Early action applications up 11.5 percent
University recruits more minority, international students; Peer college policy changes affect ND

By ROHAN ANAND
News Writer

Early action applications to the University rose to 4,247 this year, up 11.5 percent from last year, Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Admissions Dan Saracino said. This year’s applicant pool includes a 45 percent increase in the number of ethnic minorities seeking early admittance to Notre Dame, as well as a 106 percent increase in international students. A total of 719 minorities and 126 international students submitted early action applications this fall, Saracino said.

He called those figures “healthy increases.”

“My projection is that we will come out of early action with an admitted group of students with higher academic records and extracurricular activities than ever before,” Saracino said. “However, even more notable will be the amount of diversity — ethnically, internationally, and socio-economically — that will be reflected in next year’s freshman class.”

Visitation to the admissions office have also been up 16 percent this year, Saracino said, and admissions officers are receiving more inquiries from students and high school counselors via e-mail, phone calls and application requests.

Saracino attributed the increases in international student applications to his office’s outreach efforts, which include increased traveling to other countries to market Notre Dame, mobilizing the alumni abroad to contact high

see EARLY/page 6

University remembers soldiers, sends packages

By ANN-MARIE WOODS
News Writer

As Notre Dame students count the days to go home for Thanksgiving, one group wants to remember fellow Americans that don’t have the privilege of spending the holiday with their families. "You can imagine... the soldiers... those are the strongest assets in this business," said the care package drive, inviting students to send gifts to deployed soldiers, primarily those in the Middle East. The drive ends this weekend.

see SOLDIERS/page 4

Role of religion in politics debated

Panelists use JFK example to explore separation of Church, state

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

Two student-professor teams faced off at LaFortune Student Center Tuesday night as they debated the role of religion in politics. Political science professor David Campbell and senior Kathleen Sullivan, a political science major, argued that religion doesn’t have a place in the political spectrum. Their opponents, Law School professor Richard Garnett and senior Corey Mehlos, co-president of College Democrats, said there are times when religion can be appropriate in political settings.

see RELIGION/page 3
QUESTION OF THE DAY: **Who should New York pick if she wants to find true love?**

- **Concerta Holley**
  - **Junior Howard**
  - **"Buddha. He's sexy."**
- **Derek Ingle**
  - **Junior Keough**
  - **"The Entertainer because he believes in the spiritual realm."**
- **James Toner**
  - **Junior Keenan**
  - **"Flavor Flav. Again."**
- **Kyle Peters**
  - **Junior O'Neill**
  - **"Flidget Mac because he's just the right height."**
- **Jude Ann Jasso**
  - **Senior off campus**
  - **"She should've kept Midget Mac. Great things come in small packages."**

**In Brief**

The film "Working Women of the World" will be shown tonight at 7 at Hough Center Auditorium as part of the film series, "International Labor: West to East World Global Economy."

"Loyal Daughters and Sons: Sexuality and Sexual Assault As Told by Notre Dame Students" will be performed at 8 p.m. tonight through Friday at Washington Hall. Tickets are $5 and are available at the LaFortune Box Office.

There will be a presentation on Careers in the State Department Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the Mcdermott Auditorium of LaFortune.

Archbishop Celestino Migliore, the Vatican's permanent observer to the United Nations will deliver the lecture "Catholicism and Islam: Points of Convergence and Divergence, Encounter and Cooperation" Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center auditorium.

The Notre Dame women's soccer team will play against Loyola-Chicago Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. on Alumni Field.

The Black Cultural Arts Council is holding modeling tryouts for its annual fashion show Sunday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30. For any women interested, the men's tryouts will take place next Tuesday from 8 p.m. to 10. Both tryouts will be held in Washington Hall.

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

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Author examines nuclear abolition

By LIZ MILLER

Near the end of the Cold War, the heads of state of the U.S. and the Soviet Union came close to doing away with nuclear warfare, bestselling author and nuclear abolitionist Jonathan Schell told an audience in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies Tuesday.

The author of "The Fate of the Earth" focused his lecture, titled "Nuclear Abolition in 1986 -- And Now," on a 1986 summit in Reykjavik, Iceland, where President Ronald Reagan met with Soviet Union leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

During this summit, the leaders of the superpower nations came extremely close to abolishing nuclear weapons altogether, he said -- a fact many people may find difficult to believe.

"Opting not to simply reemphasize the potential danger of nuclear weapons, Schell aimed to explore this historical episode and use it to illuminate the present nuclear armament situation," Schell said. He finds a surprising ally in Reagan, whom he referred to as "the most right-wing president of the Cold War period."

The content of the 1986 summit reveals Reagan was vehemently opposed to nuclear weapons, Schell said. The negotiations centered on a potential significant reduction of nuclear arms, which both leaders desired.

Reagan, to the surprise of his advisors, announced "it would be fine with me if we eliminated all nuclear weapons," Schell said.

Disdained by Richard Perle, his assistant secretary of defense, Reagan eventually declined any such agreement, Schell said. But despite this, he said the two leaders jointly stated "a nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought."

And their ability to see eye-to-eye on this matter, he said, proves the issue of nuclear warfare poses serious threats to mankind, and these should outweigh political and military motivations.

"We have a common humanity that extends beneath the partisan quarrels," Schell said. While many argued a heavy nuclear arsenal acts as a deterrent from nuclear war, Schell considers the weapons to be a "proliferant."

By keeping a nuclear arsenal, world leaders have created a "two-tier world," dividing those nations who have nuclear power from those who do not, Schell said. And this only creates incentive for countries to implement nuclear weapons programs in order to join the first tier.

Moreover, recent events, Schell said, are forcing the question of nuclear weapons back into the public sphere.

Schell pointed to the Pentagon's new offensive initiative, called the "Global Strike." Its mission includes developing the ability to launch a missile strike on any place in the globe in a timeframe of 30 minutes to 1 hour.

He also said that in the past year alone, a dozen countries ranging from North Korea to Brazil have expressed interest in possessing nuclear weapons, but public opinion is decisively against nuclear weapons, he said. Schell cited a recent poll taken by the University of Maryland, which found that 73 percent of Americans are in favor of abolition of nuclear weapons. That led Schell to believe the public would back nuclear disarmament if politicians moved in that direction.

"But, he asked, "where is the political will?"

Schell ended his lecture with a story he said Reagan originally imagined about a future meeting with Gorbachev.

"[Reagan] and Gorbachev would come to Iceland, and each of them would bring the last nuclear missile from each country with them," Schell said. Then they would give a tremendous party for the whole world. "... The president would be very old by then, and Gorbachev wouldn't recognize him.

The president would say "Hello, Mikhail." And Gorbachev would say, "Then, is it you?" And then they would destroy the last missile."

Contact Liz Miller at
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Religion

continued from page 1

Sullivan kicked off the debate -- which was hosted by ND Votes "08 -- by quoting President John F. Kennedy, who often reassured voters during his campaign that his Catholicism didn't influence his political identity.

"I am not the Catholic candidate for president. I am the Democratic Party's candidate for president who happens also to be a Catholic," Sullivan said.

She said Kennedy made this statement in a speech to allay fears that the Pope would run the country if a Catholic president were elected.

"Kennedy had it right," she said. "Religion really has no place in politics."

In response to Sullivan, Garnett said Kennedy's speech was often taken out of context and used to support a new trend of "radically privatizing our religion."

"Separation of church and state should be absolute, but it has nothing to do with how we, as citizens, respond to the common good," Garnett said.

This brought up the question of morality in the context of federal laws and policies. One member of the audience asked the panelists to distinguish between morality and religion.

"The government ought not impose religious requirements, but it does not do to tell a candidate your view is no good because it is rooted in religion," Garnett said.

He said religion is so entrenched in humanity that "any idea that you can push religion out of politics is an anti-human idea."

But rather than an inherent, universal part of human beings, Campbell and Sullivan said religion can be divisive and can polarize a political discussion rather than humanize it.

"Of course you should take all your beliefs and values into account when voting," Campbell said. "However, religion should only be used to the extent that it allows you to evaluate the policies, not to use it as a wedge for prejudice."

And though the panelists didn't reach a consensus, the Campbell-Sullivan team said that, at least at Notre Dame, the role and influence of religion in life seems to be better outlined.

"I think the advantage of an education from Notre Dame is that you can -- through courses, readings and conversations with friends -- figure out how your faith will inform your politics and public lives," Campbell said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at
mbuckley@nd.edu

Who says Deloitte is the #1 place to start a career?

BusinessWeek, our employees and recent grads, to name a few. In fact, Deloitte ranked ahead of 49 companies you probably know by name. Of course, we had something to aim for, we were ranked number three in 2006. And, year after year, we've ranked on other leading lists, including Fortune magazine's "Best Companies to Work For" and Working Mother magazine's "100 Best Companies."

If you're wondering why, it's not just because we offer a strong benefits package, a collaborative work environment, and the opportunity to work with the finest clients in the world. When you give us your best, we give you our best. It defines how careers are built. After all, the one-size-fits-all approach to the corporate ladder is no way to build the workplace of the future.

BusinessWeek ranks Deloitte #1 in "50 Best Places to Launch a Career," September 2007. See more. To discover your opportunities with Deloitte and find out why BusinessWeek ranked us the best place to start a career, text "NOTREDAME" to 78573 or visit deloitte.com/us/notredame.
Soldiers
continued from page 1

With gift card contributions from Walmart, Meijer, and Sam’s Club, the NDAA was able to purchase food and supplies for the drive. The Hammers Bookstore also donated Notre Dame T-shirts for each care package, Byrum said. Contributions and donations began after fall break, and will continue from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. this afternoon, in the atrium of the Mendoza College of Business. The NDAA also will have a concession stand on South Quad this weekend before the Duke game, with all proceeds contributing to the care packages. At the concession stand, Byrum and other NDAA members will collect items and cash donations to help pay for shipping costs.

One of the most important aspects of this project is collecting a list of soldiers to receive packages, Byrum said. “Anyone who knows someone serving overseas should e-mail me directly with the soldier’s name and address,” Byrum said.

The NDAA will take names of military men and women through Saturday, trying to collect as many names as in previous years — a goal the association has not yet met, Byrum said.

Created five years ago by the NDAA’s former faculty advisor, accounting professor Margot O’Brien, the drive began as a small project and has grown each year, Byrum said. With the onset of the war in the Middle East, O’Brien was interested in sending something to American soldiers to show support.

Contact Ann-Marie Woods at awoods4@nd.edu

Seniors, what in God’s name are you doing next year?

How about the Campus Ministry Internship?
Join us Thursday, November 15th at 5:30 p.m. in 316 Coleman-Morse for pizza, information, and applications.

Contact: Paulsen.1@nd.edu

Write news.
Call Karen at 631-5323

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

Responding to the HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Sub-Saharan Africa:

The Power of Academic Partnerships

A slide presentation by
Dr. Robert Einterz
Professor of Clinical Medicine and Associate Dean for International Affairs, Indiana University School of Medicine

7 pm, Thursday
November 15, 2007
Jordan Hall of Science
Room 105

Reception will follow

Hosted by — the Office of International Studies, the Center for Health Sciences Advising, the Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative, the Department of Africana Studies, the Center for Social Concerns, and the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bhutto demands Musharraf step down

LAHORE, Pakistan — Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto demanded the resignation of U.S.-backed President Gen. Pervez Musharraf on Tuesday, dashed Western hopes that the country's moderate leaders would form an alliance to confront strengthening Islamic extremists.

Bhutto, just placed under house arrest for the second time since her return from exile, said she was working to forge a partnership with Nawaz Sharif, the man overthrown as prime minister in a 1999 coup by Musharraf.

Her call, which would seem to rule out main opposition parties joining, raised a new threat for Musharraf, a key U.S. ally who faces growing pressure at home and abroad to end emergency rule and restore democracy.

Iran takes step toward compliance

VIENNA, Austria — Iran has met a key demand of the U.N. nuclear agency, handing over long-seized blueprints of warhead designs. But Tehran failed to meet other key requests.

The U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency said Tuesday that Iran had turned over the blueprints. The documents, which were seen by U.N. inspectors two years ago, were seen as a concession designed to head off the threat of new U.N. sanctions.

But the diplomats said Tehran has failed to meet other requests made by the International Atomic Energy Agency in its attempts to end nearly two decades of nuclear secrecy on the part of Iran.

NATIONAL NEWS

Boy admits to setting California blaze

LOS ANGELES — A 10-year-old boy who admitted starting a 38,000-acre fire last month that destroyed 21 homes in northern Los Angeles County will not be charged, prosecutors said Tuesday.

There was no evidence of intent by the boy who accidentally ignited brush outside his home by playing with matches, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office said in a statement.

Authorities are reviewing the case to the Department of Children and Family Services to determine if further steps are necessary. No other children were questioned as part of the investigation because the fire was caused by the boy's accident.

Flaming backpack evacuates airport

PHOENIX — A backpack caught fire Tuesday in the cargo area at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, leading to an evacuation, but authorities said the flames were likely caused by a chemical that contained no explosives or other banned items, just leaking toiletries.

The bag, believed to have been a carry-on, probably contained toiletries containing alcohol to keep, a combination of heat from the conveyor belt and its track rubbing against the backpack caused it to catch fire, Gehlbach said.

The fire was extinguished quickly, Gehlbach said.

About 10 a.m., a baggage handler loading bags on the conveyor belt noticed that the back pack was hot and set it aside. The fire department was called when the bag began to smoke, and they in turn called in a hazardous materials team as a precaution.

LOCAL NEWS

Bush addresses taxes in Indiana visit

NEW ALBANY, Ind. — President Bush found a friendly audience in southern Indiana as he lambasted Congress for what he said was the Democratic majority's penchant for seek tax increase in a state where voters voice concern about growing tax bills.

Bush played to that sentiment, saying congressional Democrats had tried to raise taxes on oil and natural gas, capitol gains and stock and bond transactions. Bush also mentioned the cigarette tax hike that was voted in the children's health bill he recently vetoed.

FRANCE

Strikes to cripple Paris mass transit

Parisians brace for a new transit strike Saturday, extending a protest period now in its second week, that has disrupted much of France's mass transit system.

Women and kids ride for free on buses and trains during the strike, which began May 27.

Bush to meet with parliamentary leaders

WASHINGTON — President Bush will meet with parliamentary leaders from the 26 of France's 55 universities that have voted to strike, said UNEF, the leading student union.

Chicago cardinal elected head of USCCB

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — The cardinal elected Tuesday to lead the U.S. Roman Catholic bishops' conference was already one of the most influential men in the Chicago church.

Cardinal Francis George, archbishop of Chicago for a decade, earned two doctorates in philosophy and theology, knows six languages and has deep ties with a city that is 66% Catholic.

As the new president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, he will host Pope Benedict XVI's visit to Washington and New York in April.

Chicago church leaders through a presidential election season in which religion will once again figure prominently.

George received 85 percent of the vote out of a field of 10 candidates at the bishops' fall meeting. He had served the last three years as the conference vice president.

Public policy issues, from war to politics, are part of the agenda of this week's event.

Skyldstad released a statement Tuesday calling defendant in that France "unacceptable." He stressed the need for a bipartisan "responsible transition" out of the country.

The Associated Press gathered in 2005, vehemently opposed the military strike, and his successor, Pope Benedict XVI, has condemned the "continual slaughter" in the country. Benedict expressed his concern directly to President Bush in his first meeting in June at the Vatican.

Skyldstad said some policy makers have failed to recognize American failures in the invasion and occupation, while other U.S. lawmakers haven't acknowledged the "potential human consequences of very rapid withdraw-


French commuters wait for a train on Oct. 19. Rail workers are expected to strike today, bringing the Parisian mass transit system to a halt.
Early
continued from page 1

school students and the University's financial aid options for international students.

Historically, the University has seen a high level of interest from students in Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East, and resources prevent the office from establishing markets in those areas like Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan and mainland China, for example, Saracino said. Another big change this year is the lack of early admission programs at several peer institutions.

Saracino said the admissions committee thinks the decisions of Harvard, Princeton and the University of Chicago to eliminate their early admissions programs last fall have already had a bearing on Notre Dame's admissions process this year — and will continue to do so.

Because there are usually overlapping candidates that apply to those schools and to Notre Dame, many students admitted early will not accept or decline their offer until the spring, when those other schools have released their decisions.

"That could cause some confusion within our application pool, and it will be difficult to predict a yield on early action and regular action students," Saracino said.

The University has also toned this year with companies such as QuestBridge and the outsiders, including Royal & Company, to attract more domestic students. QuestBridge, an online Web site, helps the admissions committee identify talented students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds and matches them with the good financial aid packages the University can offer, Saracino said.

Royal & Company, based in Richmond, Va., targets high-achieving minority students and includes them in a database of potential applicants. It means applicants are identified earlier than ever before.

"For us, undergraduate admissions has evolved into a 18-month cycle instead of 12-month cycle," Saracino said. In order to be considered for early action admission, candidates had to submit applications to the admissions office either electronically or through regular postal service no later than Nov. 1.

Decision letters that admit, defer or deny the applicant admission to the University are usually mailed out on Dec. 15, and admitted students have until May 1 to accept or decline the offer, Saracino said.

Other universities also offer specific early admission programs, including early decision or single-choice early action. Under a binding early decision agreement, the candidate — as well as their parents and high school guidance counselor — must sign a note pledging the applicant will attend that university if admitted. Therefore, they may only apply early to one institution, Saracino said.

Single-choice early action, on the other hand, is non-binding but mandates the student does not apply to any other schools. Admitted students have until May 1 to accept or decline their admissions offer. Notre Dame, however, has always offered a very basic early action program that allows students to apply early to as many schools as they wish.

"We personally do not offer early decision or single-choice early action because we don't believe it is in the best interest of the applicants. Seniors are still going through the evaluation process and we want to give them plenty of time to review other colleges and receive financial aid packages so that they can make an informed decision by the May 1 deadline."

Dan Saracino
assistant provost
Undergraduate Admissions

Some universities that offer the early decision option, like Cornell, state on their admissions Web page that applying early offers an advantage for a student in the application pool because "enthusiasm for Cornell is considered a plus."

Saracino mentioned, however, that this doesn't necessarily apply to Notre Dame's early program, and that there is no general advantage to applying early.

"The advantages really depend on the student," he said. For some students, he said, last-minute information like mid-semester grades or December standardized test scores could tip the admissions committee either way — and if it's toward an acceptance letter, perhaps it's in the student's best interest, since his application is not reviewed until that information is in.

"So, in some cases a student's application may become stronger after the acceptance decision is made," he said. "Generally, we suggest that if a student feels that their application is 'good' but not 'outstanding' by the Nov. 1 deadline that they should wait until the regular decision deadline on Dec. 31."

Students who are deferred under the early action program are told that their credentials will be reviewed again in the spring and that they will be notified at the same time as other regular decision applicants, around March 29. Some applicants, however, are denied under early action — and they may not re-submit applications for the same academic year, Saracino said.

"For those candidates, we usually feel that even if we waited for more information, the candidate would not be admitted," he said. "Therefore, we're giving them more time to look at alternative choices, and high schools appreciate this."

Contact Rohan Anand atранан@nd.edu

ARABIC PROGRAM INFORMATION SESSION

- Learn about Notre Dame's Arabic Program
- Career Opportunities in Business, Media, Government
- Meet Arabic Majors and the Faculty

Come, have some Pizza and a drink!

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In Brief

Sirius shareholders allow XM purchase

NEW YORK — Shareholders approved a deal Tuesday to allow Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. to acquire its rival XM Radio Holdings Inc. for about $5 billion, but the largest hurdle has yet to come — regulatory approval in Washington.

Shareholders of Sirius and XM had been widely expected to approve the deal, which would allow the companies to save some $2 billion over the next three years and give them a monopoly that could boost their stock prices.

More difficult will be getting the deal approved in Washington, where the Department of Justice and the Federal Communications Commission must both give their blessing. Several consumer groups have opposed the combination, saying it would create a monopoly that could hurt consumers.

U.S. begins fiscal year with high deficit

WASHINGTON — The government started the new budget year with an October deficit of $55.6 billion, up sharply from last year even though government revenues hit an all-time high for the month.

The Treasury Department reported Tuesday that the deficit for the first month in the new budget year was up 12.4 percent from October 2001. The Congressional Budget Office is forecasting that the imbalance for the entire year will reach $155 billion, up sharply from last year when the deficit fell to $62.8 billion, a five-year low.

The CBD is projecting that the deficit for the current 2002 budget year will decline to $145 billion. But CBD is forecasting that deficits will begin to rise again in 2003 and some private economists are cautioning that the imbalance may persist this budget year.

The 2007 deficit for the budget year that ended Sept. 30 was 34.4 percent lower than the $248.2 billion deficit recorded in 2006, reflecting faster growth in government revenues than spending.

Wal-Mart in position for holiday success

SAN FRANCISCO — The oil spill that fouled San Francisco Bay and delayed the Dungeness crab season is raising fears that visitors will be reluctant to dine in the city’s famed seafood restaurants.

“It’s not going to be a pretty season. It’s definitely going to hurt,” said Anthony Geraldini, co-owner of Fisherman’s Grotto, adding that seafood sales are the one bright spot during the normally slow fall tourism season.

Several beaches remained closed Tuesday, nearly a week after a cargo ship struck the Bay Bridge, releasing 58,000 gallons of bunker fuel in the bay’s biggest oil spill in nearly two decades.

The sea lions and other marine mammals at the city’s world-famous Fisherman’s Wharf have largely avoided exposure to the oil, and the sting of fuel that hung over the bay dissipated by Tuesday.

But dark, patchy slicks continue to float in some areas, and several beaches have remained closed as teams in yellow hazmat suits suited up.

Crab salesmen Anthony Geraldini looks over his crabs Tuesday after Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger suspended fishing in the Bay Area due to an extensive oil spill.

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Wal-Mart’s core lower income shoppers will send more shoppers to discount stores, said Niemira, chief economist for the nation’s largest retailer.

Wal-Mart shares spiked $2.65, or 1.5 percent in the company’s fourth quarter to rise no more than 2 percent.

Third-quarter sales at stores open at least a year, not counting fuel, were up 1.5 percent in the company’s U.S. stores, same as a year ago. The company expects same-store sales for the fourth quarter to rise no more than 2 percent.

Michael P. Niemira, chief economist and director of research for the International Council of Shopping Centers, said an uncertain economy will send more shoppers to discounters for holiday purchases. Even if Wal-Mart’s core lower income shoppers spend less, consumers with more money are likely to switch to discounter stores including Wal-Mart, he said.

At the same time, Niemira said Wal-Mart is working to address past problems.

“If they think they may perform remarkably well this holiday season,” said Niemira.

Last November, Wal-Mart reported its first negative monthly same-store sales in a decade as a peak into high-end fashion and home decor sold poorly and muddied its low-price image. For the period November through January, which includes most holidays, Wal-Mart’s core lower income shoppers did not help the company.

Even the crabs on ice in front of whale watch or ferries to Alcatraz were still a few months from being for sale. As the season had been scheduled to begin Thanksgiving tradition for many residents.

The crab season had been scheduled to begin Tuesday, but Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger issued an executive order delaying opening day until Dec. 1, or until fish and game officials decide the waters are safe.

Most seafood sold at Fisherman’s Wharf is caught far offshore, or elsewhere on the Pacific Coast. Even the crabs on ice in front of whale watch or ferries to Alcatraz were still a few months from being for sale.

Wal-Mart’s early start in this year’s fall tourism season was hurt by the oil spill, said Niemira.

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NBC continued from page 1

the novel of the same name by Sex
and the City author Candace
Flanell.

"I literally stalked Candace
Husnell... I happened to be at a
wedding that she was at and... managed to convince her that NBC
was the place for "Lipstick Jungle,"" she
said.

O'Connell showed a clip reel, or
"sizzle reel," of 13 current NBC
shows, like "Friday Night Lights" and "The Office," and a preview of
"Lipstick Jungle." 

The development process behind
des shows begins right after the
Fourth of July, O'Connell said, when
her office receives about 300
pitches. Each year, they purchase
around 60.

"A writer will come in and
explain the characters, the world,
the story engine," she said.

Last year, out of the roughly
60 story ideas, eight pilots were shot in
the spring. After pilots are
evaluated, NBC puts together its fall
schedule. Four of the pilots that were
shot made it to this year's fall schedule
and one, "Lipstick Jungle," will be added mid-season.

"The business side of television is
something that's important," she
said. "When Josh Schwartz pitched
"Chuck," he said, "It's The 40-Year
Old Virgin meets Bourne Identity." I
said, "I have this idea of what that
means, but I want it." 

In the pitch, what is most impor-
tant is the world the writers create,
but it also matters how they sell it
to the studios.

O'Connell said many shows fit
into one of three franchises —
"medical, law or cop" — and that
rules the story engine, or what is
going to drive the story each week.

"In "House," the story is going to
walk in through the doors... in
"Chuck," it's different," she said.

In the case of "Chuck," its origi-
nality attracted O'Connell, along
with its relation to what she called an
"interesting pattern in television
now."

"This is becoming the hero... she
don't declare what the under-
dog," she said.

The show deals with an average
computer nerd who accidentally
receives top-secret information
from a rogue CIA agent.

The target audience for "Chuck"
is young non-O'Connell said, but
finishing an audience for some shows — like "Friday Night Lights,"
which tells the story of a high
school football team — pose prob-
lems for executives. The drama,
now in its second season, is "one
of the best shows we have," she
said.

"My theory about "Friday Night
Lights" is I feel like if I talk to a per-
son who's seen it, they love it.
The trouble is getting an audience," she
said.

Students planning on pursuing a
career in television should be an
audience, as she said.

"It's OK to watch TV. It is really
important to read a script and then
watch it on TV. Watching as many
pilots as possible is the most
informative thing you can do... how
did these shows get started," she
said.

Before working at NBC, O'Connell
worked at Imagine Television, where she developed
projects, including the Emmy-
award winning cult hit "Arrested
Development."

That project, which was can-
celled after its third season on FOX,
was an example of how television is
heating up, she said. "We have to
deal with a lot of emotion in the
creative process.

"Also, the fate of "Arrested
Development" is illustrative of
how many factors go into why
certain television shows are
successful," O'Connell said.

"It is quite possible if "Arrested
Development" was on NBC after
"The Office" that it would have had
a different trajectory," she said.

A Notre Dame graduate, O'Connell
encouraged students interested in
learning in television and
theatre to take classes in the
Department of Film, Television
and Theatre.

"Having a knowledge of story-
telling and writing is very
important in this very subjective
industry," she said.

After she was asked her opinion on
the Writers Guild of America
strike, which reached its eighth
day Tuesday, O'Connell said, "I want it
to be over very soon.

"I completely understand what
they are looking for, but this could
create so much collateral damage.
People are losing their jobs... it
could have an enormous, irrepar-
able effect on the business," she
said.

O'Connell also showed "sniffles,
"raw, unedited footage, from
"Blue Blood," a show currently
being filmed and directed by Brett
Ratner of Rush Hour fame.

"You have to learn how to watch
dailies," she said. "It is interesting
to see the raw material and then
what has the potential to turn in-"
Chlamydia cases set record for U.S. STDs

Associated Press

ATLANTA — More than 1 million cases of Chlamydia were reported in the United States last year — the most ever reported for a sexually transmitted disease, federal health officials said Tuesday.

Officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said they think better and more intensive screening accounts for much of the increase, but added that chlamydia was not the only sexually transmitted disease on the rise.

Gonorrhea rates are jumping again after hitting a record low, and an increasing number of cases are caused by a "superbug" version resistant to common antibiotics.

Syphilis is rising, too. The rate of congenital syphilis — which can deform or kill babies — rose for the first time in 15 years.

"Hopefully we will not see this turn into a trend," said Dr. Khalil Ghanem, an infectious diseases specialist at Johns Hopkins University's School of Medicine.

The CDC releases a report each year on chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis, three diseases caused by sexually transmitted bacteria.

Chlamydia is the most common. Nearly 1,031,000 cases were reported last year, up from 976,000 the year before.

The count broke the single-year record for reported cases of a sexually transmitted disease, which was 1,013,436 cases of gonorrhea, set in 1978.

Putting those numbers into perspective, there were about 348 cases of chlamydia per 100,000 people in 2006, up 5.6 percent from the 329 per 100,000 rate in 2005.

Since 1993, the CDC has recommended annual screening in sexually active women ages 15 to 25. Meanwhile, urine and swab tests for the bacteria are getting better and are used more often, for men as well as women, said Dr. John M. Douglas Jr., director of the CDC's Division of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention.

About three-quarters of women infected with chlamydia have no symptoms. Left untreated, the infection can spread and ultimately can lead to infertility. It's easily treated if caught early.

Health officials believe as many as 2.8 million new cases may actually be occurring each year, he added. Chlamydia infection rates are more than seven times higher in black women than Hispanics. But it's a risk women of all races should consider, CDC officials said.

"If (health care) providers think young women in their practice don't have chlamydia, they should think again," said Dr. Stuart Berman, a CDC epidemiologist.

The gonorrhea rate is somewhat different. In 2004, the nation's gonorrhea rate fell to 112.4 cases per 100,000 people in 2004, the lowest level since the government started tracking cases in 1941.

But since then, health officials have seen two consecutive years of increase. The 2006 rate — about 121 per 100,000 — represents a 5.5 percent increase from 2005.

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Health officials don't know exactly how many superbug strains there were among the more than 358,000 gonorrhea cases reported in 2006. But a surveillance project of 28 cities found that 14 percent were resistant to ciprofloxacin and other medicines in the fluoroquinolone class.

Similar samples found that 9 percent were resistant to those antibiotics in 2005, and 7 percent were resistant in 2004. The appearance of the superbug has been previously reported, and the CDC is advised doctors to stop using those drugs against gonorrhea.

Douglas said it doesn't look like the superbugs are the reason for gonorrhea's escalating resistance rates, but they're not sure what is driving the increase.

ND prof: Polls not accurate

Special to The Observer

Current polls tell us that Sen. Hillary Clinton clearly is the frontrunner for the Democratic nomination, and Rudy Giuliani has taken the lead among Republican candidates. But with a year to go before elections, can we be sure that these will be the two names on the ballot for president?

Not necessarily, according to University of Notre Dame political scientist Darren Davis, a nationally recognized expert in public opinion, elections and voting behavior and author of "Negative Liberty: Public Opinion and the Terrorist Attacks on America."

"Public opinion polls are an indispensable resource in elections and governance, and if done correctly, provide a reliable snapshot of how the public perceives candidates and issues," says Davis.

"However, without a complete understanding of how voters reach their decisions, the factors that impinge upon those decisions, and equally important, the underlying methodology of opinion surveys, polling results can be — and often are — misleading. It is true that one can get public opinion polls to say what people want them to say."

Consider the record of some previous Democratic year-ago polls:

In November 1971, surveys predicted that Democrats would nominate Edward Kennedy or Edwin Muskie. In 1972, the nominee was George McGovern.

In November 1975, Kennedy again was predicted to be the Democratic nominee; but in 1976, Jimmy Carter was nominated.

In early November 1979, polls predicted that Kennedy would defeat Carter for the Democratic nomination — he didn't.

In 1987, Jesse Jackson was the frontrunner, yet in 1988, Michael Dukakis was the nominee.

In 1991, Mario Cuomo was the predicted nominee, yet Bill Clinton was the actual nominee.
EDITORIAL CARTOON

“Catholic faculty and the ND mission

The Catholic identity of the University,” says the Mission Statement, “depends upon...” and that “the presence of a predominant number of Catholic intellectuals.” Ex-Cardea Eusebico (DEZ), the 1990 apostolic constitution on Catholic universities, requires more explicitly that the number of non-Catholic professors should not be allowed to constitute a majority within the institution.” Notre Dame’s pursuit of recognition as an elite research university has coincided with a severe drop in the percent of faculty who identify themselves as Catholic. Retirement and other factors portend an irreversible decline, far below 10 percent. That can be asumed, as the Project Sycamore analysis shows, only by an immediate change to the hiring each year of a strong majority of Catholics. The administration created an ad hoc committee to address this problem. The September report of that committee is less than persuasive in its analysis and not helpful in its conclusions. But that report is not the subject of this essay. Rather, it will be useful to reflect on the Oct. 11 address, “Catholic Colleges and Universities Today,” by Cardinal Avery Dulles at Assumption College. A convert and the son of John Foster Dulles, President Eisenhower’s Secretary of State, the Cardinal has rendered distinguished service to Catholic higher education. Using as his “primary guides” ECE and Cardinal John Henry Newman’s “The Idea of a University,” Cardinal Dulles addresses bluntly the hiring of all faculty to mission without Catholicism. He does so in the context of culture and the relation of the university to the Church and its magisterium or teachings. On the problem of “faith and belief,” he said, “must be founded on three principles: that in there is a God, that he has made a full and final revelation of himself in Jesus Christ and that the Catholic Church is the authorized custodian and teacher of this body of revealed truth. The Cardinal proposed that “all disciplines involving human values should be taught from a Catholic intellectual” point of view, and that “attention to their religious implications.” “Graduation,” he said, “should not preclude an advanced education in literature and science, while remaining at grade school one should study the nature of religion,” including “the interplay between faith and reason.” He reminds us that “I/we live in a consumerist society, in which colleges tend to shape their policies according to the demands of the market, as though the success of courses were to construct more buildings and increase student enrollment. Our colleges and universities must guard against being trapped into the culture, which is not anti-Christian and dehumanizing.” The cardinal’s remarks are relevant to Notre Dame in his treatment of religious diversity and the marginalization of religion by the academic establishment. He questioned the pursuit of diversity as a goal in itself. “Postmodern students...” imagine that change and diversity are desirable for their own sakes. “Students should be educated for the world of today (and a variety of cultures may be a source of enrichment. But for nations to live together in peace and friendship, they must share common convictions regarding the basic norms of morality.” “Religious diversity,” he said, “is not desirable in itself. It appeals chiefly to those who believe there is no truth in religion anyway. If we believe that God is one...” we will hope that all peoples, with their different voices and idioms, may someday unite in his praise. To make this goal persuasive in the contemporary atmosphere of suspect, he said, “is a serious challenge. Still another challenge comes from the academic establishment in America today. In secular circles there is a virtual consensus that no course ought to be taught from a distinctive religious point of view. Faith is generally held to have no place in the classroom, at least on the level of high school. If this only means that faith should not be imposed in the classroom, we can agree. But if it means that professed Catholic should not manifest their religious beliefs or seek to defend them, the objection is unsound.” Cardinal Dulles went on to relate the hiring of all faculty to mission without diversity to percentages. “Without diversity...” for the mission, “the advantages of a Catholic university,” he said, “has to be clear about the mission. An essential step...” is that faculty be hired for mission. If the teachers are hostile to the mission of the college or indifferent about it, the college will suffer. It does not suffice to hire faculty who are nominally Catholic. If teacher are angry with the Church or unsympathetic toward her doctrines, no challenge in the current, he said, is the “problem of cooperation.” The Cardinal specified that the Catholic university “participates...” in the mission of the universal Church, “and that the teaching authority of the Church should be welcomed: Cardinal Newman points out the advantages that the guidance of the magisterium gives for the university. And so we turn to the Church to give some guidance to Christian fathers. For it to be a Catholic Church that has entranced the deposit of faith...” for answering important questions that...” arise in the human heart. “Without the helping hand of the Church, Newman contends, the human mind gravitates toward infidelity...” The Catholic...}
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Thanks, Band**

What things can you count on every game day? Crying teachers, things for sure: candlelight dinners, that random dude completely flipping out over yet another bad play. Officer Tim McCarthy, TV timeouts, but above all, the Notre Dame Marching Band. As seniors looking at the tail end of a season that we’re not so proud of, we’d like to say thank you for the amazing antics of the band and to Band Director David Band. Air traffic carriers, Cheyss, treadmill, next? If we’ve learned anything this semester, we’ve learned that we won’t be shown down by the heavenly Facebook live. The showmanship of the band is contagious, and when we’re down on the field, we’ll still be showing and chanting and dancing! So here’s to you, Kenneth Dye, keeping the Notre Dame spirit alive.

Suzanne Ouyang
Laura Cashman
Shorna Plamoottil
senior
Pangborn Hall Nov. 12

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**Forging a new path of Christian-Muslim rapprochement**

Recently, 138 Muslim scholars and clerics from various backgrounds and countries, including the U.S., drafted a letter addressed to all the major Christian religious leaders of the world emphasizing beliefs common to both religions. These central beliefs are the love of God and of one’s neighbor — beliefs that immediately resonate with Christians. The Christian leaders addressed included Pope Benedict XVI, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch and evangelical Christian leaders.

Although the letter did not receive over-the-top attention in the world press, it touched a chord among many Christian interlocutors. Since the letter’s circulation, a number of representatives of various Christian denominations, including a spokesperson for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Archbishop of Canterbury himself, have responded graciously, recognizing the Muslim desire to seek common ground between the two faiths on the basis of shared beliefs and values. This reciprocity signals a potential sea-change in Christian-Muslim relations.

There’s been time more propensity for seeking a Christian-Muslim rapprochement and building a solid alliance is confronting religious extremism and the violence it often engenders so that plague our world today. The alternative is grim. Religious rivalries in the past have led to bitter wars and other forms of conflict. Much of Muslim and Christian world has much more nothing together than forcing it apart. Much of Muslim and Christian history in fact cannot be fully understood in all its dimensions in isolation from the other. While a part of this intertwined history has brought painful memories, part of it continues to inspire hope in the present and into the future. Moving past the jihads and crusades, we would do well to remember, for instance, that the sharing of learning between Muslim realms and Christendom kept the intellectual legacy of classical antiquity alive in the pre-modern period and contributed to the European Renaissance. Islamic civilization finds its roots in the Judeo-Christian religious tradition and Greco-Roman intellectual legacy as much as Western civilization does.

We are at a historic crossroads. The prophets of doom and damnation are plentiful on both sides, overshadowing the less sensational efforts being made by a growing number of Christians and Muslims of good will to build bridges based on shared ethical and moral values. Among such shared values is protection of human life and of the environment as much as Western civilization does.

**Student section deserves appreciation**

Where’s the thanks? This past Saturday, my eyes could not believe what they were seeing. And so, I’m not talking about our team officially losing to Air Force 41-24. That came as no surprise. Ten games, and what seems like still making something positive to come from our football team. Look’s like Charlie and the gang didn’t come through on their promise given at the Pep Rally about giving the students something legitimate to cheer for this season. But that’s not what caught me off guard. For years, it’s been a Notre Dame tradition for the football team to salute student-athletes after every home game. You can find a picture anywhere of golden helmets raised in thanks to the student body — win or lose. And this year especially, Coach Weis has really emphasized the relationship between the team and the students. If the relationship is so good, and the team appreciates the fans so much, why didn’t they show their appreciation after the game Saturday? What the students got instead was a bunch of dejected foot­ball players, hanging their heads and looking at the ground, stumbling into the tunnel and the locker room after ND’s alma mater was played.

Sure, it’s been a hard season. But it’s been hard for everyone. The students and team together feel the pain of losing, and in past years have together felt the joy of winning together. The football team must think that they don’t need to thank anyone anymore. Well, the student body stood for four hours on Saturday in really cold weather to cheer on a football team who has constantly taken you all year long easy and laughing.

We have a marching band who, it seems like, practices more than the team does. Sure, Coach Weis can thank the huddle at the Pep Rally, but on game day all that goes out the window. The students are not formally recognized. I’d just like to challenge the football team to continue on the nice tradition of saluting the student body by raising their helmets to them after every game — win or lose.

Matt LaFluer
sophomore
O’Neal Hall Nov. 12

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**Global poverty, a call for awareness**

Fact: More than one billion people live on less than one dollar each day. Extreme poverty affects over a billion people on our planet. This effect of this hardship reaches further than most realize. As Notre Dame students, we are given a tradition for the football team to salute student-athletes after every home game. You can find a picture anywhere of golden helmets raised in thanks to the student body — win or lose. And this year especially, Coach Weis has really emphasized the relationship between the team and the students. If the relationship is so good, and the team appreciates the fans so much, why didn’t they show their appreciation after the game Saturday? What the students got instead was a bunch of dejected football players, hanging their heads and looking at the ground, stumbling into the tunnel and the locker room after ND’s alma mater was played.

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Matt LaFluer
sophomore
O’Neal Hall Nov. 12

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**An old-fashioned pep rally**

I would really like to see an old-fashioned pep rally this Friday. As an alumnus, I have been attending pep rallies for several years in the Joyce Center. They seem so scripted. How about, for Duke, a good old-fashioned pep rally. The band marches the entire campus, students file long, pep rally at Stepan, only students allowed in. (If the alumni and parents need to see it, tele­phone it to the JACC or onto the side of Grace Hall.) There is something about the beat in Stepan, the crush of the crowd, the band storming in from the side, the drums so loud you can’t hear anything, including your own cheering, the team up close and personal on the stage. Make this a true rally, the student body and the team by having an old-fashioned, motivating pep rally.

D.O. Childers, Jr.
alumnus
Class of 1979
Nov. 12
The winter season is fast approaching, and that means two things.

First, Notre Dame students are gearing up for the weather and the long hours spent hanging in the dorm to avoid freezing to death. Second, now begins the frantic search for Christmas gifts. And what better way to deal with both issues than by buying an entertaining board game for those long winter nights?

Many people scoff at the idea of board games. Why bother when we have such honorable amenities as Guitar Hero III? The day must come, though, that you do master the expert level of every song, and the glory is over. There's still TV, though, right? Well, as long as a studio producer refuse to sit down with the Writers Guild of America, all you're getting to see on your Comcast-provided cable for the next few months is “America's Next Top Model.” There is a remedy, though, and way to consistently counteract boredom. That would be the great American pastime of gathering your roommates — and whomever is wandering around your section — and playing a board game.

Here's a look at some of the best board games on the market this Christmas:

**Scene It? Movie Edition (2nd Edition):** This is an updated release of the classic from a few years ago. Pop the disc into your DVD player and set up the board on your coffee table. Teams compete to answer questions about movies, but the best part is, for a lot of the questions it doesn't matter if you've even seen the movie or not. Whether you are a film buff or a casual moviegoer, this game is intense fun and overly addicting. Other editions include Disney, Harry Potter, 007, Marvel Comics, Sports, Music and TV.

**Scattergories:** Each team gets a pad with a list of everything from “musical group” to “vegetable.” Roll the die and get a letter. Turn the timer, and each team has to come up with something for each category that begins with that letter. But be careful — you only get the point if no other team came up with the same answer.

**Cranium:** If you haven’t played it already (or read the back of the box while waiting for your Starbucks back home), you are missing out. This game appeals to all sides of the brain. Teams move around the board, which is divided into quarters. On one section you act out or hum answers for your teammates. In the others, you draw or mold clay, recall trivia, or solve word puzzles. No matter what your talent is or what you lack, there’s bound to be something here for you.

**Electronic Catch Phrase:** Everyone sits in a circle, and you are teammates with every other (alternating) person. Pass the disk around and try to get people to guess the world it gives you. Pass it fast, because whoever gets stuck holding it when the buzzer goes off is eliminated. The team with the last man standing wins.

**Trivial Pursuit:** This classic game has been reincarnated so many times that there’s bound to be an edition for you. Teams move around the board answering questions in a variety of categories. Tailor-made editions include Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, Chicago, New York, Totally 80s, Pop Culture, Nickelodeon and Book Lovers.

Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@nd.edu

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**SCENE AND HEARD: GAMING FEVER**

Maybe you were a Candy Land junkie, always playing for that elusive Queen Frostine card that would carry you to the top. Maybe you got your kicks by playing Chutes and Ladders — even if you didn’t realize that a “chute” and a “slide” were the same thing until years later. Or maybe you even played Hungry Hippos until every hungry hippopotamus had had his or her fill of those white, marble-like things.

Regardless of the particulars, each of us goes into nostalgia mode when some- one sparks a conversation about child- hood board games. Some of them may have been based on a particular television show or movie, while others have concepts so zany — I’m looking at you, Cracker Jacks By My Feel — that they have to be seen in game board form to be believed. Either way, mention even one game you played in your youth, and undoubtedly your friends will chime in with their top three, five or even 10 games they played back in the day.

There’s something about the board games of the eighties and nineties that helped make our collective childhood as great as it was. Mousetrap’s Rube Goldberg-style contraption actually trap my opponent’s plastic mouse. Another favorite in our house was Pent the Pig, a game whose object was, shockingly enough, just that. You and your fellow five-year-olds used little white fences to try and trap your pigs — which came in designer colors like hot pink and lime green — faster than your opponents. Sometimes playing “farmhouse” with the colorful critters took precedence over finishing the pig- penning process, but I digress.

Someone’s favorite childhood board game was a lot about who he or she is as a person. If you loved to play Sorry as a kid, maybe your vindictive streak runs a little too strong for your mild-
Thanks to cast, Samantha is worth figuring out

By CAITLIN FERRARO
Scene Writer

The highest rated new comedy of the season, "Samantha Who?" centers on a woman who suffers from retrograde amnesia. The show is definitely worth remembering.

The premise is simple, yet unoriginal: A girl named Samantha (Christina Applegate) wakes up after an eight-day coma with amnesia, only to discover she was a horrible person.

The comedy had its own identity issues from its beginning, when due to copyright concerns (from Dr. Seuss' estate) it had to change its name from "Samantha I Am" to "Samantha Be Good." before finally settling on "Samantha Who?"

The Emmy-winning Applegate masterfully portrays the titular character, Samantha Newly. Applegate has not been this good since her 10-year embodiment of trashy Kelly Bundy on "Married ... with Children." This show is her comeback as she shines as a funny, charming and chic leading lady.

The cast of actors surrounding Applegate are superb as well. After waking up, Samantha discovers she has unstable memory lapses, which is cheating on Todd and ditched Dena in high school to be popular. All this while her mother Andrea (Jennifer Esposito), could be an avid hockey fan to impress the other episodes thus far include Sam pretending she was away in rehab instead of in a coma, crashing a wedding in which she had encouraged the bride to have an affair and stressing over forgetting her past sexual experiences. Future episodes promise similar insanity as Sam tries to regain her memory by visiting a hypnotist and, and she pretends to be an avid hockey fan to impress a date.

While the show may be still few and far between. From time to time, Samantha has flashes of her former horrible self and she endeavors to make changes in her life. Sometimes these glimpses of Sam's past are not particularly comical or necessary. While directors depict evil Sam incurring wrath upon those around her and Applegate with a different hairstyle, they do not always directly contribute to the show.

Following in the thematic pursuit of "My Name Is Earl," Samantha aims to turn over a new leaf and be a better person. But "Samantha Who?" has yet to perfect the format. The episodes sometimes seem a bit frantic and can jump around at times.

Samantha Newly was and is a recovering alcoholic herself. The Emmy-winning Applegate masterfully portrays the titular character, Samantha Newly. Applegate has not been this good since her 10-year embodiment of trashy Kelly Bundy on "Married ... with Children." This show is her comeback as she shines as a funny, charming and chic leading lady.

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Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferraro@nd.edu

Christina Applegate stars in "Samantha Who?". The Other episodes thus far include Sam pretending she was away in rehab instead of in a coma, crashing a wedding in which she had encouraged the bride to have an affair and stressing over forgetting her past sexual experiences. Future episodes promise similar insanity as Sam tries to regain her memory by visiting a hypnotist and, and she pretends to be an avid hockey fan to impress a date.

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Some of Sam's deep philosophical conversations with Todd's apartment door- dBman Frank (Tim Russ) border on ridiculou-

The views expressed in this article are those of the author and not necessarily of The Observer. Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

Samantha Who?
Network: ABC
Starring: Christina Applegate, Jean Smart, Jennifer Esposito & Barry Watson
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS - Paul Pierce shook off a hard foul, then helped the Boston Celtics surge past the Indiana Pacers Tuesday night.

Jamal Tinsley banked a scoop shot on a drive to the basket late in the second quarter, and Pierce responded by scoring 13 of his 31 points in a three-minute span that broke things open in a victory Tuesday night.

It was another unblemished (6-0) and matched its best start since the 1997-98 season. The Celtics are still chasing their best start, 14 straight wins to begin the 1957-58 season.

"You've got to be playing very well to be 6-0," Indiana's Jermaine O'Neal said. "They have a very good team. Their supporting guys are doing very, very well. You're got to tip your hat off to those guys."

The game was tied as 38 when Tinsley fouled Pierce. Pierce quickly turned toward Tinsley, but kept his cool. Suddenly awakened, Pierce even did push-ups between free throws to taunt Tinsley and the crowd.

"I was just trying to blow off some steam, get my head back," he said. "That's all."

Boston coach Doc Rivers took advantage of the situation.

"Clearly, they lit a fire under Paul," Rivers said. "He thought the play was not a clean play."

Pierce scores 31 as Celtics beat Pacers 101-86

Lewis lifts Magic to 103-76 victory over Seattle; Bobcats offensive duo of Wallace and Richardson dominates Heat 91-76

INDIANAPOLIS - Paul Pierce shook off a hard foul, then helped the Boston Celtics surge past the Indiana Pacers Tuesday night.

Jamal Tinsley banked a scoop shot on a drive to the basket late in the second quarter, and Pierce responded by scoring 13 of his 31 points in a three-minute span that broke things open in a victory Tuesday night.

It was another unblemished (6-0) and matched its best start since the 1997-98 season. The Celtics are still chasing their best start, 14 straight wins to begin the 1957-58 season.

"You've got to be playing very well to be 6-0," Indiana's Jermaine O'Neal said. "They have a very good team. Their supporting guys are doing very, very well. You're got to tip your hat off to those guys."

The game was tied as 38 when Tinsley fouled Pierce. Pierce quickly turned toward Tinsley, but kept his cool. Suddenly awakened, Pierce even did push-ups between free throws to taunt Tinsley and the crowd.

"I was just trying to blow off some steam, get my head back," he said. "That's all."

Boston coach Doc Rivers took advantage of the situation.

"Clearly, they lit a fire under Paul," Rivers said. "He thought the play was not a clean play."

Celtics forward Paul Pierce looks to pass while Pacers forward Danny Granger defends during Boston's 103-86 win Tuesday.

Celtics forward Paul Pierce looks to pass while Pacers forward Danny Granger defends during Boston's 103-86 win Tuesday.

Celtics forward Paul Pierce looks to pass while Pacers forward Danny Granger defends during Boston's 103-86 win Tuesday.
NBA

United States

Atlantic Division

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Toronto 4-3 .571 W2 2
New Boston
Indiana
Chicago 1-5 .167 L1 4
Orlando
Washington
Atlanta 2-4 .333 Miami 1-5 .167 W1 3.5

Minneapolis
Utah
LA Golden
Sacramento
Seattle 0·7 .DOD

Phoenix 5-2 .714 W2
LA Clippers 4-2 .667 L1 .5
LA Lakers 3-2 .600 W1 2
Portland 3-2 .500 W1 2
Minnesota 0-5 .000 L5 4.5
Seattle 0-7 .286 L7 5.5

Northwest Division

Las Vegas 0·6 .200 L2 4

NCAA Hockey Today/USA Hockey Magazine Poll

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Also Receiving Votes: Harvard 25, RPI 21, Maine 15, Bowling Green 7, Michigan Tech 6, Niagara 5, Air Force 2, St. Lawrence 1

MLB

Cleveland's C.C. Sabathia pitches against Boston in Game 1 of the 2007 ALCS. Sabathia received the American League Cy Young Award Tuesday, defeating Red Sox starter Josh Beckett.

Sabathia edges Beckett for AL Cy Young

Associated Press

NEW YORK—C.C. Sabathia beat Josh Beckett at last—albeit a few weeks later than he hoped.

Sabathia won the AL Cy Young Award on Tuesday, topping Boston's ace and two other worthy contenders by a comfortable margin to become the first Cleveland Indians pitcher in 35 years to earn the honor.

Sabathia received 19 of 28 first-place votes and finished with 191 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Beckett, who outpitched Sabathia twice in the playoffs, was second with eight first-place votes and 86 points.

"I did look at a few numbers," Sabathia said on a conference call from his California home. "I definitely thought that Beckett—it could have went either way. I'm just happy and thankful that it went my way."

It might have gone the other way if October results counted. Voting took place before the post-season, when Sabathia struggled as Beckett put together a string of dominant outings to help Boston win the World Series.

The Red Sox right-hander troubled Sabathia twice in the AL championship series and went 4-0 with a 1.20 ERA in four post-season starts, striking out 35 and walking two. Sabathia was 1-2 with an 8.80 ERA and 13 walks in three playoff outings.

"The first two I can definitely say I was trying to do too much," Sabathia said. "Just trying to make perfect pitches."

John Lackey of the Los Angeles Angels got the other first-place vote and came in third. Cleveland's Fausto Carmona was fourth.

Sabathia went 19-7 with a 3.21 ERA and 209 strikeouts, pitching a major league-high 241 innings. Beckett (20-7) became the only big leaguer to win 20 games since 2005, compiling a 3.27 ERA in 200 5-3 innings. Lackey led the AL in ERA at 3.01, going 19-9 and tossing 224 innings. Carmona was 19-8 with a 3.06 ERA.

"I was excited. My family and everybody were around," Sabathia said. "I was surprised. Beckett had a good year and an even better post-season."

The only other Cleveland pitcher to win the award was Hall of Famer Gaylord Perry in 1972. Now that he's got one of his own, Sabathia plans to display the trophy prominently.

"I'm sitting in my office right now, I'm looking for a spot. I'll probably put it right here," he said.

IN BRIEF

Swede hired as U.S. women's soccer coach

LUBBOCK, Texas—Texas Tech coach Mike Leach was fined a record $10,000 by the Big 12 Conference on Tuesday for his harsh criticism of game officials during the World Series.

The fine doubled the previous high since 1989.

The changes means there will be a two-week break in the middle of the playoffs, between the BMW Championship in St. Louis and the Tour Championship in Atlanta. And it gives the PGA Tour its first week without golf during the season since 1989.
Tennis

No. 2 Nadal falls to Ferrer at Masters Cup

Djokovic loses to France's Gasquet in season-ending tournament

Associated Press

Shanghai China Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic learned friendship doesn't count for much at the Masters Cup.

Both lost to buddies Tuesday in the round-robin phase of the season-ending tournament featuring the top eight players. Nadal lost to David Ferrer 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 in a match between Spaniards. A weary Djokovic lost to Richard Gasquet of France 6-4, 6-2 and was eliminated from contention for the semifinals with one match left in the Gold Group.

In the Red Group, top-ranked Roger Federer and No. 4 Nikolay Davydenko lost their first matches Monday and will play each other Wednesday, followed by Andy Roddick against Fernando Gonzalez.

Nadal, ranked No. 2, said there really are no upsets in the tournament, given the elite field.

"We play against the best always, every match, so anything can happen," Nadal said after his nearly three-hour struggle against Ferrer that divided the loyalties of Spanish fans, who draped national flags around the indoor arena.

"We have a very good relationship," Nadal said. "But when you are on court, you try your best." Nadal held a 4-2 advantage in head-to-head meetings. Ferrer said his only advantage against the man he called the best player in Spanish history comes when they face off in video games.

"Just in the PlayStation I'm better than him," Ferrer said, laughing.

With Nadal a left-hander, the two men played like mirror images with their preference for the baseline, sharply angled winners and refusal to yield on shots.

Showing little respect for each other's serves, they combined for five breaks in the first set and 11 for the match. Ferrer didn't hold serve until his fourth attempt. Nadal finished off the set on Ferrer's 14th unforced error off his usually reliable forehand.

Ferrer pulled himself together and served for the second set at 5-3, only to be left muttering to himself after Nadal broke at 5-3, only to be left muttering to himself after Nadal broke at love, the last three points coming on clean winners. But he shrugged it off to break right back the next game to even the match.

"Today I had nothing to lose," Richard Gasquet Tennis player

From 1-1 in the third set, Ferrer ran off four straight games. With both men breathing hard, Ferrer served for the match, only to see Nadal break and fend off a match point in his next service game to pull within 5-3.

Ferrer then held at love, finishing the match when Nadal tried a drop shot that hung up a little too long, giving Ferrer enough time to smack a backhand crosscourt winner before dropping onto his back in relief.

"I was very nervous because I was a little bit cramping from the tension, from the nerves," Ferrer said of Nadal's last service break. "And Rafa is unbelievable. He's a fighter all the match. I play perfect in the third set. I don't play perfect, I cannot beat Rafa.

Ferrer ran his record to 2-0 in the Gold Group, while Nadal fell to 0-2.

"Today I had nothing to lose," Gasquet said. "I just had to enjoy the moment to play in the Masters Cup and just to play my game. I did a perfect match. I played a lot of amazing shots with my backhand." Djokovic, ranked No. 3, looked off in every phase of his game, overthrowing his usually reliable forehand and having trouble with his strong serve to fall to 0-2. He's started off listlessly and was increasingly disconsolate as the match wore on. He was mathematically eliminated from reaching the semifinals.

Djokovic said he had nothing left after playing more than 100 matches this year.

"Unfortunately again, I couldn't be even close to my level," he said. "I was frustrated because of that. I didn't feel so well physically and mentally I just couldn't ... be so confident on the court. I didn't find any solutions."

"He was playing well," Djokovic added. "He's a very talented player and he's playing smart." Djokovic, who tossed his racket in frustration twice, won only six of his 19 service points in the second set and hit a backhand wide for his 27th unforced error on match point.
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Gymnastics

U.S. women's team tops competition

Karolyi praises achievements at championships

Associated Press

The U.S. women got a gold star from Bela Karolyi to go along with their gold medals from the world gymnastics championships. The Americans, fresh from a dominant performance at worlds that included golds in both the team competition and all-around, are the strongest group the United States has ever had, Karolyi said Tuesday. Considering he was front-and-center for the Magnificent Seven's gold-medal performance in 1996 and Mary Lou Retton's triumphs in 1984, that's high praise. "We've never had before a team win in such a powerful manner," Karolyi said from Boston, where he was promoting next summer's women's national championships. "The Magnificent Seven, that was a strong team. But it was in our country, it was in Atlantic, in front of a tremendous crowd. "This team is winning around the world since 2001. Wherever they go, they are coming back with some amazing results, some amazing achievements," he said. "Every year, they get better and better and better and better." That should bode well for next summer's Beijing Olympics. As the reigning world champs, the Americans will be favorites to stockpile even more gold. While Romania and Russia will present a challenge, the biggest competition must likely will be China. After winning their first team title at the 2006 worlds, the Chinese shuffled their lineup for this year's worlds in Stuttgart, Germany. They left behind Pang Panpan, a member of the 2006 squad, and Olympic bronze medalist Zhang Nan, and brought some youngsters for international experience and exposure. The kids did all right, helping China win the team silver. But performing in front of a raucous home crowd will be a completely different experience, Karolyi said. "The crowd sometimes plays a tremendous role to give you wings and carry you to victory. At the same time, great teams under the pressure have broken down," he said. "It's something that I can't predict that one." Of course, the Americans went to the Athens Olympics as favorites, too, after winning the 2003 world title in Anaheim, Calif. They came home with silver, their finish behind the Romanians something of a disappointment. What sets this team apart is the blend of old and new, a cred-

http://nationalcatholicreporter.org/word/pfw063006.htm

The Observer • SPORTS

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

SAINT JOHN BOSCO
PATRON SAINT OF THE YOUNG

With good reason the Church made Saint John Bosco Patron of the young. He cared for the homeless youngsters who roamed the city street, and founded a Society, the Salesians, to continue his work. The Salesians are now the second largest Religious Order in the Catholic Church and help the young and the poor in 134 countries. To quote John Allen, the National Catholic Reporter’s Vatican Correspondent, “the great Orders have usually been born in response to some crisis—the Franciscans, for example, to urbanize and the need to evangelize the cities, the Jesuits to the Reformation, and the need for a Catholic counter-offensive. For the Salesians it was the Industrial Revolution, especially the zones of despair, turmoil and revolution on the outskirts of the great industrial cities.”

To read John Allen’s full article about the Salesians, visit:
http://nationalcatholicreporter.org/word/pfw063006.htm

If you are thinking about dedicating your life to the service of the young and poor, consider joining the Salesians of St. John Bosco.

For more information visit us at: www.salesianvocation.com

or write to: SALESIANS OF ST. JOHN BOSCO,
315 Self Place, South Orange, NJ 07079
Email: salvoe@aol.com, Phone: (973) 761-2011

“I believe that the Salesians played an important role in the formation of my vocation.” – Pope John Paul II

Recycle the Observer.
Catholicism and Islam: Points of Convergence and Divergence, Encounter and Cooperation

The Terrence R. Keeley Visiting Vatican Lecturer for 2007-08
Archbishop Celestino Migliore
Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations

Thursday, November 15, 2007
8:00 pm • Room C100
Hesburgh Center
Nanovic Institute for European Studies
University of Notre Dame
NFL

Ravens season echoes 2006 loss against Colts

Baltimore defense still strong, but home loss to Cincinnati highlights problems; Boller to replace quarterback McNair

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — In the wake of Sunday's wretched 21-7 home loss to Cincinnati, Baltimore Ravens wide receiver Mark Clayton recalled another strikingly similar defeat.

"That reminded me of the Colts game," Clayton said, referring to last season's 15-6 postseason debacle against Indianapolis. Peyton Manning failed to produce a touchdown against Baltimore's top-ranked defense, but Ravens quarterback Steve McNair threw two interceptions and managed only to set up Matt Stover for a couple of field goals.

So, in assessing the Ravens' prospects for 2007, Billick touted a 13-3 team with 29 of 22 starters back to finish what they started.

"I don't know that there's that one singular issue that we don't feel good about across the board," Billick said in July. "It's hard not to be optimistic.

Turns out this edition of the Ravens (4-3) is far more comparable to the team that lost to Indianapolis than the one that averaged 22 points during the regular season.

That, and a left shoulder injury, led to McNair being replaced by Kyle Boller at quarterback for the next two games, at least.

Defense, as usual, has been outstanding. Except for last season's 15-6 postseason debacle against Indianapolis, the Ravens almost certainly won't be able to protect yourself.

The Ravens were struggling to score last season when McNair was replaced by Kyle Boller at quarterback for the second game of the season.

With the offense struggling, Billick fired offensive coordinator Jim Fassel and took over the play-calling. In Boller's first game in the dual role, Baltimore amassed 16 first downs before halftime in a 35-22 rout of New Orleans.

That victory started Baltimore on a 9-1 run that ended with the loss to Indianapolis, opening the season, Billick promoted Rick Neuheisel, the offensive coordinator but insisted on keeping the play-calling duties.

The long passes, reverses, draws, play and screen passes that worked so well last year apparently are no longer part of the game plan. Running back Willis McGahee has been better than adequate as the successor to Jamal Lewis, but Billick keeps calling for short passes when a handoff would be far more efficient.

That tendency has openly questioned by Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis after Billick ordered them to call as many as six consecutive passes when Baltimore needed a field goal in the waning moments of a 19-14 loss to Buffalo.

"There's no way you can play with a subluxed shoulder and be able to protect yourself," Billick said.

Some suggest it's time for Billick to go, even though he won a Super Bowl in 2001 and is signed through 2010. Those are the big topics of discussion around Baltimore these days, not potential playoff matchups.

Boller got the job in 1999 because of his ability to run an offense. Except for last season's 10-6 game, the Ravens have won solely on the ability of the defense during his tenure.

Billick soon may have to adhere to a do-it-or-else suggestion from owner Steve Bisciotti to have someone else to call the plays. Boller, in turn, might want to ask for a new quarterback.

"There's no way you can play with a subluxed shoulder and be able to protect yourself," Billick said.

The Ravens got McNair because Boller just wasn't good enough. McNair, a former NFL co-MVP, was supposed to make Baltimore's offense as good as the defense.

Now, ironically, the fans are clamoring for Billick to stay on even third-stringer Troy Smith.

Clearly, Baltimore needs to address its offense before the defense gets too old. Lewis, Pryce, McAlister, Rolle and defensive tackle Kelly Gregg are all in their 30s. Maybe the Ravens can get away with a high draft pick, although that's not exactly the preference of defensive end Terrell Suggs.

"It doesn't feel like rock-bottom," Suggs said Sunday. "It depends on what we do from here on out. We finish up with a top 10 pick, then that's rock-bottom. Cut and dried.
Jones set to accept plea deal

Associated Press
LAS VEGAS — Suspended NFL player Adam “Pacman” Jones is expected to take a plea deal that will get him probation in return for testifying about a Las Vegas strip club triple shooting, his lawyer said Tuesday.

The Tennessee Titans corner­back intends to plead no contest to one charge of con­spiracy to commit disorderly conduct, a gross mise­emeanor, in return for a promise to suspend a sen­tence of one year in county jail, according to a written plea agreement obtained by The Associated Press.

“We have a deal,” Clark County prosecutor Victoria Villegas said. “I can’t talk about the negotiations until it’s actually filled with the court.”

Jones’ attorney, Robert Langford, was scheduled to appear in court Tuesday to inform Las Vegas Justice of the Peace Tony Abbatangelo of the plea, but the hearing abnormally was rescheduled for Thursday.

Villegas said the delayed hearing was the result of a scheduling mishap.

“He has agreed to testify in whatever hearings come up required in the case,” Langford said.

Langford said Jones, who was not expected to attend Friday’s hearing, would not be sentenced until after testifying, he said.

McCook, Jones’ Atlanta-based attorney, said there was no way for him to testify as the corner­backer of involvement in the shooting and called the deal the best situation for Jones.

“While I think we would’ve been successful at trial, it could’ve been six months to a year away, and he may have lost another year of elig­ibility by going forward in the real world, sometimes you have to make these diffi­cult decisions for what’s best for your career, and we didn’t want this dragging on any further,” Arora said.

In addition to one year of probation, Jones must attend an anger manage­ment program, complete 200 hours of community service within a year and submit to a random drug testing, according to the plea deal.

Langford said Jones already is subject to drug testing under NFL rules.

On Thursday, Abbatangelo is expected to waive Jones’ preliminary hearing on two felony coercion charges stemming from allegations he incited a melee inside a strip club. The evidentiary hear­ing is set for Aug. 29, while plea negotiations continued.

Langford would not say if Jones knew the identity of a gunman who authorities say opened fire and wounded three people Feb. 19 outside the Минax Gentlemen’s Club minutes after Jones and members of his entourage were involved in a melee inside.

“I can’t comment because that’s an ongoing police investigation,” Langford told the AP.

Langford said, however, that Jones did not know the identity of a man whose photo was released in June by police. Investigators said they wanted to question that man in the shooting. The photo was obtained from surveillance cameras, and police said they thought the man lived on the East Coast.

Police have not charged anyone with the shooting, which left three people wounded, including a bar employee, Tommy Urbanski, who was paralyzed from the waist down.

News of Jones’ plea deal surprised Urbanski’s wife, Kathy, as she prepared to go to work Tuesday.

“I want to see what happens to the do­es, who he implicates. If he’s not going to implicate anyone, I’m going to be absolutely furious. I really am sick of it,” she said. “I just hope the vic­tims have rights in this situa­tion. Obviously, the crim­i­nals do.”

Kathy Urbanski said she didn’t think the original charges against Jones were strong enough, especially not while she and her hus­band still live in a hotel while their home is renovat­ed to make it wheelchair accessible.

Urbanski, co-worker Aaron Cudworth and club patron Natalie Jones have filed civil lawsuits seeking damages from Jones.

Urbanski’s lawsuit also seeks damages from the NFL, the Titans and the owners of Harlem Knights, a Houston strip club that host­ed events at the club during the NBA’s All-Star weekend, Feb. 17-19.

“I’m pleased to see he’s accepting responsibility for his conduct on the date in question,” said Richard Schonfeld, lawyer for Urbanski.

Langford said Jones set to accept plea deal Fortner friend testifies

Former friend testifies against O.J. Simpson

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — O.J. Simpson’s one-time golfing pal glared at him across a courtroom Tuesday and said the former football star wanted him to bring “heat” to a confrontation with two sports memorabilia dealers in a hotel room.

Minutes later, Simpson’s lawyer accused the friend, Walter Alexander, of being a liar, and the two wound up in a heated exchange in the third day of a preliminary hearing in the armed robbery case.

Justice of the Peace Joe M. Bonaventure will decide after the hearing whether there is enough evidence for Simpson and two other men to stand trial.

Alexander’s testimony was the strongest for prosecution so far. He and M ich a e a l McClinton, who also testified against Simpson Tuesday, strack deals with prosec­utors and pleaded guilty to lesser charges, as did Charles Cashmore, who testified last week.

“After he asked me if I could watch his back it was kind of like, ‘Hey, do you think you can get some heat.’”

Walter Alexander

“I can’t say what O.J. Simpson’s intentions were, but I think he wanted me to watch his back,” Alexander said.

Alexander said he accepted a .22-caliber pistol from McClintoc that he took into his waistband while McClinton strapped on a shoulder holster containing a 45.

McClintoc volunteered to supply guns and Simpson said they probably would be needed only to show dealers Bruce Forrington and Alfred Beardsley “we mean business,” Alexander said.

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Simpson has said he intended only to retrieve items that were stolen from him by a for­mer agent, including the suit he wore the day he was acquit­ted of murder in 1995 in the slayings of his wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman.

Alexander depictions Simpson as the mastermind of the plan to recover his possessions by setting up a sting operation in which the two deal­ers would think they were meet­ing with a potential buyer.

The three were in town for a mu t u a l friend’s wed­ding Sept. 13.

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Alexander depictions Simpson as the mastermind of the plan to recover his possessions by setting up a sting operation in which the two deal­ers would think they were meet­ing with a potential buyer.

The three were in town for a mu t u a l friend’s wed­ding Sept. 13.

McClintoc volunteered to supply guns and Simpson said they probably would be needed only to show dealers Bruce Forrington and Alfred Beardsley “we mean business,” Alexander said.

Alexander said he accepted a .22-caliber pistol from McClinton that he took into his waistband while McClinton strapped on a shoulder holster containing a 45.
Seniors

continued from page 24

said. "I'm not doing that. He came back for a fifth year to play. He didn't come back here to cheerlead. I think you owe him the right to play."" 

Sullivan to miss Saturday's game

Fifth-year senior center John Sullivan will miss Saturday's game because of the undisclosed injury that forced him out of the Air Force game.

Sullivan has been ailing freshman quarterback Jimmy Clausen with pre-season reads, including identifying the middle linebacker. Weis said that duty will fall on back-up center Dan Wenger this week but that Clausen is almost able to do it on his own.

"We'll start with Danny, see how it goes, and if it isn't going too well, we'll put the burden on the quarterback," Weis said. "We'd like to, as it goes into this offseason, put all the burden on the quarterback."

Weis said Sullivan will help Wenger and Clausen with the reads in practice.

"We'll give him a constructive role this week where he won't just feel like he's pushed off to the side," Weis said. "He'll almost be like an extra assistant coach on offense, which will help us, too, this week."

Wenger has played both guard and center this season, but Weis said the sophomore is more suited to the natural role of center. "He's more comfortable in there. That's how he played his whole high school career, and although we'll greatly miss Sully and all he's done on and off the field for us, having a guy that is a natural center is there. I think this gets him into his natural position rather than being knocked over at the guard."

Weis said he is hopeful Sullivan will be able to return for the season finale against Stanford, but the coach doesn't want to rush him back and hurt his chances of returning next season.

"You're always concerned about something happening which would cost you a little time," Weis said.

Vaas returns to Notre Dame Stadium

Peter Vaas, who was Notre Dame's quarterbacks coach during Weis' first two seasons in South Bend, will return this weekend as Duke's offensive coordinator.

Weis said the fact that Vaas knows the Irish offense is "a pain in the butt," but that Vaas" isn't able to steal any Notre Dame signals.

"The only signaling we really do offensively is signaling numbers," Weis said. "So unless you have the number sheet and know what we're doing, that would be the only way that it could really hurt you."

Other Injuries

Weis announced in the November issue that Pat Kuntz and sophomore safety Sergio Brown will not play against the Force game. "The on-field injury is a much more serious injury than it was," he said. "He's more comfortable in there. That's where he played his whole season."

Friends

continued from page 24

Tarutis said. "It has such a rich tradition."

Tarutis also cited the school's welcoming nature. "I'm really short for the (3rd) position, so Notre Dame made me feel really comfortable, and it was a great offer for a school like this," Tarutis said.

Stasiuk and Tarutis were immediately put onto the same court as freshmen. "Coming into freshman year, everything was a whole new experience," Tarutis said. "Everything just seemed like a whirlwind. Also, setting-wise, obviously, the high school game is way different than the college game — just the level and speed of the sets."

Stasiuk and Tarutis quickly developed a chemistry that has improved over the past four years. This connection on the court led to a camaraderie that not only extends beyond the game.

"Stasiuk and I have a really special relationship and great love for each other," Tarutis said. "She and I know what each other is going to do. We don't have to worry. We can emotionally feed off of each other. If one of us is having a bad game, the other one gets on the court and there are no hard feelings. "We can have little tiffs on the court and then be best friends again in two seconds. She is my best friend here for four years."

As seniors, both players are floor generals for the Irish. "Tarutis became the senior leader while Stasiuk has been honored as the team captain," Tarutis said.

In four years, Tarutis and Stasiuk have helped produce a record of 90-39. But the fate of this season may have helped produce records or disruptions in family life [as a therapist]."

Stasiuk currently has career totals of 428 games played, 228 assists, 273 blocks and 1,537 points, which amounts to 3.59 scores per game. She is in the top 10 in the Notre Dame careers record books in many categories.

Stasiuk is second in matches with 10-plus digs and also in double-double matches with 89 and 61, respectively. She is first in digs with 1,451 digs and third with 126 service aces as well as sixth in matches with 10-plus kills at 71. She has 1,060 kills with 1,243.

Earlier this season, Stasiuk became the seventh player in Notre Dame history to enter the 1,000 kill/1,000 dig club.

Tarutis has played in 449 games, which is sixth best for any Notre Dame volleyball player. Along with 224 career kills and 123 total blocks, Tarutis is third all-time in assists with 4,615. She has 1,073 assists in 2005.

"The Irish are at home in Cincinnati on Friday at 11 a.m. If the seniors can lead them to another on the court, they will find themselves in their fourth NCAA Tournament in four years. "I love being the underdog."

But with the end of the season nearing, life after graduation also beckons for Stasiuk and Tarutis. For Stasiuk, that may not mean an end to her volleyball career.

"My majors are accounting and television," Stasiuk said. "My plans for next year are to work at a public accounting firm in Los Angeles and play beach volleyball as much as possible (and consider my options for playing sand volleyball)."

Tarutis is less ambitious about finding a career in her sport. "I think after 11 years, this is my last go-around with [competitive] volleyball — maybe I'll be one of those old ladies in the old people league," Tarutis said. "When I graduate, I will be getting a master's degree in social work. Right now, my hope is to work with families, especially families with special needs kids. Maybe I can help some kids navigate some of the lumps or disruptions in family life [as a therapist]."

Notes:

• Stasiuk currently has career totals of 428 games played, 228 assists, 273 blocks and 1,537 points, which amounts to 3.59 scores per game. She is in the top 10 in the Notre Dame careers record books in many categories.

• Stasiuk is second in matches with 10-plus digs and also in double-double matches with 89 and 61, respectively. She is first in digs with 1,451 digs and third with 126 service aces as well as sixth in matches with 10-plus kills at 71. She has 1,060 kills with 1,243.

• Tarutis became the single-season record leader for assists when she notched 1,057 helpers in 2005. Tarutis is the only current player to have played in 100 percent of all possible Irish matches during her career at Notre Dame. "I want to contribute to the team in whatever way I can," Tarutis said. "I have more experience on the court in every match of every game in every play."

• Two Notre Dame players were honored with the Big East Conference's weekly awards. For her performances in the two Irish wins last weekend, sophomore outside hitter Megan Feil was named the conference player of the week. Freshman middle blocker Kellie Scelza garnered rookie of the week honors. It is the first week this year in which neither player swept the Big East honors.

Contact Pat O'Brien at pbrien2@nd.edu and Ellyn Michalak at emichalak@nd.edu

Irish senior Ashley Tarutis sets the ball during Notre Dame's 3-1 victory over Cincinnati Friday night at the Joyce Center. Tarutis and fellow senior Adrianna Stasiuk lead the Irish into the Big East Tournament.

A bit of reland in your own backyard.
Gaines
continued from page 24

game, McGraw said, one of Notre Dame’s goals was to take charges against Lady Toppers forwards Dominique Duck and Crystal Kelly in order to try to get them in foul trouble. Gaines took two charges in two minutes against Duck to put the junior in early foul trouble.

McGraw said getting Kentucky’s top players in foul trouble was important.

“We had a lot of things we were looking at, and all of them looked pretty good at practice,” she said. “But my favorite was when [Kelly] was on the bench.”

Kelly had one of the worst games of her career Tuesday, shooting 1-of-7 from beyond the arc with seven points and four boards before fouling out. The performance snapped the senior’s 49-game streak of scoring in double figures. Kelly finished the game without a two-point field goal for the first time in her career at Western Kentucky.

“I don’t know if that’s ever happened. Hopefully it will never happen again,” Kelly said.

Irish guard Ashley Barlow helped set the tone for Notre Dame throughout the game. Barlow finished with 18 points on 7-of-8 shooting, including 3-of-4 from three-point range.

“I think she’s been great.... To me, she’s the person that we’ve been looking to all year long,” McGraw said. “They were on a run and things got a little sloppy in the second half. She comes in, she drives the ball and gets a layup and gets to the foul line. She’s the one that’s always going to make that big play.”

Barlow said she sees herself simply as a role player who tries to get involved in the offense.

“I just go out there and play my game,” she said. “Whatever Coach wants me to do, that’s what I’m going to go out there and do.”

Western Kentucky was unable to keep up with the Irish in the first half and fell behind 50-23 going into the break. Notre Dame was able to push the score up by using effective fast-break offense throughout the opening half.

“I thought we could have turned the shot clocks off,” McGraw said. “I thought there was a lot of running going on; it was quite a track meet. I glad we had a lot of depth.”

Even though Notre Dame was able to dominate the first half, Western Kentucky shrank the Irish lead in the second by outsourcing the Irish 26-28.

“I thought we got a big lead and we lost it,” Pearce said. “You get up thirty and you feel like ‘We’re going to win, let’s just get the clock run.’” McGraw said.

“So I was a little disappointed with our execution and our defense in the second half.”

Lady Toppers coach Mary Taylor Cowles said she thought her team stepped up its game in the second half to cut down the lead.

“If we could have put two halves together defensively, then it might have been a different story,” Cowles said.

Notre Dame travels to College Park, Md., on Friday for its first away game of the season against No. 3 Maryland in the NF semifinals.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpat@nd.edu

Blueline
continued from page 24

Notre Dame’s defense, the staple of its success last season, was a huge question mark for the team coming into this fall.

The young group of blueliners is led by its only two seniors, Brock Sheahan and Dan VeNard. VeNard saw limited ice time last season due to injuries that plagued him early in the year. Last season, the team graduated three defensemen, two of whom signed professional contracts shortly after their college careers ended.

The Irish have had to regroup with a corps of younger, albeit talented defensemen.

Freshmen Ted Ruth and Ian Cole were thrown into the mix immediately, and so far, both have answered the call as well as could be imagined. They are joined by sophomores Brett Hlatchfield and Kyle Lawson, who have already stepped into leadership roles and are building a bright future for a back line that has become a trade-mark for Jeff Jackson in South Bend.

A big part of Notre Dame’s success on the defensive end has been the goal-tending of junior Jordan Pearce, who has a combined 64 saves against Davis and the rest of the Led Hawks over the weekend.

The Anchorage, Alaska native has been the most pleasant surprise of the year so far for the Irish. Pearce was expected to battle highly touted freshman Brad Phillips for time early in the season, but quickly took over the role as the No. 1 netminder. Pearce is currently second in the conference in minutes played and has successfully replaced Dave Brown between the pipes.

Five of Notre Dame’s first 11 games have been against teams ranked in the top 15, with four of those against teams in the top five.

The daunting early schedule was hardly an easy start for a team that lost eight key players last season. The Irish have weathered the initial storm and survived in one piece. The team has matchups against defending national champion Michigan State, as well as against Michigan, Colorado College and Massachusetts. So the schedule isn’t getting any weaker.

But from here on out, things should only get better for the Irish as they continue to grow more comfortable playing with one another.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy@nd.edu

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Irish freshman defenseman Ian Cole changes direction during Notre Dame’s 4-3 victory over Denver on Oct. 18.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy@nd.edu

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Deuces Manor

Mike Bery determines the Men's 2007 Big Ten Conference Basketball Schedule

Let's say... Long Island University, 10,000 undergrads is a lot, but I don't know if 10,199 last year is as the North East Conference... I mean, usually I don't find out that much, can't be too bad! We'll play them, shouldn't be too tough to pull out a victory.

Tastes Like Failure

RICH PROVISTA & ANDY SPANGLER

At_good old north_Spring Hill...

Hold it right there! I'm going to need to check this backgroung...

Crossword

Across
1 A diamant enemy might want yours
2 Gather
5 Gather
11 QB's goals
14 Armor with a dash
15 Mik: Prefix
16 In
17 Call in roulette
19 Suffix with fish
26 For smaller government, presumably
28 Tempe sch.
36 Buttresses in person
39 Start of long-distance
dialing

Down
1 It has arms, legs
2 "Let's go!"
3 Sometimes you feel like...
4 Italian river valley in W. Ti. fishing
5 Page of music
6 Cosmo
7 Loncov, the first human to walk in space
8 "Holy moly!"
9 Fair-sized plot
10 Old British gun
12 "The Sound of Music" hi
13 "Sophie's Choice" author
15 Poor
17 Fetch
18 Per
19 Catch
20 Celebrity
21 Fort__ on
23 W.C.
25 Timex
26 Part of p.m.
27 Pre-1968 Tokyo
28 Dog in 1930s films
29 Fangs
30 Comics on
32 Short of long-distance
dialing
34 Prefix with "A-Ticket"
35 Prefix with "A-Ticket"
38 Comics on
39 Start of long-distance
dialing

Puzzle by Robert Ullman

Answer to Puzzle 44 Import
45 Broadcast
detector
46 Call in draw
poker
47 P.O.
48 Call in draw
poker
50 John P.
52 John P.
53 Signify
54 Prefix with
canal
56 Sounds of walking
in Taiwan
57 Deicing tool
58idoan to
Philadelphia dr.
59 Call in craps
60 Call in crab
61 Family room
62 Challenge to
63 Family get
64 Inexac
65 Request to meet
in person
66 Seoing
67 Ina
68 In
69 In
70 In
71 In
72 Request to meet
in person
73 Photographer of
Adams

Black Dog

MICHAEL MIKUSKA

WHERE YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T \nSAY, "YOU NUTS FOR TOBACCO."
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
CAN'T TAKE THAT TOOTING ALONE.
YOU CAN'T, CAN? NOT AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED.

Deuces Manor

MATT HUDSON, ANDY MANZA & PAUL TASSINARI

If you find a good

CROSSWORD

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

20 Gun dealer's 66
26 Norway's patron 69
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John P.
36 Buttresses in person 37
30 Call
15 Milk: Prefix 51
Marquand
16 1n 17
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35 Fitzgerald who... 45
Broadcast
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50 Page of music
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Tasty Like Failure

RICH PROVISTA & ANDY SPANGLER

An option for those who dislike
crossword clues... they're
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Horoscope

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:
Ami Paltz, 24; winner Ryder, 36; Kate
Jackson, 55; Richard Dysart, 80
Happy Birthday: Change what you're working for. It's the uncertainty of the outcome that is leading you that pays no room. You're not making progress, well-thought-out means to achieve your goals. Your backup plan will be equally important and will give you strength and courage. Your numbers are 10, 18, 27, 30, 31, 41
ARIES (March 21-April 19): Real yourself or feel the feeling you can't do something just as easy as you're doing it, you're it man you're it. Make a move! We'll find you thinking it. It's not a time to be indecisive... and doing nothing. A bit of
timeliness. You've got the added discipline needed to get things done. Talk to people in the know and you will get the answers required. A serious lack of something that someone else possesses may lead you in a new
direction.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You've got the added discipline needed to get things done. Talk to people in the know and you will get the answers required. A serious lack of something that someone else possesses may lead you in a new
direction.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will tend to change your mind a lot, confusing the people with whom you talk about work, money and finance. It may be that the next decision you make will bring you to a critical turning point, or it may not be.
leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Help the people you count most - the ones you live with but who are close to your heart. This is a perfect time to sign or negotiate a contract that is of a personal nature. A frosting will make you help you achieve greater stability in your life.
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Say what's on your mind. You may feel emotional about a lot of different things going on in your life today, but keeping your thoughts bottled up will not solve your problems. Deal with each issue directly - do not dodge or run from your emotions.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Help the people you count most - the ones you live with but who are close to your heart. This is a perfect time to sign or negotiate a contract that is of a personal nature. A frosting will make you help you achieve greater stability in your life.
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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Spinning the Toppers

Irish take down Western Kentucky in NIT second round

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Associate Sports Editor

With 15:06 left in the first half, Irish point guard Tulyah Gaines sank a long two-pointer to give Notre Dame a 12-3 lead — one it did not relinquish Tuesday as it coasted to a 78-59 win over Western Kentucky in the second round of the preseason women's NIT.

"I think with a veteran group you really expect to get a quick lead," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "I think when you come out you're just curious to see who's going to be the one today that's going to get us started."

Gaines was a dominant presence on both ends of the court in the first half. The senior point guard had six points, five assists, three rebounds and no turnovers in 30 minutes.

"I thought Tulyah played really well. She had a great floor game. I just thought she was outstanding as a leader tonight," McGraw said. Gaines was also a crucial part of the Irish defensive gameplan. Going into the weekend series, this year's team, which is now 7-4, proved that over the weekend when, for the second year in a row, it knocked out the nation's best team.

In 2006, the Irish slugged-tired Boston College 71-1 in Boston; this year they split a weekend series with No. 1 Miami (OH). Going into the weekend, the well-attended RedHawks looked as close to unbeatable as possible. The veteran squad reeled off blowout after blowout victory to bring a perfect 7-0 record into its contest with the Irish.

So far this season, the RedHawks have been led by an offense that averages more than 74 points per game. The team scored 78 points against the Irish.

Irish freshman defenseman Teddy Ruth skates down the ice in Notre Dame's 4-3 win over Denver on Oct. 28.

HOCKEY ANALYSIS

Irish defense leads the way

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame's 27-6-3 record last season was no fluke. This year's team, which is now 7-4, proved that over the weekend when, for the second year in a row, it knocked out the nation's best team.

In 2006, the Irish slugged-tired Boston College 71-1 in Boston; this year they split a weekend series with No. 1 Miami (OH). Going into the weekend, the well-attended RedHawks looked as close to unbeatable as possible. The veteran squad reeled off blowout after blowout victory to bring a perfect 7-0 record into its contest with the Irish.

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Irish freshman defenseman Teddy Ruth skates down the ice in Notre Dame's 4-3 win over Denver on Oct. 28.

FOOTBALL

Weis uses seniors to motivate squad

Coach urges Irish to beat Duke for the upperclassmen

By CHRISS KOREY
Sports Editor

When a team is 1-9, it's hard to find motivation.

That is why Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis is calling on his team to "win one for the seniors" Saturday against Duke in the season's final home game.

"As far as the underclassmen go, I think that they have to put any selfishness aside," Weis said. "This isn't a game you worry about for those guys, worrying about next year. It's sending the seniors out the right way."

Weis said when he first came to Notre Dame, he didn't realize how emotional senior days would be for departing players. It only sunk in during Notre Dame's final home game of Weis' first year as coach, against Syracuse in 2005.

"I know offensively it took us over a half just to really get anything going at all because there was a lot of guys that are going through what's happened in their careers over the last four or five years," Weis said of that game. "It's something that you have to try to keep them grounded."

Most of the time, Weis said, he tries to keep his team on an even keel, trying not to make any game more important than the others. But with the season coming to a close, Weis also aims to have a new motivational message for each game, and send the seniors a more important message.

"I think that each week you try to have a message for that game, so I think it actually plays right into that, our way of looking at it one week at a time," he said. "That helps a lot to be the message for this game right here."

Even though his team is basically playing for next season at this point, Weis said, he would not bench any of his starting seniors.

"Let me take, for instance, John Carlson. I'm not going to take John Carlson and say, 'OK, your career is over now.'" Weis said.

ND VOLLEYBALL

Seniors look back on careers

Stasiuk, Tarutis lead squad into Big East tournament against Cincy

By PAT O'BRIEN and ELLYN MICHALAK
Sports Writers

Senior captain Adrianna Stasiuk and senior setter Ashley Tarutis have played together for four years, started most of Notre Dame's matches, and posted superlative statistics while providing the spark and heart for the Irish.

The two players may have come from different parts of the U.S. — Stasiuk is from Park Ridge, Ill., while Tarutis is from Long Beach, Calif. — but both had the same reason for coming to Notre Dame.

"I chose ND because it had the best combination of academics and strong athletics," Stasiuk said. "An ND degree will get you set for life."

"Notre Dame is such a great combination of academics and athletics," Tarutis said.

"I just thought that each week you try to have a message for that game, so I think it actually plays right into that, our way of looking at it one week at a time," he said. "That helps a lot to be the message for this game right here."

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