Campus struggles with activism, apathy

By EILEEN DUFFY and MEGHAN WONS
News Writers

Editor's Note: This is the first article in a three-part series examining activism at Notre Dame: its current role on campus, how that role has changed and what those changes mean for the future.

With the war in Iraq potentially stretching on longer than the one in Vietnam over 30 years ago, last week's fourth anniversary of the United States' invasion shone a spotlight on college campuses — once the sites of passionate anti-war activism.

At Notre Dame, the only protest that took place last week was organized by members of the Catholic Worker movement — a group from outside the University. While students were involved, the lack of major student organization for the event seemed to reinforce the stereotype that Notre Dame lacks activism.

To many, the question remains whether or not Notre Dame students are making their voices heard when it comes to human rights, the war in Iraq, the genocide in Darfur and other pressing concerns of today's generation of college students.

But to some students like junior Stuart Mora, a member of Campus Labor Action Project (CLAP) who is also active with the South Bend Center for the Homeless, loud arrest-focused protests are necessary to attract attention.

"I think we need a more active presence on campus, and I'm not talking about upperclassmen who have been involved for ages," Mora said. "I think we need people who are passionate and are willing to do the hard work."
INSIDE COLUMN

Love is in the air

Before I arrived at Notre Dame, I thought nothing would excite me more than passing by Brady Quinn on campus or doing the jig at a home football game. Then again, I had never experienced winter in Northern Indiana before schools closed at the chance of snow in Washington DC. Therefore, seeing the sun again and experiencing temperatures above 60 degrees could not have been more exciting or welcome this week.

I noticed how campus suddenly came to life. Students were playing frisbee and hanging out on North Quad. Grills were broken out by a couple of dorms. Music was blasting from dorm room windows. A couple of female students got very excited and even broke out the bikini tops for some sunbathing.

One of my friends remarked that campus really felt like college now with the large number of students hanging around outside, instead of hiding in their dorm rooms to keep warm. It looked like the pictures you see in the brochures sent to prospective students.

Another thing I’ve noticed in addition to the quick transition into shorts and skirts is the romance. Sure, there are those slightly awkward first dates and completely awkward good-byes outside girls’ dorms at parietals all year-round, but suddenly, it seems people are just more affectionate.

Walking around campus today, I couldn’t help noticing the rise in couples holding hands on the way to class or sitting on benches showing PDA. I mean it’s not quite “The Notebook” or anything, but it’s still kind of sweet. Everyone just looks a little happier.

I’ve even noticed this new phenomenon among people I know ... the person who never admits to liking someone is the person who goes through settling down soon. It’s all quite predictable. Or, maybe, just maybe, the person who never admits to liking someone is the people I know ...

The PDA is everywhere. It’s easy. All you need is sunshine. If you fall between the two, I’ve come to believe that there’s more in the air than just warmth. There might be an air to the future role in Africa.

INSIDE COLUMN

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OFFBEAT

Dog performs ‘Heimlich’ on owner, saves life

CALVERT, Md. — Toby, a 2-year-old golden retriever, saved his owner choking on a piece of fruit and began jumping up and down on the woman’s chest. The dog’s owner believes the dog was trying to perform the Heimlich maneuver and saved her life.

Debbie Parkhurst, 45, of Calvert told the Ceoll Whig she was eating an apple at her home Friday when a piece lodged in her throat. She attempted to perform the Heimlich maneuver on herself but it didn’t work. After she began beating on her chest, she said Toby noticed and got involved.

"The next think I know, Toby’s up on his hind feet and he got his front paws on my shoulders,” she recalled. "He pushed me to the ground, and once I was on my back, he began licking up and down on my chest."

That’s when the apple dissolved and Toby started licking her face to keep her from passing out, she said.

Tress removed at beach to curtal sexual activity

MADISON, Wis. — Willow trees lining the Madison nude beach on the Wisconsin River have been removed to reduce alleged sexual activity and provide more room for nesting turtles, the state Department of Natural Resources says.

"These willows just became a cruising area for people looking for sexual activity out there," Steve Colden, the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway’s property manager, said Monday in an interview with The Capital Times of Madison.

The nude beach has been used by naturists for more than 50 years.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

CORRECTIONS

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Eva Binda at observer@nd.edu

In the March 27 article entitled "NSDIP amen, cites ROSTC president, "it was said that the CSTC Bureau declined to comment. There was a misc­­ommission in the ROSTC office and Army ROSTC Bureau designated spokesman Major Gary Masapollo was never informed that he had been cited. The Observer regrets this misunderstanding.

In Brief

Ruth Messinger, President of American Jewish World Service, will give the lecturer "Bearing Witness: Crisis in Darfur" at 8 p.m. today in the Efe Visitors Center Auditorium.

Judge Victoria Marina de Aviles will deliver a lecture entitled "El Salvador Reform of the Judiciary" Thursday at 8 p.m. in Heebner Center Auditorium. The lecture will be in Spanish, but an English translation will be available. The event is sponsored by Latin American Church Concerns (LACC) in the Kellogg Institute.

Howard Schultz, the founder and chairman of Starbucks, will deliver the 2007 Frank Cahill Award Thursday at 7 p.m. in Jordan Auditorium in Mondavi. His lecture is entitled "Entrepreneurship and Ethics."

Married lecturers and scholars James D. and Evelyn Whitehead will give the lecture "Spirituality and Sexuality: The Marriage of Eros and Grace" Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Carroll Auditorium in Madeleva Hall at Saint Mary’s.

Ceyl Prinster, a 1976 Notre Dame graduate and executive director of the Colorado Enterprise Fund, will deliver the lecture entitled "Building a Balanced Life: Strategies for Combining Career and Family" Thursday at 5 p.m. in 119 O’Shaughnessy.

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

Appointees approved for leadership roles

By SONIA RAO
News Writer

Several student government appointees were approved for the 2007-08 term during the final meeting of the Council of Representatives (COR) members Tuesday.

Michelle Byrne, Phil Ross, Ashley Weiss, Christopher Tillet, Eva Binda, Sheena Plamoottil, Michelle Zaldana and Emily Cooperstein were all approved to assume leadership roles of various student government organizations that are represented within COR. Each was presented to COR members along with a letter of recommendation.

Junior class president-elect Bob Reish presented Michelle Byrne as the class of 2009 secretary. Byrne takes the position, which is one of four positions on the class voting ticket, as secretary-elect Caffie Pugge "will be unable to fulfill her duties because of other interests within Notre Dame student government," Reish said.

Reish said Byrne is "qualified, dedicated and hardworking," and he noted she has had numerous leadership roles including those as Cavanaugh's Hall representative, spiritual committee chair and Cavanaugh Hall president.

Current Student Union Board (SUB) manager Patrick Vassel presented junior Phil Ross as his nominee to continue leading SUB next year. "He has demonstrated tremendous time-management skills as well as innovative creativity and constant professionalism. His past leadership experiences exemplify the combination of hard work and fun that are central to the mission of SUB," Current Judicial Council president Liz Kozlowski nominated executive assistant Ashley Weiss as her successor.

"Over the past year, she showed enthusiasm and dedication for Student Government by working as the Chair of the Student Senate Committee on Gender Issues where she oversaw and coordinated both the Eating Disorders Conference and Sexual Assault Awareness Week," Kozlowski wrote.

Kozlowski also noted that Weiss ran for the elected position of student body vice president earlier in the year, which would serve as valuable background.

Kadja Gaines, chairwoman of the Financial Management Board, announced her nomination of freshmen Christopher Tillet and Eva Binda to the Assistant Student Union Treasurer positions.

President-elect Liz Brown, president Lizzi Shappell and vice president Bill Andrichik listen to the Council of Representatives Tuesday.

Gaines said she interviewed eight people for the position and Tillet and Binda were the most qualified.

Binda is a news writer for The Observer. Student body president-elect Liz Brown presented her nominations of Sheena Plamoottil, Michelle Zaldana and Emily Cooperstein as next year's chief executive assistant, student body secretary and academic delegate, respectively.

All three have extensive background in student government and have excelled in leadership positions, Brown said.

In other COR news:
- Members approved a COR Collaboration Fund Appeal for the 30th RCAC Fashion show, sponsored by Walsh Hall, Freshman Class Council and the Office of Admissions. The group requested $757.79 in order to provide food, raffle supplies, copy expenses and the venue.

Contact Sonia Rao at srao@nd.edu

Lafayette Square Townhomes

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Activism continued from page 1

not the only effective ways to show activism. For Mora, student participation in "concrete things" — such as service projects at home and abroad through the Center for Social Concerns and the Student Volunteer Coordinator — was the best way to show Notre Dame students spend volunteering — is proof that activism is "still here" on campus .... and maybe stronger than ever" in a different form.

"I think activism has changed," he said. "I don't think we have the marching around with placards anymore. I think people are looking to do more concrete things."

But just before spring break, it was that "marching around" activism that was seen on Notre Dame's campus.

Soulforce, a national gay rights group, stopped at Notre Dame as part of its cross-country Equality Ride, a 32-city bus tour intended to protest the intolerance of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people that it believes occurs at Christian colleges.

After University administrators denied the group's request to visit the fall, citing a policy that reserves such demonstrations for members of the campus community, Soulforce members notified Notre Dame that they would nonetheless arrive March 8 — and they did.

The 25 riders marched into LaFortune and were soon met with Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP) officers who, when Soulforce members refused to cease and desist, issued trespass notices to six group members for restricting foot traffic, speaking in loud voices and engaging in normal business activity. Trespass notices, said Assistant Vice President of News and Information Dennis Brown, carry with them a social concern centers. trespass notices to six group members for restricting foot traffic, speaking in loud voices and interfering and disrupting normal business activity. Trespass notices, said Assistant Vice President of News and Information Dennis Brown, carry with them a request never to return to campus.

The next morning, March 9, six group members attempted to walk down Notre Dame Avenue with a wreath, intending to deliver it to the statue of Tom Dooley, a gay military hero and Notre Dame graduate. Near the vicinity of the old post office, the members were again stopped by NDSP and this time issued arrest citations, with a likely request to appear in court.

Brown said policemen then gave the group a ride back to their bus.

"We checked with other universities where Soulforce had conducted its activities. We're aware of what [the group's] objectives are," Brown said. Now they're able to publicize that they were restricted at Notre Dame, which is sort of their goal.

Soulforce — which counts many of its members among its members — has continued to face resistance and arrest at subsequent stops on its Equality Ride. A handful of Notre Dame students took part in the Soulforce event, but many campus activists groups seem to favor talking, if not yelling, about their causes — and many are listening.

CLAP has staged protests and written reports in support of a "living wage" of $12.10 an hour for every employee at Notre Dame. The Progressive Student Alliance (PSA)'s "Week of Action" brought Lisa Mora, an honorably discharged marine and leader in the anti-war movement, to DeBartolo Hall — and 170 people flocked to hear him. Another of the week's events, a talk on the correlation between biology and homosexuality, drew a standing-room only crowd.

Sophomore Michael Anglo, vice president of the PSA, said he received good feedback from students and faculty regarding the "Eyes Wide Open" exhibit displayed on South Quad to raise awareness about the Iraq War. The display was brought to campus by the PSA through the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), which organized the traveling exhibit and supplied the public display of boots honoring each U.S. military casualty.

The exhibit featured a field of shoes, a multimedia display exploring the "history, cost and consequences of the war" and a Wall of Remembrance to memorialize the Iraqi citizens killed in conflict, according to the AFSC Web site. It's really important to have an attitude of reaching out," senior Julia Rose Hoover said of promoting awareness and education about issues on campus. "Rather than being exclusive to people who share the same ideas, values and mindset."

However, an active member of the Notre Dame Peace Fellowship, Amnesty International and CLAP, said that such groups are making an impact. She also said campus activists have changed her own attitudes about many issues.

While Notre Dame has historically been identified as a campus lacking activism, junior Katie McHugh — a member of both PSA and CLAP — thinks the University is underestimating activism.

"We have many politically-minded people on this campus, as political science is the most popular major in Arts and Letters, as well as a peace studies program that may be the most well-respected in the nation," she said, adding that Notre Dame has one of the best collegiate social concerns centers. "There is a deep-seeded obligation among Notre Dame students to help those in need around the world and in the South Bend community."

Still, that obligation doesn't inhabit a large portion of Notre Dame students.

Angulo said he thinks Notre Dame students are not necessarily apathetic, but that oftentimes they "don't have a forum to express their concerns and discuss issues of social justice in constructive ways."

The bureaucracy of Notre Dame and the University's history of not being an activist campus, he said, are two big hurdles for students involved in efforts such as the ones the PSA and CLAP advances. McHugh said she questioned whether "the real problem isn't apathy, but bodies of administrators that silence the beginnings of discussion or controversy on campus."

Both PSA and CLAP sometimes feel "bash'd" by Student Activities, which takes measures to prevent controversy, she said. PSA was put on club probation a few years ago for illegally handing out condoms. CLAP was not allowed to hand out coffee, donuts and information on workers' rights because they were denied permission by Student Activities."

But the level of activism has carried over the years. The second part in this series tomorrow will examine the historical context of activism at Notre Dame.

Contact Eileen Duffy at eduffy@nd.edu and Meghan Wons at awons@nd.edu
Senate sets Iraq withdrawal timeline

Democrats' plan draws ire of Congressional Republicans, White House, Lieberman

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defying a veto threat, the Democratic-controlled Senate narrowly signaled support Tuesday for the withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from Iraq by next March.

Republican attempts to scuttle the non-binding time line failed on a vote of 50-48, largely along party lines. The roll call marked the first significant challenge to date of the administration's handling of a war that has claimed the lives of more than 3,200 U.S. troops.

Three months after Democrats took power in Congress, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said the moment was at hand to "send a message to President Bush that the time has come to face now, the way forward in this intractable war.


John McCain, R-Ariz., a presidential hopeful, said "we are starting to turn things around in the war and that a timeline for withdrawal would embolden the terrorists in Iraq and elsewhere.

The effect of the timeline would be to "snatch defeat from the jaws of progress in Iraq," Sen. Lieberman, who won a new term last fall in a three-way race after losing the Democratic nomination to an anti-war insurgent, said.

Bush had previously said he would veto any bill containing the timeline, and the White House freshened the threat a few days ago with a vote on Tuesday. "This and other provisions would place America and democracy in Iraq at grave risk, embolden insurgents and undercut the administration's plan to develop the Iraqi economy," it said in a statement.

Similar legislation drew only 48 votes in the Senate earlier this month, but Democrats made the most of the slim margin to use the vote to reopen the war debate and that a timeline for withdrawal would embolden the terrorists in Iraq and elsewhere.

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Disability
continued from page 1

a problem with the neural communication between her brain and motor muscles — something that her mother noticed when Rivard had trouble crawling as a baby — that leads to difficulty writing.

But Rivard is not left alone at the University to deal with her disability. She is one of the more than 200 students who receive services at the Office of Disability Services.

Approximately 140 of the 200 plus students are learning disabled or suffer from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Coordinator of Disability Services Scott Howland said.

Saint Mary’s Disabilities Specialist Iris Giamo said the Disabilities Resource Office at the college serves approximately 75 students both for learning disabilities and for ADHD.

Students come to the College and University with an array of learning disabilities, including dyslexia and other disorders, Howland said.

"It's a variety," Howland said.

"A lot of it deals with information processing.... There are some students with dyslexia — there are some disabilities that are more related to spatial issues."

Howland said the disabilities primarily involve the time it takes to process information.

"It might take (students) longer than their peers to complete their homework, or get their reading assignments done," he said.

"That's always a challenge, balancing that... with everything else that's going on."

But those are the issues associated with just studying, he said.

"In the classroom, probably the biggest challenge they have relates to exams," Howland said.

"We have a lot of students that do need accommodations."

When she applied to Notre Dame, Rivard included a note about her disability.

"I did notify them in that section (of the undergraduate application), "If there's anything else you'd like to tell us," that I was diagnosed with a disability."

Rivard said and although Rivard is not alone in acknowledging a physical or learning disability, the number is low, hovering around one percent of the applicant pool, Senior Associate Director of Admissions Alisa Fisher said.

That percent constituted 206 of more than 12,000 applicants during the 2005 to 2006 admission year, Fisher said.

Fisher, who also serves as the liaison between the Office of Disability Services and the admissions office, said there has been a slight increase year-to-year of students who apply and disclose they have a learning disability, as more people feel comfortable doing so.

"If they want to tell us, we encourage that," Fisher said.

"The more information we have about your academic performance, the better we can understand if you struggled with some grades."

Fisher said that while the University does not discriminate on the basis of disability, it will take such a disclosure into account when reading an application.

When looking at a student's record "from the point from when the disability was discovered to getting some help," a visible improvement in the student's performance is often seen, she said.

Since being admitted, Rivard has utilized services for the disabled or suffer from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

"For me, it's about becoming more independent. I have to be an advocate for myself," Rivard said.

"I have to go to my teachers to ask for accommodations, and I have to let Scott [Howland] know if I need a note taker."

Howland said most of the students with learning disabilities he serves utilize test-taking accommodations and note taking services or classroom assistance.

In addition to providing services similar to those of Howland's office, Saint Mary's offers services including instruction on study skills and technical skills tailored to the needs of the learning disabled, Giamo said.

In the 11 years Howland has been at Notre Dame, only a "few" students have not graduated as a result of a learning disability and other related issues, she said.

Giamo said that in her two and a half years at Saint Mary's, she hasn't seen any students drop out and has seen plenty succeed.

"I think with a lot of support from professors, administrators, this office and their parents, they are successful," Giamo said.

"They have to be extremely hard-working students."

For Rivard, her academic experience at Notre Dame has been relatively normal and successful, given her disability. The environment — especially with professors, she said — is typically an understanding one.

But Rivard said there is one response she often receives from friends and peers when she tells them she has a disability.

"They say, 'But you're so smart,'" Rivard said.

Such a comment, she said, can be disappointing since her disability has nothing to do with intelligence.

"Lots of people who have disabilities have been very smart," said.

Giamo agreed that there is a stigma associated with learning disabilities — which leads some to feel "a little embarrassed" or "inferior" — even though intelligence is not related.

Still, Giamo said she feels there is a "growing awareness" of the issues and credits events like Tuesday's keynote address for providing a more personal look at learning disabilities.

Contact Aaron Steinzer at asteinzer@nd.edu

Shop
continued from page 1
the litigation, the costs of the process have drained the company's cash flow to "the point where the business can no longer support itself," the letter said.

University spokesman Don Wyckliff said the University could not comment because the case is in litigation.

The dispute between Wright and the University revolves around the "option to renew clause in the lease for The Copy Shop's space."

"Originally added to the store's lease in 1989 by former owner Dan Foley, the option gives the owner an explicit option to renew the lease until the owner decides he or she does not want the space anymore or until a rule of the lease is violated, Wright said in a Nov. 21, 2005 article in The Observer.

But in early 2005, Wright was notified that the University "did not accept our offer to renew." He sent them a letter and said this was not an offer. It was the exercise of an option. That's the basic dispute that the University was involved in with us when they filed their complaint.

"They said it was an offer, we said it wasn't."
Consumer confidence index falls

Rising gas prices, declining home values prompt greater than expected decline

MARKET RECAP

** Stocks

| Dow Jones | 12,397.29 | -71.78 |

**Treasures**

- **10-YEAR NOTE**: +0.55
- **13-WEEK BILL**: +0.20
- **30-YEAR BOND**: +0.54
- **5-YEAR NOTE**: +0.42

**Commodities**

- **LIGHT CRUDE (BDM)**: +0.02
- **GOLD (B//7 oz.):** -1.40
- **POUR BELLIUS (tonnes):** -0.68

**Exchange Rates**

- **YEN**
- **EURO**
- **POUND**
- **CANADIAN$$**

**MARKET RECAP**

** Stocks

NEW YORK — Consumers sent up a warning signal in March that rising gas prices and falling home values could hurt spending in the coming months, a widely watched index showed Tuesday.

The New York-based Conference Board said that its Consumer Confidence Index fell to 107.2, down from the revised 111.3 in February. Analysts had expected a reading of 109. The March index was the lowest since November 2006 when the reading was 105.3.

"Abnormality in the short-term forecast has suddenly cast a cloud over consumers' confidence," Lynn Franco, director of the Conference Board Consumer Research Center, said in a statement.

"The recent turmoil in financial markets coupled with the run-up in gasoline prices may have contributed to consumers' heightened sense of uncertainty and concern over the direction of both components over the next few months bears watching to determine whether this decline is just in the road or something more substantial," she added.

Economists closely monitor consumer confidence because consumer spending accounts for two-thirds of all U.S. economic activity. Confidence had been climbing, helped by consumers' faith in the job market.

The Present Situation Index, which measures how shoppers feel about economic conditions, increased slightly to 137.6 from 137.3 in February. The Expectations Index, which measures consumers' outlook in the next six months, declined to 86.9 from 93.8.

Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors, said that a one-month dip in consumer confidence after a four-month climb doesn't mean that shoppers are suddenly going to stop spending, but he said it is a "warning sign."

"Everything is consistent on the uncertainty," Naroff said, noting that if consumers are questioning what is going on, they are also going to be questioning their future purchases.

The Conference Board report — derived from responses through March 21 — showed increasing anxiety about the stock market and inflation. Those expecting the stock market over the next 12 months to decline increased to 38.7 percent, from 16.7 percent in February. Those expecting the stock market to increase fell to 29.3 percent from 39.9 percent.

Meanwhile, the report also showed that consumers expect the inflation rate on the goods they buy to increase by an average rate of 4.9 percent over the next 12 months, up from 4.6 percent in February. Franco noted that such a spike usually is consistent with an increase in gasoline prices.

The Conference Board report was a bit sobering for retailers and other businesses that rely on consumer spending.

The arrival of warmer weather this month — following an unusually cold January and February — has helped the nation's retailers catch up to a slow start to the spring selling season. But a slowing economy, particularly a weak housing market, could challenge shoppers in the months ahead. Rising defaults and delinquencies in mortgages to people with poor credit histories and fewer home equity withdrawals that give consumers extra cash may curtail spending.

The latest report on housing, released Tuesday by Standard & Poors, further dimmed hopes for a rebound in the market.

A recent survey of single-family homes across the nation depreciated in January compared to a year ago, the weakest results in more than 13 years, according to the S&P housing index.

**In Brief**

Atlantic City card dealers form union

ATLANTIC CITY — The parent company of Caesars Atlantic City has decided not to challenge a vote by workers to form a union, granting casino dealers in Atlantic City their first union in 25 years.

The deadline for Harrah's Entertainment Inc. to challenge the March 17 unionization vote was Monday, according to the company and the workers.

"This is a proud moment for casino workers in Atlantic City," UAW Secretary-Treasurer Ron Gettelfinger said in a statement.

"The workers voted 572 to 128 to become part of the UAW," the New York-based Conference Board said in a statement. "The recent turmoil in financial markets coupled with the run-up in gasoline prices may have contributed to consumers' heightened sense of uncertainty and concern over the direction of both components over the next few months bears watching to determine whether this decline is just in the road or something more substantial," she added.

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**Markets fall as pessimistic data released**

NEW YORK — Stocks stumbled Tuesday as investors weighed how new data released the possibility that the nation's weak housing market would seep into the broader economy and curbing consumer spending.

A housing index released Tuesday by Standard & Poor's showed that prices of single-family U.S. homes in January compared to a year ago, in their worst showing since January 2004. Also, Lennar Corp., one of the nation's largest homebuilders, said its first-quarter profit plummeted 73 percent and warned that it probably won't meet its 2007 earnings guidance.

Wall Street has been nervous lately that a drop in housing values will further weaken sub-prime mortgage lenders, who make loans to people with poor credit, and make consumers feel less wealthy and rein in spending. Consumer spending makes up about two-thirds of U.S. economic activity.

The Conference Board said Tuesday that its March consumer confidence index fell to 107.2, the lowest level since November and a

**UAW leader reasserts strike threat**

DETROIT — Ron Gettelfinger didn't mention concessions in his opening speech to the United Auto Workers' bargaining committee Tuesday, but many were speaking the word in and out of the meeting hall.

They were talking about facing what many say will be the toughest contract negotiations in company history, and many others were speaking the word in and out of the meeting hall.

The two men represent conflicting visions of what the future holds when concessions may be necessary to keep a plant competitive.

While he, too, is upset with executive bonuses, he wouldn't rule out giving something back to a plant from Chrysler or help a troubled company.

"We've always been about keeping a company viable so we can earn decent wages," said Bryan.

The two men represent conflicting views as 1,500 or so members attend the two-day convention, and they also present a challenge to Gettelfinger as he leads the union into the formal start of bargaining with the Detroit Three this summer.
Kelley

continued from page 1

has not, as you can imagine, said a word to me about this stuff.

This "stuff" is the escalating Congressional investigation of Gonzales, who is accused of covering up his role in last year's dismissal of eight U.S. attorneys. Criminal charges haven't come into play, since "the U.S. attorneys are appointed by the president. They serve at the will of the president," Notre Dame law professor Jay Tidmarsh said Tuesday.

That means "it's not a mystery" that when a president comes into power, he replaces the attorneys as he chooses, Tidmarsh said — it's legal, and expected. But while political considerations may play into the initial appointments, the recent firings have raised questions.

"There's potential taint involved in someone replaced for political, rather than performance considerations," said Tidmarsh, who explained that Gonzales' denial of involvement in the situation has generated concern. "This is always true: It's the cover-up, not the actions, that get someone in trouble.

Last week, a House Judiciary subcommittee authorized subpoenas for several Bush aides, including White House political adviser Karl Rove, Miers and Kelley. Tidmarsh said his understanding was that the subpoena was initially given to Kelley. But despite the president's public insistence that he had not been involved, Bush has denied Congressional requests for formal testimony from the aides.

Garnett said he could not analyze the situation or Kelley's chances of being called to testify, because he did not want anyone to mistakenly believe Kelley had spoken to him about the investigation.

Kelley's executive assistant in the White House counsel's office did not return Observer phone calls Tuesday.

While Kelley's role in the controversy is still hazy — "Yours as a lawyer lead me to be very skeptical of one e-mail," Tidmarsh said — that may be due partly to the nature of his job.

"The counsel's office in the White House has a really broad portfolio," Garnett said. "They're not the personal lawyers for people in the White House.

Instead, the counsel advises the president on a wide range of legal issues. The deputy counsel's job entails "advising the Counsel and the President on decisions to sign or veto legislation, ethical and conflicts questions, executive appointments and judicial selection, Presidential pardons, and lawsuits against the President in his official capacity," according to the fall 1995 issue of Notre Dame Lawyer magazine.

"I'm sure there are a thousand things that pass across Professor Kelley's desk on a daily basis," Tidmarsh said.

But despite the position's heavy workload and the stress of a Congressional investigation, both Tidmarsh and Garnett said there were clear reasons — besides prestige — that a law professor would take this job.

"It is certainly an important position in government — I think many lawyers feel a call to public service," Tidmarsh said. "For Professor Kelley, I think that certainly is true."

Garnett said Kelley was "honored and pleased" to take the job, given the importance of the appointment.

Kelley, a tenured member of the Notre Dame faculty who has been at the University since 1995, clerked from 1987 to 1988 for former federal judge Ken Starr on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The next year, he clerked for Chief Justice William Rehnquist. From 1991 to 1994, he served as assistant to the solicitor general at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Kelley's appointment to deputy counsel "was kind of natural," Garnett said. "It probably wasn't all that surprising ... He would have been on everybody's list."

Kelley is the second Notre Dame law professor to serve in President George W. Bush's administration. Professor Jimmy Gurule worked as the Treasury Department's undersecretary for enforcement from 2001 to 2003.

Those kind of appointments, said Associate Vice President for News and Information John Wycliff, make professors "more valuable faculty members." And that's why the University was willing to grant Kelley a leave.

"In cases where a faculty member is invited to do something special that adds to his or her credentials ... essentially what they can do is go to their dean and request a leave of absence, an unpaid leave, and negotiate the terms," Wycliff said Tuesday.

When Kelley received the appointment, "his first concern was fulfilling his obligations to the class he was then teaching," Dean of the Law School Patricia O'Hara said in an e-mail Tuesday.

"I encouraged him to accept the appointment, and I recommended approval of a leave of absence from the University," O'Hara said. "With my permission he made arrangements to complete the course by teaching the class sessions on an accelerated calendar."

O'Hara said the Law School would benefit from Kelley's return.

"Professor Kelley is an outstanding teacher and scholar in the areas of constitutional law, administrative law and federal courts, as well as a valued colleague," she said. "I am hopeful that he will choose to return to the Law School for the start of the 2007-2008 academic year."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu
Abeel's mother, Betsy, also spoke about the struggles of raising a child with a learning disability and how to creatively meet her everyday life.

Abeel said. “Often times, I can’t tell the difference between ten minutes and an hour.” Dealing with money, following cooking recipes and keeping score while playing games have also been difficult, Abeel said.

She explained that she can write the number ten and she can name the number ten, but she has no concept of how much ten is.

Both Abeel and her mother stressed the importance of creativity in developing coping skills for learning disabilities.

Abeel, who wrote Reach for the Moon at age fifteen and has also published My Thirteenth Winter, said she has always succeeded in English and creative writing courses.

The gap between her verbal capabilities and her mathematical capabilities made it difficult for elementary school teachers to pinpoint her disability. It was not until she reached second grade that Samantha was tested for disabilities, but her parents were told not to worry and that her math and verbal skills would eventually “even out.” However, her learning disability began to take an emotional and psychological toll on Abeel.

“By the time I was in fourth grade, I was extremely withdrawn socially,” she said. “I looked like I belonged … but I didn’t feel like I belonged.” The transition from elementary school to middle school in seventh grade was even worse. “Seventh grade was the worst year of my life,” she said, describing how she could no longer rely on the coping skills that she used in elementary school to get through her daily life. Those skills included following the rest of her peers to know when to switch classes. “I was in a regular algebra class, and I could barely add,” she said.

As part of the Undergraduate Admissions staff, the counselor is expected to make an important contribution to the recruitment and selection of the first-year class by managing relations with the prospective applicants, their parents, high school personnel and alumni in an assigned geographic area.

Responsibilities include extensive planning, travel and communication within the geographic area, assessment and evaluation of applications and conducting group/individual information sessions.

There are currently three counselor positions available on our staff for 2007-2008. Among our candidates, we will seek a Latino Recruitment Coordinator (Fluency in Spanish will be strongly preferred.)

We will also seek an Asian Recruitment Coordinator

Additional responsibilities will be assigned by the Assistant Provost for Enrollment.

Candidates should possess a bachelor’s degree and strong familiarity with all aspects of student life at Notre Dame. Essential qualities include strong communication and organizational skills, enthusiasm, diplomacy and the willingness to work long hours, including many evenings and Saturday mornings.

Please Note: Interviews will be scheduled after Easter.

Preferred start date is July 1, 2007.

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I spent my spring break as a participant in the Center for Social Concerns' Washington Seminar. I, like most of you, was a School House Rock in middle school and took government class in high school. I even remember a little bit of James Madison's Federalist Paper No. 10. But I didn't truly understand the American political system, until I spent a week in Washington, D.C. I wish I could convey to you the intricacies of our system, but I know my explanation will be far from sufficient. I can only suggest that you visit our nation's capital. Washington, D.C., should be America's Mecca. Every adult of voting age has an obligation to visit it at least once in their lifetime. Sit in on a hearing, visit your congressman's office or drop in on one of the myriad of public policy lectures that occur every week.

Unlike the Muslim who returns from Mecca with a renewed faith and greater devotion to God, I found myself leaving D.C. with a sense of despair in the American political system. My idealistic vision of intelligent, well-meaning diplomats was quickly supplanted in my mind by a conglomerate of special-interest groups, lobbyists and political scramblers for their own piece of the pie. As I traveled around D.C., I began to realize that most people in politics care about one thing—advancing their own personal agendas. Of course, they never frame their arguments as such. They always state their personal agendas in a way that aligns with the common good. For example, if you ask a cabinet senator from Oklahoma how he can claim to be a small-government conservative when he continuously supports subsidies for the oil and gas industry, he'll reply by stating that strong domestic production is essential for "national security" reasons. It has nothing to do with the fact that his constituents benefit immensely from federal subsidies. It's all about national security, a public good.

Perhaps more appalling than the self-interestedness of politicians was the way they advanced their agendas. I don't think any of the people we met with ever outright lied to us, but a sly dishonesty permeated from many of the conference rooms. They only told one side of the story, or they cited a non-scientific report put out by a biased interest group, or they responded with the Potomac Shuffle; that is, talking around a question without ever giving a direct answer. It wasn't sufficient for everyone to just sell themselves. They also had to shoot down conflicting ideas, hold personal vendettas against opponents and turn what was already mental debate into ad hominem attacks. The fight to obtain influence and political stature makes for great drama. As one of my fellow Seminar participants put it, "Washington is just like Hollywood, except the people are uglier."

Once I understood how Washington works, the Abramoff scandal, the Libby indictment and the Gonzalez hearings didn't seem so anomalous. By the end of the week, I began to wonder why our political system is a haven for such ugliness. None of the people we met were inherently bad, and I think many of them probably came to Washington as idealistic, principled persons. But at some point in their careers, they began to sacrifice their principles for self-interest. They wavered to keep their job, to appease their constituents or to secure more funding. Little by little, their integrity eroded away until they are now at the point where they no longer realize how far they have strayed from their principles. They've begun to believe whole-heartedly in their mission, even if it is based on dishonesty.

Don't take my cynicism to mean that everyone in Washington is narrow-minded and self-serving. We had the chance to meet with several nonpartisan groups and a few honest congressmen. Unfortunately, they seemed to be the exception rather than the norm. One night we had dinner with a Notre Dame grad who works in the Pentagon. He told us that he had at one time considered the priesthood, until one of his friends convinced him otherwise. "We have enough ethical people in the priesthood," his friend told him. "What we need are ethical people in government." If you get a chance to embark on a Hajj to D.C., walk around the Washington Monument seven times and pray for more ethical government leaders. Or at least pray that we may have the good sense to elect them.

Zach Eintz is a junior majoring in economics and environmental sciences. He has turned to politics after giving up on an unsuccessful sports career. Contact him at zeinterz@nd.edu. To learn more about the College Libertarians, visit their website at www.nd.edu/~liberty. The stories expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Examining Fair Trade on campus

Fair Trade, also known as an alternative trade, refers to a voluntary certification program with requirements for both producers and distributors. Working through small producers of their homes, build bridges and roads, raise the living and establish medical clinics and build schools for their children.

Beyond coffee, other Fair Trade certified commodities include tea, cocoa, banana, rice, sugar, honey, fruits, nuts, juice, vanilla, oil and olives. Recently I received an e-mail on Fair Trade sporting goods. The Europeans are further along in the Fair Trade sporting goods, which is environmental sustainability. The higher price would induce other producers, thus exterminating the surplus problem. Critics see such price protection as providing little incentive for improvement. Fair Trade may depend on small producers on the charitable instincts of consumers who may be flaky. Others have argued that the stipulated prices are too low to make a big difference. Some critics point out the disproportionate positive publicity large corporations gain when they make seemingly token contributions. Others that the gains to Fair Trade products may accrue to producers but to retailers who use it as a marker for price-insensitive consumers. Most are concerned that interventions to the free market are inefficient and nonproductive.

Fair Trade certification is structured for the potential to achieve long-run gains in the form of enhanced competitiveness of producers and environmental sustainability. To qualify, producers must be small family farms organically growing coffee at stipulated prices and contract for a minimum of 85% of the Fair Trade coffee is served in our campus dining hall.

Fair Trade certification is structured for the potential to achieve long-term gains in the form of enhanced competitiveness and environmental sustainability of agriculture. To qualify, producers must be small family farms organically growing coffee at stipulated prices and contract for a minimum of 85% of the Fair Trade coffee is served in our campus dining hall.

More than 60% of the consumers interviewed by The Observer permitted us to increase our awareness of social justice issues and to form a more informed opinion on the social responsibility of businesses and corporations. The results of this study were presented in a report to The Observer and to the students of The Catholic Worker Society at Notre Dame. The Catholic Worker movement's work is built on the principle that we are all in this together and that we share a responsibility to work towards a more just and equitable world.

In conclusion, Fair Trade certification is an important tool for promoting social justice and environmental sustainability. Its potential for long-term gains in competitiveness and environmental sustainability is promising, but its effectiveness in improving social outcomes remains to be seen. Further research is needed to better understand the impact of Fair Trade certification on social justice and environmental outcomes.

Carolyn Y. Woo
Mendoza College of Business
"TMNT" Reboots Popular Franchise

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Senior Staff Writer

"TMNT" is a reunion only the movies could arrange. Like so many treasured gems from the '80s, "TMNT" takes a laughably delightful premise and reminds us why we fell in love with it in the first place.

Or not, if those heroes in a half-shell failed to endear themselves to you a decade ago, there's a good chance "TMNT" can't redeem them now. Fortunately, writer/director Kevin Munroe and his creative team never confuse their film for high art. This latest movie, like all those that preceded it, caters exclusively to the fans. The best moments in the movie come when the turtles act like a family. They relax, joke, squabble and roughhouse together just like they did 15 years ago.

In a long-running franchise, fans develop expectations for their heroes. Like most pleasant memories, they're just like we remember them. Mostly.

After defeating Shredder and saving feudal Japan, our heroes have grown apart as a family. Like New York rooftops are no longer leads, instead traveling the world to hone his fighting skills. Raphael is as cool but crude as ever, ignoring orders as often as he cracks his head. He's gone roonin, roving the rooftops of New York as a more brutal vigilante called The Nightwatcher.

Donatello and Michaelangelo are now the breadwinners of the family. Working from home as a tech support consultant, Donnie still does machines. Mikey is a party dude. Literally. His alter ego, Cowabunga Carl, is a popular MC at birthday parties for kids. Meanwhile, Master Splinter waits for the inevitable reconciliation between his four sons. When he's not meditating, the radical rat spends his days watching soaps.

These are all fun touches that shouldn't have been realistic in the first place. The goofy added with superb art and inspired visual effects has been given build to fit the turtles. Mikey's California surf is stockier and brother reflected, brooding bruised. Even New York rooftops are chases, waterfalls - all of the turtles bound.

"TMNT" plays out like a run-in with four dear childhood friends. Like Casey Jones and April O'Neil, the many treasured gems from the turtles need to wrangle 13 mythic '80s. "TMNT" takes a laughably ugly beasties and thwart four delightful premise and reminds us why we fell in love with it in the first place. Surprise, surprise - immortality.

Like its predecessors, "TMNT" never Breates a muscular plot. It's more like what turtle stew tastes like, I imagine. Thin and sloppy, the plot is completely in service of its characters. The best moments in the movie come when the turtles act like a family. They relax, joke, squabble and roughhouse together just like they did 15 years ago.

In a long-running franchise, fans develop expectations for their heroes. A giant turtle nut himself, Munroe wisely takes all these moments, splashes them into a blender and whips up a green potpourri that borders on recycling, but without the boredom that sets in from having seen it all before. He never crosses that line because we really have never seen the turtles quite like this.

As he's done before, Raphael comedicmercilessly culminating in a spectacular rooftop flight. In a moment made for the movies, rain starts pouring down as they prepare to face off. Inspired by the very best Hong Kong martial arts films, they leap, chop, parry and lock weapons in a dizzying sequence that was never possible in the restrictive live-action escapades.

For the first time, a turtles movie succeeds in putting the "N" in "TMNT." Jim Henson and his puppeteering posse did an admirable job dropping the turtles into the New York of the '90s. "TMNT" shows us that they shouldn't have been realistic in the first place.

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Raphael, left, and Leonardo battle each other in the rain in a film marks the first time the Turtles have sprung into action on the big screen since 1993.
With a love of pizza and cries of "Cowabunga!" the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles are icons of a generation. With the film release of the newest iteration, Splinter and his four ninja offspring came in hand and out of context scene, this film was panned by critics but beloved by fans. With its bouncing music and light-hearted tone, but love by fans. With its bouncing music and light-hearted tone, this film was the children's film producers had been looking for. Unfortunately, with the third film, they went a little too far into the world of the graphic novels. "TMNT II" saw the franchise take a nose-dive into the ridiculous. The Turtles had to battle weapons dealer Walker and the Japanese Lord Norinaga in order to prevent a war from breaking out. Granted, it is a children's film, but by 1993, fans of the Turtles were only getting older and yet the third film panned to a younger audience than the second. While adding some memorable scenes to the canon, the third installment couldn't match the dark mis- en-scene of the first film, nor the happy-go-lucky innocence of the second.

In the end, the early '90s Ninja Turtles trilogy represents only a small fraction of what the Ninja Turtles are. With the release of the original comic books, the franchise was born, and following those, the cartoons, toys and video games garnered a legion of children all over the world. Thankfully, the film tradition that began almost two decades ago is still alive and well.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroed@nd.edu

VINTAGE ‘NINJA TURTLES’ FILMS IN PERSPECTIVE

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

The perhaps unfamiliar names Groundshuck, Walkabout and Disturb all have one thing in common. They are all the names of obscure characters from the original line of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles action figures. When the TMNT cartoon came out in 1987, it captured the hearts of American youth and simply screamed merchandising. In the following year, Playmates Toys released the first line of a long chain of action figures for the TMNT cartoon and beyond. This release capitalized on the classic characters anyone of our generation associates with the Ninja Turtles. This would be the classic quartet — Leonardo, Donatello, Michelangelo and Raphael — plus their master, Splinter. Their costume and confident April O'Neil was also included. The Shredder, a Foot Soldier, Bebop and Rocksteady rounded out the line by providing a basis of villainous characters to pit against the four turtles.

These figures possessed great detail for a line of toys made with numerous accessories that added to their playability. Shredder and Splinter even featured cotton capes, which one could take the liberty of removing and giving to more worthy characters if one so chose. (The fashion trend in "The Incredibles" of not wearing capes does not apply to action figures, as a cape makes any figure look better.)

As the cartoon gained popularity, Playmates capitalized by continuing to release new figures. Characters from the show earned their immortality in plastic, such as the Cajun-accented Leatherhead, the Flat King and vigilante sports enthusiast Casey Jones. Jones featured what were arguably the greatest accessories ever: a golf bag which could go over his shoulder, complete with a golf club and two golf balls. In addition to selling these figures, "TMNT III" saw the franchise take a nose-dive into the world of bad sports.

At this point, Playmates decided to branch out a little and began providing their young market with a plethora of creative stimuli. In addition to selling characters from the show, they released the original four with outfit enhancements as well as completely new characters who never even saw screen time. This opened the doors for imagination, allowing the owner to create the back story and personality of any figure, since no one actually paid attention to the canons history on the back of the figure's card. As interest waned, Playmates toned their production down, yet continued to steadily release figures based on the 1997 cartoon from 1997 through 2007. The TMNT property was reinvigorated with the release of a new cartoon in 2003, after a failed revamp in 1997 known as the next mutation. Of course a new line of figures was released to accompany the 2003 cartoon. These new figures were the same old characters, but with a much edgier look. The increased articulation, superior paint jobs on characters and weapons and increased detail in both the accessories and expressions hooked kids of a new generation on the characters. Not only was the cartoon better looking than ever, but the figures looked as if they were lifted straight from the television and put in the arms of the imaginative viewers.

Fans of the original cartoon can appreciate the updated representation of their favorite classics in plastic, while recalling a time when figures opened their playtime up to the whims of the imagination. Cawabunga, dude!

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TURTLE TOYS THROUGH THE YEARS

By NATE HOGAN
Scene Writer

The TMNT toys through the years, often with customizable weapons and accessories.
Bay’s ‘Transformers’ Morphs Into Summer Blockbuster

By SEAN SWEANY

As the robots in disguise are back, the iconic, shape-shifting robot characters of the ‘Transformers’ world return to the big screen this summer in an epic film creadors hope will reignite the toy line/comic book series that quickly sparked a popular animated series.

Transformers earned a spot in the minds of youths around the world as a fast action-packed story about the basic premise of good versus evil. The unusual and imaginative “wav factor” of Transformers rests in the fact that the characters can transform into objects such as cars, planes or animals, lending the “Robots in disguise” and “More than meets the eye” tagline.

The basic premise of Transformers pits the intrinsically good Autobots — led by the benevolent Optimus Prime — against the evil Decepticons — ruled by the tyrant Megatron — in a search for new sources of energy on Earth, as resources on their planet Cybertron have been depleted. This is the basic plot, which has survived many years and changes to the Transformers universe, has always been tenuous. And Unicron looms in the distance.

The first film adaptation of the show “Transformers: The Movie” — debuted in 1986 as an animated picture into the storyline of the animated television show that aired from 1984 to 1987. The film and TV series maintained the comic book look of the Transformers and remained popular throughout the 1990s. The often camp and unrealistic, the animated programs were popular enough “million of fans around the world enjoying their popularity and longevity.

By 1996, however, the Transformers world was in need of a facelift and creators devised a new line of toys and films called “Beast Wars.” This took the traditional characters and gave them completely animal forms. Whereas the original Optimus Prime morphed into a semi-trailer truck, his Beast Wars counterpart was an ape named Optimus Primal.

The Beast Wars line also eventually died out and Transformers faded from the public consciousness until a statement in 2005 announced that a live-action film would roll into theaters in 2007. When Michael Bay was attached as director, Transformers fans experienced both delight and anguish.

There was no doubt that thrilling, epic action scenes would be present, but the big question was whether “Transformers” would follow the like of Bay’s critical flops such as “Pearl Harbor” and “Armageddon” or if it would become at worst a decent film such as “The Island” — combining an effects extravaganza with a compelling storyline. A strong cast of supporting actors including Jon Voight, John Turturro and Benicio del Toro played the Autobots, with voice actor Shia LaBeouf (“Holes”) in performing what has been rated an intelligent script.

As with previous rehashes of the Transformers franchise, the new film will bring a new look to the robots. Gone is the boxy, old-fashioned look of the 1980s, replaced with a sleek, smooth style more befitting the 21st century.

Bay insisted that every mechanical part of the machines and their transforming motions be as realistic as possible so as to lend a credibility to his film that was sometimes lacking in the cartoons. The CGI will also have a level of detail never before seen, as Bay has boasted that it takes 38 hours to render a single frame of animation.

These stringent standards for the “Transformers” movie accompany high expectations held by a cult and loyal fanbase. These fans will subject the film to intense scrutiny and criticism. Bay must not out of cynicism, but from a desire for the material to hold up to its beloved predecessors.

Only when the film is released July 4 will we know if Bay’s movie is more than meets the eye.

Contact Sean Sweaney at sweaney@nd.edu

RESTORED CLASSIC SHAKES OFF RUST ON DVD

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA

Orson Welles hated his final role. He thought so little of it he couldn’t even recall the name of the character he voiced. “I play a big toy who attacks a bunch of smaller toys,” Welles said cryptically of the character he voiced.

For the record, he was mostly right. His character, Scorponok, is an insidious, planet-devouring robot that threatens the whole galaxy in “Transformers: The Movie,” an animated classic from 1986. Like the project as a whole, Unicron was dreamed up for the sole purpose of selling more Transformers toys, the white-hot phenomenon of the ’80s. Whether he wanted to or not, Welles helped fulfill that goal admirably.

More surprising, though, is the film’s current cult status among children of the ’80s. When it was released, it was marketed so poorly that it was out of theaters before kids even knew it was made. Critics panned it for its dark and violent tone. No Transformers had died on the kid-friendly animated show, but they were clearly dead in the movie. The most egregious violation of all, according to many, was the greedy choice to kill off the beloved Optimus Prime, heart and soul of the series, midway through the film. His death was short-lived, but its impact was not.

Twenty years later, hindsight has been much kinder to the film. In many ways, the movie was ahead of its time. In the ’90s, shows like “Batman: The Animated Series” won Emmys for their grim, gritty approach to superheros. But never before had an animated fare, especially one with the enormous fan following that the Transformers enjoyed, gone this dark.

As a movie, “Transformers” worked perfectly well for what it was: an intergalactic adventure that juggled its sizable cast of characters with ease. The first act of the film is one of the strongest of any animated movie outside of the Shrek banner. The evil Megatron launches a devastating attack on the Autobots, only to be halted by the arrival of Optimus Prime.

Robots on both sides suffer grievous injuries and die. The Autobots are left without a leader after Prime’s death. Hope is tenous. And Unicron looms in the distance, ready to devour all. The second and third acts suffer in comparison, but characters change, mature and are redeemed. Heroes rise to the occasion, and robots on both sides live to disguise themselves and fight another day.

On the cue of Michael Bay’s $150 million live-action film, Sony BMG has dug deep into the Transformers archives and has released a two-disc special edition DVD to coincide with the animated film’s 20th anniversary.

Prior to this release, the widescreen version of the original theatrical release had never been available on home video. This release contains both widescreen and fullscreen versions, the latter of which has been available on video tape for years. With a remastered and color-corrected image and cleaned-up audio, the movie looks and sounds better than ever before.

The second disc is loaded with special features that cater to both mild and hardcore fans. Chief among these are three thorough featurettes on the controversial death of Optimus Prime, the film’s ensemble cast of characters and the impressive stable of voice talent (which included celebrities like Leonard Nemoy, Casey Kasem, Judd Nelson and Welles).

This DVD is an impressive set for an animated movie already two decades old, especially one that was neglected upon its release. Many of the bare and subpar DVDs that accompany movies no more than six or eight months old. Welles’ scorn for “Transformers” seems justifiable. After all, this was the American legend who co-wrote, directed and starred in “Citizen Kane” at age 26. Like the character he played in his final role, he was a big toy in a world of smaller toys. He may not have respected it. But his imposing presence added gravitas to a film that took itself seriously and continues to be remembered for it.

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THE OBSERVER

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

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FRIDAY, MARCH 30 AT 8 PM | LEIGHTON CONCERT HALL
TICKETS: $30, $25 FACULTY/STAFF/SENIORS, AND $15 ALL STUDENTS

FRI. MAR. 30 AT 7 PM
PHILBIN STUDIO THEATRE
FEATURED GUESTS
NAMITA ARRILA, POET
RICHARD BLANCO, POET
DONALD W. SAUVE, MUSICIAN

THU. APR. 19 AT 7 PM
PHILBIN STUDIO THEATRE
FEATURED GUESTS
VICTOR HERNANDEZ CRUZ, POET
DONALD W. SAUVE, MUSICIAN

BROWNING CINEMA

The Decalogue (1989)
PAC Classic 100
Directed by Krzysztof Kieslowski
NR, 110 minutes/each, two parts
Polish Language with English Subtitles
Voted into the Vatican Top 15 Films for Religion
In ten parts, based on the Ten Commandments
Rare 35mm screenings!
Thu, Mar 29 at 7 pm
Fri, Mar 30 at 7 pm
Sat, Mar 31 at 3 pm and 7 pm
Sun, Apr 1 at 4 pm

Sisters of the Gion (1936)
Directed by Kenji Mizoguchi
NR, 95 minutes
Japanese language with English subtitles
NEW 35mm Print!
Thu, Mar 29 at 1 pm
Fri, Mar 30 at 1 pm

Ben Hur (1926)
Directed by Fred Niblo
NR, 143 minutes
35mm Print
Live piano accompaniment by Dave Drazin
Thu, Apr 5 at 7 pm

For details about these shows, keep an eye on our Web site:
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You can buy your tickets online, or call the DPAC Ticket Office at 631-2800.
Cavs clinch playoff berth with win over Pacers

Mavericks take 21st consecutive game against Hornets. Lewis scores 21 points in fourth to beat Timberwolves

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — LeBron James led with words, then he led by example.

After kicking coach Mike Brown out of a team meeting Tuesday morning, James had 26 points, seven rebounds and six assists as the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Indiana Pacers 105-94 to clinch a playoff berth.

Cleveland had lost three of four after an eight-game winning streak, but pulled within 2 1/2 games of Detroit in the race for the top seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs. It was the open of a five-game road trip for the Cavaliers, who won the season series with Indiana 3-1.

The Cavaliers came out focused after the meeting that James led on Tuesday.

"This is my team, that's my responsibility to make sure everyone's on course," James said. "There can be a lot of distractions on a five-game road trip."

Brown didn't mind his star player becoming more vocal.

"We can help them and put the pressure on each them to continue to show them where they're wrong, where they're right and so forth," Brown said, "but really, when it gets down to it, they're the ones on the floor playing. If you had a team that decides to take ownership of what they're doing, then the sky's the limit."

Zydrunas Ilgauskas scored 23 points for the Cavaliers, who shot 52 percent from the field. Cleveland outrebounded the Pacers 43-33 and outscored the Pacers 27-19 from the free throw line.

Indiana's Jermaine O'Neal did just about everything to scrub the floor at Conseco Fieldhouse the past two games, but the Pacers didn't reward him with a win.

O'Neal scored 32 points, his second straight game with more than 30. He was coming off a 39-point game, the second-best scoring effort of his career, in a 92-90 loss to Chicago on Sunday. He fol-

owed it up Tuesday by shooting 11-for-19 from the field and 10-for-10 from the free-throw line.

"He's a horse and a warrior," Indiana coach Rick Carlisle said. "He's played through a lot and he had a mammoth game tonight."

Mavericks 105, Hornets 89

Even a throwback night couldn't help the New Orleans Hornets branch back to the times when they beat the Dallas Mavericks. Now a team so proven at establishing and extending winning streaks.

Josh Howard had 25 points and 10 rebounds, and the Mavericks beat New Orleans Tuesday night for their 21st straight victory over the Hornets.

For a team that's already become the first to NBA history to have three winning streaks of 12 games or more in a single season, it was also the sev-

enth straight win for the Mavericks and their sixth in a row on the road.

"It was really a fun trip, obviously. We're trying to work hard offensively moving the ball, and everybody's making shots," said Dallas forward Dirk Nowitzki, who scored 15 points while shaking off an il-

ness. "It was a fun trip."

Jason Terry added 19 points for seven points and seven assists, and Devin Harris scored 14 points for Dallas. The Mavericks are already past halfway to an unprecedented fourth 12-game winning streak.

Dallas needs only one more win to match the franchise record of 60, set in 2002-03 and matched last season.

"We just knew we wanted to get better as a team going on this road trip. In the playoffs, you need wins on the road," Howard said. "We've kind of proven to ourselves right now that we can get wins on the road."

The Hornets haven't beaten Dallas since the turn of the century, the longest losing streak for a franchise opponent in the NBA, NFL, NHL or Major League Baseball.

The Mavericks' last loss in the series came on Nov. 17, 1999, in Charlotte.

Suns win, 105, Nuggets 92

Mavericks 105, Hornets 89

"We can be a lot of things," Dallas coach Rick Carlisle said. "He's played through a lot and he had a mammoth game tonight."

Minnesota center Mark Blount, right, impedes Seattle guard Luke Ridnour, center, as Timberwolves guard Mike James drives through. Minnesota blew a 25-point lead in their 134-106 loss Tuesday.

Rashard Lewis led Seattle's comeback with 21 of his 35 points in the fourth quarter. Earl Watson added career-high 24 points, while Chris Wilcox also finished in double figures with 19.

The loss was a serious blow to Minnesota's playoff chances, as the Wolves entered Tuesday 3 1/2 games back of the eighth playoff spot in the Western Conference. Instead of gaining ground, Minnesota was left to contemplate its biggest blown lead in the history of the team, surpassing a 22-point blow out to Dallas on December 18, 2001. The Wolves' biggest blown advantage this season was 17 points against Charlotte on Feb. 21.

"For some reason, I didn't initiate and keep us together down the stretch, and that bothers me," Wolves forward Kevin Garnett said. "We got a great lead, but in the second half, we were very, very, very aggressive like we should have.

"Instead, Lewis was the aggressor for the final 12 min-
utes — attacking the basket on offense while slowing Garnett on defense.

"We went to him at the end of the game when we had to have them and he came through," Seattle coach Bob Hugg said.
American swimmer Michael Phelps swims in the 200-meter butterfly during the Swimming World Championships Tuesday. Phelps broke the record in the 200-meter freestyle held by Australian Ian Thorpe.

**Phelps highlights record-breaking meet**

Associated Press

**MELBOURNE, Australia** — Michael Phelps stood on deck with 50 Cent blaring in one ear, a steely determination in both eyes. When his name was announced to the crowd at Rod Laver Arena, the young American did nothing more than stare down the strip of water at his feet.

Next door at the warmup pool, Phelps’ teammates stopped what they were doing — even those who had races of their own coming up at the world championships. They had to see this one for themselves, so they paused to watch it on a big screen.

“I had a thought in my head,” Aaron Peirsol would say later, “that this was going to be one of those legendary races.”

With four laps of the pool Thursday night, Michael Phelps wiped out Hoogland and took down the ghost of Thorpedo, leaving little doubt that we’re all getting the privilege of watching the greatest swimmer ever to hit the pool.

“You just can’t count him out of any race that he’s in,” said Mark Schubert, head coach of the U.S. team. “He’s obviously on a mission. He’s going to be real special here — and he’s going to be real special a year from now.”

Phelps already is special, of course, his legacy cemented by performances such as his six-gold, two-bronze medal haul at the 2004 Athens Olympics, or his five world records — two of them in different events on the same day — at the 2003 world championships in Barcelona.

But a magical swim Tuesday night in the 200-meter freestyle might have been the best yet, a swirling symphony of wind-milling arms, flapping fins, somersaulting turns and rocket-like bursts just beneath the water line of the temporary pool.

“I will say,” Phelps allowed, “everything was pretty close to perfect in that race.”

On a night when four world records fell, three of them to the powerful U.S. team, no one stood out more than the 21-year-old who loves hip-hop music, video games and a pet bulldog that he had to leave back home in Michigan.

The 200-meter freestyle record was one of swimming’s hallowed marks, the time of 1 minute, 44.06 seconds set six years ago by Australia’s Ian Thorpe, the iconic “Thorpedo.”

**In Brief**

Kerry argues against DirecTV Extra Innings deal in Senate

WASHINGTON — Sen. John Kerry urged Major League Baseball on Tuesday to hold off on a deal to put the sports’ “Extra Innings” package of out-of-market games exclusively on DirecTV Group Inc. A top baseball official declined to agree, with the matter with the Commerce Committee hearing on behalf of subscribers to cable TV and EchoStar Communications Corp.’s Dish Network who had received the package previously.

The dispute concerns which homes will receive baseball’s new television network in 2009. DirecTV, a satellite service, has agreed to carry that package as part of its deal. The company would also receive an equity stake in the channel.

“What’s the matter with that?” Kerry asked Bob DuPuy, baseball’s chief operating officer.

**NFL owners vote to make replay rule permanent**

PHOENIX — Replay is here to stay in the NFL.

League owners voted 30-2 on Tuesday to make the video replay system to aid officiating a permanent tool. All but three stadiums will be equipped with high-definition equipment and will be recalibrated before the upcoming season. The stadiums being replaced in Irving, Texas, Indianapolis and East Rutherford, N.J., will not get the updates.

“It’s a long time coming,” said Atlanta Falcons general manager Rich McKay, co-chairman of the competition committee that recommended the change. “It made sense to us this year to do it. Instant replay is an accepted part of the game. It’s what we are. There was not really much discussion about it.”

Cincinnati and Arizona voted against the proposal, as they nearly always do on replay issues.

**Williams upends Sharapova in Sony Ericsson Open**

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Serena Williams bounced the ball at the baseline, eager to serve. Maria Sharapova stood with her back to the court, frowning at her racket and in no hurry to continue.

Sharapova finally took her position, and the rally resumed.

There was no slowing Williams on Tuesday. In a result reminiscent of the Australian Open final, she beat the top-seeded Sharapova 6-1, 6-1 to reach the quarterfinals of the Sony Ericsson Open.

“Once she gets up in the set or in the match, she seems to steamroll,” Sharapova said.

The match was only the third for Williams since she defeated Sharapova 6-1, 6-2 in Melbourne two months ago. Williams broiled Sharapova when asked if she expected such an easy rematch.
Twice beaten, Federer finds new nemesis

Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Standing near the net, looking up at the ball coming almost straight down in the twilight, Roger Federer hesitated.

Should he hit an overhead, or let it bounce? With the match on the line, the world’s greatest player made the wrong choice, took a swing when the ball reached chest level and whacked it into the net.

Two points later, Federer had lost to his new nemesis.

Guillermo Canas beat Federer for the second time this month, 7-6 (2), 2-6, 7-6 (5) in a fourth-round epic at the Sony Ericsson Open.

The upset wasn’t the only rematch repeat Tuesday. Serena Williams beat Maria Sharapova 6-1, 6-1, in a rout reminiscent of their Australian Open final two months ago.

With that, Key Biscayne’s two No. 1-seeded players were eliminated.

Two weeks ago, Canas ended Federer’s 41-match winning streak at Indian Wells. The dogged Argentine showed that victory was no fluke, extending points by repeatedly chasing down shots and forcing a frustrated Federer into 51 unforced errors.

“IT’S one of those matches I never should have lost,” Federer said.

The defeat ended his bid for a third successive Key Biscayne title, while Canas improved to 2-0 this year against top-10 players. He was ranked as high as No. 8 before serving a 15-month doping suspension, and he had to qualify for the Key Biscayne draw.

“I’m surprised because I beat two times the No.1 in the world. Really, I don’t know what is my secret,” Canas said. “I’m just trying to enjoy the moment. For me it’s like a dream.”

Williams, who defeated Sharapova 6-1, 6-2 in the Australian Open final, this time won by an even more lopsided score. She bristled when asked if she anticipated such an easy match.

“Haven’t you learned that I expect the best of myself?” she said. “If I’m playing well, then anything can happen. I believe there could be a similar score if I’m playing well.”
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Terrorism in Europe: Lessons for the U.S.

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Europe Issue Manager, Directorate of Intelligence, CIA

A. James McAdams
Moderator and Director, Nanovic Institute

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ELECTION AND LOBBYING REFORM: CAN CONGRESS REALLY CHANGE THE POLITICAL SYSTEM?

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Law School Courtroom

FEATURING

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ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME LAW SCHOOL
What's in a Name?: The Wisconsin Right to Life Case and Deciding When an Issue Ad is Not an Issue Ad

William V. Luneburg
PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF LAW
Can Lobbying Disclosure Really “Deliver?”

James Tucker
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, BARSTED HONORS COLLEGE, ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY
Preventing Discrimination or a Scarlet Letter? Federal Oversight under the Recently Reauthorized Voting Rights Act

Thomas Susman
PARTNER, ROPES AND GRAY, LLP
Ethical Lobbying and the Challenge of Reciprocity

Moderated by Professor Alejandro Camacho

Want to write for Sports? Call 1-4543.
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record. Offensively, senior center­fielder Stephanie Brown should cause trouble for Toledo. Leading the Big East in on­base percentage at .487, Brown has come up big for the Irish in the leadoff spot. Brown is second in the conference in batting average at .412.

The Rockets have struggled to start the season and head into South Bend on a three­game skid. Pitching woes have been the main source of Toledo's struggles - the Rockets have given up an average of 6.8 runs per game.

One of the few bright spots for Toledo this season has been first baseman Leslie Strong. The junior has batted .370 on the season, including four homers and 11 RBI. Aside from Strong, however, the Rockets have also struggled to produce on the offensive end - no other batter is hitting over .250.

The game against Toledo is an out­of­conference break for the Irish, who will return to Big East play this weekend with doubleheaders at home against Pittsburgh and Syracuse. The Rockets begin Mid­American Conference play Saturday against Buffalo.

No Irish players were available for comment prior to the game.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

Irish sophomore Beth Norway swings at a pitch during Notre Dame's 9-1 win Sunday over Seton Hall at Ivy Field.

Congratulations to John Cooney and Alex Renfro of Alumni Hall for finding the Morrissey Manor Medallion. Thanks to all for participating, and good luck in next year's Medallion Hunt!

The 2007 Manor Medallion was found on the tenth floor of the Hesburgh Library. It was placed in a hollowed out N.D. phone book and set next to "One for the Gipper: George Gipp, Knute Rockne and Notre Dame" (call number: GV 939 .G53 C47).

2007 Morrissey Manor Medallion Hunt Clues

Blue and Gold jerseys will lead to the find, Father Vierling's riddles will mess your mind.

Ninety­three days of planning went in, But only nine strides, enough to win?

Ghost of the Gipp could help you discover, What these five clues are meant to recover.

Yet in the end, you won't need them all. By day number three, the answer could fall.

Rockne's house is now Charlie's heaven It's seen great teams like the squad of '47.

A bit of football history, and the answer's complete But you must go undercover to accomplish this feat.

Here you can find the last missing link Our legend is forever engrained in ink.

Follow the horsemen and rear up your stallion Behind the word of life, lurks the medallion!

Obvious capitals and explicit numbers are in line Put them together and your call number looks fine.

We've done all we can to help you look, Now get off your bum and find that book!

A Reading by Booker Nominated Irish Novelist

Patrick McCabe

Author of critically acclaimed novels such as The Butcher Boy (1992) and Breakfast on Pluto (1998)
goals per game — the best in the nation.

It was just a matter of him becoming a complete player.”

Jackson said the depth of the Irish defense and the time it takes him to adjust to the professional game is today, “With the way the game is today, I think he could have a chance to make [an NHL career],” Jackson said.

Babin is the first Irish player from the senior class to sign a pro contract, although defense-man Wes O’Neill and goalie Dave Brown were drafted by the bladers and the Penguins, respectively, in 2004.

Contact Kyle Cassigny at kcassidy@nd.edu

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CMU continued from page 24

six different players knocking in a run. The game marked Stewart’s first start for the Irish since a March 9, 2005 loss to Coastal Carolina. Senior first baseman Mike Dury got the Irish on the board in the bottom half of the first, hitting a two-run home run to left field after freshman third baseman A.J. Pollock drew a walk. The homer was Dury’s team-leading sixth and gave him 16 RBIs on the season.

Stewart retired Central Michigan in order in the second inning, but in both cases they couldn’t inflict enough damage to even the score. “We were hitting into some hard luck today,” Schrage said.

With one out and the bases full in the sixth, Central Michigan’s leadoff hitter John Lankford dived to stop a hard grounder off the bat of Irish left fielder Ryan Connolly, before stepping on third and firing to first to complete an inning-ending double play.

“Ryan couldn’t have hit that ball any harder,” Schrage said. “Things just weren’t falling for us.”

In the seventh, the Irish took advantage of two walks and two wild pitches to scratch out a pair of runs, but pinch hitter Ryan Smith grounded out with the bases loaded to end the threat.

“We’re still waiting for the two-out clutch hit,” Schrage said.

The Irish left 11 runners on base in the game after standing 14 against South Florida Sunday. “We’re getting enough guys on base, enough opportunities,” Schrage said. “Hopefully, things will even out for us.”

Senior right-hander Kurt Lauscher got the win for the Chippewas, working six-plus innings and surrendering four earned runs while striking out four.

Senior James Ritchie worked 2 1-3 scoreless innings to record the save. Central Michigan shortstop Jeff Hoppes went 2-for-4, including a two-run single in the eighth that sealed a win for the Chippewas after the Irish had cut the deficit to two in the seventh.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

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Rudolph

continued from page 24

Like Carlson, Rudolph is a standout on the basketball court as well as on the football field. "[Kyle] is an outstanding athlete," Frank said. "He’s a tall, athletic kid with great hands." Frank said Rudolph is faster than Carlson, though the current Irish tight end is 25 pounds heavier than the prospect. "He’s going to have to put on some weight," Frank said. "We’ll see if he can keep that speed.

Players cannot sign binding letters of intent until February. Rudolph has his senior year of high school in front of him, and Frank said that another year in the weight room would help him prepare for college football. He said Rudolph could enter college as heavy as 250 pounds. Rudolph is considered one of the top prep tight ends in the nation, and was rated the top overall prospect in the Cincinnati area by Ohio High magazine. He would join an already deep roster of young tight ends at Notre Dame, including current rising sophomores Konrad Reuland and Will Yeatman and incoming freshman Mike Ragone.

"Rudolph is a talk athletic kid with great hands." Mike Frank
Irisheyes.com

Battle

continued from page 24

"More than the players themselves, it's just how they run the operation," he said. The first part of being a quarterback is being able to take the play, call it in the huddle, get to the line of scrimmage, and just run the operation.

Of the four, only Sharpley has taken snaps during a contest, playing in parts of eight games. Sharpley mostly handed off during those times, completing 1-of-2 passes for seven yards in his Irish debut in the 2007 Orange Bowl. But after looking at the four for a week, Weis still hasn't "seen" it — an intangible to separate one quarterback from the rest.

"Let’s let them get through shell shock first," he said. "They’re getting a lot of coaching, they’re getting scrutinized. They know that this is a competition and everything they do is part of the evaluation."

"Adding to the pressure for the quarterbacks is their general inexperience at the college level — something especially poignant at a school with the media attention and tradition of Notre Dame. "There’s a lot of pressure on these guys right now," Weis said. "Throw on top of that the fact that everyone in the free world knows who’s going to be the new quarterback at Notre Dame."

Weis remains optimistic about his team’s quarterback, even if right now isn’t the right time to find answers. "I think we’ll find out early on if somebody has that something when the time comes," he said. "But right now I think it’s really early in the evaluation."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfittpa@nd.edu

Islam, My Life, and the "Clash of Civilizations"

An engaging and entertaining presentation by a mining town’s son.

Alex Kronemer, Co-Producer of the PBS Film, Muhammad: Legacy of a Prophet and co-founder of Only Productions Foundation (OPF)

Born in a small town in Western Pennsylvania, Alex will share stories from his unexpected life and the work he’s done to promote peace through the media. Alex has his full-length film, The Rise and Fall of Pakistan in Medieval Space and A Peace Among Muslims — The True Story of an African Peace Mission in the American South — both of which will be shared.

Wednesday, March 28th, 2007

7:00pm at Browning Cinema DPAC (FREE & open to public)

Alex Kronemer, who grew up during the "bad old days," went on to earn a Master’s Degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He has published papers in numerous newspapers and journals and has been a CNN commentator on several occasions. Mr. Kronemer has also owned a very popular restaurant at the heart of human rights in the U.S. State Department focusing on U.S. foreign policy and Islam.

Speaker:
Alex Kronemer, Professor, History, Student Association, FTTP, Sociology, St. Mary’s Church, OPD

This event is part of the International Week.
Hockey

Babin signs contract with Carolina, will dress in AHL tonight

Senior defenseman is first member of class to begin pro career

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame senior defenseman Noah Babin signed a two-year contract with the NHL's Carolina Hurricanes and is expected to be in the lineup tonight for the Albany River Rats, Carolina's affiliate in the American Hockey League. Jason Karmanos, vice president and general manager of the Hurricanes, announced Monday.

Babin, who arrived in Albany Tuesday, will begin his two-year professional contract with the start of the 2007-08 season but will spend the remainder of this year's AHL season in Albany before he graduates from Notre Dame in May. The River Rats play the Syracuse Crunch tonight with 11 games remaining in the regular season.

"Noah has exceptional skating ability, which is extremely important in the game today," Karmanos said in a news release. "That, combined with his strong work ethic, gives him a solid foundation to start his pro career."

The Hurricanes became interested in Babin through another Notre Dame player - Carolina seventh-round draft pick and Irish freshman defenseman Kyle Lawson. Ron Francis, director of player development for Carolina and a 23-year NHL veteran, visited South Bend several times throughout the season to check up on Lawson and in the process was struck enough by Babin's play to sign the undrafted senior.

"I know that after the first time, he was coming in specifically to see Lawson and his development," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "(Francis) and I spoke several times and talked about Noah. And he said they were interested in a two-year defensemen, and I know there was a pretty deep interest there."

Jackson said Babin generated interest from the pro team with his naturally strong skating and puck-handling abilities, but his work in the past few years on his play without the puck is what will help him make a career in the NHL.

"I give him credit, because he even knows he needs to work on his play without the puck."

see BABIN/page 21

Football

Fantastic four

Weis sees no standout in four-way battle to replace Brady Quinn

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Associate Sports Editor

One week into the spring season, Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis has given no indication that he's ready to say — or if he even knows — if any of the four Irish quarterbacks vying for the starting job have separated themselves from the pack.

The four competitors to be Notre Dame's lead signal-caller next year are early-entry freshman Jimmy Clausen, rising sophomores Zack Frazer and Demetrius Jones and rising junior Evan Sharpley.

One of the main traits Weis said he is looking for in his quarterbacks is their ability to lead the offense.

see BATTLE/page 22

Baseball

ND nine lose third straight

Chippewas score six runs in first inning en route to 8-4 win

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Central Michigan pushed across six runs in the first inning and never looked back in an 8-4 triumph over Notre Dame at Frank Eck Stadium Tuesday.

Irish senior right-hander Jess Stewart, who came into the game with a 2.76 ERA in 10 appearances as a reliever this season, took the loss after giving up eight hits in the opening frame. The Chippewas sent 11 batters to the plate in the inning, with

see CMU/page 21

Softball

Bargar and Co. look to stay unbeaten at home

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will look to continue its winning ways at home tonight at 6 p.m., facing off against Toledo at Ely Field.

After winning five in a row at home last weekend, the Irish (14-12) attempt to stay unbeaten on their home turf against the Rockets (4-14). The red-hot Notre Dame pitching staff, which has led the way during their win streak, should challenge the slumping Toledo club.

In their five home wins, Irish hurlers have posted an earned-run average of 0.66. Leading the way for the Irish has been sophomore Britteny Bargar, who was named Big East pitcher of the week Tuesday.

Bargar went 3-0 with wins over IUPUI, St. John's and Seton Hall. The righty allowed only two runs in her three starts, shutting out St. John's and pitching complete games in all three contests. Bargar also struck out 20 batters in 20 innings on the weekend, bringing her season total to a team-leading 109.

Senior pitcher Jess Stewart throws during Tuesday's 8-4 loss to Central Michigan. Stewart gave up six runs in two innings.

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