General Electric CEO to address grads

By KATE ANTONACCI
News Editor

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of General Electric (GE) Jeff Immelt has been widely regarded recently for his "Ecomagination," GE's plan to make more earth-friendly products. General Electric — a company which employs over 300,000 people and whose revenue reached $163.4 billion in 2006 — makes and sells products ranging from home appliances to jet engines.

Immelt has committed to more-than-doubling the company's budget for developing environmentally-friendly technology. He has also pledged GE to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by one percent and to increase energy efficiency 30 percent by 2012.

Immelt studied applied mathematics at Dartmouth College and later earned a masters of business administration from Harvard University.

He began his career at GE after graduating from business school in 1982. Over his

No winner decided by run-off election

By KATE ANTONACCI
News Editor

The price of a Notre Dame education just got a little steeper — $2,340 steeper to be exact.

The University announced Thursday that tuition for undergraduates will increase 5.4 percent for the 2007-08 school year, up nearly $2,500 from the current academic year's bill.

Decided at the winter Board of Trustees meetings, the total cost for a year of undergraduate education will be $44,477, including $35,187 for tuition and $9,290 for average room- and-board rates.

Tuition increases for the other schools connected with Notre Dame are 5.4 percent as well, bringing costs for the Graduate School to $35,580 and both the Law School and Master's of Business Administration Program to $35,490.

This year's increase signals a small percentage decrease in comparison to year's past. While the 2006-07 academic year saw a 5.8 percent increase, the 2005-06 academic year saw a 7 percent rise, slightly higher than 2004-05's 6.9 percent and 2003-04's 6.5 percent increases. The 2001-02 and 2002-03 rises, however, were

Parents, Holtz arrive on campus for JPW

By EVA BINDA
News Witer

Former head football coach Lou Holtz will be in town this weekend to speak to the parents of more than 1,200 juniors arriving in South Bend for the 55th annual Junior Parents Weekend (JPW).

Holtz will be speaking at Sunday's closing brunch, the culminating activity of the three-day event designed for junior parents at Notre Dame.

"We're particularly excited for Lou Holtz," Associate Director of Student Activities Brian Fremeau said.

Fremeau said the organizing committee was fortunate to get a speaker who is "so loved" by the Notre Dame community to speak at JPW, an event intended to give parents the chance to learn more about the "people and places that comprise [their] son or daughters home away from home," JPW 2007 chairperson Kerry Carroll said in a letter to junior parents.

Fremeau said the organizing committee expected Holtz to be a hit with parents.

"I think Holtz will be a huge hit. With all the personal stories submitted by the Notre Dame family, JPW enables parents to "become part of the weekend,"

Monologues return to College

By KELLY MEEHAN
Saint Mary's Editor

For the third consecutive year, the Saint Mary's community will gather to share stories of hope, sexuality and femininity during two weekend performances of the SMC Monologues.

Modeled after Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues," the SMC Monologues will tell personal stories submitted by members of the College's community — addressing issues that affect women on a daily basis. Monologues producer and director Renee Woodward said.

"Our monologues don't just scratch the surface of issues facing Saint Mary's women," she said. "They dive head-first into..."
INSIDE COLUMN

Mom, Dad, welcome to college

Today, yesterday and tomorrow, parents are streaming onto Notre Dame and Saint Mary's campuses, dorms, classrooms, dining halls and anywhere else they can. (Every hotel room within a 10-mile radius is most likely booked solid for this weekend. There are prob-
ably no more reservations available in any restaurant in town, and the weather will be ridiculously nasty. It's pretty sweet to think about, though. Mom and Dad are coming here to see what their baby girl/boy is doing all the way out here in every snowy South Bend.

My own parents came in from central New Jersey around 11 last night complete with bulky luggage, various items I left at home when I came back from Christmas Break and hopefully some quar- ters so I can do more laundry. Between the rushing to clean and vacate my double-turned-single-room, trying to get all my home-work done for Thursday and Friday before they got here, and actually going to my classes, I'm about ready to collapse. Too bad the finals and tests start tonight. There is a pretty easy solution to that. I'll pull down an energy drink (or two, or three), throw on my best stiletto heels (hope I don't fall), and prepare myself to spend the entire weekend with my mom and dad.

I'm not going to lie I'm excited, despite the always-imminent snowfall. Being from Jersey, my parents don't really get to come visit me often. It really is a pretty rare thing to have them out here for a whole weekend, especially one that isn't during football sea- son. I don't even really know what activities there are planned, other than the dinner that probably cold inside too). This weekend is going to be interesting for the three of us. Get ready for (I think I'll just improvise. The point is getting to spend time together, whatever we do. It should really be a fun weekend.

So, Mom and Dad, strap on some snow boots, grab some gloves and a warm hat and bundle up. It's cold out there (not that it isn't probably cold inside too). This weekend is going to be interesting for the three of us. Get ready for horrible dining hall food, some messy dorm rooms, stink with somewhat intriguing activities and a tiny glimpse into what being out here is like for us. Mom, Dad, wel- come to Saint Mary's!

Contact Mandi Strione at
astri01@stmsmarga.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publi-
cations and mores for the highest standards of jour-
ralism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-6945 as we can correct our errors.

Dan Behrens
sophomore Dillon

Sean McGarvey
junior Stanford

Zyra Cortez
sophomore Paquieslina East

Christina Marzo
junior Walsh

Paul Kwak
senior off campus

JohnPaul Lichon
campus ministry off campus

Mandi Strione
News Wire
Editor

"To the Office of Residence Life and Housing, somebody would buy curtains that actually cover the shower stalls."

"Funding a campus aesthetic program."

"The tunnel fund in order to adomd this crappy weather."

"I would give it to the energy board to melch the campus a greener place."

"My future medical school application expenses."

"The Brett Perkins Bacon and Icon Fund."

The Filipino American Student Organization (FASO) practices a cultural dance called "tinkling" but with a slightly modern twist Thursday.

IN BRIEF

The Second City Comedy Tour will perform at Washington Hall at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. today. Student tickets are $5 and are available at the LaFortune Box Office.

Junior Parents Weekend begins today with the Opening Gala and will end Sunday with the Closing Brunch.

The SMC Monologues will take place Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. in Carroll Auditorium at Saint Mary's College. A donation of $3 is suggested.

The men's lacrosse team will play Loyola Saturday at 1 p.m. in the Lufus Sports Center. Admission is free.

Indie rockers Spitalfield of Chicago will perform live at Legends Saturday at 10 p.m. The event is free of charge and open to all ND, SMC and HSC students.

Sister Teresa Okure, a professor at the Catholic Institute of West Africa in Nigeria will give the lecture "Salvific Option for the Rich: A Gospel Challenge for Mission in the Twenty-First Century" Sunday at 7 p.m. in the Moreau Seminar audi­torium.

The women's tennis team will take on Wake Forest Sunday at noon at the Courtney Tennis Center.

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

OFFBEAT

Man grabs shark with hands, blames alcohol

SYDNEY, Australia — A man who caught a 4-foot shark with his bare hands off an Australian beach said on Friday he only tried the feat because he was drunk on vodka.

Phillip Kerkhof was fishing off a jetty at Louth Bay, a town on South Australia state's Eyre Peninsula 870 miles west of Sydney, when he spotted the bronze whaler shark swimming in the shallows, the Australian Broadcasting Corp. reported. "I just snuck up behind him, and eventually I went for the big grab and I floked it and got him," Kerkhof said.

"He was just thrashing around in the water... start- ing to turn around and try to bite me and I thought 'well, it's amazing what vodka does," Kerkhof said.

Turtle eaten by retriever survives

BRANDON, Fla. — A palm-sized pet turtle and the golden retriever that gobbled it up survived the misadven­ ture thanks to the quick actions of a 12-year-old girl, a veterinarian said.

The saga of Pepper the red-eared slider turtle and Bella the golden retriever started last week. Shelby Torhuy, 12, moved her pet pond turtles indoors to pro­ tect them from a cold snap — a plan that worked well until Bella found some of the turtles in a bathtub. The Tampa Tribune reported.

A quick headcount con­ firmed Bella had swallowed one of the turtles. Shelby insisted on a rescue mission and, on the advice of a vet, her parents made Bella vomit. Out came Pepper, still alive despite a shattered shell and an estimated 10 minutes inside Bella's belly.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

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ralism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-6945 as we can correct our errors.
Parents arrive at College

By KATIE KOHLER
Assistant News Editor

During the spring semester, students often use their only summer break — for a week of sitting in classes. However, many students are not staying in the classroom for the entire week. Instead, they may take a trip during football weekends, Walsh said she is not aware of any rates in rates this year for JPW.

The Morris Inn, located on Notre Dame’s campus, is a popular option that does not allot rooms through Anthony Travel, but rather gives a certain number of rooms to the JPW Committee who then holds a lottery drawing in late November.

Though the number of people arriving this weekend is relatively low, Bill Belene, the director of the Morris Inn, said he “feels probably the same pressure.”

Beirne said that the Morris Inn does not raise rates for JPW despite the high demand for hotel rooms. Rooms not allocated to the junior class for JPW are available for the University to use for guests and speakers visiting the University for other events. While hotel rooms are filled up with junior parents, many non-junior students plan to leave campus for the weekend.

“I don’t think there’s going to be much happening on campus this weekend,” said freshman Casey O’Halloran, who plans to spend the weekend in Chicago with friends from her dorm.

Contact Eva Binda at cebinda@nd.edu

What is the Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative & what is the Millennium Villages Project?

Are you wondering what the Millennium Development Initiative is all about? Are you wondering how Notre Dame intends to make a difference through its participation in the Millennium Villages Project?

Are you willing to think about and discuss how Notre Dame might most effectively promote human development?

Come to an information session and discussion about the Millennium Development Initiative conducted by Fr. Bob Dowd, CSC and Tim Lyden.

Friday, February 16, 4pm
Hesburgh Center Auditorium, Hesburgh Center for International Studies

Refreshments to follow in the Great Hall of the Hesburgh Center.
the academic, spiritual, social and residential life of the University," Carroll said.

Many students are looking forward to the opportunity to spend time with their parents on campus for a weekend and show them around Notre Dame. "JPW is an opportunity for Notre Dame parents to come to the school and really get a feel for the accomplishments of their child. It's also an opportunity for them to feel proud of their children," said junior Ryan Daniels.

Daniels said he and his parents planned "on touring the campus and going to the Bookstore," in addition to attending several of the planned activities such as the cocktail party Friday night and the Sunday morning brunch.

Though there isn't a named theme this year as there was in years past, Fremeau suggested that "Love Thou Notre Dame" is a theme surrounding the events of the weekend. Fremeau said there will be plenty of Notre Dame imagery in decorations and events intended to evoke the Spirit of Notre Dame. "JPW 2006 held the theme of "Traditions at Notre Dame," while 2005 organized users a "Passport Abroad" theme.

Parents and juniors have a busy few days ahead of them, as events kick off tonight with an Opening Gala at 9 in the Joyce Center. According to the JPW Web site, the event—which requires tickets—includes music, dancing, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

Saturday morning parents and students are invited to participate in workshops hosted by each of the colleges—the College of Arts & Letters, College of Science, College of Engineering and the Mendoza College of Business—with presentations by various speakers from within the respective college.

Following these workshops, residence hall luncheons will be held. Visitors then have the option of attending a JPW mass at the Joyce Center with University President Father John Jenkins presiding. Saturday night is centered around the President's Dinner, which also requires tickets.

Fremeau said planning for the event began in April 2006 when the core executives, such as the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, were chosen.

Planning has been "steady since the middle of the fall semester through this week-end," said Fremeau, who also plays a role in advising the JPW Committee.

University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh began the tradition of "Traditions at Notre Dame" Weekend back in 1952 in order for parents to spend time with their children on campus for events like the hectic activities of commencement weekend.

Parents were required to submit ticket applications by Feb. 5, 2006 and students could pick up tickets on Feb. 13 and 14. Parents will be at midnight both Friday and Saturday this weekend.

Contact Eva Binda at
chbnda@nd.edu

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**Address**

24-year career at the company, Immelt has "held a series of global leadership roles in GE's Plastics, Appliance, and Medical businesses," according to the GE Web site.

Immelt has been named one of the world's best CEOs by Barron's magazine and has been praised for the way he has led GE, named the "World's Most Admired Company" in a poll conducted by Fortune magazine.

Immelt serves as chairman of The Business Council and sits on the boards of the New York Federal Reserve Bank, Robin Hood, an organization which addresses New York City poverty, and Catalyst, an organization focused on advancing women in business.

Immelt currently resides in Connecticut.

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantoni@nd.edu

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**Electoral News**

I feel that we really just want what's best for the student body and no clear majority makes it difficult to determine what students really want," Smith added. "Either candidate would do a great job."

Braun acknowledged that the vote is out of the candidates' hands. "At this point, whatever's supposed to happen now will be," Braun said.

Even in the hands of Student Senate, the process can be stressful. "Whenever the vote goes to the Senate it gets a lot more personal because everyone knows the candidates a lot better," Braun said. "But votes according to dorm majorities will determine who's fit to be the next leader."

Of the student body, 1,067 freshmen, 1,096 sophomores, 761 juniors, 474 seniors and three fifth-year students cast their ballots.

Despite the seemingly unclear outcome, Judicial Council president Liz Kozlow said Thursday represented "a successful run-off election." Voter turnout remained relatively stable from Monday's election, which had 3,492 ballots, she said.

"I hope that we raised awareness about elections and the debate had a very good turnout," Kozlow said. Whatever happens on Sunday, both tickets feel that the process has been excellent experience.

"It's nice to see hard work pay off," said Smith. "We pushed really hard." Braun said that looking back, it is nice to know that "you couldn't have done anything more."

Contact Sonia Rao at
sr51@nd.edu

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**Come and Listen**

**Come and Read**

**Come and Play**

**Lectio@Eleven**

A Late Night Cabaret for the Soul

11:00 pm every Tuesday at Recker's

Free pizza supplied by First Year of Studies!

**February 20 featuring:**

Music by d'Oscar

Readings by Prof. Henry Weinfield (PLS)

(Program postponed from February 13)

**Lectio@Eleven** brings a cabaret of great music and great writing, read aloud, for the Notre Dame community. Come to Recker's and hear it with your own ears!

We are always looking for more readers and musicians. If interested, contact Jonathan Couser at jcouser@nd.edu or call 631-3123.

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**Never Alone**

An inclusive retreat for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and questioning students, and their friends.

Feb 23-Feb 24

Applications available in A14 CoMe

Email forever@nd.edu for more information

Sponsored by Campus Ministry & the CARE Coalition

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**Want to write for News?**

Contact Kate at
681-5323.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Al-Qaida leader wounded in Iraq

BAGHDAD — The leader of al-Qaida in Iraq was wounded and an aide was killed in a clash in Baghdad on Thursday, according to the Interior Ministry spokesman said.

The clash came near the mini-mall of a major U.S. base about 50 miles north of the capital, Brig. Gen. Abdul-Karim Khalaf said.

Khalaf said al-Qaida leader Abu Ayub al-Masri was wounded and his aide, identified as Abu Abdulrahman al-Majmaawi, was killed.

Khalaf declined to say how Iraqi forces knew al-Masri was in the area, but he denied any report on the incident from U.S. authorities.

Al-Qaida was founded in Iraq after its charismatic leader, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, was killed in a U.S. airstrike last June in Diyala province northeast of Baghdad.

Putin elevates defense minister

MOSCOW — President Vladimir Putin promoted his hawkish defense minister to a top government post on Thursday, a move that puts Putin's two heirs apparent on equal footing before next year's election to replace the president.

Both Sergei Ivanov and the more liberal Dmitry Medvedev represent a lavish cover-up in the Russian media, which is strongly influenced by the Kremlin, and are seen as the chief rivals for anointment by Putin as his favored successor in the March 2008 election.

Each man now holds the title of first vice-premier, formalizing a rivalry that is never mentioned officially but is played out daily on state-run television. News broadcasts prominently feature them struggling to look presidential in government meetings, speeches and closely choreographed visits to farms and factories.

NATIONAL NEWS

Advocates push tobacco regulation

WASHINGTON — A bipartisan group of lawmakers reintroduced a bill Thursday aimed at reining in tobacco, which kills as many as 433,000 Americans each year, through federal regulation.

The move comes after a joint report released Tuesday by the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering. The report concluded that the government needed more authority to regulate tobacco.

Congress has the opportunity to take a landmark step toward curbing the Food and Drug Administration's meaninglessness and long-overdue authority to regulate tobacco, which kills 440,000 people and costs our nation $96.7 billion in health care bills every year, said Representative Henry Waxman, a California Democrat.

Without this legislation, the FDA the same authority over cigarettes and other tobacco products that it already has over countless other consumer products. In addition, Wade Burch, executive vice president of the American Cancer Society, said it would give the FDA the same authority over cigarettes and other tobacco products that it already has over countless other consumer products.

CDC studies salmonella outbreak

ATLANTA — Government scientists struggled Thursday to pinpoint the source of the first U.S. salmonella outbreak linked to peanut butter, the kid favorite picked off in millions of lunchboxes every day.

Nearly 300 people in 39 states have fallen ill since August, and federal health investigators said they strongly suspect Peter Pan peanut butter and certain batches of Walmart's Great Value brand — both manufactured by ConAgra Foods Inc.

LOCAL NEWS

Adult, 2 children killed in house fire

NAPLES — A.$50,000 fire that killed an adult and two children on Thursday, authorities said.

A fire department smoke spot reported from the house and reported the fire about 2:30 p.m. The blaze, which started in the basement area, eventually burned to the attic, but the bodies were found inside, Fire Chief Don Sink said.

The fire did not appear suspicious, but investigators said a possible cause was a man's smoking a cigarette in the basement while he was inside.

The victims were identified as Luke and Chris, ages 2 and 1, and their mother, who died in the blaze. Authorities did not immediately identify the victims. Sink declined to immediately provide additional information.

Iraq

Security forces face insurgents

U.S., Iraqi forces push into Sunni neighborhoods, struggle to stabilize Baghdad

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — U.S. and Iraqi forces pushed deeper Thursday into Sunni militant strongholds in Baghdad — where cars rigged with explosives greedily exited their advance — while British-led teams in southern Iraq used shipping containers to block smuggling routes from Iran.

A series of truck bombs, which killed at least seven civilians, touched off a general confrontation of Barwyah, a prominent Sunni stronghold.

The attacks, however, pointed to the critical struggle to gain the upper hand on Baghdad's streets. The Pentagon hopes the current campaign of arrests and arms seizures will convince average Iraqis that militants are losing ground. Yet each explosion is another reminder of the militants' resilience and resolve.

Most of the latest resistance has come from Sunni factions, which perceive their Saddam Hussein-era influence as slipping away as the majority Shiites extend their political muscle andoteric sliping away as the majority Shiites extend their political muscle and bolster ties to powerful Iran.

In Baghdad's Dora neighborhood — a longtime Sunni militant hotbed — two cars packed with explosives were triggered as a joint U.S.-Iraqi patrol passed by. The convoy was unharmed, but the blast killed at least four civilians and wounded 15.

Control of the Dora district — a Sunni stronghold favored by Saddam's regime, is important as a gateway between Baghdad and the Shiite-dominated south. Two other car bomb blasts came as security forces moved through the capital, killing at least three civilians.

Outside Baghdad, troops also faced Sunni ambushes. In Hurbuz, about 30 miles northeast of the capital, Sunni gunmen and soldiers from the 1st Cavalry, 12th Squadron, 2nd Calvary Regiment engaged in a 20-minute firefight.

U.S. Bradley fighting vehicles fired 25mm rounds into homes sheltering the gunmen, said an Associated Press reporter traveling with the unit.

No U.S. casualties were reported, and the militant toll was not known. Separately, however, a U.S. Marine was killed in combat in Iraq's western Anbar province, a Sunni militant stronghold.

Even the first steps of the security operation display the sectarian divides complicating any plan to calm Baghdad — which is key to begin stabilizing the rest of the country. A leader of the main Sunni bloc in parliament, Adnan al-Dulaimi, claimed the U.S.-led sweeps have "started to attack" mostly Sunni areas. "It should concentrate on those who are perpetrating the violence and terrorist acts in all districts," he said — an apparent reference to the Shiite militia stronghold of Sadr City.

Around the capital, U.S. and Iraqi soldiers set up dozens of roadway checkpoints and conducted house-to-house searches. In Buhriz, about 20 miles southeast of the capital, Brig. Adnan al-Dulaimi, claimed the U.S.-led sweeps have "started to attack" mostly Sunni areas. "It should concentrate on those who are perpetrating the violence and terrorist acts in all districts," he said — an apparent reference to the Shiite militia stronghold of Sadr City.

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Friday
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Domestic companies restructure

Auto manufacturers announce job cuts to concentrate on competitive models

Associated Press

DETROIT - Shrink to grow? That's the message from Detroit, where all three of the traditional domestic auto companies have announced thousands of job cuts in the hopes of turning red ink to black.

But they all know they can't cut their way to profitability. In the end, they have to build more cars and trucks that people want and want to drive, to cut those meager and more fuel efficient vehicles.

There's no doubt that the easier part of the two prongs of restructuring is cost-cutting, said Efraim Levy, senior industry analyst with Standard & Poor's. "The hard part is getting the vehicles that consumers want."

With Chrysler's announcement Wednesday that it will cut 13,000 jobs, head down one plant and shut down one plant and some assembly lines, all the traditional domestic manufacturers have downsized considerably in the last two years. Ford Motor Co. will cut up to 38,000 blue-collar jobs and another 14,000 salaried positions. General Motors Corp. has trimmed its salaried ranks and about 35,000 production jobs.

GM alone says it has cut about $2,000 from the cost of building each car. All three lost billions last year and were forced to shrink as expensive gasoline and demand for SUVs and trucks and sport utility vehicles that are smaller, more fuel efficient models, sending the Big Three on a scramble to come out with new models to try to recapture buyers who fled to Asian competitors.

The domestic brands' biggest share of demand is from more than 70 percent in the 1990s to 53.7 percent last year, and Toyota likely will unseat Ford as the No. 2 auto seller in the U.S. this year, with many of their new products already in the market, several industry analysts say.

"There are some new products that have taken hold and there are others that are questionable," said Tom Libby, J.D. Power and Associates' senior director of industry analysis.

Among the successes he points to is the Pontiac Solstice, a niche car that sits only a short time on dealer lots and has sold roughly 1,000 to 2,000 per month since its introduction in October 2005. The sleek two-seat roadster is priced around $20,000. "You have a combination of this sexy appeal of a car with this low price," Libby said. "You have to have both, and that proves itself with the Solstice."

GM and the others have to duplicate that success with higher-volume vehicles like Ford's Fusion, the Saturn Aura and Dodge Caliber Libby said.

Ford sold 142,502 Fusions last year, gradually growing its share of the midsize market to 7 percent. The midsize Aura, on the market for only six months, is selling between 4,000 and 5,000 per month, while the Caliber small SUV, introduced in February 2006, sold just over 92,000 last year. Demand for it has been so high both to the U.S. and overseas that dealers are complaining about shortages.

Early sales of GM's new pickup trucks, the Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra, also have been impressive, Libby said, although the full model line is just now reaching the showrooms.

All of those are bright spots, Libby says, but they fall far short of Toyota's Camry, the largest-selling car in the U.S. with 417,104 sold.

Chrysler's new Sebring midsize car, introduced in October, got a bit of a slow start and will have a tough go because Chrysler has had few successful entries in the midsize market, Libby said.

In Brief

Chrysler restructures, cuts jobs

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — For 13,000 Chrysler workers, Feb. 14 will now be known as the Valentine's Day massacre.

On Wednesday, Chrysler announced its long-awaited restructuring, which included a 16 percent reduction in its work force, shift reductions, plant closings and a surprise hint that the plan could lead to a DaimlerChrysler divorce.

Chrysler, whose plan calls for closing the company's Newark, Del., assembly plant, and facing shifts at plants in Warren, Mich., and St. Louis, a parts distribution center near Cleveland also will be closed, and could affect up to 100,000 workers that make components for those facilities.

Chrysler blamed the wrenching restructuring on poor sales after a shift in consumer taste from more than 50 percent in the midsize market to around 35 percent, more fuel-efficient vehicles. Workers blamed management.

Aside from the job cuts, Chrysler's German parent, DaimlerChrysler AG, said it is looking at all options to revive its fortunes, including partners for the troubled Chrysler. Its chairman wouldn't rule out a possible sale of the U.S. operation.

Companies accommodate investors

NEW YORK — Household names are used to making noise, but not necessarily to being heard by corporate America. This year companies may begin to listen.

A surprising trend at the start of the proxy season is that companies like Apple, IBM and Intel are doing what they can to avoid public fights with investors groups that are raising issues such as executive pay and board elections.

"This doesn't mean all corporate chieftains are going to buckle to investors' demands, but many certainly seem more willing to engage in due diligence and quash potential controversy as quickly as they can," said Libby. But this year hasn't been the time of year where shareholders and corporate executives come together. The springtime proxy season — when both sides advance their agendas ahead of companies' annual meetings — often is when their differences are most clear.

Stocks rise after Bernanke's forecast

NEW YORK — Wall Street extended its February rally Thursday, growing confidence that interest rates will hold steady even as Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke testifies this morning before the congressional oversight and inflation with a reminder that price pressures remain on the horizon.

The Dow Jones industrial average strengthened on its third straight increase to more than 200 points, the first such jump since August 15-17 last year and had its second straight record close. The rally, triggered Tuesday by signs of an uptick in mergers and acquisitions, was given new life Thursday by a report that the world's largest beer makers, Inbev SA and Anheuser-Busch, are considering joining forces.

The bourse of takeover talk coupled with Bernanke's testimony to Congress have helped send stocks soaring. Bernanke's comments Thursday were similar to a day earlier, but he added that inflation could once again pick up, which reminded investors that a rate increase isn't out of the question. That note of caution limited the market's climb.

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Also boosting the market were a stock buyback by Caterpillar Inc., an analyst upgrade of chip maker Advanced Micro Devices Inc. and Boeing Co. finalizing an order from United Parcel Service Inc. for 27 cargo planes.

The Observer - Business

MARKET RECAP

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IN BRIEF

Chrysler restructures, cuts jobs

Shares of Chrysler Corp. were 12,765.01, up 23.15.

Companies accommodate investors

NEW YORK — Household names are used to making noise, but not necessarily to being heard by corporate America. This year companies may begin to listen.

A surprising trend at the start of the proxy season is that companies like Apple, IBM and Intel are doing what they can to avoid public fights with investors groups that are raising issues such as executive pay and board elections.

"This doesn't mean all corporate chieftains are going to buckle to investors' demands, but many certainly seem more willing to engage in due diligence and quash potential controversy as quickly as they can," said Libby. But this year hasn't been the time of year where shareholders and corporate executives come together. The springtime proxy season — when both sides advance their agendas ahead of companies' annual meetings — often is when their differences are most clear.

Stocks rise after Bernanke's forecast

NEW YORK — Wall Street extend-

ed its February rally Thursday, grow-
ing confidence that interest rates will hold steady even as Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke testifies this morning before the congressional oversight and inflation with a reminder that price pressures remain on the horizon.

The Dow Jones industrial average strengthened on its third straight increase to more than 200 points, the first such jump since August 15-17 last year and had its second straight record close. The rally, triggered Tuesday by signs of an uptick in mergers and acquisitions, was given new life Thursday by a report that the world's largest beer makers, Inbev SA and Anheuser-Busch, are considering joining forces.

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The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS
Friday, February 16, 2007

Show continued from page 1

into them and make a big splash.

While the event has the beginnings of a campus tra-
dition in its third year, Woodward acknowledges
that not all members of the campus community
embrace the annual per-
formance—something she
did like to change.

"I would like those who
may not embrace this type of perfor-
ding with a open
mind and heart and truly
see this production for
what it is," she said.

SMC Monologues faculty
advisor Catherine Pittman
mirrored Woodward's mis-
sion of promoting the
necessity of the Monologues
within the community—a
production she deemed
more powerful than "The
Vagina Monologues."

"On this campus there is
no better way to learn
about the diversity of Saint
Mary's women's experi-
ences with their own sexu-
al identity," she said.

While Pittman stressed
"The Vagina Monologues"
are not limited to the
College campus, she said
the SMC Monologues'
unique approach has
received praise from both
Saint Mary's administration and
students.

This powerful perfor-
ance has received a lot of
national attention, she said,
and has been presented at
academic conferences in
New York, California and
Wisconsin.

"We have been directly
contacted by colleges inter-
ested in following our
model," she said. "In fact,
one college even requested
that we allow them to per-
form some of our mono-
logues.

As the monologues high-
light the diverse experi-
ences of Saint Mary's stu-
dents, both Pittman and
Woodward said the perfor-
ance also works to demolish stereotypes.

"The production has a
potential to open one's eyes
to what a Saint Mary's woman is really all about
and debunk the stereo-
types," Woodward said.

The SMC Monologues
were the perfect way for
Woodward to channel her
interest in women's issues,
she said, and those
involved with the produc-
tion are "doing nothing
wrong or immoral. We're
telling the stories written
by the community."

Although Pittman
acknowledged "the vast
majority of individuals on
our campus are supportive
or neutral about the
Monologues," it is the
skillful writing of the student
submissions that has
earned the SMC Monologues
respect amongst the facult-
y. She said,

"Faculty have seen it as a
production reflecting
women's leadership and
academic freedom," she
said — the exact issue that
has drawn the Vice
President of Student Affairs
Karen Johnson to attend the
weekend performance.

"College campuses have
the most appropriate places
to share ideas and exchange
points of view," she said. "It's all about
learning.

The learning process
began when College faculty,
staff, students and alumni
anonymously submitted
their personal stories dur-
ing November, December
and January.

A panel comprised of fac-
ulty, staff and students
viewed the 15 submissions
and chose eight new
monologues for this year's
performance, Pittman said.

While the audience antici-
pates eight new mono-
logues, Woodward said
some of the "classics" from
previous years will be included in
the performance.

"We couldn't do without
the famous "Valerie
Vagina,"" she said.

The performance — spon-
sored by Feminists United
and the Women's Resource
Center — will take place
Friday and Saturday at 7
p.m. in Carroll Auditorium.

There is a suggested $3
admission donation for the
S.O.S rape crisis center at
Madison Center in South
Bend.

Contact Kelly Mecham at
kmehaf01@stmarys.edu

Please recycle

The Observer.

Tuition continued from page 1

the lowest the University had
seen in 40 years at 4.5 percent.
University President Father
John Jenkins announced the
tuition hike to parents and
students during an essay
read at the weekend performance.

"We have seen a high
retention rate in the past two
years," Jenkins said. "But
the national trend is up and
we are trying to hold the line.

The tuition increase is
about $4,000. The increase
will be distributed among the
undergraduate and graduate
levels.

We are happy to report
that the University had
enrolled a record number of
first-time freshmen. We also
had a record number of over-
sized classes, which is a
cause for concern.

We have also seen a
number of new majors and
minors, which is a good sign.

We have also seen an
decline in the number of
the number of
majors and
minors, which is a
cause for concern.

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CANNES, France — Looking to end the crisis in Darfur, France won agreement on Thursday from three involved African nations that they would not support armed rebel movements on each other's territories.

Sudan, Chad and Central African Republic made the commitment in a declaration signed Thursday night, on the sidelines of an African summit that France hosted in the Riviera city of Cannes.

There were still no signs that Sudan was any closer to agreeing to a key international demand: that it accept the deployment of U.N. peacekeepers in Darfur, its western region where fighting has killed more than 200,000 people since 2003. However, French President Jacques Chirac's spokesman hailed the African nations' pledge and their call for continued United Nations and African Union involvement as an indication that they don't want the crisis to worsen.

"We hope that all those who took part in this meeting did so because they don't want the status quo to establish itself," said the spokesman, Jerome Bonnafont.

France and other powers fear the Darfur violence is spilling over and could engulf the entire region. Tensions have mounted as Sudan, Chad and Central African Republic accused one another of supporting each other's rebels.

The mere fact that presidents Omar al-Bashir of Sudan, Idriss Deby of Chad and Francois Bozize of Central African Republic met was in itself seen as noteworthy.

"There is clear suspicion between the three countries and a clear willingness from African countries, in particular the African Union, and the international community to dispel it," said Bonnafont.

Whether their pledge would have real significance was open to question. Deby and al-Bashir signed a similar agreement a year ago to normalize diplomatic relations and deny refugees to each other's rebel groups.

Chad has accused Sudan of backing rebels in the country. Central African Republic also has alleged that Sudan supported a rebellion there. Sudan denied both charges and has accused Chad of backing rebels in Darfur.

More than 200,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million have fled their homes since 2003, when Darfur tribes took up arms against the Sudanese government, accusing it of long neglect and discrimination. The Arab-dominated government responded with a military offensive in which the janjaweed militia has committed widespread atrocities. The U.S. government has described the violence as genocide.

A United Nations and African Union peacekeeping force has been trying to quell the ongoing violence, but the force is underfunded and ill-equipped. Al-Bashir rejected a U.N. Security Council resolution calling for 22,000 U.N. peacekeepers to replace the AU force in Darfur. But he also has sent mixed signals about a joint U.N.-AU force. The United Nations and African Union envoys to Darfur said on Thursday that they were "encouraged" about prospects for peace in the country's troubled region after two days of talks with factions in Sudan.

The two — U.N.'s special envoy tasked with re-energizing the Darfur peace process, Jan Eliasson, and AU's Salim Ahmed Salim — have been in Sudan this week for meetings with Khartoum officials, rebel leaders and stops in Darfur.
When questions arose last spring about sponsorship and endorsement of potentially controversial student productions, debate erupted. Outraged faculty members sought to shut off the University administration, vehemently defending academic freedom and the right of academic freedom to sponsor events like the "The Vagina Monologues."

Ten weeks later, University President Father John Jenkins released a statement intended to close the controversy and often polarized discussion that began. That statement said the "Monologues" would not be banned on campus, as long as they were performed in an academic setting with departmental sponsorship. Faculty members — at least those willing to comment publicly — widely regarded Jenkins' decision as moderate, expressing satisfaction that academic freedom was preserved.

So one year later, why are academic departments so slow to jump to board with the "Monologues" and "Qu'allas," last weekend's follow-up to both "Gay and Lesbian Film: Filmmaking, Storytelling and Narratives" and, before that, the queer Film Festival? This year's installment of "The Vagina Monologues" will most likely be off the faculty surgery list of organizers, saying they can't get sponsorship. And "Qu'allas," while supported financially by the Film, Television and Theatre department and the Gay and Lesbian Alumni of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, should not have been given a name change because faculty worried organizers against using the words "gay" and "lesbian" in its title.

At this point, it's unclear why departments seem hesitant to sponsor. It's possible student organizations just got a slow start in asking for support. It's possible other priorities are taking precedence. It's also possible that academic departments are engaging in a form of self-censorship, tired of arguing with the University about the place of Eve Ensler's sexually explicit play in a Catholic campus.

Whatever the case, it comes off as strange that depart­ments wouldn't fully exercise the right they fought so hard to protect. And if that's the future of producing "Monologues" — off campus, or just unnoticed — it will hurt the entire University community.

As he issued his closing statement last spring, Jenkins commended students and faculty members for engaging in thoughtful, concerned debate. Unfortunately, that debate now seems to be lost. Maybe the campus is tired. But if Notre Dame is one of the great-­est places in the world to debate — if departments aren't willing to sponsor events that generate discussion — everyone loses.

Without dialogue and dissent, Notre Dame loses vibrancy. It doesn't matter what they think of the "Monologues," or that they are run by the "radical gay/lesbian faction." What really matters is for students to engage in conversation and present ideas in opposition to Church teaching. It just matters that they think about them.

That's the job of departments, however. And if they don't remember why academic freedom is important, no one will.
A winning strategy for both Hillary, Rudy

Americans have become as outrageously fickle with political specifics as they are forgetful of generalities. This primary presidential election cycle is rarer than the majority-generated. More often voters cling onto insignificant implications of candidates while ignoring their breadth of a candidate’s character and intellectual capacities. Pollsters call this the “thin-skinned election” – the kind in which candidate would prefer to be with to drink a beer. Ironically, the primary system is as fickle. Former Governor Wesley Clark lost the Democratic nomination in 2004, despite being able to campaign late and missing the Iowa caucuses. Conflicted Iowa Democrats sought a nominee with strong military credentials to combat terrorists, but also someone who would support the invasion of Iraq. Before Iowa, Senator John Kerry’s campaign floundered on virtual life support. Governor Howard Dean had yet to implode. As the nation’s first contest, Iowa voted for the “military choice on the ballot which gave great momentum to Kerry’s lifelong campaign. The rest is history. As the U.S. House of Representatives concludes its debate today with a vote to disagree with President Bush’s new military “surge” tactic, Senator Hillary Clinton finds herself on the offensive against hard-core antiwar Democrats. Similarly, former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani fends off Republican conservatives who oppose his so-called “liberal” stands regarding abortion and gay rights. Coincidentally, both Clinton and Giuliani have militantly defended the same vitriolic legitimate answer — they are New Yorkers.

New Hampshire Democrats recently peppered Clinton in search of an apology. They wanted her to admit that her vote in favor of authorizing the president to go to war was a mistake. Clinton replies that she “regrets” her vote and “takes responsibility for her vote,” but that the president “misled and mismanaged” the war effort. She further proclaims that if she was president at the time, she “would have gone to war.”

Clinton’s principled experience in the White House gives her a view of presidential reality from the other side of the looking glass. In her mind, a president needs and deserves the authority to make decisions. There is no way to assert that as president she would not have marched to war because she would have had to call on conservatives masing intelligence to invade Iraq. However, to the dismay of staunch antiwar Democrats who fixate on nothing less than an apology, she will not admit that her vote was a mistake.

Clinton need not apologize. Other senators whose votes went for cowardly personal political expediency fell prey to the patriotic orig whipped up by the White House. Clinton, on the other hand, had no choice but to rally New York with her vote. Clinton deserves credit for when she represented the land which created the World Trade Center. Her human remains and smoldering wreckage.

Giuliani faces a similar Republican onslaught of criticism and cynicism, but over his domestic stands on gay rights and a woman’s right to choose an abortion. His critics come primarily from the Jerry Falwell self-proclaimed social conservative wing of the party who high jacked the party a quarter century ago by defining “conservatism” with a Baptist-twisted political bent. Yet Giuliani is not the only Republican in their cross hairs. They also distrust Senator John McCain’s motives and barb negative feelings that stem from his 2000 campaign.

Interestingly, the godfather of modern conservatism, the late Arizona Senator Barry Goldwater whose seat ironically McCain currently holds, never ascribed the Falwell type of conservatism. Rather, Goldwater’s political beliefs lie in limited government — so limited that it recognizes everyone’s personal equality and freedom from invading gay rights and a woman’s right to an abortion.

Giuliani, however, can use Clinton’s exact response. Giuliani is a New Yorker who presided over an inclusive and tolerant city. He became America’s mayor when his city and our nation survived a tragedy. Republican voters should not ignore Giuliani’s even-hand ed administration, nor the immense breadth of his skills by foolishly following his lead.

No candidate, nor anyone in this nation who advocates equality, will force Falwell to marry same sex couples. Luckily, today’s generation of college students will within 20 years utterly squash the narrow-minded tactics of the Falwells in this country. Students today accept domestic rights for gays as well as inter-racial dating and marriage. Moreover, they flock to Senator Barack Obama’s grass-roots campaign because they hold little of the prejudices of older generations.

New Yorkers Clinton and Giuliani need never apologize for representing a progressive constituency who cherish freedom, tolerance and acceptance. The Democratic should focus on Clinton’s experience and ability to sidestep the job training. Republicans should weigh their candidates’ experiences without patronizing the fringes of their party. It is true that if you make it in New York, you can make it anywhere. Clinton and Giuliani both have the right stuff.

Letters to the Editor

Kaleidoscope

McDaniels proves its poor taste

I am happy to be living in a country where one’s freedom of speech is legally guarded. Yet there comes a point when a publication must decide which speech will be permitted, and which speech simply does not advance any good but rather harm. In the case of the comic strip featured in The Observer, I feel this time has come.

I am referring to Kaleidoscope McDaniels, the comic strip by Liam Moran which debuted this spring semester. The strip often toes the line of acceptability, and it is in fact this very pushing of the envelope that provokes shock and therefore laughter. Readers cannot help but recall Jockular, the comic by Erik Kaleidoscope McDaniels simply does not do this. Its use of concepts and references borders on the obscene or — at the very least — in poor taste.

For example, on Jan. 25, I saw a girl in the South Dining Hall lobby point to the comic and say, “I can’t believe they’d print that.” Picking up a newspaper, I noticed Kaleidoscope McDaniels which was depicting a character obviously referring to the Ugandan stupes. The average class size of 15 fosters intellectual collaboration. The Riley Leadership offers funding for study abroad programs, self-designed summer research. As committed members of the Saint Mary’s community, we realize the responsibility for without patronizing the fringes of their party. It is true that if you make it in New York, you can make it anywhere.

As committed members of the Saint Mary’s College community, we feel it is necessary to respond to Jonathan Klingler’s article. “Saint Mary’s — we need to talk,” Feb. 13. Aside from the article’s factual inaccuracies, we are confused by the author’s generalities toward Saint Mary’s autonomy. While we recognize the resources Notre Dame offers to the South Bend community, the endeavors and accomplishments of Saint Mary’s should not be slighted or neglected.

The Princeton Review recently ranked Saint Mary’s top Midwestern college. U.S. News and World Report has ranked Saint Mary’s the No. 1 Comprehensive College in the Midwest for 12 of the past 13 years. There are currently three Saint Mary’s alumni serving in the United States House of Representatives. Last year, Saint Mary’s offered nearly $27 million in scholarships to ninety percent of the student body.

The average class size of 15 fosters intellectual collaboration between students and professors, including SISTAR grants for shared summer research. Our nursing, education and social work programs are nationally recognized and accredited. Saint Mary’s offers unique academic courses such as medical chemistry, humanistic studies and women’s studies.

In addition to our enriching academic environment, Saint Mary’s is dedicated to social awareness and community involvement. Student leaders organize and host the annual Dance Marathon fundraiser for Riley Children’s Hospital. The Student Athletes Advisory Committee’s McNaulcultural Leadership offers funding for study abroad programs, self-designed student projects and grants with the South Bend community. The Office of Civic and Social Engagement facilitates volunteer work with S.O.S., The Women’s Care Center, YWCA and St. Margaret’s House, giving Saint Mary’s women a heightened social consciousness with the potential to volunteer in all women’s lives.

A healthy relationship includes both individual expression and mutual respect. It is perpetuating the cycle of fruitless articles that fail to wholly represent either institution, we would like to propose a forum where we could dialogue in greater depth. We have only one question: your place or ours.

Grace Guerbet, Kirsten Kensingler, Rachel Stofko, seniors

Saint Mary’s Feb. 15

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame ’73, is a political strategist who served as a legislative and public affairs director for President Clinton’s administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at batlichtland.com

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

Klingler, let’s talk

"tells it like it is."
By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Editor

"The Queen" is not, primarily, a film about politics. Instead, it is a simple (though not simplistic) story about the four weeks following the death of Princess Diana. In screening the personal, director Stephen Frears provides great insight into a woman whose entire life revolved around the monarchy. It has more on its mind, and its breadth in expressing itself is remarkable.

Helen Mirren has essentially already locked up the Best Actress Oscar race with this film, as she gives a pitch-perfect performance as Elizabeth II. Balancing her loyalty to tradition with an understanding of the need to change and modernize, Mirren manages to humanize Elizabeth and give dimension to the Queen's seemingly impenetrable exterior. Michael Sheen is quite good as Tony Blair, and James Thiel, Do, Pig (Cromwell is memorable as the curmudgeonly Prince Philip). Frears' directing is excellent, and he intersects real-life footage with the film quite well. There is little flash to his directorial style, but his restraint and control are remarkable. There are several occasions in which he seems to instinctively know that the writing and acting will carry a scene, letting the material guide itself.

The film explores the days after the death of Princess Diana, deeply examining how the royal family dealt with the tragedy. Though the royal family believes that private mourning is appropriate, the public demands an outward display of emotion. Protocol and tradition clash with the need for progressive modernity, and it is up to Elizabeth II (Helen Mirren) to compromise with Prime Minister Tony Blair (Michael Sheen) in order to maintain the family's respectability and relevance.

The Queen

Director: Stephen Frears
Writer: Peter Morgan
Starring: Helen Mirren, James Cromwell and Michael Sheen

Thus, it becomes much more difficult to judge such films based on their cinematic merits alone, and it becomes even more difficult to discern how audience reactions are affected by time and context.

For example, would "Titanic" have been as successful, or perhaps even more successful, had the film been made only a few years after the boat actually sunk? Or did the passage of time radically change our perception of the event, allowing the love story between Leo and Kate -- rather than the sinking itself -- to dominate the film?

Fifty years from now, audiences will look at films like "The Queen" through a history of history. "Black Hawk Down" much differently. Without the context of an event so close to our time, they simply become historical movies, without contemporary perspectives weighing them down. This detachment allows for much greater clarity today's audiences can easily see that both "Triumph of the Will" (a 1933 Nazi propaganda film) and "Birth of a Nation" (1915 film that celebrates the Ku Klux Klan) are technical marvels, but morally reprehensible. "The Queen" is no doubt a great film, but its contemporary subject matter and modern content make it a difficult film to assess on its cinematic merits alone. Like "Schindler's List" or "Saving Private Ryan," to criticize the movie seems to be criticizing the context, which is especially problematic when considering the sensitive and rightfully so nature of the stories and history associated with those films. It is important to detach from the context and judge the film itself, because different movies can approach the same topic from a variety of angles.

For example, both "United 93" and "World Trade Center" deal with 9/11, but each does so in its own way. The former takes a stark, almost documentary-style approach to the subject matter, whereas the latter is more characteristic of traditional Hollywood-style storytelling. While the strengths and weaknesses of each film may be categorized within the context of the tragedy, this is not, ultimately, how we should assess a picture.

History grants clarity, and distance from an event will allow us to see it much more clearly. As Elizabeth II makes clear to Tony Blair in director Stephen Frears' film, time will tell how history views "The Queen."
A twisting narrative that retells the same story from several different perspectives, 1951's "Rashōmon" ("In the Woods") was one of Akira Kurosawa's major works. "Rashōmon" was a huge international success and, essentially, put the filmmaker on the global map.

The film follows three men in 12th century Japan — a woodcutter (Takashi Shimura), a bandit (Toshiro Mifune) and a priest (Minoru Chiaki) — who take refuge during a rainstorm. As they begin talking, they retell a bizarre trial involving the murder of a samurai and a rape victim. The woodcutter, however, is the accused. All three involved in the trial then retell their version of the story (the murdered man, the rapist, the medium), each of which is equally plausible, though the truth seems to lie somewhere in between. This would be a woodcutters nightmare, however, as secrets of his own, which are slowly revealed over the course of the film.

An intriguing rumination on human nature, "Rashōmon" is a deeply philosophical piece, matched only by Kurosawa's "Ikiru" in terms of elegant humanism. Kurosawa has a lot to say regarding the complexities of the human condition, especially in the wake of World War II, but he cloaks his ideas in the film's plotting, which is fascinating and engaging throughout.

"Rashōmon" is anchored by the performance of Kurosawa muse Toshiro Mifune and, as it turns out, the director's narrator. Kurosawa's energetic directorial style meshes synergistically with Mifune's strong performance, leading to some truly powerful scenes.

The director's style and sense of composition are both on full display here, and the story is among the most intriguing and humanistic in Kurosawa's oeuvre. At a mere 83 minutes, "Rashōmon" moves at a remarkably quick and energetic pace, especially when contrasted with some of the director's later works, which tend to be much lengthier. Kurosawa's famous "The Seven Samurai," for example, runs 204 minutes. Kurosawa co-wrote, directed and edited the film himself, adapting it from a short story by Ryunosuke Akutagawa.

The influence of "Rashōmon" is incalculable, with its long-lasting impact being felt in a wide gamut of films, from "The Usual Suspects" to "Hero." Those two films in particular, for example, elect to use a similar stylized narrative style to that featured in "Rashōmon." As a director, Kurosawa's influence is felt by almost every major figure in modern filmmaking, to the extent that Sergio Leone's "For a Few Dollars More" is based on "Yojimbo" and George Lucas' "Star Wars" is loosely based on "The Hidden Fortress." His particular brand of swashbuckling swordplay and elegant philosophy, however, remain nearly unparalleled.

Kurosawa would go on to do bigger and arguably better things — among them the masterpiece "Ikiru" (1952), "The Seven Samurai" (1954), "Yojimbo" (1961) and "Ran" (1985) — but "Rashōmon" was the director's critical breakthrough. It won the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival in 1951, bringing a new global awareness to Japanese cinema. Along with Yasujiro Ozu, Kurosawa remains one of the great Japanese directors. His films are in rare form throughout "Rashōmon," which is inarguably his first masterpiece.

"Rashōmon" will be screened on Saturday at 3pm in the Browning Cinema of the DPAC as part of the FMI Classic 100.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu

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Mitchell’s latest appeals to fans of modern folk

By MARTY SCHROEDER

Some music rocks, some displays brilliant composition and some is perfect for spending a rainy day sitting and looking out a window. Anais Mitchell’s latest album, "The Brightness," is definitely of the third variety.

With her girlish, innocent voice, complemented by piano and folk melodies, her songs catch listeners and remind them that Slovak guitars are not always the best option. Appropriately released on Ani DiFranco’s Righteous Babe Records, Mitchell presents an authenticity and quiet passion absent in so many modern musicians.

The two opening tracks on "The Brightness" tweak the listening process by slowly delving into emotional catas­ trophe and then ending abruptly. Any form of catharsis is denied, a tactic that keeps ears perked and leaves the listener wondering what comes next when the final embers have died. The sound may create an auditory experience similar to listening to any random folk recording out today. However, Mitchell does delve into cliché at times, as she calls herself a “beautiful fly on the wall” in the album’s third track, "Namaske." Contradictions like this abound throughout the album, making it a prime example of first-class song writing that is both familiar and alien at the same time.

Songs such as "Shenandoah" lift through their melodies as guitars are gently plucked and notes are sung. Bringing to mind an association with nature, that melds perfectly with folk melody chains on the album. This may sound like some form of hippie-minded technique from New England (Mitchell is a Vermont native), but the sincerity inherent in Mitchell’s vocal style quickly discounts any political haranguing except to the most cynical.

One track in particular, however, challenges modern political situations. "Song of the Map" makes references to the birth of Jesus in what is now the West Bank. Pulling imagery from both the Bible and the modern reality of the West Bank today, she weaves a story about shepherds praying and passing by checkpoints. Mitchell does crawl meander­ingly on top of her soapbox with a political mes­sage decrying the region, but she alludes to a general belief in non-violence that mostly refrains from taking sides.

Rather, Mitchell calls for a return to the concept of nonviolence that many say Jesus delivered. "Noho’s Song" is the most energetic track on the album — if any of the tracks can be labeled “energetic” — that adds a bluegrass mix to the pervasive folk aesthetic. The lyrics are well wrought, but Mitchell’s vocal stylizations don’t mix as well with the song’s bluegrass elements. Her voice is far more conducive to the bluegrass mix to the pervasive folk aesthetic.

Singer-songwriter Anais Mitchell further develops her folk stylings with her latest release, "The Brightness." The album exemplifies folk’s characteristic simplicity.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroed@nd.edu

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CD REVIEW
NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Langhorne leads No. 6 Maryland over FSU

Top-ranked Duke has no trouble with BC: UCA wins in overtime

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Crystal Langhorne scored 14 points and grabbed a dozen rebounds and sixth-ranked Maryland defeated Florida State 74-67 on Thursday night.

Maryland's Kristi Toliver also had 14 points to pace Maryland's balanced scoring attack. Shay Doron added 12 and Laura Harper had 11 points and 12 rebounds.

With the win, the Terrapins took sole possession of third place in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Maryland (25-3, 9-ACC) took the lead for good at 38-35 on Toliver's 3-pointer basket 2:35 into the second half and built it to double digits with 10:02 left on a mid-range jumper by Toliver, who leads the country in 3-point shooting percentage.

Florida State, which lost to No. 2 North Carolina 80-59 on Monday night, led 30-29 at the half.

Maryland made just 2 of 8 tries from 3-point range and missed 6 of 7 free throws before the break.

The Seminoles (18-8, 7-ACC) ranged 43-43 on a jump shot by Alicia Gladden, who led Florida State with 13 points.

Maryland's losses are all to ACC opponents — unbeaten, top-ranked Duke, No. 2 North Carolina and Georgia Tech.

Duke 73, Boston College 52

Freshman Bridgette Mitchell scored a season-high 20 points to lead top-ranked Duke past Boston College.

Vanisha Smith added 13 points for the Blue Devils (27-7, 12-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), who have won at least 12 conference games for 10 straight seasons, an ACC record.

The Blue Devils now turn their attention toward a challenging final week of the regular season. Duke is ranked Maryland on Sunday, then returns home to face second-ranked North Carolina on Feb. 25. All three teams made the Final Four last season.

Kathrin Ress scored 16 points for the Eagles (12-13, 2-9).

The Eagles had ended a four-game losing streak with a win against Miami last weekend, but trailed the entire way in this one and never threatened Duke's perfect record.

By halftime, Mitchell had 14 points — the freshman's first double-digit output of the season and just the second since December and just her fourth full season — on 7-for-8 shooting in 10 minutes. At 26.1 point, Mitchell scored 10 straight points for Duke, helping the Blue Devils take a 36-19 lead on a putback with 5:55 left in the first half.

Middle Tennessee State 66

Florida International 59

Chirsy Givens scored 17 points and had nine rebounds to lead No. 17 Middle Tennessee to a victory over Florida International.

The Blue Raiders (24-3, 16-0 Sun Belt Conference) won their 21st straight game, the second-longest active streak in the nation behind No. 1 Duke, which is 27-0.

MTSU was able to hold off several Golden Panthers' runs in the second half after building a 21-point lead with 17:47 remaining.

Marquita Adley scored a game-high 23 points to lead Florida International (15-9, 9-6). Adley hit 10 of 11 from the field and grabbed seven rebounds. She scored eight points in the final 12 minutes, cutting the Blue Raiders' lead to 55-49 with 6:37 left.

Middle Tennessee used a 9-3 run over the next three minutes to push their lead back to 12. Givens led three Blue Raiders in double digits. Amber Holt scored 12 and Kristy Heron added 12, including 10 in the second half.

Middle Tennessee never trailed in the game. The Blue Raiders hit their first 3-point attempt, building a 24-11 lead with 11:32 remaining in the first half.

Georgia 82, Kentucky 72 (OT)

Tasha Humphrey had a game-high 29 points and 10 rebounds as No. 11 Georgia survived an victory against the Wildcats.

Humphrey had 12 points in the first half and scored 10 of Georgia's first 13 points.

Five different Blue Raiders scored in double figures and in overtime.

Georgia outscored Kentucky 16-6 in the extra period.

Kentucky's Sam Maboyne missed a jumper and Hardrick fouled grabbing the rebound, sending her to the line for two free throws with 10.4 seconds left.

Hardrick made both giving Georgia a 66-64 lead before Kentucky's Carly Ormerod made a driving layup with 5.1 seconds left to tie it at 66-66.

On the Bulldogs' last possession in regulation, Hardrick missed a turnaround jumper forcing overtime.

Maboyne finished with a team-high 23 points and Elliot had 17 for the Wildcats, who had four players score in double figures.

Michigan State 68

Northwestern 63

Victoria Lucas-Perry had 19 of her 25 points in the first half and Michigan State held on to beat Northwestern.

Lucas-Perry hit seven of her eight shots, including one 3-pointer, but the 24th-ranked Spartans (20-6, 11-2 Big Ten) let a 20-point lead dwindle to two twice in the final minutes.

Alyssa DFLYAN added 12 points and three blocks for the Spartans, and Aisha Jefferson had 10 points.

A.J. Glassaur led the Wildcats
(7-20, 1-13) with 18 points, and Kristin Cartwright, Beth Marshall and Julie Biewalk added 10 apiece.

Lucas-Perry had scored three more points than the Northwestern team late in the first half. But the Wildcats scored the last eight points of the period to get to 36-24 and dominated the last 20 minutes by shooting 64 percent from the field.

Northwestern cut the lead to 58-50 and 62-60, but only has Lucas-Perry hit a pair of free throws each time to help Michigan State win its fifth straight game and remain unbeaten in February.

Purdue 59, Michigan 54

Katie Gearlds scored 21 points and Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton added 19, leading No. 16 Purdue to a victory over Michigan.

Purdue's 3-pointer with a minute remaining gave Purdue (22-5, 11-2 Big Ten) a 55-50 lead after Wisdom-Hylton had broken a 50-50 tie.

Carlton Benson, who led Michigan 16-10, 16-10 with 15 points, drew the Wolverines to within three with a late basket, but Khakara Malone's free throws with 21.7 seconds pushed Purdue's lead back to five.

Wisdom-Hylton blocked Benson's 3-point attempt before Gearlds capped the win with two free throws.

Michigan, which led by one at halftime, led 47-45 with 4.03 remaining after Ta'Shica Walker broke a tie with two free throws. But Gearlds and Wisdom-Hylton scored the next four points, giving Purdue a two-point lead.

Ohio State 83, Wisconsin 57

Jessica Davernot hit her average with 19 points and Ashley Treiblack broke out of a slump with 15 to lead No. 4 Ohio State past Wisconsin.

Marcie Parker added 15 points and Star Allen had 14 for the Buckeyes (24-1, 13-0), who led the Big Ten race by two games with three games remaining.

Davenport, a two-time All-American and two-time Big Ten Player of the Year, and Parker did most of their damage in the first half as the Buckeyes over came a sluggish start to build a double-digit lead at the break.

Wisconsin's Joleene Anderson came in as the reigning Big Ten player of the week and the second leading scorer in the conference.

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**NHL**

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

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<td>Philadelphia</td>
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Eastern Conference, Northeast Division

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Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

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Western Conference, Central Division

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Western Conference, Pacific Division

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**MLB**

Giant's outfielder Barry Bonds signed a one-year, $15.5 million contract Thursday after more than two months of negotiations. Bonds, who needs 22 more home runs to tie Hank Aaron's 755 record, will attend the Giants' first workout Tuesday.

**NCAA Tennis**

Div. I Women's Standings

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<td>2 NOTRE DAME</td>
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**In Brief**

**Yankees' general partner arrested for DUI** (APRIL 7, Fla.) — George Steinbrenner's son-in-law and designated successor to the New York Yankees was arrested early Thursday for suspicion of driving under the influence.

Yankees general partner Steve Swindal was arrested by the St. Petersburg Police at 4:26 a.m., according to a copy of the charge report posted on the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office's Web site. He was booked for a misdemeanor and released at 9:53 a.m. on $250 bond.

"Mr. Swindal apologized profusely for this distraction during the Yankees' spring training and he offered his apologies to the Yankees' team and the public," said Steinbrenner's spokesman, Howard Rubenstein.

The 52-year-old Swindal, who lives in Tampa, is married to Steinbrenner's daughter, Jennifer, and has taken an increasingly active role in running the Yankees. In June 2005, Steinbrenner said Swindal would eventually succeed him.

**Gasquet, Baghdatis advance to quarterfinals at Open 13**

Maisel, Fla. — South-seeded Richard Gasquet and No. 7 Marcos Baghdatis won second-round matches in straight sets Thursday at the Open 13 and reached the quarterfinals of the indoor tournament.

Gasquet of France — the highest remaining seeded player — had four breaks of serve in his 7-6 (12), 6-2 win over countryman Marc Gicquel, while Baghdatis of Cyprus beat Cyril Saulnier of France 6-4, 6-3.

The 20-year-old Gasquet, a semifinalist at Sydney and a quarterfinalist at Adelaide in Australia last month, is wary of his quarterfinal opponent — Robin Soderling of Sweden.

"Soderling plays super well indoors," Gasquet said. "His game is made for quick surfaces. If the match was being played on clay, I would be more serene. He is a player who is very hard to maneuver ... I will need to vary the game as much as possible to win."

**Bonds, Giants agree to one-year deal**

Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Barry Bonds finally signed his $15.8 million, one-year deal Thursday, ending more than two months of wrangling between the slugger and the San Francisco Giants over contract language.

With both sides satisfied, Bonds is scheduled to report Monday to spring training. He is likely to participate in the Giants' first full-squad workout Tuesday.

"I expect he will be ready to go," general manager Brian Sabean said.

The 42-year-old Bonds is 22 homers shy of breaking Hank Aaron's career record of 755.

Bonds' deal was approved by the commissioner's office. His agent, Jeff Borris, and the Giants reached a preliminary agreement on Dec. 7.

The team announced the deal Jan. 29 and Bonds did an interview via conference call. But he never signed the contract, and problems developed.

At issue were specifics about what would happen if Bonds were to be indicted or face further legal trouble, along with details about a personal-appearance provision that was rejected by the commissioner's office.

The Giants sent revised documents to Bonds, which Bonds signed Thursday. Only the personal-appearance provision was deleted from the deal, two baseball officials said. They spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

A federal grand jury is investigating whether Bonds perjured himself when he testified in 2003 in the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative steroid distribution case that he hadn't knowingly taken any performance-enhancing drugs.

Bonds long has denied knowingly using steroids.

Bonds will fill the final spot on the team's 40-man roster, which had stood at 19 after closer Mike Matheny went on the voluntary retirement list with a concussion.

The seven-time NL MVP has been working out all offseason at UCLA and appears as healthy as ever, according to the Giants, Bonds' trainer and his agent.

He had arthroscopic surgery on his troublesome left elbow after the 2006 season.

After missing all but 14 games in 2005 following three operations on his right knee, Bonds batted .270 with 26 home runs and 77 RBIs and drew 115 walks in 130 games last year.

**Around the Dial**

**PGA TOUR**

2007 Nissan Open
3 p.m., GOLF

**NCAA BASKETBALL**

Cornell at Princeton
7 p.m., ESPNU
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REWARD OF $500 FOR THE SAFE RETURN OF MILO, OUR DOG, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

By now, tear stains would have formed near Milo's eyes into his fur, which would appear dark brown. He could be wearing a red sweater and would have a teal colored collar, with matching leash. I believe his rabies shot was given by Kryder Clinic so he should have that tag on his collar. Milo was apprehensive of people he didn't know. He was a "puppy mill" dog. We believe he would run from someone if he was approached.

If found, please contact Animal Hospital of South Bend (MILO’S VET) 282-2303
Belles bid farewell to leaders Lipke, Broderick

Team looks to average early season loss to Hope on senior night

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

A Saint Mary's win over Hope Saturday would do two things — average a loss to the Flying Dutchmen earlier this season and give the team's two seniors, Bridget Lipke and Stefanie Broderick, a final memorable moment at home. However, it won't change MIAA tournament seeding for either team.

Saint Mary's (11-11, 10-5 MIAA) locked up a No. 3 seed in the Big East tournament in Akron, Ohio, for the last eight in the conference with 8-7 records. Hope defeated Saint Mary's 67-42 on Nov. 28. But despite the 25-point loss, Belles head coach Jennifer Henley said her team has progressed in the last few months.

"We're both different teams now," Henley said. "There's definitely some motivation to prove that we can play with and beat them.

Lipke and Broderick will be honored before the contest — the last regular season game of their careers. Lipke, a guard from Hinsdale, Ill., averages 12.4 points and 4.5 assists per game, good for first place among the conference's guards.

Broderick will be the last senior in the women's basketball program to leave her high school home, the game away. The Belles were led by guard Alison Kessler, who scored a game-high 23 points to go along with her eight assists. Sophomore Erin Newson crashed the boards for her fifth double-double of the year with 13 points and 15 rebounds. Lipke also put up 18 points in the winning effort.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbyan@nd.edu

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Big East tournament culminates season for ND squad

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has focused the entire season for this weekend's Big East tournament in Akron, Ohio, and now that it has finally arrived, Irish coach Joe Piane has one goal in mind.

"We're going there to try to win both the women's side and men's side," he said. The Irish will send 31 men and 22 women to compete in the conference championships.

The middle distance runners, led by senior all-American Thomas Chamon — the No. 1 seed in the 5,000-meter and 1,000-meter races — anchor Notre Dame's men's contingent. On Feb. 3 at the Meyo Invitational, Chamon cemented his place atop the Big East by running the 800 in 1:47.82, the second fastest time in school history.

Notre Dame's sprinters and distance runners are also strong. Four Irish runners rank in the top eight in the conference in the 400 — seniors Ryan Pasto! and Jordan Powell, junior Austin Wechter and freshman Balazs Molnar. Pastel ranks first in the Big East in the 400 and also qualified for the 200.

Leading the distance team is junior Jake Watson, who won the mile at the Meyo Invitational in 4:00.71 to provisionally qualify him for the NCAA Championship in addition to the Big East. Sophomore Patrick Smyth will run the 5,000 after running the Big East's third-best time at 13:58.10.

"We have a pretty broad based track team on (the men's and women's) sides," Piane said. "We're going to have good people everywhere. And it's the same on the men's side. We're not a one-dimensional team."

Piane also feels that he is sending a very well-balanced team on the women's side of the Big East championship.

Heading the Irish effort will be the sprint team, including senior Maryann Erigha, who double qualified in the 60 and 200 meters. The Irish distance squad is paced by senior Amy Kohlmeier and freshman Lindsey Ferguson, both of whom could run in the mile or 3,000. Kohlmeier will also run in the 5,000-meter event.

In the field events, the Irish will be best represented in the jumps. Senior Candi Gallilcheon leads the jumpers as the No. 2 high jumper and No. 4 triple jumper. Notre Dame is also sending sophomore pole vaulters Mary Saxer and Kate Mattoon, who have matching season highs of 12-6½ (3.8-meters).

Even though Piane is confident in his team's ability, he recognizes the challenges facing his team in the difficult Big East. On the men's side, Piane expects the most trouble out of Louisville. The Cardinals' strength is one area where the Irish are not as deep — jumps.

"Louisville has some of the best long jumpers and triple jumpers in the country and they are going to score major points in those two events," he said. "Their squad probably isn't as deep as ours in some areas, but in others — i.e. the long, triple — they're as good as anybody in the country."

On the women's side, Piane sees Connecticut as the biggest threat to his team's success.

"They've got some pretty good sprinters and they are developing the distance program, but they have a lot of very good field event kids," he said of the Huskies. "It'll be interesting to say the least."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa3@nd.edu

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ND SOFTBALL

Softball looks to defend Big East title in 2007

Irish to compete in Tiger Invitational

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame begins its quest to defend last year's Big East title this weekend at the Tiger Invitational. The Irish return 13 letter winners to their 16-player roster from the 2006 squad that finished 42-21 overall and 17-5 in conference play.

This year's team was selected to finish third in the Big East in coaches' poll takes Jan. 10.

Senior captain Stephanie Brown will lead the way offensively for Notre Dame this year after being named a second team All-American in her junior season. Brown hit .334 with 42 stolen bases in the leadoff spot last year.

The Irish pitching staff will need to fill the gap left by second team all-conference pitcher Heather Booth (27-12, 1.71 ERA) in order to live up to its billing.

Sophomore Brittany Bargar will take over as the team's ace after winning 15 games in her rookie season. Bargar will be joined by senior Keny

Fuemmeler and sophomore Christine Farrell, who missed all last season due to injury. Bargar will likely take the mound this afternoon for the first game of the season against host Auburn. The Tigers (1-5) got off to a slow start by dropping four one-run games at the Florida Classic last weekend.

Fuemmeler will make her season debut in the second game of the day against the UAB Blazers. This will be the second meeting in two seasons, the Irish won the first battle 9-1 in Champaign, Ill., in the first game of the season.

Senior pitcher Angela Tincher (10-5, 3.44 ERA) is also expected to see time in the circle.

Notre Dame will play another double dip Saturday afternoon against the Golden Eagles of Tennessee Tech and the Golden Hurricanes of Tulsa. Both teams will be playing in their second tournaments of the year.

Tulsa freshman Ashley Lubieniecki is already getting headlines with a 6-for-12 start and a home run against Pacific.

The busy weekend wraps up Sunday afternoon as the Irish look to continue their domination over Virginia Tech. Notre Dame has taken 10 of 11 games against the one-time Big East foe. The Hokies should be able to compete this year, as they started the season out by winning the Georgia State First Pitch Classic last weekend.

Junior pitcher Angela Tincher started her year 2-0, striking out 35 batters in 14 innings on the mound.

The Tiger Invitational is the final of five early season tournaments Notre Dame will play in the next month. The team, led by head coach Deanna Gump, will travel to California three times and Florida once before playing its first home game against IUPUI March 22.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy@nd.edu
MEN’S TENNIS

Irish look to make a statement in tourney

ND takes on Pepperdine in the first round of the National Team Indoor Championships

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

It may have been five years since the Irish have seen the courts at the National Team Indoor Championships, but No. 9 Notre Dame is ready.

"You are playing every match as a dual match and we have already seen a lot of the teams that are here," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have seen these guys, we now what is out there."

The trip back to the tournament will be a familiar event for Bayliss. The Irish last played in the tournament in 2002, and were ranked No. 10 nationally when they upset No. 7 Pepperdine 4-3.

No. 9 Notre Dame will take on No. 10 Pepperdine again in the first round of the indoor matchup.

The team will compete alongside many opponents it has already seen in regular season play. Notre Dame practiced alongside Pepperdine and Duke on Thursday in the 18-court Midtown Tennis Club in Chicago.

"We had a look at Pepperdine and I think we had a good work-out, we have prepared for this pretty well," Bayliss said. "They looked aggressive, they hit the ball clearly and decisively."

Pepperdine, the 2006 NCAA Champion, enters the tournament after a 5-2 win over the University of Nevada- Las Vegas. Pepperdine dropped the doubles point but responded with wins in five out of six singles matches.

Bayliss is confident that the team will perform well come match time, and the Irish will continue to focus on improving their doubles game. Notre Dame dropped the doubles point in their last match to Wisconsin but rallied to take the 6-1 win.

No. 33 Andre Begemann defeated Elliot Wronski 6-2, 6-0 at No. 1 singles.

Irish senior Stephen Bass will take on Begemann at No. 1 singles today. Begemann, a strong server and volleyer will present Bass with a challenge, but Bayliss feels that the senior is ready.

Bayliss knows that the Irish will be facing many top opponents and players, but he feels the team is prepared to make a strong showing.

"We want to show some poise under pressure," Bayliss said. "We are at a point where we can make a dent in this field."

If the Irish knock off Pepperdine they will take on the winner of the Georgia and University of Pennsylvania. No. 1 Georgia is the defending ITA National Team Indoor Championships and was the top seed in last season's NCAA Tournament, eliminating the 18th-seeded Irish in the Sweet 16.

Even with their sights on the possibility of playing Georgia, the Irish are focused on their matches today.

"Sunday's opponent is a way off and is not worth speculating about right now," Bayliss said. "No matter what the outcome of the weekend, Bayliss said that the team is grateful to get an opportunity to play against top opponents - every team is guaranteed three matches in the tournament.

Notre Dame will look to further their six-game winning streak starting with Pepperdine.

"I think we are ready to go," Bayliss said. "We are prepared and we have done everything we need to do and we are anxious to be in play."

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dktrasula@nd.edu
Texas continued from page 24
shine, but said that the Lufus Center provides a solid location for winter infield drills.

"We're hitting very smoothly," Schrage said. "We'd better pitch it well and we'd better play (defense). That's what will keep us in games at the start of the season. Also, we haven't seen the ball in the air, so pop-ups could be an issue."

Oustfelder Dave Kubinski said that the lack of outdoor practice will not affect his play.

"We've got to roll with the punches," he said. "Hopefully it won't be too big of an issue." Assistant Coach Webster Korpi, sophomore David Phelps and sophomore Sam Elam are expected to start this weekend for the Irish, but Schrage said that he wants to get several pitchers action with each on a pitch count.

"Right now, our pitchers are going to be limited to about 10 pitches," Schrage said. "Hopefully that gets them five innings."

Sophomore closer Kyle Welland will not pitch this weekend. He is still recovering from a broken collar bone suffered when he slipped on ice in December.

"He's fine," Schrage said. "He actually threw a little bit today, but he's not as fast yet."

Fifth-year senior Matt Weigelz, a transfer from Missouri State, won the starting catching job in the opener after returning starter senior Sean Gaston was lost for the year with an injury. Weigelz is enrolled in Notre Dame's MBA program.

Schrage said he remembered Weigelz from when his old team, Evansville, played Missouri State.

"I remembered his name from playing against him," Schrage said. "He has some power and he puts the bat on the ball pretty consistently."

In the infield, sophomore Jeremy Barnes will start at first base, junior Ross Brezovsky as second, junior Brett Lilley at shortstop and freshman A.J. Pollock at second. Drossman will start at center field, with freshmen Billy Rockford, Michael Wright and Brayden Ashdown rotating into the other two spots.

"We'll be playing a lot of fun (in the corner outfield) this season."

"I don't think we're as good as our four starting regulars," Schrage said. "I'm not as concerned with wins and losses from your young team this week as he is with getting into the swing of the season."

"I'll never tell my team, 'we have to win today,'" he said. "I just tell them to execute the things that we work on, and if we do that, we'll win."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

ND Men's Golf

Irish start with high hopes

ND looks to improve on promising fall at John Hayt Invitational

By FRAN TOLAN
Spun Wire

After a fall season in which the Irish recorded the school's best team scoring average in school history, coach Jim Kubinski hopes the team will continue its strong performance in the John Hayt Invitational in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Sunday.

In the offseason, the team practiced daily in its brand-new indoor practice complex, the $2.1 million Robert and Marilyn Rolfs Family All-Seminar Varsity Golf Facility.

The added winter practice has led to marked improvement.

"I'd imagine any guy will have dropped a few strokes from his average," said Kubinski. "The new facility has been such a help to us."

But despite the productive winter practice sessions, Kubinski said that his team must continue to improve with each tournament.

Last weekend, the Irish Alumini Mates Matches gave the squad an opportunity to get on the course with former Notre Dame golfers at the Saddlebrooke Resort in suburban Tampa.

"It was a very good weekend for us," Kubinski said.

The team again heads to the Sunshine State this weekend. The John Hayt, which is hosted by the University of North Florida, will be the first intercollegiate tournament of the spring season for the Irish. The field for the event includes 10 of the nation's top 50 teams, according to Golfweek.

"This weekend will be a great starting point for us," said Kubinski. "Hopefully we can get the ball rolling against the strong field.

The Irish are currently ranked 31st by Golfweek, which would be good enough for a berth in the NCAA Tournament. Head Coach Kubinski said he wants his team to improve on a weekly basis.

"I think that to finish in the top half of the field (this weekend) would be a good start for us," he said. "Obviously we want to continue to get better up until the Big East tournament and the NCAAAs."

"I think what we have won the Big East the past three years, have six tournaments to play before the conference tournament in April.

At the John Hayt, the Irish lineup will include senior co-captains Cole Isham and Adam Gifford, junior Eddie Peckels, sophomore Josh Sandman and freshman Doug Fortner.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Tar Heels

continued from page 24

with three really good doubles teams.

North Carolina enters Friday with a 9-2 record in match play, suffering losses to No. 4 Florida State and No. 8 Georgia Tech. The Yellow Jackets also handed the Irish their lone loss this season.

"I don't think we're as good as our four starting regulars," Schrage said. "I'm not as concerned with wins and losses from your young team this week as he is with getting into the swing of the season."

"I'll never tell my team, 'we have to win today,'" he said. "I just tell them to execute the things that we work on, and if we do that, we'll win."

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

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Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

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Irish
continued from page 24

East) has had success in its home gym this season, despite losing eight of its last nine games. Irish coach Muffet McGraw believes that the game will be tough, but that her team will be ready. This game is really important to us because they beat Louisville at home, and we want Marquette to a two- or three-game winning streak. We're really starting to peak right now. We're playing well together, everybody's doing what they can do.

Right there with Allen is freshman guard Ashley Barlow, who at 11 points per game is second on the team in scoring, averaging 14.1 points per game, scored 14 of her 17 points in the second half. The team has been in those situations before, however, and McGraw cited execution as the difference-maker. "It's a game of runs. We're gonna make runs, and then the other team's gonna make a run, and we have to keep our cool," McGraw said. "We have to be solid defensively and we have to work on our rebounding. Offensively, we have to continue to execute. We've had a lot of games where we've had leads, and a lot of games that have been close, and we've had a lot of poise and a lot of confidence."

Although intensely focused on the game at hand, McGraw acknowledged the importance of the outcome in the future. "It's a great time for us," she said. "And it's a great time for our resume for the NCAA Tournament, because resumes are so important."

Contact Bill Brink at wbink@nd.edu.

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Irish guards Amanda Tsipis, left, and Tulyah Gaines fight for a loose ball in a 78-70 win over DePaul Feb. 11.

Clinch
continued from page 24
to accomplish," senior goal­
tender Dave Brown said.
Brown stopped 38-of-41 shots against Alaska (9-15­
6, 2-7) in the Nanooks' 78-70 win the season, earning two vic­
tories at the Joyce Center. The Nanooks came into that weekend ranked No. 14 in the country, but have won only three of their last 16 games since coming to South Bend. They currently sit in ninth place in the CCHA standing and will be billing for a home playoff series this weekend.

Brown says what has happened since [we played], but they still scare me from a coach's perspective," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

"It's a good loss to take," Brown said of the game. "We had a lot of games where we've had leads, and a lot of games that have been close, and we've had a lot of poise and a lot of confidence.

I'm really proud of our resume for the NCAA Tournament, because resumes are so important."

Contact Bill Brink at wbink@nd.edu.

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Win
continued from page 24

Poll: "There has been no bigger win this year than this one after two losses," Irish coach Mike Brey said after the game.

Providence dominated the first 10 minutes, leading 24-12 with 10.52 left in the half. Sensing the game — and a possible NCAA Tournament bid — slipping away, the Irish quickened the tempo and fought back. Keyed by eight points from forward Zach Hillesland and nine from Falls, Notre Dame trailed 42-36 at the half.

Hillesland, who tied a career high with 14 points, positioned himself near the free throw line for most Irish offensive possessions and helped break down Providence’s 2-3 zone.

"It was nice to be able to catch and turn and have a little space," Hillesland said of the offensive scheme. The sophomore finished 2-3 with eight rebounds, three assists and two steals to go with his points. "Once I got going, the juices started flowing," he said.

Notre Dame opened the second half with a 7-2 run and took the lead for good, 45-44, on a Carter Free throw and a Hillesland steal and the win.

Falls hit two free throws and Friars guard Brian McKenzie hit a three to provide the final margin.

Notre Dame has to turn around and play Cincinnati on the road Sunday. The Bears are struggling at 15-10 overall and just 1-10 in the Big East. The Irish believe they have the post so the post this year — they are just 3-6 away from the Joyce Center this season. Sunday’s game tips off at 2 p.m.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Men’s Basketball Commentary

Big men step up on defense

Notre Dame’s improved post play could lead to NCAA tournament bid

Something had to change in the second half of Notre Dame’s game against Providence if the Irish wanted to avoid slipping down the Big East standings.

"There was something we talked about at halftime — were we going to stop them?" Brey said.

The Friars made a late run, closing to within 78-75 with 14.7 seconds left. But a Carter free throw and a Hillesland steal sealed the win.

Falls hit two free throws and Friars guard Brian McKenzie hit a three to provide the final margin. Notre Dame has to turn around and play Cincinnati on the road Sunday. The Bears are struggling at 15-10 overall and just 1-10 in the Big East. The Irish believe they have the post so the post this year — they are just 3-6 away from the Joyce Center this season. Sunday’s game tips off at 2 p.m.

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Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu
CROISSANT WORLD

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Happy Birthday: Any opportunity to use your creative imagination this year will set you apart from the competition. You will change your mind a lot, but only because you are thinking quickly and responding to your thoughts. The more you follow your gut feelings, the better off you’ll be. Your numbers are 11, 14, 26, 32, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Stick to tricks and focus on business. You will have some very unusual ideas, and if you develop them to a point others will get when you are trying to do, you will be ahead of the curve. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don’t let the little things bother you so much and return to a major concern. You have far better things to do with your time – like finding a helping hand to a cause or friend. The more immersed you become in doing what’s in front of you, the better off you’ll be. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don’t know where to go. You may think everything is falling into place, someone will provide you with a helping hand to a cause or friend. The more immersed you become in doing what’s in front of you, the more you should trust your instincts. Family, friends and old acquaintances will help you reach your goals. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will need to find a good balance in your life. You will find it easy to control your emotions. The more you control your emotions, the more you will get from your relationships. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Money-minded interests will turn out well. Let your true feelings to know and share what it is you want to do. You will find yourself in a very strong position regarding a deal you’ve been trying to bring to the table.***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Accomplishment will come easy as long as you are honest about what you can and can’t do. Bringing home the body of someone who can take care of the tiny thing you can’t follow your gut feelings, complimentary and in control you can be. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don’t labor over the personal changes you should probably be making. Let things just come to you and see what you can do about your financial situation. Don’t expect the people closest to you to understand what you are trying to do.***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Restrictions may be in place but, if you take your usual path, you will discover a whole new way of expressing yourself. Don’t get angry – just hurry following your heart’s desires. Problems with contacts can be expected. ***

SAGITTIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Do not let your personal problems give you a chance to change. You will face some difficult situations. Don’t let your personal problems give you a chance to change. You will face some difficult situations. Don’t let your personal problems give you a chance to change. You will face some difficult situations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will be ahead of the crowd no matter what you do. The more you control your emotions, the more you will get from your relationships. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do what you can to enhance your surroundings. Recreation or entertaining will turn out to be your thing. Making changes to your personal situation can be expected but don’t be disappointed if things move as quickly as you would like.***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Relationships will be a little convoluted. Don’t assume other people are thinking along the same lines as you. You will face some strong opposition if you don’t respect others’ wishes.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Deep fried

Five players end with double figures in win

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

Colin Falls scored 16 points and Rob Kurz and Russell Carter each added 15 as Notre Dame erased an early 12-point deficit and kept its hopes for a first round bye in the Big East tournament alive by beating Providence 81-78 Thursday at the Joyce Center. The Irish (19-6, 7-5 Big East) were coming off a two-game losing streak that dropped them back to sixth in the conference and out of the top 25 in both the AP and Coaches polls.

See Also
"Big men step up on defense"

Notre Dame's Rob Kurz stretches for two of his 15 points Thursday against Providence at the Joyce Center. The 81-78 Irish victory improves the team's record to 7-5 in Big East play.

HOCKEY

No. 1 Irish can lock up conference

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame makes the long trip to Fairbanks, Alaska this weekend with the opportunity to lock up the program's first ever CCHA regular season title in a two-game series with the Nanooks.

With two wins the No. 1 Irish (24-5-3, 18-3-3 in CCHA) will increase their point total to 43 on the season, putting them out of the reach of second place Miami. The RedHawks have 34 points with four conference games (eight possible points) remaining on their schedule.

"Our main focus is going up there and getting four points and that's what we're looking for," head coach Jeff Jackson said.

BASEBALL

Schrage era starts in San Antonio

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

Although Tuesday's performance at Villanova would indicate otherwise, Notre Dame has struggled on the road this season. The Irish (17-8, 8-4 Big East) are 4-7 on the road this season, including a three-game road losing streak between Jan. 23 and Jan. 31. They broke the streak against the Wildcats with a 7-5 victory Tuesday.

Notre Dame's hitting and defense have been the main focus of the Irish's early season success.

Saturday's game against the Panthers will be the first time the Irish have played outdoors this season. Schrage expressed concern about Notre Dame's hitting and catching fly balls in the sun.

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Two more ranked teams coming up

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's schedule will not let up this weekend. After defeating No. 23 Michigan 6-1 Wednesday, the No. 2 Irish square off against two more top-25 opponents in No. 7 North Carolina Friday and No. 20 Wake Forest Sunday.

"The Irish have played outdoors this season.

Irish guard Charel Allen elevates for a layup in a 78-70 win over DePaul Feb. 11. Notre Dame heads to Providence Saturday.