University clarifies absence policy

Provost: Students not allowed 3 unexcused cuts; ND extends Thanksgiving break

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

Attendance policies may grow stricter this semester following a letter from University Provost Thomas Burish reminding professors that students are not allowed three unexcused absences.

"Contrary to common student lore, there is no University policy permitting students ... three unexcused absences from class without consequences," Burish said in the letter, which was sent to professors near the end of winter break.

The letter also outlined a schedule change for fall semesters. Students will now have the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off, but will have one fewer study day before final examinations.

"Most" faculty members that were surveyed supported this change, the letter said, providing "a strong and clear statement be sent to students and faculty alike reiterating the University policy that classes must be held on all scheduled class days, including the days before and after holidays, and that class attendance was expected."

Executive Assistant to the Provost Brandon Bauch said the letter was sent out primarily to clear up any confusion about attendance policies.

But English professor Noreen Deane-Moran said she wasn’t sure why students and professors believed Notre Dame allowed each student three unexcused cuts.

"Some people have strict attendance policies and some do not. But there was no University allowance of three cuts or that every teacher had to let students take them," Deane-Moran said. "I don’t know where that idea got started."

University academic policy states that instructors are

Local kids treated to Pitt game

Unknown benefactor gives away 100 tickets

By THERESA CIVANTOS
News Writer

Thanks to an anonymous donor, 100 children in the South Bend area have free tickets to see Notre Dame’s women’s basketball team play Pittsburgh on Feb. 10.

Three quarters of the 100 tickets went to area children involved in Lead-ND, the campus organization that takes Notre Dame volunteers to different schools across South Bend to help the children develop leadership skills. The other 25 tickets were distributed through Children’s Campus, which treats severely emotionally disturbed children. And the children will get to see an important game for the Irish. The game will be broadcast nationally on ESPN2.

"It just happened by chance," said junior John Wanek, an executive board member for Lead-ND. "We’ve done those trips before and I called the ticket office with this beautiful desperate speech to get tickets. But it turned out it didn’t even matter what I said. They told me that some donor had bought 100 tickets and he wanted them to be used for kids. It just kind of fell into our laps."

Popular ‘E-club’ attracts variety of majors

By JOSEPH McMahan
Assistant News Editor

Since its inception a mere 15 months ago, the Entrepreneurship Club has seen its membership skyrocket to become one of the fastest-growing and most active undergraduate organizations on campus.

The Entrepreneurship Club — or "E-Club," as its members call it — attracts students from a wide variety of disciplines — and that may be one of the reasons why it has seen its membership rise to 70 in the last year, co-president Mark Bennett said. The group is proud that its operations board includes a biology major, a political science major and a finance major, among several other disciplines.

"The Entrepreneurship Club ... provides a professional business outlook that is applicable to every major on campus," vice president of operations Don Whitley said. "Unlike other clubs, which may try to train you to become an employee, the E-Club will provide you with meaningful team interactions and networking experiences which will help you develop the marketable skills of a leader and differentiate
INSIDE COLUMN

National security

In her utopian novel The Giver, Lois Lowry presents a superficially ideal world that is later revealed to be fatally flawed. One key dialogue occurs when the eponymous Giver describes one of these society’s choices:

"We gained control of many things. But we had to let go of others."

The 12-year-old protagonist, Jonas, immediately replies, "We shouldn’t have.

The Giver is surprised that Jonas is so quick to realize this truth that more was lost than was gained by the trade-off their society expected to make. Unfortunately, many decisions we make as a nation fall into the "shouldn’t have" category — like the state’s prioritization of a terrorist scholar Turly Ramadhan’s entrance into the United States, where he was to teach Islamic studies in a new, tenured position at the Kore Institute for International Peace Studies.

Ramadhan is currently teaching at Oxford. Yes, that Oxford. Because he donated $1,330 to a Swiss charity later designated as a terrorist group, the United States didn’t want him teaching here.

We’re big on national security threats in America — sometimes a little too big, I don’t think there’s much doubt that it was our attitude toward communities in the 1950s that was responsible for bringing us out of the Cold War as capitalists. It makes sense that national security is a top priority, but we need to look at the big picture in terms of cost and benefit.

Even if we assume that Ramadhan’s $1,330 bought a tulip of one of Human’s rockets, we have to at least admit the possibility that his perspective could enlighten us as to what exactly is motivating terrorism in the first place. We need to realize that perspectives outside of the Patriot Act have value — even when it comes to fighting security threats.

As a small illustration of the importance of putting human capital high among national security priorities, one of the first actions of Hitler’s administration was to remove Jewish university professors from their jobs. Einstein had seen this coming and left for the U.S. just in time. Carl Stern, Princeton and the U.S. reaped the benefits. Germany, not so much.

America’s policy at the time wasn’t much better. J. Robert Oppenheimer headed up the development project for the first nuclear weapon. At the time, Oppenheimer was regarded as a security risk for what were perceived as radical left-wing political leanings.

Long story short, the U.S. put its suspicions on hold and let him build the bomb. But after his bomb-making days, the same left-leaning political connections that had been pushed under the rug earlier led Oppenheimer to be considered a security risk he had also begun warning against a U.S. and Soviet arms race. After refusing to resign, his security clearance was revoked in a public hearing.

Our priorities on national security continue to be too militaristic. We’d rather bar entry, period, than try to learn something, unless of course that something was even more militaristic. Weren’t Ramadhan an engineering offering a terrorist-killing-e-mail instead of a theological offering intellectual insight, we’d probably ignore his past transgressions and let him in. But insight isn’t as immediately understandable as an advantage, so it goes to Oxford.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact: Joey King at jking7@nd.edu

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHICH TEAM SHOULD WIN THE SUPER BOWL?

Alex Stucker
sophomore
Morrissey
John Baty
sophomore
Morrissey
Chelesea Smith
freshman
Levis
Meghan Huffman
freshman
Levis
Guillermo Pi
freshman
Siegfried

"The Giants. My mom is a Manning fan.”

"The Patriots. They’re the best team right now.”

"The Patriots because my roommate is from Boston.”

"The Giants. The Patriots are too cocky.”

"The Patriots. Brady is friends with George Bush.”

BRIEF: SugarTone Brass Band, New York’s premier New Orleans-style brass band, will perform tonight at 7:30 in the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

In Brief

Prints from the Smirne Museum of Art’s collection that focus on artistic subjects from the 17th century will be displayed today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibition, “Rembrandt and the Art of Printmaking in Holland,” will highlight the golden age of Dutch art.

The Winter Career Fair and Diversity Reception will be held today at the Joyce Center. The Diversity Reception will be held from 12 p.m. to 2:30. The Career Fair will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Further information can be found online at the Career Center Web site.

Women’s basketball will play Providence tonight at 7 in the Joyce Center arena.

The film “In July” will be shown at 7 p.m. and again at 10 p.m. Thursday in the Browning Cinema in the成rell Performing Arts Center. Tickets will cost $5 for students, $5 for faculty and staff, and $6 for general admission.

Men’s basketball will play Providence on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Joyce Center arena.

Men’s hockey will play the U.S. Under-18 Team Friday at 7:35 p.m. at the Joyce Center ice rink in an exhibition.

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

OFFBEAT

Man sets station on fire over playlist

AUSTIN, Texas — A volunteer at a community radio station set fire to the station because he was upset that his song selections for an overnight Internet broadcast were changed, police said.

Paul Webster Feinstein, 24, has been charged with second-degree felony arson for the Jan. 5 fire that caused $300,000 damage to the studios of 91.7 FM KOOP. He faces from two to 20 years in prison and a $10,000 fine if convicted.

Feinstein told investigators that he was “very unhappy” about the changes to his playlist, said Austin Fire Department Battalion Chief Craig Nye. The songs were intended for an Internet broadcast that occurs when the station is off the air.

Man wins, then loses, then wins lottery

SYDNEY, Australia — An Australian retiree won a $1.8 million lottery prize, then lost it, and then won it again Wednesday through a court ruling.

Werner Reinhold bought the lottery ticket at a newsstand in Sydney’s largest city on Sept. 19, 1995. His original ticket did not print correctly, so he asked for a new one, the new ticket turned out to be the winner.

But when Reinhold, now 73, went back to claim the $1.8 million jackpot, he discovered that the replacement ticket had been canceled, not the misprinted original, and was unable to claim the prize.

He sued NSW Lotteries, which oversees lottery tickets in New South Wales state, and the newsstand which sold him the ticket.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

CORRECTION

The Observer was unable to verify the information from the e-mail of a professional publication and sources for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4514 so we can correct our error.
BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Marathon planners request funds

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
News Writer

Pauline Kistka and Francesca Johnson, Saint Mary's dance marathon organizers, attended the Board of Governance's (BOG) meeting Tuesday asking for funding for the upcoming event, which has raised more than $68,000 in two years for Riley's Children Hospital.

In its third year, organizers are looking to finance the marathon without resorting to money collected from registra­
tants so far this year.

"We feel it is our responsibili­
ty to raise the money without dipping into the money we have raised for the hospital," Kistka said.

The marathon, which has a staff of about 75, was recently voted the "Best New Dance Marathon" in the country by the Children's Miracle Network. Participants pay a $12 registra­
tion fee and provide the addresses of people they believe might donate money. Event organizers then send a letter to each address asking for a contribution.

The dance will be held from 9 p.m. on April 4 to 8 a.m. on April 5 in the Angela Athletic Facility at Saint Mary's. More than 150 dancers have already registered, and organizers are hoping to get as many as 400.

After their presentation, Kistka and Johnson submitted a proposal to BOG requesting funds for the marathon. Board members did not discuss the proposal during Tuesday's meeting.

In other BOG news:

• Elections commissioner Maggie Siefert confirmed that juniors Mickey Gruscinski and Sarah Falvey were elected the 2008-09 student body presi­dent and vice president, respectively.

• Sophomore parents week­end will be held Feb. 15-17, sophomore class president Camille Gilert said.

• Athletics commissioner Noreen Sherrard said the first ever only — home swim meet for the Belles will take place at 6 p.m. on Feb. 1 in the Rolls Aquatic Center at Notre Dame.

• Cassie Quaglia, president of the Residence Hall Association, said Little Sibs Weekend will be held Feb. 22-24.

• The all-school formal will be held this Saturday at the Palais Royale, Quaglia said. There will be a bus to drive attendees to and from the dance.

• The new Heritage wall will be unveiled Thursday at 2:15 p.m. in the basement of the Student Center, missions com­missioner Mary Frantz said.

Contact Ashley Charnley at
acharnley@stmarys.edu

Notre Dame turns to locally produced food

Food Services aids community, environment by purchasing crops from neighboring states

By DENNIS SLATER
News Writer

"We can get to Wisconsin faster and more efficiently than we can get to Bloomington, [Ind.]," said senior Athletics commissioner Jim Yarbrough.

Approximately $600,000 was spent on Michigan and Wisconsin cheese, milk and dairy products, and another $400,000 on local meat prod­ucts. Approximately $45,328 was used to buy Michigan and Wisconsin apples, and $27,675 for Indiana tomatoes.

Resorting to local products, he said, cuts down on expen­
sive fossil fuels that would be needed to transport the prod­ucts. "In some cases eliminates — the need for chemical preserva­
tives that could be detrimental to a person's health," Yarbrough said.

Last year's local foods pur­chases were part of a regional effort by the University of Indiana colleges to give a boost to Indiana producers, he said.

Food Services strives to ben­
efit the community in other ways.

"We are proud of the food we get from our suppliers and the way they produce it," said Emma McManus, director of Food Services.

"We are very happy to be educating our stu­
dents about recycling and the benefits of locally grown foods and staying environmentally friendly," she said. "This is a continuing process and we are happy to be educating our stu­
dents about recycling and the benefits of locally grown foods and staying environmentally friendly."
Absences
described as "part of the learning process and the number of classes missed by a given student are basically determined by performance on exams and problem sets. If a student is expected to hold classes regularly scheduled classes, they are expected to hold classes when it is scheduled," she said. Goodson, who teaches a chemistry class with more than 350 students, explained that class size affects attendance policy. He said that he believed that a seminar class participation is an important part of the learning process, and that he did not expect that many students would drop out. He said that the number of classes missed by a given student are basically determined by performance on exams and problem sets. Some students who miss lots of classes to the student to choose a given student are basically determined by performance on exams and problem sets.

Leader-ND volunteer. "I've always felt that since we are paying money (for academic programs), it should really be up to the student to choose to go to class. You're not going to get as much out of it if you don't go, but that's the case," she said.

Sophomore Bill Warren said he felt it was important for professors to take attendance - especially if it can help students boost their grade. "In smaller classes, professors should at least take a mental note of who is there," Warren said. If someone is trying really hard in class, class attendance should be reflected in the student's grade," he said. Brian Cook believes that attending class should be linked to the student's grade. He said, "We're a fun bunch," she said. "We make each other laugh."

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan2@nd.edu

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmah0@nd.edu

Contact Elizabeth Kelly at eskelly@nd.edu

Contact Jaime Zobel of the Fortune 500 company Northern Trust, and and students in the classroom is part of the educational experience and when classes are held, students should attend. But that concept seemed to be overlooked around breaks and long weekends, Roach said. Holly Goodson, professor of chemistry, sent an email to the University's students to attend classes regularly. "I think that there have been some faculty who have canceled classes before major holidays, and I think that part of the purpose of the letter is to remind faculty that they are expected to hold class when it is scheduled," she said. Goodson, who teaches a chemistry class with more than 350 students, explained that class size affects attendance policy. He said that he believed that a seminar class participation is an important part of the learning process, and that he did not expect that many students would drop out. He said that the number of classes missed by a given student are basically determined by performance on exams and problem sets. Some students who miss lots of classes to the student to choose a given student are basically determined by performance on exams and problem sets.

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Contact Jaime Zobel of the Fortune 500 company Northern Trust, and...
Battle for Mosul will be difficult, slow

MOSUL, Iraq — The top U.S. commanders in northern Iraq predicted Tuesday the battle to oust al-Qaida in Iraq from its last urban stronghold will not be a swift, strike, but rather a long campaign that Mosul that will require more firepower from both the Pentagon and Iraqi allies.

The assessment appeared to discount suggestions by Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki this week that the fighting could be reversed if U.S. forces in northern Iraq...

Sen. said Maj. Gen. Mark

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of

that will require more firepower from both

Ambassador Thomas Pickering, serves as a warn­

Corps

ing to the Bush administration at a time military

Iraq- The top

commanders that the improvement in

U.S.-led

al-Qaida is regenerating. But the

predicted when President Bush ordered five more

U.S.

tage. He also has caucus vic­

state where he grew up and

Poll data.

and to easing the path to citi-

for nearly half the

Republican electorate.

McCain

lead his rival among

Arizona Senator John McCain speaks during a campaign rally in Florida Monday. McCain

won the state’s 57 delegates in the Republican primary election Tuesday. Even so, Clinton sought to emphasize her performance in the state, holding a rally as the polls were closing.

She challenged Barack Obama to agree to seat the delegates on the basis of the night’s vote, but he demurred, saying he would abide by an agreement all Democratic candidates had made months ago.

"These decisions will be made after the nomination, not before," Obama told reporters Tuesday on a plane back from Washington to Kansas. "Obviously, I care a lot about the Democratic party in Michigan and a lot about the people in Florida. And I want their voices in the general election. We’ll be actively campaigning for them."
Insurgents blast U.S. patrol with roadside bomb

Five American soldiers killed in explosion, raising Pentagon's January death count to 36

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — In a daring ambush, insurgents battered a U.S. patrol with a roadside bomb Monday and showered survivors with gunfire from a mosque in increasingly lawless Mosul. Five American soldiers were killed in the explosion — even as Iraqi troops moved into the northern city to challenge al-Qaida in Iraq.

Iraqi reinforcements, along with helicopters, tanks and armored vehicles, converged on Mosul for what Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki pledged would be a decisive battle against al-Qaida in its last major urban stronghold.

The attack on the U.S. patrol — the deadliest on American forces since six soldiers perished Jan. 9 in a booby-trapped house north of Baghdad — raised the Pentagon's January death count to at least 36.

The toll so far is 56 percent higher than December's 23 U.S. military deaths and marks the first monthly increase since August. But the figures remain well below monthly death tolls of more than 100 last spring.

Tensions in Mosul, Iraq's third largest city, have spiked after the explosion last week in an abandoned apartment that authorities said was used to stash insurgents' weapons and bombs. As many as 60 were killed and 200 injured.

The unrest in Mosul stands in sharp relief to a significant decline in bloodshed most elsewhere in Iraq in recent months.

The relative calm has been credited to a U.S.-led security crackdown — along with a Sunni revolt against al-Qaida in Iraq and a cease-fire order by radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr for his powerful Mahdi Army militia.

But influential members of al-Sadr's movement said Monday they have urged the anti-U.S. cleric to call off the six-month cease-fire when it expires in February — a move that could jeopardize the security gains.

In Mosul, the attackers struck in the southeastern Samar neighborhood, a middle-class district popular with former officers in Saddam Hussein's military and now a suspected hotbed for the insurgency.

After the roadside bomb blew apart the American vehicle — killing the five soldiers — gunmen opened fire from a mosque. A fierce gunbattle erupted as U.S. and Iraqi soldiers secured the area, the military said. Iraqi troops entered the mosque but the insurgents had already fled, according to a statement.

"The insurgents are willing to desecrate a place of worship by using it in attack soldiers to further their agenda," said Maj. Pegge Kageleiry, a U.S. military spokeswoman in northern Iraq.

There was other fighting in the neighborhood. An Iraqi officer, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information, said three civilians were wounded and helicopters bombarded buildings in the district, the scene of frequent attacks on U.S. and Iraqi forces.

Also Monday, insurgents attacked four policemen heading home from work south of Mosul, killing two and wounding the other two. Nineveh provincial police said.

U.S. commanders have described Mosul as the last major Iraqi city with a significant al-Qaida presence, although they have warned that insurgents remain a potent force in rural areas south and northeast of Baghdad.

But the military has said Iraqi security forces will take the lead in the city — a major test of Washington's plans to someday shrink the American force and leave it as backup for Iraqi security forces.
House easily passes tax rebate bill
Passage in Senate is less certain; Democrats, Republicans eye possible modifications

Marketable

WASHINGTON — The Senate voted Tuesday to rush through a $440 billion tax rebate to 190 million taxpayers, but a partisan battle brews in the House over Democrats' efforts to add jobless aid and help for the poor to the economic stimulus package.

The House plan, approved 385-35 after little debate, would send rebates to some 111 million families and give tax breaks to businesses, costing $161 billion over two years.

President Bush and House leaders urged the Senate to take the bill, saying it was an agreement and pass it quickly. Sen. Max Baucus, the Senate Finance Committee chairman, planned a Wednesday vote in his panel on a $156 billion package that could face a slower path to passage.

"The temptation is going to be for the Senate to load it up," Bush said in the Oval Office. "My concern is that we need to get this bill out of the Senate and on my desk." "The only way to achieve that would be to take up and pass the House-passed bill," the House plan brought together Democrats and Republicans, both of whom surrendered cherished proposals to reach a deal.

Pelosi cautioned against adding items that could hinder an economic recovery or scuttle the bipartisan agreement.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi speaks at a news conference Tuesday following the passage of the economic stimulus bill that gives rebates of $600-$1200 to most taxpayers.

Market up as interest rate cut looms

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street advanced sharply Tuesday as the Federal Reserve opened a two-day meeting expected to lower its key rate - a long-anticipated event that could bring another interest rate cut to revitalize the U.S. economy.

The Fed's rate decision is clearly the market's focus this week, and trading has been volatile as investors cope with forecasts about policymakers' thoughts on the weak economy and crunched financial industry. With an announcement not expected until Wednesday afternoon, Wall Street seemed to be mulling the rate cut expectations and May corporate earnings - which some that would send the money and kick-start a slumping economy. But the divergent plans - and bids by Senate Democrats and some Republicans to enlarga the package with more add-ons - could drag out that schedule.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said she hoped the Senate would "take this bill and run with it." Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said that was unlikely in the freewheeling Senate, where members in both parties have elaborate wish-lists for adding to the bill, including food stamps, Medicaid and heating assistance for low-income people and spending on infrastructure projects, among other things.

"I think that there's 51 Democratic senators without exception who believe this package can be made better," Reid said, adding that he also expected to have substantial GOP support for changes. Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., the minority leader, signaled he would try to block Baucus' measure and prevent senators from adding items.

"This is a time to show we can rise above partisanship, do something important and do it quickly," McConnell said. "The only way to achieve that would be to take up and pass the House-passed bill." The House plan brought together Democrats and Republicans, both of whom surrendered cherished proposals to reach a deal.

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Pelosi cautioned against adding items that could hinder an economic recovery or scuttle the bipartisan agreement.
Big business has gotten a bad rap. No wonder some of it is well deserved. From the Enron and WorldCom scandals in the early part of this decade to the recent round of buying out and raiding companies, CEOs with absurd severance packages, Americans have come to feel a profound distrust for many of our largest corporations. However, some of our vitriol seems to be directed at the wrong companies for the wrong reasons. It’s popular to bemoan the profits and tactics of Big Oil, the auto industry, Wal-Mart or Starbuck, because these companies are large and seemingly indomitable. But what are we really complaining about?

Is it the fault of the oil companies that we are destroying our environment? Can we blame Starbucks for putting all of our independent coffee houses out of business? Businesses are dictated by profit margins, and the bottom line is largely determined by consumers. Most businesses are merely providing the products and services demanded by the average American. Instead of blaming big business for all our ills, perhaps we should be reassessing our own consumer habits.

We are blessed to live in a country that has relatively little business and consumer regulation. By and large, we are free to choose, we are free to purchase whatever we want from whomsoever we want. But as the old saying goes, “with freedom comes responsibility.” Since we are free to choose, we have the responsibility to make wise consumer choices. Many of us blame all the evils in the world on large corporations because that’s a lot easier than coming to grips with our personal responsibility as consumers. We blame the oil companies for gouging us at the pump, yet few of us make any effort to reduce our fuel consumption. We still drive solo to work and are reluctant to trade in our SUV for a compact car. Or we blame Wal-Mart for contributing to an evil consumer culture, yet most of us still shop there because we know it has the best prices. Corporations are criticized for only caring about profit and trying to nickle and dime their operations, yet our consumer spending habits are no different from the business habits of these corporations. We often buy the cheapest good without regard to the social repercussions of our purchase. We talk a lot about corporate social responsibility, but very little is said about consumer social responsibility.

As consumers, and as drivers of the bottom line, our spending habits affect the business practices of corporations. For example, many companies are making more efforts at sustainability due to increased demand from consumers for “green” products. Consumer boycotts can also be effective tools to affect social change. Life Decisions International has been successful in organizing boycotts of corporate contributors to Planned Parenthood, forcing many corporations to give up this “charitable” funding practice. When Don Imus made his racially charged remarks last year, it wasn’t the FCC that hosted him off the air. Rather, others—those who advertise their advertising from CBS Radio after sponsors were threatened with a boycott—thanked him. It was a group of American’s stressed and threatened to spend their money elsewhere. When consumers show corporations that we won’t tolerate environmental destruction, racism, low wages or abortion, and if we act accordingly, then corporations will change to meet our standards.

In addition to our responsibility as consumers, we also have a responsibility as prospective employees. As many of you prepare for the Career Fair this afternoon, I urge you to consider the type of firm you want to work for. In addition to asking recruiters about your opportunities for advancement, ask them how their firm gives back to the community. Assess their business practices using your own values and don’t be too tempted to accept a job just because it has a high compensation. Many of us will have to choose if we want to work for multiple different firms. With freedom comes responsibility.

Zach Einters is a senior majoring in economics and environmental sciences. Contact him at zach.einters@nd.edu

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

Zach Einters

Bulldozer Ideas

Clause of the Day

"Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence on society."

Mark Twain

Author
Save the ‘knuckle children’

Robert McKeon erred greatly in his January 23rd letter (‘American community, racism is part of my history and the history of the United States. It is part of the reality of my life everyday. It is a disfiguring scar on my soul’). The question of how to alleviate this evil is not as simple as he makes it. The artificial contraception can double women’s risk of depression, increase risk of breast cancer, blood clot, breast density, weight loss, gain, nausea and decreased sex drive. NFP, while challenging, leads to the development of virtue in marriage and deepened respect for one’s spouse’s total gift of self, fertility and all. Contraception can lead to use of one’s spouse as an object of pleasure and children can be seen as optional rather than the natural fruit of a healthy marriage.

Most importantly, these methods differ morally. Man and woman fully image God in the total gift of themselves to each other in marriage. The sexual act is the outward sign and consummation of the marital vows. Because the nature of love is to overpower (in God, who is love, the bond of the Father and the Son) one another (in the third person of the Trinity, the love of a husband and wife is designed to overflow in the form of children. Thus the sexual act has two inseparable purposes: bonding and babies. To separate these actions artificially is intrinsically wrong as it violates the divinely ordained nature and purpose of the act. When an act is intrinsically wrong, it cannot be justified. Catholic teaching does not mandate a couple to unite with each other at a given frequency and abstinence does not artifi-

Christian Union does not desire to ‘deprive us of our sexual being,” but to guide us to the full enjoyment of our sexuality by living in the freedom of the Truth.

Caitlin Shaughnessy Dwyer
Class of 2011
Jan. 29

Letters to the Editor

Dismantle hate

I was shocked to read the e-mail sent by Father Jenkins on Friday afternoon. As an African American, it breaks my heart that this person was devasting to know that such words were ever sent in the charge halls on campus. They tried to shut off the remarks contained in the letter.

I thought about the letters all weekend and how they insulted the inci-
dent and of African Americans. I would say that this attitude, this comment belongs in the 1950s and 1960s when racial debate was at the forefront of our national agenda. The truth is that this type of destructive hair still per-
sists in our world and gains power in the minds of individuals simply by reading these remarks.

As much as I know that African Americans are not inferior to other races, the preposterous idea rolled around in my head throughout the weekend. I realized how powerful words are because they enter your mind and become a part of your belief system. The charge if not they are true.

As we a Notre Dame community can try to believe that racism does not exist, that the letters can be discarded, that the e-mail last Friday can be deleted, but that does not begin to rectify the harsh reality of hate.

Laurens Lyman
Jan. 29

The DL on NFP

Robert McKeon erred greatly in his January 23rd letter (‘American community, racism is part of my history and the history of the United States. It is part of the reality of my life everyday. It is a disfiguring scar on my soul’). The question of how to alleviate this evil is not as simple as he makes it. The artificial contraception can double women’s risk of depression, increase risk of breast cancer, blood clot, breast density, weight loss, gain, nausea and decreased sex drive. NFP, while challenging, leads to the development of virtue in marriage and deepened respect for one’s spouse’s total gift of self, fertility and all. Contraception can lead to use of one’s spouse as an object of pleasure and children can be seen as optional rather than the natural fruit of a healthy marriage.

Most importantly, these methods differ morally. Man and woman fully image God in the total gift of themselves to each other in marriage. The sexual act is the outward sign and consummation of the marital vows. Because the nature of love is to overpower (in God, who is love, the bond of the Father and the Son) one another (in the third person of the Trinity, the love of a husband and wife is designed to overflow in the form of children. Thus the sexual act has two inseparable purposes: bonding and babies. To separate these actions artificially is intrinsically wrong as it violates the divinely ordained nature and purpose of the act. When an act is intrinsically wrong, it cannot be justified. Catholic teaching does not mandate a couple to unite with each other at a given frequency and abstinence does not artifi-

Christian Union does not desire to ‘deprive us of our sexual being,” but to guide us to the full enjoyment of our sexuality by living in the freedom of the Truth.

Caitlin Shaughnessy Dwyer
Class of 2011
Jan. 29
With no Golden Globes awards ceremony to showcase designer gowns on the red carpet, the stars of movies and television brought as much glitz and glamour as they could muster to Sunday night's Screen Actors Guild Awards. But even though the guild was celebrating its 75th anniversary, its 14th annual awards ceremony was underwhelming. There were few surprises on the TV side of the awards. Edie Falco and James Gandolfini both won lead acting awards for their roles on "The Sopranos," a fitting end to a television award season that has shut out the two actors. "The Sopranos" won Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series, even though "Mad Men" took home the Golden Globe for best drama series. But the win for the mob drama still came as no surprise after the wins for Falco and Gandolfini — and after the series win at the Emmys in September.

Alec Baldwin and Tina Fey won top acting awards for their dramatic roles. Alec Baldwin captured the Golden Globe for best actor in a comedy series for his performance in "30 Rock." He added, "And that scene in the trailer at the end of the film is as moving as anything that I think I've ever seen." The SAG Awards ceremony also had to add Ledger to the deceased young actor who he never knew. "It's always been the work of other actors, and there are many actors in this room tonight, including my fellow nominees who have given that sense of regeneration, and Heath Ledger gave it to me," he said. Day-Lewis praised Ledger's performance in "Monster's Ball" and said he was "perfect" in "Breaking the Waves." He added, "And that scene in the trailer at the end of the film is as moving as anything that I think I've ever seen."

The evening's acceptance speeches were more touching than humorous. The exception was Tina Fey, who said, "If you've seen me on the show with Alec Baldwin, then you know it's sort of like watching Fred Astaire dance with a hat rack. And after a while, you're like, 'Oh, that hat rack is pretty good, too.' So, you've given an award to the hat rack, and I thank you."

"If you've seen me on the show with Alec Baldwin, then you know it's sort of like watching Fred Astaire dance with a hat rack. And after a while, you're like, 'Oh, that hat rack is pretty good, too.' So, you've given an award to the hat rack, and I thank you."

Tina Fey
"30 Rock"

"It's always been the work of other actors, and there are many actors in this room tonight, including my fellow nominees who have given that sense of regeneration, and Heath Ledger gave it to me."

Daniel Day-Lewis
"There Will Be Blood"

"If you've seen me on the show with Alec Baldwin, then you know it's sort of like watching Fred Astaire dance with a hat rack. And after a while, you're like, 'Oh, that hat rack is pretty good, too.' So, you've given an award to the hat rack, and I thank you."

Tina Fey
"30 Rock"
"Sticks and Stones" leaves fans wanting

By BOB COSTA
Stone Writer

For music groups lumped into the "jam-band" category, studio albums are usually an afterthought. It is the live show that is crucial for groups such as Dave Matthews Band and the Grateful Dead. A band is judged in the jam-band community not by how well it mixes its tracks in some cramped New York City studio, but how innovative it can be on stage with guitar solos and melodic syncopation, night after night.

For moe. — Yes, that's the correct spelling for the uninitiated — being a jam-band comes easy. Since forming at the University of Buffalo in 1990, moe. has released live and studio albums on its own independent label. The band has developed a national fan base and has become a favorite at music festivals like Bonnaroo and Vegoose.

Last week, moe. released "Sticks and Stones," a new studio album that features eight songs from the band that have never been performed live and two previously unreleased songs. On its previous albums, moe. released compilation albums of live material and fan-favorites played on the road. Albums such as "The Conch" (2007) and "Wormwood" (2003) were stellar examples of the group's instrumental prowess, but it is "Sticks and Stones" that finally shows the band's ability to make magic happen outside of a live stage.

For "Sticks and Stones," moe. recruited producer John Siket, who is well-known for his skilled production work on previous albums by Phish, Dave Matthews Band and Dispatch. Siket also worked with moe. on its previous records, including stand-out album "Dither," released in 2001. "Sticks and Stones" was recorded in three-weeks in an old New England church house. The effect of the setting is heard on the first track, "Cathedral," which has epic guitar melodies interspersed with a dynamic rhythm section.

Various overdubs and final mixing were done at the world-renowned Allaire Studios in the Catskill Mountains. Mastering was handled by the legendary, Grammy Award-winning Bob Ludwig (Led Zeppelin, The Rolling Stones, Beck, Pearl Jam). This is an album where the production has enhanced the band's music — giving resonance to tunes such as "Queen of Everything" that capture moe. at its best, evoking both the roots rock quality to moe. and the more progressive element of moe. The group does not let itself get carried away on "Sticks and Stones," clocking the album at under 40 minutes and sticking to concise songwriting over the ambiguous but colorful live music for which they are known. Undoubtedly, the music from this album will be fleshed out in a live setting this spring and summer to the delight of the band's enthusiastic fans. But for first-time listeners to this New England jam-band, "Sticks and Stones" is a tasty appetizer.

Although the band has been around for close to eighteen years, its sound is truly coming into its own with "Sticks and Stones," with the band's new songs having an accessibility and maturity that hasn't revealed itself on every past moe. album. "All Roads Lead To Home" is a wonderful pop-rock track that showcases moe.'s songwriting ability. Another great tune is "Raise A Glass," which shows the band loves to have some fun, blending Celtic grooves with good-natured vocal harmonies.

The band is an independent band that releases its material on its own label, shunning any guidance from a major-label. Still, "Sticks and Stone" has a professional gloss that actually benefits the at times disorganized jam-band sound of moe.

Over the years the band has developed a reputation as down-to-earth and eager to collaborate within the jam-band community. Guest musicians on "Sticks and Stones" include Cornmeal's Allie Kral playing violin and viola on "Cathedical," "Conviction Song," "September" and "Raise A Glass". Emilio China also played violin on "Cathedical." Notre Dame alumni and fellow-jam band Umphrey's McGee added backing vocals to "Raise A Glass," and Nadine Lafond lends additional vocals on several songs.

Contact Bob Costa at rcosta1@ud.edu

Sticks and Stones

moe.

Recommended Tracks: "Cathedral," "All Roads Lead to Home" & "Raise a Glass"
Without Garnett and Allen, Celts still win big

Nets end 9-game skid against Milwaukee; Jamison leads Wizards to OT victory over Bosh, Raptors

Associated Press
MIAMI — Ray Allen arrived at halftime, a white sweat jacket over his flu-riddled head, and took a glipse toward the scoreboard.
He probably felt much better.
Boston's 'Big 3' were almost silent, and the Celtics still put a bag beating on the hapless Miami Heat.

Levon Poe scored a career-high 25 points, Rajon Rondo tied a career-high with 23 points and Tony Allen matched a season-best with 20 points as the NBA-best Celtics rolled a 117-87 victory Tuesday night over the Heat — who followed the win that snapped their 15-game losing streak with an absolute clunker.

"I'm embarrassed by the effort," Heat coach Pat Riley said.

The Celtics played without Kevin Garnett (suspended abdomi- nal muscle) and Ray Allen (flu), and the third member of their star triumvirate, Paul Pierce, was scoreless for most of the first half and finished with only seven points.

 Didn't matter.
Boston led by 17 after one quarter, 31 in the second before settling for a 22-point edge at intermission, and when Dwyane Wade checked out for good with 4:41 left in the third quarter the Celtics were up 88-53.

"One of the things we talked about before the game is that no one before the game that no one was going to be Ray Allen and no one is going to be Kevin Garnett," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "But all of them could do a little extra."

This was scoreless 51-36 — told the story. That was Boston's first 44-point quarter in the first 12 games and it surprised the Heat with an absolute clunker.

Wade finished with seven points on 1-for-9 shooting, and departed after the third quarter with flu-like symptoms. The Heat have yet to win when the only Miami player to start all 43 games, with a sprained left ankle in the second quarter.

Haslem left in a protective boot and will not play Wednesday night in Orlando. Wade is out for the game against the Magic and won't be known until Wednesday morning.

By the end, there wasn't much buothing.

Nets 87, Bucks 80

Jason Kidd refused to say whether he wants out of New Jersey. First, he showed why the Nets won't just give him away.

Kidd scored seven of his nine points in the final 1:42 and added 11 assists as the Nets snapped a nine-game losing streak in an overtime victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Tuesday night.

The Nets were up 23 in the final 1:42 and added 11 assists as the Nets snapped a nine-game losing streak with an automatic victory over the Miami Heat.

Boston led by 17 after one quarter, 41 in the second before settling for a 22-point edge at intermission, and when Dwyane Wade checked out for good with 4:41 left in the third quarter the Celtics were up 88-53.

Nets held the Bucks to 37.5 percent shooting and avoided their first double-digit skid in only 15 games of the 1999-00 season.

"The guy has an unbelievable ability to just focus and that's a large part of who he is," Nets coach Lawrence Frank said. "We expected nothing less from him and he obliterated a big shot and made big free throws."

Kidd has been frustrated with the Nets' disappointing play and finally acknowledged Monday in a story on ESPN.com that it might be better to trade him, saying: "It used to be if I got a triple-double, that was an automatic win. That's just not the case now. We tried to make this work. We've found out it doesn't. It's time for us all to move on."

The Nets didn't trade him.

Kidd refused to do that just yet — especially if it means making a deal.

Even with their skid which included six losses on a Western Conference road trip, they are in eighth place in the East.

Kidd still didn't answer any questions about his trade wishes, but showed why Nets fans — who cheered him before the game despite the comments — would hate to see the point guard go.

"I enjoy it when the game is close," Kidd said. "It's a part of a play or make a shot, and that hasn't changed."

Richard Jefferson scored 20 points and Vince Carter had 16 points and matched a season high with 12 rebounds for the Nets. Bostjan Nachbar had 14 points.

Roy Halev scored 19 points for the Bucks, who were without shooting scorer Michael Redd for the second straight game because of a left knee strain that will also keep him out of Wednesday's game at Philadelphia.

Mo Williams and Bobby Simmons each added 14 points.

Wizards 106, Raptors 104, OT

Andray Blatche did what any 21-year-old understudy might do after being told in the morning he would be starting that night. He went home to rest up.

Relaxed and ready, Blatche did a fine job filling in for an injured Caron Butler, with plenty of help from Antawn Jamison and oth- ers.

Blatche had 19 points and eight rebounds in only his second start of the season. Jamison finished with 24 points and 20 rebounds Tuesday night, leading the Washington Wizards to an overtime victory over the Toronto Raptors.

I knew I had to bring it, because Caron's are big shoes to fill," Blatche said. "After hitting my first shot, I knew I was going to be rolling."

Chris Bosh led the way with 37 points and 12 rebounds for the Raptors, who trailed by as many as 12 points in the fourth quarter. Anthony Parker's high-arcing 3- pointer curled into the net as the regulation buzzer sounded, forc- ing the extra period.


A bit stunned, the Wizards went to the sideline not with cheers of being one out at each other that they were still going to win, they now scoring five points in overtime, and DeShawn Stevenson making a key 3-pointer, the Wizards did just that in a thrilling back-and- forth game.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the News Office, 424 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content or without notice refusal.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

Heat forward Ricka Davis pulls down a rebound in the second quarter of Miami's 117-87 loss to the Celtics Tuesday night.

---

**FOR SALE**

Fabulous condo, walking distance to Notre Dame.

> 2 bd, 2 ba, 900 sq ft.
> 705 N. DeKalb, 3rd floor
> On & off campus
> Pets Ok
> $2300/month

---

**FOR RENT**

34 sqm, 3 bath home close to campus, schools, cathedral, shopping, gym, 10 min walk to campus. Large 3 bedroom apt. for UChi grad. or med. student. $750/month.

---

**UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?**

Do not go it alone.

Call 24-hour confidential hotline at 1-800-424-3210 or visit our web site at www.lifecall.org 888-833-8230. Thanks for the hat, Joe.

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Note: I am back from Brazil. I can’t wait to meet you at Ruth’s Chris for a SPECIAL Birthday treat.

Bacca's place, virtually free of charge.

---

I read your article at 11:41 p.m. before the end of the entry, just like I promised. Good job, by the way.

---

I don’t know it’s very easy, when you find yourself out on your own.

---

The Siegfried-Aurora hockey game Tuesday night was the most exciting official game in the song, said Gesa.

---

Thanks for the hat, Joe.
NBA

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

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Men's Hockey

CHCA Conference Standings

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MLB

Former Twin Johan Santana pitches against the New York Yankees in the first inning during a July 2007 game. A tentative agreement was reached Tuesday to trade Santana to the New York Mets.

Twins trade pitching ace Santana to Mets

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Johan Santana is a contract extension and physical from going to the New York Mets.

After months of deliberation, the Twins reached a tentative agreement Tuesday to part with the two-time Cy Young Award winner for outfielder Carlos Gomez, and pitchers Phil Humber, Deolis Guerra and Kevin Mulvey, two people familiar with the deal said, speaking on condition of anonymity because no announcement had been made.

"If it’s true, obviously, you’re getting arguably the best pitcher in the game,” Mets third baseman David Wright said.

The next step is for the Mets to negotiate a contract extension with Santana, who is eligible for free agency after this season. The three-time All-Star is owed $13.25 million this year and $16.5 million annually.

New York and Santana have until 5 p.m. EST Friday to reach an agreement, a baseball official told The Associated Press, also on condition of anonymity. If the Mets and Santana strike a deal, the players would have to pass physicals and the pitcher would have to formally waive his no-trade clause.

The Mets emerged as the top candidate for a trade after the winter meetings, when the New York Yankees withdrew their offer, which included pitchers Phil Hughes and Ian Kennedy, and the Red Sox refused to improve their proposals, which would have sent pitcher Jon Lester or outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury to the Twins along with prospects.

Minnesota general manager Bill Smith called teams last weekend and asked them to make their best offers. Smith informed the Mets on Tuesday that he was accepting their proposal, which included their Nos. 2, 3 and 7 prospects, according to Baseball America’s ranking. New York did not include its top farmhand, outfielder Fernando Martinez.

A left-hander who turns 29 in March, Santana gives the Mets a replacement for Tom Glavine, who left New York to return to the Atlanta Braves.

New York, trying to bounce back from a record-setting September collapse last season, has a projected rotation that also includes Pedro Martinez, John Maine, Orlando Hernandez and Oliver Perez.

IN BRIEF

Point guard Kidd tells Nets he’s ready to ‘move on’

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.—Jason Kidd says he wants to be traded from the slumping New Jersey Nets.

"We tried to make this work, We’ve found out it doesn’t," Kidd told ESPN The Magazine on Monday. "It’s time for us all to move on."

The Nets, losers of nine in a row, were scheduled to play the Milwaukee Bucks at home Tuesday night. Kidd attended the team’s morning shootaround but did not talk to reporters.

Nets president Rod Thorn said he hadn’t talked to Kidd on Tuesday, and declined to discuss which teams have expressed an interest in the nine-time All-Star. He said he wouldn’t be forced into making a deal.

60-year-old Crennel signs 2-year deal with Browns

CLEVELAND—Willie McGinest always believed Romeo Crennel would turn the Cleveland Browns into winners.

For a long time, though, it seemed like the veteran line- backer was about the only who always believed Romeo Crennel could get the Browns turned around.

It takes players, and it takes players, and it takes a coach to do that.

Crennel did it.

The 60-year-old former defensive assistant, whose future in Cleveland was shaky after two forgettable seasons, signed a two-year contract extension on Tuesday with the Browns, who won 10 games in Crennel’s third season and finally appear repaired.

Mizzou basketball players suspended by coach

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Missouri coach Mike Anderson suspended five players indefinitely Tuesday after a weekend brawl left his top scorer with a broken jaw.

In a statement from the university, Anderson declined to indicate the reason for the discipline, calling the infractions a violation of team rules.

But the move comes as Columbia police confirmed that several teammates were with senior guard Stefhon Hannah when he was attacked outside the downtown nightclub Athena early Sunday morning. The injury could cause Hannah to miss the rest of the season.

Hannah, who returned home to Chicago following surgery, senior guard Jason Horton and forwards Marshall Brown, Darryl Butterfield and Leo Lyons were suspended. Each is either a starter or a key reserve.

around the dial

NBA BASKETBALL

Cavaliers at Trail Blazers 9 p.m., ESPN

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Virginia at Maryland 7 p.m., ESPN

Cincinnati at West Virginia 7 p.m., ESPN

Texas at Texas A&M 9 p.m., ESPN2
Horse Racing

Barbaro to be interred at Churchill Downs

Euthanized Derby winner's clinching stride will be immortalized with bronze statue at entrance to track

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The image of Barbaro, breaking down the stretch at Churchill Downs, all four hooves off the ground as the powerful bay colt crashed the field in the 2006 Kentucky Derby, is seared in Roy Jackson's memory.

"It's the way Jackson prefers to think of Barbaro, whose thunderous surge left a field of 19 fellow 3-year-olds in his wake and whose courage after breaking his skull in the Preakness, two weeks later made him an icon.

When it came time to decide how best to honor the horse, who was euthanized on Jan. 29, 2007 from complications of the breakdown, there was only one place Roy Jackson and wife Gretchen felt Barbaro would feel at home; a short golfball off the site of his greatest triumph.

Barbaro's ashes and a bronze statue will be placed in front of an entrance gate at Churchill Downs sometime in 2009. The Jacksons announced plans for the memorial on the one-year anniversary of Barbaro's death, a day they called one of the most difficult of their lives.

Yet there was no sadness on Tuesday, only relief and joy.

The Jacksons agonized for months on where to place his ashes, which are currently in a closet in the family's Pennsylvania home. Ultimately, they chose a place where the public that inundated Barbaro's stall at the New Bolton Center in Kennett Square, Pa., with get-well cards, candy gifts and during his rehabilitation could pay tribute however they wanted.

"After the Derby and then when he got injured, he really became America's horse," Roy Jackson said. "We sort of felt an obligation that his remains and statue be erected some place where the general public could pay their respects."

As spectacular as the colt's career was — his 6 1/2-length win in the Derby was the widest margin of victory in 60 years — it was Barbaro's battle to survive following the breakdown that made him an emotional touchstone for so many.

"His accomplishments as a racehorse are certainly rivaled by the courage and resolve he displayed after his injury," Churchill Downs president Steve Nancey said.

The Jacksons say they continue to be amazed at the outpouring of support for Barbaro, much of it from non-racing fans who were captivated by images of him winning on the track at Pimlico Race Course following the injury and his heroic attempts to deal with the myriad of setbacks that ultimately proved too much.

"I don't think any of us know how widespread the interest was," Roy Jackson said. "We've gotten a tremendous amount of response and we continue on almost a daily basis to get some correspondence and very articulate art on what he meant."

As painful as Barbaro's battle was, the Jacksons say it was not in vain. His plight drew attention to the laminitis, an often-fatal hoof disease that Barbaro contracted in both rear hooves before his death. More than $2.7 million has been raised for the Laminitis Research Fund. The laminitis initiative will foster training programs and studies for new treatments of equine diseases. The fund includes a $7,000 donation received Monday from the Fans of Barbaro, a group of people spread across the country who met over the Internet in support of the colt.

"It's a fund that grows a little bit each day," Jennifer Campbell of Louisville-stuffed $20 into a donation box for the fund on Tuesday while the Jacksons autographed pictures of jockey Edgar Prado urging Barbaro across the finish line at the Derby.

"You just see how they persevered under those circumstances, and how the horse persevered," said Campbell, who was wearing a green Barbaro hat. "It's an inspiration and I think it's great that they chose to share him with us."

The Jacksons have also helped raise $1.3 million for the Barbaro Fund at New Bolton. The money will go toward expansion of the George D. Widener Large Animal Hospital, and the purchase of equipment like a new operating table and recovery room.

Tuesday, however, was about remembering the horse who captivated the nation.

Pictures of Barbaro from both his racing career and his rehabilitation at the large animal hospital at New Bolton flashed above a stage where the Jacksons spoke. The Jacksons smiled while watching a short film featuring local schoolchildren talking about Barbaro and showing pictures they drew of the horse following his injury.

Barbaro will be the first Kentucky Derby winner to be buried on the grounds at Churchill Downs. Four previous winners — Sunny's Halo, Carry Back, Swaps and Brooklyn's Tip — are interred at the Kentucky Derby Museum, which is adjacent to the track.

Barbaro wins the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs in May 2006. The horse's ashes will be interred at legendary track.

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**MLB**

Pettitte HGH meeting delayed until Monday

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte's meeting with a congressional committee investigating drug use in baseball was postponed until Monday.

He originally was slated to appear for a deposition or transcribed interview Wednesday.

But the date was changed Tuesday by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. It's the latest in a series of switches to the schedule of witnesses' meetings with staff members before testifying at a Feb. 13 hearing.

"Just a mutually agreeable postponement," said Keith Ausburn, Republican general counsel for the committee. "It gives us a little more time to prepare and gives him a little more time to prepare...."

Also asked to appear at next month's hearing are seven-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens, his former personal trainer Brian McNamee, his former teammates Chuck Knoblauch and former New York Mets clubhouse employee Kirk Radomski.

Pettitte and Clemens have been teammates and workout partners. Pettitte also has trained with McNamee.

"Mr. Pettitte is cooperating voluntarily with the committee, and we look forward to his testimony on Monday," panel chairman Henry Waxman and ranking Republican Tom Davis said in a joint statement. "We appreciate Mr. Pettitte's willingness to assist the committee."

In last month's Mitchell Report on the use of performance-enhancing substances in baseball, McNamee said he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone. Accusations Clemens has denied repeatedly.

Two days after the report was released, Pettitte acknowledged receiving two HGH injections in 2002 to help recover from an elbow injury.

Pettitte is being represented by Jay Rensinger, a lawyer who represented Sammy Sosa when he testified before the same committee alongside Mark McGwire and Rafael Palmeiro in March 2005.

Knoblauch now is scheduled for Friday and would be the first of the five Feb. 13 witnesses to provide a deposition or transcribed interview. He agreed to appear after a subpoena was issued.

Clemens is to follow Feb. 5, with McNamee down for Feb. 7, and Radomski on Feb. 12 — pending further changes to a repeatedly shuffled schedule.

Letters sent by Waxman and Davis to Clemens, Pettitte and Knoblauch on Jan. 16, requesting their appearances both at the hearing and a pre-hearing meeting, said: "The committee asks that you provide testimony about allegations in Senator George Mitchell's report, that you and other Major League Baseball players used performance-enhancing drugs during your professional baseball career."

Clemens, Pettitte and Knoblauch were among more than 80 players named in the Mitchell Report.

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Recycle The Observer
Vols shooting downs Bama

Lofton, Smith nail three to seal game

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — With the game tied in doubt, No. 7 Tennessee turned to its shooting downs Barna and secure a 93-86 victory over Alabama on Tuesday night.

The Vols had lost 16 of their last 17 games, including all seven against Top 25 teams. Tennessee (18-2, 5-1 Southeastern Conference) never won here in Tuscaloosa since 1998.

Offense continued from page 20

"If we feel our rebounding has improved all season and we need to continue those efforts," Henley said. "Our goals continue to be to improve our defense and keep points out of the paint. Olivet (15-7, 7-9 overall) comes home after a three-game road winning streak. Freshman forward Ameina Ross led her team in scoring the last two games and is averaging 9.5 points per game this season."

Henley called Olivet a "strong team" with "a lot of fresh faces."

Olivet's new coach, Lehteen Bateman, served as assistant coach for the Comets for the past six seasons.

"They are a solid team," Henley said. "I am anticipating another great game."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@stmarys.edu

Defense

Sophomore guard Ashley Barlow waits to set the offense during Notre Dame's 81-64 loss to Connecticut Sunday.

"We were contesting shots and they just kept knocking them down." Brandon Hollinger

Crimson Tide guard

"We executed our game plan much better (against Connecticut). When we went to our triangle-and-two, we really did what we needed to do, we worked on it for three days and I thought it looked good, so to be able to carry out the game plan like that is really encouraging."

The Friars have had troubles of their own. They stand at 11-8 overall and only 1-5 in the Big East. Despite the numbers, the Irish will still need to bring their best defense against a tall Friars squad — freshman guard Ma-Khiata Hankins is 6-foot-1 and junior forward Shantee Harrian is 6-foot-2.

McGraw recognizes that the majority of her starters are on the smaller side and that the Friars are likely to try and post up Notre Dame's guards, but that isn't likely to change the team's game plan.

"We are not going to try and do anything different," McGraw said. "We really just want to work on containing the ball and get back to the fundamentals: box out, out-rebound them."

Notre Dame’s rebounding against Connecticut is evidence of its focus on getting back to the basics. On offense, the Irish have their four leading scorers and a guiding voice in senior guard Tulyah Gaines to drive their offensive game.

"Gaines job is to really run the team," McGraw said. "I think the offense is coming from (sophomore guard Ashley) Barlow, (junior guard Lindsey) Schrader, (junior guard) Charle (Allen), and (freshman forward Devereaux) Peters."

We've got four people who are going to score so I don't think we need that from her as much. I think she is doing a great job of running the team and she's playing great defense and that's what we need her to do." With the combination of an improving defense and a consistent offense, the Irish look to pick up a win over Providence tonight, even if they have to jump a little higher.

Note:

"On Allen was named to the 2008 Naismith Trophy midseason candidates list. Allen is one of 21 players to make the list for the trophy, which is presented annually to the nation's top collegiate women's basketball player. Allen currently leads the Irish with 19.2 points per game."

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu

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Spartans

continued from page 20

With only three freshmen on the Michigan State roster, the Spartans boast more experience than the Irish. Bayliss thinks that it will be a good test for the young Irish squad, which features six freshmen.

"We will need to win the doubles point," Bayliss said. "They are very strong at one and two doubles, and we will need to win the matches that we have a slight advantage in."

Michigan State senior Nick Rinks is 6-0 and has defeated all his opponents in straight sets. In the fall, Rinks teamed up with junior Alex Forger to defeat Irish freshmen Stephen Havens and Tyler Davis at the Tom Fulton Invitational.

"Rinks is able to beat just about anybody in the country," Bayliss said. "We normally rely very heavily on our top two singles spots, but we can’t count on those tomorrow. Rinks split sets with Stephen Bass two years ago." Against Virginia, Notre Dame’s own senior leader, Sheeva Parbhu, put his name in an elite group, easily handling the Cavaliers’ Dominic Inglot Sunday. Inglot was ranked No. 3 in the country before the match, making him the highest-ranked player Parbhu has defeated.

"Sheeva was a lot quicker than Inglot," assistant coach Ryan Sachire said. "If Inglot doesn’t overpower you, he’s out of his game plan."

Parbhu played relentless tennis and stayed mentally tough in every point. He played quality points, and made Inglot grind out the points, Sachire said.

Havens has been another bright spot for the Irish this year. He earned the other singles point for the Irish Sunday, winning his match in three sets.

"Havens made a lot of extra balls," Sachire said. "Both players were fairly close in ability level, and that was apparent in the last two sets." Sachire also said that Havens was conservative when on defense but finished points well.

The Spartans and Irish know each other well. Michigan State head coach Gene Orlando has been coaching there for 17 years, and Bayliss has been at Notre Dame for 20. Bayliss and the Irish have won 18 in a row over the Spartans. The head-to-head meetings date back to 1926.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabarek@nd.edu

Playoffs

continued from page 20

Two games at home against Michigan on Feb. 8 and 9, a series that will be critical in CCCHIA playoff positioning.

Michigan, 33 pts.

After a 10-game winning streak culminating in a two-game sweep of Notre Dame on Jan. 18 and 19, Michigan (15-2-1 CCCHIA) looked to have a clear path to a CCCHIA title, but a loss and tie against Michigan State this weekend may cause some concern for the Maize and Blue.

With the win over the Spartans and Chad Kolarik make up the highest scoring duo in the CCCHIA.

Nebraska-Omaha, 19 pts.

Michigan State, 29 pts.

The Spartans (13-3-2) won a big game toward hiring their CCCHIA title hopes with four points against Michigan this weekend. The Spartans must continue to rely on its blinding power play, which has scored on 26.9 percent of its chances in CCCHIA play so far. The Spartans have three percent more than any other team in the CCCHIA. Junior Tim Keyser enters at 4-15 goals overall, seven of them coming with the man advantage.

Because the Spartans have two games at hand on the leading RedHawks, a good result this weekend against Nebraska-Omaha could propel them into second place in the CCCHIA. The late-season rematch against the rival Wolverines looms in the future, and could have a large effect on both teams’ title hopes.

Notre Dame, 27 pts.

The Irish (13-6-1) rebounded from a 2-5-1 Christmas break slump with 6-1 and 4-1 wins over Bowling Green this weekend and seem almost assured of a top-four seed because of their easy remaining schedule.

To avoid any upsets, though, Notre Dame must add life to a power play that has scored on only 14.2 percent of its chances in CCCHIA play this season, 10th in the conference.

With the top three teams playing each other a total of six times, somebody ahead of Notre Dame is bound to drop points, and with a little bit of luck, the Irish can slide into the top spot.

Bowling Green, 18 pts.

The Falcons (9-9-3) are back on track, the Mavericks’ (8-9-3) hopes of gaining a top-four seed and first-round bye in the CCCHIA playoffs took a serious hit.

UNO must now hope to hold on to a tenuous one-point lead over Bowling Green, with the Falcons having played two fewer games. A Feb. 15 and 16 matchup between the two teams will likely determine the No. 5 seed in the conference tournament.

Notre Dame is the only overall difficult schedule, the Nanooks (6-13-3) have a difficult chance to improve their standing for the playoffs. A Feb. 15 and 16 trip to Notre Dame is the only overly difficult game remaining on their schedule.

Ohio State, 9 pts.

Lake Superior State, 7 pts.

Western Michigan, 7 pts.

Recent poor play combined with difficult remaining schedules, give little hope to the Lakers (12-13-1) and Broncos (13-14-11). Though anything can happen in the remaining games, first-round playoff exits appear likely.

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MEN'S TENNIS

ND, MSU will fight to rebound

Spartans play their third straight match

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Both Notre Dame and Michigan State have a chance to rebound after losses when the Spartans visit the Irish today at 4 p.m.

On Sunday, Notre Dame lost to No. 1 Virginia, and Michigan State lost to Vanderbilt. Still, the Spartans are off to one of their best starts, heading into the contest against the Irish with a record of 3-1.

"They came very close to beating Vanderbilt this past weekend," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said.

Michigan State sophomore Tyler Sauerbrey had a 5-4 lead in the third set of what turned out to be the deciding point of the Vanderbilt match, but lost the set 7-5, and Vanderbilt claimed victory.

"They served at 3-4 but couldn't hang on to the lead," Bayliss said. "We have beat them soundly in the past, but we're young and they returned just about everybody."

see SPARRTANs/page 18

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Defying Providence

McGraw pleased with team's focus on improving its defense

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

Even though the outcome of the past two games says otherwise, Irish coach Muffet McGraw thinks her team is headed for a turnaround.

"I feel like we are on the upswing," McGraw said. "I feel like we did a lot of good things against Connecticut - we can really build on and I'm anxious to get back out there and play somebody."

No. 20 Notre Dame Heads into tournament at home against Providence with a 15-5 record, but dropped its last two games - 81-70 to DePaul and 81-64 to No. 1 Connecticut.

Thanks to its improving defense, however, Notre Dame boasts an impressive showing against Connecticut on the boards. The Irish outrebounded the Huskies 51-38 — the first time all season any team outrebounded Connecticut.

Even though the Irish failed to walk away with a win, McGraw said she was happy with the way the team performed against the Huskies. As a team that has struggled since last season with its defense, the Irish finally started to show promise against Connecticut.

"We are finally starting to get

see DEFENSE/page 17

HOCKEY

Playoff scenarios uncertain

Notre Dame still has chance at top spot in CCHA tournament

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

After an exhibition matchup this weekend against the U.S. Under-18 National Team, the Irish have only eight games left to solidify their CCHA playoff position. All 12 teams in the conference make the CCHA tournament. The top four teams in the conference get a first-round bye, and the teams are reseeded after round one. Here's a look at each team, along with its prospects for the CCHA tournament.

Miami (Ohio), 34 pts.

The RedHawks (17-3-0 CCHA) regained the national No. 1 ranking, as well as first place in the CCHA this weekend, beating Alaska twice and receiving help from previous No. 1 Michigan, who failed to defeat Michigan State last weekend.

Miami has won seven straight, outscoring opponents 35-9 over that span. Junior goaltender Jeff Zatkoff has played himself into Hobey Baker contention, leading the CCHA with a 1.50 goals against average and a .937 save percentage.

Though Miami currently has a three-point lead on Michigan, it has played two more games than the Wolverines. The RedHawks are idle until they face off tonight at DePaul.

see PLAYOFFS/page 18

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles head to Olivet, try to slow Comets

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

The Comets have a full head of steam, and it's up to Saint Mary's to slow them down.

The Belles travel to Olivet, which has won its last three games by a combined 58 points, to face the Comets tonight at 7:30.

Saint Mary's (18-5 MIAA, 8-9 overall) managed to hold its own Saturday against Hope (9-0 MIAA, 17-0 overall), leading 33-30 at the half. But Hope's leading scorer Jordyn Boles hit 18 points in the first 10 minutes of the second half to give her team a lead Saint Mary's couldn't overcome. The Belles lost 82-73.

"I thought our team played very well all last week, despite two losses," Saint Mary's coach Jennifer Henley said. "If we can keep that same type of focus and intensity throughout the rest of the season, we will have a strong finish."

Regardless of the loss, Saint Mary's put up some impressive numbers. Senior guard Alison Kessler, who leads the MIAA in scoring, scored a team-high 21 points. The Belles shot 49.3 percent from the floor and 81.8 percent from the free-throw line with four players scoring in double digits.

Kessler, however, isn't the only scoring force on the Belles. Juniors Erin Newsom and Katie Hashid scored in double digits, with Newsom averaging 10.8 and 9.4 points per game, respectively. Sophomore Anna Kammrath holds her own in this group of upperclassmen with 9.9 points per game this season.

Through the season, the Belles have worked on their rebounding — and they are starting to see results. Saint Mary's out-rebounded Hope this weekend 38-37 and has averaged 41.4 rebounds per game.

see OFFENSE/page 17