Brey addresses decision
McAlarney suspension saddens hoops coach

By BOB GRIFFIN
News Writer

Two days after Notre Dame suspended sophomore basketball player Kyle McAlarney, the University had not released official information, although head coach Mike Brey commented on the situation after the team's 71-68 loss to St. John's Tuesday.

Brey, who spoke about his developing bond with McAlarney as the season progressed — said he was devastated when informed of the Office of Residence Life and Housing's decision to suspend the guard for the spring and summer semesters.

"I love Kyle McAlarney," Brey told the New York Post following Tuesday's game. "He's really like a son to me and I miss him. To say that wasn't a dagger to all of us would be an understatement.

McAlarney was arrested in the early morning hours of Dec. 29 on marijuana possession charges. Janice McAlarney, Kyle's mother, said Brey and Athletic Director Kevin White..."}

SMC gym improves security measures

By MANDI STRONIE
News Writer

Students trying to lose extra post-holiday weight or just in shape this semester may be happy to hear Saint Mary's Angela Athletic Facility implemented new rules to guarantee their safety.

Under the new rules, students will have to show their school identification at the door to enter the facilities — an upgrade from previously nonexistent security measures.

Other changes include the addition of a second desk worker at the Angela's north door, which will be locked at 7 p.m. every night. Athletics Director Lynn Kachmarik said,

"Students seemed optimistic about the new procedures. "It makes more sense because anybody could walk in here," sophomore Kaela Hellmann said.

Senior Michelle Lonnee agreed, noting that the lack of security in the past has opened the gym doors to people who don't belong there.

"It's a good idea because a lot of random people come here to workout," she said. Kachmarik also said she hoped to get a scanner system in the future that would..."
INSIDE COLUMN

The joy of rocks

Rocks are everywhere. There is no doubting that, nor do I think stone would. However, like some friend who is always around eating your food, I think rocks are unappreciated. Think about it — if that friend went to leave, you may have more food, but something would still be missing.

Well, that metaphor may have fallen short, but the point remain. Rocks or naturally occurring aggregates of minerals by definition, have played an important role in the history of the world up to this point. In fact, the Earth itself could be viewed as a large compilation of solid and molten rock (without which we would be as homeless as hobos).

And hey, the Stone Age? Without rocks, what would cavemen have used to invent tools? But moving on, this isn't about the past — there are plenty of rocks around to appreciate today. You could be walking along the road and come across a festive Rhodite (an igneous type), or perhaps even a nice metatamorphic Gneiss, who knows?

For as long as I can remember, I have always enjoyed climbing, and I would climb anything really. Trees were major targets, but jungle gyms, cars and even houses as I got older were all summed in turn. As we grow older though, different things are expected of us, and alas my tree climbing days are now very few and far between.

However, I recently discovered the Rockne Memorial contains a rock climbing room — "climbing on rocks?" I thought. Sure, I don't see why not! I tried rock climbing out for size, and with it rediscovered my joy of climbing. I found the challenge of traversing an inclined face, or completing a certain climbing route entertaining, and also a good way to keep in shape.

But I digress, back to rocks. As of now I have only climbed in man-made gyms, but I hope to climb actual rocks in the future. Perhaps a nice sandstone room — gyms, but I hope to climb actual rocks in the future. Perhaps a nice sandstone type, or perhaps even a nice igneous type, or perhaps even a nice metamorphic Gneiss, who knows?

I'm not really sure what rock-types are also a good way to keep in shape. I thought. Sure, I don't see why not! I tried rock climbing out for size, and with it rediscovered my joy of climbing. I found the challenge of traversing an inclined face, or completing a certain climbing route entertaining, and also a good way to keep in shape. I thought. Sure, I don't see why not! I tried rock climbing out for size, and with it rediscovered my joy of climbing. I found the challenge of traversing an inclined face, or completing a certain climbing route entertaining, and also a good way to keep in shape.
SPEND THE NIGHT WITH 13 AMAZING FILMS
YOU'LL NEVER SEE AGAIN.

Students work out at Saint Mary’s Angela Athletic Facility. Recent security concerns prompted College officials to require identification from all those entering the gym.

Security

continued from page 1
require students to slide their school identification to gain access to Angela. Notre Dame currently employs a similar system. “We are just working to make sure that those who come into our facility have the authority to do so, for liability reasons,” she said.

As our equipment has improved, many non-community members have found their way into Angela.” Erin Sullivan, the director of student workers in Angela, said the changes were directly related to safety concerns. With the old system, staff members were not able to determine whether people entering the gym belonged there.

Lynn Kachmarik
Athletics Director
Saint Mary’s

“As our equipment has improved, many non-community members have found their way into Angela.” Erin Sullivan, the director of student workers in Angela, said the changes were directly related to safety concerns. With the old system, staff members were not able to determine whether people entering the gym belonged there. The security upgrades were triggered by a recent incident where a man not affiliated with SMC interrupted a softball practice in Angela to play basketball with his children, according to security director Dave Gariepy.

When the Angela staff confronted the stranger he became “verbally abusive and belligerent,” he said. Security officials were called to the scene but the man and his children left Angela before they arrived. Gariepy also said the man’s name has been obtained and a “no trespass warning” has been sent to him. Saint Mary’s Security will also continue to work with the Angela staff to prevent any security breaches in the future.

Contact Mandi Stirone at astiro11@saintmarys.edu

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Newspaper
continued from page 1

The Chicago Tribune was added to the mix — along with the locked boxes — at the beginning of this academic year, as the budget for the program was increased from $7,500 to $13,000 per year.

Saint Mary’s student body president Susan McIlhuff said 2005 was the first year the program was not limited to the spring semester; before then, it was about half the size of the current program. Originally, there were only two distribution sites — the Student Center and LeMans Hall — but locations at the library and Madeleva were added this year, she said.

“When Kellye Mitros and I were elected as student body president and vice president for 2005-06, we decided to offer the program for the entire academic year,” McIlhuff said.

During the past year, McIlhuff and current student body vice president Maggie Siebert worked to add The Chicago Tribune to the program to cater to the many students from the Chicago area.

McIlhuff said she thinks the “students benefit greatly from the papers.”

“They’re always gone by mid-day,” she said. “Also, I have noticed that more professors are assigning current event journals relating to the course’s subject matter.”

Students at both schools generally seem to approve of the program.

Notre Dame senior Walter Machnicki said he particularly likes The New York Times — that program’s most popular publication.

“I like that they have The New York Times instead of just grabbing The Chicago Tribune for my non-Observer news,” he said.

Likewise, Saint Mary’s sophomore Beth Alexander also enjoys the opportunity to read a national newspaper.

“A lot of us are so busy that we don’t have time to watch the news on TV with the newspapers we can read at leisure,” Alexander said.

Contact Maundi Sorene at astiro01@stmarys.edu

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Quality in Everything We Do
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Israeli president faces rape charge JERUSALEM — Israeli President Moshe Katzav, known for his love of power, asked parliament Wednesday to temporarily remove him from office in an effort to blunt growing calls for his resignation, including one from the prime minister.

Katzav, 68, is a veteran of the Israeli military and was a communications director at his official residence, Katsav blamed Israeli media for his plight, using terms like "witch hunt," "McCarthyism" and "persecution." He shouted at a local TV reporter, pounding on the podium and gesturing angrily during a raucous debate that lasted nearly an hour.

The president has been under intense pressure since Friday, when Katzav's lawyer, Mordechai Mazuz notified him Tuesday that he planned to indict him after a monthlong investigation into allegations by four women who worked for him. The charges include rape, abuse of power and sexual assault.

 associate press

ITALY uncovers human trafficking BYBIE — More than 2,000 people throughout Italy — mostly of them foreign — are accused of human trafficking following an investigation that uncovered minors and adults forced into prostitution and working in sweatshops, police said Wednesday.

The four-month investigation uncovered hundreds of trafficking rings, some of them as small as three or four people, said Chief Superintendent Chiara Giacomantonio.

"There were no surprises. Unfortunately it's all well known," Giacomantonio said. "It's Albanians exploiting Romanian women, Chinese, Indians, and so on.

Most of the people running the operations and their victims came from countries in Eastern Europe, including Moldavia, Albania and Romania, as well as countries in Asia.

NATIONAL NEWS

Kerry removes name from candidacy WASHINGTON — Massachusetts senator said, recalling his controversial 2004 accounts of military service, that he will not run for president in 2008.

"We came close ... certainly close enough to be tempted to try again," the Massachusetts senator said, recalling his "deception" on the number of months he had served in the military.

"There are powerful reasons to want to continue the fight now. But I have concluded this isn't the fight for me to mount a presidential campaign."

His decision leaves a field of nine Democrats running or signaling their intention to do so, including Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York and Barack Obama of Illinois, and John Edwards, who had planned to launch a presidential run next month.

Flu infects cruise ship passengers SAN FRANCISCO — A highly contagious form of stomach flu sickened hundreds of passengers during a worldwide voyage on the famed Queen Elizabeth 2 cruise ship in the coming months.

The military leaders, including an Associated Press interview with a senior military commander about the buildup's potential effect on the readiness levels of forces at home.

Noting the Guard was "in a strategic depth of our Armed Services Committee that the buildup is putting more pressure on the military," Army and its specialists with the Congressional Research Service, said deployed units have all their equipment as needed.

Their comments came as opposition grows in Congress to President Bush's plan to send more than 21,000 additional U.S. troops into Iraq in the coming months.

"It's big enough and strong enough to really respond to a crisis at home," Army, said Rear Adm. Timothy Keating, commander of U.S. Northern Command, also said there may be "specific equipment shortfalls in the longer term, could have an impact on our ability to respond."

The military leaders also cited a "strategic depth of our armed forces," as well as the "strategic strength of our military and readiness."

Army officials also said they are "struggling to get the equipment they need for the buildup." Some troopers, they said, may not have all their equipment as they train for the mission, which would have it as they cross into Iraq from Kuwait.

"Equipment and training are main concerns for the troops at home, particularly for National Guard units that have scrambled to get equipment. Units have resorted to swapping equipment among the states to ensure that trucks, helicopters and communications equipment are where they are needed," Lt. Col. Jon Doering said.

"We're trying to replace and repair their equipment." Feickert said.

"This new situation, they might be called upon to come up with even more equipment to bring deploying units up to strength."

Keating said concerns focus more on whether the military has the training and equipment to respond to multiple situations at one time.

"The military, he said, "needs more training and equipment for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear attacks, including chemical suits, medical kits, decontamination and treatment facilities."

Iraq

U.S., Iraqi troops clash with Sunnis BAGHDAD — U.S. and Iraqi troops battled insurgents hiding in high-rise buildings on Haifa Street in the heart of Baghdad Wednesday, with at least 69 people killed or found dead, including 33 burned-out bodies found in separate locations in Baghdad.

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Iraq
Passports continued from page 1

dents act soon to ensure they receive their documents on time.

"We have been seeing more people coming in asking about new passport applications," Kowalski said. "It usually takes four to six weeks to process a passport; not counting the time they actually wait up to eight weeks."

Sophomore Nicole Bernal, who recently went to Baja, Calif., for Spring Break, wasted no time in submitting her document. "I noticed my passport had expired before Christmas, and because I'm also traveling to Rome for the architecture program junior year, people told me I should get my passport renewed fast," she said. "I sent off everything a week before Christmas break, and it took almost six weeks before I got it back."

The experts at Anthony Travel recommend that even students who are going on cruises or driving across borders should still pay attention to the laws and insure that they have a renewed passport to carry with them in case of an emergency.

"We're planning a lot of student spring break travel, including a cruise to Mexico, Belize and the Bahamas," Carr said. "Though the cruise doesn't require a passport, if there is an emergency and somebody people had to fly home, they won't be able to re-enter easily without one."

According to the U.S. Department of State, students who most recently renewed their passports at the age of 16 or below are only covered for five years before expiration, so will have to reapply for a new one for a fee of $97. However, students who last renewed their passports after the age of 16 only have to renew their passports each decade for a fee of $67. Moreover, if somebody needs to expedite their passport renewal with a guarantee to receive it back after processing within three weeks, it will cost them an extra $65, plus roughly $30 to send it via express mail.

Fortunately, the Notre Dame post office is now accepting passport applications and is equipped with all the necessary resources to help students with international travel, so they don't have to go to the trouble of visiting the passport agency downtown.

"We are an authorized passport acceptance agency, and we check to make sure that all of the paperwork is correct before forwarding them to the Department of State. Passport Processing Center," said Ellen Bystrom, postmaser at the Notre Dame Post Office."We also can take photos on site, and we recommend students mark appointments between classes, but we also accept walk-ins."

The Notre Dame Postal Office charges a $30 processing fee, and an extra $15 for photos. Customers seeking passport photos may not wear hats or headgear obliterating the hairline, nor dark or nonprescription glasses with tinted lenses. Additionally, students will have to bring along with their application proof of citizenship, either using a previous passport or a certified copy of their birth certificate, a government issued photo ID such as a driver's license or military ID and two checks or money orders due to send to the Department of State and one for postal fees.

"It was fairly busy back in December, even though it's only a fifteen-minute procedure," Bystrom said. "I'm relieved that it got it sooner, so I suggest that students get an appointment soon. They ask numerous questions including citizenship, place of birth, where you are going and why you are traveling there. Anthony Travel projects that over 75 percent of its Notre Dame customers have valid passports for travel, but should always be aware of changes to the border patrol regulations and have contingency plans in case something goes awry during their journeys."

"It's always best to check with your travel professional," Kowalski said, "and that's why we're here at the Notre Dame community."

Contact Rohan Anand at ranand@nd.edu

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### Congress halts minimum wage bill

Lawmakers cite tax break attachment as reasons for delay in wage bill

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The minimum wage legislation that was supposed to zip through Congress veered onto a collision course Wednesday as lawmakers argued over tax breaks that would be attached to ensure Republican support. Democratic leaders in the House dismissed that work as "a neat little exercise in symbolic gestures," but also noted that the House has not gained control of Congress. House Democrats demanded a clean bill from the Senate — no tax attachment — setting up a confrontation that could delay final congressional passage of the $2.10 an hour increase.

The Senate did vote 54-43 to advance a House measure that would lift the pay floor without any accompanying tax cuts. However, that was well short of the 60 votes needed to keep that version moving. The vote was a signal to the House that without the tax break a minimum wage bill appeared doomed in the Senate. And the Senate promptly moved to a broader bill backed by Democratic leaders, that would raise the minimum wage to $7.25 an hour over 26 months and provide $8.3 billion in tax benefits to businesses over 10 years.

In the House, Democrats threatened to stall that effort by enforcing constitutional precedents that require all tax bills originate in the Senate. They blamed Republicans for a "show-me" mode. They had to be shown a "done deal" that keeps the minimum wage in the Senate, where the minority Republicans enjoy more power to shape legislation than in the House.

Senator Finance Committee Chairman Sen. Max Baucus speaks at a news conference at Capitol Hill regarding the minimum wage situation Wednesday.

### Senate Finance Committee Chairman Sen. Max Baucus speaks at a news conference at Capitol Hill regarding the minimum wage situation Wednesday.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Senate Finance Committee considers the budget compromise an "extraordinary and unprecidented" breakthrough that will help set the tone for the rest of the year's budget battles. But the Senate Finance Committee also rejected the minimum wage bill, saying the Republican-controlled Senate is unwilling to compromise on tax breaks and other provisions that would confuse the legislation.

The bill was introduced by Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., the co-sponsor of the Senate tax break proposals. The House version of the bill was introduced by Rep. Bill Pascrell, D-N.J., the co-sponsor of the minimum wage bill.

The Republican amendment that would have given only the Senate's version of the bill passed Tuesday by a narrow margin. The amendment would have given only the minimum wage bill to the House, where the Republican majority is more willing to accept the compromise that is going to the floor.

### Tech sectors help boost Wall Street

**NEW YORK** — Wall Street bounded higher Wednesday, lifting the Nasdaq composite index well over 1 percent and propelling profit reports from Yahoo Inc. and Sun Microsystems Inc. restored investor confidence in the technology sector. The Dow Jones industrials logged modest gains and closed higher.

There was little overall movement in the energy and health sectors in response to President Bush's statement on the Union address, during which he called for expanded health insurance coverage and a 20 percent reduction in the country's consumption of gasoline. Over the next 10 years. Some alternatives to energy companies pulled back after rising sharply before the speech.

In an essentially all-earnings day, investors were left without new economic data to help guide some clues about the direction of interest rates. "I think investors were waiting with the techs for the earnings to come out," said Neil Massa, equity trader at John Hancock Funds. "Investors were in the show-me mode. They had to be shown good numbers because they didn't want to take anything for granted because they had been lagged for a while."

The tech-laden Nasdaq composite index jumped 34.87, or 1.43 percent, to 2,466.28. The gain marked the Nasdaq's biggest one-day increase since early December.

The Dow rose 87.97, or 0.70 percent, to 12,621.77 after rising 56.64 on Tuesday. The Dow surpassed a record close of 12,582.99 set Jan. 16, it was the Dow's 26th record close since the blue chip average began its surge high-
er at the start of October. The Dow also reached a record intraday high of 12,623.45, topping a trading high of 12,614.00 reached a week earlier.
Save it for the toilet

American pride can be beautiful — when we resound in chords of "God Bless America," when we fly American flags from our front porches and when we plop ourselves on lawn chairs on a muggy July night, waiting for the pop of the Independence Day fireworks.

But other Americans take this Pride too far. They plop themselves on lawn chairs in the scorching Arizona desert, day after day waiting for wannabe immigrants to cross the American border. These Americans might see fireworks too — fireworks made by the children some chosen to carry.

Many of these "border vigilantes" profess to be part of a group that describes itself as "a citizens Neighborhood Watch on our border." They call themselfs "The Minuteman Project."

The Minutemen? Most Americans know about the original Minutemen — that rag-tag bunch of Revolutionary War-era New Englanders who pledged to be ready to roll with the Redcoats at a mere "moment's notice." History has heretofore heralded them as heroes. But the modern-day Minutemen? Horrifically.

We are a nation of immigrants. President George W. Bush spoke these words over and over again in the spring of 2006. But do most of today's pride-filled Americans even understand what that means? It seems as though the only American history many know is of that of the white Lexington and Concord Minutemen, who thrust America into a War of Independence, after which the nation expanded tenfold as a result of a so-called "God-ordained" Manifest Destiny. This led proudful Americans to believe they had the right to enslave blacks and exterminate the Native Americans as they marched across the continent.

But in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, many of our white ancestors were not marching across a continent, instead, they were sailing across an ocean. They didn't enter America at Roanoke. Jamestown, Plymouth Rock or any of the other historically romantic "ports of entry." Instead, they landed in America cramped and crowded at Ellis Island.

And they were hated. The Protestants hated the Catholics. The Germans hated the Irish. And everyone hated the Italians.

And how did they manifest this hate? By killing one another — sometimes even with haichets.

But by and large, we don't see riot-raging hate between these groups anymore. Americans of varying degrees of whiteness co-exist in the same neighborhoods and even marry one another without thinking twice about it.

While sneaking across the American border is certainly illegal, visit toilet-papering trees, I might add, that doesn't mean that you, as an ordinary pride-filled American, should sit at the border with a shotgun. True, the immigration debate is a complex issue, but need we further soil the debate by turning it into another mess of hate?

After all, being a modern-day Minuteman doesn't make you a hero; instead, it makes you like one of those pathetic people who remain frozen in the high school world long after graduation.

Toilet paper shouldn't make a mess. And American pride shouldn't make you a bigot.

Liz Coffey is a senior American Studies major and Journalism, Ethics and Democracy minor. Her column appears every other Thursday. She can be reached at lcoffey@nd.edu.
The first weeks of the beginning of the second semester are always marked by three special dates and occasions, all of which point toward different aspects of unity and solidarity.

The first celebration is when the Catholic Church celebrates a World Day of Peace. The Catholic understanding of peace is that it is both a gift from God but a human work and suffering of charity. If at least recently, more wars are raging, more maimed, more deaths. And as the years have passed, the work of the Kroc Institute has become disturbing. All Notre Dame students — athlete or not — are given a thorough description of du Lac. Each student is given an orientation of du Lac and knows the rules at Our Lady’s University are and what is expected of each individual. You may argue that the point in your opinion the punishment may not fit the crime, but that decision is for the University officials to make. I do not understand why the University is using this individual to make an example out of him. It is ridiculous. The University did not make the error in judgment to possess the substance, the individual did. I do not understand why the University is using this individual to make an example out of him.

The second celebration in January is the Martin Luther King Jr. Day. On our own campus, University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh is always interviewed when this day is celebrated because of the contributions he made as chairman of the Civil Rights Commission. I believe this is a mark law which King promoted and died for. For years, our institution has anything to offer, to better understand how difficult this must be for the individual and his family; however, the University did not think McAlarney would have been back playing at Memorial Hospital. The Bernina of America Fashion Show is scheduled to take place at Saint Mary’s on March 11. Saint Mary’s women received an email about this event, I just read on NDNation.com that Kyle McAlarney was suspended from school. Please tell me this isn’t true. Frankly, it’s embarrassing. The punishment certainly doesn’t match the misdemeanor. Has the University gotten so caught up in high importance that such matters be addressed by the University in an appropriate manner and whether the individual or his parents agree with the decision, it is the consequence to the action. In this case, the University is handling the situation with the individual and dealing with someone who broke the rules of du Lac. It seems difficult to have to be for the individual and his family, however, the University should not be targeted for doing its job.

Lacy Lopez
Class of 1996
Tampa, Fl.
Jan. 24

Jeff Barber
Class of 1982
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Jan. 24

Sarah Nelson
Reagan Hall
Jan. 22

The age-old saying, "actions that are taken by our family members regularly make headlines internationally." We are scrutinized far more than any other school I have ever seen. There is a constant push for us to reinforce the feelings of inadequacy. It's time that we fill the rule that we will be presenting is one that will not make women feel better about themselves. I know that my body isn't even close to those requirements, but I don't think it should be. In a sense of the body and appearance of women, why should we reinforce the feelings of inadequacy? It's time that we see real women on a stage.

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Jan. 22

The Observer

The Bernina of America Fashion Show is scheduled to take place at Saint Mary’s on March 11. Saint Mary’s women received an email about this event, which is raising money for a new Breast Care Center at Memorial Hospital. This is a great cause, and I fully support their efforts.

However, I do not agree with the requirements for models. The email stated that the models must be at least 5'9", have a bust of around 35", a waist size around 25" and hips around 35". I don’t know too many women that fit this. I see a lot of women that say they are trying to raise money for something that will benefit many women, but in the process they are just reinforcing a harmful stereotype. The image that they will be presenting is one that will not make women feel better about themselves. I know that my body isn't even close to those requirements, but I don't think it should be. In a sense of the body and appearance of women, why should we reinforce the feelings of inadequacy? It's time that we see real women on a stage.

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Student Film Festival returns for 18th year

By ANALISE LIPARI and ERIN MCGINN
Assistant Scene Editors

Annually, the Notre Dame Student Film Festival allows student filmmakers a chance to exhibit their dramatic, humorous and even off-kilter work to the University and general public. This is the 18th year for the festival, which has come a long way since its original inception in the basement of what is now McKeon Hall.

"I think there were about seventy-five people who showed up," said Film, Television and Theater professor Ted Mandell. "The students put the show together and just about any film that they could get their hands on was in the show."

Over the years the film festival grew bigger and kept moving to larger locations, reaching its final home in the Browning Cinema in 2004. All of the films shown at the Film Festival were created in production courses within the Film, Television and Theatre (FTT) department.

"They are projects done for class, just like a research paper in history, except that many of them are shown by an audience of 200 or more," Mandell said. "I believe the quality of filmmaking has improved every year. This year's batch of films, overall, are really well done."

Often engaging the community by filming with students and locals in well-known area locations, this year's crop of films may prove to be the strongest yet. The Film Festival will play host to 13 different and diverse selections from students within the FTT department.

"I think students will be surprised at the quality of filmmaking and surprised at the topics undertaken," Mandell said. "Many of the thirteen films are made to convey a strong message or tackle tough subjects in thought-provoking ways. Others are just plain enjoyable, plus there's a surprise star who pops in too."

In keeping with the recent debate over the presence of "The Vagina Monologues" on campus, one film of interest for students may be "Loyal Daughters," a film by Emily Andreas. "Loyal Daughters" envisions a high school where the majority of the students and teachers are gay, and a young heterosexual student named Nick struggles with hiding his sexuality. The difficulties, harassment and even violence that Nick faces during the film quickly echo what the filmmakers view as our society's own discomfort with homosexuality and the problems that gay teens face today.

Taking a light-hearted, more humorous approach is a film by Katie Johnson and Tamara Gillings entitled "Yayka and the Evil Eye," in which a Greek teenage boy is convinced, courtesy of a story from Greek folklore, that his blue eyes — with their supposedly uncontrollable power — could unwittingly bring about destruction and death. Is the evil power of his eyes a real, terrifying phenomenon, or is it the problem, as his optometrist suggests, entirely in his head? When the optometrist disappears, all bets are off.

Noble Robinette, Jacob Imo and Mike Molenda bring a documentary filmmaker's insight to the discussion with "Welcome to Snyderville." Filmed in the tiny town of Roseland, Ind., "Welcome to Snyderville" looks at the ever-present and at times stifling voices of David and Dorothy Snyder, two town council members whose stronghold on Roseland politics often left the town's residents disgruntled and protesting. Whether viewed as an expose on small-town politics or a character study in power and its affect on the human ego, "Welcome to Snyderville" takes a different and intriguing angle on the community right outside the boundaries of Notre Dame.

Another film that takes a different angle on a familiar subject at the University, vocation to the priesthood, is Emily Andreas' and Rin Westcott's "Stained Glass Ceiling." Through interviews and alternated voice-overs, the film chronicles one devout woman's desire to be ordained as a Catholic priest, questioning the audience's and Church's opinions on the subject in a subtle and compelling way.

The most literary film is that of Trevor Park and Pacifica Soldati's black-and-white " Adaptation," literally an adaptation of the short story "Thefly" by Depression-era writer Katherine Anne Porter. It tells the story of a dispute over a missing purse between a young maid and an older woman.

There is also the heart-wrenching "In Memory," in which Ishira Kumar, Nich DeCapi and Beth Nappi examine one woman's descent into Alzheimer's disease, through the eyes of her young granddaughter who watches her grow older and slowly becomes herself.

The ambitious "SAGE-WISE da Versitle 1," is a documentary by Edward Song following Stefano Brios, a northern Indiana UPS deliveryman, on his break dancing journey across the United States. He travels from Indiana all the way to New York to try and fulfill his dream.

The film festival rounds out with another four films, including "Unseen" directed by Gottumukkala and Dan Moore, "666-7734" directed by Todd Hawkins and Ishira Kumar, "Shadow Boxing" directed by Carl Rag, Michael Burke and Mike Peterson and "De Cape al Fine" directed by Erin Allen and Beth Napoli.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu and Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu

By ANEILAN DEPPRO

During interviews and alternated voice-overs, the film chronicles one devout woman's desire to be ordained as a Catholic priest, questioning the audience's and Church's opinions on the subject in a subtle and compelling way.

Ted Mandell professor

"Many of the thirteen films are made to convey a strong message... others are just plain enjoyable."

Students are responsible for every aspect of filmmaking, from writing the screenplays to directing the films, and finally, to editing the finished product.
THE OBSERVER

‘CHILDREN OF MEN’ FINDS HOPE IN DESOLATE WORLD

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Scene Critic

These horrific sights and sounds pepper the landscape of “Children of Men,” a film that offers a frightening vision of how far a world — perhaps even ours — could plumb toward chaos. Marked by violence and desolation, it’s a dark reality that threatens to shatter the more brittle of humanity’s commodities — hope.

In 2027, mankind is gasping its last breath, struggling to create a world free of war. Creation is a distant memory. After all, if women can’t have babies anymore, what else is there to hope for? Indeed, hope seems the most important word in the film as these characters have so little of it.

A former peace activist, Theo (Clive Owen) is recruited to civilization’s inevitable fate. But when Julian enlists Theo’s help, he is faced with guarding a miracle. He is charged with safely transporting Kee (Claire-Hope Ashitey), a young, pregnant black girl, to the scientists of The Human Project. If Kee and her baby live, so too might the rest of humanity.

The promotional material behind “Children of Men” almost shouts a single question: “Why are women infertile?” Cuaron argues that the answer doesn’t matter, and his movie never offers a solution to this seemingly central question. Women stopped having babies 18 years before the opening credits roll. And by the time the end credits roll, that question has gone unanswered.

Indeed, what the film does so brilliantly is take us on one man’s odyssey to restore hope to a world that severely lacks it. For “Saving Traditional high-concept film, viewers are thrown headlong into the second act. It’s an atypical choice that allows Cuaron more time to play in a world that is painstakingly realized.

Nowhere is this more apparent than in the film’s Academy Award-nominated cinematography. The camera employed by Cuaron to tell this story is as unstable as the world around it. In one breathtaking scene, we’re thrown headlong into the rubble of a refugee camp. As the angry letters of machine gun fire, tanks and explosives rock the scenery, Theo scrambles to find Kee in a shot that continues unbroken for nine minutes. Debris falls all around and blood splatters onto the camera surface in an exhausting, masturbatory segment that mirrors the peril of Theo’s journey.

It’s easy to forget how often Owen has been in front of the camera in the last few years. Since his first major role as a sniper in 2002’s “The Bourne Identity,” Owen has had memorable turns in “Sin City,” “Cluer” and “Inside Man.” But here, he is at his very best. He has to portray a fragile character, someone dangerously close to the edge of a precipice that much of mankind has already fallen over. As the heart and soul of the picture, Owen dominates every scene he’s in, which helps because he’s in so many of them.

Hope is one of the two most eagerly sought commodities in cinema, the other being redemption. Characters find hope and lose it all the time. But with “Children of Men,” Cuaron tortures his characters by continually holding it an arm’s length away, seemingly impossible to reach. He keeps it from them for so long, without offering a clear reason why, that when we glimpse it near the film’s end, we finally understand what made Theo suffer after it in the first place.

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at rogutmuk@nd.edu

CUARON’S LATEST DEMONSTRATES HIS POTENTIAL

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Editor

Alfonso Cuaron’s “Children of Men” starts out as a complex rumination on society, but ultimately reveals itself as a gloriously flawed chase film. Ultimately, the visceral impact of “Children of Men” punches the gut more than it picks the brain, but as a guttural thriller, it has few peers.

The film is set in London in 2027 in a world in which women are no longer able to have children. In its opening scene, the film’s Academy Award-nominated cinematography is set in the future, but 

Owen’s presence includes both artfully independent films (“Y Tu Mama Tambien”) and Hollywood blockbusters (“Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban”). “Children of Men” is his most accomplished film to date. The hand-held camera is constantly moving, one director’s trademarks, but rarely without purpose. Any of the war zones are so perfectly choreographed that they resemble a musical more than a chaotic thriller.

The performances are solid throughout, but particularly worth noting is Julianian Moore’s, as an office worker with a checkered past as a preceptor, discovers Kee (Claire-Hope Ashitey), a girl who becomes pregnant. Working with an activist group led by her ex-wife Julian (Julianne Moore) called The End, he is faced with guarding a miracle. He is charged with safely transporting Kee (Claire-Hope Ashitey), a young, pregnant black girl, to the scientists of The Human Project. If Kee and her baby live, so too might the rest of humankind.

In one breathtaking scene, we’re thrown headlong into the rubble of a refugee camp. As the angry letters of machine gun fire, tanks and explosives rock the scenery, Theo scrambles to find Kee in a shot that continues unbroken for nine minutes. Debris falls all around and blood splatters onto the camera surface in an exhausting, masturbatory segment that mirrors the peril of Theo’s journey.

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Hope is one of the two most eagerly sought commodities in cinema, the other being redemption. Characters find hope and lose it all the time. But with “Children of Men,” Cuaron tortures his characters by continually holding it an arm’s length away, seemingly impossible to reach. He keeps it from them for so long, without offering a clear reason why, that when we glimpse it near the film’s end, we finally understand what made Theo suffer after it in the first place.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtader@nd.edu

Rebel Jasper Palmer (Michael Caine), left, and disillusioned bureaucrat Theo (Clive Owen) discuss an impending attack in Alfonso Cuaron’s latest film.

Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

“Children of Men” is a very good film, but it’s far from perfect. Its technical accomplishments and visceral approach to intellectual material is unique, but audiences are inclined to leave the theater with more questions. Cuaron has proven himself a great director, but he has yet to make a truly great film. “Children of Men” is his best to date, but it’s easy to wonder if there’s a “Director’s Cut” already waiting in the wings. Most films falter from being too long. “Children of Men” is one of the precious few that suffers from being too short.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtader@nd.edu

THE OBSERVER

Cuarón offers unerring vision of dystopian world

Rebel Jasper Palmer (Michael Caine), left, and disillusioned bureaucrat Theo (Clive Owen) discuss an impending attack in Alfonso Cuaron’s latest film.

Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

Thursday, January 25, 2007

page 11
NBA

Sixers down Cavs in double overtime thriller

Nash, Suns win 15th straight for second time this season

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Andre Iguodala scored eight points in the second straight overtime and finished with a season-high 34 as the Philadelphia 76ers rallied late for a 118-115 win over the struggling Cavaliers on Wednesday night.

Samuel Dalembert added 20 points and 10 rebounds before fouling out in the second OT as the Sixers snapped a five-game winning streak on the road and won for just the third time in 20 games against the Cavs.

Kyrie Irving's two free throws with 2.1 seconds left put the Sixers ahead by three, and Philadelphia held on when LeBron James, who made two 3-pointers in the final 8 seconds to get Cleveland within one, was long with a 3 before the horn.

James scored a season-high 39 points — 13 in the second OT — and Larry Hughes added 26 for the Cavaliers, who have dropped five of six and have two straight at home where they are 15-3.

Cleveland, the NBA's worst free-throw shooting team at 68 percent, went 25-of-34 from the line. The Sixers, meanwhile, finished with a season-high 27 turnovers.

Sixers head coach Brett Brown, who made big plays all night, fouled out Iguodala on a questionable call underneath — the Cavs' center appeared to get all ball on a foul with six seconds left. Rodney Carney had 18 points and Andre Miller 16 with eight assists for the Sixers.

Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 23 points and 10 rebounds for Cleveland, who made big plays all night, fouled out Ilgauskas on a questionable call underneath — the Cavs' center appeared to get all ball on a foul with six seconds left. Rodney Carney had 18 points and Andre Miller 16 with eight assists for the Sixers.

But James kept the Cavs in it by making three 3-pointers and scoring 11 points over the next 1:38 before Korver's free throw and James' final free throw ended the 3-1/2-hour game.

James banked in a 5-foot runner over the Bobcats on Wednesday night.

The Sixers, who came off the bench after missing 35 games while recovering from knee surgery, finished with a season-high 27 turnovers.

Raptors 90, Hornets 88

Chris Bosh scored a season-high 35 points, including a tying 3-pointer with 1:01 left, and the Toronto Raptors rallied for a victory over the New Orleans Hornets on Wednesday night.

Jose Calderon had four points in a block in the final 30 seconds for the Raptors, who trailed by as many as 15 in the fourth quarter.

Bosh pumped his fists after his 3-pointer tied it at 81. Calderon followed with a layup to give Toronto its first lead of the game with 2:24 seconds left. Bobby Jackson tried to drive past Calderon for a layup on the next play, but Calderon blocked his shot and followed with two free throws.

Jackson followed with a layup with 14.6 seconds left, but Bosh made two free throws with 13.8 seconds remaining to make it a four-point lead. Bosh finished 11-for-19 from the field and 12-for-18 from the line.

New Orleans' Rasual Butler missed a 3-pointer and Peterson made one of two free throws with 2.6 seconds left. Butler had 19 points for the Knicks, but only four in the final 13-plus minutes, but he also left with an injury in the final quarter of New York's second straight loss.

The Knicks were already without starting point guard Stephon Marbury, who missed his first game of the season because of left knee tendinitis.

Raptors salvage a season series sweep of the Hornets.

Pistons 103, Bobcats 92

Richard Hamilton scored 22 points and Rashad Wallace added 11 of his 20 in the fourth quarter to help the Detroit Pistons salvage a season series split with Charlotte after a win over the Bobcats on Wednesday night.

Chris Webber added 19 points for the Pistons, who shot 52 percent in winning their third straight game.

It wasn't easy for Detroit, which has struggled against Charlotte all season. The Bobcats had won the last two meetings, including a 103-96 win in Detroit two weeks ago.

With their lead cut to 84-82 on Derek Anderson's layup with just over 4 minutes left, Chauncey Billups hit a 3-pointer on the next possession to start an 8-2 run. Tayshaun Prince's 3 with 2:34 left gave the Pistons a 92-84 lead.

Wallace's two free throws with 1:19 left gave Detroit its first double-digit lead as the Pistons earned a 2-2 series split.

Pacers 96, Heat 94

Danny Granger scored 14 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter and overtime as the Indiana Pacers rallied from a 20-second-point deficit to beat the Miami Heat Wednesday night.

The Pacers' victory spoiled the Shaquille O'Neal, who came off the bench after missing 2 games while recovering from knee surgery. O'Neal finished with five points and five rebounds in 14 minutes.

Dwyane Wade, who missed Miami's victory at New York on Monday due to a sprained left ankle, scored 32 points.

After trailing 45-45 in the third quarter, the Pacers rallied to 70-66 over the 3-pointer by Granger and one by Darrell Armstrong to begin the fourth. Marquis Daniels' run- ner nearly gave Miami its lead back, but it was just 1:52 into the first quarter when the Pacers built a six-point lead with 1:30 left, but consecutive 3-pointers by Jason Kapono and Wade dropped the stretch to the tie score at 87 with 17 seconds remaining.

Hawks 82, Celtics 76

Joe Johnson and Josh Smith each scored 21 points as the Atlanta Hawks handed the Boston Celtics their ninth straight loss, Wednesday night.

The Celtics have dropped 16 of their last 18 and are tied with Philadelphia for fewest wins in the Eastern Conference at 12.

Zaza Pachulia added 10 points and nine rebounds off the bench for Atlanta, which snapped a three-game losing streak and has won both meetings with Boston this season.

Boston, already leading scorers Paul Pierce and Wally Szczerbiak, also lost Al Jefferson due to an ankle injury in the fourth quarter.
NFL

**NFL stiffens steroid test policy**

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The NFL is going deeper into the wallets of players who get caught using steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs.

After four months of sometimes intense negotiations, the league and union announced Wednesday more extensive testing for performance-enhancing drugs and the addition of the blood-boiling substance EPO to its list of banned substances.

The union also agreed that players suspended after testing positive will, for the first time, forfeit a portion of their signing bonuses in addition to the salary they will lose during their time away.

That is significant because the signing bonuses often are the only guaranteed portion of a player’s salary and can be larger than salaries, which sometimes are kept artificially low to keep the team under the salary cap.

“It is important that the NFL and its players continue to be leaders on the issue of illegal and dangerous performance-enhancing drugs in sports,” NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said. “These latest improvements will help ensure that we continue to have a strong and effective program. As we have done in the past, we will review and modify the policy on an ongoing basis.”

In addition to the new test for EPO, the agreement includes an increase from seven to 10 of the number of players on each team randomly tested each week during the season for steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs.

That means there will be 12,000 tests each season, up from the current 10,000.

The new policy will make the NFL the only North American sports league to regularly test for EPO. Urine will be tested, not blood, for EPO. Baseball did a round of urine testing for EPO in 2005. Bob Manfred, MLB’s executive vice president for labor relations, said Wednesday there were no positives among the 500 samples tested.

Baseball conducts urine tests of major and minor league players for performance-enhancing drugs and stimulants, with each player tested at least twice randomly per year. Baseball does not conduct blood tests and does not test for EPO or human growth hormone.

Baseball and its players union have agreed they will test for HGH if a urine test for that drug is validated.

**NFL around the dial**

**Ford ends its Champ Car series sponsorship**

DEARBORN, Mich. — Ford Motor Co. said Wednesday it has withdrawn as an official Champ Car World Series sponsor.

Ford had participated in Indianapolis-based Champ Car and its predecessor, CART, since re-entering open-wheel racing in 1992, first providing engines and then sponsorship.

“We evaluate all of our racing programs on an annual basis and have decided that this sponsorship does not align with our current business objectives,” said Dan Davis, director of Ford Racing Technology.

Davis said Ford’s withdrawal from Champ Car will not affect the other racing programs the company supports, including NASCAR’s three major national touring series, the NHRA Powerade Drag Racing Series, the Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car and KONI Challenge Series, as well as several U.S. Auto Club-sanctioned series.

**Dungy plans on making career decision after season**

INDIANAPOLIS — Colts coach Tony Dungy will wait until the end of this season before considering his future with the team.

Dungy signed a contract extension last year that would keep him in Indianapolis through 2009. But many have wondered whether the 53-year-old coach, who had said previously he might wonder at age 50, might resign if he wins the Super Bowl.

“That’s something I’ve not thought about a whole lot about,” he said Wednesday. “I’ll sit down with (owner) Jim Irsay and my wife at the end of the year. The first thing you have to do is make sure you’re still wanted back. I never take that for granted any more.”

Dungy made a similar statement after last season when the Colts were eliminated from the playoffs in a 21-18 loss at home to eventual Super Bowl champion Pittsburgh.

**In Brief**

Weiir makes a pretty good underdog.

**Weiir tries for fourth straight U.S. title**

SPOKANE, Wash. — For a three-time national champion, Johann Weiir makes a pretty good underdog.

Weiir is going for his fourth straight title at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships this week, a run that would put him on par with the likes of Brian Boitano and Scott Hamilton. But figure skating is all about “what have you done for me lately,” and the guy making the noise these days is Evan Lysacek.

“Being an underdog coming in is natural,” Weiir said Wednesday. “I’m not always going to be invincible. I’m not always going to be top dog. Evan Lysacek has had a great season. I’m going to fight as hard as I can to be the four-time national champion.”

“All the chatter...just talk and is not something I take very seriously,” Weiir added. “It doesn’t change the way I’m prepared for this competition.”

**NHL**

Compiled from The Observer’s wire services

**NHL Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division**

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**NHL Eastern Conference, Northeast Division**

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**NHL Eastern Conference, Southeast Division**

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**NHL Western Conference, Central Division**

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**NHL Western Conference, Northwest Division**

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**NHL Western Conference, Pacific Division**

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**Women’s Basketball MIAA Standings**

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**NBA**

Dallas at Chicago 8 p.m., TNT

New Jersey at L.A. Clippers 10:30 p.m., TNT

**Tennis**

Australian Open Semifinals 3 p.m., ESPN
AUSTRIAN OPEN

Gonzalez prevails over second-ranked Nadal

Williams, Sharapova advance on women's side of the bracket

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Rafael Nadal limped out of the Australian Open complaining his leg was too sore to challenge Fernando Gonzalez in the quarterfinals. With Gonzalez singing winners past him from both the forehand and backhand sides, though, even a fit Nadal might have struggled.

The 10th-seeded Gonzalez had 41 winners in a 6-2, 6-4, 6-3 upset over the second-seeded Nadal on Wednesday, earning him a semifinal spot along with top-ranked Roger Federer, Andy Roddick and Tommy Haas.

In the women's semifinals later Wednesday, the unseeded Serena Williams was to continue her unlikely quest for an eighth Grand Slam title. Limited to only four tournaments last year by recurring knee problems, Williams was not expected to be a serious contender at this year's Australian Open.

But she was one win away from the final, as was top-seeded Maria Sharapova — who reached the semis with a 7-6 (5), 7-5 win over Anna Chakvetadze, a fellow 19-year-old Russian.

Williams was to face 17-year-old Nicole Vaidissova of the Czech Republic in the first semifinal, followed by Sharapova against fourth-seeded Kim Clijsters.

Gonzalez, who will be playing in the semifinals of a Grand Slam tournament for the first time, will get a day off to watch Thursday's semifinal between defending champion Federer and sixth-seeded Roddick.

Gonzalez will face Tommy Haas on Friday.

French Open champion Nadal was the only player to beat Federer at this stage of a tournament last year, doing it four times in finals. Federer was 9-1 against everyone else — his only other loss an upset to Andy Murray at Cincinnati.

It was a five-setter against Murray on Monday that Nadal thinks derailed his prospects of making the Australian Open final.

"I can't run a lot," he said Wednesday. "It was difficult to play one match like this, quarterfinals of one Grand Slam, with pain. If I am playing bad, well, you can go home and say disappointing. But today I just say, 'Well, I can't do more. I try my best.'"

He called for a medical timeout in the third set and had to go to the locker room to remove his long, green shorts for treatment on his upper left leg and buttck.

Roddick is only 1-12 against Federer, but the 24-year-old American had match points against Federer at the Masters Cup last November and beat him in the final of an exhibition tournament at Kooyong on Jan. 14.

Gonzalez was hardly a con-
tender until he beat local favorite Lleyton Hewitt in the third round and fifth-seeded James Blake in the fourth. The 26-year-old Chilean won 12 of 15 matches to end 2006 and made three finals — losing two to Federer.

He always had a powerful forehand but was too erratic with it, often criticized for swinging and missing too many times on big points. But since starting work last year with Larry Stefanki, who coached John McEnroe and helped Marcelo Rios and Yevgeny Kafelnikov reach No. 1, Gonzalez has been improving.

"I used to just hit, hit, hit, and maybe I win the point — now I have other strategies," he said. "I am playing great tennis. I can do great things in my game."

Gonzalez broke Nadal's serve twice in the first set, in the opening game of the second and twice again in the third, and only faced three break points. He had support from a watter-

of Chilean supporters wrapped in flags and chanting in Spanish.

And he had growing support from the local crowd. Early in the third set, a man yelled: "You're the man, speedy."

Clijsters reached the women's semis by defeating Martina Hingis 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 on Wednesday. Hingis' comeback run from three years in retirement ended last year in a quarterfinal loss to Clijsters, who also beat her in the same stage at the French Open.

"It's great playing her and everything, but I don't want to see her in the quarterfinals ever again," said Hingis, who won three titles here and figured in six straight finals through 2002. Clijsters has reached the semis in every trip she's made to Australia since 2002, and has bowed out to the eventual champion every time — losing three times in the semis and dropping the 2004 final to Justine Henin-Hardenne.
JPW Mass Lector Auditions

JPW Lector auditions will take place in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on each of the following dates:

Monday, January 29th at 4:00pm
Tuesday, January 30th at 4:00pm

Please attend one of the two auditions. For further information, please contact Harv Humphrey at 631-8520 or by email at humphrey.17@nd.edu

Handling

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steals per game, almost an entire steal more than Connecticut, who ranks second in that category in the Big East at 11.06.

One standout performer in the last three games in regards to turnovers has been freshman guard Melissa Lechlitner. In the past three games, Lechlitner has only one turnover, coming against Marquette Tuesday.

Over that same stretch, the freshman has notched 18 assists, including a career high nine against Syracuse.

"I think we're making better decisions," McGraw said. "I don't think we're forcing things. I think we're taking more shots rather than trying to force a turnover."

The other key factor in Notre Dame's success this season has been free throw shooting. The exceptional free throw rate has not only helped the Irish maintain their leads or shrink those of their opponents, it has in fact saved two important road wins.

Notre Dame's wins against Michigan on Dec. 1 and Valparaiso Dec. 19 were each the result of last-minute free throws. Against the Wolverines, guard Tulyah Gaines sank the go-ahead points with four seconds to play before guard Charied Allen iced the win at 61-58 with two more foul shots in the final seconds.

At Valparaiso, Breona Gray sank one of her two free throws in the final second to give the Irish a 60-59 win to add to their NCAA Tournament resume.

Even though limiting turnovers and making free throws are important aspects of winning, McGraw understands that her team needs to do more if it hopes to succeed in the remainder of its Big East schedule.

"We don't talk about [turnovers at practice] at all, and we don't talk about the free throws, and those are two things we're doing well," she said. "I think I might just shut up about everything and see if we get good at something else," she said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

Write for sports.
Call Ken at
1-4543.
Belles
continued from page 20

Henley said. Henley said the Scots played a "triangle-and-two" defense in which two players played man-to-man while the other three were in zone coverage. The two man-to-man defend­ers matched up with Kessler and senior point guard Bridget Lipke and were suc­cessful in reducing their con­tribution. Saint Mary's bench scored only two points in Saturday's 84-72 win over Adrian but the reserves came up big on Wednesday. In total, the Belles bench contributed 19 points to the cause and fresh­man guard Patty Duffy dropped 15 points in 21 min­utes of play.

"We needed another shooter and Patty gave us a momen­tum swing," Henley said. She hit some tough shots from outside. Duffy, who has been plagued by ankle injuries, was 3-of-6 from behind the arc and was able to take pressure off of Kessler and Lipke.

Henley also mentioned free throw shooting as a key to Saint Mary's success. The Belles made 82 percent of their free throws and Kessler was 6-of-6 from the charity stripe.

Saint Mary's has now won two in a row and three of their last four. The Belles travel to Angola, Indiana to face Tri-State — who is 2-8 in the MIAA and 4-14 on the year — at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Contact Dan Cooper at dcooper1@nd.edu

Thursday, January 25, 2007

Top Ten Things to Do Senior Year

☐ 10. Go to the Sugar Bowl
☐ 9. Use Main Building Bathrooms
☐ 8. Sport a Costume for Bookstore Basketball
☐ 7. Run through Stonehenge
☐ 6. Swim in St. Joseph's Lake
☐ 5. Experience the Backer
☐ 4. Meet Fr. Heasburgh

3. Take a BREATH, Go on the SENIOR RETREAT

☐ 2. Figure out what I'm doing next year
☐ 1. GRADUATE!

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Applications due by Monday, January 29.
opponents are now able to focus on stopping Jackson's offensive game, which is very different than McAlarney's.

result, Jackson is only averaging 5.2 points per game, compared to McAlarney's 10.3 before the suspension.

Still, there are positive signs. Jackson is slowly taking on McAlarney's leadership role and has been effective running Brey's motion offense to the tune of 5.2 assists per game. Another player thrust into playing time has been freshman Jonathan Peoples. Peoples, who played sparingly early in the season, was expected to spend this season acclimating to the college game. Instead, he's been breaking full court presses against Villanova and Seton Hall.

People's has been a solid defender and an effective ball handler, averaging barely a turnover per game, but opponents know he isn't a threat to score.

With the scoring from the point guard position down significantly, Notre Dame's other players will have to pick up the slack.

First and foremost, Irish leading scorer senior Russell Carter will have to take his game to even higher heights. Carter showed he is capable of taking over games after his 32-point outburst against St. John's Tuesday. That's not necessarily good news, however. The Irish lost to the Red Storm 71-68 because they were too reliant on Carter offensively.

Furthermore, a major offensive strength of this team up to this point has been its balance. For most of the season, other teams have had to respect the ability of most of the Irish team to score if left open. Even without McAlarney, the Irish cannot panic and get into a pass-to-Russell-and-stand-around offense that will be too easy to defend.

Senior guard Colin Carter will have to be capable of taking the pressure of Carter. Without McAlarney, Falls is Notre Dame's only major outside shooting threat. As such, teams will be more focused on denying him the ball outside three-point range.

McAlarney's absence. The 6-foot-9 Hillesland has the size of a big man, but the ball handling and quickness of a guard. Like Jackson, he struggles with his outside shooting, but his size and athleticism present serious matchup problems for most opponents. This season is Hillesland's first year with extended playing time, however, and he is only averaging 5.6 points per game so far. If the Irish want to reach their goals despite losing their point guard, they need Hillesland to use his athletic ability to get to the basket more often.

For Notre Dame's more traditional post players -- junior Rob Kurz, sophomore Luke Zeller and freshman Luke Harangody -- the absence of McAlarney has meant, and will continue to mean, greater reliance on them to score and rebound. Without McAlarney's outside shooting presence, the Irish getting the ball into the post has been both harder and more important, and more mistakes on the outside have meant more offensive rebounds.

So far, Kurz and Harangody have both responded to the challenge at various times, but have not always been consistent.

Zeller has seen reduced playing time due to his struggles with back-to-the-basket offense. His shooting ability does add a different dimension, however, and Brey may start to use him in the future to draw larger defenders away from the basket to open up driving lanes for Carter and Jackson.

McAlarney was an important cog in Notre Dame's machine, but without him the Irish are still a special group.

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

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

 footwear from South Bend to...^

$258

$320
Lawsuit
continued from page 20

jobs. That's what everyone else says because they want to put words in your mouth. The bottom line is when you’re unhealthy, you’re unhealthy, do you something about it.”

In his autobiography, No Excuses, however, Weis had a less confrontational tone.

“I said, ‘Look at that fat ass,’ ” Weis wrote in No Excuses. “I wish I had been looking at someone else. Unfortunatelv, that fat ass was me.”

Weis has insisted that the surgery was not an attempt to increase his chance at getting a head coaching job. At the time of the surgery, Weis was considered one of the top offensive coordinators in the NFL but weighed around 350 pounds.

Weis’ case is going to trial more than two years after a Massachusetts review board decided he had enough evidence to go forward with the lawsuit.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

Celebration of the Feast of Thomas Aquinas

Patron Saint of Students and Universities

5:15 pm Mass
Basilica of the Sacred Heart
January 29, 2007

Rev. John Jenkins, CSC, Celebrant
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MAGBANA drum & dance NYC
CROSSWORD
ADAM FAIRHOLM

Thursday, January 25, 2007

ACROSS
1 Hairdresser's supply
21 It may be high or small
10 Bud
14 Newcastle
13 Cry with an unostentatious brand
16 Venetian magistrate of old
17 Start of a riddle
20 Ottawa, Te
21 Take to the loss
22 Line on which y = 0
23 Start of a Massachusetts motto
26 Music at many a memorial
28 Riddler, part 2
30 Herald
36 Toasts

DOWN
37 One with Red Cross training, maybe: Abbr
38 Letter of "Polish Wedding"
39 Better suited
41 City near Crawfords, Tex.
42 Hotter's concern
43 Another in Madrid
44 Person bringing much happiness
46 Riddle, part 3
47 Dupont shelter
49 Zebra
51 Shot
54 Command to Fos
55 Wagner heroine of Brabant
60 End of the riddles
63 Author Silverstein
64 Peer Poetic
65 Marx collaborator

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

dude

KALEIDOSCOPE
LIAM MORAN

WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO DURING MCKINLEY KID'S
Whatever, bro.

Hey, where'd you get this stuff?

WILL SHORTZ

THE OBSERVER • TODAY

page 19

THE OBSERVER

Happy Birthday: Just when you least expect it, someone will call your bluff, so make sure you have done your homework and are ready to move forward. Bragging will set you back and cause stress. You can turn your financial situation around this year if you look well ahead and make the right moves. The more time spent with acquaintances or trying something new, the more you will learn, prosper and go ahead. There will be an abundance of opportunities. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take pride in what you do and you will attract plenty of well-wishers and support. Love will be knocking at your door. A creative idea into which you have put your heart and soul may now be launched, but stick to your game plan. Last minute changes will backfire. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Just when you think you have everything in order but a problem may develop with a friend, relative or neighbor. Get in touch with someone from your past. A talk will lead to interesting information regarding someone from your past. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone isn't on your side and will probably offer you help. A connection will help you get things in perspective. 4 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A good deal will be signed. Consider what you want to do and put yourself in a position to do it. Interviews, sending out your resume, starting your own business or teaming up with people who can complement your talents should be your goal. 4 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Someone isn't on your side and will probably offer you help. You are an action person who thinks standing up and is always prepared to do something. Interviews, sending out your resume, starting your own business or teaming up with people who can complement your talents should be your goal. 4 stars

TOMORROW'S CROSSWORD:


DOWN
37. One with Red Cross training, maybe: Abbr
38. Letter of "Polish Wedding"
39. Better suited
41. City near Crawfords, Tex.
42. Hotter's concern
43. Another in Madrid
44. Person bringing much happiness
46. Riddle, part 3
47. Dupont shelter
49. Zebra
51. Shot
54. Command to Fos
55. Wagner heroine of Brabant
60. End of the riddles
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**FOOTBALL**

**Weis’ malpractice case set to begin**

Irish coach fell into a coma following 2002 gastric bypass surgery

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis’ lawsuit against the two doctors who performed his gastric bypass weight-loss surgery in 2002 has been scheduled to begin in court Feb. 12.

Brian Hardin, director of football media relations, said Weis was recruiting away from campus and unavailable for comment Wednesday. Hardin said Weis likely would not comment on the lawsuit in the future.

In the days following the surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital, Weis suffered from internal bleeding. He went in for a second surgery and fell into a coma for two weeks.

In the lawsuit, Weis alleges that physicians Charles M. Ferguson and Richard A. Hodin failed to meet the proper standard of care. The Boston Globe reported that New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, who Weis has said was a frequent guest at his house and help with his kids, will be a key witness in the case.

Weis' lawsuit claims that as a result of the surgery, Weis suffers from limited movement in his legs and feet and continues to experience significant pain.

Weis has said repeatedly in the past that his father’s death at age 56 was a primary factor in his decision to have the high-risk surgery.

"You want to know why you do it? Because for 10 years you’re over 300 pounds and your father died at 56 of a second heart attack," Weis said at the press conference introducing him as Notre Dame’s coach in 2004. "You’re afraid if you stay at the same level, you’re going to drop dead. That’s why you do it. It has nothing to with getting Irish coach Charlie Weis watches stretching before practice on Aug. 25. Weis is 19-6 in two seasons at Notre Dame.

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Irish cut down on turnovers

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Despite falling to Marquette 71-62 Tuesday night, the Irish still sit in the top half of the Big East standings, due in part to their ability to limit turnovers and sink free throws.

Notre Dame is the best free-throw shooting team in the conference at 77.8 percent and second only to South Florida in turnover margin at plus-3.84 turnovers per game.

"We’re not trying to do too much, I think we’re playing within ourselves and I think that’s why we’re not turning the ball over," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

In 19 games this season, the Irish have committed 330 turnovers, but have limited that number to 10 against St. John’s Jan. 16, 11 against Syracuse Saturday, and only 12 against the Golden Eagles. Accompanying this low turnover rate has been Notre Dame’s ability to steal the ball effectively. Notre Dame averages 11.95

Irish guard Charel Allen, right, looks to pass around Synnecuse guard Mary Joe Riley in Notre Dame’s 83-55 win over the Orange Saturday.

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles top Alma for road win

By DAN COOPER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s traveled to Alma Wednesday night and returned home with a victory after defeating the Alma Scots 66-58.

The win lifts the Belles record to 7-10 overall (6-4 MIAA), while the Scots drop to 7-9 (3-6 MIAA), respectively.

It was a close game throughout and the Belles took a narrow 2-point lead into the half-time. In the second half, the Belles took control and pulled away by outscoring the Scots 29-22.

Alma’s defense was tough, holding junior guard Allison Kessler to 11 points — eight points off her season average — on just 2-of-9 shooting.

“You have to credit Alma, they took Kessler out of the game,” Belles coach Jennifer Weis’ malpractice case set to begin Belles top Alma for road win

Irish cut down on turnovers Players must step up to replace McAlarney

**MEN’S BASKETBALL COMMENTARY**

Sophomore point guard Kyle McAlarney has been suspended for the semester and will not play again for the 2007-08 Irish.

That news has been out for a couple of days now and McAlarney is headed home to ponder his future. But what about the future of the team? No. 21/22 Notre Dame is still in the hunt for an NCAA Tournament bid and possibly even a Big East title.

Without McAlarney, several Irish players will have to adjust to new roles. Notre Dame has played without its former starting point guard for eight games now, going back to the Staley Brook win Dec. 30. The Irish are 5-3 in those games, winning all five home games and losing three on the road.

The most obvious change to Notre Dame’s offense over the past eight games has been freshman Tory Jackson stepping into the starting point guard role in place of McAlarney. Jackson had been getting 15-20 minutes per game while McAlarney rested early this season and his energy had been a spark. He was able to come in for short spells and shut down the opponent’s point guard completely while making athletic plays on the offensive end.

Now that he’s been thrust into the starting job, however, Jackson won’t just be a role player. Playing 30-35 minutes per game means he can’t expend the energy defensively that he could afford to avoid and, consequently, he’s less of a shut down defender. Also, see HANDLING/page 15

MEN’S TENNIS

Fernando Gonzalez defeats second-ranked Rafael Nadal in straight sets in the Australian Open semifinals.

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

Players must step up to replace McAlarney

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

Irish cut down on turnovers

**SPORTS**

At a Glance

NBA

76ers 118 

Cleveland guard LeBron James misses fewer shots as Philadelphia wins in double overtime.

NBA

Suns 112 

Knicks 107 

Phoenix extends winning streak to 15 in victory.

NBA

Raptors 90 

Hornets 88 

Toronto forward Chris Bosh scores 35 points to lead his team to a narrow victory.

NBA

Pistons 103 

Bobcats 92 

Detroit tops Charlotte behind 22 points from guard Richard Hamilton.

NBA

Pacers 96 

Indiana pulls off overtime win after trailing by 25 in the second half.