Student workers may get future salary jump

By EVA BINDA
News Writer

The Indiana House of Representatives voted Jan. 31 to increase the state’s minimum wage incrementally from $5.15 per hour to $7.50 per hour by Sept. 1, 2008 — a move that will have "little impact" on the University’s staff and student employees, said a member of Notre Dame’s Department of Human Resources.

"We review our salaries every year and adjust them to be competitive with the market," said Human Resources Manager of Compensation Violet Bloom.

Only one pay level is current-

below $7.50 per hour, she said.

Kathy Stopeczynski, chair of the Staff Advisory Council, said she "really hasn’t heard too much discussion on this matter," especially since the wages in her own department are currently above minimum wage.

Stopeczynski also said this topic has not been brought up at Staff Advisory Council meetings.

Nick Kraft, leader of Notre Dame’s Campus Labor Action Project (CLAP), which aims to secure a "living wage" for all campus staff members, said this legislative move is a "good thing." However, he said he would like the administration to "take a harder look at these issues. We just hope the administration will continue to work with CLAP towards making a living wage a reality," he said.

Student workers, like those pictured above, may see a salary increase in the 2008-09 year because of the new Indiana wage hike.

Conference facilitates discussion

Film, lectures on eating disorders draw crowds

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

The inaugural Notre Dame Eating Disorders Conference, “Eating Disorders and the Campus Culture,” concluded Saturday after three days of discussion about a topic that "needs to be discussed," said organizer and Notre Dame graduate student Ali Wishon. While Wishon said attendance was "a little disappointing," the first of what she says will become an annual event was a success, credited the "wonderful quality of speakers.

The highlight of the event for Notre Dame students in attendance was the showing of the film "THIN," an award-winning documentary about "girl culture" and eating disorders by Conference speaker and filmmaker Lauren Greenfield, left, speaks to Notre Dame faculty member Steve Moriarty.

Former Secretary of Education visits ND

Paige to address No Child Left Behind Act

By JOHN-PAUL WITT
News Writer

Rod Paige, the former Secretary of Education under President George W. Bush, charged with implementing the controversial No Child Left Behind Act, will appear tonight as the keynote speaker in the campus-wide Black History Month celebration.

In his address, Paige will focus on his involvement in No Child Left Behind, its history of racial inequality in the country’s educational system, according to Multicultural Affairs Committee (MAC) chair Destinee DeLemos.

"Dr. Paige embodies values important to Notre Dame," DeLemos said. "His intention in implementing No Child Left Behind was to cure education inequality in this country.

Education became a central issue during the Bush administration, as Bush sought to implement national standardized testing to measure student’s performance.

"George W. Bush called education ‘the civil rights issue of
Dog days of college

During winter break, I was cleaning out my bedroom closet when I made the discovery of a lifetime. Better than any saved box of notes exchanged with my friends during middle school, more noteworthy than my high school yearbook and certainly more entertaining than my elementary school journal.

My discovery revealed the Notre Dame/Dame/Saint Mary’s class register — more commonly known as the “dog book” — containing the senior snapshots of my classmates.

To some, this phrase might seem as foreign as a sunny day during a South Bend winter, but for those of us who experienced the “prehistoric” Facebook-free life, the “dog book” conjures memories of fun, friendship and — more commonly — sheer embarrassment.

With the dog book, everything remained a mystery. When that anonymous phone rang on a Friday afternoon and “John Doe” asked you to the Dillon SYR, you quickly looked him up in your trusty dog book and took what you could get ... maybe.

Feeling bored with some friends? Rank the best-looking students of the opposite sex. And who can forget paging through the pages to figure out whom exactly you met at that dorm party the night before.

Maybe being a part of the “dog book” generation got you into a bit of trouble (not knowing the relationship status of a certain crush) or it led to some inane judgmental (maybe he just took a bad picture) or maybe it just made us all a little more weird (extending an invitation to a total stranger).

But one thing is for certain: the dog book evokes feelings of long lost love, and you cannot supplement it with a new album and an inside joke posted on a friend’s wall.

In any case however we looked — skinnier, fatter, mulleted or hairier — does the dog book remain a mystery.

— Kelly Meehan
Saint Mary’s Editor

IN BRIEF

Vote today in the Notre Dame student body presidential and vice presidential election. Students can vote in the LaFortune Student Center, the Mendoza College of Business, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center or online.

As part of Ethics Week, Carolyn Woo, dean of the Mendoza College of Business, will present a lecture entitled “Peace Through Commerce” at 12:30 p.m. today at the Giovanni Commons in the College of Business.

Prominent Indonesian politician Amien Rais will speak on “The Impact of Globalization on Islam and Democracy in Indonesia” today at 3 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium. The event is sponsored by the Kellogg Institute for International Studies and the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

Former U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige will visit the campus Thursday. History Month Keynote Address will be held at 7:30 p.m. in 101 Delortalo Hall. Paige will discuss American education, including the No Child Left Behind Act.

The Hungarian State Folk Ensemble will perform Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $36 for the general public, $30 for facultystaff/friends and $15 for students.

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

CORRECTIONS

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OFFBEAT

Cat survives frozen ordeal LOSANTIVILLE, Ind. — A cat found half-frozen in a water trough is recovering, but may lose its tail.

Melissa Jones said she found the cat Tuesday when she stepped onto her porch for a cigarette. His tail and hind legs were stuck in about three inches of ice. She and her husband used buckets of hot water to free him.

“They are very cold yet they are very lucky. I was really scared I couldn’t save it,” Jones said, adding that the cat ran back on its own.

Track splits 40 tons of cow intestines SHEBOYGAN, Wis. — About 40 tons of cow intestines and bones spilled onto a major highway after a truck driver became distracted by his digital music player and his semi-trailer tipped over.

The accident happened in the town of Mosel when 25-year-old Ryan Engle's truck veered off the road as he adjusted his MP3 player, Spencer said.

The truck had to be towed from the scene.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.
College of Business hosts 10th Ethics Week

By JENN METZ
News Writer

This week marks the Mendoza College of Business’s 10th-annual Ethics Week, a program of events dedicated to the discussion of ethical matters in the college’s undergraduate and graduate classes, according to event organizers.

The primary goal of Ethics Week is for faculty to explore these matters in depth and facilitate discussion about ethical matters that are relevant to the business world today, said Kenneth Milani, faculty coordinator of Ethics Week.

A secondary goal of the week is to establish the foundations for future ethical discussions both in and out of the classroom. Milani said organizers hope once the area of ethics has been closely examined, both undergraduate and graduate students may want to pursue the area in papers, presentations and class discussions.

Ethics Week always takes place around or during the week of Valentine’s Day, Milani said.

“On Valentine’s Day, if you already love some-one, you do something to explicitly show that,” he said. “We practice business ethics 24/7, but we set this week aside to explicitly show our dedication to ethical practices.”

He said the week allows incoming students and faculty to get involved in the Mendoza culture and to become aware of accepted ethical practices in the business world.

“This week sends a signal — this is something we think is very important. We are leaders in this area,” Milani said.

According to Milani, the events will compliment what is learned in the business classroom and introduce speakers who don’t come into classes on a regular basis.

Among other topics, Ethics Week is for faculty to explore ethical matters that are relevant to the business world.

Milani cited many examples of the ability of commerce to generate world peace, including the direct connection between improved economic conditions and decreases in violence in Ireland and South Africa. In recent state-side emergencies, Milani said Wal-Mart and Target’s economic influence helped destigmatize areas get back on track when FEMA alone could not.

Tuesday features “Ethics and Executive Education: Examining the Essential Elements,” a lecture given by Joe Hold, director of executive education programming at Mendoza. The lecture will be held at 12:30 p.m. at the Giovanni Commons.

On Wednesday, Professor Monle Lee of Indiana University and Professor Jack Ruhe of Saint Mary’s will deliver a lecture entitled “Teaching Business Ethics in International Courses” at noon in the Giovanni Commons.

The week concludes on Thursday when Mark Abson, a social entrepreneur, New York Times bestselling author, former Harvard Business School professor and co-founder of Net Impact, an organization that promotes new models for responsible business decisions, will facilitate a presentation, “True to Yourself” at noon in the Giovanni Commons.

“Students should set aside their time to see at least some of the speakers,” Milani said. “This is an opportunity to see world-class people give their input on topics of ethics in an intimate setting.”

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

E-mail obsnews@nd.edu

Got News?

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Wages
continued from page 1
Notre Dame a better place to work.
A living wage is the hourly rate of income that a worker in a specific area must make in a 40-hour workweek to support a family of four. According to the Student Employment Web site, the intermediate rate is $7.15 per hour, and the skilled rate is $7.65 per hour.

"Another increase is scheduled to go into effect this summer, raising the minimum hourly wage to $7.65 per hour," Russo said. "This increase will be passed along to on-campus students who are employed, as well as to those working off campus." Russo said that the increase will be passed along to all workers who are employed by the University, whether they work on or off campus.

Unlike full-time staff members, students who work part-time may not see a pay increase as a result of the Indiana law. Currently, the state minimum wage is $5.15 per hour, but this is expected to increase to $5.25 per hour in 2008.

Students at Notre Dame have typically been able to make a living wage through on-campus employment. In addition, the University offers a number of off-campus employment opportunities for students.

Contact Eva Binda at jbinda@nd.edu

ND program offers tax assistance
TAP prepares returns for low-income families in the area at no cost

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TAP prepares returns for low-income families in the area at no cost

By AMANDA SHROPSHIRE
News Writer

This time of year is stressful for wage-earners across the country as they scramble to file their tax returns by April 15. But with the help of the Notre Dame Tax Assistant Program (TAP), life for members of the greater South Bend community is just a little bit easier.

For nearly 40 years, the TAP volunteer corps — made up of students, faculty, staff and Certified Public Accountants — has been committed to helping local taxpaying families for free.

"The TAP program is a way for us to give back to the community," said Dr. Ted Wishon, director of Student Finance Services. "It provides an opportunity for students to gain valuable work experience and the public is able to get assistance at no cost."

TAP prepares tax returns for members of the greater South Bend community at no cost.

Contact Amanda Shropshire at ashrop01@stmarys.edu

Student volunteers for Notre Dame's Tax Assistant Program help members of the greater South Bend community prepare their tax returns during last year's effort.

"It just feels so good when you give someone a $5,000 refund, because that money means so much to them," said Stefanie Broderick, TAP volunteer.

Domestic clients must have made less than $35,000 in the past year to be eligible for the service. All international, fraternity members, researchers, students and visiting scholars are able to receive assistance.

"Taxpayers seeking assistance must bring copies of their federal and state tax returns from the past year and other relevant documents such as medical bills, personal property taxes, real estate taxes and charity donations to one of the 10 locations where TAP services are offered six days a week. The largest of these include the South Bend and Mishawaka public libraries," Adams said. This year, as the program prepares for a busy season, Adams said their goals are measured not in numbers, but in quality. "We try to make ourselves available to the community in as many ways as possible," he said.

Contact Amanda Shropshire at ashrop01@stmarys.edu

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Portugal faces abortion referendum

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Portugal was as many International talks to Hundreds of refugees from
The Bush administration is referendum yesterday whether to discard its strict
ative abortion laws in the European Union. The say they are
Catholic grant women the right
Portugal faces abortion referendum

Iran's involvement in Iraq discussed

Afganist beset by foreign fighters

IRAQ resolution vote expected soon

Democratic Congress to pass measure expressing ‘disapproval’ of Iraq war

WASHINGTON — Even before they cast symbolic votes against the Iraq war, newly empowered congressional Democrats are slamming for a chance to limit and eventually end U.S. involvement in a conflict that has killed more than 2,600 troops.

"Will I vote for a nonbinding resolution? Yes, but it's impossible," said first-term Rep. Joe Giddo of a Fort Wayne group called

The war is expected by week's end on a nonbinding measure that expresses disapproval of the president's recent decision to dispatch an additional 21,500 military personnel to Iraq. The measure also affirms support for the troops.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and the Democratic leadership have formed up support for the measure by repeatedly promising it will be followed by binding legislation.

"Our goal is to end the war," one Democrat quoted Pelosi as saying at a recent event in Washington. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada has said they will oppose the resolution as too weak, even as a first step. But Reid's office has enlisted the hacking of the anti-war organization MoveOn.org for the strategy and deflections have been few.

At the same time, pressure has been building.

War critics have told Bush they want to use anti-terrorism legislation that is expected on the Senate floor in March as a way of forcing votes on proposals to end the war.

In the House, the leadership is planning to turn Bush's request for additional military money into a mid-March debate over the war.

Rep. John Murtha, who heads a subcommittee with jurisdiction over defense spending, told reporters he hopes to add a provision to the bill that would forbid the Pentagon from sending additional troops "unless they have adequate training and unless they have adequate equipment."

Murtha, the House Appropriations Committee chairman, said the Army may have one Democrat said it is possible the bill will also call for the closing of the facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, except in the case of several dozen detainees who will stand trial.

In the complicated politics of the war, the spending bill will face daunting hurdles.

Democrats determined to end the conflict have said they will not approve any more money to keep it going.

Republicans who support Bush's policy would be unlikely to support limits on his power as commander in chief.

Unlike a nonbinding measure, legislation is always subject to a presidential veto.

But opponents of the war, their strength increased in last fall's congressional elections, say public opinion is moving their way.

Korea talks stall over energy aid

China

Associated Press

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Paige continued from page 1
time." Because of this, we felt Dr. Paige was a perfect choice for a keynote speaker," DeLemos said. "And also because Condoleezza Rice is impossible to book during Black History Month."

Senior Broderick Henry, also a member of MAC, said choosing Paige was an easy decision for MAC.

"Paige carries an image of African-Americans that isn’t associated with arts or entertainment," Henry said. "Off all the speakers we could have chosen from, we felt he could best convey Paige’s two-year tenure at the University of Education was not without controversy, as No Child Left Behind became an unpopular program because of its strict requirements at the state level, according to Henes. "We think this is a perfect forum to engage in a healthy discussion too," he said. Paige will speak at 7:30 p.m. in Room 101 of DeBartolo Hall.

Contact John-Paul Wint at jpwint@nd.edu

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Cronkite: Media profits value truth 

NEW YORK — Pressures by media companies to generate greater profits are threatening the very freedom the nation was built upon. Former CBS News anchor Walter Cronkite said Thursday in a keynote speech at Columbia University. Cronkite said today’s journalists face greater challenges than those from his generation. No longer could journalists count on their employers to provide the necessary resources, he said, “to expose truths that powerful politicians and special interests often did not want exposed.”

Instead, he said, “they face rounds and rounds of job cuts and cost cuts that require them to do more every year with less.”

But journalists’ job is at risk here. It’s American democracy. It is freedom.

Cronkite said news accuracy has declined because of closures and closures that have left many American towns with only one newspaper. And as broadcasters cut budgets and time for news, he said, “we all left with a sound bite culture that turns political campaigns into political theater.”

The former anchor urged owners of media companies — newspapers and broadcast alike — to recognize they have special civil responsibilities.

New York — Most small business owners have to deal at some time or another with employees who date, fall in love and probably break up. It’s pretty hard to prohibit workers from becoming romantically involved, but owners can take steps to ensure that a relationship doesn’t get in the way of the giving the job done. Problems can arise no matter how the relationship turns out or even if the relationship never gets off the ground. So human resource consultants say all companies should have a policy on dating and relationships among co-workers, and to be sure that employees are aware of it.

There are two very critical reasons for formulating such a policy. Relationships can affect productivity, and not just that of the dating co-workers. Even more serious is the fact that workplace affairs of the heart have the potential of turning into sexual harassment suits against an employer.

But many HR experts say that realistically, such policies can’t outright ban dating.

**MARKET RECAP**

**Dow Jones**

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**AMR**

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**Commodities**

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**NASDAQ fails in bid for LSE**

London Stock Exchange announces work on alliance with Tokyo Stock Market

NEW YORK — The Nasdaq Stock Market Inc., having more than tripled its bid to $5.3 billion for the London Stock Exchange, is now seen scrambling to lay out a European strategy that will appease its shareholders and ensure that it won’t be left behind as other major exchanges consolidate.

The world’s largest electronic equities exchange was dealt a crushing defeat Saturday by LSE shareholders who overwhelmingly opted not to accept the bid. The Nasdaq’s dogged pursuit of the British bourse has lasted almost a year and left Nasdaq’s bargaining position with rival operators NYSE Group Inc. and Euronext NV in a tussle into the future’s marketplace to span the Atlantic.

Analysts say Nasdaq CEO Robert Greifeld is now under intense pressure from investors to cut a deal that will keep his exchange competitive. Wall Street could get a glimpse of Greifeld’s next move when he speaks to analysts after the Nasdaq reports third-quarter earnings Tuesday.

"It’s been built up so much expectation that if he were to abandon Europe there would be very strong disappointment among share­holders," said David Easthope, an analyst with business consulting firm Celent. "Shareholders are looking for them to execute on two strategies: Get your technology, your platform in place and simultaneously execute on Asia." 

That’s exactly what the New York Stock Exchange has accomplished. And this year, the Big Board closed the deal to buy Paris-based Euronext, secured a stake in India’s National Stock Market, and embarked on a broader alliance with the Tokyo Stock Exchange that could lead to a combination.

There is also speculation that NYSE Chief Executive John Thain might take advantage of the Nasdaq’s failed bid to make his own run at the LSE, either through an acquisition or most likely a broad alliance. The NYSE, which declined to comment about such a deal, would face not only competition issues in Europe but also be forced to contend with the nearly 30 percent stake in the London exchange that the Nasdaq still holds.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the LSE told reporters that the exchange is already working on a strategic alliance with its Tokyo counterpart. The fierce rivalry between the NYSE and the Nasdaq is palpable. They are fighting for market share in the U.S., where regulations allow stocks listed on one exchange to be traded on another. They have also been gunging for more stock exchange listings, sometimes persuading companies to defect from one to the other.

The Nasdaq has bragging rights for the speediest stock executions, but the NYSE’s recent introduction of electronic trad­ing is designed to challenge that.

Until Saturday’s defeat, Greifeld had a string of successes at Nasdaq. He’s taken a market that was once run by the nation’s broker-dealers and turned it into one of Wall Street’s hottest public companies, bought electronic trading platform Instinet for its technology and has taken trades away from the NYSE.

Stocks down amid rising oil prices

**New York** — Wall Street retreated sharply Friday as investors grimly absorbed a spike in oil prices and comments from two Federal Reserve officials that unexpected economic growth could prompt an interest rate increase this year.

Stocks had spent most of the session in positive territory after Thursday’s pullback made for fertile ground for bargain hunters. The market also got a lift from analyst upgrades of the automobile sector, which sent Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp. higher.

But investors began to sell after St. Louis Fed President William Poole and Dallas Fed President Richard Fisher both warned rates will go higher if inflation doesn’t ebb. Wall Street has been looking for any clues about how central bankers are viewing the economy, and which way it might lead on interest rates this year.

Investors also digested a handful of earnings reports and watched the movements of crude oil, which crossed $60 per barrel for the first time since early January. MasterCard Inc. also weighed on the market after it warned 2007 margins might be weaker than they were last year.

"I do think that in order for this market to continue to rally, we’re going to need further confirmation of an economy that’s growing, and the risks of inflation have abated," said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist for Avalon Partners.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 56.80, or 0.45 percent, to 12,580.83 after also pulling back on Thursday amid concerns about the housing market.
Silencing Ramadan stunts progress

With all the recent excitement over this year’s top-10 recruiting class (kudos to Coach Weis) and the talent that it brings to our football program, many couldn’t help to still discuss the one (or three) that got away. However, I’d like to shift focus away from Notre Dame for just a couple of minutes and talk about the one that really got away, the one that would undoubtedly make waves at Notre Dame like never before. Scrolling through the New York Times magazine online last Sunday, I felt intense frustration as I read one particular article. This article wasn’t about American and Iraqi deaths incurred in Iraq by roadside bomb- ing, the Islamic nuclear program, or the recent arrest of several Muslims in Britain accused of plotting to kill an Islamic member of the British armed forces. The article was about Tariq Ramadan, a man who could certainly shed light on those aforementioned, all too commonplace, topics. Reading through the article one gets a sense of admiration for his eloquence and his constant efforts to "bridge a divide and bring people together of diverse backgrounds and world views." Although Ramadan comes from a genealogical tree that has its fair share of Muslim extremists (his grandfather founded the Muslim Brotherhood) he has chosen a different route: moderation and practical application of Islamic faith to the world we live in. While he decries neoliberal economics as inherently unjust and states that global capitalism is the "abode of war," these inflammatory statements aren’t simple empty statements tailored for the FOX news ticker but rather a provocative means of entering into a dialogue. As opposed to Ann Coulter, Tariq Ramadan has strong, meaningful opinions that warrant intense scrutiny and discussion in today’s social and political climates. These meaningful, well-articulated opinions are now discussed at Oxford where he is a research fellow. He was supposed to be here. However, this wasn’t a case of his renege on signing day. Quite to the contrary, his children were enrolled in South Bend schools, his furniture had all been shipped here, his visa was in order and he was fully prepared to begin teaching at the Kroc Institute. However, as the New York Times magazine article articulates, about $900 that he donated to charities led to the revocation of his visa. Nine-hundred meager dollars which he had donated to two different aid organizations that help Palestinians are, according to the U.S. State Department, the reason that he’s not here. This money was given to charities that, at the time, were not on any blacklist and continue to run legitimately and without scrutiny in Europe. However, at some point after his donation, the United States decided that it was giving money to Hamas, the radical and violent Palestinian group. Because the ex-post facto nature of the blacklist listing, the present administration, in its infinite wisdom, decided to bar this valuable and much-needed voice from entering our country and teaching at our University.

What we have here is yet another iteration of the U.S. administration’s desire to ignore and obstruct voices of dissent, even if that dissent is entirely well-founded and academic. Tariq Ramadan has an important place in American society and an invaluable role to play in this country’s academic institutions. Due to the heroic and insightful efforts of those at the Kroc Institute such as Professor Scott Appleby, we almost had one of the most prominent Islamic voices right here on our campus. We almost had the opportunity as students to be consistently challenged in our world views and our view of Islam in modern society. We were a simple visa away from being able to comprehend the issues that plague Muslims in Europe and the Middle East as well as, at an ever-increasing rate, those who reside in the United States. The Bush administration will have none of it.

Barring one prominent and controversial scholar from entering our country isn’t the cause of our issues; it’s a symptom. It shows us that the level of education, the prevalence of discourse, and the extent of free speech that millions have fought for and sworn to protect, both in the courts and on the field of battle, aren’t as high of a priority to this administration as we’d like them to be. As the next generation of leaders, we must vigilantly monitor who would limit our access to controversy and attempt to overturn and dissuade the decision of issues which divide societies across the globe.

We deserve better and we must demand better.

Will McAuliffe is a senior Political Science major with a serious love for the Colbert Report and Fox News. All letters of support, disdain or funny Tucker experiences should be forwarded to his personal assistant at mcauliffe40@nd.edu.

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Letters to the Editor

A call to teach and change the nation

We all are so very fortunate to call ourselves part of the Notre Dame community. We all have received excellent educations, and will likely have the opportunity to pass these on to others in whatever it is we choose to do with that education. I issue to you a challenge: use your education to create more educated, inquisitive people ready to take on the world. In sum, more people like you.

In the beginning, Teach For America (TFA) was an idea nothing more than an undergraduate senior thesis about a national teaching corps. The basic idea was that an excellent education can be utilized to change children's lives— to give them new opportunities to meet the challenges associated with poverty. The key to this new life is an education.

I was first reached by an amazing TFA presenter that spoke to a group of undergraduates in fall 1992. She spoke of the need to fill teaching positions in under-resourced, under-funded schools throughout urban and rural areas in the United States. It was if she was speaking directly to me. Me, a Latina woman fluent in Spanish, who had an excellent education and many opportunities in life. Could I provide opportunities for children who had few?

I answered the call and applied. "What about law school?" said my parents. I told them that a TFA experience would prepare me for law school. I told them I wanted to go to law school in order to provide legal services in the public interest. Except what did I know about what was needed in the public sector? I wanted to live it and learn how I could best serve the greater community that gave me so much. Fortunately, I was accepted in 1993 and my parents begrudgingly accepted my decision.

I had the privilege of teaching wonderful bilingual kindergartners in inner-city Houston. Make no mistake, this job was not easy, and struggles are exceptionally difficult to stomach when one is used to success. The TFA experience is not for the weak or meek of heart, but for those who hear the call to serve in the classroom. Many tears were shed, many sleepless nights were spent pouring over books and acquiring materials for "my babies." But in the end, the efforts were well spent. My five-year-old students could read, write, add and subtract. A full quarter of my class could multiply. But my greatest achievement was giving one of my most neglected students the confidence to go from being unable to hold a pair of scissors, to being able to read sight words in one year. Miguel, wherever he is in the world, can read. I had a hand in making sure this one child is literate, and not illiterate.

I do know where Lizette is today. She writes me during the holidays and lets me know about her activities and school. She sent me pictures of her quinceaneras (traditional coming-of-age birthday celebration). She is now 17 and in the National Honor Society.

As for me, after TFA I did go to law school, and am now a practicing criminal defense attorney at the Federal Defender's Office in Buffalo, N.Y. I see the difference that literacy makes every day, most recently when I speak to a client that is illiterate. Would this person be sitting before me in chains if he had learned how to read? Would she have had more options in life if there had been someone who cared enough to give her opportunities to succeed?

As I present a case before the judge in federal criminal court, I remember my students. They were my first audience, where I learned to communicate a message, to make my point. As I speak to a confused and scared client, or to a client's distraught family member, I remember the lessons my small students taught me about speaking softly to those who raise their voices to define a tense situation.

More than 10 years ago, I was privileged to give two years of my life to the children of Houston. In the beginning, Teach For America had great goals and ideals, with the hope that the face of education could be changed. More than a decade later, those goals are being met one teacher and one classroom at a time. Now there is a new generation of children that thirst for knowledge that will bring them a bright future.

How will they achieve this amazing education? Who will lead these children with oftentimes few resources and few role models down the ardent path of learning and achievement? Who will counsel them through the failures and struggles that accompany any new endeavor that requires effort? Can you guide the future leaders of the community and nurture their desires to make things better? Can you grow the skills and abilities that they will need to succeed?

Can you give two years of your life to create an indelible mark on a child? Can you change the future for the better? Can you help build the foundation of communities by preparing children to lead them?

The final deadline to submit applications is Feb. 18. It can be found at www.teachforamerica.org. As a fellow Notre Dame alumna and TFA alum, I ask you: Will you answer the call?

Roxanne Mendez Johnson, alumnae class of 1993

Fair Trade may not be so fair

Over the past year or so there has been a lot of activism by various student groups to introduce Fair Trade coffee at Notre Dame. While I applaud these student groups for their effort in trying to help coffee farmers in developing countries, I think they are completely overlooking the negative repercussions of this campaign.

While Fair Trade sounds like a noble idea from a theoretical standpoint, the broader economic effects could actually be quite harmful to developing countries and their farmers. Without getting into complex economic theory, let me tell you why. For a start, commodities like coffee have a low price for one main reason: there is an overproduction. By paying farmers a guaranteed Fair Trade premium (which acts as a subsidy), it encourages other producers to enter the market, thereby driving overall prices further down and making non-Fair Trade producers in these countries poorer.

More importantly, with a guaranteed premium there becomes less incentive for governments and farmers in developing countries to diversify from coffee farming into other non-commodity sectors. Developing countries are often unable to achieve higher levels of economic growth for the very reason that their economies are too heavily dependent on primary products. This economic phenomenon is perhaps best explained by the Prebisch-Singer thesis which has proven that terms of trade for primary commodity exporters has a tendency to decline. In order for developing countries to achieve higher levels of economic growth they need to, among other things, transition from an agrarian economy into an economy that is based on manufacturing.

I am not saying that encouraging Fair Trade in and of itself is going to impede economic development. But surely with the Fair Trade subsidy it will take incentives away from farmers and governments to diversify their economies. I would urge the Student Senate to reexamine this issue more carefully before deciding to implement a change that may prove to be potentially counterproductive.

Atul Adhikary, graduate student, off campus

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**2007 Oscars**

**Best Picture Nominees**

**'BABEL' ASTOUNDS AS TALE OF HUMANITY**

By TAE ANDREWS

Editor's Note: This is the first in a five-part series on the 2007 Oscar nominees for Best Picture.

As a film, "Babel" is very similar to last year's "Crash," which also involved a very convoluted and unlikely plot that tied together many different people from different walks of life. Also like "Crash," "Babel" is a film centered around the basic human- ness that ties together people, regardless of how different they might seem.

"Babel" features Brad Pitt, who takes some time off from his typical routine of Hollywood star-glitter in such films as "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" and "Ocean's 12" to roll up his sleeves and get his hands dirty with some real acting. In doing so, he confirms his status as a legitimate actor with some real chops instead of being just a pretty face. Replete with a graying beard and a real world attitude, Pitt does a good job of portraying Richard, a haggard husband trying to save his wife after she's shot while vacationing in Morocco.

What may surprise most viewers is that Pitt is not actually onscreen during much of the movie. While the shootouts are nice to splash on movie posters and billboard headlines, the story actually revolves around six different families with complicated and coincidental relationships. Cate Blanchett plays Yussef, the young son of a Moroccan gas station owner. When he is given a rifle to shoot marauding jack- als, one thing leads to another and he and his brother end up shooting a tourist bus containing Richard and Susan, who sets the wholeধ� Bangladesh-type plot in motion.

While Richard and Susan are gone vacationing in Morocco, their children are left in their San Diego home under the watchful eye of their nanny, Amelia, played by Adriana Barraza. After Amelia decides to take the kids to her son's wedding down in Mexico, the trio runs into trouble as they try to return to the country. On the other side of the globe, Rinko Kikuchi plays Cheko, a deaf-mute Japanese schoolgirl who is experiencing the advent of her teenage sexuality but is frustrated by her inability to communicate with young men — or men with her.

The Kevin Bacon-esque game of six degrees of separation links the plot together, but what director Alejandro Gonzalez Iñárritu is getting at is the underlying humanity, which ties all of humanity together. Extremely well made, "Babel" features beautiful sprawling shots of the American-Mexican border and interesting and artistic editing. It's a tad long, clocking in at over two hours, but it's worth the extra film reel.

Iñárritu, of previous fame with his 2003 hit "21 Grams," creates a clear and compelling communication through this sprawling and beautiful film. Whether it's the language barrier Richard faces in his time of crisis in Morocco, or Cheko's inability to communicate with the world around her, Iñárritu is focused on finding what exactly it is that gives people their sense of self. In addition, he clearly has a lot to say in terms of his political message, given the portrayal of the American government in the film as it deals with the international politics of securing Susan's rescue in Morocco and the Mexican government's overreach.

Appropriately, "Crash" managed to make like its own title and crashed the Oscar party en route to scoring Best Picture and Best Original Screenplay awards, beating out previous frontrunner "Brokeback Mountain." With a little luck and some American love, Iñárritu may find himself lifting a trophy with a golden man for this well-made and beautiful film.

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrews1@nd.edu

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**MEXICAN DIRECTORS TAKING HOLLYWOOD BY STORM**

By MARTY SCHROEDER

American directors have long dominated Hollywood and the Academy Awards. Foreign directors have had difficulty making inroads into the upper echelons of Hollywood. Granted, there are notable exceptions such as Ang Lee from Taiwan and Michel Gondry from France who made "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" and " Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," respectively. However, this year marks a paradigm shift inside the highest awards of American (and many would argue world) cinema. A group of Mexican directors has taken Hollywood by storm — a group similar to the French New Wave of the 1960s. Not similar so much in filmmaking style, but similar in bringing creative talent and amazing films from outside of the United States.

**Alejandro Gonzalez Iñárritu**

Born in Mexico City in 1963, Alejandro Gonzalez Iñárritu entered movie studies by studying filmmaking under Ludwik Margules and directing under Ruben Wexler. During the 1990s, he worked for Mexican TV company Televisa and became one of their youngest directors. Moving on from Televisa, he set up Zeta Films, which focused on advertising and short films. His entrance into the world of feature filmmaking came with "Amores Perros." Written by longtime accomplice Guillermo Arriaga, the film was nominated in 2001 for the Best Foreign Language film and brought Iñárritu to fame. This image materialized itself in the invitation to direct the film "21 Grams" and work with famed Puerto Rican actor Benicio Del Toro. This film garnered high critical praise from art film circles and del Toro and Naomi Watts received Academy Award nominations for their performances. The success of this film translated into the current nominee for Best Picture, "Babel." Regarded by many to be the this year's frontrunner for Best Picture due to its Golden Globe win, "Babel" has marked Iñárritu's place in the inner circles of Hollywood directors and his first definite mainstream success.

**Guillermo del Toro**

Del Toro rose to Hollywood fame through a different path — he began his career by directing big budget comic book films such as "Blade II" and "Hellboy." Instead of moving closer and closer to Hollywood, del Toro began his career there and has moved further and further away while still retaining the credibility and fame he built up. Moving away from comic books this year, del Toro released the almost universally critically acclaimed "El Laberinto del Fauno (Pan's Labyrinth)." The favorite to win the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, "Labyrinth" has stolen the hearts of viewers around the world with its story from civil war-era Spain.

**Alfonso Cuaron**

The third member of the Mexican directorial trinity, Alfonso Cuaron entered feature filmmaking with "Sólo Con Tu Pareja (Only With Your Partner)" — a dark comedy about a playboy businessman who contracts HIV. It was very popular in Mexico and garnered him some attention not so much with the American public but with the industry. His big break in the American film scene came with the provocative "Y Tu Mamá También." This was made in Mexico with a Mexican cast but was a smash hit in the American art-house circles. Producers noticed and gave Cuaron the helm for the third installment in the Harry Potter series, "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban." Cuaron was criticized by "Poter" fans for not following the book religiously. However, many critics regarded this film as a dramatic improvement over the previous two Potter films.

Following this was his latest effort, "Children of Men" starring Clive Owen, Julianne Moore and Sir Michael Caine. He, more so than the others, had massive success both with Spanish and English language films.

All three of these directors represent the filmmaking talent and creativity from Mexico. In an age when Hollywood can do little more than make sequels, these men are making some of the most creative and highly acclaimed films of the year. From the fantasy of "El Laberinto del Fauno" to the grittiness of "Children of Men" to the seriousness of "Babel," these three men promise that the Mexican cinema is alive and well and American directors could certainly learn a thing or two from them.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroeder@nd.edu
Eddie Murphy needs to re-find inner comedian

By TAE ANDREWS

Eddie Murphy frequently stars as multiple characters in a single film such as Norbit, Right, and Raquelita in "Norbit." The films usually include him wearing a fat suit. Eddie Murphy recently stars as multiple characters in a single film such as Norbit, Right, and Raquelita in "Norbit." The films usually include him wearing a fat suit. Murphy has returned to his comic self and doesn't go down the potentially devastating road of "The Nutty Professor III: Three Times the Kumps."

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Legends Review

Ben Kweller heats up frigid night at Legends

Word of mouth is a funny thing. From the absence of posters and general lack of official fanfare, Ben Kweller might have been thought to be on the other side of campus, making the journey across a frigid campus to Legends. And so concert-goers found themselves huddled and shivering outside of Legends last Friday night an hour before Kweller took the stage. However, despite the cold, anticipation built to a fever pitch for what the crowd was about to hear. Despite the cold, Kweller gave the audience what it had been waiting for all night, pulling his band back onstage for a rendition of his signature anthem, "Wasted Youth," which set off a mini wild dog jam. Good luck trying to quell that audience and silence the energy of the old Times the Knumps.

Ben Kweller played hits such as "I Need You Back," "My Apartment," and "The Rules." He also showed off his sweeter side, just in time for Valentine's Day, with songs such as "Believer" and "The Rules.

That's the essence of mop-topped rocker Ben Kweller — he's got an infectious fun and spirit of rock 'n roll and then shake things up with a varied array of differ-
CLEVELAND — Sasha Pavlovic scored 13 points in the fourth quarter, picking up the slack for LeBron James, and the Cleveland Cavaliers made a three-game road trip a success by downing the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday. Pavlovic, suddenly a major cog in Cleveland's offense, finished with 21 points, five rebounds and four assists.

A toughНЕАТ on Sunday came within a 9-second span after beating Miami on Friday. "We're not playing physical enough, tough enough," Popovich said. "We're playing soft for too many minutes in the game. Just hoping and Begging..."

The Spurs were within one point twice in the final quarter, but missed eight straight shots over a stretch of 7:12 — and Miami capitalized, outscoring San Antonio 20-8 during that drought to open a big lead and eventually prevail, in a matchup of the last two NBA champions.

"We're just not able to get over that hump when we need to," Dunleavy said. "The consistency is not there, offensively and defensively."

Wade single-handedly kept the Spurs off the scoreboard twice midway through the fourth quarter, with a pair of highlight-reel blocks against Parker near the basket. Both came within a 9-second span and represented Parker's only attempts in the fourth. During which San Antonio shot 5-for-19.

"Great defense. It surprised me a little bit," Parker said. "I think that we're not thinking about the game road trip. Tony Parker near the basket. Both

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**NHL**

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

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Eastern Conference, Northeast Division

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Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

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**MLB**

Twins avoid arbitration, sign Mauer

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — AL batting champion Joe Mauer and the Twins agreed Sunday to a $33 million, four-year contract, avoiding salary arbitration and giving one of the team’s young stars the security of a long-term deal.

The 23-year-old catcher hit .347 with 48 RBIs last year to help the Twins rally from a 12 1/2-game deficit to win the AL Central on the final day of the regular season. He played in his first All-Star game last summer. Selected with the first pick in the 2001 amateur draft out of Creighton-Doherty Hall High School in St. Paul, Minn., Mauer was eligible for arbitration this winter for the first time.

He became the first catcher to lead the majors in batting average and the first AL catcher to win the batting title.

"We’re extremely happy, because there is not a player who belongs with the Twins more than Joe Mauer," his agent Ron Shapiro said on Sunday.

Shapiro represented two Hall of Famers, Baltimore’s Cal Ripken and Minnesota’s Kirby Puckett, who spent their entire careers with the same team. The deal will keep Mauer with the Twins through at least 2010, the year the team is scheduled to begin playing in a new Minneapolis ballpark.

That didn’t mean Mauer gave Minnesota a hometown discount, however.

He gets $3.75 million this year, $6.25 million in 2008, $10.5 million in 2009 and $12.5 million in 2010. Mauer has additional award bonuses and gets the right to designate three teams each year that he can’t be traded to without his consent.

"This is a market deal," general manager Terry Ryan said. "Don’t worry about that.

Mauer would have been eligible for free agency around 2009 if he lost.

"This is a good day for this organization, and I feel like it’s one of those deals which is going to work for both sides," Ryan said. "You have to be comfortable with how a player’s going to respond to security. I don’t think there’s any question how Joe’s going to respond to that.

Mauer’s rookie season in 2004 was cut short by a knee injury that raised some questions about how his body could handle the physical demands of his position behind the plate. But he has been fine ever since.

**NCAA Basketball**

Men’s Big East Standings

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**IN BRIEF**

Mickelson tips Pebble Beach record with 5-shot win

PEREGRINE BEACH, Calif. — Anyone worried that Phil Mickelson was emotionally scarred by that U.S. Open collapse can relax.

Mickelson finally got his season on track Sunday by closing with a 6-under 66 under surprising sunshine to tie the tournament record at the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am and win by five shots for the 30th victory of his career.

Mickelson overcame a double bogey with a last ball early in the round with three birdies in a four-hole stretch along the ocean, turning a tight race into an runaway. He matched the record set in 1992 by Davis Love III, turning a tight race into an runaway. He matched the record set in 1992 by Davis Love III, turning a tight race into an runaway. He matched the record set in 1992 by Davis Love III, turning a tight race into an runaway. He matched the record set in 1992 by Davis Love III, turning a tight race into an runaway.

The victory kept Noble Court on pace for Kentucky Derby with win

ARCADIA, Calif. — Noble Court made a big move to the front approaching the stretch and then fought off a late challenge by Law Breaker to win the $150,000 San Vicente Stakes for 3-year-olds Sunday.

The victory kept Noble Court on the Kentucky Derby trail with his next start set for March 17 in the San Felipe Stakes at Santa Anita.

A surging Law Breaker ran out of room at the wire, losing by a neck to Noble Court. The three-time Kentucky Derby winner was second in the $150,000 San Vicente Stakes for 3-year-olds Sunday.

David Gilliland and Ricky Rudd won the top two starting spots Sunday in qualifying for the Daytona 500, putting Yates back on the racing map after a horrendous season.

"There was a time last year when I felt like I maybe was the problem, and wasn’t in love with it and really wanted to leave racing," Yates said. "I could have walked out of here last year. I want this next year to get it all together, get the sky that was falling on us, get it together.

That dark time saw Yates lose his victory of his career.

Yates said. "I felt like I maybe was the problem, and wasn’t in love with it and really wanted to leave racing," Yates said. "I could have walked out of here last year. I want this next year to get it all together, get the sky that was falling on us, get it together.

Yates back on the racing map after a horrendous season.

"I worry about that," general manager Terry Ryan said. "Don’t worry about that.

Mauer would have been eligible for free agency around 2009 if he lost.

"This is a good day for this organization, and I feel like it’s one of those deals which is going to work for both sides," Ryan said. "You have to be comfortable with how a player’s going to respond to security. I don’t think there’s any question how Joe’s going to respond to that.

Mauer’s rookie season in 2004 was cut short by a knee injury that raised some questions about how his body could handle the physical demands of his position behind the plate. But he has been fine ever since.
**NHL**

Havlát leads Blackhawks over Blue Jackets

Dallas rocks Colorado, Red Wings roll Flames

Associated Press

COLUMBUS—Martin Havlat is playing well. It's no coincidence that the Chicago Blackhawks are, too.

Havlát had a goal and two assists and the Blackhawks scored three times in the opening period and then held off the Columbus Blue Jackets 5-4 on Sunday.

"I feel I'm playing the best hockey of my life," said Havlat, acquired along with Bryan Smolinski from Ottawa in a blockbuster deal last summer. "That's my goal every year — to be better than the season before."  

Havlát has seven goals and three assists in a six-game goal streak.  

Peter Bondra and Smolinski each had a goal and an assist and Patrick Sharp and Martin Lapointe also scored for the Blackhawks, who have won five of their last seven games.

A few Blue Jackets fans chant "We want a re-fu-di!" in the third period — before their team came back with two goals to almost force overtime.

Amoun Carter, Ron Hainsley and David Vyborny each had a goal and an assist and Alexander Svetov also scored for Columbus, which dropped behind the Blackhawks into last place in the Central Division. Brian Berard and Rick Nash each added two assists.

Down 5-2 with less than 11 minutes to go, the Blue Jackets drew within one in Vyborny's rebound goal with 3:58 remaining.

They almost tied it with just 40 seconds left, as they did a goal earlier in the night, but Nikolai Khabibulin didn't give in.

The Blackhawks turned a 3-0 third-period lead into a 5-1 victory over Columbus Sunday.

"I'm disappointed that I let the guys down. They weren't great goals," Turco said. "I haven't been my best the last couple weeks and it's making Tip (coach Dave Tippett) a little nervous."

In his previous start Tuesday against Minnesota, Turco gave up two goals on seven shots in the first eight minutes. Dallas rebounded to win 4-2 after Smith took over.

The Stars have still won three straight games and five of their last six. With 70 points, they are four points behind Anaheim and only one behind second-place San Jose, which plays in Dallas Sunday.

Turco, who Sunday was pulled from his second straight start after allowing two goals in less than a minute midway through the second period.

Smith came in after Paul Stastny and rookie Wojtek Wolski scored 49 seconds apart midway through the second period to get Colorado within 4-3.

Turco allowed three goals on 15 shots, the other in the closing minute of the first period when he let a puck through and behind him, and Joe Sakic knocked it into the net.

Chicago goalie Nikolai Khabibulin makes a save as Blackhawks defenseman Duncan Keith and Blue Jacket wing man Nikolai Zherdev battle for the puck in Chicago's 5-4 win over Columbus Sunday.

At the 9-minute mark, Cam Barke’s slap shot from the left point glanced off Hadin Vbrata in the slot and resulted in a big rebound that Hainsey nestled from the edge of the right circle.

Just over a minute later, Havlat passed the back boards to Tuomo Ruutu, who sauced a centering pass that Smolinski netted from the high slot.

Havlat skated to an almost stop at the left goal mouth and then reached back to flick the puck past the goalie.

"It was a tough game — the sixth game of a road trip," coach Denis Savard said. "There were little, woe mistakes we work on every day — we'll fix it. Part of it is not focusing on what we need to do in our coverage. It's going to happen. It's a young team. Tonight fatigue might have set in."

Norrora was replaced by Pascal Leclaire, who had missed the last 21 games because of knee surgery.

The Blue Jackets cut the gap to 4-2 with a pair of power-play goals.

Amoun Carter's centering pass for Nash went off his stick and to Vyborny answering with a wrist shot from the right dot and Vyborny closing the scoring by going high over Khabibulin's shoulder to set up the wild finish.

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BELLES BASKETBALL

Belles edge Hornets in late moments

Lipke’s free throw with seven seconds remaining seals victory

By DAN COOPER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s point guard Bridget Lipke hit her second free-throw with seven seconds remaining, which ended a second-half Kalamazoo surge and gave the Belles a 62-60 victory Saturday at the Anderson Athletic Center in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Kalamazoo (3-19, 2-12 MIAA) entered the game on an eight-game losing skid, winning only one of their previous 14 games. Saint Mary’s (10-11, 9-5 MIAA), on the other hand, had won four of its last five and appeared on a roll before Saturday’s scare.

The Belles jumped to an early lead but struggled down the stretch.

The Hornets ended the game on a 14-4 run before Lipke’s free throw gave the Belles a 62-58 lead. Though junior Kalamazoo guard Therese Danes hit a layup with one second left, Kalamazoo didn’t have time for another score.

“It was senior day for Kalamazoo and they played with emotion,” Saint Mary’s coach Jennifer Henley said. “They are a scrappy team, and we couldn’t put them away.”

Lipke hit a jumper with 10:51 left in the first half that gave the Belles a 10-point lead at 18-8. Saint Mary’s maintained that lead and was in control 35-22 at the half.

The second half, though, was a different story.

The Hornets came out of the locker room on fire, jumping out to a 15-3 run which cut Saint Mary’s lead to 38-37 with 14:15 remaining.

The Belles responded over the next eight minutes and built a seemingly comfortable 58-46 lead. But they couldn’t put Kalamazoo away, making only one field goal in the final six minutes.

On a night when guard Allison Kessler struggled with 3-of-17 shooting from the floor, Saint Mary’s received contributions from the bench. Sophomore guard Katie Flashard stepped up with 12 points on 5-of-9 shooting.

“Katie stepped up and hit some buckets,” Henley. “She really took the pressure off of Allison.”

Though Kessler struggled from the field, she was able to get to the foul line and knock down 7-of-8 from the charity stripe.

Kessler also reached the 1,000-point milestone for her career becoming only the eighth player in Saint Mary’s basketball history to accomplish the feat.

“It is a huge, huge milestone especially as a junior at the college level,” Henley said. “Reaching the milestone was definitely something we talked about as a team, and we are all proud of her.”

Saint Mary’s returns home to face Alion at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. Saint Mary’s lost 77-69 in their last meeting at Alion on Jan. 17.

Contact Dan Cooper at dcooper@smu.edu

Irish fall against No. 6 Dartmouth

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame fell short in its exhibition against No. 6 Dartmouth Saturday in Hanover, N.H., dropping the contest 14-13 in the team’s final game before the No. 5 Irish began their regular season this weekend at James Madison.

Tracy Coyne Irish coach

“The Big Green and the Irish scrimmaged as good through controlled situations earlier in the day with offensive and defensive turns for each team. In the afternoon the teams then played an exhibition match in a rematch of last season’s NCAA semifinal Dartmouth victory.

Despite the close loss, Irish coach Tracy Coyne was very impressed by the performance of both teams. "For the first game of the year, it was a very high-caliber and fast-paced scrimmage — what you would expect from two final four teams."

Tracy Coyne Irish coach

The Irish will now begin preparing for their first regular season opponent, No. 12 James Madison. Notre Dame will travel to Harrisonburg, Va., for its Sunday matchup.

“I think we have a few things left to fine-tune,” Coyne said. "But I think this exhibition has given us the extra push and renewed our commitment for this year."

Notre Dame also received news Friday that Ohio University had canceled its women’s lacrosse program — significant because the two teams were scheduled to play later this season.

“It’s discouraging news for a major university to cancel their program,” Coyne said. “It left us and a lot of other teams scrambling to find another opponent for this season."

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

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**COME DANCE WITH WYOMA**

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SMC SWIMMING

Gerbeth, Belles finish sixth in MIAAs

Saint Mary's season ends as sophomore becomes second swimmer in school history to win an event at conference meet

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

The Belles' season ended Saturday with a sixth-place finish at this weekend's MIAA championships in Grand Rapids, Mich. The Belles received 133 points to finish sixth out of seven teams, but were just 20 points behind the Irish on their heels from the upset of No. 1 singles.

Irish senior Barry King competes in Notre Dame's 5-2 victory over Florida State Feb. 2.

Team fights off early deficit to beat Badgers

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

Wisconsin was looking for its second upset of a ranked team this week against No. 9 Notre Dame Sunday, but the Irish had other plans.

Notre Dame bounced back from early deficits to fight off the Badgers 5-2.

Wisconsin — still high from its upset of No. 10 Miami — had the Irish on their heels from the beginning. The Badgers dropped the first set 4-6 against No. 11 Sheeva Parbhoo and Ryan Keckley in No. 1 singles.

Stephan Bass and Andrew Roth beat Michael Dierberger and Michael Munkiewicz 8-3, but the Badgers locked up the doubles point when Jeremy Sonkin and Lachazar Kasarov secured an 8-5 victory over Brett Helgeson and Barry King. "It was a set-back at No. 11 and [No. 2] doubles for us, but hopefully only a temporary one," Notre Dame coach Bobby Rayles said.

The singles matches that followed were just as close as doubles play, but Notre Dame was able to pull away with victories in five out of the six matches to win the overall contest.

Helgeson and King both finished off their opponents in straight sets. Helgeson defeated Baumann 6-4, 7-6 (3), to garner his sixth-straight victory, while King battled against Dierberger to come away with the 6-3, 7-5 win and improve to 5-2 in dual action.

"Wisconsin didn't quit at all, they didn't check out at point when they got behind — they made us really earn it," Bayliss said.

Second and fourth singles proved to be a little bit more trying for Parbhoo and Keckley. Parbhoo dropped his first set 5-7, but rallied for nearly perfect 6-0 and 6-1 wins in the second and third sets for the victory. "As the match went on [Parbhoo] got better and better, and in the last two sets he was nearly flawless," Bayliss said. Keckley also dropped his first set 6-4, but fought back to win 6-2 and 6-3 in his second and third matches, respectively.

Bayliss said Keckley showed a lot of poise. Keckley suffered from back spasms in the second set and had to take a medical timeout to be attended to by a trainer. He came back from his injury and never looked back to take his sixth-straight match win in dual play.

Bass saw little trouble at No. 1 singles as he took the first set 6-1 from Sonkin. Bass again jumped to the early 1-0 lead when Sonkin dropped out of play due to a back injury.

Wisconsin's only singles point came during No. 5 singles when Felipe Bellido dropped the first set 5-7 to Roth, but picked up his game to win 6-4 and 6-3 in the second and third sets, respectively.

Bayliss expects to see a strong showing from the Badgers throughout the rest of the season as well.

"Wisconsin is a very tough opponent," he said. "I can see how they beat Miami, and they will definitely get some good wins along the way."
senior Aaron Adjemian and sabre Valerie Providenza went on to seal the victory. The deaths in the nine-epee bouts included five sudden deaths in the nine-epee bouts and 10 bouts decided by one touch. Individually, junior foilist Melanie Bautista's (7-0), sophomore foilist Emili Prost (8-1), sophomore sabre Ashley Serrette (10-2) and senior epeeist Eleanor Leighton (10-3) and Amy Orlando (8-3) led the way for the Irish women. Despite the strong showing without top performers senior sabre Patrick Ghattas and freshman epeeist Kerley Hurley, Bednarski is keeping a cool head about the team. "We still need [to] work—work hard to improve—because such competition is where we prove ourselves against the best teams," he said. The Irish duel next at the Northwestern Duals Feb. 24.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Barlow replaces center
D'Amico as starter, scores 13 in victory
By BILL BRINK Sports Writer
The Observer

Barlow replaces center D'Amico as starter, scores 13 in victory
By BILL BRINK Sports Writer
The Observer

For the first time in 27 games this season, Notre Dame changed its starting lineup — inserting freshman guard Ashley Barlow for center Melissa D'Amico. The move proved effective, as the Irish beat DePaul 78-70 Sunday night at the Joyce center.

Notre Dame started four guards to counter DePaul's smaller, quicker lineup. D'Amico and center Erin Quigley scored the first 11 points for the Blue Demons and 17 points in the first half. But with 7:28 remaining in the half, the Irish put together a nine-point run and took a 22-19 lead with under six minutes remaining. Notre Dame held the lead for the rest of the game.

Notre Dame started four guards to counter DePaul's smaller, quicker lineup. D'Amico and center Erin Quigley scored the first 11 points for the Blue Demons and 17 points in the first half. But with 7:28 remaining in the half, the Irish put together a nine-point run and took a 22-19 lead with under six minutes remaining. Notre Dame held the lead for the rest of the game.

"When the refs let us play, why not go after a loose ball, dive for a loose ball and go after the rebound?" Charlie Allen
Irish guard

Irish guard Ashley Barlow drives to the basket against Indiana guard Nikki Smith in Notre Dame's 54-51 loss to the Hoosiers Dec. 3 at the Joyce Center.
**Hockey**

continued from page 20

that's what they're there for—to see some goals."

No. 10 Colorado (24-5-4, 18-3-3 CCHA) allowed Nebraska Omaha to create some scoring opportunities of its own Saturday night when the Mavericks defeated the Irish lead with two goals in the last five minutes of the third period. The Mavericks (13-13-8, 10-10-4 CCHA) pressured throughout over­time in the second game, but the score tied 2-2. It was the fourth tie in the two teams’ this season, with Notre Dame win­ning the series 2-1-1 after a split on the road in Omaha earlier in the year.

The tie will slow Notre Dame’s ability to clinch the CCHA regular-season title. The Irish need to take three more points out of their next four games to eliminate third­place Michigan and fourth­place Ohio State from the race, while second-place Michigan was 1-0 run on front of the Michigan schools because it has played two more games to date. The Irish were 1-0-1 this season, the tie was crucial as it allowed the Irish to take the tie for fifth-place with Ohio State — and in position for a key first-round matchup against last-place Bowling Green.

**Brown**

continued from page 20

become the norm at Notre Dame; the last time a team regis­tered higher than 20 goals in a game was more than two weeks ago.

Brown currently owns the NCAA’s top goals against average at 1.72 and the third best win­ning percentage (.818) and is ranked only 12th in save per­centage. A lot of the credit for those numbers goes to her teammates who have consistently eliminated rebound chances and odd man rushes with physical play throughout the season. That extra work has paid off, according to Brown into the national spotlight in his senior year, making him a media favorite as well as a lead­ing candidate to nab hockey’s highest honor— Hobey Baker. He would be quick to tell you that those honors are as much of a reflection of the team as on his own personal success.

However, Irish coach Jeff Jackson and Brown both agreed that seeing a steady diet of 30 shots a game may have made those impressive stats even bet­ter had the Irish allowed more goals this year. Brown made 5-of-13 shots during a game is easier going percentage (.817), while Notre Dame defense will slack­ening percentage (.817), while Notre Dame defense will slack­ening from center ice as the horn blew. Thompson and Dame bench. They played too needed to win one of the two lineup,” said. “They’re both just good singles and No. 3 doubles, giv­ing the Irish depth in both 1-0 lead and a bread­th of talent to Thompson and Teft.

“They got to get them out of the 1-0 lead,” Louis­ville said. “They had to sit out there and figure out a way because they played too much defense. They played with the fort of the No. 3 doubles. The Irish only needed to win one of the two rem­ained to 1-0 lead. But the Irish did not get No. 3 doubles point. Senior Catrina Thompson — playing without her sister, Joc­lyn Thompson — and junior Brock defeated Louisville junior Robert Kurilko and senior Jake Luczkowski 8-2 to give the Irish the doubles point and a 2-0 lead.

“They had never played dou­bles together before,” Lou­derback said. “They’re both just good doubles players and they’re very well together.

Catrina Thompson played a lone Irish 3-0 lead with her sister White in No. 1 doubles. White, 4- 1, was forced to retire before the match was over due to an injured elbow.

“I thought Catrina played well. She was up 6-0, 4- 1,” Louderback said.

“Indoors, at our courts espe­cially, she’s just very, very dominant.” Freshman Cosmina Ciobanu claimed the match for Notre Dame with her swift 6-0, 6-0 defeat of Cardinals freshman Jo-Anne Vasilenko. Ciobanu preserved her spotless play in double match competition (7-0) and improved her overall record to 17-4.

The bright spot for the Cardinals was Taylor Grose’s vic­tory over No. 31 Colleen Ridley 2-6, 6-4, 1-0 (10-8). Ridley lost her second straight and dropped to 2-5 in dual match play.

Irish sophomore Katie Potts defeated Louisville sophomore Natalie Baz 6-1, 6-4, and Buck­eye junior Bianca Gorea 6-3, 6-4 to round out the scoring for Notre Dame.

The Irish will use Monday and Tuesday to prepare for No. 4 Michigan, which faces Notre Dame Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

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**Hockey**

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though that’s not much to brag to land a few.

Until the third period of Friday’s 4-2 Irish triumph the focus was deflected into the Notre from center ice as the horn blew. Thompson and Dame bench. They played too needed to win one of the two lineup,” said. “They’re both just good singles and No. 3 doubles, giv­ing the Irish depth in both 1-0 lead and a bread­th of talent to Thompson and Teft.

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ND HOCKEY

Last-second leap

Deeth sparks late win Friday before Mavericks force 2-2 tie Saturday

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

I Irish center Kevin Deeth took it to Nebraska-Omaha goaltender Jeremie Dupont, then he took it to the student section in the last seconds of Friday’s 4-2 win over the Mavericks at the Joyce Center.

Deeth capped a six-goal third period between the two teams with a backhand wraparound goal past Dupont with 10 seconds left in the game to give the Irish the 3-2 lead. It was Deeth’s second goal of the night, and the freshman celebrated byjumping into the glass in front of the Notre Dame student section, where he was mobbed by teammates.

“It’s kind of a joke on the team, something we always talk about doing,” Deeth said of the game-winning leap. “To quote (right wing linemate) Ryan Thang, he says ‘Taking it to the band.’ I kind of go a little bit more toward the student section.”

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PHOTOS BY LAURIE HUNT AND VANESSA GEMPIS

ND FENCING

Men, women slice up Duke Duals 4-0, 4-0

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Flat tires can slow Notre Dame, just can’t stop the Irish.

After arriving in Durham, N.C., seven hours before Friday’s 9 a.m. start of the Duke Duals, Notre Dame started sluggishly but rebounded to dominate the rest of the tournament.

The No. 4 Irish women and No. 5 Irish men each went 4-0 in team bouts over North Carolina, Duke, Johns Hopkins and Air Force. The team collected five of the six cups presented to the best team in each weapon for both men and women.

“We expected that we can win but it’s always good to be sure and get this result,” Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. “Of course it was not easy in some certain cases.”

The Notre Dame men, who competed Friday, arrived at their hotel a little before 2 a.m. that day because of mechanical trouble at O’Hare International Airport.

The men’s sabre team lost five of nine matches against the Tar Heels to kick off the competition, but the foilists recovered with a 8-1 performance against UNC. Coincidentally, the foilists’ 5-4 loss to Duke cost the Irish the cup in their weapon, which went to the Blue Devils.

Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said once the sabres got their rhythm, they found their rhythm. The group went 7-2 against Duke and Air Force and 9-0 versus Johns Hopkins.

Sophomore Bill Thanhouser’s 10-2 mark led the way for the unit, and senior Matt Stearns finished 9-3. In the epee, junior Greg Howard went 8-2 while Sophomore Bill Thanhouser’s 10-2 mark led the way for the unit, and senior Matt Stearns finished 9-3. In the epee, junior Greg Howard went 8-2 while

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ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish shoot down Cardinals

Louderback rests key players versus short-handed Louisville

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Notre Dame was able to rest key players while putting a short-handed Louisville squad to rest 6-1 Friday at home for its first Big East win of the season.

"This was good, especially coming back after the ITA National Team Indoors," Irish coach Jay Louderback said.

Senior Christian Thompson and sophomore Kelsey Tefft sat out the match for the No. 4 Irish. Due to team injuries, No. 71 Louisville had only five players for the six singles and three doubles matches. The Cardinals forfeited No. 6

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Sports Writer

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