Six parked cars hit at Castle Point

Early morning accident involves at least three Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s students

By KATLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

A man driving a Lincoln truck hit at least six cars parked in a lot in the Enchanted Forest section of Castle Point Apartments early Sunday morning, residents said. St. Joseph County spokesperson Jaimee Therion did not return Observer phone calls Sunday, so the exact count of damaged cars is unknown. At least three of the cars belonged to Notre Dame or Saint Mary’s students. Another belonged to Rachel Davis, 26, a Castle Point resident who witnessed the accident.

Davis said she woke up between 4:20 a.m. and 4:30 to the sound of the truck crashing into her car and five others.

“He hit my car first, then he hit the back of the car next to me — a Jeep — and then he hit the other girl’s car and pushed it forward,” Davis said. “Then he hit another car on the side and pushed that car into two other cars.”

Davis said she could not estimate the extent of the damage, but said “nobody was driving any of them today.”

The car came down the street through Enchanted Forest and did not turn at the curve in the road, but just kept going straight, she said. It only took about two minutes for police to arrive after Davis called them, she said. A security guard for Castle Point was also see CARPAGE 6

Several parked cars belonging to ND and SMC students were damaged Sunday morning at Castle Point Apartments.

ND alumni embrace challenges in Africa

Recent grads live and teach in Uganda, raise awareness of country’s social, economic problems

By MARCELA BERRIOS
News Writer

As a primary school teacher in Uganda, Matt Young had to quickly learn how to fight away the snakes and tailor his syllabus to fit the needs of his students — even if it included teaching children how to empty pit latrines and avoid contracting malaria.

“Many of the things I teach these kids would never be on a syllabus in the United States,” said Young, who graduated from Notre Dame last spring. “In science class for instance, I teach how to tend to cattle, goats and chickens.”

“Other topics are how to avoid getting tapeworms ... and different methods to prevent malaria and AIDS.”

Young and fellow 2006 alumus Clay Allison recently met with University President John Jenkins and other Notre Dame representatives during the group’s weeklong trip to Uganda. Both work at the African St. Jude Primary School and Lakeview Secondary School.

The Observer was unable to contact Allison, however, as he was recovering from a bout of malaria.

Before Young graduated, he thought his teaching career would involve lessons about multiplication and grammar, not battling mosquitoes and bats in the classroom. But while certain lessons “aren’t very exciting,” he said, “they are quite relevant for these kids” — children who spend afternoons caring for siblings and their family’s livestock and crops.

When teaching children who cannot afford pencils, Young said every lesson becomes “a slow and tedious process.”

“There are many other obstacles to learning that are quite unique here also,” Young said. “During the rainy season, it gets too muddy for many of the kids to walk to school.”

ND, SMC welcome 36 transfer students

By JOHN PAUL WITT
News Writer

By second semester most students have become familiar with life in the Notre Dame-Saint Mary’s community, but for others life under the golden dome is a whole new experience.

Notre Dame welcomed 25 transfer students and Saint Mary’s enrolled 11 — numbers that were on par with the institutions’ transfer expectations, College and University officials said.

Notre Dame Associate Director of Admissions Susan Joyce calls “in line with the University enrollment goal of about 125 fall and 25 spring transfers each year.”

Unlike the freshman admissions process, transfer students at both institutions must meet certain criteria to be admitted.

Students must attain at least a 3.00 GPA in college courses, and Notre Dame transfers must attend another institution for at least a full year. And unlike Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame does not accept transfers into the First Year of Studies.

Notre Dame students transferred directly into the Colleges of Arts and Letters, Science, and Engineering, Joyce said. Due to enrollment limitations, the University does not admit transfer students to the Mendoza College of Business, and the School of Architecture has not admitted transfer students in “several years” because of limitations imposed by the architecture program’s required year in Rome, she said.

Students were also challenged to find seats in classes at Notre Dame. “So many classes are closed see TRANSFERS PAGE 6

SMC reflects on history, tradition

Heritage Week allows community to experience the College’s past

By KATLYNN KOLLER
News Writer

With over 150 years of history and tradition, the Saint Mary’s College community has a lot to celebrate during the second annual Heritage Week.

Students, faculty and staff will commemorate the College’s heritage through a week long series of movies, speeches and closing dinner on Friday.

McIlviff decided to continue the event, which was created by her predecessor Student Body President Kellye Mitros, due to its prior success and student response.

“I included Heritage Week on my vice presidential platform last year,” McIlviff said. “Because of last year’s see COLLEGE PAGE 4

Saint Mary’s students gather at the 2006 Heritage Week closing dinner in Stapleton Lounge.
Everyone knows the important birthdays: 13, 16, 18, 21 and 40. When you turn 13 you are finally a teenager. You don’t get that same feeling of rebellion when you see a PG-13 movie because you are at the very age that the movies are rated for.

Turning 16 is a big milestone. There is a lot of new freedom that comes with turning 16. You can finally drive.

More freedoms come your way at 18. You are already able to drive and realize it. You’re already able to drive and you are that legal adult. You can vote and generally you will graduate from high school and head off to college at the age of 18. Turning 21 is the biggest milestone year in a college student’s life for the most obvious reasons, and as soon as you hit 40 you are over the hill.

Every other age seems to get the shad.

There are no MTV shows celebrating turning 14, 17.

Turning 21 is the biggest milestone year this past year this past year. There isn’t as much importance placed on this year as there will be generally you will graduate from high school and you are that teenager to try to get out of a teenager.

As I began my Friday night so that we could celebrate turning 14, 17.

Sunday’s edition of the News Writer ran the following story:

By this morning, my views on turning 20 changed completely.

I have found the most amazing friends over these past 20 years who left me so many messages on the refrigerator door, the duck lifted its head, giving her a scare.

The man’s wife “was going to check on the duck because it hadn’t been working right and she opened the door, it looked up at her,” said Lalina Whipple, a receptionist at Killarn Animal Hospital. “She freaked out and told the daughter to take it to the hospital right then and there.”

The 1-pound female ring-neck ended up at Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, where it has been treated and then sent to its wing and leg.

The Academic Council Meeting is taking place Wednesday in the McKenna Hall auditorium from 3 to 5 p.m. Attendance is by invitation only.

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

Special to The Observer


Jacques Maritain, born in 1882 to a French Protestant family, met Raissa Oumansoff when they were both university students in Paris. Their subsequent love affair was sufficiently complex to include a mutual suicide pact revocable only on condition of their discovery of the meaning of human life and existence. Provincially, the revolution was delivered through their attendance at the lectures of the French philosopher Henri Bergson, and the influence of their friendship with Leon Bloy, the novelist who famously said, "there is only one sadness in life: not to be a saint." They married in 1916 and were received into the Catholic Church in 1906.

Maritain, who described his wife as "dictum ani­me meae" ("half my soul"), went on to become one of the most influential Catholic philosophers of his time, exemplifying the intertwining of religious belief and contemporary intellectual and political culture. During the 1940s and 1950s he was a frequent vis­itor and lecturer at Notre Dame. Doering, a member of the Notre Dame faculty since 1965, also is the author of another book about Maritain, "Jacques Maritain and the French Catholic Intellectuals," and editor of "The Philosopher and the Correspondence of Jacques Maritain and Saul Alinsky."

In addition to translations of numerous articles and books by and about the Maritains, he has published articles in The Review of Politics, Commonweal, The Oxford Review, Theological Studies and Communio, among other journals.

ND prof honored for writings

Special to The Observer

The Alliance of Artists Communities recently honored poet Francisco Aragon a recipient of the Midwestern Voices and Visions award. A faculty member in the Institute for Latino Studies at Notre Dame, he was one of seven award recipients from a pool of 115 nominated artists and writers.

Funded by the Joyce Foundation, the Midwestern Voices and Visions award acts as a patron for highly talented minority artists in the Great Lakes region. Aragon will spend September 2007 focusing exclusively on his writing at the residential artist community of the Anderson Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Red Wing, Minn.

"My work at the Institute for Latino Studies consists, in large part, of being a champion and advocate of other Latino and Latina writers," Aragon said. "The demands of the job ... have made it very difficult to devote sustained, quality time to my own work. The timing of this award could not have been better. It's very gratifying to know that there are foundations and initiatives that support artists from under-repre­sented communities."

College initiates transfer to upgraded e-mail service

Students, staff pleased with change

He said students, faculty and staff seem to be un­affected by the change in e-mail systems.

"I don't think we could have asked for a better transition so far," Fowlkes said. "The response from everyone has been great. The (new) interface is much better (than the Aegis system) and integrates shared calendars and address books."

Sophomore Lauren Mangiafrote said, "We were looking at keeping both systems up until everyone has gone through the conversion process, so, at this point, we are hoping for little downtime."

Chief Information Officer Keith Fowlkes said, "The migration process consists of clicking a link on the @Home page and entering both the e-mail address and password of the account to be transferred. As long as there are not multiple accounts in line to be transferred, Fowlkes said, "the entire process takes five minutes or less."

As of Jan. 17, 801 members of the Saint Mary's community — including faculty, staff and clubs — had migrat­ed to Zmail. Notices to complete the process will be sent to users closer to the Jan. 30 deadline, Fowlkes said.

"If students, faculty or staff do not migrate by the deadline, no mail will be lost," Fowlkes said. "but the accounts may be suspended until the user migrates."

Contact Liz Harter at lizharter@stmarys.edu

Ten Year Chance: Speaker Series

This one credit-hour course will explore issues, ideas and trends likely to affect business and society during the next decade. A series of separate lectures on selected Friday mornings will feature a wide range of experts.

January 26
America in 2017: Making Tough Choices Today Can Help Save Our Future
David Walker, Comptroller General, United States of America

February 9
Shifts in Global Financial Power
Dr. David E. Martin, CEO, M-CAM

March 2
Climate Change, An Uncertain Future
Dr. Patrick Minnis, NASA Langley Research Center

March 30
Up Front on the Future of Global Security
General Richard B. Myers, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

April 13
Radical Evolution
Joel Garreau, Author, Reporter & Editor, The Washington Post

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Penalty
continued from page 1
Pannetti, whose mental afflictions are similar to Timberlake’s. The high court will likely issue a decision on this process within the next year or two.

"[A mentally ill death row inmate] might say, I know I’m being executed, and not knowing that I’m not," said Andrea Laidman, NDASK co-director. "I think Norman Timberlake knows that he’s going to be executed, but at the same time, he lives with delusions that his brain is being tor­
ured by a machine run by the prison.

Timberlake still alleges he is innocent of murdering Greene, who was a 16-year veteran of the Indiana State Police. He con­tends that the numerous witnesses who pinned the crime on him were guilty of perjury at his 1995 trial.

He also claims he does not suf­
fer from mental illness. "The fact is that the lawyers of death row prisoners are going to use whatever line of argument is going to have the prisoner’s sen­tence converted to life imprison­
ment," Laidman said. "It’s a line of argument that is true, but not necessarily the one the prisoner’s go­ing to favor.

I would argue that most people with mental illnesses aren’t straightforward about saying it loud and clear."

Laidman and her co-director Will McAlliffe had already returned home for Christmas break when the decision to exe­cute Timberlake was made on Dec. 17, Laidman said, and it came as a shock when they found out online in early January.

"When we started the NDASK campaign, we went to a site and reviewed the cases of all death row prisoners," Laidman said. "A lot of times we talked so much that they didn’t think one would be scheduled this spring.

But Pannetti had already been moved to South Bend before the sched­uled execution. The campaign spoke to its eight co-sponsors (including Notre Dame College students) who made a petition to the Secretary International to increase aware­ness on the case. Laidman and ACUICR arranged buses to transport students and commu­nity members to the Indiana State Prison in Michigan City, where they would hold a vigil during Timberlake’s execution.

In Africa while living in Sorin College, which spon­sored St. Jude Primary School.

"This is their daily reality: not seeing their parents, struggling with every obstacle and hoping against all odds that they can have a brighter future," Young said.

"As I walk around the next day, dozing off, I actually think of these kids as bright and cheery as ever.

"Although I am their teacher, I have found myself being the student more often than not.

Young also aids Africa through Kilmajuro for Kids — a fundraising effort he began with fellow 2006 graduate Steier to raise awareness and support educational projects in Uganda.

Young said he initially became interested in Africa while living in Sorin College, which spon­sored St. Jude Primary School.

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[Cover Photo: Paul L. Grondahl/The Observer]
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Sudan accused of violating cease-fire
KHARTOUM - Sudan has breached a cease-fire by bombing villages in northern Darfur, rebel commanders said Sunday and a U.S. called on Sudan to let insurgent factions meet to discuss joining peace talks with the regime.

The reports on the bombings, which could not be independently confirmed, came days after President Omar al-Bashir vowed to adhere to a truce brokered by New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson and others during a visit earlier this month.

Sudan's military spokesman denied the government conducted any bombings, which would violate the new cease-fire as well as a May peace accord between the government and one rebel group, and several U.N. Security Council resolutions.

"We never bomb civilian areas anywhere," the spokesman said on condition of anonymity in accordance with army policy.

Al-Sadr loses protection of Iraqi P.M.

SUDAN - Iraq's prime minister has dropped his protection of an American cleric's Shiite militia after U.S. intelligence convinced him the group was infiltrated by death squads, two officials said Sunday.

In a desperate bid to fend off an all-out American offensive, the radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr last Friday ordered the 30 law enforcers and six Cabinet ministers under his control to end their nearly two-month boycott of the government. They were back at their jobs Sunday.

Pakistan ministers under his control to end their nearly two-month boycott of the government. They were back at their jobs Sunday.

However, the effort has met skepticism in the city that has an estimated 700 gangs with 40,000 members - about four for every police officer - and that gave birth to some of the nation's most notorious gangs, including the Grips, Bloods and Mata-Salva-truc, or MS-13.

"It's too big, it's too entrenched: It's too intimately connected with the urban setup here," Malcolm Kleny, a gang expert at the University of Southern California, said of the gang problem. "You can reduce it. But the idea you can solve it...it's ridiculous."

Gangs have flourished for generations in Los Angeles, but the especially violent past year has caused the police brass off guard. Citywide crime rates fell in 2005, but gang-related offenses increased 14 percent - the first such rise in four years. In the San Fernando Valley, gang murders, assaults, robberies and other crimes jumped 42 percent.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa has appealed to U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales for millions of dollars in anti-gang funds and for more federal prosecutors to pursue racketeering and other charges mostly used in the past against organized crime.

FBI Director Robert Mueller has assigned agents to an anti-gang task force in the San Fernando Valley to work alongside police depa­tized as federal officers.

Authorities promise to increase enforcement in affected neighborhoods. The officers will be armed with injunctions forbidding gang members from assem­bling in certain areas, law­suit aimed at shutting down gang hangouts as nuis­ances and probation orders barring gang mem­bers from returning to their neighborhoods after their release from prison.

In some ways, the approach mirrors a multi-agency Boston campaign in the 1990s, known as the Boston Miracle, that result­ed in a dramatic decline in gun violence and murder rates.

Past efforts in Los Angeles, however, have pro­duced mixed results.

"We've seen this movie before," said Mario Corona, a former member of the Pachona Criminals gang in the San Fernando Valley who now works to rehabili­tate gang members.

The city has been ham­pered in the past by a lack of resources and changing department priorities, according to a city-funded report by civil rights attor­neys.

VENEZUELA

Chavez tells U.S. to 'go to hell'

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - Chavez rejected Casey's statement in his broadcast, saying: "Go to hell, grin­gel Go home!"

Chavez, who was re-elected by a wide majority last month, has said he will enact sweeping reforms to remake Venezuela into a socialist state. Among the plans are nationalizing the main telecommunications company and the electricity and natural gas sectors.

The president's opponents accuse him of using his political strength to expand his powers.

The rising tension between Caracas and Washington has been tense since Chavez was briefly ousted in a 2002 coup that he claimed the U.S. played a role in. The Bush administration has repeatedly denied being involved, although it recognized an interim govern­ment established by coup leaders.

Since then, Chavez has consistently accused the U.S. of conspiring to oust him and often asserts the CIA is work­ing to destabilize his government. U.S. officials have denied trying to overthrow Chavez, but they have labeled him a threat to democracy.

Offering concrete consumption and self-indulgence, Chavez also announced plans in his broadcast to raise domestic gasoline prices and approve a new tax on luxury goods such as private yachts and second homes.

FBI Director Robert Mueller listens to Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa announce anti-gang measures at a press conference in Wilming­ton, Calif., Jan. 18.

L.A. vows crackdown on gangs

Latest string of killings prompts strong response from police, feds, politicians

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - A 14-year-old girl was killed Friday when a group of Hispanic gang members who police say were targeting blacks, a 9-year-old girl died after being hit by a stray bullet as two gang mem­bers exchanged shots near her home.

A cap was worn on a gun in living rooms with a suspected gangster. The soaring violence is prompting police and politi­cians to promise one of the toughest crackdowns on gangs in city history.

"This is the monster, this is what drives people's fears," said Deputy Chief Charles Beck, who oversees a South Los Angeles district where gang-related crime jumped 24 percent during the year ending in November.

However, the effort has met skepticism in the city that has an estimated 700 gangs with 40,000 members - about four for every police officer - and that gave birth to some of the nation's most notorious gangs, including the Grips, Bloods and Mata-Salva-truc, or MS-13.

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School lunches revamped

Associated Press

ODI, N.J. — The cafeteria lunch line at Columbus Elementary School moves quickly as students grab portions of carrots celery, apples and oranges, French fries and hamburgers, once cafeteria staples, aren’t even offered.

"I eat carrots or apples every day," said 10-year-old Alan Espino. He said he didn’t notice that the bun holding his all-buff dog was whole wheat. Even the pizza available in the cafeteria has whole wheat crust.

The school cafeteria looks radically different from those of his parents’ generation, and it appears many kids aren’t turning down the new offerings. In fact, according to a survey of food service directors, french fries are decreasing in popularity and interest in carrots is skyrocketing.

Who chooses on the lunch line change, many children are accepting them, said Martha Conklin, an associate professor at Penn State University who conducts research about school nutrition programs and school food service.

"If you present these healthy offerings to children, they may turn them down at the first time, but you can’t give up," she said.

"Children will adapt. Choice is important, but they can make those selections from healthy offerings." The School Nutrition Association’s annual survey given to food service directors around the country shows just that. Among students in kindergartchen through 12th grade, french fries dropped in popularity from 1998 to 2006, while carrots and fresh vegetables rose in popularity.

"We are dealing with much more sophisticated audiences now, and we working hard to meet their needs in a healthier way," said Janice Thurston, the association’s president.

Cars

continued from page 1

present at the crash site.

Castle Point is located outside of South Bend, so South Bend Police public information officer Phil Trent said St. Joseph County Police would respond to incidents at the complex. The Observer was unable to reach County police or a Castle Point manager Sunday.

Davis said she saw three St. Joseph County Police cars and one Roseland Police car at the scene. She said she spoke to police, who told her the man driving the car was intoxicated.

"He didn’t even get out of his truck until the police got there," Davis said. "I think they just took him."

Police also told her the man driving the truck lived in Enchanted Forest, Davis said, but she did not recognize him.

"A couple other people said they recognized the car," Davis said.

Anna Cusack and Meghan MacKinnon, both Saint Mary’s seniors, said they left their apartment in Enchanted Forest Sunday morning to go to church, they discovered their cars had been hit. MacKinnon’s car was pushed forward and Cusuck’s car was two parking spaces over from where it had been.

"I went out and where we live there is a big hill ... and my car was hanging over a ditch like it was about to fall," MacKinnon said. "The rear bumper was completely off—it’s cracked in half." The back of Cusuck’s car collapsed on itself, Cusack said. The gas tank and the wheels of her car were also damaged.

Notre Dame senior Rena Zach said she was not at her apartment early Sunday morning, but her roommate called her when she woke up to tell her that her new 2006 Honda CRV had been hit.

"It was parked in the spot right across from my apartment," Zach said. "It was my favorite spot. When it is open everyone always fights for it."

She said her car was “wedged in between two other cars.”

"When they moved the two cars that are surrounding my car, it’s just going to scrape my car more," Zach said.

Cusack and MacKinnon’s insurance companies gave them numbers of local auto repair shops. MacKinnon said. Their cars will be towed today, she said, and they will get rental cars to drive until they are fixed.

"It will probably take a week or two, and Anne’s car may even be totaled," MacKinnon said.

The police told Davis to call the records department at the police station on Monday to get the accident report, she said. Zach said she heard the man driving the truck had car insurance.

"I just hope that his insurance covers it," she said.

Contact Kaitlynn Rizely at krizel@nd.edu
Motorola losses prompt job cuts
Struggling cell phone giant to slash 3,500 positions after dismal fourth quarter

Motorola Inc., which manufactures phones like this Razr, plans to cut 3,500 jobs, or about five percent of its workforce, to offset immense fourth quarter losses.

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Motorola Inc. CEO Ed Zander said Friday that the cell-phone maker will cut 3,500 jobs, or five percent of its workforce, to offset losses and improve operating costs after a disappointing fourth quarter.

Zander, speaking to analysts during a news conference in New York, said the move will be sufficient to provide coverage for the uninsured, largely completed in the first half of 2007. The state director for California's federation of independent businesses, said Motorola is sticking to its strategy, which was in need of overhaul a year ago. He said that the company has to reduce costs in the handset business.

Results included a net gain of 5 cents per share for various charges. Excluding those items, Motorola said earnings from continuing operations were 21 cents a share, or better than the 13 cents to 16 cents it forecast two weeks ago.

Analysts surveyed by Thomson Financial had lowered their consensus estimate to 25 cents per share following Motorola's Jan. 5 warning. Revenue was $11.6 billion, up 17 percent from $9.8 billion in the first quarter of 2006. Recent weakness in technology stocks had begun to weigh on Motorola's stock shares, compared with 2.84 billion shares, compared with 2.89 billion traded Thursday.

Market prices for poor profit reports

NEW YORK — Stocks closed narrowly mixed Friday after profit reports and forecasts from blue chip names like International Business Machines Corp. and General Electric Co. failed to impress Wall Street and sent investors searching for other catalysts to drive the markets higher. Many analysts said profits were 21 cents a share, or about 2 to 3 percent above Wall Street's $10.6 billion estimate. The company said it expects sales between $10.4 billion and $10.6 billion in the first quarter.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended the week down 2.40, or 0.02 percent, at 11,570.65. Broader stock indicators were down $11.5 billion, or 0.33 percent. The S&P 500 fell 1.02, or 0.20 percent, to 1,020.00. The Nasdaq composite index was flat, rising 1.77 cent.

The week began with an uptick in earnings from a number of blue chip names like International Business Machines Corp. and General Electric Co. But investors were disappointed by the results, which failed to impress Wall Street and sent investors searching for other catalysts to drive the markets higher. Many analysts said profits were down 21 cents a share, or about 2 to 3 percent, below Wall Street's $10.6 billion estimate. The company said it expects sales between $10.4 billion and $10.6 billion in the first quarter.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended the week down 2.40, or 0.02 percent, at 11,570.65. Some analysts think that the market will continue to see weakness on concern about the Fed's interest rate cuts, which have helped to support the market and that the economy will continue to grow.

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The Observer endorses Davis-Kennedy

With three student body presidential tickets to choose from, Saint Mary's students have been bombarded by enough promises, goals and initiatives to make their heads spin. A vote for juniors Annie Davis and Courtney Kennedy, however, is a smart one. The realistic dual plan to embrace and enhance College tradition through increased campus communications and to refocus promises to improve student government. Davis' outspoken urge to revamp weekly Board of Governance meetings to incorporate increased discussion and student activism has the potential to eliminate elements of campus-wide apathy toward student government. The most notable contribution Davis would make to the position is her connection to college administration through her work as admissions commissioner. This position has allowed her to recognize the realities of budgeting and, most importantly, has familiarized her with administrative policy.

While many students would love to see vast and immediate changes such as new laundry facilities and meal plan options, Davis and Kennedy seem open to considering all student needs in a reasonable manner. Their campaign incorporates the development of Saint Mary's future—primarily the complex issue of the ongoing identity initiative, which Davis said she believes needs to receive more attention from the College community.

The duo also recognizes the need to maintain the College's deeply rooted tradition in the sometimes-uncertain future of Saint Mary's identity. Kennedy plans to more closely link the Sisters of Saint Mary's and the student body, a passion she developed during a fall break pilgrimage to a Holy Cross community in Mexico.

As Saint Mary's grows, it demands leaders who seek change and dedication to the mission—two attributes Davis and Kennedy bring to the campaign.

While they mean business when it comes to increased communication and revamping BOG, the pair has not overlooked the light-hearted aspects of the College, such as continuing and improving campus events to attract a higher student turnout.

The Observer believes Davis and Kennedy have a realistic attitude paired with a variety of student government experiences that will allow them to foster change and meet the growing needs of Saint Mary's.
Apparentlly nothing becomes a certified big deal in this country until Time magazine names it Person of the Year. Just look at 1994 winner Pope John Paul II — had anyone even heard of this so-called pontiff until that? And look at 1957 winner American women — talk about going from zero to hero thanks to a single magazine cover! Well, this phenomenon has happened once again with Time's recent announcement that the 2006 Person of the Year is a blurry mirror hastily slapped onto the magazine's front cover with a glue stick. (Apparently the average American was supposed to infer that this meant that they were personally chosen to be Person of the Year, but this slipped right past me.) In any case, you may be surprised to know that even that stranger person covered in aluminum foil who lurks around John F. Kennedy's image has all been named Person of the Year for "changing the nature of the information society" through such tools as YouTube, MySpace, Facebook and blogs. At the time this information seemed like a justifiable selection on the part of Time magazine. After all, in 2006 alone, a YouTube video was responsible for ending the political career of Virginia Senator George "Macaca". I'm Taking It Back" Alien, and blogs were the first news outlet to publish Pope John Paul II's emails. (See the Florida Representative Mark "Hot For Little Boys" Foley. This Clinton season also marked the culmination of the ability of political blogs like The Daily Kos to rally support behind certain candidates and ideas that may have otherwise become political footnotes... like that George Allen guy. On second glance, though, one has to wonder exactly what Time magazine was thinking. After all, previous Persons of the Year have included Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr., two Popes, Gandhi, Queen Elizabeth II, Hillary, Stalin, the computer, and every U.S. President since 1932 who did not play football at the University of Michigan. Deeply that impressive pedigree, this year's Person of the Year includes the kid who taped himself frantically swinging a light saber in his garage and the hot Asian girl who sings and dances in a bikini for her MySpace video "I've Got the Blues (Da Madison of MySpace)" by Time). The most popular video in the history of YouTube is titled "The Evolution of Dance," and features a comical dancing his way through the songs of Elvis Presley, Chaddy Checkker, the Bangles, Los Del Rio and Outkast, to name a few. While certainly clever, I must admit that my guy doing the Chicken Dance truly worthy of the same award given to the guy who helped end apartheid? But that is precisely why 2006 was the year of You (and me), and the aluminum foil person from Finnegans'. 2006 will go down in history as the year America found its sense of humor — and was rewarded for it. We laugh at each other's personal interests and photos on Facebook, we laugh at each other's bizarre talents on YouTube, and we laugh at the pathetic futures of leftist politicians who can't keep their hypocrisy under wraps on citizen journalism sites and blogs. Hell, we even laugh directly at ourselves when a fake Kazakhstani journalist exposes us for the utter idiots that we are in a popular film. Congratulations, People of the Year. Now go get hammered and post a YouTube video of yourself doing something stupid so that we can start defending our title in 2007.

Joey Falco is a senior American Studies major and Journalism, Ethics, and Democracy minor. He can be reached at jfalco@nd.edu

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

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Contraceptive society morally harmful**

In Jennifer Burke's Letter to the Editor ("But can be the most important part.", Jan. 18), she states that a politician may be required to put the good of our country above moral principles when the two come in conflict. This implies that there is no connection between what a person knows to be wrong and what is best for society; a truly preposterous suggestion if one understands the basis of Catholic social and moral teaching. This teaching as a whole teaches that in the outbreak of the belief in the existence of a natural law. That is, the God is the creator of humanity, thus God has written the manual for living. The Church condemns contraception because it implicitly condones promiscuity, allows the removal of love from sex and permanence from marriage. This request was denied due to long-standing HPC procedures, but it began our response hall poster campaign. Now, our ability to directly discuss this issue with students in individual dormitories is

**Fair trade coffee education underway**

Drew Clary's Letter to the Editor ("Resolution ineffective," Jan. 18) is both incorrect and misinformed. He writes that the educational drive to spread the fair trade message has ceased and is ineffective. He references the lack of dorm visits as a failure "to get the word out." However, he fails to mention that students leading this education campaign, I find this accusation grossly unfounded and inappropriate.

The fair trade coffee campaign, a subgroup of America's coffee is a movement to educate the student body on the moral decision the University must make to end its relationship with coffee companies that are克莱里的人。I encourage him to take notice of the increasing presence and strength of our education campaign around campus this semester. I personally invite him to a screening of the film, "Catches Lightning with a Kite; Steps up to the Plate". To be avoided, and inevitably requires the option of ending a child's life in the womb should the protective action fail. Some methods, such as the pill, can also end the life of a new human being at a very early stage of pregnancy. It can also damage a woman's reproductive organs and make her infertile. The practice of contraception erodes respect for human life and for its protection and nurturance in a stable, loving family.

One need not agree that this social teaching was handed down from God to believe that it is true; one need only acknowledge the sequence of America's becoming a contraceptive society: more abortions, fewer children, more divorce, more AIDS cases, and the list goes on and on. The state has long had an interest in protecting the lives of children and the institution of marriage (hence the legal penalties for those who violate this law). At the heart of this issue is whether one's conscience is to be avoided, and inevitably requires the option of ending a child's life in the womb should the protective action fail. Some methods, such as the pill, can also end the life of a new human being at a very early stage of pregnancy. It can also damage a woman's reproductive organs and make her infertile. The practice of contraception erodes respect for human life and for its protection and nurturance in a stable, loving family.

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TELEVISION REVIEW

‘Studio 60’ surmounts initial shortcomings

Aaron Sorkin writes humor, politics into NBC comedy/drama

By CHRIS HINE

NBC’s “Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip” debuted this season as one of the most anticipated new programs. With the pen of Aaron Sorkin and the artistic vision of director Thomas Schlamme — the creative duo behind the classic shows “Sports Night” and “The West Wing” — “Studio” was expected to be built on an engaging and quality program. It was also designed to bring in ad revenue for the struggling NBC. The end result is a show that has struggled in the ratings and is still trying to find its feet halfway through the season.

“Studio 60” follows the friendship of Matt Albie (Matthew Perry, “Friends”) and Danny Tripp (Bradley Whitford, “The West Wing”). The pair is a famous writer/director team — not unlike Sorkin/Schlamme — that is forced by NBC president Jordan McDeere (Amanda Peet, left) to take control of the struggling sketch comedy show “Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip,” which is something akin to “Saturday Night Live.” McDeere is a woman in a man’s world, la Mary Richards in the “Mary Tyler Moore Show.” Interestingly, the legendary five-time Emmy winner Ed Asner, who played Mary’s curmudgeon boss Lou Grant on “Moore,” also plays McDeere’s boss.

McDeere reveals to Tripp that she has information concerning his positive cocaine test, three months earlier — information that can halt the pair’s burgeoning film career. Reluctantly, Matt and Danny take the job as executive producers of “Studio 60,” much to the chagrin of Jack Rudolph (Steven Weber, “Mo’s”), who frets Matt and Danny from their jobs as writers on the show years earlier. Complicating matters is Harriet Hayes (Sarah Paulson), the star of “Studio 60,” a devout evangelical Christian who also happens to be Matt’s ex-girlfriend. The two must learn to coexist despite their rocky past.

Rounding out the cast of “Studio 60” are Tom Jeter (Nate Corddry, “The Daily Show”), whose father is disappointed he did not join the military like his younger brother, Simon Stiles (D.L. Hughley), who feels the show could explore the plight of African-Americans a little more creatively and stage director/resident Lautrec Cal Stanley (Timothy Busfield, “The West Wing”).

“Studio 60” started on the right foot. The pilot featured a blistering tirade by the show’s outgoing producer, Wes (Judd Hirsch), decrieing the state of television today. The speech occurred live on the sketch show and led to Wes’s firing and, subsequently, Matt and Danny’s hiring. Contained in the pilot was the vintage fast-paced, wit-filled dialogue Sorkin perfected on “Sports Night” and perfected on “The West Wing.” More importantly, Perry and Whitford played off each other perfectly, and Peet managed to remain funny and endearing despite her character’s exploitative means of coercing Matt and Danny into taking the job. The only weak aspect of the episode was the interaction between Paulson and Perry. They lacked the humor of Allison Janney and Busfield from “The West Wing,” or the torturous psychological warfare Felicity Huffman and Peter Krause waged with each other on “Sports Night.”

Disappointingly, the main storyline has followed the relationship between Matt and Harriet, as opposed to Matt and Danny. The lack of compelling interaction from Perry and Paulson is mostly the fault of Sorkin, who feels the need to relentlessly attack the evangelical right in his writing — a habit he grew into on “The West Wing.” So far, the only reason Sorkin has given as to why Harriet and Matt broke up is because she appeared on Pat Robertson’s “700 Club” to promote her Christian CD. While the audience could forgive Sorkin’s political rants on “The West Wing” because of its White House setting, his evangelical bashing and political views ring hollow and become annoying when they come from backstage at a television show. Such dialogue distracts from the flow of the show and trivializes the relationship between Matt and Harriet.

This is not the only problem with “Studio 60.” The sketches on the show are rarely funny and undermine the premise that Matt is a gifted writer, and the back-stories Sorkin gives to Tom and Simon are trite and contrived. A show with the title “Friday Night Lights” does much better job than “Studio 60” at portraying how conflict can cause rift in a family.

The show’s viewership declined steadily following its stunning premiere because Sorkin pushed Danny and Matt’s drug addiction and sadly diminished Whitford’s role from the pilot episode. He missed an opportunity to provide us some touching drama by giving us the story behind Danny’s drug addiction and insights into his friendship with Matt. There has been no mention of his drug habit since the pilot episode, and Whitford and Perry have been on screen together only sparingly. Whitford has shown the ability to handle drama of this gravity on “The West Wing.” His work in season two of that show (when his character, Joshua Lyman, coped with post-traumatic stress disorder) earned him an Emmy and was arguably the best storyline Sorkin devised for “The West Wing.” It is a waste of talent to leave Whitford on the side like this.

Thankfully, recent episodes have shown Sorkin is getting the message. He has taken screen time away from the interplay between Perry and Paulson and from the rest of the show’s cast, instead devoting it to the blossoming relationship between Matt and Danny. That relationship is more humorous, more subtle, and grounded in the world of love and romance — not believer versus atheist. Of late, Sorkin has backed off the Christian bashing, and when he does, “Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip” is one of the most entertaining shows on TV. In these moments, Perry and Paulson have their moments of brilliance. Their relationship is filled with the perfect amount of nostalgic longing and uncertainty about the future.

All hope is not lost for “Studio 60” to keep its place in NBC’s primetime lineup. If it’s one of the high-rating shows among people who make more than $100,000 a year, a key demographic for advertisers. It picks up more than a million extra viewers each week via DVR recordings, and its episodes frequent the iTunes top 10. Hopefully, NBC will allow the show to continue because “Studio 60” is finally on the right track.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

Comedian D.L. Hughley, center, stars as Simon Stiles, a cast member of the titular sketch comedy program who is a graduate from the Yale School of Drama.
Aaron Sorkin is a man of many words and one of the few to have an outlet for them. As an award-winning playwright and screenwriter, Sorkin has imbued his lexicon in popular culture and created an avenue to express his beliefs and philosophies through characters that audiences crave. The man who coined "you can't handle the truth!" in "A Few Good Men" also wrote the movie "The American President" and television shows "Sports Night," "The West Wing" and current "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip."

Sorkin began his career as a playwright after graduating from Syracuse University with a bachelor of fine arts degree in musical theatre. After discovering his creative passion, he began writing plays and short stories prior to the "A Few Good Men" even before it appeared on stage. His next feature film was "The American President," which served as both a memorable romance and a behind-the-scenes look at the White House. It was this project — featuring future fictional president Martin Sheen — that paved the way for his most famous work, "The West Wing."

Sorkin maintains a consistent writing style throughout his projects. Common traits include rapid dialogue and obscure popular culture references. All three of the writer's television series have explored behind-the-scenes situations, whether it is a sports news show, the West Wing of the White House, or a lighthearted look at Disney's regex comedy series. Sorkin has also become famous for his characters' "walk and talks," in which they talk while walking to the next place they need to be. It may not sound impressive, but it breaks the style of stationary blocking and allows the camera to become more creative with the filming.

Sorkin's career has not come without controversy. However, and much of this controversy stems from his willingness to speak his mind through his writing with little concern for whom he offends. But while he holds liberal views, Sorkin usually explores both sides to arguments about politics and society, such as in "The West Wing" and "Studio 60." Half the fun of watching those programs is to observe how one man can fight himself and who it is that actually wins.

Sorkin draws much of his material from his own life experiences, particularly in "Studio 60." He created the character Matt Albie (Matthew Perry) after himself, yet his history of drug abuse is exposed through the character of Danny Tripp ("West Wing" alum Bradley Whitford). Conservative sketch comedy player Harriet Hayes takes after conservative Sorkin love interest Kristin Chenoweth, and many of the struggles Matt and Danny confront each week mirror those that Sorkin has faced. Even the Eagles coach, who is not immediately accepted by the Eagles players, who still view him as an outsider, constantly working to prove himself, Papale revitalizes the unflinching spirit of Philadelphia.

The real Papale earned himself the nickname "Rocky" since the movie became popular at the same time that he did. Wahlberg does an excellent job portraying the determination, spirit and energy that the real Papale demonstrated. The football scenes are especially realistic since Wahlberg took the majority of the hits delivered. In the scene shown in all of the trailers, Wahlberg is hit hard driving down the sidelines — an accidental blow he was never even supposed to take.

The film does an excellent job of portraying 1970s Philadelphia, going through plenty of labor problems and high levels of unemployment. The bars and the stadium are excellently recreated with acute attention to detail.

The heart and soul of the film are strong throughout because of the0

In addition, the film itself is sharp, but there is talk of special features — unlike many other Disney DVD releases. While there aren't many additional features, this is one of the few worth watching, especially for fans of the film. There is a 45-minute featurette entitled "Becoming Invincible: The Vince Papale Story," which is highly entertaining. The real-life Papale is a very charismatic and entertaining man who, it's apparent, very much enjoyed his experience with the Eagles and the making of this film. Besides giving information on the real Papale (including footage from his NFL career) it also delves into the movie's origins and some experiences during filming.

The DVD also includes two different commentary tracks. The first features the real Vince Papale, as well as producer Mark Ciardi and writer Brad Gann. It is very interesting to hear Papale talk about the various scenes in the movie and how they were similar/different to his own experiences as well as shared anecdotes about the production of the film. The second track features Core and editor Jerry Greenberg as they talk more about the technical aspects and difficulties they encountered during various shots.

"Invincible" is exactly what the audience expects from the sports underdog genre. The quality of the film with "Rocky." While the DVD is a little lacking, the film itself is an entertaining and endearing story of what is possible to achieve.

Contact Cassie Belecke belecke@nd.edu

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**DVD REVIEW**

Mark Wahlberg, right, stars in "Invincible" as Vincent Papale, who walked onto the 1976 Eagles after coach Dick Vermeil (Greg Kinnear, left) held open tryouts. Papale, who is barely making ends meet by working as a substitute teacher and moonlighting as a bartender, is not immediately accepted by the Eagles and the making of this film. Throughout his sometimes turbulent life, Sorkin's work has remained consistently good. Both "A Few Good Men" and "The American President" have received Golden Globe and Oscar nominations. Despite its cancellation, "Sports Night" is still a critical favorite. The "West Wing" won four Emmys for Outstanding Drama Series during each of its four years as the series' writer. "Studio 60" has received lukewarm reviews and is particularly harsh with its attacks on the Red States, but Sorkin's words still flow like poetry. He may be accused of elitism, but his writing genius cannot be denied. If audiences can't handle that, he will certainly have something to write about.

Contact Cassie Belecke belecke@nd.edu

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**Wahlberg is true-life Rocky in poignant 'Invincible'**

**Invincible**

By EMER McGINN Assistant Sports Editor

Everyone knows Rocky Balboa is the "Italian Stallion" from Philadelphia whose fans were secured after Sylvester Stallone's original "Rocky" debuted in 1976. That same year, an unknown walk-on named Vincent Papale made his way onto the Philadelphia Eagles. "Invincible," recently released on DVD, tells the story of Papale's rise from a nobody in working-class Philly to a playmaker for the Eagles.

Mark Wahlberg stars as the down-and-out Papale, who is barely making ends meet by working as a substitute teacher and moonlighting as a bartender. His wife Sharen (Hala Ghaudini) leaves him as the Eagles hire Dick Vermeil (Greg Kinnear) as their new coach. To get through the 76 football season, Papale is the only person in the Eagles who is not immediately accepted by the veterans and joins the team at training camp.

Similar to Notre Dame's Rudy, Papale, who is widely celebrated in his hometown, is not immediately accepted by the Eagles players, who still view him as an outsider. Constantly working to prove himself, Papale revitalizes the unflinching spirit of Philadelphia. The real Papale earned himself the nickname "Rocky" since the movie became popular at the same time that he did. Wahlberg does an excellent job portraying the determination, spirit and energy that the real Papale demonstrated. The football scenes are especially realistic since Wahlberg took the majority of the hits delivered. In the scene shown in all of the trailers, Wahlberg is hit hard driving down the sidelines — an accidental blow he was never even supposed to take.

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The heart and soul of the film are strong throughout because of the0
Gionta scores in shootout to top Philadelphia

Recchi nets three power-play goals as Pittsburgh blows out Toronto 8-2 to move into eighth place in the conference

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Brian Gionta came up big once again for the New Jersey Devils. Gionta scored the tying goal with 20.8 seconds remaining in regulation and had the only goal in the shootout to lead Devils to a 4-3 win over the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday.

With goalie Martin Brodeur on the bench for an extra attacker, the Devils threw everything at Antero Niittymaki and the Flyers in the closing seconds. Niittymaki turned back Jamie Langenbrunner, Zach Parise and Paul Martin but was helpless as Martin took another shot and Gionta knocked in the rebound for his team-leading 21st goal.

"I was just hanging around the net, trying to be desperate," the 5-foot-7 Gionta said. "Sometimes the puck just has to come to you. It's as much position as luck. I was trying to box out and get position in front. It bounced off somebody and laid right in front of me and I jammed it in."

Niittymaki was under siege through most of the game losing his third straight start as the Devils carried a 4-2 lead into the third period. But Gionta prevailed again in the shootout. First up for the Devils, who were just hanging around the net, trying to be in the shootout to lead Devils to the third win in four games and send them into the All-Star break in fine position to claim their first playoff berth in seven NHL seasons.

"That was our game plan," Florida coach Jacques Martin said. "They've got some excellent players. If you give them the puck or give them time or space they're going to hurt you. They're a hard-working team and they can do things offensively."

The Senators Snap a Two-Game Losing Skid

The Senators didn't do anything fancy. They grabbed a lead and played well in front of goalie, "We were New. We've got trouble with both Boston this season, but beat them the last two meetings against the Senators," said Chris Phillips also for Ottawa, winners of five straight road games and six of seven overall. The Senators have won the last two meetings against the Senators after losing the first three this season.

The Senators didn't do anything fancy. They grabbed a lead and played well in front of Emery. "We're nice. We've got trouble with both Boston this season, but beat them the last two," Healey said. "We need these points. They're big division games, especially before the break."

Emery felt his night was easier against Boston because of a defensive attitude this time. "Sometimes that happens against certain teams. Sometimes you lose confidence against certain teams," Emery said. "The start of the season we'd get leads and try to win games 5-0 instead of 2-0." It just was the second time Boston has been shutout this season; the other came in a 5-0 loss at Nashville on Dec. 30.

The Ottawa Senators seem to have solved the Boston Bruins. Danby Healey scored his team-leading 29th and 30th goals, and Ray Emery stopped 18 shots for his fourth shutout to lead the Senators to 3-0 victory over the Bruins on Saturday.

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**NBA Standings**

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

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Eastern Conference, Central Division

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Western Conference, Northwest Division

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**NBA**

Chicago at Indiana 7 p.m., Comcast

**Tennis**

Australian Open 9 p.m., ESPN2

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**NFL**

Chicago running back Thomas Jones stiff arms New Orleans safety Josh Bullock on his way to a 33-yard run Sunday. The Bears defeated the Saints 39-14 to advance to their first Super Bowl since 1985.

**Bears shut down Saints for NFC title**

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Relax, Chicago. Rex Grossman and Da Bears are indeed good enough for this Super Bowl, and they've already made it a historic one.

Few teams with such an impressive record have been questioned, even maligned as the Bears. Yet after romping past the New Orleans Saints 39-14 on Sunday, they are headed to their first NFL title game since the 1985 team overwhelmed the league and shuffled in under Mike Ditka and Jim McMahon.

This time,ovie Smith will lead them there, the first black head coach to make it to the title game in its 41 years. They did it in true Bears fashion — big plays on defense and a steady running game in the sleet and snow, ending the Saints' uplifting saga.

The Bears (15-3) will play either the Patriots or Colts, who met for the AFC title later Sunday, in Miami in two weeks.

All the worries about whether the Bears' outstanding season was dispelled thanks to running back Thomas Jones, Alpo Pro killer Robbie Gould and a defense that, while not dominant, made enough decisive plays.

For a moment, though, in the third quarter they seemed to be in trouble. Reggie Bush’s electrifying 88-yard touchdown catch and dash to the end zone pulled the Saints within two points, 16-14. But from then on, Brian Urlacher and the Bears’ defense took over.

Chicago, which has won nine NFL titles but has never been an also-ran for much of the last two decades, later went 85 yards in five plays in the worst of the weather. Often-criticized Grossman had four completions, including a 33-yarder to a diving Bernard Berrian that clinched it, sending the bundled-up fans in Soldier Field into foot-stomping hysteria and chants of “Super Bowl, Super Bowl.”

Jones had all 69 yards on an eight-play ground drive in the second quarter, scored twice and rushed for 123 yards. Gould nailed three field goals.

The Bears, who led the league with 44 takeaways, forced four turnovers, and when NFC passing leader Drew Brees fumbled less than a minute after Berrian’s TD, whatever karma the Saints (13-7) carried this season disappeared.

Codric Benson scored on a 12-yard run, and from there it was a matter of searching for the scoreboard.

**In Brief**

Manning leads Colts over Patriots in AFC championship

INDIANAPOLIS — A comeback, a drive, a legacy. And yes — finally Peyton Manning gets his Super Bowl trip, too.

Football’s most prolific quarterback put on a show for the ages Sunday, rallying the Indianapolis Colts from 18 points down and driving them 80 yards for the winning score in a wildly entertaining 38-34 victory over the New England Patriots.

In his nine years in the league, Manning has never played in a game like this AFC championship contest. He threw for 349 yards and one touchdown and brought his team back from a 21-3 deficit.

Joseph Addai capped Manning’s late drive with the winning score, a 3-yard run with 1 minute left to help the Colts (15-4) complete the rally and send coach Tony Dungy to his first Super Bowl — and a very special one.

Throwing punch results in suspension for Garrett

NEW YORK — Kevin Garnett was suspended one game by the NBA on Sunday for throwing a punch at Detroit’s Antonio McDyess.

Garnett won’t play Sunday night when Minnesota visits the Phoenix Suns. He leads the Timberwolves with 22.2 points and 12.8 rebounds per game.

With 5:18 left in the fourth quarter of the Timberwolves’ double-overtime victory over the Timberwolves on Friday night, McDyess knocked Minnesota’s Mark Madsen to the floor with a forearm shove.

Garnett then chuckled the ball at McDyess, who charged at Garnett with his fist cocked. Garnett was pushed to punch, too, and took a swipe at McDyess as he partially retreated.

Whether or not Garnett will appeal the suspension is unknown, but it seems unlikely the star would protest the light penalty.

Hoffman takes Bob Hope for first Tour victory

THOUSAND PALMS, Calif. — Charley Hoffman rammed in a 4-foot birdie putt to beat John Rollins on the first hole of a playoff in the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic on Sunday, wrapping up a wind-swept round that took six hours to finish.

Hoffman birdied No. 15 and 18, then was forced into a playoff with Rollins after he missed a chance to win on the first extra hole.

Rollins’ shot into a fairway bunker when Minnesota visits the Phoenix Suns. He leads the Timberwolves with 22.2 points and 12.8 rebounds per game.

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FENCING

Prot leads Irish women to perfect ND Duals

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Notre Dame didn't have a perfect weekend, but it came close.

The Irish went 16-1 and had just two close contests in the Notre Dame Duals — and both were to No. 6 Ohio State.

The Irish women swept the field Saturday, including an exciting 14-13 victory over the Buckeyes. The men from Columbia returned the favor Sunday, with an even more dramatic finish.

Notre Dame and Ohio State were deadlocked at 13 bouts apiece with Irish sophomore épée Karl Koska dueling Buckeyes sophomore Jason Pryor for the team title clinching 14th victory. Notre Dame and Ohio State cruised past every other opponent in the 10-team Notre Dame Duals, but when the two squads met each other, centimeters determined the winner.

Pryor got off to a fast start, scoring consecutive points to open the bout before earning a double-touch to put him up 3-1. Notre Dame assistant coach Gia Kvaratskhelia called timeout with 1:35 left in the bout to regroup Koska. He delivered immediately, scoring a tough point to bring the deficit to 3-2 but then surrendering a point to Pryor to fall behind 3-3.

Koska responded once again, making the score 4-3 with 36 seconds left. But Pryor tied up Koska and managed a double touch to give him a 5-4 victory and the Ohio State men a season-opening win over their newfound rivals.

"That was a clash of two very equal teams, and I think our kids did a very good job," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "After so many touches during the day, one touch decides it."

Behind the steady, solid performances of veteran and young fencers, Notre Dame overcame the absence of two of its best members — junior sabre Mariel Zagunis and senior sabre Patrick Ghattas — to prove it belongs among the top teams in the country once again.

For the Irish women, the top moment was their close victory over the Buckeyes. With the team score at 11-11, Irish sophomore foil Emillie Prot tied her bout with less than five seconds left before winning in sudden death.

"If Prot loses, we lose. That was an amazing moment. It was a thriller."

Gia Kvaratskhelia
Irish assistant coach

"Had no idea' how close the teams were, Prot said. "I think if I did, I would have lost."

Kvaratskhelia said that bout was the crucial one for the Irish against the Buckeyes.

"If Prot loses, we lose," he said. "That was an amazing moment. It was a thriller."

Moments after Prot's victory, Irish senior epee Amy Orlando won her bout to give the Irish a 13-11 lead.

"I knew what I had to do against the people I was fencing," Orlando said. "I just put the whole score and everything out of my mind and focused on what I needed to do."

Prot won her final bout, and the Irish took the 14-13 victory over the Buckeyes. The Irish women beat every other team by at least seven bouts.

Although the men lost, Bednarski, who was worried about how his squad would respond to the competition, said Notre Dame's performance was pleasantly unexpected.

"For me, this was a little bit surprising positively," Bednarski said. "It was a nice surprise how well we did."

Notre Dame started the men's competition with big wins, easily beating Cal State-Fullerton, Wayne State, Lawrence and Northwestern. After the Ohio State bout, the Irish toppled UC San Diego, Detroit Mercy, Cleveland State and Stanford.

Notre Dame was down 10-6 to Ohio State before mounting a furious comeback fueled by junior epee Greg Howard and senior epee Aaron Adjemian. Both Howard and Adjemian captured their final two bouts, and the Irish climbed to a 13-12 lead seconds before Buckeyes junior foil William Jeter beat Irish senior Frank Bontempo to set up the climatic final bout.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

MEN'S SWIMMING

Notre Dame falls to Northwestern

Second-place finishes fail to help No. 16 ND

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

No. 16 Notre Dame was reminded why Northwestern is No. 8 as the Wildcats cruised past every other opponent in the 10-team Notre Dame Duals, but when the two squads met each other, centimeters determined the winner.

"Prot's model was a 4-5-6 superstar model where we focus more on depth. You can get it done either way as you're showing, but we think that we're headed in the direction."

The Irish return to the pool next Friday for the Shamrock Invitational.

Contact Greg Arborgast at garbogas@nd.edu

Coffee at the Como

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Tuesday, January 23
7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, bisexual, and questioning members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal lunch at the Co-Mo.

Coffee and conversation will be provided.

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

Coffee and conversation will be provided.

PHIL HUDELSON/For the Observer

Irish sophomore Sam Pendergast dives into the pool during the 200 meter freestyle relay during the Dennis Stark Relays Oct. 6.
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Cycling champion
Sentimental geologist*

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SMC SWIMMING

Belles optimistic despite two weekend losses

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

The Belles had a rough weekened after losing Friday to Kalamazoo, 125-85, and again Saturday against Hillsdale, 126-92.

The Belles (2-6) have only one win this season against Calvary before the MIAA championships in Grant Rapids next Feb. 8.

But coach Ryan Dombkowski already sees the season as a success. The direction of the program coupled with the individual performances, he said, has elevated the program far above last year’s lows.

“We’ve won a couple meets — last year we didn’t win any.”

Dombkowski said after the Hillsdale meet, “It’s a turn in the right direction.”

Dombkowski also believes the progress made will not only impress recruits but also show them opportunities.

“The recruits will see we’re fast in some events, but that we also have holes to fill,” he said. “It’ll show them an opportunity to contribute to right away.”

Another measure of success lies in the performance of the swimmers. No one personifies this better than sophomore Melissa Gerbeth, who accounted for the only two wins against Hillsdale. Gerbeth won the 1,650 freestyle with a time of 18:23.58 and the 500 freestyle with a time of 5:24.56.

Two meets in two days didn’t face her.

“I rested all day today, and I tried to swim an even-paced race,” she said. “I tried not to go all out at the beginning.”

Gerbetah can withhold some energy in her races depending on the competition she faces.

“On Friday I swam the 1,000 easy because I knew I could win it without going all out,” she said. “Then the next event I swam real hard.”

Senior Sarah Budd dropped her 500 freestyle time by seven seconds, finishing in 6:09.51, and was right at her lifetime best for the 100 and 200 freestyle.

“The Belles have always been a defensive team,” Saint Mary’s coach Jennifer Henley said.

“They have great energy in her races depending on the competition she faces.”

She said.

When she steps on the pool, losing Friday to Calvin made the Belles optimistic.

“We’ve had a hard week of practices, and we just got back from the training trip to Florida a week ago,” Dombkowski said.

“We broke the bodies down and tried to increase the endurance as much as possible, so it’s encouraging that we’re near or at lifetime bests. We’re probably going to back off next week to prepare for the conference meet.”

Saint Mary’s again suffered from lacking a diving team.

Hillsdale recorded nine points in the diving competition.

The Belles won against Calvin next Friday at 6 p.m. at Washington High School.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

21-4 run sparks come-from-behind victory

By DAN COOPER
Sports Writer

In their most important conference game to date Saint Mary’s pulled out an impressive victory, defeating the Adrian 84-72 Saturday at the Angela Athletic Center.

The win improves the Belles record to 6-10 on the season while Adrian falls to 7-9 (3-7 in the MIAA). More importantly the Belles move to 5-4 in the MIAA, good enough for third in conference play. Should the Belles stay on top in the top four of the conference standings, they would be guaranteed home-court advantage in the MIAA tournament first round.

Adrian started the game on fire from beyond the arc, hitting their first six 3-pointers en route to 21-18 lead.

“We started out sluggish, sitting in the zone and not expecting them to knock down the three’s,” Saint Mary’s coach Jennifer Henley said. “When they hit those three pointer we quit playing zone.”

The game was characterized by rallies with the Belles ended the first half on a 21-4 run that sent them into the locker room with a 39-34 advantage.

Five minutes into the second half the Bulldogs had pulled within four but Saint Mary’s responded with another surge — this time an 11-4 run — that helped the Belles pull away and maintain a comfortable lead throughout the rest of the game.

One key to Saint Mary’s victory was its ability to beat Adrian on the boards — something the Bulldogs had excelled at this season, pulling down an average of 40 rebounds a game, versus 36 for their opponents. On Saturday the Belles were superior 41-30 in the glass, out-rebounding the Bulldogs 41-30.

“Not that we were working all week on our rebounding,” Henley said.

“Adrian played their small guard and that allowed our posts to box out and secure rebounds.”

Saint Mary’s accuracy from the charity stripe was another crucial element of Saturday’s win. In total, the Belles shot 83 percent from the line — hitting 28-of-35 free throw attempts. The Belles were even better when it mattered most, sinking 15-of-17 free throws in the final two minutes.

The Belles received quality contributions from their starters, four of whom scored in double figures. Sophomore guard Erin Newsome scored 17 points and four of whom scored in double figures.

Senior guard Bridget Lipke notched 13 points and a game-high seven assists.

Henley was impressed by the play of freshman center Anna Kammrath who posted her third double-double of the season, scoring 23 points and pulling down 14 rebounds.

“Anna’s been doing well all season long. She’s been improving every time she steps on the floor,” Henley said.

Guard Allison Koseler rounded out the impressive Belles’ starting five with 25 points on 6-of-12 shooting.

Contact Dan Cooper at dcooper1@nd.edu

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Allen notches double-double in win

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

For the second game in a row, Notre Dame rode a strong performance by junior guard Charel Allen to top a Big East opp­onent at the Joyce Center, this time beating Syracuse 83-55 Saturday.

"I'm just feeling really confident and my shot's falling," Allen said. "My teammates are looking for me so I'm taking my shots."

Allen tallied 25 points to lead the Irish 13:5-4:1 Big East) and ranked No. 6 in the country. "The Irish didn't rebound as well as we could have, that was probably the one thing that hurt us," McGraw said.

McGraw was especially pleased with Allen's play on the defensive end of the court. The junior finished with three steals and a block to go along with her double-double.

Lechlitner was the other standout performer for the Irish, with 12 points and 11 rebounds (5) and rebounds (6) off the bench. Lechlitner also helped run the offense effectively in her 28 minutes, notching six assists and not once giving up the ball - the second consecutive game the Irish have fin­ished without a turnover.

"I'm trying to run the team," Lechlitner said. "I'm looking for my shot - today they were finally going in. I'm just looking for my teammates and trying to keep the turnovers low. I think it's finally starting to come together for me."

Lechlitner made her biggest play with 12:24 remaining in the game after the Orange used a nine-point run to shrink the Irish lead to 11 points, the smallest it had been since 7:18 remaining in the first half at 27-17. Lechlitner took the inbounds pass down the court and drove the lane, sinking a tough layup while being fouled. The conventional three-point play put Notre Dame back momentum, as the Irish would continue to pull further out of the Orange's reach.

The Irish used tight ball control to control the tempo throughout the game, notch­ing 11 steals while turning the ball over just 11 times. The Irish have also caused problems for the Orange, who turned the ball over 20 times. "We're really doing a nice job taking care of the ball and we have veteran guards outside like [Breena Gray], Tulyah [McGraw] and Chris [Khorey] in the starting lineup, and (Lechlitner) is not somebody who turns the ball over much," McGraw said. "I think we're playing within ourselves and I think that's why we're not turning the ball over."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu
Kurz
continued from page 20
Irish coach Mike Brey said in his post-game press confer­ ence. "I'm glad he hunted his jump shot. I still think he can hunt it more, but we need him to shoot his shot."
"I don't want early in the possession he can shoot it."
With 8:32 left in the first half, Irish guard Tory Jackson found Kurz for an open layup to cut Florida's lead to 6-24.23. From there, the Irish dominated both ends of the floor, developing a offensive rhythm and holding the Bulls to zero field goals for the remainder of the half.
"I thought the bench came in and did a really good job," Irish guard Colin Falls said. "Getting some help off the floor - and we got a nice run out of it."
Bull scored eight points, grabbed four rebounds and blocked two shots in that stretch.
J ackson, who finished with 11 points on 5-of-8 shooting and five assists, kept numerous possessions alive with his offensive rebounding and aggressive play on both ends of the floor. "Tory Jackson seemingly was involved directly or indirectly on every hustle play," Bulls coach Robert McCullom Bulls coach.

"Tory Jackson seemingly was involved directly or indirectly on every hustle play," Bulls coach Robert McCullom.

Irish goalie Dave Brown made 25 saves to earn his third shutout of the year and defensmen Tom Sawatske and Brett Blatchford each scored, along with a late goal into the game.
"It was kind of hard to get chances there," the Broncos coach said. "But we didn't give up physically and overplayed him.

Russell (Carter) is a marked man in the league now and they really took him away physically and overplayed him.

Brown continued from page 20
think that having the support of all those guys and those guys as mentors, I would like to think that I've learned something along the way."

"And I think that having the support of all those guys and those guys as mentors, I would like to think that I've learned something along the way."

Brown continued from page 20
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Joyce Center - Thurs, Feb 1st, 4-8 pm
Flanner Hall - Fri, Feb 2nd, 9 am - 5 pm

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to pre-schedule interviews, email skirp@campusweeny.org by Friday Jan, 26th.

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Brown continued from page 20
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"And I think that having the support of all those guys and those guys as mentors, I would like to think that I’ve learned something along the way."

Brown continued from page 20

Brown continued from page 20
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
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61 Flakes
9 Provide for free, informally... 10 Burden
11 'I'm going to try...'
13 Sedan or wagon... 14 Tabby's cry...
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19 Get rid of...
20 Engine additive
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23 Cut, as sheep's wool...
24 Drunks
26 Scratch
27 Reuters
28 Engine additive brand
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30 Server at a club
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32 Tabby's cry
33 Ohio's buckeye...
37 Foldaway bed
38 Comedian Bill...
39 Giant slugger
40 Archival animal
41 Tailor's line
42 This is not Hubbard brother
43 French word... 44 French word...
45 Your dynamic personality will win hearts...
46 'I'm really bad at remembering names!'... 47 Little loved one
48 _togo
49 The "eye"
50...r=+:=+=~
53 Milan opera tailor's line
54 'Bonanza'... 55 Stair part
57 Spicy sauce...
59-Across, e.g.
61...the kill
62 Lyric poems

DOWN
8 American slang...
9 'That Scamble O Word Game'
13 'What the hostess experienced when her care fell apart.'
14 'The'... 15 Medicolexical subject...
16 Album for which St. James won an Emmy... 17 "...crackie, pet!
19 "...American slang...
20 "...in music"
21 "...on earth."
22 "...and after it's gone"
23 "...a victim of 'Los Angeles's' e.p.
24 "...on earth."
25 "...after it's gone"
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56 "...and after it's gone"
57 "...and after it's gone"
58 "...and after it's gone"
59 "...and after it's gone"
60 "...and after it's gone"
61 "...the kill"
62 Lyric poems

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MLB

Samardzija picks baseball, inks 5-year deal with Cubs

By CHRIS KHOREY
Assistant Sports Editor

Notre Dame senior Jeff Samardzija has chosen to pursue a career in professional baseball rather than enter the NFL draft, according to a statement released Friday.

"I will devote my full time and attention to professional baseball," Samardzija said in the statement. "I cannot lie. Leaving football will not be easy. But playing baseball is my first love. It is what I want to do for a living."

The former Irish pitcher and wide receiver signed a five-year contract with the Chicago Cubs reportedly worth $10 million and will report to spring training in Mesa, Ariz. with the rest of the Cubs pitchers and catchers Feb. 14. The deal includes a $2.5 million signing bonus and club options for 2012 and 2013 that would make the deal's total value equal to $16.5 million.

"This is a dream come true for a kid who grew up in Northern Indiana watching up the road at this great city and its loyal fans," Samardzija said in the statement. "I feel very comfortable that this is exactly where I belong."

Samardzija was drafted by Chicago last summer and played for Cubs minor league affiliates in Boise, Idaho, and Peoria, Ill. during the 2006 season.

He is expected to begin the 2007 season with the starting five in Dayton, Ohio. Samardzija played three seasons for the Notre Dame baseball team, compiling a 21-6 record with a 3.82 ERA in 50 appearances.

On the football field, where he was initially recruited to play, Samardzija led the Irish in catches and set single season school records with 1,249 receiving yards and 15 touchdowns in 2005. He was also named a consensus All-American.

In his senior year in 2006, Samardzija again led the team in catches with 78, this time for 1,017 yards and 12 touchdowns.

"I will always love football," Samardzija said in the statement. "My four years at Notre Dame — playing for the Fighting Irish — were amazing. I could not have asked for more from my teammates, our fans, and our coaches."

In his statement, Samardzija thanked Irish football coach Charlie Weis and former Irish baseball coach Paul Mainieri for their "understanding and cooperation."

"The two of them figured out a way for me to live out my dream of playing two sports in college," he said.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

FOOTBALL

Weis adds Brown, Powlus to staff

Former Jets defensive backs coach new DC

By KATE GALES
Assistant Sports Editor

Notre Dame has named Corwin Brown its defensive coordinator and Ron Powlus its quarterbacks coach, coach Charlie Weis said Friday. The contracts of former defensive coordinator Rick Minter and quarterbacks coach Peter Vaas were not renewed.

Brown was formerly the defensive backs coach for the New York Jets, and Powlus has served as Notre Dame's director of personnel development for the last two years.

"When I got ready to make a couple of tweaks in our staff, when it came to the offensive side and my hiring of Ron, it didn't take me very long to figure out what direction I wanted to go to find a guy to work with the quarterbacks," Weis said. "Ron's been with me now for the last two years. He's done an outstanding job for me off the field, and he's earned my trust."

"They said, 'You should hire Corwin Brown,'" Weis said. "And all I know is if I can get recommendations — with one name from Parcells and Bellchick and [Bosom] Crennel and [Al] Groh, and they all give you the same person, then I must be on the right track."

Corwin is originally from the Chicago area and played safety for Michigan. He played for the Patriots from 1993-96 and the Jets from 1997-98, coinciding with Weis' stints as an assistant with those programs.

"I've been around some good coaches,es," Brown said. "And I used to always say to myself, 'if I could be half as good as all of those guys, if I could be half as good, I'll be ok.' And I see Brown/page 18

HOCKEY

Change in line sparks ND victory

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — One right after another line of center Kevin Deeth and winger Erik Condra and Ryan Thang was neutralized by Western Michigan en route to a Notre Dame loss. Irish head coach Guy Bertoletti thanked his team and the bench for their "understanding and cooperation." The two of them figured out a way for me to live out my dream of playing two sports in college," he said.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Running past the bulls

By CHRIS HINE and BOB GRIFFIN
Sports Writers

After trading baskets for 82-58 victory over South Florida Sunday at the Joyce Center.

Kurz struggled in the half, Irish forward Rob Kurz ignited Notre Dame's 9 shooting, but bounced back with a 21-6 record with a 3.82 ERA in 50 appearances.

Irish guard Ryan Ayers, center, fights for a loose ball with San Diego State forward Blake Parcell during Notre Dame's 82-58 win over South Florida Sunday at the Joyce Center.

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Irish guard Ryan Ayers, center, fights for a loose ball with San Diego State forward Blake Parcell during Notre Dame's 82-58 win over South Florida Sunday at the Joyce Center.

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