NCAA settles class-action lawsuit
Student-athletes can receive $2,500 in additional reimbursements under conditional terms
By KATIE KOHLER
Same Mary's Editor
The NCAA is prepared to ease restrictions on educational expenses for current student-athletes and set aside $10 million to reimburse former athletes.

The decision is part of the settlement of a class-action lawsuit filed by former athletes who argued that NCAA limits on scholarships—whichever can cover full restraint of trade

costs of electronic reserves at Notre Dame Wednesday.
The settlement, which includes a proviso to allow NCAA member schools to offer year-round health insurance for student-athletes, will not become official until a judge sanctions it and both sides give final approval.

Once the settlement would affect the approximately 700 Division I athletes at Notre Dame is unclear, senior associate athletic director John Heisler said.

"It would be premature to know (how it affects) Notre Dame for sure," he said. "I think it is the next step in a legal conversation that's been ongoing for some time and I don't know that we know the full extent of what the implications will be."

Former football players Jason White of Stanford and Brian Polak of UCLA, and former basketball players Jovan Harris of San Francisco and Chris Craig of Texas-El Paso first filed the class action suit in February 2006.

Heisler warned that the settlement reached Wednesday might not reflect the final version.

"The judge has to agree to the settlement and it's going to take some time for this to shake out. And we're going to have to continue to analyze (how it) impacts us and impacts any of our athletes," he said. "I think it's just too early to know."

The suit claimed that athletes need a significantly higher amount of funding in addition to tuition, books, housing and meals than they currently receive through their athletic scholarships.

Under terms of the deal, student-athletes will be able to apply for as much as $2,500 a year for up to three years for reimbursement of certain "out-of-pocket expenses," including

No liquor, no patrons, no Casa
Unpaid taxes lead to restaurant closing
By MARCELA BERRIOS and KAREN LANGLEY
News Writers
Adios, Taco Tuesdays and half-off pitchers.
Casa del Rio, a popular off-campus eatery located at 1705 South Bend Ave., will serve its last meal tonight after a failure to keep up with tax payments prevented its owner from renewing the establishment's liquor license.

"I've been pondering it for a while," owner Jesse Arredondo, said. "It's just been harder and harder to make ends meet."

Arredondo, who opened Casa in September 2004, said he is out of the capital needed to run the restaurant. Casa will not reopen unless he finds business partners in the next few days.

The restaurant's liquor license expired Dec. 21, and Arredondo couldn't renew it because the property's taxes were not up to date, a requirement under Indiana law.

"You have to be current when you go to the renewal hearing," he said.

And without its famous drink deals—such as $1 domestic draughts on Tuesdays and half-price margarita pitchers Sundays and Wednesdays — Casa saw a significant drop in revenue.

"It has hurt me extremely to be without the liquor license," Arredondo said.

Director of GRC says campus at extremes
By ANN-MARIE WOODS
News Writer
The University's Catholic character plays a major role in promoting many students to search exclusively for life partners and others to respond by rejecting commitments altogether, the director of the Gender Relations Center said Wednesday.

Citing Catholic character as the "framework of our values and morals." At Notre Dame, Heather Rakoczy spoke about relationships and interactions on campus as part of the second installment of "Notre Dating"

Wednesday.

"People take relationships much more seriously here, searching for a life partner rather than simply dating in order to meet people and have a good time," Rakoczy said. At the other extreme, students are fearful of this culture of dating and abstain from the process entirely or "feel pressure to be in committed, long-lasting relationships."

The problem lies in the extremes. Students' responses are "radical on either end," Rakoczy said.

The GRC's focus, therefore, is addressing all forms of hate speech and any future occurrences," Social Concerns Committee Chair Karen Koski said.
The resolution passed, with only one senator opposing and two abstaining from the vote. Although Fisher Senator Stephen Bant agreed with the Senate's intentions, he did not believe that a Senate resolution would accomplish much for the issue. Instead, he argued that giving the shirts too much attention would be counter-productive.

"I think it's pretty obvious we hope, is proactive as well as reactive in that we're addressing all forms of hate speech and any future occurrences," Social Concerns Committee Chair Karen Koski said.

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John Locke

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The sole purpose of this column is to explain why John Locke is the deepest, most mysterious, crazed and phenomenal character on "Lost"—which by May, even after being shot and thrown into a ditch to die at the end of Season Three, he emerged just in time to try to convince Jack not to use the radio which he does anyway, but still. John Locke was brought up in foster care, only to be conned by his biological father, Anthony Cooper, for his kidney. After confronting him several times in order to prevent him from coming to a woman to steal her fortune, his father threw him out an eighth-story window, leading to his four-year wheelchair stint as a paraplegic. But Locke didn't give up. He went to Australia to participate in a "walkabout," which is a spiritual journey, even though he was in a wheelchair. And now, he is going to be the reason for "The Others" don't kill all 38 of the remaining survivors.

If anyone watches "Lost," they'll know Locke's oft-used phrase, "Don't tell me what I can't do." His character is true but strong. He makes everyone else on the island look weak and selfish. He has become one with the island and as a result, he is the only person who doesn't really want to leave. Everyone looks to Locke for guidance because they can sense that he knows what's up. And he does. John Locke spent a majority of Season One with Boone unearthing the Hatch, which sustained life with food, medical supplies and shelter while everyone else was sitting under tarps next to campfires. He realized there was something special about Dharma, but Locke had his doubts about Dharma. He was learning the secrets of "The Others" while everyone else thought he was a creepy child molester. He has single-handedly helped every single person on the island and now with season four so very close, I cannot wait to see what Locke will do next.

While Locke has never been the central character in the show, it wouldn't be a show without him. There's so much more we need to find out and hopefully, it'll happen in Season Four. Even though there are 48 more episodes over the next three seasons, Locke will not die. He will not be a traitor. And he will get off the island. I am totally sure of it. And if I'm wrong, he's going to have a pretty sweet exit.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Katie Kohler at kkohler01@stmarys.edu

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**INSIDE COLUMN**

**QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT FOOD WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY DEEP-FRIED?**

- Alex Gorrell: *Sophomore Alumni*
  - Buffalo, because their wings are delicious.
- Andrew Gathof: *Senior Zahn*
  - "Twinkies.
- Andrew Luttrell: *Freshman Dillon*
  - Fish.
- Hannah Ha: *Freshman Welsh Family*
  - "Fried buffalo chicken pizza with a fried twinkie for dessert.
- John Strong: *Senior Zahn*
  - "Dragons.
- Kerry McGuire: *Junior Welsh Family*
  - Deep-fried Taco Bell.

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**IN BRIEF**

**TODAY**

- 7 to 9 p.m. in the Joyce Center: the film, "Fish," will be shown at 7 p.m. and again at 9 p.m. in the Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets will cost $3 for students, $5 for faculty and staff, and $6 for general admission.

**SATURDAY**

- Lost: "Pilot," will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center. Men's basketball will play Providence tonight at 7 in the Joyce Center.

**SUNDAY**

- U.S. Under-18 Team Friday at 7:35 p.m., in the Joyce Center ice rink in an exhibition.

**DEPAUL SATURDAY 6:00**

- 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center, TV coverage will be on ESPN Classic.

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**Students gather at the Winter Career and Internship Fair in the Joyce Center Wednesday. More than 170 employers and 460 recruiters participated in the fair. The event was open to Notre Dame, St. Mary's, Holy Cross and other area colleges.**

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**OFFBEAT**

**89 frozen ferrets found in Va. home**

**VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.**—Authorities removed nearly 200 animals from a beach home, including 89 frozen ferret carcasses. Police spokeswoman Margie Long said animal control agents found more than 100 live ferrets, a dog, a bird and three cats, most of them suffering from dehydration and malnutrition. Long said the frozen bodies of 89 ferrets, a cat, a rat and an otter were discovered in freezers in the house and garage.

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**TUESDAY**

- Sixty-one of the live ferrets had to be euthanized because of poor health.
- One boy picks wrong place to park bike

**SALEM, Ore.**—It's on the floor at the Goodwill store in Salem, it's for sale. So when Cody Young parked his bicycle in the wrong place, it got sold. Not only that, the bike that cost $232 four years ago went for $56.99. "That was just insulting," the seventh-grader said.

Young said he and friends went to the store on Saturday to look at speakers. They didn't have a lock, but his friends told him they'd previously parked inside the store. He left it near other bikes that were for sale. While they were shopping, his black BMX bike was sold. Goodwill officials said they were looking into the sale. They said they were unable to identify the bike's purchaser.

"We will make every effort to do the right thing," spokesman Bob Barnocchi said, "and we will throw in a bike lock." Information compiled by the Associated Press.

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**PUBLIC WEATHER**

- TODAY
  - HIGH 22
  - LOW 12
- TONIGHT
  - HIGH 23
  - LOW 11
- FRIDAY
  - HIGH 33
  - LOW 19
- SATURDAY
  - HIGH 43
  - LOW 20
- SUNDAY
  - HIGH 29
  - LOW 17
- MONDAY
  - HIGH 39
  - LOW 23

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**INSIDE COLUMN**

**JOHN LOCKE**

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ND Alert will be tested again Friday

In November test of emergency warning system, students did not receive text messages for 2 hours

Special to The Observer

ND Alert, Notre Dame's comprehensive emergency notification system, will be retested Friday afternoon. During the process, many students, faculty and staff will receive text messages alerting them to their cell phones for the first time.

An ND Alert test in November revealed that some e-mail messages took more than two hours to arrive. Modifications have been made to local e-mail delivery systems, and the upcoming test will verify the effectiveness of these changes.

"Safety is of paramount importance, and we believe that time is of the essence in the face of the kinds of emergencies this system will address," said Gordon Wishon, associate provost, chief information officer and associate vice president of information technology.

New in this round of testing, every registered cell phone user will receive cell phone text messages. All messages will be sent to personal cell phone numbers on the non-University e-mail addresses are encouraged to do so.

Registration is available through the "My Resources" tab of InsideND.

Agencies ineffective, professor says

Camacho says U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fails to self-analyze

In an article published in UCLA Law Review. Alex Camacho, associate professor of law at the Notre Dame Law School, criticizes Congress and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for mismanagement of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) program under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The article is the first comprehensive assessment of what Camacho calls a "pioneering but ultimately ineffective" regulatory program.

Camacho contends that regulatory agencies like the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fail to systematically review the effectiveness of their programs and therefore do not have the information necessary to know what works and what doesn't.

"The ESA should be periodically and methodically evaluated to determine if it is advancing the public goals it was proposed to cultivate," Camacho said.

Camacho's article, which has been modified several times since its original submission in 1973, neither Congress nor the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has acted on the recommendations of the commit­tee investigators.

"The ESA should be periodically and methodically evaluated to determine if it is advancing the public goals it was proposed to cultivate," Camacho said.

Alex Camacho
associate professor
Law School

More alumni in Peace Corps

University moves up four spots on list of most represented mid-size schools

By DENNIS SLATER
News Writer

Notre Dame is climbing up the list of medium-sized schools sending students into the Peace Corps. As of this fall, 2007, 23 alumni currently are in the Peace Corps.

“We really focus on Notre Dame because the students are extremely professional and compassionate. They seem to have that unique balance of meeting high academic standards and committing part of their lives to service. Plus, of course, this is no sur­prise given to the University's deep focus on humanitarian concerns, but it is not just in the U.S. and abroad,” said Christine Torres, Peace Corps public affairs specialist.

Camacho cites the often-touted Plum Creek agreement.

"The agreement remains in effect despite a 50 percent decline in the estimated population of spotted owls attributable to an alarming influx of inva­sive barred owls and fluctuating en­tertaining guidelines for breeding during agreement publication," he said.

Camacho added: "The ESA has failed to address the potential regulatory learning that exists for every regulatory program. Such adaptive regulation would allow Congress, and the agencies, to adjust the regulatory approach as new information comes to light.

"Though these agreements provide some guidance for addressing conflicts between conservation and economic development," he said, "few of them are actually implemented by the independent scientists. This too often produces risky regulatory approaches that lack basic yet vital information."

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Camacho talks about a "pioneering but ultimately ineffective" regulatory program.
Dating continued from page 24

was to discuss ways in which students can find "balance in order to integrate all aspects of [their] lives," including the considerable influence of Catholic teaching here at Notre Dame, Rakoczy said.

Through increased discussion of topics often labeled "taboo" within some Catholic circles, Rakoczy said, students can facilitate a greater understanding of how Catholicism can improve rather than worsen gender relations on campus.

Just as part­

ies and single-­

sex dorms are a part of student life at Notre Dame, so too is Catholicism a significant and per­

manent aspect of the nature of the university, she said. Students must find an appropriate outlet for discussion and education in order to accomplish improvement in gender relations on campus, Rakoczy said.

Rakoczy moderat­
ed the second event organized by the Gender Relations Center (GRC) to study the effects of a Catholic education on dating.

Wednesday’s dis­
cussion included large and small group activities to begin the discussion. FIRE starters are student peers on cam­

pus, who facilitate greater awareness, dis­
cussion and solutions to many of the gender issues on cam­
pus. Standing for F inding I dentity Relationships Equality, the FIRE starters presented per­sional experiences and initiat­
egar spee hology between stu­
dents. Beginning with an inte­
gre le oek at the defi­
ing features of Catholic charac­
ter, Notre Dame graduate and current seminars Mark D e M o t stressed that it h e U niv e rsity must be a "community shaped by Catholic Christianity," where students can "engage, learn from, struggle with, and allow faith to become a part of who you are."

The "Notre Dating" series events will be held on the last Wednesday of every month through April in the Coleman-Morse Center lounge.

Contact Ann-Marie Woods at awoods@nd.edu

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Feed the Poor.

Are you secure?

New Year's Resolutions for 2008

1. I will download and run ND's free antivirus and antisywarer software.
2. I won't share my password with anyone.
3. I will dispose of bank statements and credit card bills/offers using a crosscut shredder.

Visit secure.nd.edu for more information.

Are you secure?

Dating continued from page 1

We have been answered. Five years," he said. He added, "I don't think any institution knows that much will cool. It's hard to project that. They talked about the NCAA providing this additional funding for the student athlete opportunity fund for five years," he said. "What happened after that, I don't think that question was answered. I think we have a ways to go before any of us have an appreciation on how it impacts any of us here."

Much of the money to be made available after the settlement would be funneled through the NCAA's existing $218 million opportunity fund.

"The biggest dollar amount talked about is the student athlete opportunity fund which is an NCAA sponsored program which basically provides funding through the conferences to the membership and that money can be used for a variety of things," Heilser said. "I can be medical in nature, it could be academic in nature, it can involve emergency sorts of things in terms of get­
ing somebody home for a funeral if there's a death in the family." Chris Hine contributed reporting. Information from Associated Press was used in this report.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkoehler@stmarys.edu

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ROBIN TROWER
Thursday April 3, 2008 • 7:00pm
Pacifica 89.7 FM Presents
The King of the Blues!

BB KING
FORTUNATELY
Thursday January 31, 2008
Morris Performing Arts Center
On SALE NOW at box office.
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www.morrisperformingarts.org

REDSPEEDWAGON
Friday March 7, 2008
On SALE NOW!
PULSE FM Welcomes
STEVEN CURTIS CHAPMAN
Live in This Moment Tour Sunday March 9 & 7/00PM
Morris Performing Arts Center
ON SALE NOW!
CHURCH GROUPS WELCOME

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Are you secure?
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Final report shows Israelprime minister BENJAMIN NETANYAHU—Prime Minister Ehud Olmert emerged relatively unscathed from the final report on the 2006 war in Lebanon, even though the inquiry criticized both the government and the "Serious failings and flaws."**

The report stopped short of blaming Olmert personally for what many Israelis saw as a stunning blunder that cost the country’s lives. A harsher indictment could have threatened Olmert’s rule and his stated goal of signing a peace treaty with the Palestinians within a year.

**U.S. warns China to relax restraints**

Giuliani was trying to get serious about relaxing the restraints on financial information providers in a letter that could represent a final warning before the U.S. asks the WTO to intervene in the matter.

**National News**

**Judge throws out Katrina levee suit**

NEW ORLEANS — A federal judge threw out a key class-action lawsuit Wednesday against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over flood-tide levees in a levee breach after Hurricane Katrina.

U.S. District Judge Stanwood Duval ruled that the Corps should be held liable for the failure of a wall on the 17th Street Canal that caused widespread flooding in the New Orleans area in August 2005. The suit led to $350,000 separate claims by residents whose homes were flooded, totaling billions of dollars in damages against the agency.

**Astronauts face power problems**

CAULIFLOWER, Fla. — Two astronauts pulled off a riskier and trickier-than-usual spacewalk Wednesday, replacing a failed electric motor, and giving the international space station a much-needed power boost.

The task was easier than expected due to problems; a joint for rotating one of the solar wings is mysteriously clogged with metal shavings and can’t be fixed until later this year. Wednesday’s successful operation, however, added to the power margin at the orbiting outpost and cleared the way for the deliveries of two science labs.

**Local News**

**13-month-old shot to death in car**

GAMY, Ind. — A 13-month-old boy was shot to death on Tuesday, but his mother described as a caretaker, and police said Tuesday they have arrested a person of interest.

**Kennedy bows out of race, endorses McCain**

Giuliani recalled he had said in an earlier debate that McCain would be the best choice for preventing terrorists from killing him.

"I'd endorse anyone else, you would say I was flip-flopping," he said, mentioning an off-the-record comment of McCain's chief rival, Mitt Romney.

"McCain, standing at Giuliani's side, acknowledged his former rival as "my strong right arm and my partner."" Of course, the endorsements join two Republicans who had campaigned on similar themes.

**Kenya**

**Washington reconsider aid to Kenya**

Post-election "ethnic cleansing" in Nairobi has claimed 800 lives

Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — The top U.S. envoy for Africa on Wednesday criticized the month of post-election violence in Kenya. "Ethnic cleansing" and "mass murder" were taking place in Kenya.

Much of the violence has pitted other tribes, including Odinga's Luo, against Kikuyu, who are the largest ethnic group. Kikuyus have long beenaccused for their dominance of Kenya's economy and politics, but poor Kikuyus in the capital and slums have been left out of the country's economic boom.

Frazier said the violence she saw during a visit earlier this month to the western Rift Valley piled the Kikuyus, who support Odinga, against Kikuyus.

"The first wave of this violence, it was primarily in the Rift Valley and Kalenjin, and Kalenjin pushing out Kikuyu. But that may now be spreading to Kikuyus pushing out Luo and Kalenjins," Frazier told reporters in Addis Ababa.

"It's a long series of an African Union sanctum.

"I was talking about in terms of the ethnic cleansing that I saw was an immediate aftermath of the election, it was then an organized effort to push people out of the Rift Valley. In that area authorities were told to leave their homes. We're looking right now at the threat of death if they did not flee."

Frazier said she did not consider the violence in Washington, the State Department appeared to back away from Frazier’s characterization of the violence as ethnic cleansing.

"Very clearly, there is a very serious situation, if not crisis, with respect to people being displaced in Kenya," spokesman Sean McCormack told reporters. He said experts from the State Department's Office of War Crimes Issues were compiling information about the violence but had not yet made any findings.

"If they do document any instances of atrocities, we'll have to look at what next steps to take, but at this point we're not there yet," McCormack said.

"Kikuyus were the major victims of the first explosion of violence after the announcement that Kikuyu had won the election, which the international community and election monitors agree was rigged."

Giuliani's unconventional strategy, which relied heavily on Florida to launch him into the coast-to-coast Feb. 5 nominating contests, where 65 percent of the country's residents live, is struggling to just survive.

"We're calling for an investigation into the inciting of violence as well as an investigation into who is actually killing people," Frazier said.

"We're not there now. There are a lot of politicians on radio inciting violence before the election ended."

Frazier said neither Kikuyi nor Odinga, who says he won the election, have done enough to halt the violence. She said speeches made by both had proved counterproductive.

"I think both sides have spent quite a lot of time, an unholy time, in the public," Frazier said.

"We're calling for an investigation into the inciting of violence as well as an investigation into who is actually killing people," Frazier said.

Giuliani bowed out of the race and endorsed McCain.

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Revue continued from page 1

ment were present at the Revue dress rehearsal Wednesday night, the final show of the season. Notre Dame senior Kelly Payne asked Revue organizers to eliminate two registration questions that Mary's students from skiis. Payne said she would object if they're going to talk about Saint Mary's campus. The question in the past has had problems. Payne said. * The writers had alternate lines prepared for the few sections that guessed might be found objectionable, Revue director John Siegel said earlier Wednesday.

This year's production, "Chips and Dawson," has four musical numbers and a dozen of the 90 selections. Siegel said. The Revue is entirely student-run, acted and directed. The writers and all actors underwent an "extensive screening process" before they made it into the Revue, which has in the past spurred complaints by audience members offended by its edgy material. "We were more comfortable," Siegel said. "We use humor to address issues around campus and greater issues for young people in a different way." Keenan resident Mark Tesling views all components of the Revue throughout the week, although it was in the past cut skits, though the Revue is truly the students' show, he said.

*I never know what's going to make people laugh and what's going to make people upset," he said. "Sometimes they seem trivial. Sometimes I can understand their concerns or objections."

John Siegel, Revue director

Revue differs from those of past years in the variety and quality of its skits, Siegel said. "Chips and Dawson" are very distinctive," he said. "Across the board it's a very strong performance." All free tickets for the Revue were given last week within 20 minutes of being made available to the student body, and Keenan residents snapped up reserved tickets for their guests.

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Hate continued from page 1

that the student body supports the G and L community," Bond said. "I think it does a larger disservice to the gay and lesbian community to keep bringing up this hate and keep mentioning this hate, as obviously it was a very immature act that was done for attention, and we're giving them attention."

However, other senators said that the Senate should pass the resolution to show that this act should not be condoned.

"It might have been just two shirts, but just the fact that no one has really said anything is extremely disturbing," Howard Senator Edina Francillon said. "I believe that it is important to pass this to finally get on the right path."

A few senators compared the T-shirt incident to the racist letters sent to three residence halls last week. O'Neill Senator Matt Molloy said the T-shirt incident is worth specifically addressing in light of the recent mailings. With the University involved in the entire campus about the racist letters through e-mail, the offensive T-shirts received much less attention.

"The University sent an e-mail to every student denouncing the racist letters, and nothing happened with the (anti-gay) shirts," Molloy said. "We need to stand up and address it because no one else has."

Koski said that in addition to passing the resolution, the Senate should take action to support the GLBTQ community and to combat hate speech. Possible events could be a dialogue series and greater involvement with "Stand Against Racism," he said.

Academic Affairs Committee Chair Carol Hendrickson also gave a presentation about the hiring and tenure of Catholic faculty. Hendrickson said that Catholic faculty members try to feature speakers about this topic, including a Faculty Senate member and a member of the administration -- but no Catholic faculty have not been confirmed.

Hendrickson presented a graph showing a projection of Catholic faculty compared to Catholic faculty, from 2006-2042. The graph showed the University has 51 percent hiring rate.

"It's pretty obvious that we will be losing our Catholic majority faculty within a very short time," she said.

Although faculty and the administration have been involved in the debate over the hiring of Catholic faculty, Hendrickson said that students should become aware of the issue. "We've been missing all along student involvement," Hendrickson said. "There hasn't been a lot of organized student discussion."

After student body president Liz Brown suggested a town hall meeting or dorm meetings to inform students and got their opinions, senators debated the effectiveness of both venues and whether or not students will become engaged in the issue.

"Most people are just concerned about going to class, doing their everyday routine and not thinking about where they'll be in their kids' lives or the history and the legacy of Notre Dame," Francillon said.

In other Senate news: • The Senate unanimously passed a resolution that proposed an amendment to the Student Body Constitution, adding the student business board general manager to the financial management board. Ian Secor, the oversight committee chair, initiated this resolution.

• Parker Ludwig from the University Libraries spoke about the state of electronic reserves. During the past few years, about 175-180 courses placed materials on e-reserves. During the fall semester, however, 280 courses used e-reserves.

Ludwig said.

Contact Claire Reising at creising@nd.edu

Casa continued from page 1

Though no alcohol has been sold at Casa for more than a month, its billboard still advertises the specials.

"We encourage people to come in and then explain [our] plights," he said.

Even before the license expired, Casa was going through a rough patch. Arredondo attributed to the losing season and Notre Dame football team. With accumulating deficits at home and on the road, some fans were less willing to pay the high rates Casa has for local lodging. Arredondo said. And local residents were unlikely to celebrate most of the season's games with a post-game show, he said.

"A lot of factors, in the end, were responsible," he said. "But having a poor season certainly didn't help our economy." During the 2008 season, Casa was a bustling business, Arredondo said. On some Sundays, when tickets and domestic drafts were each $1, a customer could find a walk as long as 20 minutes. For prices, affordability and proximity were key selling points.

"I'll miss Casa del Rio. It was convenient and cheap and close to campus. And the food was good," I'm guess from now on we'll have to settle for Chipotle," he said.

Valiente said he and his friends went to Casa last Saturday, and as they ordered their food, Arredondo told them about the restaurant's financial difficulties.

"It was exactly high during the food and, most importantly, the drinks were cheap," he said. "Perhaps the cheapness of the food made you feel like you were truly eating from a Mexican street vendor in [Mexico City]."

After Arredondo says goodbye to Casa's last customer tonight, he plans to share a final celebration in his restaurant with those who helped make it happen for more than three years.

"We'll close the doors and have a couple of cocktails with our friends and family here," he said, before adding an emotional note to his opinion of the business. "I can't serve any alcohol during business."

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Write to Spot Call 631-4543

The Observer ◆ CAMPUS NEWS

Thursday, January 31, 2008

SPORTS TRIVIA CHALLENGE

Friday, February 1st at 9:00pm
MONTGOMERY AUDITORIUM, LAFOURTE
NO STUDENTS ONLY! .. WINNER RECEIVES BULLSVS.MAGIC TICKETS
CHECK AND YOUR FRIENDS TO THE MAIN LOUNGE!
Please RSVP TO THE MAIN LOUNGE INFO DESK

SUPER BOWL GAMEWATCH

Sunday, February 3rd at 6:00pm
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FREE FOOD AND DRINKS

NAME THE TEAM... NAME THE PLAYER... NAME THE RECORD... NAME THE YEAR

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SAO
Tax rebates inch closer to reality

Senate finance committee approves bill, hopes for full floor vote by week's end

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A plan to send $500-$1,000 rebates to all but the richest taxpayers advanced in the Senate Wednesday after Republican Senator Charles Grassley teamed to add aid for disabled veterans, the elderly and young people in the House-passed economic recovery bill.

The package would make individuals with annual income of up to $150,000 and couples with incomes up to $300,000 eligible for the rebates. Qualifying families would also get $300 for each child.

The Senate Finance Committee approved the measure as a big surprise vote Wednesday, and senior aides said the Senate could begin voting on it as early as Thursday in hopes of completing it by weekend's end.

The income limits compare with caps of $75,000 for individuals and $150,000 for couples in an economic stimulus bill the House passed on Tuesday.

They were part of a bill written by Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., the Finance Committee chairman, and backed by Grassley and other Republicans on the panel's senior Republican, which would pump $193 billion into the economy over the next two years. The House measure would inject $161 billion.

The Senate plan also would expand eligibility to 20 million older Americans on Social Security and to disabled veterans and tuck in an unemployment extension, guaranteeing those whose benefits have run out.

"It helps seniors and it helps those hit hardest by the economic downturn,"Baucus said of his plan.

He said it could win quick approval and be ready for enactment by Feb. 15.

"This cannot be loaded down," Grassley said, "or it is likely to sink.

Baucus originally proposed to let even the richest taxpayers share in the rebates, saying that would attract Republican support for his measure. Grassley said that lifting what some Republicans deemed "suffocating income limits" in the House plan was a key reason he was backing the bill.

But Senate Democrats balked at the idea of wealthy people — including lawmakers — getting rebate checks. Grassley's new proposal expressly bars members of Congress from getting the checks.

It also goes further than the House package in efforts to bar illegal immigrants from receiving rebates. Under the Senate measure, recipients and their spouses and children would have to have valid Social Security numbers to qualify. The House bill omits that requirement, although it expressly disqualifies nonresident aliens.

In backing the bill, Grassley broke with President Bush and Senate GOP leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky. Both have said the Senate should simply pass the House-passed stimulus measure.

Grassley told Iowa reporters that he believed the Senate would act quickly on the measure and that he and Baucus would team up to try to block further amendments to the bill.

"If Baucus and I can work together, we can keep amendments down, keep it from becoming a Christmas tree," Grassley said.

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Market pulls back despite big rate cut

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A still-anxious Wall Street closed lower Wednesday, sac­rificing the advance it made after the Federal Reserve cut interest rates half a percentage point. Investors collected profits after nearly three sessions of big gains, unwilling to lock money on the table amid ongoing economic uncertainty.

It was surprising that the market pulled back, having suffered months of losses and having driven the Dow Jones industrial average up more than 470 points so far this week, said Dow Jones Newswires.

Anthony Conroy, managing direc­tor and head trader for BNY Conroy, said calculations of more downgrades of bond insur­ers like Ambac Financial Group Inc. and MBIA Inc. — as well as uneasiness ahead of Thursday's Commerce Department report on personal income and spending inflation — was enough to spur people to cash in profits from the market's initial gains.

Key reports on the job market and manufacturing set to arrive Friday could also add to investors' concerns about the state of the economy, with some business owners having dropped orders for equipment, leading to a crumbling housing market and losses at major financial institutions.

"Volatility is here to stay," Conroy said. "People who think these issues will go away overnight in one Christmas vacation are delusional.

The Federal Reserve lowered the fed funds rate, or the interest banks pay one another for overnight loans, to 5 percent, the lowest level since spring 2005. It also lowered the dis­count rate, or the interest the Fed charges on loans to banks, by a half point to 3.50 percent.

Scott Fullman, director of invest­ment strategy for L.A. Englander & Co., said it was unlikely the market's downturn was because of disappoint­ment over the rate cut or the Fed's accompanying statement, which if anything asserted that the central bank is willing to lower rates further if needed.

The Dow, which had been up more than 200 points after the Fed's deci­sion, finished down 37.47, or 0.47 percent, to 12,442.83.

"We're seeing profit taking ahead of the employment report on Friday," Fullman said, referring to the Labor Department's data on job creation and unemployment. "The market has had a really nice run-up this week, and investors are taking advantage of that.

Broader stock indicators also turned lower. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 6.49, or 0.48 percent, to 1,355.81, and the Nasdaq comp­osite index fell 9.06, or 0.38 percent, to 2,349.00.

Government bond prices rose as the stock market pulled back. The yield on the 10-year benchmark note fell to 3.63 percent from 3.68 percent late Tuesday.
Schwarzenegger will support John McCain
California governor to back Arizona senator for impending Republican primary elections

Associated Press

SIMI VALLEY — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger will endorse John McCain on Thursday, giving a certain boost to the Republican presidential front-runner six days before California's high-stakes primary.

The two will appear at a news conference after touring a Los Angeles-based solar energy company and the governor will make his endorsement official, his senior aides confirmed Wednesday.

Schwarzenegger's endorsement is yet another setback for Mitt Romney, the former Massachusetts governor who saw Florida slip from his grasp Tuesday after McCain rolled up the support of that state's two top elected Republicans, Gov. Charlie Crist and Sen. Mel Martinez.

His strategy in tailored, Romney plans to offer himself as the conservative alternative to McCain as he pushes ahead in hopes of winning enough delegates to tip the Arizona senator when 21 states vote in the Republican contest on Tuesday.

Schwarzenegger's move comes as McCain plows ahead toward the nomination, the only Republican candidate to have won three highly contested primaries since voting began earlier this month.

"Governor Schwarzenegger is an exceptional governor and we are honored that he has decided to endorse Senator McCain, and look forward to the event tomorrow," said Steve Schmidt, a senior McCain adviser who managed Schwarzenegger's 2006 campaign.

The four-term senator is running strongly ahead of his competitors in California, which offers a whopping 178 delegates to the Republican nominating convention. Candidates secure three delegates for each of the state's 53 congressional districts they win in the primary, in which only Republicans can vote.

The ultimate effect of Schwarzenegger's endorsement is unclear. The celebrity governor and former actor is universally known in the state, and his political network certainly will be helpful to McCain, who has virtually no organized effort in California after his candidacy nearly collapsed. The actor-turned-governor also is a prolific fundraiser.

But Schwarzenegger has a strained relationship with some conservatives in his own party and McCain, himself, is fighting to convince GOP rank-and-file that he's committed to conservative values. Schwarzenegger's nod could exacerbate concerns about McCain among the party establishment.

Breathealizer tests not permitted in hearings
Poor performance in toxicology labs results in judge's refusal to allow device in courtrooms

Associated Press

SEATTLE — The State Patrol's toxicology lab has had so many ethical lapses and made so many scientific mistakes in recent years that altered breath test results should not be admitted at trial, a court ruled Wednesday.

The ruling by a three-member panel of King County District Court will likely make it easier for defendants in pending county cases to beat drunken driving charges and for those previously convicted on breath test evidence to appeal.

"We simply stated, without the reliable evidence that a correctly functioning breath test instrument can provide, the discovery of the truth in DUI cases suffers," the judges wrote. "The innocent may be wrongly convicted, and the guilty may go free."

Prosecutors can still try to win convictions based on other evidence, such as erratic driving and field sobriety tests.

The ruling cited problems with the patrol's toxicology lab, including the false certification of solutions used to verify breath tests, the improper rejection of data, mistakenly switched data and reliance on software that miscalculated data. Prosecutors can try to get breath tests admitted in cases after they have proven the lab's practices have been cleaned up, the judges said.

"The judges are saying, 'If you wanna play 'CSI,' you've got to make sure you can do it the way 'CSI' does it,'" defense attorney Tod Voss said. "The science they did at the lab was so sloppy you can have no confidence in any of the results that were obtained.'"

Voss said he was one of many defense attorneys around the state who helped cover the more than $25,000 it cost for experts, transcripts and other legal expenses in challenging the lab's work before the King County judges.

King County is the third in the state to reconsider the validity of the tests since reports of problems surfaced, and its ruling is the most sweeping Skagit County judges ruled that although misconduct at the lab was troubling, there was no immediate evidence that the breath test results were invalid. In Snohomish County, judges threw out the tests in about 40 cases.


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Town targets Bush, Cheney
Petition accuses president, vice president of crimes against Constitution

**Associated Press**

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — A town petition making President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney subject to arrest for crimes against the Constitution has triggered a barrage of criticism from people who say residents are "wackjobs" and "nute.

In e-mail messages, voice-mail messages and telephone calls, outraged people are calling the measure the equivalent of treason and vowing never to visit Vermont.

"Has everyone up there been out in the cold too?" said one.

"I would like to know how I could get some water from your town," said another. "It's obvious that there is something special in it."

The petition — with more than 436 signatures, or at least the 5 percent of voters necessary to be considered — was submitted Thursday and the town Select Board voted 3-2 Friday to put it on the ballot. It goes to a town-wide vote March 4.

It reads: "Shall the Selectboard instruct the Town Attorney to draft indictments against President Bush and Vice President Cheney for crimes against our Constitution, and publish said indictments for consideration by other authorities and shall it be the law of the Town of Brattleboro that the Brattleboro Police, pursuant to the above-mentioned indictments, arrest and detain George Bush and Richard Cheney in Brattleboro if they are not duly impeached, and if they are sentenced to a prison term, then the police have no authority to arrest Bush or Cheney if other visits Brattleboro.

Bush has not visited Vermont during his presidency; Cheney visited Burlington in 2002, but has not been to Brattleboro.

Anger at the Bush administration is hardly new in Vermont. The state Senate voted last year to support impeaching the president. Anti-war rallies are regular occurrences, and "Impeach Bush" bumper stickers are common.

Clemson University
fraternity on probation

Three members charged with misdemeanors after freshman dies of alcohol poisoning

**Associated Press**

WALLSALLA, S.C. — Three fraternity members at Clemson University were charged with alcohol-related misdemeanors after a freshman died of alcohol poisoning during an off-campus party, a prosecutor said Wednesday.

The students' activities did not directly lead to the death of 18-year-old Benjamin Garrison Sprague, prosecutor Chrisy Adams said. But the three students, all members of the fraternity Sigma Nu, face charges that include transferring beer and liquor to a minor and using fake identification to buy alcohol.

Sprague was not forced to drink at the party, Adams said.

"Ben made choices that night to consume alcohol, and he and the people around him made choices to exceed, and that led to his death," said Chrisy Adams. "These boys made a mistake by providing the alcohol and having the party for the purpose of partying and underage drinkers."

Sprague's death occurred the evening of Dec. 9 at a Sigma Nu fraternity house. He had a blood-alcohol level of nearly 0.38 percent — about five times the legal limit for driving. Oconee County Coroner Karl Addis has set a July 15, 2008, autopsy date.

After Sprague's death, the school's Sigma Nu chapter was placed on interim suspension by the university and is undergoing internal investigitations. The suspension means the group cannot hold any meetings or parties.

"We fully expect our members to abide by, uphold and support the laws of the land, including laws pertaining to alcohol purchase, consumption and use," said Brad Becham, executive director of the Virginia-based national Sigma Nu Fraternity.

Adams said Sprague, who had recently been initiated into the fraternity, had been drinking for four hours before he arrived at the party. Adams read a statement from Sprague's parents that said, "While we acknowledge Ben's errors in judgment, we do not believe his errors overshadow his goodness."

Clemson spokeswoman Robin Denny said the school will determine whether the students who were charged would also be suspended.

"Our first thoughts are with the Sprague family and we continue to be with them, since this is just another sad day for their family and for the Clemson family," Denny said.

The prosecutor said Jetin Patel, 20, of Spartanburg, S.C., was charged with using a fake ID to purchase beer at a grocery store. He also faces charges of underage possession of beer and transferring beer to a person under 21.

Matthew Rinckel, 20, of Lynchburg, Va., was charged with transfer of beer and transfer of liquor to a person under 21.

Addison Kerr, 21, of Allatoona, Ga., was charged with transfer of liquor to a minor. Kerr's attorney, Mills Ariall, said his client was hoping to be allowed to enter a pretrial intervention program, which could remove the charges from his record.

"The family, from what I understand, did not want criminal charges brought," Ariall said. "They don't want these boys to face this the rest of their lives."

An attorney for Rinckel declined to comment through another lawyer in his firm, and it was unclear whether Patel or Kerr had attorneys.

All three were booked Tuesday and released from jail on their own recognizance. A court appearance for them has been scheduled for late February, Ariall said.

**SCHEDULE OF THE MINI CONFERENCE**

12:30 pm Introduction

Robert Jensen, Ph.D.

- Ph.D. in Media Ethics and Law at the University of Minnesota
- Associate Professor in the School of Journalism at University of Texas at Austin
- Author of *Getting Off: Pornography and the End of Sexuality*
- Co-author of *Pornography: The Production and Consumption of Inequality*
- Co-editor of *Freeing the First Amendment: Critical Perspectives on Freedom of Expression*

2:30 pm Gail Dines, Ph.D.

- Ph.D. from the University of Salford in England
- Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies at Wheelock College in Boston
- Co-editor of *Gender, Race and Class in Media*
- Co-author of *Pornography: The Production and Consumption of Inequality*
- Featured in ABC News, National Public Radio, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Vogue*

4:15 pm Notre Dame Panel

Sister Susan Bruno, OSF - Rector, Pasquerilla West Hall
Reverend Peter Jarret, CSC - Religious Superior, Corby Hall
Stephanie Brauer - French major & Anthropology minor
Patrick Tighe - Philosophy major & PPE minor

5:15 pm Closing Remarks

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2008

Center for Continuing Education
McKenna Hall
Freshments Provided

Office of the President, Gender Relations Center, Gender Studies, Feminist Voice, Identity Project of Notre Dame, Men Against Violence, Progressive Student Alliance
Jesus is my co-conspirator

Why are you here? At least a few times in my career here at Notre Dame, I’ve been asked this question in manners incredulous and inquisitive, hoarse and hospitalizable. Now, I cannot read minds and so I cannot speak for the beliefs of other people with any degree of certainty, but I think it is a fairly safe bet that if religious belief were somehow quantifiable I’d probably be considered below average, to be cautious. Living in close proximity to other people means that this gets noticed, and occasionally questioned.

I try to brush off with the question with something flippant or funny, such as “The weather is too nice to say no” or “I heard the food at North Dining Hall was great” but these are diversions, not just to the questioner but to myself, the questioned. You see, I’ve been trying to explain to myself during every day I’ve been on campus the last four years. I like it here, a lot, really. I’d probably stay another year or two if they’d let me (well, if they let me for free), but why? Yes, there are friends and fun times and all that, and I don’t mean to dismiss these crucial considerations, but recently, I think I may have come upon an answer.

Irrationally enough, I was attending mass at the time. Our dorm’s priest was delivering the homily and talking about the greatest needs humans had. I found myself nodding along when the three he listed were to love, to be loved, and to be a part of something greater than ourselves. The last of these three was referred to as the main reason people believe in a religion. I believe it is also the main criteria by which I select my favorite movies.

Sitting there listening to the priest I realized that nearly all of the movies I love involve a group of people coming together and utilizing their individual talents toward the pursuit of a common goal. The preference stretches across genre lines. My favorite war movie is “The Great Escape,” in which the inmates of a POW camp undertake an intricate escape plan, free to hope for 200 people. The effort encompasses takers, strategists, forgers, diggers and Steve McQueen. Though the plan is ultimately less than successful, the story is inspiring.

My favorite western is “The Magnificent Seven,” in which seven disparate gunslingers take very little pay to defend a Mexican village from an evil thief. Though mentioning the comparison in an article ostensibly about religion might strike some as curious, I think the same philosophy might apply to caper films such as “Ocean’s Eleven” and, of course, “The Great Muppet Caper.”

The point of all this is to say, in an embarrassingly inflated fashion, that although I might not agree with very much of the dogma, I still empathize with the need for that feeling of being a part of something greater. I want to feel that there is a reason for us to be here.

The more strident adherents, like Richard Dawkins, author of the provocatively titled “The God Delusion,” and his kindred spirit Christopher Hitchens fail to see religious belief in the proper light. They think of it as the complete acceptance of an utterly ridiculous story and thus view it unfavorably. I tend to think of religious belief as an attempt to come up with answers to the questions our own existence forces upon us, including the one which leads off this column: Why are you (or any of us) here?

I don’t doubt that Dawkins and Hitchens have considered these questions. My problem is that they have answered them so confidently that they seem to have moved on from them. We are here because of a random disturbance in the universe, leading eventual-ly to the creation of all life. We fall in love because our genes want us to reproduce. People are happier or sadder than others because of different levels of certain chemicals in the brain. In short, Dawkins and Hitchens have dismissed the notion of a soul.

The problem with these answers, however true, is that they are too certain. Religion may offer similarly pat answers, i.e., we are here because of the will of God, and we are here to do God’s will, etc., but it does not, or should not, lend itself to the same degree of certainty, as the believer is forced to ask further, “What is God’s will, and how do we best enact it?”

If belief is a continuum, I myself may fall closer to Dawkins’ and Hitchens’ end of it than to St. Francis’, but I don’t conceive of myself as an easily understood product of natural selection and chemical imbalances. I like to think of myself, and the rest of us, as that. And that’s the reason I like it here. As Norman Mailer, a man with uncertainty religious beliefs himself, once said, “You can say the word soul at Notre Dame and nobody snickers.”

John Everett is a senior English major. He is thought to be somewhere between 21 and 45 years of age. He is armed with a sharp wit and considered cantankerous. If you have any information regarding his whereabouts, please contact jeverett@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this article are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
This week marks the 36th annual national celebration of Catholic Schools Week. All over the country, Catholic elementary and high schools are celebrating their unique contributions to a Catholic education making to the students who attend, as well as to the children's grade schools. As a senior, I have endured four years of being lumped in with our so-called "thieving" student body. I'm no thief...except for that time I stole a passerby's dog. I thought it was the middle of the road. And that time I hotdogged during Trespassing sign while trespassing (just for the irony). Oh, and I totally got away with the last year snack nutcracker from North Dining Hall that I borrowed for a few days during Christmas! For shame. If you are reading this, you know who you are. Jesus is watching. Exceptions aside, every time that yearly summary of dining hall "theft" is read into the paper, I cringe. No more. It is time the truth came to light. My freshman year, I worked in SHH on plugging my nose and soft- ness through my nose while I noticed something interesting. While all my classmates were throwing away whole pieces of fruit? While they do make good projects, but it's not "online food fights," I think that's a little wasteful. And then I take a step back. Is it not possible that Father Hesburgh's prayer, "Come, Holy Spirit," and live as a light. Do your part to make your section, residence hall, or class a stronger, more welcoming community. Don't let slurs which perpetuate racism or cheapen sexuality or glorify superficial values pass unchallenged. Make sure you're spending part of each day focused on other people and not just yourself. Dare to ask for help if you're trapped by an addiction to alcohol or pornography or other self-destructive behavior.

Through the grace of God, each of us has gifts in abundance to offer those around us. Though you could easily, maybe cynically, say, "Yeah, yeah, yeah," and never give this one more thought, I hope you won't. Take some time to pray about what you have to offer to the world, and do not fear to light the way.

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

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'LOST' and
Season 4 creates

Top 5 Things
that won't happen in
'LOST' this year

5. There will be no romantic
tension between Jack/Sawyer
and Kate.

4. The survivors will set up a
"confessional" so they can
record and vent their feelings
about the others to a camera.

3. Everyone will survive.

2. All problems will be
solved — daddy issues,
marital struggles, revenge
schemes.

1. The Harlem Globetrotters will
parachute onto the island to
play a pickup game with the
survivors.

LOST: SEASON 4 PREVIEW

By TAE KANG
Scene Writer

Tonight the best show on television returns after an
eight-month hiatus. Having contacted a freighter 80
miles offshore from their island, it seems that the
survivors of Oceanic Flight 815 will finally be rescued
and be allowed to return home, whether that be
Sydney or Los Angeles. But this is "Lost" and only a
fresh set of mysteries and chal-

Losing focus on this season

From the intense first minutes of
seeing the aftermath of the plane
crash onward, "Lost" has always
been a show that has pushed the
boundaries of our imagination and
expanded its mythology. It taught us that "even
heroes have secrets." It has inspired conversations
about the significance of numbers (4, 8, 15, 16, 23,
42), polar bears, and ultimately, "Where are these
people?" The show has changed the landscape of tel-
vision. If you're watching a show about a multi-eth-
nic cast with superpowers who are seemingly all con-
ected, thank "Lost." If you're downloading your
favorite episode of "Grey's Anatomy" on iTunes,
thank "Lost." The show about the incredibly flawed
survivors on an island who come into contact with
giant smoke monsters and mysterious figures named
Jacob most likely did whatever your favorite show is
doing first.

Not-so-fun fact:
There are 16 planned
episodes for Season 4, but
due to the writers' strike,
only eight episodes have
been completed. The
future of the remaining
episodes will be unknown
until the strike is over.

Despite winning
an Emmy for its
first season,
"Lost" came
under fire espe-
cially in the third
season by critics
and fans alike. Season 3 focused
greatly on The
Others, especially
the manipulative
Ben and love-torn
Juliet and thi
took screen time away from fan favorites like Hurley and Locke. Also, the decision to air the first six episodes long before the last 16 episodes was a controversial one. Some felt the creators had no plan for the storyline and only answered questions with more questions. With this, the producers announced the show would end after three more seasons and they began to satisfy many a quenching mystery. In the latter half of Season 3, “Lost” regained its original form and began to show quality episodes, one after another. This culminated with the season finale that shocked and surprised the haters (who took back their harsh words about their show) and completely changed the storytelling narrative of the series. While “Lost” excites viewers with cliffhangers and intrigues them with mysteries and philosophical dilemmas, it is ultimately the characters and flashbacks that are the heart of the show. Their dilemmas on and off the island and inner-demons drive the show forward. From the heroin-addled former rock star to the Korean couple to the former torturer for the Iraqi Republican Guard, it is the depth of the characters that navigates “Lost.” The viewers see that heroes are not always so perfect and villains are not always so clear-cut.

With Season 3’s thrilling conclusion, there lies the whole new mystery of who the people are on the freighter and the promises that these new characters are even more frightening and dangerous than The Others.

The producers have compared each season to a chapter of a novel, which they unwrap and tell. I compare it to a five-course meal at a fine restaurant. The procedural shows like “Law and Order” or “reality” TV shows are like a Happy Meal at McDonald’s compared to “Lost.” They fill a basic need, but go no further and are not truly satisfying. No other show is as complex, deep, and intense as “Lost.” It is ultimately a tale of survival and suffering, pain and redemption of the human experience. Live together, die alone.

Contact Tae Kang at tkang@nd.edu

Top 5 Reasons Why Jack Kicks Butt

5. Jack Shephard doesn’t need a haircut. Despite being on the island for four months, his hair is just as short and clean as ever.

4. Jack Shephard is intense. The plane just crashed and people are discombobulated. Jack is there to save them. Boone is bleeding non-stop and Jack pours his own blood into him while operating on him. Jack thinks his father is having sex with Jack’s wife. Well, he tackles him.


2. Jack Shephard says stuff like “Either we find a way to live together or we’re going to die alone.”

1. Jack Shephard “walks amongst us but is not one of us.” He’s the leader of the survivors. He sacrifices himself to free Kate and Sawyer despite seeing them intimately together. He’s like Moses but dreamier.
Pitt men topple Nova; Hoya dominate Red Storm

Lady Panthers extend winning streak to 11 games; top-ranked Huskies trounce South Florida, remain unbeaten

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — At the same point of the game in which Pitt uncannily charactized fell apart in a rare home-court defeat four days before, the Panthers showed why they’ve stayed nationally ranked despite being without two key starters.

Sam Young and Tyrell Biggs led a game-changing, second-half rally in which Pittsburgh turned a one-point deficit into an 18-0 run that sent the Panthers bouncing back to beat Villanova 69-57 on Wednesday night.

Young scored 15 points and finished off the pivotal 22-3 run that began with 13 minutes remaining by blocking Corey Stokes‘ outside jumper, grab- ing the ball and dunking on a breakaway dunk while being fouled. Young completed the three-point play to make 9-41, then celebrated by pouting out his chest and pointing at himself as if to say, “Hey, did you see that?”

Young is averaging 18 points but was held to 11 by Rutgers, felt it was a play- worthy of some showing off.

“It was the block and the three-point play summed it up,” Young said. “I felt I was real energetic after that. With that block, I felt like I was coming out of my slump.”

Scottie Reynolds scored 26 points, but Villanova (13-6, 3-5 Big East) — ranked 19th when it beat Pitt 64-62 at home on Jan. 6 — lost its third in a row. The streak is the Wildcats’ longest since they dropped five straight in the 2003-04 season. They have lost four of six overall.

Georgetown 74, St. John’s 42

Georgetown and St. John’s are two of the foundation programs of the Big East Conference. They are about as far apart as two teams can get right now whether it’s on the scoreboard or in the standings.

The six-ranked Hoyas hand- ed St. John’s its worst Big East loss ever Wednesday night. Their victory looked like a first- place team giving a lesson to a team that is tied for last place.

“Hey, they’re a Big East team and this conference is tough,” Georgetown’s Jessie Sapp said.

“Two key starters. They have trouble,” said of his team’s dependence on two key starters.

Pittsburgh 72, Villanova 63

Marcele Young scored nine of a show for her hometown crowd.

Hoyas forward Vernon Macklin defends Red Storm forward

Anthony Mason Jr. during Georgetown’s 74-42 win Wednesday.

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THE 422 A coward was originally a toy who took care of cows. Emus cannot walk backwards. Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.

Most Americans call horses “horses” and the full name of the Rottweil is.

RESPEK

Conien O’Brien is growing a beard to support the writer’s strike.

Bulls forward Melissa Dalembert and guard Jiangi Zepulveda try to stop Huskies forward Maya Moore in UConn’s 71-48 win.

Walker dominated the inside and finished with a game-best 23 points and nine rebounds in her return to Philadelphia, lead- ing the No. 14 Panthers to a 72- 63 victory over Villanova on Wednesday night.

“It feels good to get this win in my hometown,” said Walker, a standout at University City High. Mallorie Wynn chipped in with 18 points as Pitt withstood a tough second-half challenge and extended its winning streak to 11 games, the team’s longest since opening the 2006-07 season 12-0.

Xenia Stewart added 14 points, and Shavonte Zellous had 13 for the Panthers (17-3, 7-0 Big East) who prepared for Saturday’s key conference match-up against No. 8 Rutgers with a win.

But Wednesday night the Panthers’ focus was squarely on Villanova, which was coming off a tough loss to Rutgers. And it is no surprise that Walker was the catalyst.

“I talked to Marcedes for the last three days about coming home,” said Pitt coach Agnus Berani, who hailed from near-ly Gloucester City, N.J. “She was so happy to come home and so happy Moore in UConn’s 71-48 win. 

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Plaxico's prediction offends QB Brady

Associated Press

PHOENIX — 23-17

Just 17 points for the potent Patriots.

Tom Brady scoffed when told Wednesday that New York Giants receiver Plaxico Burress guaranteed New York will beat Brady's undefeated New England team in Sunday's Super Bowl.

"We're only going to score 17 points?" Brady said before checking about it. "OK. Is Pax playing defense? I wish he had said 45-42 and gave us a little credit for scoring more points.

Considering the Patriots set an NFL record by scoring 589 points, Brady's 10 touch- down passes were the most ever for one season, and Randy Moss broke Jerry Rice's mark with 23 TD catches, Burress might have been a bit chintzy.

The last time the Patriots played the Giants, in the sea- son finale, New England ral- lied from 12 points down in the third quarter to win 38-35. The Patriots have not scored fewer than 20 points in their 18 victories, and the Giants' defense performs at its peak, it's still doubtful New England will score only 17 points.

"I know they have confi- dence," Brady said. "They are the NFC champions." "I learned a lesson early in my career: No matter what you say during the week — and God knows we say a lot this week — we're going to focus on going out and winning this game. We're confident, but I don't think we share our thoughts with everybody." Burress did. And when he showed up 33 minutes late for the Giants' media session Wednesday morning, there was speculation the wide receiver was trying to avoid the spotlight.

Turns out Burress was spending time with his 1- year-old son and family at breakfast, claiming he was unaware so many people wanted to interrogate him about his prediction.

"No, no, he said, that a hefty fine comes with missing a Super Bowl week media session. "I don't understand what the fuss is about," Burress said, surrounded by at least as many TV cameras, micro- phones and notebooks as Brady was two hours earlier. "Nobody wants to lose."

"All this is entertainment," added Burress, who was held out of practice Wednesday because of an ankle injury that has plagued him all sea- son. "It's sports, and sports are entertainment. So 23-17 is the prediction I made, but the game still has to be played."
Associated Press

OXFORD, Miss. — The rest of the Southeastern Conference might want to take notice of Mississippi's Eniel Polynice.

The small forward relentlessly drove to the basket for 18 points Wednesday night in the Rebels' 74-58 much-needed victory over Vanderbilt and rendered Shaw Foster, one of the SEC's top scorers, ineffective.

"Polynice was better off the dribble than we were about getting in front of him and he was a great finisher," Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings said. "He had six layups in the first half and five came against one guy."

That one guy was likely Foster, though Stallings didn't want to identify the player after he made the comment. But Ole Miss players were well aware of the score after Polynice's tough all-around game.

He finished with five assists, four rebounds and two blocks and sealed the game with a steal and dunk with about 1 minute left. As important, he held Foster, the SEC's No. 2 scorer, five points below his average of 19 per game.

"E.P.'s always on the other team's best man," Ole Miss' Dwayne Curtis said.

Polynice provided most of the highlights — including three eye-popping score leaps off baseline drives — but it was Ole Miss' freshmen who pulled the game out when Vanderbilt rallied in the second half.

Led by Chris Warren, freshmen scored 18 of Ole Miss' first 26 points in the pivotal opening minutes of the second half as the Rebels (16-3, 3-3 Southeastern Conference) stopped a two-game losing streak and sent the Commodores (17-4, 2-4) to their fourth loss in five games.

Memphis 89, Houston 77
Coach John Calipari shrugged when he learned Kansas lost on Wednesday night, leaving his top-ranked Memphis Tigers as the last undefeated team in the country.

Chris Douglas-Roberts scored 30 points and Joey Dorsey grabbed 22 rebounds, matching a career high, as Memphis equaled the best start in school history with an 89-77 win over Houston.

"The same time the Tigers closed out the Cougars, the Jayhawks lost 84-75 to Kansas State," Calipari said. "It's nice, I guess," he said. "Are we getting better? We got better today."

Robert Dozier scored 17 of his 21 points in the second half and the Tigers (20-0, 0-0 Conference USA) overcame a season-high 22 turnovers to extend their regular-season winning streak to 39 games.

Memphis blended its best start since 1985-86 and won its 15th consecutive road game; Spartans beat Illini, reach best 21-game record in school history

The Illini (10-12, 2-7) didn't make it easy Monday night, leaving its top-ranked No. 8 Michigan State. Calipari said. "We foul them, and they make two. Then we come down, drive to the basket, get fouled and don't make free throws we need."

"I wish it wasn't the same story, but it's been like that all year for us." Illinois reserves Mike Tisdale and Calvin Brock each scored seven points and a couple other players had six points.

The Spartans took control with a 9-2 run, then took advantage of shooting free throws while the Illini struggled at the line to hurt their comeback hopes.

"We kept it within a couple of possessions, but still the free throws are so tough for us," Illinois coach Bruce Weber said. "We foul them, and they make two. Then we come down, drive to the basket, get fouled and don't make free throws we need."

"I wish it wasn't the same story, but it's been like that all year for us." Illinois reserves Mike Tisdale and Calvin Brock each scored seven points and a couple other players had six points.

NCAA Men's Basketball

Freshmen help Rebels snap slump vs. Vanderbilt

No. 1 Memphis wins 15th consecutive road game; Spartans beat Illini, reach best 21-game record in school history

Rebels guard Eniel Polynice scores over Commodores guard Jermaine Beal during Mississippi's 74-58 win Wednesday.

The Observer • SPORTS

Thursday, January 31, 2008
PHILADELPHIA — Watching on Philadelphia's bench with a rare fourth quarter off, Samuel Dalembert felt like an investor following his hot stock tip sky rocket on the scrolling ticker.

Phil pilled up the points — +30, +39, +41, +47.

Milwaukee totally crashed.

"You want to see how far you can hold them down," Dalembert said. "We gave them no life at all."

Andre Iguodala scored 18 points and Andre Miller had 14 to lead Philadelphia to a 112-69 victory over the Bucks on Wednesday night, the 76ers' largest win in more than 25 years.

"This is one we need to forget about," said Bucks coach Larry Krystkowiak.

The Sixers, who won for only the fourth time in the last 15 games, hit a pair of milestones in the rout: This was their widest margin of victory in 12 seasons at the Wachovia Center.


"Oh really?" said Iguodala, his eyes widened. "It shows we just kept playing."

Thaddeus Young scored 14 points for the Sixers, who ended the month with a 4-4 mark. Not great, but enough for rebuilding Philadelphia to find itself on the brink of a playoff spot.

Coach Maurice Cheeks has tried to squash blossoming talk of a postseason push and instead worry only about winning a nice slate of home games leading into the All-Star break.

Counting the win against the Bucks, the Sixers play seven of eight at home before the break.

Cheeks said before the game his goal for the semi-homestand was to win all seven. Well, they're off to a 2-0 start after punishing the Bucks for all 48 minutes.

"That was a great game for us from start to finish," Cheeks said.

Royal Ivey scored 17 for the Bucks, who were without leading scorer Michael Redd for the third straight game because of a left knee strain. Mo Williams had 14.

The Bucks haven't won on the road since winning at Jan. 8. They are only 5-22 on the road, including an 87-80 loss at New Jersey on Tuesday. They also matched their lowest point total of the season.

"There wasn't much fuel in the tank," Krystkowiak said. "There wasn't much they could call up to. I knew they're tired, but we need to get our energy up, rest up and get our feet back under us.

Magic 107, Heat 91

The score suggests that it was just another Orlando Magic blowout victory over the weeble-wobble Miami Heat. A victory, yes. A blowout, well, not exactly.

Hedo Turkoglu had 27 points and 12 rebounds, Rashard Lewis scored 19 points and the Magic needed 12 consecutive points in the final quarter to pull away and beat the under maned Heat Wednesday night.

"Glad to have that win," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "Scary game."

Dwight Howard scored 16 points with 13 rebounds and Maurice Evans added 13 points for the Southeast Division-leading Magic (29-18), who have won the last eight meetings between the Sunshine State rivals.

Ricky Davis scored 21 points, while Luke Jackson and Chris Quinn added 14 apiece for the Heat, who played without Dwyane Wade (flu), Shaquille O'Neal (ankle) and Udonis Haslem (ankle). Not surprisingly, given the lineup depletion, Miami trailed most of the way in what became its 17th loss in the past 18 games.

But that didn't mean the Heat shouldn't make things interesting.

"We all knew that it was going to be tough because those guys ... they've got nothing to lose," Turkoglu said.

Dwight Howard's jumper with 11 minutes remaining drew Miami within 83-80, but the Heat were clearly thinking upset.

From there, though, it was all Orlando.

An 18-1 run gave a close game the appearance of a run away.

"We thought we had a battle there," Quinn said. "And then they stepped up."

In the teams' last four meetings at Orlando, the Magic have won by an average of 23 points.

It was the first time since O'Neal was traded to Miami that he, Wade and Haslem all missed a game. And the diminished bench seemed to take a toll on the Heat down the stretch.

Miami shot 28 percent (5-for-18) in the final quarter, getting outscored 24-13.

Raptors 122, Wizards 83

The Toronto Raptors didn't have to wait long for another shot at Washington, and they certainly took advantage of it.

Andrea Bargnani scored 19 points, Chris Bosh had 16 and Toronto used a big second quarter and a flurry of 3-pointers to beat the Wizards on Wednesday night.

The 39-point margin of victory matched the biggest team history, a 112-73 win over Atlanta on April 12, 2002.

"They blew us out of the water," Washington guard DeShawn Stevenson said.

Anthony Parker had 15 points and Jose Calderon added 11 points and 11 assists for the Raptors, who avenged a 108-104 overtime loss at Washington on Tuesday.

"We were mad about [Tuesday] night's game so we just came out and played our basketball game by being more aggressive," Calderon said. "We did this tonight and didn't let the other team get back."

The top pick in the 2006 draft, Bargnani reached double figures for the third time in four games.

"If he continues to do that, this team is going to be a lot better," Raptors coach Stan Van Gundy said.

Johnson had 12 points and Carlos Delfino added 11 for Toronto, which finished 13-of-18 from 3-point range. The Raptors are the NBA's best 3-point shooting team, making 42.3 percent from beyond the arc.

Washington's Roger Mason had 14 points and nine assists in his last game before joining the Wizards on Tuesday.

"He tripped," Wizards coach Eddie Jordan said. "We tried different adjustments and we just didn't get it done. We didn't do enough to close out people on the perimeter and when we did, they still made shots."
NHL

Minnesota hands Anaheim fourth straight loss

Kovalchuk injured, Thrashers end five-game losing streak; Red Wings score in third period to come back against Coyotes

Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Jean-Sebastien Giguere and the Anaheim Ducks began the longest continuous road trip in team history with a thud.

Brian Rolston, Marian Gaborik and Mikko Kivluu scored less than two minutes apart in the second period as the Minnesota Wild beat the Ducks 5-1 on Wednesday night in the first game for both teams following the All-Star break.

Pierre-Marc Bourchard and James Sheppard also scored for Minnesota, which won its third in four games and sixth in nine.

Anaheim, which got another shaky performance from Giguere, lost its fourth straight after a six-game winning streak. The Ducks, whose lone goal came from Corey Perry, have scored five goals during the skid.

"We've got to start getting dirty, start getting in high-traf­fic areas, playing our physical style of game and playing our skating game," defensewoman Chris Pronger said. "We're a skating team that has to sup­port one another, and when we don't we've got a lot of holes."

This marked the start of an eight-game, 15-day road trip for the Ducks, who added last season's leading scorer, Teemu Selanne, to the team on Monday. The Finnish Flash, who scored 46 goals last season, has skated with the team for three days but didn't dress for the game.

"It never hurts to get good players," Ducks coach Randy Carlyle said.

Giguere, who dominated the Wild playoff series in 2002 and 2003, had a rare Minnesota meltdown early in the second period while the Ducks defense collapsed.

Giguere was going down on a slap shot by Rolston, but the puck was deflected by Francois Beauchemin and went into the top corner of the net 82 seconds into the period. It was Rolston's fourth goal in four games.

Thrashers 4, Penguins 1

The Atlanta Thrashers had to wait to find out how costly their slump-ending victory over Pittsburgh would prove to be.

The Thrashers lost star Ilya Kovalchuk to a knee injury while ending a five-game losing streak in Wednesday night's 4-1 victory over the Penguins. How badly hurt Atlanta's leading scorer was couldn't immediately be determined.

In his first game since Sunday's All-Star Game, Kovalchuk scored his 39th goal but was injured in a knee-injury hit from Pittsburgh's Jarkko Ruutu in the second period.

Kovalchuk made a brief return later in the frame for one shift. He missed the third period and will be examined by team doctors on Thursday.

"You can't keep him off the ice," Thrashers general manag­er and coach Don Waddell said. "He was determined to come out and at least test it.

"These kind of injuries, you always wait until the next day and see how the swelling is and just see how he reacts from it," he said.

Kovalchuk was leveled by Ruutu (32) into the second peri­od. The collision left Kovalchuk lying on the ice in obvious pain in front of Atlanta's bench before he limped to the locker room.

Atlanta's Steve McCarthy immediately followed the colli­sion by crashing into Ruutu and then punching the left winger while having him pinned against the boards in front of the Thrashers bench.

Red Wings 3, Coyotes 2

The Detroit Red Wings waited until the third period to strike, and that was good enough.

Nicklas Lidstrom's goal with 7:28 left completed a comeback and lifted the NHL-leading Red Wings to their fifth straight win, over the Phoenix Coyotes on Wednesday night.

It was the sixth goal for Lidstrom, who also had two assists. Henrik Zetterberg and Tomas Holmstrom also scored. Pavel Datsyuk had three assists, and Chris Osgood made 32 saves. The biggest stop came on Shane Doan's breakaway with 30 seconds left.

Martin Hanzal and Ed Jovanovski scored for Phoenix and Ilya Bryzgalov stopped 36 shots.

Lidstrom beat Bryzgalov, who was screened by Holmstrom, with a slap shot with 7:28 left.

"I was aiming on the blocker side. There were two or three bodies in front of the net and I knew Holmer was one of them," Lidstrom said. "I just tried to pick the blocker side corner. If Holmer's not there, he's proba­bly going to see the puck and make the save."

But Osgood still had to foil Doan, who got behind the Red Wings defense and was in alone from the blue line.

"I just tried to stay as long as I could," Osgood said. "I tried to get everything low so he couldn't slide underneath me."

The Coyotes led 2-1 after two periods.

"We were a little bit rusty at the start. They had some jump on us," Lidstrom said. "It think it helped their cause by playing (Tuesday). They got their legs going. It took us a while to get ours. Then we took the game over and created a lot of chances."

Wild winger Branislav Radivojevic jumps as he attempts a shot against Ducks goalie Jean-Sebastien Giguere during Minnesota's 5-1 win Wednesday.

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Belles drop game to Olivet

Comets catch fire in second half, defeat struggling Saint Mary's

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI
Sports Writer

Despite all five starters scoring double figures, Saint Mary's (8-10, 4-6 MIAA) entered the game needing a win to get back on track in the MIAA.

The first half looked promising, especially when two free-throws by junior guard Katie Rashid pushed the Saint Mary's lead to 21-13 with 10:13 left in the first half. But Olivet chipped away at the lead, and the Belles clung to a 33-31 lead at halftime.

The Comets tied the score at 42 on a 3-pointer by sophomore guard Nykole Pickett and followed that up with another trey, this time by junior guard Sarah Mangold with 13:57 to go in the game. Olivet got up by as many as six, at 55-49, with 10:15 to play.

Twice the Belles cut the margin to just a single point — first on a Kammrath isoop with 7:28 left to make the score 57-56, and later on a Newsom three to bring the score to 62-61 with 6:05 left.

But the Comets scored 15 of the game's next 17 points to open an insurmountable lead. Olivet hit its free throws down the stretch to put the game beyond all doubt as the final buzzer hit.

As a group, the Belles' starters had their best offensive output of the season. Junior guard Megan Contoy led all scorers with 17 points, including 14 in the first half.

Case behind Contoy were guard Alison Kesler with 15, sophomore forward Anna Kammrath with 14, junior forward Erin Newsom with 13, and Rashid with 11.

Kammrath and Newsom also came up big on the boards, pulling down 10 and nine rebounds, respectively. But no bench players from Saint Mary's scored, and Olivet's reserves totaled 32 points.

Contact Griffin Dassatti at gdassatti@nd.edu.

**BOXING**

Politician refuses to appear with Iron Mike

South African leader under pressure from women's rights groups

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — ANC leader Jacob Zuma withdrew from a charity fundraising banquet honoring former boxer Mike Tyson on Wednesday after being criticized by women's groups in South Africa.

In a statement one of the highest rates of rape, Zuma was found not guilty of raping a 18-year-old beauty queen in Indiana.

Reporters arriving at the event were handed a statement from organizers saying Zuma "had been called away on urgent ANC business.

Women's groups had called on Zuma to withdraw from the event. Earlier Wednesday, the One in Nine Campaign, a group of women's rights organizations, had called "the pairing of Zuma and Tyson, particularly distasteful and abhorrent.

"It seems to us that pressure placed on him in the media may have swayed him," Carrie Shelver, of People Opposing Women Abuse said.

"Zuma, who is facing corruption charges, said during his rape trial that the women who had been wearing a skirt, which he interpreted as inviting his sexual advances.

"Zuma has apologized for his statements during and post rape trial reveal his patriarchal beliefs on men and women's roles and rights in South Africa," said the statement from the One in Nine Campaign.

The women's groups said they couldn't protest at the banquet venue, a casino and hotel on airport land, which is considered a key national security point. Emperor Palace is hosting Tyson.

Mark Jakins, owner of the casino and hotel, acknowledged many sporting heroes have been "tinged by controversy," but that organizers were "focusing on Mike Tyson's credentials as a boxer."

Shelver said Tyson was a poor role model.

"There is some skepticism about his rehabilitation and you need to be careful," she said. "You're an easy target. They love sporting heroes."
**ND Women's Tennis**

**Irish look for fifth straight win over Michigan**

No. 23 Wolverines have dropped first two dual matches

By DAN MASTERTON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has won four straight matches against Michigan, tonight, they'll look for a fifth.

The No. 9 Irish travel to the Varsity Tennis Center in Ann Arbor, Mich., to face the No. 23 Wolverines. Irish coach Jay Louderback is 16-3 in this rivalry -- which he says always charges up his team.

"Being Michigan, our kids are always up for it," Louderback said.

The Wolverines are coming off back-to-back 7-0 losses at the hands of Vanderbilt and Kentucky and are looking for their first win of the season.

Louderback is looking to mix and match his players to find the best combinations to complement his top team of Brook Buck and Kelsey Tefft, ranked No. 3 in the nation.

"Although none of Michigan's players are doubles ranked, Louderback respects the Wolverines," he said. "They're a tough team."}

Although having won the first two matches last year and entered the season ranked, No. 16 Michigan is always.

"They've had two or three three-set matches, and they're young," he said. "We're playing two or three freshmen. I look for them to be tougher Thursday than in the first two matches."

For Notre Dame's part, the Irish want to shake off an upset loss to No. 16 Vanderbilt last week.

Notre Dame leads the all-time series with Michigan 18-8.

Contact Dan Masterton at dmastert@nd.edu

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Write Sports.

Contact Chris at ckhorey@nd.edu
Home
continued from page 24
Hillesland had four assists, six rebounds and a momentum-changing dunk, while Ayers scored 10 points in 19 minutes off the bench, including hitting two of his three 3-point attempts.

Brey said he will keep the new lineup for the foreseeable future, including tonight's game against the Friars, because Hillesland's quickness makes the Irish harder to defend.

"There's a little different feel with me and [point guard] Tory Jackson both driving and trying to kick it to shooters," Hillesland said.

Ayers said coming off the bench forced him to make better use of his time on the floor.

"It made me a little more aggressive," he said. "It gave me a little more edge."

But the junior hasn't ruled out starting again later this season.

"I want to keep working hard and maybe get back into the starting lineup if I can," he said.

Most of Notre Dame's scoring against the Wildcats came from two familiar faces. Junior guard Kyle McAlarney, who poured in 30 last Saturday, is averaging 18.2 points per game in Big East play and was awarded the conference's player-of-the-week award for his performance.

"He's a big part of things," Brey said of McAlarney. "His confidence and his aggressiveness can jumpstart us sometimes."

Lost in McAlarney's success last Saturday was the play of sophomore forward Luke Harangody, who scored 25 points. The 6-foot-8 Harangody, who is averaging 22.5 points per game, has been especially effective against smaller centers.

Providence will probably guard Harangody with forward Randall Hanke. At 6-foot-11, Hanke will have a height advantage on the Irish big man, but he will not have quite the advantage that 7-footers Hasheem Thabeet of Connecticut and Roy Hibbert of Georgetown had when they slowed Harangody earlier this month.

The Friars get most of their scoring from their guards, four of whom average double-figure points per game. Their leading scorer is junior Jeff Xavier, who averages 13.1 points per game.

At 12-7 and 3-4 in the conference, Providence is in a tie for 11th in the Big East.

But they beat third-place Connecticut on the road on Jan. 17, so Brey is taking nothing for granted.

"We're not looking past Providence," Brey said. "They beat Connecticut, who's the hottest team in our league."

Mike Brey
Irish coach

Notes:
• Harangody was named one of the top-30 candidates for the 2008 Naismith Award, college basketball's most prestigious player-of-the-year honor.

• Tonight's game is "Camo Night." Free camouflage T-shirts will be handed out to the entire lower bowl of the Joyce Center. At halftime, Notre Dame will honor Sgt. First Class John Adams, who has recently been named one of the United States Army's "Real Heroes." A video about Brey's trip to Kuwait over the summer for Operation Hardwood will be shown.

• As part of ESPN's "Student Spirit Week," ESPN2 will feature the Leprechaun Legion during coverage of the game.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Spartans
continued from page 24

enough good looks at second serves and that really hurt us. It also limited our opportunities to capitalize on easy points."

The Irish will look to continue their winning ways as they travel to Evanston, Ill., this afternoon to take on Northwestern, with the match set to start at 4. Notre Dame is 3-1 on the young season.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrab01@saintmarys.edu

The Observer • SPORTS

The Observer
Irish
senior Brett Heiglson volleys the ball in Notre Dame's 5-2 win over Penn State on Jan. 20.

Spartans

Mike Brey
Irish coach

"We're not looking past Providence. They beat Connecticut, who's the hottest team in our league."

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Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Men's Basketball
Thurs., January 31st @ 7pm vs. Providence

Come out and support the Irish for ESPN's Student Spirit Week! CAMO NIGHT ALL FANS IN THE LOWER BOWL WILL RECEIVE A FREE T-SHIRT!
Friars continued from page 24

shut them down on defense, especially in the full-court press.

"Their zone and man-to-man was pretty spread out, so they gave you a little more open in the middle," Lechlitner said. "And then in transition is when I just kind of try to do a little more for myself, either finding other people or finding my pull up jumper." Although it managed 85 points, Notre Dame shot only 43 percent from the field — and only 36 percent in the first half. The Irish forgot where they were at the start of the game; they looked inept and sluggish and threw passes away. But Gaines grabbed two quick steals, Lebliniter hit a three in the corner and Peters stole the inbound pass and made the easy layup to give Notre Dame an 11-10 lead with 11:48 left in the half.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw said there was a distinct increase in team energy when Peters came off the bench.

"She brings instant energy. She comes in games and there is a huge difference in how we're playing," McGraw said. Gaines' steals also helped to bring the team out of its funk.

"Gaines really was a spark defensively, especially early on," McGraw said. "I think she just got that emotion going, which maybe motivated everybody else.

The Irish went on an 11-2 run to make the score 25-13 with 6:48 remaining. Notre Dame led 36-19 at halftime, holding the Friars to the lowest first-half total (11 points) since Michigan scored 18 on Dec. 2. Peters spearheaded the potent Irish full-court press, which thwarted the Friars offensive opportunities.

"Once they started pressing, it changed the game," Friars coach Phil Seymour said. "It changed our approach as to how we attacked offensively.

In the second half, however, the defense disintegrated. Notre Dame gave up only 22 points in the final 20 minutes and allowed Providence to shoot 12 of 26 from the field.

"The defense in the second half was as bad as we've played all year," McGraw said. "When we're making the turning the ball over, they were scoring.

Although the Irish warded their lead in the second half, their defense lacked intensity and lost focus near the end of the game.

"Our post defense was particularly bad," McGraw said. "And we just quit playing at the end. They were just trying to get the ball back to try to score." Providence hit 11-9, 1-6 Big East had 14 players on its roster, but only eight traveled to the game. Because Friars freshman guard Trinity Hull, who had eight points on 2-for-5 shooting, has a stress fracture, Seymour had to practice with his team so there would be enough players.

"You should have seen me, I was sweating, man, it was pretty bad," he said, laughing.

While McGraw had her gripes about the game, she was happy with the conference win.

"Every win is really critical for us right now," she said. "We're thinking, 'This is the game we have to win to get a bye in the first round of the big east tournament.' We've got a brutal schedule, and we've got to be ready for it, and tonight we weren't ready.

Notes:

- Notre Dame will participate in the inaugural Women's Basketball Coaches' Association's "Think Pink" initiative during their Feb. 10 game against No. 14 Pittsburgh in the Joyce Center.

- The Friars will wear pink warm-up shirts and shoelaces for the game, which will be broadcast on ESPN2 at 2 p.m. The first 750 fans will receive a "Think Pink" T-shirt.

- In addition, McGraw has pledged to donate $10 to each rebound her team grabs to the Kay Yow/ACC Cancer Fund and the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation.

- Allen was named a mid-season raindifice for the John R. Wooden Award, given annually to the national player of the year. The Big East led all conferences with six players on the final 32-player list.

- Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu.

Defense continued from page 24

Irish coach Muffet McGraw admitted in her post-game news conference that she thought the team "quit playing" at the defensive end of the court during the second half.

Providence also was able to pound the ball inside against the Irish, taking advantage of its height. The Friars played Wednesday night with only eight players, but three of them were 6-foot-4 or taller — giving them a significant edge during times when the Irish had 6-foot-1 forward Becca Bruszewski in the pivot with four guards around her.

McGraw also said that the team seemed to be complacent with less pressure.

"Providing pressure got easy shots if it was unable to force a turnover in the press," she said.

"We did a nice job in the first half of getting them to turn over the ball, but if we weren't turning it over, they were scoring," McGraw said. And even the turnovers weren't that special. Forcing turnovers in large numbers has almost become standard operating procedure for the Irish this season. Not many teams could force 29 takeaways and still boost that it wasn't a sea- sion-high. OI was 33 against Boston College on Nov. 24.

In fact, the press wasn't even effective until freshman Devereaux Peters entered the game after the first four minutes. The Irish were down 2-0 at that point and would fall as far back as 9-3 before turning the game around. A few Irish steals and bad Friars shots later, the Irish were back on top.

But McGraw bearned no trouble scoring against inferior teams all season, with a dozen 80-point scoring nights and three wins by 30 points or more. But what they haven't done (and what they showed they might not do if they play like they did in the first five minutes Wednesday night) is have a more talented team to prove their consistency.

Notre Dame has struggled against every ranked team it has played this season — and even a few unranked ones like Bowling Green. A slow start against a team like Rutgers or Pittsburgh — both of whom the Irish play in the next few weeks — would spell disaster.

Connecticut showed the Irish on Saturday that a small flank, like the one to start the Providence game, could turn ugly fast with the 22-2 run in the first half of a lopsided Husky victory.

So what's next?

Most importantly, the Irish have to get better defensively or they might not survive February. Well, they will still make the Big East and NCAA tournaments. Their record and strength of schedule until now will get them there. But seeding counts. Last year's team fell victim to this heart, entering the Big East journey as the seven-seed and March Madness as an eight. Notre Dame is in the conference tournament as an even­-seeded No. 5 and No. 8 nationally and No. 1 in the Big East.

The Irish have to make the Big East tournament if they expect to make the NCAA's this season.

"I think we're a very good team," McGraw said. "We have a lot of confidence, but we have a lot of things we need to work on.

"No one thought we'd make it past the second round in the NCAA tournament, and we ended up winning three consecutive games. We have a lot of work to do, but we have a lot of confidence in what we can do."

Notes:

- Muffet McGraw has 14 players on its roster.

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- Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu.

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The Observer ✶ SPORTS

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Merry Christmas! Don't take anything for granted this year. You have the drive, stamina and work ethic to pull off whatever you want to pursue. Your desire and energy to complete what you start will take you the distance. Be proud and fear nothing and you will win the respect and admiration of others. Your numbers are 7, 15, 23, 27, 35, 39.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You are probably overconcerning about something minor and it is blinding you. For yourself or another environment that will take you out of your current situation and give you time to think. Helping others will enable you to see things more clearly. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Setting idle, waiting on someone who won't budge is a waste of time. Get it done and you will accomplish more in the end. Don't let your pride get in your way when it comes to the person you are helping. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Everything you undertake and put into a plan you've been formulating will benefit you. Things happen as you desired and the imagination to help you deliver your idea with great enthusiasm and confidence. 3 stars

CANCER (June 22-July 22): Look at the existing possibilities and you will see that a few minor changes can be to your advantage. Take note of what close friends, children and family tell you. Sometimes it's the encouragement you receive that makes the difference. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep your thoughts to yourself. Others can serve rather being, losing your emotions or jealousy causes you to make a costly mistake. Don't let anyone you love get away with something you don't agree with — talk things through rationally. 5 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can make today your own. You can make personal plans, grass up your look or change your lifestyle or your job with success today. Don't back off or let anything get in your way today. Today is the day to make your mark. 5 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It is easy for others to see the path that is exactly how you should regard what's being said to you. Put your time into developing something that interests you. Children, travel and learning will all play a role in your life today. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep those little key or you may find yourself in a predicament that will slow you down or leave you vulnerable. Stand up for your rights but don't waste your time arguing. Do what's best for you, not someone else. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Not too much will go unnoticed, so be careful what you say and do, especially around friends, neighbors and relatives. You will be blamed if you exaggerate. Backtracking may be required but it isn't likely to help you smooth things over entirely. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Give it and take it will unfold splendidly for you today. You will have the mentored or a genius when it comes to finances. Legal matters or settlements. You've got what it takes to make subtle changes that will enhance your position and make you a star today. 5 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your instincts are your best guidance. You should decide to take things in stride and not worry over the outcome of any situation. Talk may be cheap but it will hinder you if you address emotional situations negatively. Listen to oppor- tuniting information. Your willingness to compromise will make your life easier. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You know what you want, so don't waste time p pussyfooting around the issues that concern you. Money is in the picture but will come to you through a most unusual source. Be grateful for what you receive and something for what you deeply desire. 5 stars

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Irish struggle early, relax late in 31-point blowout over Friars

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

It wasn’t pretty, and it came against a team with only three bench players, but it was a win nonetheless.

Junior guard Lindsay Schrader had 15 points and nine rebounds, and No. 20 Notre Dame overcame a stagnant first 12 minutes to beat Providence 85-54 Wednesday. The Irish forced 29 turnovers in the win.

Despite a sluggish start, five Irish players scored in double figures, the sixth time the team has reached that milestone this season.

Senior guard Charel Allen had 12 points, six rebounds and six steals, and backcourt classmate Tulyah Gaines added 10 points and four takeaways. Freshman forward Devereaux Peters and sophomore guard Melissa Lechlitner added 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Lechlitner dominated Providence’s injury-depleted guards. She ran around and shot over them on offense and

Irish guard Tulyah Gaines drives to the basket in Notre Dame’s 81-64 loss to Connecticut Sunday. The Irish defeated Providence 85-54 Wednesday at the Joyce Center.

see FRIARS/Page 22

Irish forward Luke Harangody shoots in Notre Dame’s 91-74 win over Cincinnati on Jan. 15. The Irish host Providence tonight. The team is currently No. 2 in the Big East. It surrendered nearly twice as many points in the second half (33) as it did in the first (19).

When Friars guard Trinity Hull nailed a 3-pointer with 4:49 remaining — Providence’s only triple of the night — it was in part because the Irish defense wasn’t guarding the perimeter as intently as it had done earlier in the game.

Irish struggle early, relax late in 31-point blowout over Friars

see FRIARS/Page 22

Irish forward Luke Harangody shoots in Notre Dame’s 91-74 win over Cincinnati on Jan. 15. The Irish host Providence tonight.

ND needs to play full 40 minutes to compete nationally

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

The victory, which has put Notre Dame in first place in the Big East, was huge for the Irish. It was the Irish

Aynrs.

Junior Brett Helgeson 8-4 in singles players featured a lineup shift. Brey inserted junior forward Zach Hillman into the starting lineup in place of junior Ryan Ayres.

The switch paid off.

Irish forward Luke Harangody shoots in Notre Dame’s 91-74 win over Cincinnati on Jan. 15. The Irish host Providence tonight.

see FRIARS/Page 22

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