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Thieves burglarize student residences

By JOSEPH MCMAHON News Writer

More than 20 off-campus break-ins reported during winter break; complexes stepped up security

For Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students in 10 residences at Clover Ridge Apartments and 11 at Stadium Club Condominiums, the fear of burglary became reality with recent break-ins on Dec. 27. Kristie Staud, assistant director for Clover Ridge Apartments, said "there was no rhyme or reason" to what thieves stole.

"They didn't take a lot of stuff. In some of the apartments it looked like [the burglars] weren't even there. They actually spent more time breaking in than they did stealing stuff," Staud said.

But she was still shocked by the break-ins, prompting Clover Ridge to hire additional security.

"We've never had any break-ins, but we have always had a police officer that lived on site," Staud said. "This is our first incident where we've had break-ins at Clover Ridge Apartments. Because our main goal is that they are happy and safe where they live, when the police officer that lived on site left, we had our first break-in, which was just really disappointing and scary for everyone." See BURGLARIES/page 4

University VP plans to step down

Crnkovich will return to Ill. to be with family

By KAREN LANGLEY New Editor

Hilary Crnkovich will leave her job as vice president for public affairs and communications at the University on Aug. 1, she announced Wednesday. Crnkovich said she is going to return to Chicago to be closer to her family. She has occupied her current position since March 2006.

As vice president for public affairs and communications, Crnkovich has presided over events and initiatives including the inauguration of University President Father John Jenkins, the production of Notre Dame forums, the redesign of the University Web site, the production of the University institutional spots during football game broadcasts and last October's tribute to University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh in Washington, D.C.

Crnkovich cited as one of her most meaningful undertakings at Notre Dame the Washington tribute, which honored both Hesburgh's 90th birthday and the acceptance of a photograph of him with Martin Luther King, Jr., into the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institute.

"That was one of my proud moments," Crnkovich said.

Students look ahead at the University's first inaugural

By CLAIRE REISING News Writer

Senators discussed recent off-campus break-ins and a possible partnership between the University and iTunes at their meeting Wednesday.

Residential Life Committee chair Mariana Montes said Notre Dame might be considering a partnership with Apple's iTunes U, which would allow audio and visual material for classrooms to be distributed through iTunes. She said prospective students could also view public University information on iTunes U and that other universities, such as Duke and Stanford, have used this technology to attract outstanding high school applicants.

Although the University has known about iTunes U for some time, it has not yet been able to implement the program due to technology proposal and off-campus burglaries at Monday's meeting.

ACE Consulting moves forward

By EMMA DRISCOLL News Writer

The Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Consulting Initiative — a program that aims to provide under-resourced elementary and secondary Catholic schools with free consulting services — is underway with recent hires and plans.

ACE Consulting appointed Stephen Perla, superintendent of schools for the Catholic Diocese of Worcester, Mass., as director, according to John Staud, ACE director.

ACE Consulting is a response to the 2006 final report of the Notre Dame Task Force on Catholic Education, which was commissioned by University President Father John J. Jenkins, S.J., and chaired by Father Timothy Scully, director of the Institute for Educational Initiatives at Notre Dame and ACE founder.

The report, entitled "Making God Known, Loved, and Served," proposed the development of the ACE Consulting Initiative, "which will work to provide expertise to elementary and secondary Catholic schools in a variety of areas, including marketing, governance, board training, management, strategic planning, and investing."

Under-resourced or struggling schools are often unable to afford key consulting services of this nature, Staud said.

"A lot of Catholic schools do not have the resources to pay for consulting," he said. "We would hope that if a diocese is contemplating closing a school or parish, they would contact us first."

Assistant Director of ACE Consulting Chuck Lambhier said there were about 60 applicants for the position of director.

"We knew the decision would be an important decision in the life of this program and we were very pleased with who we could hire," he said.

Lambhier, a Master of Nonprofit Administration student from Chicago, is a member of the University Web site, the production of three Notre Dame forums, the redesign of the University Web site, the production of the University institutional spots during football game broadcasts and last October's tribute to University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh in Washington, D.C.

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Although the University has known about iTunes U for some time, it has not yet been able to implement the program due to technological constraints.

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Professor reflects on student voters

By DAVIS RHORER JR. News Writer

Sean Savage, a political science professor at Saint Mary's, commented Wednesday on the role of college-aged voters in the recent Iowa, New Hampshire and Michigan presidential caucuses.

A highly-regarded authority on the American political system, Savage has given his insights on the recent primaries to a number of media outlets.

"The youngest voters are more likely to believe voting is not the only way to be a good citizen," Savage said, contrasting the current generation of college students to older Americans.

Older voters, he said, are more likely to look at voting as an obligation similar to that of paying taxes or the military draft. Savage cited young Americans' frequent service in their local communities and the Peace Corps as examples of how they are diversifying the idea of responsible citizenship.

Savage identified a process he called "socialization," or the steps taken by parents to educate their children about the value of voting and civic duty.

"Younger citizens are better at following the process," Savage said. See VOTERS/page 6

The Student Senate discussed a technology proposal and off-campus burglaries at Monday's meeting.

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Under new director, program offers under-resourced schools free services

By KAREN LANGLEY New Editor

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INSIDE COLUMN

New Year’s resolutions
It is the time of year where inevitably the gyms seem to be more crowded.

People are reenergized after a holiday break and, of course, it is the time of New Year’s resolutions.

People talk about getting more exercise, eating more vegetables and less carbs and finally attaining that perfect 4.0 GPA for the spring semester.

Every year, it always seems like the resolution fever lasts a few weeks at most before then dies down. Well, let me tell you, I hate New Year’s resolutions.

I hate them mostly because I have never once kept a New Year’s resolution and I believe that this is the sad fate of resolutions for most people.

Honestly, what is the point of waiting until January to make an improvement?

I recently read an article listing the top 10 New Year’s resolutions of the average American compiled from surveys.

Here is the list of lofty aspirations:

1) Spend more time with family and friends
2) Get more exercise
3) Lose weight
4) Quit Smoking
5) Quit Drinking
6) Reduce stress
7) Manage money better
8) Learn something new
9) Get a better job/promotion
10) Become more organized.

I wonder if there is a study on the rate of these resolutions.

Perhaps, it is a New Year’s resolution what remains is a tiny bit of guilt. I honestly, what is the point of making a resolution what remains is a tiny bit of guilt. I wonder if there is a study on the rate of these resolutions.

Aside from new classes, my life is more or less the same.

Changes should be made when a pet feels the need. Why do people make changes just because it is now January once again?

I think this way of my resolutions are always doomed and once I slowly but surely give up a resolution what remains is a tiny bit of guilt.

This year, I am firm in my decision to eliminate the guilt and not make a New Year’s resolution. We all make a perfectly good good goal on New Year’s when I know I won’t keep it? Perhaps I will make a spring resolution, an end of-the-year resolution or simply a resolution when I want to.

Then, at least, the motivation will be there.

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

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives to deliver unbiased news and factual information in journalism as well. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO MOST THIS SEMESTER?

Andrea Kochert
sophomore
Pasquella West

“The horse show for the equestrian team.”

Michael Albrecht
senior Alumni

“Graduating.”

Jessica Sheehan
junior LeMans

“Visiting with my friends that were abroad last semester.”

Eileen Wilkie
senior off campus

“Earth Week.”

Tom Furlong
junior Alumni

“Eileen dressing up as Captain Planet on Earth Day.”

IN BRIEF

Registration will begin today for instructional classes from 8 a.m. to midnight at Rolfs SportsRec Center at the RSRC registration desk.

Jeffrey Herbst, Provost and Executive Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Miami University (Ohio) will deliver the lecture “Why We Were Wrong About Zimbabwe” in room C-103 of the Hesburgh Center today at 4:15 p.m.

The film “Golden Door” will be shown tonight at 7 in Browning Cinema. Delbartolo Performing Arts Center as part of “Immigration: A Notre Dame Perspectives” two-part film series. Tickets are $3 for students.

There will be a “Family Guy” Trivia Contest tonight from 7 to 10 in the LaFortune Ballroom. Sign-ups will begin at the door at 6:30 p.m. Test out your “Family Guy” knowledge for a chance to win a life-sized Stewie and a Family Guy DVD set.

Men’s and women’s indoor track will host the ND indoor Opener Friday at 5 p.m. at the Louis Comer Sports Center. Admission is free.

Men’s swimming will host Louisville Friday at 5 p.m. in Rolfs Aquatic Center. Admission is free.

The film “Miss Navajo” will be shown Friday at 10 p.m. in Browning Cinema. Delbartolo Performing Arts Center. Director Billy Luther is scheduled to be present.

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

OFFBEAT

Yep, 76 tickets will land you in jail!

HARLINGEN, Texas — Tickets for expired car registration usually don’t result in jail time. Unless, of course, that ticket is a driver’s 76th. Valerie Ortiz Sanchez, 31, was arrested Monday during a routine traffic stop when officers discovered she had 76 outstanding traffic warrants and nearly $19,000 in unpaid fines and court fees dating back nine years.

Sanchez was arrested on charges of having an expired car registration, no insurance and driving with an expired license, according to an arrest report. She remained in the Harlingen jail Wednesday, and it was unclear whether she had a lawyer.

Sex toy triggers bomb scare in Sweden

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — A Swedish bomb squad called out to disarm a suspicious package on Wednesday did not find a ticking bomb. But they did find a vibrating sex toy.

A jaunter alerted police after he found the package in a garage of an apartment building in Goteborg, the country’s second-largest city, police spokesman Jan Strannegard said.

The package was humming and vibrating suspiciously, so police took no chances and sent out a team of explosives experts. After having cordoned off the area, they opened the package with bomb disposal equipment, only to find the battery-operated device inside.

“The package was vibrating when the jaunter found it, but I think it had sort of died out by the time it was disarmed,” Strannegard said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY

HIGH 33

LOW 18

TONIGHT

HIGH 28

LOW 13

FRIDAY

HIGH 25

LOW 3

SATURDAY

HIGH 14

LOW -3

SUNDAY

HIGH 12

LOW 17

MONDAY

HIGH 20

LOW 10

Kroc Institute offers new Ph.D. New doctorate in peace studies among few offered in nation

By MADELINE BUCKLEY News Writer

The Kroc Institute is now accepting applications for its new doctoral program in peace studies, making Notre Dame one of the few major universities in the country to offer a Ph.D. in the field.

The recent addition to the University's doctoral program will make Notre Dame a worldwide leader in peace studies research, said professor Robert Johansen, director of doctoral studies at the Kroc Institute.

"Peace studies is a growing field because of a recognition that violence is not going away, and secondly, that we are not very well-equipped for knowing how to deal with it," Johansen said.

The new Ph.D. program is designed "to turn out some of the leading peace research doctoral people in the world who will do research that gives us a much better understanding on how to prevent armed conflict from spiraling out of control," Johansen said.

The program's inception came after the Kroc Institute received a generous donation from 1953 alum John Mullen, chair of the Kroc Institute Advisory Council, and his family, a news release said.

But before it became a reality, the program needed support from the University administration and academic departments such as political science, history and psychology.

The proposal also had to be approved by the Arts and Letters Council, the Graduate Council and the Academic Council.

"In each case we got unanimous approval," Johansen said. "This was a very warm and reassuring vote of confidence for this program from the highest levels in the University.

"And that may be because the program fits well with the University's mission," he said. "Notre Dame is a natural for this in my view," Johansen said. "Our program looks a lot at ethical questions that bear on major war and peace issues. This is something that Notre Dame is especially good at because of its Catholic heritage, which gives Notre Dame a special advantage with this program.

Applicants interested in the peace studies Ph.D. will have to pass through two separate admissions committees and have excellent academic and service credentials. Johansen said an applicant's academic ability is only a portion of the admissions decision.

"We are looking for clear evidence from the applicants of a long-term commitment to peace building," Johansen said.

Most doctoral graduates will likely teach peace studies and do research, Johansen said.

"The program prepares people to become scholars," he said. "But some will go into work with intergovernmental organizations like the United Nations. Others may work within the diplomatic community.

"A third group, he said, might work with non-governmental organizations such as Amnesty International or Human Rights Watch.

"We really think this is part of the Catholic mission," Johansen said. "Concern for all human beings in the world is uppermost. We need to look at the threat of violence like doctors look at disease. We need to find antidotes and ways to prevent it.

The anticipated size of the doctoral program is about 20 to 25 students, according to the Kroc Institute Web site. Approximately four students will be accepted in each incoming class.

The deadline to apply for the 2008-09 year is Feb. 1.

Contact Madeleine Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

RecSports-touts new group-training

By LINDSAY SENA News Writer

Keeping that New Year's going-to-the-gym-more-often resolution may be easier this year with the help and supervision of professional trainers for small groups of friends, a new workout option available to students through RecSports.

In addition to the personal trainer program, RecSports created the small group-training program for students who like to work out with their friends, said RecSports fitness coordinator Shellie Dodd-Bell.

"This gives them the opportunity to learn some instruction and come play with their friends," Dodd-Bell said.

While she said personal training can be an easy way to "spice up" a dull exercise routine and "keep you from getting bored," Dodd-Bell believes having friends to exercise with will provide that "little extra motivation" that many students need to make the trip to the gym.

Similar to individual personal training sessions, which first became available last February, small group personal training is sold in packages ranging from "Domer" (which includes three sessions) to "Fighting Irish" (teh consists of 10 sessions). Before beginning the actual training, students must take a fitness assessment, in which their body composition, muscle strength and cardiovascular endurance are evaluated.

In addition to contributing to the students' motivation for exercising, group personal training is less of a financial strain than individual personal training, Dodd-Bell said. For groups of two students, the "Domer" package costs $57 per person. For groups of four, each student has to pay only $48. Individual personal training costs a student $69 for three sessions.

Junior Patrick Kennedy said training in a group could create another incentive to fit a quick workout into his weekly routine.

"I think it's a great idea. Unless I have something scheduled, it's hard for me to find the time to work out but if I had someone else with me, it would be much more fun," Kennedy said.

But other students, like sophomore Raymond Clark, may prefer to keep exercising on their own.

"Working out is more personal for me. I'm individually motivated, so I'd rather work out by myself," Clark said.

The small group personal training program has ongoing registration and allows students to customize their fitness goals and request a male or female trainer.

Contact Lindsay Sena at bensa@nd.edu

The Observer is now accepting applications for its 2008-09 Editor-in-Chief.

Applicants should submit a resume and 12-15 page application to The Observer's South Dining Hall office by Tuesday, January 22 at 5 p.m.

Please contact Maddie Hanna at 631-4542 or mhan1@nd.edu with questions.
Burglaries continued from page 1

students are gone, we have added additional security," said. In addition, she said the St. Joseph's County Police Department has been conducting full investigations. "We did have detectives out and they have been doing everything they could," Noykowsky said. Smith told the spokespeople did not return multiple Observer phone calls throughout the week. Like Clover Ridge, Stadium Club had also never experienced any break-ins before this winter, according to property manager Susan Miller — who has also taken additional steps to ensure the safety of its tenants.

Miller said the complex had a private security detail circulating its property during the break — but the thieves were able to elude it. "We care about the security of the students at Stadium Club. And we've had around-the-clock security, but still the thieves were able to elude us. It's just really frustrating," Miller said.

In response to the burglaries, the complex has hired a new 24-hour security service, she said. "After the break-ins we now have a 24-hour security service that we will continue from now on. We're also going to hire a public officer living on the property," she said.

Nevertheless, many students were upset with the way the situation was handled, and several Clover Ridge residents said their landlords should be more to notify them of the burglaries. "I had a missed call from Clover Ridge and I tried to contact the office but I wasn't able to get through and they never called back. It was only when I called my roommate that I found out when happened," said senior Jordan Beltz, a Clover Ridge resident.

Beltz said he lost nearly $600 in stolen DVDs as well as $60 from his change jar. And while he was upset about the break-in and the material losses, he said he didn't think there was much the complex could have done to prevent the burglary itself.

"On the security front, I don't really think they did anything they could do anything. It's just bound to happen on winter break here," he said. "But I think they could definitely improve how they notify people."

Improving the students' safety will continue to be a top priority, Miller said. "We're exploring every possible solution to make Stadium Club even more secure so that our students are protected. That's our number one goal," she said.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmah06@nd.edu

ACE Consulting assistant director

In the last 40 or 50 years, Catholic schools have gone through a tremendous transformation.

Chuck Lamphier

This will help the program's staff determine what families, faculty and staff members want for the school.

"We're also going to engage our friends of Notre Dame — graduates, members of the business community — to help grow this," he said.

Staud cited the keynote speech delivered by Margaret Spellings, U.S. Secretary of Education, at the ACE graduation in 2005. Spellings referred to Catholic schools as "national treasures."

"There are many people in the country who recognize the amount of work [Catholic schools] do and continue to help pro bono," he said.

Education for children in under-resourced areas whether or not they are Catholic is "one of the most vital resources for the Church, and even for our country," Staud said.

"And Catholic schools as an institution have the potential to impact the nation, he said. "After the second Vatican council, we envisioned justice, education, Catholic schools became a powerful force for that," he said. "Whether or not the kids were Catholic was not important."

But despite their contributions, American Catholic schools still face difficult times. Financial pressures, Staud said, are a critical reason many inner-city Catholic schools have closed their doors, especially in the Northeast and Midwest regions.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscoll@nd.edu

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REMINDER

2008 – 2009
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APPLICATIONS

MUST BE SUBMITTED BY:
FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2008
to the Office of Student Affairs
316 Main Building

Applications are available for downloading at:
oса.nd.edu or
osa.nd.edu/hall-staff-opportunities/ra.shtml
**KENYA**

**Police halt protests over election fraud**

Opposition leader Raila Odinga had called for protests after violence didn’t reverse results

Associated Press

NAIROBI — Police firing tear gas and bullets halted protests in key areas of Nairobi Wednesday, following three days of violence after the disputed presidential vote.

Police told The Associated Press that two people were killed in Kisumu and one in another western town, Migori. Rallies and protests continued Wednesday after the disputed vote have heightened tensions.

The government said it was deeply flawed.

In the latest sign of trouble, the International Criminal Court in the Hague announced Wednesday it was taking a more welcoming view of the case against Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga, who is facing an investigation for crimes against humanity.

The court said it would open a preliminary investigation into allegations that Odinga, the former prime minister, committed war crimes and crimes against humanity during his time in office.

The court also said it would consider opening a full investigation into allegations that Odinga used his influence to smear his political opponents.

In Nairobi, helmeted police officers deployed tear gas and smoke grenades to disperse protesters who were marching towards the national election commission headquarters, in a show of force.

Some protesters chanted "Kia ni akili na ni omarini." (No politics, no Ilahi). Odinga vowed he would not be stopped.

Police fired tear gas and tear gas canisters into the air to break up a large opposition demonstration, in Eldoret, Kenya, Wednesday.

An opposition demonstrator reacts after police fired tear gas and live rounds into the air to break up a large opposition demonstration, in Eldoret, Kenya, Wednesday.

**Admiral: Pakistan now more open to U.S. aid**

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Pakistan is taking a more welcoming view of U.S. support for American military forces, its ambassador to the U.S. said Wednesday.

Pakistan, which has been a close ally of the U.S. in the war on terrorism since Sept. 11, 2001, is now more willing to work with the U.S. on issues of mutual interest.

"My sense is there is an increased willingness to address these problems, and we're going to try to help them," Faisal said. He said U.S. assistance would be "more robust," but offered few details.

"There is more willingness to do that now," Faisal said. He said Pakistan is now more willing to work with the U.S. on issues of mutual interest.

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CALL OR VISIT US TODAY!
Fed: Economy losing momentum

Retailers, builders, manufacturers to face more hard times as economic picture uncertain

**Market Recap**

**Dow Jones**

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**Nikkei 225 (Tokyo)**

13,655.53 - 13,612.00

**FTSE 100 (London)**

5,942.90 - 5,872.70

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**Stocks**

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**In Brief**

Wall Street down on day of fluctuations

NEW YORK — Wall Street staggered through another volatile session Wednesday, closing mostly lower after a Federal Reserve report showed some economic growth at the end of 2007 and after Intel Corp.'s disappointing profit report.

Stocks gave up a modest rally in the final 20 minutes of trading, continuing the fluctuations seen throughout the session as investors pored over corporate profit reports and economic news that supported varying views about the soundness of the economy.

Stocks initially gained after the Federal Reserve report was released Wednesday, more big banks reported losses and people who were struggling to make payments for everything from credit cards to cars.

Wednesday amid increasing optimism that the Republican leader John Boehner of Ohio rejected efforts to bring together a package that would pass the House. The banks' reports showed troubles in the housing market. That threw Wall Street into new turbulence.

Fed's snapshot of economy losing momentum

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve on Wednesday issued a snapshot of the economy losing momentum amid growing fears that the country is heading for its first recession since 2001.

At the beginning of last year, many economists put the chance of a recession at less than 1-in-3; now an increasing number say 50-50 or even worse. Goldman Sachs, the biggest investment bank on Wall Street, thinks a recession is inevitable this year.

The Fed report said the economy did grow in the survey period — from the last three months of 2007 through December — but more slowly than during the late fall. The Fed said growth was intensified in December as did troubles in the housing market. That threw Wall Street into new turbulence.

The economy probably grew at a feeble pace of about 1.5 percent or less in the final three months of last year and will stay weak in the first quarter of this year as consumers — major shapers of the nation's economic health — tighten their belts.

After retailers suffered their worst sales season in five years in 2007, "the outlook for 2008 among retail merchants was cautious," said the Fed in its report. And the outlook for housing remains gloomy: "weak through the first part of 2008," the Fed warned. That might mean a market downturn at the end of a two-day meeting on Jan. 30. The Fed started cutting rates in September, but some critics on Wall Street and elsewhere say Bernanke should have acted sooner and more forcefully.

"Clearly there is a high level of concern," said Ken Mayland, president of ClearView Economics. "Everyone's guard is up to protect and insulate one's businesses from the high degree of sluggishness that is expected to prevail in the months ahead.

**House Democrats pass mine safety bill**

WASHINGTON — Defying White House veto threats, the Democratic-controlled Congress on Wednesday passed sweeping mine safety legislation aimed at preventing future underground disas­ters, a change in course that took less than a year at Crandall Canyon mine in Utah.

Republican and mining industry officials acknowledged that Congress and President Bush already had passed mine safety legislation aimed at preventing future underground disas­ters, a change in course that took less than a year at Crandall Canyon mine in Utah.

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Marine suspected of fleeing country

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, N.C. — A Marine said he killed a pregnant comrade told friends he would flee to Mexico to avoid being convicted of raping her, and investigators said Wednesday they are working with Mexican authorities to track him down.

A wide-ranging manhunt for Cpl. Cesar Laurean began last week, after authorities said he fled North Carolina and left a note in which he admitted burying the body of Lance Cpl. Maria Lauterbach, but said she committed suicide.

The 20-year-old had accused him of rape.

Investigators Lauterbach’s burned remains, and those of her child, in a fire pit in Laurean’s backyard and concluded she did not kill herself.

Court documents filed this week by the FBI state that Laurean, 21, told members of his Marine Corps unit he would flee to Mexico if it appeared he would be found guilty of rape. Laurean’s wife also told authorities she believed he would head to Mexico if he was guilty.

“We strongly suspect, but have not confirmed, that Laurean may be in Mexico,” Richard Kolko, FBI spokesman.

Lauterbach died of “traumatic head injuries and blunt force trauma,” according to an autopsy results released Tuesday. But authorities said the exam failed to answer all the questions detectives have about Lauterbach’s death, including whether she gave birth before her death and of the identity of the father.

Authorities believe Lauterbach was killed around Dec. 15. Marines officials said they attempted to find her after she failed to report to work on Dec. 17, but had evidence — including a note left for her roommate in which she wrote she was tired of being married to Laurean — that led them to believe she left on her own.

The court documents are included with an FBI criminal complaint charging Laurean with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution. He is also wanted in North Carolina on a state arrest warrant for murder.

Laurean appears to have mailed letters telling his wife in North Carolina, according to two law enforcement officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the ongoing investigation.

It was not immediately clear what the letters said, how many of them were sent or where they were sent from, but one of the officials said at least one of the letters was postmarked from Houston.

Authorities have said Laurean’s wife, Christina Laurean, is "We strongly suspect, but have not confirmed, that Laurean may be in Mexico.”

Richard Kolko
FBI spokesman

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Ex-congressman indicted for raising money for terrorist group

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A former congressman and delegate to the United Nations was indicted Wednesday on charges of working for an alleged terrorist fundraising ring that sent more than $130,000 to an al-Qaida supporter who has threatened U.S. and international troops in Afghanistan.

Mark Deli Siljander, a Michigan Republican who was in the House, was charged with money laundering, conspiracy and obstructing justice for allegedly lying about being hired to lobby senators on behalf of an Islamic charity that authorities said was secretly sending funds to terrorists.

The 42-count indictment, unsealed in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Mo., accuses the Islamic American Relief Agency of paying Siljander $50,000 for the lobbying efforts he turned out to be stolen from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

The charges paint "a troubling picture of an American charity organization that engaged in transactions for the benefit of terrorists and conspired with a former United States congressman to conceal stolen federal funds into payments for his advocacy," Assistant Attorney General Kenneth Wainstein said.

Siljander, who served in the House from 1981-1987, was appointed by President Reagan to serve a term as a delegate to the United Nations for one year in 1987.

Siljander’s business in a Washington suburb went unanswered Wednesday. His attorney in Kansas City, James H. Hobbs, said Siljander would not plead guilty to the charges against him.

"Mark Siljander vehemently denies the allegations in the indictment," Hobbs said in a statement. He described Siljander as "internationally recognized for his good faith attempts to bridge the gap between Christian and Muslim communities worldwide" and plugged the ex-congressman’s upcoming book on that topic.

The charges are part of a long-running case against the charity, which had been based in Columbia, Mo., before it was designated in 2004 by the Treasury Department as a suspected fundraiser for terrorists.

The indictment alleges that IARA also employed a fundraising aide to Osama bin Laden, the al-Qaida leader blamed for the Sept. 11 attacks.

IARA has long denied allegations that it has financed terrorists. The group’s attorney, Sherree Akeel of Troy, Mich., rejected the charges outlined in Wednesday’s indictment.

"For four years I have not seen a single piece of a document that shows anyone did anything wrong," Akeel said.

The government accuses IARA of sending approximately $130,000 to help Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, whom the United States has designated a global terrorist. The money, sent to bank accounts in Pakistan, was designated in Wednesday’s indictment.

Hekmatyar “has vowed to engage in a holy war against the United States and international troops in Afghanistan.”

Siljander was elected to Congress initially with the support of fundamentalist Christian groups, and said at the time he won because "God wanted me in." In 1983, he claimed that "Arab terrorists" planned to kill him during a pro-Jewish rally; the FBI and Secret Service said they knew no such plot. Siljander attended the rally wearing a bulletproof vest.

After leaving the government, he founded the Washington-area consulting group Global Strategies Inc. and, according to the indictment, was hired by IARA in March 2004 to lobby the Senate Finance Committee to remove the charity from the panel’s list of suspected terrorist fundraisers.

It’s not clear whether Siljander ever engaged in the lobbying, IARA’s chief executive, said John Wood, U.S. attorney in Kansas City. Nevertheless, IARA paid Siljander with money that was part of U.S. government funding awarded to the charity years earlier for relief work it promised to perform in Africa, the indictment says.

In interviews with the FBI in December 2005 and April 2007, Siljander denied doing any lobbying for IARA. The FBI’s lead investigator, who was merely a donation from IARA to help him write a book about Afghan, Christianity, the indictment says.

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Ex-congressman indicted for raising money for terrorist group

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JAPAN

Protesters force suspension of Antarctic whale hunt

Japanese government says it will temporarily shut down operations after activists gained access to harpoon vessel

Associated Press

TOKYO - Protesters scored a victory in a high-sea campaign to disrupt Japan's whale hunt in the Southern Ocean when activists said they had boarded a harpoon ship on Thursday.

"We will chase them until they stop their hunt," Watson said from aboard the boat. "This week, everyone will see. Sea Shepherd is going for rescue or assistance is low," he said.

Japanese officials said Sea Shepherd must agree not to attack the whaling vessel during any rendezvous to turn over the two protesters. Watson refused to comply, saying "an unconditional" release.

Watson claimed the two activists were not involved in the attack. He said they intended only to board the ship and hand over the two activists.

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Japan condemned the incident as an act of piracy by the Sea Shepherd group.

Edward J. Marold, a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter, was killed in the attack.

"These people aren't hostages, they're unwanted guests," he said. "We want them off our ship immediately, but they're not giving us the chance.""Japan's top government spokesman defended the catch.

"The activists are obstructing what are legal activities in international waters, and in an extremely dangerous way," the official said.

"Shepherd protesters earlier attacked the harpoon ship with bottles of acid and tried to entangle its propellers, both Japanese officials and Watson said.

Watson claimed that two activists were not involved in the attack. He said they intended only to board the ship and hand over the two activists.

"We're doing the work that needs to be done," he said.

Prominent environmentalist groups said Musharraf's own government urged opposition leaders to oppose holding rallies ahead of next month's elections, citing an escalation of violence.

The party of opposition leader Nawaz Sharif is likely to reject the recommendation, according to its leader in Pakistan.

Also Tuesday, a suicide bomber blew himself up near an election rally in Tonk, killing 14 people and wounding 52.

In a related development, three militants were found guilty yesterday of plotting to kill Musharraf at the Federal Court in Karachi in 2002.

"This is a failure of Pervez Musharraf's government and order situation will become normal," the court said.

"If a protest is on, it is to protest against the government," said Qadri, a leader of the Ahle Sunnah Wal Jamaat.

Pakistan's crafty approach to the lawless tribal region makes it difficult to predict how the court will rule.

Musharraf, who has been in power in Pakistan since 2001, is facing growing opposition from both the Taliban and the Al Qaeda in neighboring Afghanistan.

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Where have you gone, Walter Cronkite?

Last week Stephen Colbert, in his typical offhand manner, made one of the most irrelevant observations on the manner in which this year's presidential campaign is being conducted. Discussing the off-putting "wait for Florida" strategy of former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Colbert speculated that Giuliani would go even in a similar fashion, letting the terrorists win a few rounds to build up their confidence before sweeping in to do the day.

What Colbert's retort points to is the growing trend, especially in the realm of the three 24-hour cable news networks, of viewing the electoral process in this country as a game. Giuliani's large-state strategy is merely one permutation of ways in which candidates for the president of all 50 United States, with the media giddily hanging along for the ride, have thwarted and neglected the mission of campaigning to all the people of those 50 states in favor of gaming the system, showcasing and being hugely rewarded for skills which have little — if anything — to do with the awesome responsibilities of governing this nation.

The growing problem resulting from a campaign structure which so easily invites dodges and misdirection is that the media become more interested in the gamesmanship than the game. Aside from the possible exceptions of Senators John McCain's well-publicized collaboration with Ted Kennedy on illegal immigration and Mike Huckabee's oddly-intriguing support of the Fair Tax, no issues have really garnered traction in the primary election coverage.

MNBC might be the worst offender of the three major networks. After Iowa, I suggested that they change the station's acronym to represent "Must Say Nothing Besides Change." The network's talking heads spent hour after hour restating how each campaign had made use of the media for change, how Hillary Clinton had perhaps erred in Iowa by trying to make herself out as a "change agent," when most voters really saw Barack Obama as the apparent true candidate of change. What was lost in the discussion was any sense of what was going to be changed, why change was necessary, and how one candidate's version of change would be different from any other candidate's.

The care of the problem is lazy journalism. Chris Matthews is not really interested in the economy, or healthcare, or anything really, because he doesn't find those things fun. Elections are fun for him because they are alienating to an increasing portion of Americans. Matthews laughs at negative attack ads that torture logic to the breaking point. He smiles at the underhanded tactics employed with virtuous precision by Hillary Clinton, wherein campaign staff members make the less dignified attacks on the opposition, such as bringing up Barack Obama's drug use or the idea that Obama's support is a symptom of white guilt, giving the candidate herself distance from these unsavory remarks. Meanwhile, I doubt Matthews, or Brit Hume, or any anchor with "Best Political Team on Television" even knows what principles their candidates actually mean, of course, what Mitt Romney thinks now, not what he may have thought yesterday, which could be wildly different.

The sad thing is that the proliferation of news on television has somehow, almost arbitrarily assigned regardless of whether we may be there for 100 years or more. I understand that there are avenues for me to discern this information on my own, through the Internet or elsewhere. I humbly submit that I am ashamed of my own lack of knowledge on certain topics, and while I am the most responsible for this, I do believe that there is a tacit social contract being largely ignored by the news media to actually report facts, not speculation. We in America need our news media to rise to the level of seriousness we would like to see in the campaign itself.

John Everett

KIDS THESE DAYS

"CAN ANYONE BREAK A $100.00?"

ROMNEY

"Laugh and the world laughs with you, sneer and you sleep alone."

Anthony Burgess

British novelist
Welcome back! Welcome to your new classes, new books, clean notebooks, your new professors and to the fresh start that a new year always brings. As a student, I used to feel as if I had three "New Year's" — one on the first of January, and one at the beginning of each new semester.

With all the resolutions, plans and sacrifices we embark open for New Year's we should all find ourselves daily-exercising, healthy-eating, moderate-drinking, non-smoking, regular-praying, teeth-flossing, non-procrastinating, homework-completing persons of virtuous habits. Perhaps this year, this will be true. I won't hold my breath. Why? Because along with making all these earnest plans we make one common mistake: We believe it's all about us, that somehow we can become the people we want to be if we just try hard enough. Well, maybe that's true for flossing and exercising, and sometimes for dieting, but instead this could be the year we bear the call to a true conversion of heart, to new depths in our love for God. And maybe then a lot of other things will fall into place. This year, Lent begins awkwardly early — Feb. 6, to be exact. So early that by then, you certainly won't have given up on your New Year's resolutions yet!

So let's talk about halfway in between New Year's resolutions and Lenten sacrifices, here's an idea you could use for each. It has two parts. First, read the gospels, the story of Jesus' life, public ministry, death and resurrection. You can cover your readings between all four of them, or just pick one. The Church is reading Matthew this year; you could start there. As you read, notice — really notice — what Jesus is like. Second, ask — really ask — God to help you try to be like Jesus. Like steps where it would be easy to think, "Jesus' life was so different than mine. It would really be a stretch to think entering into his life will help me live mine." Though he may have lived under different circumstances and in a different culture, Jesus became human precisely to show us how to be human. And that's all God wants from us as well: that we live our human-ness to the fullest. To that extent that we can, we should start looking a little more like Jesus.

It wouldn't be boring, being like Jesus. First of all, he enjoyed life. He made sure a big party had plenty of wine; he loved to eat with friends; he told stories that the disciples had to puzzle out to understand. He could be demanding; he got angry at injustice; he came out with unvarnished truth and confused and irritated the religious and political leaders of the time. He didn't stand idle when he knew another was in need. He had the charisma to convince more acquaintances to drop out of their livelihood and follow him on an unknown and improbable journey.

All of this does come back to those pesky New Year's resolutions, by the way, as well as to the Lenten sacrifices you may already be considering. Jesus could not possibly have controlled his eating habits, had no other way but wanting to get anywhere. He probably ate right, simply because he didn't have an array of unhealthy choices as Martin's, McDonald's and Starbucks offer us. Even when it meant leaving everyone else, from his dear friends to great crowds of people, so that he could be alone with God, Jesus made regular prayer a priority. He didn't appear to be preoccupied, filling his plate with the discipled quite early on that things would seem to end badly for him. More importantly, however — much more importantly — Jesus lived, prayed, made choices, acted upon those choices, and loved, all with his relationship to God as the foundation and center of his life. If we could do the same, maybe we would take better care of ourselves out of gratitude because God created us. Maybe we'd pray more regularly just because we wish to spend more time with the Lord. Maybe we would treat others with the utmost respect and honor because we can see our common bond in our creation and our baptism.

Jesus tells us in John's "I have set you an example, that also should do-as-I-have-done..." (Jn. 13:15). Though this passage comes from a specific moment in the story when Jesus has just washed the disciples' feet, we can remember that everything about Jesus' life sets us an example. In the still-fresh newness of 2008, you may already be considering. Jesus had a good point of exercise, he had no other way but wanting to get anywhere. Maybe we'd pray more regularly just because we wish to spend more time with the Lord. Maybe we would treat others with the utmost respect and honor because we can see our common bond in our creation and our baptism.

Kate Barrett is the director of Resources and Special Projects for Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu.

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

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U-WIRE

Cold-hearted tech firms block progress, charity

Optimism abounded when Nicholas Negroponte announced his goal to design the $100 laptop, an item that could improve learning for millions of poor children in developing countries. Finally, it seemed advanced technology would help the disadvantaged among us and not just increase the stock values of Silicon Valley companies.

Unfortunately, some of those cold-hearted, profit-mongering corporations such as Intel and Microsoft lack the morals to assist this noble effort, and instead choose to stand in the way of progress and charity.

Negroponte is the founder of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Media Laboratory and the non-profit organization, One Laptop Per Child — built the innovative "XO" laptop to account for many of the problems that underprivileged students encounter.

For example, the computer has a built-in crank to charge the battery in places where electricity is sporadic. The computer also comes with long-range wireless, a version of the open-source operating system Linux, and an interactive interface that allows users to communicate and work with others nearby.

While the price still hovers above $150, many students around the globe, in places where $700,000 XOs have already been distributed, will soon be reaping the benefits of such cheap technology.

But the executives at entrenched softwar companies such as Microsoft have already decided to block it from embarking on a mission that perhaps capitalism has gone too far when people are looking for is something more basic supplies, laptops for its students.

While the price still hovers above $150, many students around the globe, in places where $700,000 XOs have already been distributed, will soon be reaping the benefits of such cheap technology. The company's shortsighted goals prevent it from embarking on a mission that could both help millions of children and expand its market share into the developing world of computing.

We should not strive for communism, but perhaps capitalism has gone too far when people are looking for is something more basic supplies, laptops for its students.

The OLPC goal is not dead yet, but given the resistance to its philosophy from the corporate world, it will not be long before its efforts to bring education to far-flung reaches of the globe are cut short. In addition to being profit partners, laptops for poor students around the world could help bridge the so-called "Digital Divide" and encourage growth, learning and hope in small communities everywhere.

When will Intel and Microsoft see that?

This column first appeared in the Jan. 16 edition of The Dartmouth, the daily newspaper at Dartmouth University. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Peyton Manning United Way NFL Spoof

See the darker side of Peyton Manning's competitive edge as he plays a pickup game of football with some underprivileged kids.

The Five Stages of a Giraffe Death

Feel the longneck's pain as he sinks his way to an untimely demise.

Deion Walker Highlights

Check out Notre Dame's latest commitment on the recruiting front.

Charlie Bit Me

British babies biting each other. What more needs to be said?

The Wire returns for its final season

By T. EDWARD ANDREWS
Scene Editor

Time Magazine, Entertainment Weekly and the Chicago Tribune have all called it "the best show on television" and yet as HBO's "The Wire" enters its fifth and final season, the show still lacks a large mainstream following. Despite its criminal under-appreciation by the masses, "The Wire" promises to return to its roots as one of the hardest hitting, most innovative and best dramas in the history of television.

Set on the mean streets of Baltimore, Md., "The Wire" depicts a grim picture of urban life in inner city America, following the ravaging effects of the drug trade and the accompanying violence and crime it stains the streets with.

In its first season, "The Wire" concerned itself primarily with the criminal empire of Avon Barksdale (Wood Harris) and Stringer Bell (Idris Elba) and detective work done by Detective Jimmy McNulty (Dominic West), Lieutenant Cedric Daniels (Lance Reddick), Detective Lester Freamon (Clarke Peters) and others to bring down that empire. The show derives its name from a wiretap the police set up in order to build a case against Barksdale's crew. However, in subsequent seasons the show expanded from its original status as a cops-and-robbers drama to an inner city magnus opus sprawling across all facets of urban life in Baltimore, including the politics of police work, the politics of education and the politics of politics.

The best part of "The Wire" is that the show doesn't even try to push a message about morality — it just portrays real life through fiction and shows things the way they are on the drug- and crime-ravaged streets of urban America. The show portrays the horrors and hardships of drug abuse, wanton violence and killings related to the drug trade in colors as bleak and unreleasant as the cement jungle landscape the show sets itself on.

Despite its criminal under-appreciation by the masses, "The Wire" promises to return to its roots as one of the hardest hitting, most innovative and best dramas in the history of television.

"The Wire" wouldn't be the show it is without its stable of characters, which range from cops to criminals and from high-class politicos to homeless people. A talented and versatile cast of no-name character actors have assumed their roles with poise and a gritty sense of reality. Like the best forms of fiction, "The Wire" doesn't have any cut-and-dried cookie cutter character molds.

Instead, the people populating the world of "The Wire" sound and act like real human beings, with all their flaws, imperfections and seemingly contradictory natures. "The Wire's" key theme is that nothing is set in black and white — the show creates several penumbral areas of gray.

For example, one of the main characters, Detective Jimmy McNulty (Dominic West) is a stubborn, persistent hound of a cop and is very good at what he does, but he's also an invertebrate drunk and his home life is consumed by failed marriages and his love of liquor and lascivious conduct.

Nefarious stick-up artist Omar Little (Michael K. Williams) has become a fan favorite as the roughest, toughest gunslinger on the streets. He also happens to be gay, and by doing so: The Wire challenges conventional norms of masculinity and homosexuality.

Politician and Mayor Tommy Carcetti (Alden Gilmore) made a lot of campaign promises to cleanse the streets of crime and work to protect the children, but as he takes the job the exigencies of the office and his own political goals cause him to alter his original aims.

Series creator David Simon's commitment to continued excellence has paid off through "The Wire's" first four seasons. Now as he draws several of his ongoing storylines to their final close and adds a few new wrinkles to the mix, it's a good bet he'll close out the series with the same level of excellence with which he started it.

Contact T. Edward Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu

Food kingpin Marlo Stanfield (Jamie Hector) has left a trail of bodies in his bloody rise to the top, but the police have started uncovering his handiwork.

Drug kingpin Marlo Stanfield (Jamie Hector) has left a trail of bodies in his bloody rise to the top, but the police have started uncovering his handiwork.
Since winning election, Baltimore mayor Tommy Carcetti (Aidan Gillen) has had his hands full.

Detective Lester Freamon (Clarke Peters) begins to exhume a slew of murders by Marlo Stanfield.

Roland Pryzbylewski (Jim True-Frost) tries to make a difference as a schoolteacher.

Colonel Cedric Daniels (Lance Reddick) encounters the politics of police work as he climbs the ladder.

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Colonel Cedric Daniels (Lance Reddick) encounters the politics of police work as he climbs the ladder.

Even behind bars, Avon Barksdale (Wood Harris) continues to play a role on Baltimore's crime scene.

Infamous gay stick-up artist Omar Little (Michael K. Williams) has a bulls-eye on his back.

Big brother Michael Lee (Tristan Wilds) cares for his little brother while rising in the drug ranks.
BOSTON — Ray Allen impressed teammate Paul Pierce with his shooting. For Allen, it was a tough task.

Allen scored a season-high 35 points, Kevin Garnett had 26 and the Boston Celtics rebounded from their first consecutive losses of the season with a 100-90 win over Portland on Wednesday night.

Allen, who scored 26 points in the second half on 9-of-13 shooting, wasn’t about to get caught up in the excitement of his scoring.

“Every time I leave here I feel like I’ve left something out there on the table,” he said. “I feel that way right now. There were some shots I should have knocked down.”

The 42-year-old veteran had Pierce enjoying his work, though.

“It was great to watch. When you’ve got a hot player like that who’s done it so many times throughout his NBA career, you just try to ride the hot hand,” Pierce said. “We just tried to get him the ball as much as we could. He made plays off the ball, on the ball and finished it with the shot.”

The Atlantic Division-leading Celtics, who had lost three of their last four games and two straight at home, also got 12 points from Pierce and 10 from Eddie House. Boston had lost two consecutive games, both to the Atlanta Hawks.

BOSTON forward Kevin Garnett grabs one of his seven rebounds during the Celtics 100-90 win over the Trail Blazers Wednesday.

Washington.

Brandon Roy led the Northwest division-leading Trail Blazers with 22 points. Travis Outlaw and Jarrett Jack each had 17.

Portland, which lost for just the third time in 21 games overall, fell to just 6-2 on the road.

The surprising Trail Blazers may have come into the game hoping to compete with Boston as big men, but instead of working like they have so far this season.

“I don’t think we believed we were going to play the Trail Blazers as a small team,” Roy said. “We’ve been playing to win lately, but tonight I think we came in to give them a good game. The next time we play them we have to believe that we can actually beat them.”

Allen scored 12 points, including eight straight in the third quarter, helping the Celtics take a 74-69 lead after three.

Portland tied it at 56 before Kendrick Perkins’ free throw moved the Celtics ahead for good. House followed with a 3 from the right corner before Allen took over, scoring off drives to the basket three times and hitting a pair of free throws to give Boston 68-63 lead.

After the Trail Blazers cut it to 71-69, Allen completed his quarter with a reverse layup. He then opened the fourth with a jumper from the right baseline on Boston’s first possession and Tony Allen had a breakaway dunk, giving the Celtics a 76-69 advantage.

Portland cut it to 80-75 on Roy’s 3-pointer over Allen, but Roy Allen hit a key 3, followed by a turnaround jumper and added a 3 with 3:39 left to help Boston seal the win. Roy Allen’s back-to-back 3-pointers in the final 21 seconds.

“They showed why they’re the best team record-wise in the West right now,” Portland coach Nate McMillan said.

Portland led 45-43 at halftime.

Bohatch's 99, Magic 93

The Charlotte Bobcats’ awful start to this season might be too much to overcome as the fourth-year team is finally starting to look like a playoff outfit.

Charlotte, which has been 0-3 against Orlando this season by an average margin of 13 points, took its first lead since 9-8 on Richardson’s 3-pointer with 8:20 left. Matt Carroll’s 3 with 5:50 left made it 88-82.

Orlando, struggling to run its offense with Arroyo and Keith Bogans, went barely four minutes without a point until Hedo Turkoglu’s driving layup made it 90-87.

Richardson then hit his 3 and the Magic fell to 16-9 on the road.

Knicks 111, Nets 105

For the first time since Jason Kidd showed up in New Jersey, the guys on the New York side are having more fun in the Hudson River rivalry.

Jamal Crawford scored a season-high 35 points and a tiebreaking 3-pointer, leading the Knicks to a 111-105 victory Wednesday night on the New Jersey Nets that gave them the season series for the first time in eight years.

Zach Randolph added 24 points and 11 rebounds for the Knicks, who are 3-0 against their cross-river rivals after the Nets had treated them like loafers.

New York hadn’t won the series since going 3-1 in the 1999-2000 season, with New Jersey bringing a 24-4 mark, counting the playoffs, into this season since Kidd’s arrival in 2001.

“They guys really put it to us for long time, and as I’ve been here, every time we played them it seemed like we lost,” Knicks center Eddy Curry said. “But as of late, last time we played them very well and tonight we played them very well. I think if nothing else we showed them that they’re not going to be able to beat up on us ever again.”

New York has won three in a row for the first time in a year, all without starting point guard Stephon Marbury, who is sidelined by a sore left ankle that he believes will require surgery.

Curry finished with 17 points and Nate Robinson had 13.

“Our resiliency, just persevering, we’re starting to play with what we had when we were able to play with last year,” Knicks coach Isiah Thomas said. “I thought New Jersey, they were tough tonight, and we got off to a pretty rocky start but our team battled back.”

Two of the Knicks’ three road wins have come in New Jersey, where they hadn’t won twice in the same season since 1994-95.

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**NCAA CSTV Men's Hockey Poll**

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**Big East Men's Basketball Standings**

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**Big East Women's Basketball Standings**

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**Patriots receiver Moss accused of assault**

New England wide receiver Randy Moss answers questions Wednesday regarding his alleged assault of Rachelle Washington. A hearing is scheduled for Jan. 28.

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**Associated Press**

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Randy Moss joined the Patriots this season determined to avoid off-field problems. Now he's in the middle of one, just days before Sunday's AFC championship game.

A temporary restraining order was issued Monday requiring the star wide receiver to stay at least 500 feet from a woman who alleged he committed "battery causing serious injury" to her at her Florida home on Jan. 6.

Moss denied the allegation by Rachelle Washington, which he called "this situation of extortion," and said he was "furious" about it. The restraining order was issued in the Broward County 17th Judicial Circuit of Florida.

"I was upset," Moss said. "I don't know Mr. Simpson what the hell you were thinking — or maybe that's the problem — you weren't." He was banned from the team until losing the Super Bowl.

Moss broke his usual midweek silence as he was surrounded by two dozen reporters and 10 video cameras at his locker on Wednesday. He didn't identify the woman but said she has been a friend for 11 years and that she asked for "his figures" for what he said was an accident in which she was hurt.

"I want to make something clear," Moss said. "In my whole entire life of living 30 years, I've never put my hand on one woman, physically or in an angry manner."

David McCliff, the attorney for Washington, had no comment, according to his legal assistant, Melissa Miller. A telephone message left by The Associated Press with Moss' attorney, Jim DiPiero, was not immediately returned.

In his previous nine seasons — seven with Minnesota and two with Oakland — Moss was involved in several off-field incidents.

"This is a negative," he said of the latest allegation, "a black cloud hanging over my head, and that's something that I did not want coming into the season. ... Everything I tried to do from getting here early, to make sure I eat the right food, all the way to practicing and playing, I wanted all of that to be A-plus."

"Everything's been positive, so why would I bring something negative on. As much as I care and love the game of football and love my teammates, I would never put myself or them in a situation of something like this."

**Patriots receiver Moss accused of assault**

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**O.J. Simpson violates bail terms, faces new charges**

LAS VEGAS—An angry judge doubled O.J. Simpson's bail to $250,000 on Wednesday for violating terms of his original bail by attempting to contact a co-defendant in his armed robbery case.

Simpson, clad in jail attire, grimaced and said she has been a friend in which she was arrested, just days before the Super Bowl.

Simpson denied the allegation by Rachelle Washington, which he called "this situation of extortion," and said he was "furious" about it. The restraining order was issued in the Broward County 17th Judicial Circuit of Florida.

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**Patriots receiver Moss accused of assault**

**Patriots receiver Moss accused of assault**

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**Sparano hopes to fix Dolphins' problems**

DAVIE, Fla. — Discussing his new job as Miami Dolphins coach, Tony Sparano sounded like Tony Soprano.

"I'm just happy to be part of the family," Sparano said.

The family includes his mentor, Bill Parcells, and general manager Jeff Ireland, who are transforming their new team into the Miami Dolphins.

Sparano is the latest transplant from Dallas. He was the Cowboys' assistant head coach before accepting an offer Wednesday to resign Parcells and Ireland.

The trio worked together in Dallas when Parcells was head coach in 2003-06.

"I know what the people here are capable of, and I'm excited about that," Sparano said at a news conference.

Parcells sat in a corner of the room, smiling occasionally like a proud papa. He declined to meet with reporters, leaving the talk to his proteges.
Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — The New York Islanders have the New Jersey Devils' number and it's starting to bug the perennial Atlantic Division champions.

Rick DiPietro had 37 saves and Bill Guerin scored two goals, including the winner Wednesday night that gave the Islanders their fifth win in as many games against New Jersey this season.

"We just seem to play well against them," said DiPietro, who has given up five goals in four games against New Jersey this season. "You find if you play long enough, there are certain teams you play well against. The last couple of years, it has been the Devils."

Mike Sillinger also scored for New York, which has won four of the five meetings in regulation. The Islanders have won six straight overall against the Devils.

Travis Zajac scored for New Jersey, which had a three-game winning streak snapped in losing for only the second time in 26 games (19-5-1).

"It doesn't take a rocket scientist, does it?" Devils forward Patrik Elias said of the Islanders' streak. "They are playing well against us. They are playing well against Philly and those kinds of teams. We had our opportunities to get back in the game, but it's still disappointing to lose. Their goaltender played awesome tonight."

DiPietro was spectacular in the third period, stopping 15-of-16 shots, including one in close by Dainius Zubrus in the final 90 seconds that had the Devils center looking up at the rafters in the Prudential Center.

"There were a couple of pucks whacked away and I was able to get my glove up on it," DiPietro said of Zubrus' shot from less than 10 feet away. Guerin downplayed the Islanders' dominance.

"Have we come out on top every game? No!" Guerin said. "It's not like it's been a dominating effort by us each and every single time. They have been good hockey games."

DiPietro, who shut out the Devils in his only other game at the Prudential Center, had to work hard in the final six minutes to preserve the win.

Brian Gionta, whose shot was deflected by Zajac on the Devils' goal, had a good chance from the right circle with six minutes to play. Jamie Langenbrunner, who was stoned close early in the game, was stopped in close again seconds later.

Zajac and Zubrus were also stopped in close in the final minutes.

"Tonight, Ricky saved us a couple of points," Guerin said. "I thought we played a solid game, but when they turned it up and got good scoring opportunities, Ricky was there. He saved at least four goals I can think over. He kept us in it. He's been doing it all year for us."

"The Devils are now winless in nine games against their New York-area rivals, including an 0-2-2 record with the Rangers."

"Nine straight is something we have to take notice of Obviously," Islanders coach Ted Nolan said. "It's nine straight against the New York teams." Gionta added, "We have to find a way to win."

The Islanders had a two-man advantage when Guerin gave them the lead with less than five minutes to go in the first period. Colin White and Mike Mottau were both given two-minute penalties at the same time.

Rangers 2, Sabres 1

The setting was the regular season instead of the postsea- son, but the stakes seemed nearly as high for the New York Rangers and Buffalo Sabres.

Not since the second round of last year's playoffs had the Rangers faced their Eastern Conference foes. Buffalo moved on to the conference finals then, and now both clubs face a second-half struggle just to get back into the tournament.

Petr Prucha and Brandon Dubinsky each had a goal and an assist to lift the Rangers to a victory Wednesday night that stretched the Sabres' losing streak to 10 games.

Buffalo snapped its run of three straight shootout losses, but couldn't find a way to win. The Sabres haven't come out on top since a 6-5 shootout victory at Philadelphia on Dec. 22 (6-5-5).

New York jumped from 10th place to eighth in the East with the win, five points in front of No. 11 Buffalo — the team with the NHL's best record last season.

The Sabres are trying to get out of their doldrums. They picked up some points recently by losing in overtime, but that's not enough. They are two losses from matching the worst winless streak in franchise history.

"It's better than getting blown out," goalie Ryan Miller said of the Sabres, who have lost by more than two goals once during the skid. "We're right there and it's something to build off of."

"It's frustrating any time you lose and when you put yourself in this kind of position in this league."

Islanders right wing Blake Comeau knocks the puck away from Devils right wing David Clarkson in front of goalie Rick DiPietro in New York's 3-1 win Wednesday.

NHL Islanders beat Devils for fifth-straight time
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Brow & View:
Fight Club

FRIDAY 1/18
11pm
GODFREY
pro comedian

Techno nightclub
DJ Gabriel Ynalay

SATURDAY 1/19
11pm
Brother Ali
Live

Hip Hop Nightclub
DJ Roost

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Prayer Service

Monday, January 21, 2008
12:30 p.m., Main Building Rotunda

Please join Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., President, and Rev. Hugh R. Page Jr. Dean of First Year of Studies, as they lead a prayer service to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

All members of the Notre Dame community and their families are welcome.

A reception will immediately follow.
Scheyer’s free throws key to Duke’s 70-57 win

Temple tops ranked Xavier for first time in two years; Harris nets 22 points to carry Massachusetts over Dayton

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — For awhile it looked like No. 7 Duke might just lose a third straight game to Florida State, a team trying to get back to NCAA tournament for the first time in 10 years.

But coach Mike Krzyzewski’s youthful Blue Devils rallied from a second-half swoon just in time Wednesday night.

Jon Scheyer scored 21 points and four teammates combined to make eight straight free throws in the final 1:34 to beat Florida State 70-57 and snap the unlikely two-game losing streak to the Seminoles.

For awhile there it looked like there's no way we're going to win it and then our kids got tough," Krzyzewski said. "After they had been the weakest they got to be the toughest. I don't know how that works, but it worked tonight."

Florida State took its only lead of the second half at 52-54 on Jason Rich's layup with 3:45 left before Duke put the Blue Devils ahead for good with 3:30 to play.

"There are shots and then there are huge shots, and that was a huge shot," Krzyzewski said.

"That slowed our momentum," Rich said. "Actually started the momentum to go in reverse."

Duke (14-1, 2-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) nearly blew a 17-point lead it built in the first half on a 16-0 run led by Scheyer, who had 10 points on a variety of shots in a span of just 1:35.

"We've struggled here in the past, but this is a new team," Scheyer said. "Last year they beat us at home so we had something to prove." The Blue Devils led 34-22 at halftime before Rich, who had all 18 of his points in the second half, keyed the comeback by Florida State (12-6, 1-2).

"We imposed our will on us, which he can do," Krzyzewski said. "We just played harder."

Toney Douglas added 13 points for Florida State while Uche Echelu, who had 24 points and 12 rebounds in a double-overtime loss at Clemson on Saturday, was held to six points and seven rebounds.

"We got beat by a team that executed and maintained their poise for longer periods than we did," Florida State coach Leonard Hamilton said. "They had an off day in every game they played so many weapons."

Henderson, who had five rebounds and four teammates combined for 14 points and 12 rebounds in a span of 6:14 to give Duke a 7-0 advantage in second-half points, had his career-best 21 points in the second half to tie his career-high total.

"He was our key," said Chris Singleton, who led Florida State with 11 points and four rebounds.

Scheyer, who had four first-half points, finished with 21, but Duke's scoring leader

coming in, had just two field goals in the first half. He found his scoring touch after the break, getting 15 of the team's next 20 points.

"We've gone through our lulls," coach Travis Ford said. "Today we were able to turn things around. This could be the start."

"I think it's just a matter of time before they regain their national prominence," Xavier coach Sean Miller said. "They have a great coach. We respect them a great deal."

"Derrick Brown had 14 points for the Musketeers (14-4, 2-1), who had won six in a row by an average margin of 25.3 points since losing to then-No. 12 Tennessee on Dec. 22.

But Temple came ready to play. The Owls (12-4, 1-1) were never in the game and were forced to look for other scorers.

"We're focused on Robert's as much as we could to shut him down. We executed almost to perfection," Massachusetts coach Fran Dunphy said. "The Minutemen finished with 13 3-pointers and used their speed in the open court to beat Dayton's defense, scoring 14 points off that in three point rage."

"We gave up way too much dribble penetration, which led to open 3s," Dayton coach Brian Gregory said. "If they're going to double Brian Roberts, other guys need to step up and make plays. We didn't do enough of that tonight consistently."

Dayton finished 4-of-25 from 3-point range. When Dayton tried to take the ball inside, the Minutemen would collapse, blocking shots — six in all — or forcing the Flyers to kick the ball back out.

Dayton took a 57-56 lead with 10:10 remaining on a layup by Robert's. With the Flyers leading 59-58 after the teams exchanged baskets, Lowe hit two free throws to put Massachusetts ahead for good. A minute later he made a layup off a missed 3-point attempt by the Flyers, and the Minutemen never trailed again.

"I told our team to expect them to come back," Ford said. "They came back and even took the lead, but we responded well."
AUSTRALIAN OPEN

With baby looking on, Davenport bows out

Sharapova defeats new mother in second-round match

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Maria Sharapova looked up and spotted a 7-month-old kid staring down at her.

"I thought I saw her little kid giving me dirty looks," Sharapova said.

The boy, Jagger, was court­side. His mom, Lindsay Davenport, winner of three Grand Slam titles and with a 1-1 record since returning to the tour, was across the net.

Sharapova beat Davenport 6-1, 6-3 Wednesday night to move into the third round of the Australian Open against a fellow Russian, Elena Vesnina.

"Tell you the truth, I approached it like it's a final," said Sharapova, straying from "one-match-at-a-time" mantra. "Ever since I took a peek at the draw and saw that Davenport was second round." Davenport was only five tournaments into a return from a March hand injury.

Davenport was only five tournaments into a return from a March hand injury.

"You probably don't get to see too many second rounds where her semi were Grand Slam champions, former No. 1, playing against each other, she broke a thumb two weeks before it," Sharapova added. "It's a match that the court, the excitement, the showmanship — I know, as an athlete, that's what you play for." And that's probably what brought Davenport back.

"It was fun," said Sharapova. The crowd was great. I wish I could've given them a little more to cheer for during the 31-year-old Californian said. "The key was starting off well, and I really didn't break." Sharapova never faced a break point.

Sharapova never faced a break point. She broke for the fourth time when Davenport netted a forehand on second match point.

"I'm disappointed with the way this match went and this tournament went, but I have to look big picture at this point in my career," Davenport said. "So far it's been pretty well for the last few months." Justine Henin could say the same about her time back on the tour after a marriage breakup that kept her from Melbourne last year. She dominated the rest of the 2007 season with a 26-1 record, includ­ing wins at the French and U.S. Opens.

Her 6-1, 7-5 victory over Russia's Olga Poutchekva on Wednesday extended the Belgian's streak to 30 consecutive wins since an upset semi­final loss to Marion Bartoli at Wimbledon.

No. 3 Jelena Jankovic, who had to save three match points in a 22-game third set in the first round, had a routine 6-2, 7-5 win over Edin Gallocate in the second round.

Serena Williams made a comeback of her own last year, capturing an eighth Grand Slam title with an emphatic victory over Sharapova in the Australian Open final only three weeks after one of her worst career losses in a tournament at Hobart. She was ranked No. 1. and was only the second unseeded woman to win a Grand Slam title.

Now ranked No. 7, she's growing in confidence for an Australian title defense. She won a record 22nd title in her five most recent trips to Melbourne Park with a 6-3, 6-1 win over China's Yuan Meng.

Sixth Venus, whose first­round win was her first at Melbourne Park since a fourth-round exit in 2005, is in the opposite half of the draw.

Venus, ranked No. 8, plays Camill Fill first up on Vodafone Arena on Thursday, with No. 2 Svetlana Kuznetsova beginning play on center court against Tsvetana Pironkova.

Roger Federer is next at Rod Laver Arena against French veteran Fabrice Santoro, playing in a record 62nd Grand Slam tournament. Federer has reached the finals of the last 10 majors, winning eight of those to move within two of Pete Sampras' record 14 Grand Slam titles. He's 27-1 at the season's opening major since the start of 2004.

Balance continued from page 24

Luke Harangody has thrown his hat in the ring for Big East player of the year consideration. He's leading the league in scoring (19.3 points per game) and is fourth in rebounds (9.6). Harangody had some trouble contending with the double­ tee from Marquette Saturday, but fared much bet­ter against Cincinnati Tuesday, scoring 24 in the second half.

Guard Kyle McAlarney lit up Connecticut for a career-high 32 points and has developed a consistent touch from the out­ side after some early-season struggles. McAlarney is also well on his way to perfecting the floater in the lane, which has enabled him to score over guys seven or eight inches taller than he.

Meanwhile, Rob Kurz is as steady as always, averaging 13.8 points and 8.3 rebounds per game.

But for everything the Irish are doing well right now, the 92-66 blowout at Marquette showed what can go wrong.

If Harangody or McAlarney has an off-night shooting, oth­ers need to pick up the slack. It could be Tory Jajccek finding his way inside, Luke Zeller or Ryan Ayers (whose defensive efforts are almost as unapprec­ated by the casual observer as Kurz's overall career) or Notre Dame banking a few more three-pointers and fight­ing their way inside, or Zach Hillesland using his size and quickness to find his way to the basket.

All of that could happen — but it hasn't been the story of this sea­ son. Against Marquette, Harangody had 29 points and Kurz added 11, but no one else scored in double figures.

If Notre Dame expects to compete with the upper eche­lon of the Big East, especially on the road, it needs a little more help from its role players on the nights when Harangody is held in check by someone a little taller than him — like 7­-foot-3 Hasheem Thabeet of Connecticut — or when McAlarney faces tough one-on­one defenders, like he did against Marquette. Not every team in the Big East has a Thabeet, or guards as quick as Marquette, but the upper-level teams, like Georgetown and Pittsburgh, do.

Right now, Notre Dame could easily finish 12-6 in conference and make the NCAA Tournament, but with a little extra boost from its supporting cast, the Irish can challenge for the league title.

Notre Dame faces its biggest test of the season Saturday when it goes on the road to face Georgetown. The Hoyas are on a bit of a downturn, struggling at home against Connecticut and falling at Pittsburgh, but then again, Marquette was in a similar situation Saturday.

And we all know how that turned out.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Chrisline at chine@nd.edu.

Irish forward Rob Kurz and Cincinnati guard Deonta Vaughn battle for a loose ball in Notre Dame's 91-74 win Tuesday.

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Hansbrough's block with seconds left keeps North Carolina perfect

Associated Press

ATLANTA — North Carolina usually does its best work at the offensive end.

This time, it was a defensive play that kept the top-ranked Tar Heels perfect.

With Georgia Tech poised to pull off a monumental upset, Tyler Hansbrough made a game-saving block in the closing seconds and the Tar Heels escaped with an 83-82 victory over the pesky Yellow Jackets on Wednesday night.

Hansbrough scored 27 points, bullying inside for shots and drawing one foul after another, but he saved his biggest play for the end — getting a hand on Zack Peacock's shot that could have won it for the Yellow Jackets.

"Tyler was really something else," Tar Heels coach Roy Williams said.

Danny Green put North Carolina (18-0, 3-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) ahead by making one of two free throws with 22 seconds remaining.

Georgia Tech (7-9, 0-3) had a chance — a couple of them, in fact. Peacock retrieved the loose ball after Hansbrough's block and got off another shot with 3 seconds to go. It rimmed out, allowing North Carolina to escape.

Peacock insisted that someone hit his hand on the first shot, but he made no excuses about the second attempt.

"It was the cleanest shot you'll ever get in a basketball game," he moaned. "Next time, it's going in."

Hansbrough finished 7-of-14 from the field and kept getting to the foul line, where he had more attempts (15) than Georgia Tech's entire team (10). The burly, 6-foot-9 junior made 13 free throws, and North Carolina needed every one of them.

"My face really got beat up," said Hansbrough, who also had 11 rebounds. "It was really, really rough."

North Carolina is off to its best start since the 1985-86 team began the season with 21 straight wins.

Another encouraging sign for the Tar Heels: This is their first 3-0 start in the conference since 2004-05, and that team went on to claim the NCAA championship.

This season, they have won all but four of their games with double-digit blowouts. North Carolina came into Atlanta averaging 92.2 points and winning by an average margin of 22.1.

With snow covering the ground outside after a rare winter storm in Georgia, the Yellow Jackets almost pulled off an even bigger surprise. They put together an 11-2 run for their biggest lead of the game, 63-56.

Anthony Morrow hit a 3-pointer falling down and Peacock completed the spurt with a basket on the inside.

In the unaccustomed role of playing from behind, North Carolina responded. The Tar Heels worked hard for second chances and pulled even at 70 on Ty Lawson's three-point play with 52 seconds remaining.

But the Yellow Jackets kept matching North Carolina shot for shot. D'Andre Bell hit a jumper to reclaim the lead for the home team. Lawson scored on a fast-break drive to make it 72-all. Georgia Tech took off the other way for Peacock's dunk.

It was close to the end. Jeremis Smith hit two free throws with 1:13 remaining to make it 82-82, and Georgia Tech squandered a chance to go ahead when Morrow missed a jumper from the corner with the shot clock running down.

Green was fouled by Peacock on the rebound, and walked to the other end of the court to shoot two. Only one went in, but that was enough to give the Tar Heels another victory.

"I'd rather have the winning points than the winning point," Green quipped.

Smith led the Yellow Jackets with 15 points. Peacock had 14 and Morrow added 13. Freshman Gani Lawal also had 13 but fouled out with more than 5 minutes remaining.

Georgia Tech scored three more baskets than the mighty Tar Heels, including eight 3-pointers, but couldn't overcome their 21-26 showing at the foul line.

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Wildcats continued from page 24

The 6-4 lead in the first five minutes of the game. With Peters on the court, though, Notre Dame took the game back in its own hands.

The strong Irish press continued to force turnovers as Notre Dame stretched its lead. Despite staying strong up top, Notre Dame struggled to defend the Wildcats’ three-point game. Villanova went 9-for-14 from the three-point line, led by Junior Lisa Karcic, who made three for four.

McGraw knew the Irish had their work cut out for them. "They're a great win for us," McGraw said. " Villanova is a really difficult team to guard, they obviously shoot the three very well.

The game also brought an excess of fouls from both sides. Villanova headed to the locker room after the first half with eight fouls, Notre Dame with six.

The Irish were able to control their fouls in the second half and finished the game with 12: Villanova had 18.

This made the difference for the Irish as they went 17-for-18 in free throws, just one shy of their season record. Villanova only went three for four from the line.

The match wasn’t all ups for Notre Dame. With 4:55 left in the first half, Lindsay Schrader was down on the floor grabbing her left knee. McGraw said she was immediately concerned, since the guard had torn her right ACL last October.

"Ridiculous," Peters said. "She's been such a big key for us and she's having such a great year you have to see that happen."

Schrader re-entered the game in the second half, after doctors said she had hyper-extended her knee, which was not enough to keep her on the bench. Schrader came back for the Irish to finish the game with 12 points.

Laura Kurz, sister of Notre Dame men's basketball captain Bob Kurz, led Villanova with 20 points.

Notre Dame had some trouble with the ball as the Irish forward Devereaux Peters shoots free throws in Notre Dame’s 69-58 win over Villanova Wednesday.

The match started with a moment of silent prayer for Notre Dame faculty member Patricia McAdams, a longtime Irish fan who was injured in an accident on her way home from the West Virginia game Sunday.

Note: Peters’ role in Notre Dame’s press isn’t always to get the ball herself.

"My role is really to get in their vision and really just force them to to through it long so other people can get the steal," Peters said.

Peters continued from page 24

beat Peters, she used the only outlet available to her to take out her frustration. As Peters backed into the lane, Kareic reached around and popped her in the jaw.

Unfazed, Peters found guard Lindsay Schrader for the layup, then proceeded to steal a pass, run the length of the court, and make both free throws after she was fouled attempting a layup.

By disrupting Villanova’s offense, Peters put together one of her best games of the season.

"She’s everywhere. She takes up a lot of ground," Villanova head coach Harry Perretta said. "She's guarding our guards. She's faster than our point guard.

Along with her 15 points, which came on 5-of-8 shooting, Peters had six rebounds, three blocks and seven steals in the game. No player has had seven steals in a game since Megan Duffy did it on Jan. 30, 2005, when the Irish ended No. 9/10 Connecticut’s 112-game winning streak at home against conference opponents. She was also perfect from the foul line, hitting all five free throws she took.

Peters made a living on the block underneath the basket and waited for a lob pass from her teammates. Once it came, her adroitness at turning for the lay-in made life difficult for defenders.

Her natural affinity for defense made itself apparent as soon as she entered the game. Seconds after entering the lineup, she tipped a cross-court pass that resulted in a turnover and scored on the ensuing Irish possession.

"Our game plan changes when she comes in the game because she can do so many things, so many things well defensively," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "We really want her on the floor as much as we can have her there."

Villanova’s offense sputtered when Peters participated in the press. Her height and long arms got in Villanova’s way, and her quick feet carried her back and forth as she blanketed the Wildcat guards.

Villanova guard Siobhan O’Connor’s eyes grew wide with fright as Peters descended on her during the press. Indeed, the Wildcat offensive machine suffered technical difficulties and at times lost even the ability to dribble and pass when Peters applied pressure.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu.

Irish guard Charel Allen guards Villanova guard Maria Getty in Notre Dame’s 69-58 win over the Wildcats Wednesday at the Joyce Center. Getty did not score in the game.

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The Observer • TODAY

page 23

HOROSCOPES

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Chad Lowe, 40; Mario Van Peebles, 51; Arnold Martin, 61; Margaret O'Brien, 71.

Happy Birthday! You will accomplish for you this day if you just quietly move forward with your plan. Treat your own judgment and your knowledge and expertise to use. Your numbers are 11, 19, 21, 26, 33.

April 20

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You will be a little anxious and life will be what it seems to remember. Look at the big picture and, if you aren't happy with what you see, change it. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stick to what is to be finished and don't be anyone: take your mind off the task at hand. If you fall short of your expectations, someone will be sure to point out your shortcomings. 5 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): There will be no time to pull over and plan. Action will be the key to your success. Your success will be the re-task, so treat it as your own judgment, not someone else's. 5 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): If you find you are close to a situation to make a great decision, don't move forward. Look around you and see what everyone else is doing. It should give you an indication where you fit in and how you can proceed. Honor only your own. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): This is a perfect meet and greet day, especially if inspira­ tion people are involved. A social connection can be made or you can get closer to your current partner by discussing your future plans. 5 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If you complain or criticize others, you aren't likely to get anywhere. However, if you focus on a simple couple of changes that will raise your stress, much can be accomplished. Start doing for yourself. 5 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may have to take an alternate route to get to wherever you're going. Keep on top of what everyone else is doing or you can get lost in your current partner by discussing your future plans. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You should be spending time looking for love or doing something special with your current partner. Travel may entice you but you can accomplish far more if your feet are on the ground. 5 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Listen and answer your question. Someone will give you a bird's eye view of what you need to do to accomplish your goals. His smart and play your cards close to your chest. 5 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Consider your options and you will be able to sit down and move forward with your schedule. Planning your next vacation will encourage you to be more productive. 4 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will find it difficult to stick to one thing. Your mind will be wandering and you may need to spend your money. 3 stars

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**ND Women's Basketball**

**Grit and determination**

Irish top Wildcats for second Big East win in three games

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

Villanova leads the nation with the fewest turnovers per game, but that didn't stop Irish freshman Devereaux Peters from playing her role.

Peters forced seven of Villanova's 24 turnovers in Notre Dame's 69-58 win over Villanova Wednesday night at the Joyce Center.

The Irish felt Peters' impact as soon as she stepped on the court at 15:47 in the first half. She grabbed her first steal only 20 seconds into the game and put her first two points on the board just 29 seconds later.

"She's a really good defender in the front of the press and I think she makes a difference in our press, which is why we were able to force the turnovers tonight," Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said.

Villanova looked strong coming out of the gate and took

Irish guard Ashley Barlow drives the lane in Notre Dame's 69-58 win over Villanova Wednesday at the Joyce Center. The Irish are 2-1 in the Big East so far this season.

see WILDCATS/page 22

**Men's Basketball Commentary**

**ND needs balanced scoring**

Team must have points from more players in upcoming contests

Do you remember the transitive property from your high school math classes? You know, if a is greater than b, and b is greater than c, then a is greater than c?

That may work fine in math, but it hardly applies to the wild and crazy Big East.

Pittsburgh suffers injuries to two key players, leaves to Villanova, but somehow pulled together to knock off league-favorite Georgetown. West Virginia handily beats Marquette, but Marquette turns around and crushes Notre Dame, who beat West Virginia nine days earlier.

DePaul, who was 4-7 out of conference, started the Big East 3-1. Most teams have played four conference games, and nobody escaped without at least one loss.

So how can Notre Dame pull through the mayhem and finish near the top of the Big East standings?

A little balance.

Notre Dame (13-3, 3-1 Big East) is one of six teams with two losses atop the conference standings. Before the season began, the Big East coaches picked Notre Dame to finish ninth in their preseason poll.

Last year, the Irish were picked 11th, and finished fourth.

Judging by the way they played their first four games, Notre Dame can finish that high again this year — maybe even a little higher.

Through four games, forward Peters' efforts on both ends of floor spur team to win

After 37 minutes of basketball, Villanova forward Lisa Karicic was frustrated. Her team was down by 10 points, and they couldn't mount a comeback despite shooting 36.3 percent from behind the arc.

But she had to be frustrated with Irish freshman forward Devereaux Peters. All night, Peters had disrupted the Wildcats offense, throwing her lanky limbs in front of shots and passes and destroying Villanova's momentum. She had also lived on the block all night and finished with a career-high 15 points.

So because Karicic couldn't

**SMC Basketball**

Kessler's record night powers Belles to win

Senior guard scores 41 as Saint Mary's tops K-Zoo, 72-69

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI
Sports Writer

Alison Kessler rebounded from a slow start during Wednesday's game against Kalamazoo, scoring a school-record 41 points in the Belles' 72-69 win.

The Saint Mary's senior guard missed her first two shots and had a turnover early in the first half. She didn't get on the board until five and a half minutes had gone by.

Once she started, though, Kessler never stopped.

The Belles edged Kalamazoo for their third conference win of the season. Kessler, the only Belle to score in double figures, shot 14-27 from the field and pulled down nine rebounds in the win.

Despite Kessler's stellar performance, the Hornets (4-10, 1-5 MIAA) went shot-for-shot with the Belles for the first half, always staying within at least six points.

After a break, Kalamazoo took a 42-41 lead at the 16:41 mark, and stretched that lead to 12 with 7:48 left in the game. But Saint Mary's took a 70-69 lead after a layup by Kessler with 34 seconds remaining.

Twenty seconds later, Kessler sealed the game and scored her 40th and 41st points with two free-throws.

Sophomore Anna Kammrath was the Belles' second leading scorer with eight and junior forward Erin Newsom chipped in eleven rebounds.

Kalamazoo senior guards Kelsee Howell and Therese Demres led the Hornets, scoring 22 and 19 points, respectively.

With the win, the Belles reached .500 both in the MIAA (3-3) and overall (7-7).

The team hopes to continue its success Saturday at home against the Tri-State. The contest with the Thunder will be the second home game for the Belles this season, and the first since Dec. 5 when the Belles lost to Calvin.

Contact Griffin Dassatti at gdassatti@nd.edu