side wris­ter. Jokinen scored his 28th goal, with a backhander. After Robert Esche stopped Alexander Perezhogin, Nedved won it with a backhand.

The Flyers scored a pair of power-play goals 4:43 apart in the second period to break a scoreless tie.

Philadelphia, which has rapidly dropped in the standings, was outshot 35-34.

The Flyers scored a pair of power-play goals 4:43 apart in the second period to break a scoreless tie.

Jeff Friesen also scored for the Flyers. Luongo made 28 saves.

Luongo with a glove-side wris­ter ahead of another goal late in the period. Jokinen scored his 28th goal, with a backhander. After Robert Esche stopped Alexander Perezhogin, Nedved won it with a backhand.;

Luongo saved 31 of 34 shots, including all four in overtime.

Brad Larsen's short-handed goal gave the Thrashers a 2-1 lead with 16:24 left in regula­tion. Hossa was largely respon­sible, as he made a one-handed pass to himself off the left boards to beat Jokinen.

After Hossa's wrist bounce whisp offshore of Luongo's skate and off to the right side of the slot, Larsen blasted a 2-2-4 earlier.

Jokinen tied it at 3-3 with 5:57 left in the second period.

Greg de Vries gave the Thrashers a 1-0 lead with his seventh tally of the season, a slap shot from the top of the slot 2:48 into the first period.

Jokinen, the subject of trade talk as the NHL faces a 3 p.m. Thursday deadline, tied it at 1:09 of the third period.

Kozlov led the NHL in points (62) when they returned home in late-January following an 8-2-1 road trip. But they're just 6-8-4 since and have dropped to fifth place in the Eastern Conference.

The Rangers outshot the Hurricanes 17-0 in the third period.

Carolina took a 2-0 lead at 8:31 of the second period on Williams' 26th goal of the sea­son. Rod Brind'Amour con­ducted the puck behind the goal, skated into the corner and fired a centering pass to the unchecked Williams on the far edge of the crease.

Adams opened the scoring with 1:09 left on a rebound, knocking a loose puck past Luongo from the left side of the crease.

Senators 4, Lightning 0

Ray Emery stopped 31 shots

for his second shutout of the night and the Ottawa Senators beat the Tampa Bay Lightning on Monday night.

Emery, who is filling in for the injured Dominik Hasek, helped the Senators win their fifth straight game. Hasek, a six-time Vezina Trophy winner, injured his groin 5 minutes into his first Olympic game with the Czech Republic on Feb. 15.

Antoine Vermette, Jason Spezza, Mike Fisher and Peter Schneider scored for the Northeast Division-leading Senators. Ottawa is 37-0 when scoring four or more goals.

Sean Burke made 30 saves for Tampa Bay. The defending Stanley Cup champion Lightning, who open a five-game road trip Thursday at Pittsburgh, have been outscored 18-4 in three consecutive losses since the end of the Olympic break.

Vermette put the Senators up 1-0 at 2:35 of the first. He scored from the low slot off a pass from Christopher Schubert following a Lightning turnover.

Emery made 13 saves in the first, including in-clone shots by Ryan Craig and Vinny Prospal during a Tampa Bay power play.

Ottawa went ahead 3-0 in the second on goals by Spezza (11:38) and Fisher (13:09).

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Ottawa went ahead 3-0 in the second on goals by Spezza (11:38) and Fisher (13:09).
MINNEAPOLIS — Kirby Puckett died Monday, a day after the Hall of Fame outfielder had a stroke at his Minnesota home. He was 45.

Puckett died at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center in Phoenix. He had been in intensive care since having surgery at another hospital following his stroke Sunday morning.

The highly, barrel-shaped Puckett carried the Twins to World Series titles in 1987 and 1991 before his career was cut short by glaucoma. His family, friends and former teammates gathered at the hospital Monday.

Puckett was given last rites and died in the afternoon, hospital spokeswoman Kimberly Lodge said. "On behalf of Major League Baseball, I am terribly saddened by the sudden passing of Kirby Puckett," commissioner Bud Selig said. "He was a Hall of Famer in every sense of the term."

He played his entire career with the Twins and was an icon in Minnesota. But he was revered throughout the country and will be remembered wherever the game is played. Kirby was taken from us much too soon — and too quickly," he said.

Puckett broke into the majors in 1984 and had a career batting average of .318. Glaucoma left the six-time Gold Glove center fielder and 10-time All-Star with no choice but to retire after the 1995 season when he went blind in his right eye.

Out of the game, the 5-foot-8 Puckett put on a considerable amount of weight, which concerned those close to him. "It's a tough thing to see a guy go through something like that and come to this extent," former teammate Kent Hrbek said Monday night.

"That's what really hurt him bad, when he was forced out of the game," he said. "I don't know if he ever recovered from it."

Asked what he would remember the most from their playing days, Hrbek quickly answered, "Just his smile, his laughter and his love for the game."

Puckett was elected to the Hall of Fame on his first try in 2001 and thrilled the crowd in Cooperstown when he said, "I'm telling you, anything is possible during his induction speech. His plaque praised his "ever-present smile and infectious exhilaration."

**Twins' star Puckett dies after stroke**

In Brief

National signs lease for new stadium

WASHINGTON — Mayor Anthony A. Williams signed the lease for a new Washington Nationals' ballpark Monday, a day after Major League Baseball signed the deal.

The lease calls for a ballpark to be built along the Anacostia River, south of the Capitol, but limits city spending on the project to $611 million.

"The signed lease is the green light we needed to turn this dream into a reality," said Williams, touting the economic benefits of converting an industrial area into a ballpark and entertainment district. "With a revitalized waterfront, we will reap tens of millions of dollars in new tax revenue in the coming years."

The signatures of Williams and members of the District of Columbia Sports and Entertainment Commission clear the way for the city to sell $333 million in construction bonds, Williams spokesman Vince Morris said.

Chief Financial Officer Natwar M. Gandhi, who was out of town Monday, will authorize the sale of the bonds in the next few weeks, Morris said. The lease will take effect after the bonds are sold.

**Beckett upset over poor spring outing**

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Josh Beckett refused to make excuses for a rocky outing in his spring debut for the Boston Red Sox.

The right-hander, acquired from Florida in a seven-player trade during the offseason, allowed five runs in three innings of Boston's 8-7 victory over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Monday.

Even though it's only spring training, Beckett did not take the performance lightly. "It's not like I was just out there trying to throw my pitches. If I was going to do that, I would have just thrown a 50-pitch bullpen. When I'm out there, I'm trying to get people out," the 2003 World Series MVP said.

I wanted to get a feel for these guys [the Devil Rays], just like they wanted to get a feel for me. They felt me pretty good," he said.

Big Ten NCAA Tournament bids up in the air

INDIANAPOLIS — Even as the Big Ten tournament drew to a close, questions about the other tourname

ent were casting a shadow on the proceedings in Conseco Fieldhouse.

The biggest: How many bids will the conference get when the NCAA's 65-team field is announced next Monday?

Four teams seem to be locks: Ohio State, the regular-season champ, Purdue, which advanced to the title game; Michigan State, last year's Big Ten tourney champ and national runner-up; and Minnesota, the tourney's third seed. All four have been ranked most of the season.

Twins' star Puckett dies after stroke

Associated Press

**MLB**

**NBA Standings**

**Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division**

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**NCAA Baseball AP Top 25**

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Around the dial

Men's NCAA Basketball

Pennsylvania at Princeton, 7 p.m. ESPNU

NHL

Colorado at St. Louis, 8 p.m. OLN

Around the nation

Compiled from The Observer's wire services

Page 13
Free agency start delayed to Friday

**NFL owners to meet today to discuss new union proposal**

Associated Press

NEW YORK — For at least a few more days, dozens of high-priced NFL players still have jobs.

NFC labor talks took a new twist Sunday night when the league and its players' union agreed to postpone free agency another 72 hours, giving the sides more time to work out a deal on a contract extension.

The decision came just four hours after negotiations had broken off, leaving many veterans in danger of becoming salary-cap casualties. Owners will meet (today) in Dallas to decide whether they want to take the union's latest offer.

Free agency originally was supposed to start Friday, but was pushed back to 12:01 a.m. Monday. Now, it's set to begin at 12:01 a.m. Thursday.

In the meantime, the deadline for teams to get under the salary cap also was delayed.

That gave the Oakland Raiders a reprieve — they thought they'd be forced to release quarterback Kerry Collins, saving $9.2 million in cap space. The New York Jets cut center Kevin Mawae, who is 35 and missed the final 10 games last season with a cephalic injury.

And according to an official with knowledge of the deal, line­backer LaVar Arrington agreed to a buyout of his contract with the Washington Redskins, the team believed to be in the most cap trouble. The team said the departure of the three-time Pro Bowler would provide "much needed salary cap relief."

Other deals could also go if teams try to squeeze under a salary cap of $104.5 million. If a deal is reached, the cap could go as much as $10 million higher — in other words, allowing teams to keep some of the players.

Amid all the labor back­and­forth came news that running back Shaun Alexander was staying put. The league's MVP agreed to return to the NFC champion Seattle Seahawks for $62 million over eight years, with $15.1 guaranteed, according to his agent, Jim Steiner.

The union broke off Sunday's bargaining session.

"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 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.

After a conference call between owners and league officials, including commissioner Paul Tagliabue, the league announced the extension.

"The NFL and the NFL Players Association have agreed to extend the start of the 2006 league year for 72 hours — until 12:01 a.m., EST, Thursday, March 9 — in order to allow the NFL clubs to meet in Dallas on Tuesday to consider the NFL Players Association's offer," the NFL said.

Shortly afterward, Upshaw said: "The NFL negotiators called us tonight after our negotia­tions broke off to indicate that they will take our complete package to the owners for an approval vote on Tuesday."

We have therefore agreed to extend the free agency deadline until midnight Wednesday in order to provide time for that vote to be accomplished," he said.

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.

Even now, the contract doesn't expire until 2008, but this would be the last year of a salary cap — 2007 would be uncapped, which could lead to wild spending by some teams and little by others, creating a hasheveshave­snot situation similar to the one in baseball.

One reason these talks were more difficult is that the players asked for a change in the system.
NASCAR

New Hall of Fame site set

Chairman chooses Charlotte as city to enshrine top racers

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — NASCAR's first Hall of Fame will be built in downtown Charlotte, within miles of the garages and sprawling mansions that make the region an epicenter of the sport.

The selection of Charlotte for the site of the $107.5 million hall ended a yearlong race featuring four other cities. The hall is expected to lure hundreds of thousands of NASCAR fans annually, and officials hope it will open in 2009.

"In the end, you look at what's going to be best in the long run," NASCAR chairman Brian France told a crowd of about 1,000 people at the city's convention center Monday.

"If everybody knew this is my city," Alexander said. "I wanted to play here and my goal when I first got here was to do stuff Seattle had never seen before. It's really simple. When you have good people and everybody is going after the same things, it's easy to make the decision about coming in." It was widely assumed Alexander would command over $20 million in guarantees — that last offseason Seattle sprung for a $16 million bonus to re-sign Hasselbeck and another $20 million in bonuses to keep perennial Pro Bowl tackle Walter Jones.

Lowe's Motor Speedway in suburban Concord is home to the longest race on the Nextel Cup circuit, the Memorial Day weekend Coca-Cola 600, and has long hosted NASCAR's annual all-star race.

Nearby the all top races are headquartered in the communities north of the city, and many top drivers own luxury condominiums in downtown Charlotte or palatial homes on nearby Lake Norman. Dale Earnhardt Jr., one of the most popular drivers, lives nearby and has said Charlotte should get the hall.

In billboards and bumper stickers distributed as part of the city's campaign for the hall, officials boasted, "Racing was built here. Racing belongs here." "We Eat, Sleep & Breathe Racing."

Felix Sabates, who with fellow team owner Rick Hendrick helped spearhead Charlotte's campaign, said the deal was completed Friday. Officials were expected to take the package to the city council for approval at a Monday evening meeting.

Charlotte lusted its proposal with architectural drawings by E.M. Pei, noted designer of the famous pyramid addition to the Louvre in Paris and the east wing of Washington's National Gallery. Those drawings are dominated by a banked curve that encreases the building, evoking the shape of a speedway.

From one corner of the building, a lattice-work tower emblazoned with the NASCAR logo rises, reminiscent of the towers that display race standings from the infield of most speedways.

Under NASCAR's deal with Charlotte, ground is to be broken by the spring of 2007, with opening scheduled for no later than March 31, 2010.

The hall is to be owned by the city of Charlotte and operated by its convention and visitors bureau under a contract with NASCAR that runs into 2038.

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.
The Observer
SPORTS
Tuesday, March 7, 2006
NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Seahawks, Gaels earn automatic bids to tourney

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — With a 23-point lead whittled to almost nothing, North Carolina-Wilmington's T.J. Carter put it upon himself to take control.

Carter scored 12 of his 23 points in the final three minutes Monday night, including 10-straight to provide a comfort zone, and the Seahawks beat Hofstra 78-67 to win their fourth Colonial Athletic Association championship in seven years.

"I kind of had to make plays," the junior guard said. "That's my job here. That's what coach puts me out there to do. (My teammates) stepped up for me for 37 minutes, grinding it out, playing tough defense, rebounding the ball and making plays."

The Seahawks (25-7) earned the league's automatic berth in the NCAA tournament, and left Hofstra and co-league champion George Mason hoping for at-large invitations.

In victory, Wilmington also had something of a told-you-so' smile, having felt overlooked all weekend while Hofstra and George Mason's NCAA hopes were dissected.

Both are ahead of the Seahawks in the Ratings Percentage Index, but the Seahawks and Patriots shared the regular season title, and Wilmington was the top seed.

"We had a little chip on our shoulder all weekend," coach Brad Brownell said. "Very few people were talking about us, so we felt like we had to play our way in. "We did that tonight."

For the Seahawks seniors, most of whom were bit players when Wilmington last won the tournament title in 2003, the victory was verification of their excellence.

"If we wouldn't have done this, they would have said, 'Yeah, they were a great team, but they couldn't win a championship," forward Beckham Myrick said.

Iona 80, St. Peter's 61

Steve Burtt scored 28 points, leading Iona over St. Peter's in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference championship game Monday night and clinching the Gaels' eighth NCAA tournament berth.

Ricky Soliver shook off early foul trouble, scoring 12 for Iona, which won its conference-leading seventh MAAC title and first since 2001 — the last time the Gaels qualified for the NCAA tournament. Kiril Wachsmann added 11 points and 12 rebounds and Burtt was named the tournament's MVP.

At 23-7, the Gaels have produced their most victories in a season since winning 27 in 1997-98, a year before coach Jeff Ruland took over. Burtt, who has 2,011 career points, became only the second Iona player to reach the 2,000-point plateau. The other was his father Steve Burtt Sr., who scored 2,534 in the early 1980s.

For St. Peter's, Keydren Clark's magnificent tournament run ended with the senior guard scoring 25 points to lead the Peacocks (17-15), who came out flat, a result of playing their fourth game in four nights.

Besides leading St. Peter's to its first MAAC championship game appearance since 1999, the senior guard scored 95 points in four games — passing both Oscar Robertson and Hersey Hawkins — and finishes with 3,058 career points to rank sixth on the NCAA scoring list.

Clark and Burtt were the conference's two most prolific guards this season and also happened to be teammates at New York City's Rice High School.

Haul Orta added 13 points for St. Peter's, which dropped to 2-4 in MAAC championship games — it's last win coming in 1995.
Quinn continued from page 2A

Quinn has shown that he is capable of scoring in a variety of ways.

In addition to his athleticism, Quinn has shown that he is capable of scoring in a variety of ways.

In his senior season, Quinn led Notre Dame to a 32-6 overall record and a 15-0 mark in the Big East Conference. Quinn's ability to score consistently throughout the season helped the Irish to their second consecutive Big East Conference title and a spot in the NCAA tournament.

Quinn's success on the court has also been recognized off the court. He was named to the All-Big East First Team and the All-American Third Team by the Associated Press. Quinn was also named the conference's Player of the Year.

Quinn's contributions to the team have not gone unnoticed by his peers. "He's one of the best players in the country," said senior forward Austin Freeman. "He's a complete player who can do it all."
Indiana continued from page 20

Facing off continued from page 20

against the Big Ten this season, with its lone defeat coming to perennial powerhouse Illinois. Indiana is 5-5, with an 0-2 conference record.

"We know them," Bayliss said. "We anticipate another close match, a competitive match, which it usually is in this series." The match will be in stark climate contrast to Notre Dame's last competition.

Bayliss sent the team to La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club in La Jolla, Calif. this weekend to compete in the Pacific Coast Doubles Tournament, an open event that draws professional and collegiate players.

Although no teams managed to advance past the third round of the 128-team draw, Bayliss was pleased with their performance, which will not count for players' collegiate records.

"Our top 3 teams all made it into the round of 32 but all of them lost in that round, and a couple of them had really close matches," Bayliss said. Ryan Keekley and Barry King, who are ranked No. 51 in the national standings, earned a first round win in the tournament and beat a team from San Diego State before losing 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4) in a tiebreaker.

"We had good matches, got exposed to a lot of good tennis, got to practice with some guys from other teams as well," Bayliss said.

Sheeva Parbhoo and Brett Hegelosen also had a first-round bye and highlighted the second round with a win over USC. They also lost a three-set match in the third round, with a score of 6-7, 6-4, 7-5.

Erik Langenkamp and Andrew Roth also lost in the third round to Stanford.

Stephen Bass and Santiago Montoya lost in the second round, as did Patrick Buchanan, who played with former Hooster player Scott Lippitt.

"It was a really good experience for us," Bayliss said. "The La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club is a terrific place to host an event — it's right on the Pacific Ocean. The courts are in great shape. The competition was great. It was everything we wanted it to be."

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

Recruit continued from page 20

said, "Notre Dame is not only strong [in athletics], it's one of the best academic schools in the country." Mike Frank of IrishEyez.com, a Web site on the Scout.com recruiting network, said he felt Nagel's focus on grades as well as football likely helped him earn the scholarship offer.

"Any time you’re going to have a guy that can get it done in the classroom, it makes him an attractive target as well," Frank said. "I think it certainly helps giving him an offer to have such a great situation academically — a guy who can play his sport.

But Frank said the reason Weis offered Nagel a scholarship was likely his prowess on the field.

"When it's all said and done, he still got the offer because he's a very, very good football player," Frank said. "He's that guy that's one of the best football, likes to hit people and is a real aggressive player. He has very, very good speed. He makes his turn well left and right. He has very good lateral movement. That will make him a very good line­backer."

Nagel received offers from 11 other schools, including Purdue, Boston College, Michigan State and Stanford.

"I've been to Notre Dame about five times," he said. "I love the campus, the atmosphere ... everything."

Contact Ken Fowler at k Fowler@nd.edu

Go Online to www.nd.edu/~bkstr and follow the simple instructions to register your team today!
**JOCKULAR**

ADAM FAIRHOLM

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MRS. HOPKINS?

**ALC ENY WHITE & ERIK POWERS**

**JUMBLE**

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

**HENRI ARNOLD & MIKE ARGIRION**

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A WORD CLUE by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Tell them to go back to sleep.

**CRossWIND**

ADAM FAIRHOLM

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MRS. HOPKINS?

**BONEHEAD CROSSWORD CLUE**

by Jane McNeil

**CROSSWORD**

WHILL SHORTZ

**HOROSCOPE**

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Eli Mantel, 20, Shoqha (Deal, 34; D.I. Haleyj, 43; Rob Reiner, 59)

Happy Birthday: Don’t all there waiting all the wonderful things available to you — just be the metaphorical attribute to not. Minus all it will take to make your life better, but keep a good heart and on your smile on your face will go a long way. Your numbers are 5, 11, 13, 24, 39

**TUESDAY’S PUZZLE**

Aries (March 21-April 19): You can make things happen if you take control and recognize everyone around you. Make some changes that will help you sort financially. Get serious about who you want in your life and who you are just wasting time with.****

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You can go for interviews, talk to someone above authority and talk your way up to a very nice position with a salary. If you are in trouble, take the open route to the people you trust will mislead you. Get to the bottom of things by yourself for a change.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): There is not enough information being handed down to enable you to make a decision. Give yourself time to think and for circumstances to unfold a little further before you proceed. Focus on love instead and enjoy for yourself a change.****

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Consider three areas of your life that are in need of change and do something about it. Your philosophical beliefs are expanding and this will bring you greater freedom. A financial plan can be put into place. Don’t heed to prevent pressure.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Not everything will unfold the way you want. Someone you thought you could trust will mislead you. Get to the bottom of things and ask questions. If the person you are talking to becomes nervous, move on.****

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will be willing to try new things. Your ability to transform something you are involved in will lead to greater respect and leadership. Taking on an additional project will open up your mind to a whole new area of opportunity.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Engage in things that include people you find motivating, creative and can work with. Uncover your passions and you will end up finding your way through any confusion you have about your future.***

Sagitarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will be willing to try new things. Your ability to transform something you are involved in will lead to greater respect and leadership. Taking on an additional project will open up your mind to a whole new and unique area of opportunity.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your associates will treat you differently if you can say no to your right way of doing business. Show your ability to try new things. Innovation is what will sell your ideas.***

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): A chance to move forward with someone you really care about is looking good. Don’t push but do your offer out there. If you are not out in front, people are less likely to fall into place.***

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): You may be feeling yourself but you aren’t feeling anyone else. Be honest with yourself if you want things to work in your favor. Money matters can be resolved if you are willing to move on and do something that really works.***

**Friday’s Crossword Clues**

1. What a psychologist does at night in a motel room?
   
2. Abridge

**THE OBSERVER**

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community.

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**THE OBSERVER**

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**Birthday Baby:** You are a dreamer with lots of innovative ideas. You are capable of great things and intent on following your own path. Act quickly and tend to change your mind easier.

Eugenia’s Web site: astroadvice.com for great astrology readings and more!
Chicago Recruiting

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame landed its second verbal commitment for the class of 2011 Saturday when Chicago-area recruit Aaron Nagel (Lemont, Ill.) accepted a scholarship offer from head coach Charlie Weis to play outside linebacker.

"It's always been my dream since I was a little kid to go to Notre Dame," Nagel said in a telephone interview with The Observer Monday. "I was hoping for the offer, but I wasn't expecting it." Nagel said he came to Notre Dame this weekend to meet with Weis and discuss his chances of getting a scholarship offer from the Irish.

"Assistant Coach RobbIANello, who is the recruiting coordinator for my area, told me Coach Weis wanted to sit down with me and get to know me," Nagel said. "He said I probably wouldn't get an offer until I attended a camp there. When he offered me, I was so excited." Nagel has lined up at running back, wide receiver, linebacker and safety for Lenmont High School, much in the mold of current Notre Dame free safety Tom Zbikowski, who played quarterback in high school and was recruited as an "athlete."

This past season, the 6-foot-1, 215-pound junior ran for 1,305 yards and 20 touchdowns at running back and made 55 solo tackles and four interceptions on defense. He also runs the 40-yard dash in 4.5 seconds and ranks third in his class of 340 students with a 4.4 grade-point average on a weighted 4.0 scale.

"I wanted to go to a school that was strong on academics," Nagel said. Nagel will be recruited as an "athlete."

MEN'S LACROSSE

Sophomore succeeds in utility role

ND relies on Clagett for face-offs this year

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has one of the best and most versatile talents in the country — due more to the position than the man who occupies it. As a freshman last season, Notre Dame's Taylor Clagett was the sixth best face-off man in Division I lacrosse, winning 612 percent of the face-offs he took.

"After every goal and at the beginning of every quarter, there is a possession up for grabs," Corrigan said Monday. "If you can dominate the face-off, you can dominate the possessions. ... It's an uphill battle when you don't get face-offs."

But face-off men, who contribute a crucial role to their team's momentum, ironically receive fewer playing time when they win a drop. "If I win, I'll be in for about 20 seconds on offense," Clagett said Monday. "If I lose, I stay in on defense for maybe five minutes."

The Irish roster lists Clagett as a midfielder — the position his older brother Steve played for Notre Dame from 2001-04. He mainly takes face-offs and hops the field shorty thereafter if he wins, though, in favor of an offensive midfield role.

"We recruited Taylor as a face-off guy," Corrigan said. "We got very lucky with him. He's going to be terrific."