Candidates vie for support in debates
Six tickets discuss primary goals for next year; some highlight experience, others innovation

By JOSEPH MCAHON
Assistant News Editor

The candidates for Notre Dame's student body president and vice president discussed the issues most important to their campaigns Wednesday in a debate sponsored by the Student Senate. Mark Braun and George Hollowood and Alex Tomala, Cooper Hawes and Daniel Rinkus, Peter Kelly and John Pohlhuik, and Robert Felsh and Grant Schmidt were all present at the debate, held in the main lounge of LaFortune. Ehrlich's vice presidential candidate, Michael Rosciti, was not able to attend because of a job interview.

Opening statements

In their opening statement, Knott sophomores Hollowood and Tomala stressed their signature issue — getting better toilet paper. The pair said the poor toilet paper in place now is a "tremendous margin that I don't think (Republican candidate Mitt) Romney can overcome," he said. "Losing California was the final blow for Romney," he said.

By BRIAN McKENZIE
News Writer

Three political experts drew a crowd of approximately 60 students to an analysis and discussion of Super Tuesday results in the Coleman-Morse Lounge Wednesday night.

By CLAIRE REISING
News Writer

History professor Father Robert Sullivan and chemistry professor Seth Brown spoke about possible effects of recruiting Catholic faculty at Wednesday's Student Senate meeting. They also stressed the importance of student involvement in the future.

"Since about 25 percent of the American population is Catholic, having a faculty composed of 50 percent Catholics is a reasonable goal," Brown said.

Although Notre Dame may attract prominent Catholic scholars, Brown said professors consider more than their religion when choosing a university.

"Choosing where one goes to teach and do research is a personal decision," Brown said. "In many cases with scholars, Catholic or otherwise, their professional research has little to do with Catholicism."

This is especially an issue in the College of Science, where only a minority of Catholic scholars. Sullivan said.

"A field like biology is completely secular," Sullivan said. "There are very few religious biologists at the top.
Political correctness

"I'm a little Indian. I do big war dance for you.

Apparently, that's how I used to entertain my mother at the age of four. I recently discovered this best-forgotten fact when, after unearthing some Viewpoint Copy, I read aloud to myself.

We are often taught that something more socially acceptable, something along the lines of "I'm an average-sized Native American, and, if asked rarely, I will perform one of the traditional dances of my people in an effort to keep our culture alive." Maybe it's just me, but I think we have gone a little overboard with this whole political correctness thing. I understand that we don't want to hurt people's feelings, but we've taken it to a whole new extreme. Anything that can potentially be deemed minority offensive to anyone is almost immediately censored.

Yet for a country that is supposedly built around the freedoms of the individual and freedom of speech is a constitutional right on which we pride ourselves. Yet we seem to be restricting our ability to speak our minds as we go down the road of talking about everything sugar-coated. And the funniest part is the majority of those defining the direction this quest for political correctness takes are white, upper-middle class politicians, unlikely to be offended but afraid to be cast in a bad light.

I understand that our right of freedom of speech as we stand and in our nature can be restricted to a certain point. But what is that point? I am not saying that we can't use the words as long as we understand what we are doing, but I think we need to redefine what are and aren't words.

Political correctness has had that effect, whether or not we acknowledge it. Certain behaviors as we stand and directly affect those around us. I have had people act towards me in a way that makes me feel like I have to hide or that I am not good enough. I need to be able to stand up for myself and be who I am without fear of repercussions.
ND grad to perform with marionettes

By LIZ HARTER
Assistant News Editor

Joe Cashore, a 1971 Notre Dame alumnus, will take the stage tonight at Saint Mary's Little Theater to showcase his life's work in a marionette performance titled "Simple Gifts." The event will feature Cashore manipulating his marionette puppets to music. "The original vignettes presented in 'Simple Gifts,' through a combination of virtuoso manipulation, theatrical illusion, and artistic insight, provide a sensitive vision of what it is to be human," said Cashore. He does not speak during the performance.

The marionettes performed at Saint Mary's one before, about 11 years ago, said Richard Baxter, director of the College's Performing Arts Series. "Each year I try and bring in a performance that would be appropriate for family audiences and this seemed like a good opportunity," Baxter said. The performance is part of the College's Performing Arts Series for the 2007-2008 school year sponsored by the Office of Special Events.

Cashore has performed in Europe, the Far East and various locations in North America such as the Kennedy Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla. The performance will feature music by composers such as Vivaldi, Strauss, Beethoven and Copeland.

The show will be at 7:30 tonight in the Little Theater. Student tickets are $5.

Contact Liz Harter at eharteO@cstmarys.edu

Show to benefit Building Together

By ELIZABETH KELLY
News Writer

Through the partnership between Notre Dame's Africa Faith and Justice Network (AFJN), the African Student Association and ND-8, Artists for Africa will perform a benefit performance tonight and Sunday evening.

This year's Artists for Africa benefit will showcase student musicians, a cappella groups and dance groups. Featured acts include Project Fresh, Notre Dame's urban dance crew, HalfTime, a campus co-ed a cappella group, The Dance Company of Notre Dame and First Class Steppers, Notre Dame's stepping group. The benefit will also include student solo artists Michael Rose and Simon Chun, as well as local band Half Pint Jones.

All of the proceeds from the benefit concert will go toward Building Tomorrow, a non-profit organization supported mostly by colleges across the nation. The organization encourages young people to promote awareness and raise funds for educating children in Sub-Saharan Africa. Sophomore Barbara Ho, who is organizing this year's Artists for Africa benefit, said she is looking forward to collaborating with campus groups to raise money for Building Tomorrow.

"I've always wanted to do some kind of benefit concert," Ho said. "It's a nice way to showcase groups on campus for a really good cause."

ND-8 partnered with Building Tomorrow when planning Artists for Africa. ND-8 is a student-run organization on campus that promotes the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals for improving social justice around the world. These eight goals include combating poverty, improving the environment and providing universal education.

ND-8's education subcommittee, which focuses on the development goal of universal education, has been working closely with Building Tomorrow by raising money for the project through fundraisers since fall 2007.

Ho first heard about Building Tomorrow when the organization's founder, George Srour, delivered a lecture at Notre Dame last spring during Millennium Development Goals Week. In his lecture, Srour spoke about how he started Building Tomorrow after visiting Kampala, Uganda, as an intern for the government. While there, he saw suffering children who lacked a decent education.

"It was really inspirational," Ho said. "He's pretty young and has already started this nonprofit organization."

After hearing Srour speak, Ho and the other committee members at ND-8 started working with Building Tomorrow to raise $35,000 in order to build a new school in Uganda for 320 local children. The money raised went toward the construction costs attached to building the school.

"The local community actually helps build the school," Ho said. "And the government sustains it." ND-8 worked on several fundraising projects last semester, such as a T-shirt sale, a paper bricks fundraiser, and an ornament sale at Christmas to raise money for the school. Through these fundraisers, ND-8 has raised $24,000 toward their $35,000 goal.

As soon as the monetary goal is reached, construction on the school will begin, Ho said. She hopes that Artists for Africa will bring them even closer to their goal, which they hope to reach by the end of the semester.

"From this event, it would be nice to get a couple thousand dollars," Ho said. "That's aiming high, but we have high hopes for this event."

Artists for Africa will take place tonight and Friday at 9 p.m. at Legends. Admission to the event is free, but a $10 donation to Building Tomorrow is encouraged. Shirts will also be sold for $10 during the event. Profits will go toward the $35,000 goal for Building Tomorrow's school project in Uganda.

He is pleased with the collaborative efforts between student groups planning the event.

"We're really proud of the way campus is working together," she said.

Contact Elizabeth Kelly at ekelly7@nd.edu
Tuesday
continued from page 1

Obama, but white women have been drawn to Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton," she said. Clinton's share of white women varies from 51 to 20 percentage points, she said.

Obama's strongest supporters were blacks, particularly black males, and exit polls are suggesting that upcoming primaries will be favorable ground for Obama. Pinderhughes said. "The District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia have very significant black populations," she said.

Darren Davis spoke about the shortcomings of polling information.

"We're seeing an increasing bias in the media, one that pays selective attention to polling information and tries to equate polls. But not all polls are alike," he said. "You have internet polls, polls of likely voters, statewide polls, national polls, etc. "Polls can be awfully misleading," he said.

Davis drew on the idea that voters are "pressured" to vote for a black candidate in this election.

"Social pressure leads voters to want to vote for a black candidate, but when they're in a private voting booth, they frequently vote for someone else or not at all," he said.

Political scientist call that phenomenon the Bradley Effect, he said.

Freshman Chris Rhodenbaugh said Davis' analysis of polling shortcomings was "shocking and the most. "It's interesting to hear people trying to inform us rather than CNN pundits getting us to watch the program," he said.

Senior Colin Ether die missed only two classes when he contracted the flu. "I had a bad cough and my chest was really tight. .. it was extremely tired and my body ached for about four days," he said.

However, sophomore Kara Coyle's flu included a 103 temperature, inability to sleep and three two hours at a time, hot and cold flashes, nausea, a bad cough and extreme fatigue. She missed an entire week of school, leading her to think, "I was extremely tired and my body ached for about four days," he said.

Contact Brina McKenzie at bmckenzi@nd.edu

Flu
continued from page 1

"Generally, if you have a fever you should be in bed and not go into class," Moskwiński said.

Students have experienced various degrees of illness. Senior Colin Ether died missed only two classes when he contracted the flu. "I had a bad cough and my chest was really tight. ... I was extremely tired and my body ached for about four days," he said.

However, sophomore Kara Coyle's flu included a 103 temperature, inability to sleep and three two hours at a time, hot and cold flashes, nausea, a bad cough and extreme fatigue. She missed an entire week of school, leading her to think, "I was extremely tired and my body ached for about four days," he said.

Contact Brina McKenzie at bmckenzi@nd.edu

Senate
continued from page 1

ranks of any kind." One concern, Brown said, is that the University would have a "stained glass ceiling" and that non-Catholic faculty is undervalued for their work.

"It's hard to feel that the University values your efforts if the University is pouring resources and time into hiring faculty merely because of the fact that they're Catholic," he said.

Brown added that religion is not always a factor in how professors teach. Non-Catholic professors, such as those who study the history or philosophy of religion, can also contribute to the Catholic character of Notre Dame, Brown said.

"We also have faculty who are not Catholic and make enormous contributions to the University's Catholic mission," he said.

Professor Thomas Noble, student affairs chair of the Faculty Senate who attends weekly Senate meetings, said the Senate needs a student to discuss this issue.

"I don't think that what you have to do is choose one faculty position or another. Arrive at your own view," Noble said. "I think it's more important for the whole process if you decide what you think, and we find various ways to bring that forward," he said.

Student body vice president Maris Braam said that the Senate had taken place Feb. 18 for students to discuss this issue. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. in 101 DeBartolo Hall. Seniors the plan on hosting more meetings during the term before the meeting.

In other Senate news:

• The Senate unanimously passed a resolution on improving the academic advising system. The resolution stated that students are "often unaware of whom their advisor is after their freshman year." Therefore, the Senate proposed that freshmen should be notified about whom they should contact for questions about classes and majors. Also, the resolution said, colleges should have mandatory meetings, followed by break-out sessions within majors. The resolution also recommended an increase in the number of advisors in the Mendoza College of Business and several other programs.

• The Senate unanimously passed a resolution supporting the online store's new policy on the Mendoza College of Business.

• The Senate unanimously passed a resolution supporting the online store's new policy on the Mendoza College of Business.

Contact Lindsay Sera at lesna@nd.edu

Wednesday
continued from page 1

One concern, Brown said, is that the University would have a "stained glass ceiling" and that non-Catholic faculty is undervalued for their work.

"It's hard to feel that the University values your efforts if the University is pouring resources and time into hiring faculty merely because of the fact that they're Catholic," he said.

Brown added that religion is not always a factor in how professors teach. Non-Catholic professors, such as those who study the history or philosophy of religion, can also contribute to the Catholic character of Notre Dame, Brown said.

"We also have faculty who are not Catholic and make enormous contributions to the University's Catholic mission," he said.

Professor Thomas Noble, student affairs chair of the Faculty Senate who attends weekly Senate meetings, said the Senate needs a student to discuss this issue.

"I don't think that what you have to do is choose one faculty position or another. Arrive at your own view," Noble said. "I think it's more important for the whole process if you decide what you think, and we find various ways to bring that forward," he said.

Student body vice president Maris Braam said that the Senate had taken place Feb. 18 for students to discuss this issue. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. in 101 DeBartolo Hall. Seniors the plan on hosting more meetings during the term before the meeting.

In other Senate news:

• The Senate unanimously passed a resolution on improving the academic advising system. The resolution stated that students are "often unaware of whom their advisor is after their freshman year." Therefore, the Senate proposed that freshmen should be notified about whom they should contact for questions about classes and majors. Also, the resolution said, colleges should have mandatory meetings, followed by break-out sessions within majors. The resolution also recommended an increase in the number of advisors in the Mendoza College of Business and several other programs.

• The Senate unanimously passed a resolution supporting the online store's new policy on the Mendoza College of Business.

Contact Lindsay Sera at lesna@nd.edu

Wednesday
continued from page 1

One concern, Brown said, is that the University would have a "stained glass ceiling" and that non-Catholic faculty is undervalued for their work.

"It's hard to feel that the University values your efforts if the University is pouring resources and time into hiring faculty merely because of the fact that they're Catholic," he said.

Brown added that religion is not always a factor in how professors teach. Non-Catholic professors, such as those who study the history or philosophy of religion, can also contribute to the Catholic character of Notre Dame, Brown said.

"We also have faculty who are not Catholic and make enormous contributions to the University's Catholic mission," he said.

Professor Thomas Noble, student affairs chair of the Faculty Senate who attends weekly Senate meetings, said the Senate needs a student to discuss this issue.

"I don't think that what you have to do is choose one faculty position or another. Arrive at your own view," Noble said. "I think it's more important for the whole process if you decide what you think, and we find various ways to bring that forward," he said.

Student body vice president Maris Braam said that the Senate had taken place Feb. 18 for students to discuss this issue. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. in 101 DeBartolo Hall. Seniors the plan on hosting more meetings during the term before the meeting.

In other Senate news:

• The Senate unanimously passed a resolution on improving the academic advising system. The resolution stated that students are "often unaware of whom their advisor is after their freshman year." Therefore, the Senate proposed that freshmen should be notified about whom they should contact for questions about classes and majors. Also, the resolution said, colleges should have mandatory meetings, followed by break-out sessions within majors. The resolution also recommended an increase in the number of advisors in the Mendoza College of Business and several other programs.

• The Senate unanimously passed a resolution supporting the online store's new policy on the Mendoza College of Business.

Contact Lindsay Sera at lesna@nd.edu

Wednesday
continued from page 1

One concern, Brown said, is that the University would have a "stained glass ceiling" and that non-Catholic faculty is undervalued for their work.

"It's hard to feel that the University values your efforts if the University is pouring resources and time into hiring faculty merely because of the fact that they're Catholic," he said.

Brown added that religion is not always a factor in how professors teach. Non-Catholic professors, such as those who study the history or philosophy of religion, can also contribute to the Catholic character of Notre Dame, Brown said.

"We also have faculty who are not Catholic and make enormous contributions to the University's Catholic mission," he said.

Professor Thomas Noble, student affairs chair of the Faculty Senate who attends weekly Senate meetings, said the Senate needs a student to discuss this issue.

"I don't think that what you have to do is choose one faculty position or another. Arrive at your own view," Noble said. "I think it's more important for the whole process if you decide what you think, and we find various ways to bring that forward," he said.

Student body vice president Maris Braam said that the Senate had taken place Feb. 18 for students to discuss this issue. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. in 101 DeBartolo Hall. Seniors the plan on hosting more meetings during the term before the meeting.

In other Senate news:

• The Senate unanimously passed a resolution on improving the academic advising system. The resolution stated that students are "often unaware of whom their advisor is after their freshman year." Therefore, the Senate proposed that freshmen should be notified about whom they should contact for questions about classes and majors. Also, the resolution said, colleges should have mandatory meetings, followed by break-out sessions within majors. The resolution also recommended an increase in the number of advisors in the Mendoza College of Business and several other programs.

• The Senate unanimously passed a resolution supporting the online store's new policy on the Mendoza College of Business.

Contact Lindsay Sera at lesna@nd.edu
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Ecuador's Tungurahua volcano erupts**

GUATEMALA CITY — Ecuador's Tungurahua volcano, shot columns of ash miles into the air on Wednesday, as officials ordered the evacuation of 3,000 villagers living near its slopes.

Some 2,500 villagers from two western flanks of the 16,575-foot volcano fled their homes for shelters at dawn, said Mauricio Rodriguez, director of Civil Defense. He said 11 families who refused to leave, looting looters, were still missing.

"We've taken all of the precautions possible," President Rafael Correa told reporters on Wednesday. "We are sure the volcano is already in place in the area to be extended for five days."

Juan Salazar, the mayor of the nearby village of Peniche, said 3,000 people needed to be evacuated — a figure that included the 1,000 villagers who had already fled.

**Palestinian rocket wounds two girls**

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — An unidentified woman said she was 16 when she was shot in the leg by a Palestinian rocket fired from Gaza, Plantation Police said Wednesday.

The unidentified woman said she was 16 when she was shot in the leg by a Palestinian rocket fired from Gaza, Plantation Police said Wednesday.

The woman, who was visiting her family in Gaza, was shot in the leg by a Palestinian rocket fired from Gaza, Plantation Police said Wednesday.

The unidentified woman said she was 16 when she was shot in the leg by a Palestinian rocket fired from Gaza, Plantation Police said Wednesday.

**Ohio prepares for more flooding**

CINCINNATI — Ohio officials were preparing for more flooding Wednesday, as heavy rain and snow were expected to follow a day of severe weather.

The Blanchard River, which runs through the city, was rising, and officials warned that residents should be prepared to evacuate.

**Billionaire sued for sexual assault**

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A woman filed suit Wednesday against a billionaire, alleging he sexually assaulted her after paying her $200 to give him a massage.

The unidentified woman said she was 16 when she was shot in the leg by a Palestinian rocket fired from Gaza, Plantation Police said Wednesday.

The unidentified woman said she was 16 when she was shot in the leg by a Palestinian rocket fired from Gaza, Plantation Police said Wednesday.

**Local News**

**Thousands apply for state health plan**

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana health officials have received more than 21,000 applications for the state's new health plan for low-income adults, but key lawmakers say the state must find ways to cover people not covered by the program.

**Secretary Mitch Roob of the Family and Social Services Administration told a joint meeting of the state Senate and House health committees that his agency has had to more than triple the number of applications than expected for the state's new health plan because of the volume of applications.**

"We're thrilled with the number of people who have applied so far," Roob said Wednesday. "We're just not sure how many more applications we'll receive once the plan has been implemented from each of the state's 92 counties."

Lawmakers commended Roob on his agency's efforts in putting the plan in place and winning federal approval so the General Assembly approved it last spring.

**CUBA**

**Military confirms secret lockups**

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE — Somewhere amid the cactus-studded hills on this sprawling Navy base, separate from the cells where hundreds of non suspected terrorists are held in another facility, two high-level detainees have been locked up for more than a decade.

"The plan has drawn applications from the breadth," Roob said, "and winning federal approval since the 2006 military prison has been tried to open."

Some 1,000 villagers from the western area have been evacuated — a figure that included the 1,000 villagers who had already fled.

"We've taken all of the precautions possible," President Rafael Correa told reporters on Wednesday. "We are sure the volcano is already in place in the area to be extended for five days."
Debate (continued from page 1)

reflects the current state of stu­
dents and faculty. "Student gov­
ernment is broken," Hollowood said. "It's not doing the things that people want." They were followed by junior class president Zahm and senior class president Schmidt, who said their campaign has been "Legends of the Hidden Temple," a platform to "bring the gap" between students and student government. "We saw one major problem—a lack of communication between student government and the student body," Reish said.

Kelly, who was previously president of St. Edward's Hall, and junior Poehluis also focused on a single issue—the implementation of a shuttle bus to off-campus locations, which they feel will seriously improve student life. "The reason we want to run is because we want to do something for the student body," Poehluis said.

Braun, student body vice president and former Breen-Phillips senator and Chamberlain, the Sorin senior, stressed their experience and their desire to implement policies that will impact the student body on a "day-to­
day basis." "When George and I are asked to describe what our platform is all about, we say student life improvement," Braun said.

Although his running mate was not present, Ehrlich, a junior from Stanford Hall, said their platform was made up of fun ideas that are also feasible, including adding a tetherball pole to North and South Quads. "We want to get better toilet paper," Ehrlich said.

Wearing shiny gold pants, Zahm freshman Howes and Rikmus argued their lack of experience is made up for with their interesting ideas, including an embargo on all British goods. "Our flaws don't matter, our issues matter," Howes said. "The only thing louder than these pants should be the voice of the student body."

Questions

Wears first asked candidates to explain their campaign's most important idea. Hollowood said getting better toilet paper is most important. "There should be warning labels on this stuff," he said, while holding up a piece of the current toilet paper being used on campus.

Reish and Grant said they have done extensive research talking to other Midwest students, and said adding student discounts off-campus is very important. "It is one of the biggest issues that really affect student life," Schmidt said.

Emphasizing their signature issue, Kelly and Poehluis said they, too, had looked at other schools, and they both felt a shuttle bus service would greatly improve student life. "If other schools can do it, why not at Notre Dame?" Kelly said.

Braun and Chamberlain said they had three issues they feel would most benefit students—including Grab-N-Go points and selection, implementing a book delivery service to the dorms and increasing off-cam­ pus security. Braun said she and Chamberlain's main task was "to find what students want." Ehrlich said getting student poles on campus would be a very positive addition, and it would help students get more exercise. "I'm focused on surrounding student poles and I'm excited," he said. "I see a lot of freshmen and they're always inside playing Rock Band.

"Much of Howes and Rikmus' platform derives from the "Legal Legends of the Hidden Temple," and includes using Temple Guards to protect against partisanship. However, Rikmus said one should not worry if they are caught, "because just like in the show, you can tag team your partner to finish the job."

Weiss then asked the candidates to explain what distinguishes their ticket from the others.

Robert Reish presidential candidate

"We saw one major problem—a lack of communication between student government and the student body."

Reish and Schmidt said that current student government is not very important. "I think the vast majority of students are apathetic about the environment," Kelly said. "You need to give people incentives to get them to cut down."

Another audience member asked how candidates plan to improve diversity.

"Along the surface there may be diversity, but we are all from the same socioeconomic background. Notre Dame likes to have courses related to multicultural issues," Schmidt said. Ehrlich, who is the only candidate to openly advocate a University-recognized Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender (GLBT) club, said Notre Dame's current diversity policies are failing, and the University needs to reflect on its current record. "I feel very concerned about diversity," he said.

"If George and I never get to see the light of the second floor of LaFortune in return, that's OK."

In their closing statements, the candidates reiterated the issues most important to them and asked the audience for support. Voting will take place Feb. 11 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon@nd.edu

NOTRE DAME BASEBALL

2008 OPENING NIGHT DINNER

February 12th @ 7PM

JOYCE CENTER FIELDHOUSE

FEATURING THE NINTH & CURRENT
COMMISSIONER OF MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Bud Selig

~ Door Prizes "Autographs, Media Guide"

JOIN US for a "B Allpark Style" dinner to welcome Bud Selig and Greg Lopez as they share their thoughts on baseball, Notre Dame, and the upcoming year!

For Tickets Call: 574-631-7356

Large Pizza

Cheese & 2 Toppings

SOUTH BEND

52750 IN 933 (N. of Cleveland Rd.)
(Serving Notre Dame & St. Mary's)

574 243-1122

Free Delivery
On Campus

Multi locations. Prices, store hours, and hours of operation vary by location. Extra delivery fee may apply.
Republicans block rebate bill
Democrats' bid to add $44 billion to House-passed measure divides Senate

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The fate of $600 billion in rebate checks for more than half of all Americans is in limbo after Senate Republicans blocked a bid by Democrats to add $44 billion in help for the elderly, disabled veterans and the poor, unemployment and businesses, to the House-passed economic aid package.

GOP senators handed Wednesday to thwart the $265 billion plan, leaving Democrats with a difficult choice either to quickly accept a House bill they say has said is inadequate or risk being blamed for delaying a measure designed as a swift shot in the arm for the lagging economy.

The tally was 58-41 to end debate on the Senate measure, just short of the 60 votes the Democrats would have needed to scale procedural hurdles and move the bill to a final vote. In a suspenseful showdown vote that capped days of partisan jockeying and procedural jockeying, eight Republicans — four of them up for re-election this year — joined Democrats to back the plan, bucking GOP leaders and President Bush, who objected to the size and scope of the add-ons.

Democrats choreographed the vote for maximum political advantage, presenting their aid proposal as a take-it-or-leave-it proposition for Republicans and calling back their presidential candidates to make a show of party unity ahead of their stimulus plan. They calculated that Republicans would pay a steep price for opposing rebates for older Americans and disabled veterans and accused Bush of delayed the measure for political gain and swatting down the Senate Republican effort.

Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., is "going to give Republicans a chance to reconsider their vote against efforts to strengthen the economy by helping those who need it most," his spokesman, Jim Manley, said Wednesday night.

Democrats said they were ready to accept rebates for seniors and disabled veterans and accused Democrats of delaying the stimulus plan for political gain and loading it down with special-interest extras.

"Our constituents will look at us as the folks that slowed the relief to our economy," press secretary Dana Perino said in a statement after the vote.

Democratic presidential candidates Hillary Clinton of New York and Barack Obama of Illinois flew to Washington for the vote. GOP front-runner John McCain of Arizona did not vote.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., talked to reporters in Washington on Wednesday after a vote on an economic stimulus package failed to pass.

Congress acts to end telemarketing calls

Eli Lilly’s Taurel receives millions

WASHINGTON — Politicians have finally found an issue they all agree on: Telemarketers calling at dinnertime are a scourge that must be repulsed.

Congress on Wednesday sent to President Bush two bills that would make telemarketing a program to protect consumers from unwanted phone calls from telemarketers. Its hallmark is the national "do not call" list.

"This initiative has proven to be one of the most popular laws in his history," said Rep. G.K. Butterfield, D.N.C. "It is the only program that was necessary to avoid the wrath of millions of angry constituents."

The "do not call" list program, initiated in 2003, has been widely acclaimed for allowing Americans to eat their dinners in peace. Some 150 million people have listed their phones on the registry, which prohibits calls from telemarketers.

"I remember times we just used to take our phones off the hook," said Rep. Mike Doyle, D-Pa., a leader on the issue, recalling pre-registery days.

"Consumers without exception hate the annoyance of intrusive tele­ marker calls at dinner time," said Chris Murray, senior counsel for Consumers Union. "When nearly every American household has taken it for granted that their phone numbers are on the list, that says something really strong."

Rep. Michael Burgess, R-Texas, put it in political terms: "With a 10 percent approval rating it is incumbent upon us to continue to pass legislation that is indeed popular."

The House passed by voice vote and sent to the White House a bill, promoted by Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., to make the list permanent, overturning an FTC rule that people can opt out. The Senate will vote on the bill, which would make the program a permanent part of the Federal Trade Commission.

"The House and Senate are determined to pass this legislation without delay," said Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio. "This legislation is about protecting the American consumer."

"Our track record on this issue is not perfect," said Sen. Mark Pryor, D-Ark., sponsor of the Senate bill. Telemarketers pay annual fees of up to $17,050 and must search the registry every month and drop from the list those phone numbers of consumers who have registered.

The Congressional Budget Office said the fees will bring in $107 million over the next five years. Consumers can remove their numbers from the list at any time.

The Senate later approved a phone vote and sent to the White House a bill, promoted by Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., to make the list permanent, overturning an FTC rule that people can opt out. The Senate will vote on the bill, which would make the program a permanent part of the Federal Trade Commission.

"The House and Senate are determined to pass this legislation without delay," said Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio. "This legislation is about protecting the American consumer."

"Our track record on this issue is not perfect," said Sen. Mark Pryor, D-Ark., sponsor of the Senate bill. Telemarketers pay annual fees of up to $17,050 and must search the registry every month and drop from the list those phone numbers of consumers who have registered.
Alaskan villages are short on local police

Remote, poor towns cannot afford adequate law enforcement; state troopers lack enough manpower to be effective

Associated Press
ANCHORAGE — In the four hours it took Alaska State Troopers to arrive at the Eklina village of Nunam Iqua, a man choked and raped his 13-year-old stepdaughter in front of three younger children. He had already beaten his wife with a shotgun and pistol-whipped a friend after an evening drinking home brew.

Across the remote, frozen reaches of Alaska, scores of native villages have no full-fledged police officers at all. And help in an emergency can be a long way off.

“We’re just trying to hang in there,” said Edward Adams, mayor of Nunam Iqua. Alaska’s villages are often desperately poor, with people subsisting on hunting and fishing. Many communities cannot afford police forces. At the same time, the Alaska State Troopers don’t have the manpower to put officers on patrol in every village.

As a result, when serious crimes are committed, many villages must rely on troopers based in towns far away. And it can take days for help to arrive.

Across South, tomatoes create mass destruction

Associated Press
LAFAYETTE, Tenn. — One man pulled a couch over his head, blank employees rushed into the vault. A woman trembled in her bathroom, clinging to her dogs. College students huddled in dormitories.

Tornado warnings had been broadcast for hours, and when the sirens finally announced that the twisters had arrived, many villages were left without any kind of warning.

Tornadoes may be on the loose.

At least 24 people were killed and hundreds injured Tuesday and Wednesday by dozens of twisters that plowed across Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Alabama. It was the nation’s deadliest barrage of twisters in almost 23 years.

“We had a beautiful neighborhood. Now it’s hell,” said Bonnie Brauwer, 80, who lives in Hartsville, a community about an hour from Nashville where a natural gas plant that was struck by a tornado erupted in spectacular flames up to 400 feet high.

The storms flattened entire streets, smashed warehouses and sent tractor-trailers flying. Homes that had been reduced to splintered piles of lumber. Some looked like life-size dollhouses, their walls sheared away. Cows going door-to-door to search for food. Buildings had to contend with downed power lines, snapped trees and flipped-over cars.

Cattle wandered through the debris near hard-hit Lafayette (pronounced lah-FAY-et). At least 12 people died in and around the town.

“It looks like the Lord took a Brillo pad and scrubbed the ground,” said Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen, who surveyed the damage from a helicopter.

Hundreds of houses were damaged or destroyed. Authorities had no immediate cost estimate of the damage.

President Bush gave assurances his administration stood ready to help. Troops from the Federal Emergency Management Agency were sent to the region and activated an emergency center in Georgia.

“Loss of life, loss of property — prayers can help and so can the government,” Bush said. “I do want the people in those states to know the American people are standing with them.”

Students took cover in dormitory bathrooms as the storms closed in on University of Tennessee. Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to a internal gathering at the Core.

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

Coffee at the Como
Thursday, February 7, 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse
The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to a internal gathering at the Core.

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.
The University of Notre Dame
Honors Our Patroness
On the Occasion of the 150th Anniversary
Of the Appearance of the Blessed Virgin
at Lourdes

THREE DAYS OF PRAYER
IN ANTICIPATION OF
THE FEAST DAY ON
FEBRUARY 11

BASILICA OF THE
SACRED HEART
6:15-6:45 PM

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7 - WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 - WE HONOR THE PATRONESS OF NOTRE DAME
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9 - WE HONOR THE PATRONESS OF OUR COUNTRY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AT 5:15 PM

SPECIAL MASS ON THE OCCASION OF
THE SESQUICENTENNIAL
OF THE APPEARANCE OF OUR LADY AT LOURDES

FATHER PETER D. ROCCA, C.S.C., PRESIDER
FATHER THEODORE M. HESBURGH, C.S.C., HOMILIST

“And our hearts forever, love thee Notre Dame”

Campus Ministry
I don’t think I’ve met Bob Reib, Grant Schmidt or George Chamberlain. And the only time I ever met Marc Braun was drunkenly spending my Dollar Dollars on a frat at the Stadium, appropriately. She seemed very friendly.

I have nothing against any of them in particular — and to be honest, I don’t think that a one for one another will make a substantive difference on my senior year.

But each year, we hit this point of the student government elections and the call of student government opens its doors to the rest of us and imagines we care to enter. I don’t want to repeat the tired argument that student government doesn’t matter. That argument has become so tired that campaigns have started to acknowledge it with a superficial distance, as if they aren’t part of the sometimes laughably self-contained irrelevance that student groups — the student government, The Observer, the Society of Women Engineers — all suffer.

My critique of student government isn’t that simple. It’s not that I think that student government can’t make a difference; it can, for sure. It’s painful to see which most candidates seem to take themselves too seriously.

It’s an easy mistake to make, and one of which I am guilty too. So I’m self-importanter that I feel compelled to publish my thoughts every other week. There are times when I approach this column the same way our candidates approach this election. As if my choice of words about Hillary Clinton, Larry Craig, or Father Jenkins (now there’s a threesome) could possibly matter to people besides my mom and whichever person on campus has a vested interest in the column. I try to rectify that with an ironic self-awareness (and, apparently, a self-awareness about that self-awareness).

(A nd now I’ve caught up in myself and spent an entire paragraph — heck, an entire column — suggesting that I have the solution.

There are two serious pairs of candidates this year — I’ll give Giants-over-the- Pain odds (note: this paragraph was written before Sunday evening) to anybody who bets on somebody besides Marc and George or Bob and Grant. But both campaigns — especially Bob and Grant’s — border on self-parody.

Marc Braun and George Chamberlain can take us ‘From tradition to innovation — exceeding expectations.” Please.

And their Web site: “We come to you today with a simple goal of exceeding the expectations, needs, and desires of this student body because, quite frankly, most of the issues that affect a freshman in Carol, a senior in Zahm, a sophomore in PW, or a 5th year architect student campus affect us, too.”

Marc and George, representative of the Notre Dame student body, know that they can best represent “Carol” (yes, Carol) Hall. They can also represent Dylan. And Lou.

But Bob and Grant are the worst offenders. From everything I’ve heard, Bob Brady is a really nice kid. He’s a really nice kid who really wants to be student body president. He’s a really nice kid who really wants to be student body president and apparently doesn’t understand that his campaign makes it shamelessly look like he really wants to be student body presi­dent. He said his running mate, Grant Schmidt, created bobbyandgrant.com (also registered under rushindschmidt.com). One of my friends who drags to parties of the student government Kool-Aid thought it was a great idea — a catchy Web site that everybody remembers ‘better than squiggly mbrun3 or whatever.

Bobbyandgrant.com makes me want to vomit, and I haven’t even had any Kool­Aid. Just by investing in “bobbyandgrant.com” you’ve gone above and beyond what anybody realistically thinks you should do for a student govern­ment election.

Rudy Giuliani didn’t even invest in RudyGiuliani.com when he was running for a somewhat more important presidential position.

But Bob and Grant didn’t stop there. Look at bobandgrant.com. First, you go through the entry screen, which if you haven’t been lucky enough to see will some­what resemble the sort of “Click Here to Enter” image that you might see on the Web site of the Bellagio. But it goes worse. After you Click There to Enter, you’re greeted with a large picture of Bob and Grant together, in shirts and ties, with their arms folded like Stephen Colbert might mockingly do in the intro to the Colbert Report. And the background for the picture? Amber and gold leaves. This picture was probably taken before fall break.

That’s right, their self-named Web site reveals that they were planning their stu­dent government campaign in September or so. Ugh.

The campaign’s slogan is “bridging the gap.” Neither, yep. Nonserious, too. Bridging the gap between what? This years’ student government leadership and next years? More campaigns like this a year from now?

Grantandbobby@nd.edu? No. This appearance of self-importance is what makes things like last year’s difference-making votes for “Absurd” funny—it allows outsiders to make fun of the insid­ers, to beat them at their own game and undermine it.

But Bob, Grant, Marc and George, I’m not cynical to this. To do so would be symptomatic of what I just described.

After all, this is just a column in The Observer. Nobody really cares.

Andrew Neal is a junior American Studies major at Fairfield, Conn. In his younger and more foolish years, he con­vinced one of his friends to drink a simple­syrup container of maple syrup for a dollar. He can be reached at andrew.neal@nd.edu.

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

Editorial Cartoon

Submit a Letter to the Editor at www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"No man is justified in doing evil on the grounds that it proves effective,"

Theodore Roosevelt

President
If Lent is the answer, what was the question?

It is a Gospel scene made for prime-time TV — the confrontation between Jesus and Satan in the desert while the C- max of Jesus’ forty days of preparation begins to conflict with public ministry. It is the Scriptural basis of our season of Lent. But the story actually begins much earlier.

Our Lenten story begins in Eden — in Paradise, where everything is perfect. Plenty of food, animals like each other, Adam and Eve have no quarrels or jealousies, and all live in peace.

Then, an apple later — and Paradise is suddenly lost. How did it end? If Lent is part of the solution, then what was the problem? If we are to live Lent well, it is good to understand the reality it is helping us respond to.

This is what the beginning of Genesis tries to teach us. There is an evil force in the world — symbolized by the Serpent — that leads Adam and Eve out of Paradise. It is the force responsible for what we call temptation — and Lent is a response to the challenge of temptation. Can we resist it?

So how were Adam and Eve tempted? The first temptation is simply this: The serpent says to Adam and Eve, “Look how nice that apple looks! Wouldn’t you feel better, more full of life, if you just had that apple?”

What is the human being, you wish we had get­ten thrown off by something a little more complicated — a real twisted plot that the serpent had to plan late into the night. But no — just “Hey, check out the apple. Wouldn’t it feel good to eat that apple? It’s the answer to all your troubles.” Adam and Eve take the apple, wouldn’t they? Believe me, the serpent would come to them with a smile on his face. Wouldn’t it be easier to just eat it and get it over with? If God didn’t want you to eat that apple, why would he have made it look so good in the first place? And why wouldn’t he have given you this desire to eat it? If you desire it, then it’s yours.

It’s not so difficult to see a lot of common­readers on Genesis describe the first sin as a sexual sin — because the first thing the serpent uses to tempt Adam and Eve is their appetites, our human desires. But, it seems to me, the heart of the sin wasn’t sexual. Really, it was thinking in terms of what we want. It’s not that we are not careful about what we eat, but that we want something. It’s therefore our right to have it. That is the sin, because the world was created just for me. There’s an apple, I want the apple. Therefore, the apple becomes the first temptation.

The second and third temptations then follow from this first one. In the second temptation, the Serpent says to Adam and Eve, “If you eat this apple, you will become like God.” And the third is, “If you eat it, you will know what is good and what is evil.” That is to say, “If you eat it, you become the one who makes the rules for how the world is ordered. You become God.”

What is it that has led us human beings off the right road? What is it that makes us go our own way? How do we get ourselves in this mess? Augustine wrote, “The root of all sin is pride” — removing God from the center of the universe, and placing ourselves there.

Well, it all seems pretty depressing — once we become it all seems too far to go back. In many ways, we succumb to this temptation of theirs.

And yet, there is a way out. There is cause for hope. If Jesus comes to announce the birth of Jesus. Then, immediately, Jesus is grown, and fol­lows the Spirit into the desert, where he encounters the Serpent. And where Adam failed, Jesus triumphs.

In the story of Paradise, it is not surprising to see that the Serpent hasn’t changed much. He tempts Jesus with the same temptations. He’s the same, the same old serpent, the same old appetites, our most basic human desires. To take the stones and turn them into bread. Believe your hunger. Use what’s in the world for what you want, for satisfac­tion.

But Jesus refuses: “We do not live by bread alone, but on the Word of God. We do not live merely according to our human desires, but according to a much deeper response in us that God wills for our lives, and to follow it.”

A second time, Satan says, “Cast yourself down and let the angels catch you.” It is the serpent in the garden, whispering in our ear. “Become like God. Do what you wish. You are God. You are at the center of the universe. Everything will reconfigure itself to serve you. You have the power to give what others. Everything and everybody else will be shaped to accommodate you.” That’s temptation.

And in the third temptation, Satan comes clean. No more hiding his intent. “Worship me and the whole universe is yours.” It is the Serpent again. “Eat this apple, and all the secrets of the universe are yours.” Jesus’ answer: “The Lord alone is God. God is love, not self-seeking, not the enemy, yet powerful assertion, a profession of faith, that God is at the center of the Universe and all things.

True happiness — the restoration of Paradise comes when following our will to be aligned with God’s.

Of course, this is sometimes hard to ful­fill. In fact, only one human ever accomplished it totally. So we ought not try this at home on our own.

Father Harvey, or Father Art as many call him, was a legend. He is the author of many books on Genesis. As a sexual sin — because the first thing that leads Adam and Eve tempted’?

Professor Darcia Narvaez makes a statement in her column (“A call to conscience,” Feb. 5) that “it is tragic that the human race is being allowed to potentially cause global climate change will be ‘profoundly altering the survival of many if not all planetary life forms’ if immediate action is not taken to stabilize emis­sions of greenhouse gases.”

That climate change could cause the extinction of most or all species on the planet is a very practical concern, but to be sure, is it grounded in fact? It is a simple, straightforward assessment of the climate change economics. One can survey a variety of evidence from previous climatic shifts, 20th century warming and studies on the effects of warming on species extinction, which reveal that the professor’s statement is actually nothing more than fearmong­ering.

First, consider the observations from the 20th century. If climate change will cause unprecedented extinctions across a variety of organisms, then one would expect that the 0.7 degree Celsius of warming observed empirically in the 20th century would have definitively caused at least a few extinctions.

However, a Chris D. Thomas survey in 2004 found that global climatic shifts have caused one extinction (that of the Golden Toad of Costa Rica). That global warming should be implicated in so few extinctions is somewhat surprising when one considers that Thomas’ survey actively sought to implicate global warming in extinctions.

Furthermore, some evidence suggests that even that estimate may have been an overestimate. If warming has caused at maximum one extinction in the 20th century, claims that warming this century will threaten all life on Earth are highly suspect. This is consistent with statements that “there is no evidence that global warming will threaten life on the planet in a significant way.”

In conclusion, based on a wide range of evidence (some not mentioned in this letter but at length), Professor Narvaez cites, “global warming will threaten life on the planet. This growth in habitat predicted by warn­ing should, if anything, expand biodi­versity, not destroy all life on earth.

In conclusion, based on a wide range of evidence (some not mentioned in this letter but at length), Professor Narvaez cites, “global warming will threaten life on the planet. This is consistent with statements that “there is no evidence that global warming will threaten life on the planet in a significant way.”

In conclusion, based on a wide range of evidence (some not mentioned in this letter but at length), Professor Narvaez cites, “global warming will threaten life on the planet. This growth in habitat predicted by warn­ing should, if anything, expand biodi­versity, not destroy all life on earth.

In conclusion, based on a wide range of evidence (some not mentioned in this letter but at length), Professor Narvaez cites, “global warming will threaten life on the planet. This growth in habitat predicted by warn­ing should, if anything, expand biodi­versity, not destroy all life on earth.
Disastrous deal brings Shaq Daddy to the desert

SCENE AND HEARD

By T. EDWARD ANDREWS

One of my roommates has a large Chevy Suburban with about 200,000 miles on it. It's a gas-guzzling monstrosity which barely gets around and frequently breaks down. Just the other day it suffered a flat tire and is currently out of commission. Simply put, the Suburban is on its last legs.

According to ESPN.com, the Phoenix Suns have agreed to a deal with the Miami Heat in which they would trade forward Shawn Marion and guard Marcus Banks for one Shaquille O'Neal. The only thing holding up the swap is the completion of the necessary paperwork and for O'Neal to complete a requisite physical.

Sounds like a good deal for the Suns, right? Pair the star power of incumbent point guard Steve Nash with the man known as Shaq Daddy, then sit back, enjoy the show and fit everyone for rings come June, right?

Not so fast. Here's where the Suburban comes in:

In the 2008 version of Shaq is not the slam-dunking, chest-thumping world beater of yore. He's a bopped-up sloppy jalopy with a lot of mileage on the odometer (turns 36 in March; 14 seasons) and a cash-guzzling contract. He's already missed 14 games this season due to injury. How many miles does the Diesel have left in his size-21 tires?

The Suns may think they're getting a superstar, but they're really just getting a dying dwarf star. Shaq has been imploding during his recent years on the Miami Heat, his once-prodigious numbers shrinking to a shell of their former self while his waistline expands. They're not getting a superstar, they're getting a planet of a center with the mass of Jupiter and an even larger contract (two years, $40 million left on the deal after this season).

And good luck running a fun 'n' gun offense based on fast break points and hustle and bustle with O'Neal in the middle. It's safe to say that no one has ever mistaken Shaq for a fitness freak, and unless he has been keeping up a secret midnight regimen of running wind sprints, it would appear the Nash and company will leave him sucking wind and eating dust on fast breaks and hustle and bustle in the desert.

You might as well force Steve Nash to play with ankle weights. Having Shaq on the Suns is the equivalent of my roommate selling the Suburban to Vin Diesel for use in the potential sequel "The Fast and the Furious: 4 Sure."

Whatever you may think of his hideous shooting form, there can be no denying that Shawn Marion made for a perfect fit with the Suns' high-octane, fast-paced brand of basketball. He fit with Coach Mike D'Antoni's style of play. Shaq doesn't.

At 34-14, the Suns have the best record. Whatever happened to if it ain't broke, don't fix it? More than anything else, the trade may reflect a philosophical change in the Phoenix Suns. With two-time MVP Steve Nash running the show, the Suns of the 21st century have put on an up-tempo scoring show, known for furious fast breaks and the quick-strike scoring of "small ball." However, despite the presence of the Great White North American Hope (Steve Nashhails from Canada), Leandro Barbosa (the 2006-07 NBA Sixth Man of the Year) and All-Stars Marcin Gortat and Amar'e Stoudemire, the small-ball Suns haven't managed to find a way to break through against the stifling defense of the four-time San Antonio Spurs, led by Hall of Fame power forward Tim Duncan.

After whiffing on an opportunity to pick up Kevin Garnett last off-season (and seeing his subsequent success with the Boston Celtics), perhaps Phoenix is trying to pick up Shaq to use as the anti-Duncan and other giants west. Phoenix president of basketball operations and general manager Steve Kerr played on two championship teams with the Spurs, so perhaps the trade is a concession on Phoenix's part that the Suns will have to focus on defense and interior post play in order to get past the Western Conference Finals to see the heat out of whoever comes out of the West in the championship round. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em — or at least try to imitate their brand of basketball.

Of course, Shaq might slim down, shape up and reinvent the artist formerly known as Shaq Fu as a svelte gazelle running the floor for easy buckets off Steve Nash dimes. It just doesn't seem likely. As a player, Steve Kerr was known for his smooth outside shooting stroke. As a general manager, it looks like he bricked this one.

Contact T. Edward Andrews at tandrew@ OBS.com
The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
HELP ON THE WAY

Despite a 3-9 season, Charlie Weis signs one of the nation's top recruiting classes.
Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis showed up at his National Signing Day press conference with ashes on his forehead, but he has already had his 40 days of suffering — 13 weeks, to be more accurate. And Wednesday must have felt more like Easter for Weis — a rebirth of his team after last year’s 3-9 campaign.

The coaches and players drew criticism from the media and the fans throughout last season, and, even though he would never admit it, Weis had to feel that pressure: allegations that he wasted the summer on the wrong quarterback, that he was too conservative offensively, that the spark that got him the honorific “offensive genius” had somehow fizzled out.

After Wednesday, Weis has the chance to silence all his critics.

Now he has the chance to create his football team in his image. One excuse Weis sympathizers had for last season was that Weis had to make do with “Ty’s Guys” and that his recruits were too young and inexperienced to make an immediate impact.

That won’t be the case in 2008, with the roster now almost completely filled with players Weis recruited.

Weis said he felt this recruiting class was perfect in filling the holes he thought his team had. “If you had told me the number was 23, how many of each position you want, that was the most significant part, to not only bring in good players but to fill a bunch of holes,” Weis said.

What this means is simple: Notre Dame had better be good next year.

The true fans paid their dues and then some during last year’s embarrassment (by anyone’s standards, and especially at a place with as much history as Notre Dame) and deserve to be rewarded with a good season next fall. The 2008 season should bring a rejuvenated offense and a much better defense — in no small part thanks to the recruits.

The general theme of Wednesday’s news conference was versatility. Corners who can hit like safeties. Defensive ends who are fast enough to play linebacker. Offensive linemen who can play all five spots.

More so than filling specific holes, Weis needed to use this recruiting class to adapt Notre Dame to his offensive scheme and especially defensive coordinator Corwin Brown’s 3-4 defense.

Last season, a lot of players had to switch positions to adapt to the 3-4 with mixed results. Defensive end Trevor Laws dominated on the strong side and Maurice Crum and Joe Brockington looked very comfortable as the inside linebackers.

But Notre Dame was completely devoid of a solid outside linebacker. The defense should considerably improve.

Offensively, Notre Dame plugged a lot of holes on the offensive line, notably center and guard. Trevor Robinson towered over high school defensive linemen, abusing them on every down. So, Weis hopes he will be able to do that in college.

Center Braxton Cave can both snap and block, a combination that was missing for most of last season.

Added weapons at receiver (Michael Floyd and John Goodman) and running back (Jonas Gray) should make the offense more potent while Dayne Crist might force Jimmy Clausen to get better this spring or lose his job — and will almost certainly hold down the quarterback position after 2010.

These added recruits have changed the makeup of the Irish roster. Not only can they make a difference.

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

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa@nd.edu

2008 Recruits
Cavalry arrives

Irish rebuilding process continues with 23 signees; Weis concentrates on filling holes at defensive line, linebacker

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

On the field, Notre Dame's 2007 season was a disaster. But experts say Charlie Weis' recruiting class, which was finalized Wednesday, was a major success.

Twenty-three players fanned their national letters of intent to Weis Wednesday morning — 11 on offense and 12 on defense.

The Irish filled holes in their depth chart, especially at defensive line, linebacker and tight end, and took another step toward replenishing a roster that, until two years ago, had been decimated by sub-par recruiting and attrition.

"These guys really understood or bought into Notre Dame and what Notre Dame is all about, what we're trying to get done," Weis said at his press conference Wednesday afternoon.

Weis hit the recruiting trail hard last spring. By August, he had 18 recruits verbally committed. Seventeen of those players signed with the Irish Wednesday.

"I think that you've got to give a lot of credit to these young men for the intestinal fortitude that they've showed, because as we know, our performance on the field this year was far below expectations and far below average," Weis said. "And try being those guys that are walking into their school and walking into the grocery stores in their hometowns, and everyone says, 'You know, why are you going to Notre Dame?'

"I think that this is one of Notre Dame's deepest positions right now, with three backs — rising sophomore Robert Hugh, rising sophomore Armando Allen and rising junior James Aldridge — with starting experience from last season.

"Weis signed one more back to go with this trio: Jonas Gray out of Detroit Country Day High School in Beverly Hills, Mich.

"We're not only going to Notre Dame, but I think the best thing is that play safety so there's no rule

"And that's important too, because we've been struggling at that position for a long time. But Weis said the best thing about him being a big man, because size will struggle to field even that many for the spring game. That will all change next fall, when future highly regarded freshmen suit up.

"As the season progressed, with the 2007 defense, with the 2008 defense, we saw a lot of kid who we weren't really as high on. We were keeping them away from family favorites.

"We're really a big man when you see him, that he doesn't look like a freshman when you see him walking around."

Defensive linemen

The defensive line was Weis' No. 1 priority in recruiting this year. Even though defensive coordinator Greg Brown's system only calls for three defensive linemen on the field at a time, Notre Dame will struggle to field even that many for the spring game. That will all change next fall, when five highly regarded freshmen suit up.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"Weis hit the recruiting trail hard last spring. By August, he had 18 recruits verbally committed. Seventeen of those players signed with the Irish Wednesday.

"I think that this is one of Notre Dame's deepest positions right now, with three backs — rising sophomore Robert Hugh, rising sophomore Armando Allen and rising junior James Aldridge — with starting experience from last season.

"Weis signed one more back to go with this trio: Jonas Gray out of Detroit Country Day High School in Beverly Hills, Mich.

"We're not only going to Notre Dame, but I think the best thing is that play safety so there's no rule

"And that's important too, because we've been struggling at that position for a long time. But Weis said the best thing about him being a big man, because size will struggle to field even that many for the spring game. That will all change next fall, when future highly regarded freshmen suit up.

"As the season progressed, with the 2007 defense, with the 2008 defense, we saw a lot of kid who we weren't really as high on. We were keeping them away from family favorites.

"We're really a big man when you see him, that he doesn't look like a freshman when you see him walking around."

Defensive linemen

The defensive line was Weis' No. 1 priority in recruiting this year. Even though defensive coordinator Greg Brown's system only calls for three defensive linemen on the field at a time, Notre Dame will struggle to field even that many for the spring game. That will all change next fall, when five highly regarded freshmen suit up.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.

Mike Golie Jr., the son of former Irish defensive lineman and current Oregon State's defensive coordinator Mike Golie, was the first player to commit to Notre Dame's 2008 class.

"But Weis said weight gain should not be a problem.

"He has all of the man­nerisms," Weis said.
Position Breakdown

1 Quarterback
1 Running Back
2 Tight Ends
3 Wide Receivers
4 Offensive Linemen
5 Defensive Linemen
4 Linebackers
3 Defensive Backs
Not quite the Killers' third album, "Sawdust" is a compilation of b-sides, covers and out-takes garnered from sessions recorded for the band's previous two albums - "Hot Fuss" and "Sam's Town." Like the gesture of other bands who offer recordings that never saw the light of day on an official release, the record seems geared more toward the real fans of the band who've been waiting to hear tracks and demos ever since the smashing debut of "Hot Fuss."

Surprisingly, the CD holds up quite well on its own merits. While it does not have the flow or arch seen on "Hot Fuss" and especially on the epic, Western-themed "Sam's Town," it also makes no qualms about being concentrated far more on the individuality of the tracks. It's an approach that works, since the band has an all-original third album in the works — which makes "Sawdust" a very hearty and satisfying appetizer to what is sure to be a deliciously innovative and forward-moving main course.

Early on, we get the track "Leave The Bourbon On The Shelf." Never before released in any capacity, it's a song that's already been acquiring an almost legendary significance to fans of the band who know that it is the lost, first element of the "Hot Fuss" fills in ahead of "Jenny was a Friend of Mine" and then "Midnight Show." The band makes a few blunders by adding covers to the "Sawdust" mix. It gets especially bad in its cover of Joy Division's "Shadowplay." The new version just isn't good and should not have been done in the first place — much less put on a CD for people to spend their hard earned money on.

The band makes a few blunders by adding covers to the "Sawdust" mix. It gets especially bad in its cover of Joy Division's "Shadowplay." The new version just isn't good and should not have been done in the first place — much less put on a CD for people to spend their hard earned money on. It gets a little better on the cover of Dire Straits' "Romeo & Juliet." However, Brandon Flowers, lead singer of the Killers, doesn't bring anything new to the semi-nally classic song. The tune isn't bad, but it's nothing new either.

"Under the Gun" is a particular-ly strong song, and it's hard to tell why it didn't make the first album. Armed with an infectious and rollicking chorus of "Kill me now, kill me now, kill me now," it's a subtle anthem to those moments when you can't be sure what's going on, but know it's bad.

CD REVIEW

By JAMES COSTA
Assistant Scene Editor

"Hot Fuss" is an extremely present on "Sawdust" with a bunch of tracks that didn't quite make the final cut. These include "Under the Gun," "Show You How," "Glamorous Indie Rock and Roll," "Who Let You Go" and "The Ballad of Michael Valentine." Indeed, it's almost enough for a "Hot Fuss EP."

Recommended Tracks: "Tranquilize" and "Leave the Bourbon on the Shelf"
Johnson's 28 points pace Hawks' upset of Lakers

Howard drops double-double in Magic's victory; Rondo nets career-high 24 points as Celtics top Clippers

Associated Press

ATLANTA — With the game on the line, Kobe Bryant was betrayed by his pinkie.

Give an assist to Joe Johnson's tight defense.

Johnson scored 28 points, including four free throws in the final 23 seconds, and he forced a key turnover by Bryant with 8 seconds left as the Atlanta Hawks beat the Los Angeles Lakers 98-92 in Wednesday night.

With Atlanta leading 95-91, Johnson guarded Bryant outside the 3-point line when Bryant suddenly lost focus of the ball. Bryant was called for over-and-back when he regained possession past the midcourt line.

"I think the ball went off his leg," Johnson said. "I went at it and tried to hit it, but didn't. I think it hit off his leg again.

Bryant's pinkie finger on his right hand was dislocated in Tuesday night's win at New Jersey. After showing in shooting practice Wednesday he could play with the injury, he logged three minutes with the finger taped to the ring finger.

"It is what it is," said Bryant, who said the finger was "very swollen.

"I'll try to muscle through it over the next couple days," Bryant said, adding his finger didn't allow him to feel the ball properly on the late turnover. "It bummed out of my hand," he said.

Bryant had 10 assists, but was 4-of-16 for 11 points. He was scoreless in the second half, getting hit by a jumper with 1:11 left.

Josh Smith, who had 17 points, nine rebounds, nine assists and five blocks, hit one of two free throws with 7.1 seconds left to put the lead to three points. Sasha Vujacic answered with a layup for the Lakers with 3.7 seconds left.

The Lakers quickly fouled Johnson, who made two free throws to again push the lead to three. Derek Fisher missed a last-second 3-pointer for the Lakers.

The Hawks have won three straight following four straight losses.

Hawks rookie center Al Horford had 15 points and a career-high 20 rebounds. Al Horford was tremendous tonight on the boards for us," Hawks coach Mike Woodson said. A team with size, we defended a team that can shoot the 3-pointer and hold them to 95 points, that's huge for us.

The Hawks finished with a 50-32 advantage in the paint.

"They got more points in the paint, which I think was the difference in the game," Pau Gasol said. "We should protect the paint more and be more aware of that in the future. ... It was pretty tough going against Al Horford on the boards. He did a pretty good job going after us offensively. He was the difference-maker for them tonight.

Gasol, like Bryant, had shooting woes on second game with the Lakers.

Gasol made only five of 14 shots for 12 points.

Lamar Odom led the Lakers with 19 points and 11 rebounds. Fisher added 17, and Vladimir Radmanovic had 13, all in the first half.

Magic 100, Nets 94

Dwight Howard had 21 points and 13 rebounds as the Orlando Magic averaged a one-point loss to the New Jersey Nets last month with a win Wednesday night.

Vince Carter led the Nets with 18 points and Al Jefferson had 13 points and seven assists.

Six Magic players scored in double figures. Hedo Turkoglu and Rashard Lewis both scored 19, and Konyon Dooling, Arron Afflalo, Cook and Jameer Nelson each added 11.

For the second straight game, Orlando dug itself into a double-digit hole in the first quarter. The Nets took a 15-4 lead within six minutes, punctuated by a reverse alley-oop from Al Jefferson to Carter, plus the foul shot.

At that point, Magic coach Stan Van Gundy got into Carter's head, his reserves, and Dooling and Cook led Orlando on an 18-7 run to tie things at 22. Cook had all 11 of his points in the run, including three 3-pointers, but Dooling missed seven on a 3-point play, two free throws and a jumper.

The Nets pushed the lead back to eight when the Magic-cluded to score the first 2-20 of the second quarter.

Orlando took it back, with emphasis, in the second quarter. Howard had back-to-back, backboard-shaking dunks, then Lewis dropped consecutive 3-pointers.

The Magic led 35-32 after a Turkoglu 3-pointer and never relinquished it.

Josh Powell scored 13 for New Jersey, Richard Jefferson added 11 and Josh Boone had 10 points.

Celtics 111, Clippers 100

Rajon Rondo scored a career-high 24 points to go with eight assists and five rebounds, coming back from a flagrant foul that knocked him to the floor to lead the Boston Celtics to a victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Wednesday night.

A night after losing by one point in overtime to Cleveland, the Celtics avoided a losing streak despite missing Al-Star Kevin Garnett for the fifth straight game. The rest of Boston's starters got some time off, too, sitting out all but the final minute of the fourth quarter while the reserves handled the Pacific Division-trailing Clippers.

Ray Allen scored 19 and Paul Pierce had 15, with reserve Leon Powe scoring 13 points and 10 rebounds. Boston plays Minnesota — a.k.a. the Western Celtics — on Friday, likely without Garnett, the player obtained from the Timberwolves in the summer's blockbuster seven-for-two trade.

Corey Maggette had 33 points and eight rebounds and sub Cuttino Mobley scored 16 for the Clippers, who beat the New York Knicks on Monday night to snap a nine-game road losing streak. Los Angeles played the second half without Sam Cassell, who was ejected after flattening Rondo late in the first half.

Rondo was dominating Cassell on the floor — especially in the second quarter, when the Boston point guard scored 12 points. He stole the ball twice in a 60-second span, and that might have been going through Cassell's mind when Rondo drove to the basket with 2:54 left in the first half.

Hawks forward Al Horford, right, strips the ball from Lakers guard Kobe Bryant during Atlanta's 98-95 win Wednesday.

Celtics guard Ray Allen, right, goes for a lay-up past Clippers defender Quinton Ross during Boston's 111-100 victory Wednesday.

The Observer welcomes classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the News-Davis office, 214 North Davis Hall. Deadline for non-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $15 per column per day, and includes all space. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring refunds.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the News-Davis office, 214 South Davis Hall. Deadline for non-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $15 per column per day, and includes all space. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring refunds.
**NBA**

**Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Pct.</th>
<th>Last 10</th>
<th>GB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>36-9</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>29-21</td>
<td>58.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>23-27</td>
<td>46.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>17.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>19-30</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>14-34</td>
<td>26.3</td>
<td></td>
<td>23.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Eastern Conference, Central Division**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Pct.</th>
<th>Last 10</th>
<th>GB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>34-17</td>
<td>68.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>26-25</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>19-30</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>19-30</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Eastern Conference, Southeast Division**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Pct.</th>
<th>Last 10</th>
<th>GB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>22-24</td>
<td>48.9</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>18-31</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>12.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>9-37</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Western Conference, Northwest Division**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Pct.</th>
<th>Last 10</th>
<th>GB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>31-16</td>
<td>65.8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>29-17</td>
<td>58.7</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>27-28</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>23-26</td>
<td>47.7</td>
<td></td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>10-37</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Western Conference, Pacific Division**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Pct.</th>
<th>Last 10</th>
<th>GB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>34-16</td>
<td>69.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>21-16</td>
<td>53.6</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden State</td>
<td>22-16</td>
<td>54.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>22-24</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA Clippers</td>
<td>18-30</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>17.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Men's Hockey**

**CCHA Conference Standings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Pct.</th>
<th>Last 10</th>
<th>GB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>17-2-0</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>13-2-3</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State</td>
<td>14-3-2</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notre Dame</td>
<td>12-4-1</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska-Omaha</td>
<td>9-10-3</td>
<td>45.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>12-33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bowling Green</td>
<td>10-10-0</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>12-33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferris State</td>
<td>7-19-3</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>11-12-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>7-12-3</td>
<td>37.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>7-15-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Michigan</td>
<td>7-12-3</td>
<td>37.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>10-10-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>5-14-1</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td></td>
<td>9-19-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Superior</td>
<td>3-13-4</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td></td>
<td>9-19-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Michigan</td>
<td>3-16-1</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>7-19-2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IN BRIEF**

**Phoenix names Hall of Famer Ryan as president**

Arlington, Texas: Nolan Ryan was hired Wednesday as president of the Texas Rangers, reuniting the Hall of Famer with the struggling team he helped for at the end of his incredible career.

The Rangers introduced the 61-year-old Texas native with the fanfare of the career strikeout leader into a stadium hall that cheered the return of The Ryan Express.

"I've known since I was a player that I'd like to be involved in the shaping of an organization," Ryan said. "This gives me that opportunity."

Ryan threw an unmatched seven no-hitters and won 324 games in a record 27 major league seasons. The last five of those came with the Rangers and included his final two no-hitters and 5,000th strikeout

**Toppers includes celebrating Giuliani in Red Sox cards**

New York: Rudy Giuliani, a Boston Red Sox fan?

When Topps baseball cards hit the stores this week it'll appear that way. About one in every 70 packs will include a picture of the former New York City mayor, but raised in victory, celebrating with the Red Sox on the field after their World Series win.

Yankees fans need not worry, though. Giuliani, a self-professed, die-hard supporter of the Red Sox's chief rival wasn't really there.

But in October, the then-presidential candidate did alienate some New York fans by declaring he was rooting for Boston in the World Series - "I'm an American league fan," he said. - and Topps ran with the idea.

"We took that and thought it would make for a funny card, since the Red Sox won," said Clay Luraschi, baseball brand manager for Topps.

**Hamm to compete in first full meet since Athens**

LAV’N, Texas - After months of training and tracking progress by his own standards, Paul Hamm will compete this month for the U.S. men's team in the buildup to the Beijing Olympics in August.

The two-day event concludes with finals Saturday. As much as winning this is the 25-year-old gymnast's chance to see how the training, the new skills and his commitment to the routine paid off on a real podium in a real competition, Hamm said, "I don't think I'll be more nervous for Winter Cup," Hamm said. "I'm starting; to feel comfortable with the routine I'm doing. I feel like a gymnast again. I'm back out there and I'm ready."
NEW YORK — Brian McNamee's lawyers said Wednesday they gave federal prosecutors physical evidence backing the personal trainer's allegation that Roger Clemens used performance-enhancing drugs.

"I think this is a significant point in the case. We believe that this is significant corroboration," said McNamee's lead lawyer, Earl Ward.

McNamee's side turned over syringes with Clemens' blood to IRS Special Agent Jeff Novitzky in early 2000, a person familiar with the evidence said, speaking on condition of anonymity because McNamee's lawyers did not want to publicly discuss details. The syringes were used to inject Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone, the person said. A second person, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said the evidence was from 2000 and 2001.

Lanny Breuer, one of Clemens' lawyers, immediately responded that McNamee "apparently has manufactured evidence" in an effort to persuade the Justice Department to drop its investigation of possible federal drug offenses.

"It is just not credible," Breuer said in a statement. "I am not in their right mind does such a thing?" In December's Mitchell Report on doping in baseball, McNamee said he injected Clemens and performed all the allegations "desperate snars.

He said he wouldn't discuss until Thursday why McNamee's legal team waited until after Clemens' deposition to go public with their discussion of physical evidence.

Keith Aubrook, the committee's Republican general counsel, told The Associated Press the committee was not aware that such physical evidence existed.

"Unknown and unexpected evidence comes in at all times in any investigation," Aubrook wrote in an e-mail. "We will still need to examine McNamee’s evidence and hear what he has to say." McNamee, the former personal trainer for Clemens and Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte, also told former Senate majority leader George Mitchell that he injected Pettitte with HGH. Pettitte confirmed in December that he used HGH for two days.

Emery said McNamee's legal team planned to hold a news conference following their client's deposition in Washington on Thursday and will discuss the evidence in greater detail then. Because the items were turned over several years after the events under discussion, Clemens' side could challenge whether it was tampered with.

"Brian McNamee is obviously a troubled man who is obsessed with doing everything possible to destroy Roger Clemens," Breuer said in a statement. "McNamee lied to the police who were investigating him for sexual assault, he lied to Senator Mitchell, he lied to the federal government, and now he apparently has manufactured evidence. He has changed his story repeatedly on this matter. He claims to love Roger Clemens, he says he modeled being a father on Roger Clemens, he said Roger treated him like family — but he now claims he kept blood, gauze, and needles used in seven years. It defies all sensibility."

Emery said it was unnecessary for McNamee's side to persuade the Justice Department that the evidence was authentic.

"They'll decide themselves what they believe is the case and make their own decisions based on the facts as they have," Emery said. "All we have is what we believe is the truth." Emery said McNamee's turning over of the syringes first was reported by the New York Daily News on its Web site.

Clemens and McNamee are to testify before the committee next Wednesday along with Pettitte. Former Yankees second baseman Chuck Knoblauch and Kirk Radomski, the former New York Mets clubhouse attendant who pleaded guilty in April to felony charges of distributing steroids and laundering money. He is scheduled to be sentenced Friday in federal court in San Francisco.

"Roger is looking forward to testifying before Congress next week to set the record straight," Breuer said. "He will not waiver, nor will he shrink from this because he is telling the truth. We ask all fair-minded people to listen. It is time for Brian McNamee to be subject to the same scrutiny as Roger Clemens."
Duke pulls away late to grab top spot in ACC

Top-ranked Memphis rolls over SMU to remain undefeated; No. 8 Wisconsin stays hot by edging host Iowa

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Duke has spent the entire season erasing memories of last year’s un-Duke-like struggles. Now, after an impressive win against their biggest rivals, the Blue Devils are starting to look like a team that fits right in with their storied tradition.

Greg Paulus scored 18 points and was one of six players in double figures in the second-ranked Blue Devils’ 89-78 win over the third-ranked Tar Heels on Wednesday night, ending a three-game losing streak in the heated rivalry.

Jim Scheyer added 17 points for Duke (20-1, 8-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), which repeatedly knocked down 3-point shots to control the game almost from the start. Duke led by as many as 11 points in the first half and never trailed after that, beating the short-handed Tar Heels for the first time since the 2003-04 season.

Picked to finish second in the ACC, the Blue Devils figured to be too small up front to contend with the favored Tar Heels this year. Yet behind a spread-the-floor attack that creates matchup problems all over the court, Duke is alone atop the league and looking like a good bet to win the regular-season race.

“They’re pretty special right now,” said Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski. “We know who we are. We’re a very unconventional ball club. We’re not a strong physical team, but we are strong mentally, and we have a really good spirit.”

You have to hope you don’t get hit by a team for a stretch by their strength. You have to find something else and become a versatile players we’ve been able to do that so far.”

Duke shot 46 percent and went 13-for-29 from 3-point range, with Paulus going 6-for-8 from behind the arc. That was just too much on the perimeter for the Tar Heels (21-2, 6-2), who played without injured point guard Ty Lawson and seemed like they had to fight the entire game just to stay within reach.

“We definitely drove the ball and got a couple good penetrations and kicks,” Paulus said. “I’m not sure what we shot, but it seemed like whenever we needed a 3, we had guys who took big shots and knocked them down.”

Tyler Hansbrough had 28 points and 18 rebounds in what became virtually a one-man effort, but the Tar Heels looked like a team all of a sudden without their star, falling 34-16 in the second half.

Ramba Fall and Jon Kilien scored 12 points apiece for SMU (12-1, 1-6).

Tigers coach John Calipari bench­ed forward Robert Dozier and didn’t start center Darius, both of whom had started the team’s first 19 games.

Tigers 77, Mustangs 48

Reserve guard Andre Allen scored 19 points, and Joey Dorsey had 10 points and 14 rebounds and top-ranked Memphis extended its nation’s longest home-court winning streak to 45 games.

Tigers struggled in the game’s opening minutes with the new look, missing seven of their first eight shots and falling behind 7-3 after Fall’s left-handed hook fell.

Calipari eventually got a spark from Allen, who forced a 14-3 run with two 3-pointers and a driving layup. The Tigers followed that run with another, scoring 15 of the game’s next 17 points on their way to 40-18 halftime lead.

Allen had another 3-pointer during the second run.

Allen had 11 points at the half and Willie Kemper, another reserve guard, scored seven.

In the second half, the Tigers stretched their lead to 40 points. SMU has lost eight of its last nine games.

Badgers 60, Hawkeyes 54

Marcus Landry scored 16 points, Brian Butch added 12 and No. 8 Wisconsin held off Iowa on Wednesday night for its 13th victory in 14 games.

The Badgers struggled in the game’s opening minutes with the new look, missing seven of their first eight shots and falling behind 7-3 after Fall’s left-handed hook fell.

Calipari eventually got a spark from Allen, who forced a 14-3 run with two 3-pointers and a driving layup. The Tigers followed that run with another, scoring 15 of the game’s next 17 points on their way to 40-18 halftime lead.

Allen had another 3-pointer during the second run.

Allen had 11 points at the half and Willie Kemper, another reserve guard, scored seven.

In the second half, the Tigers stretched their lead to 40 points. SMU has lost eight of its last nine games.

Badgers 60, Hawkeyes 54

Marcus Landry scored 16 points, Brian Butch added 12 and No. 8 Wisconsin held off Iowa on Wednesday night for its 13th victory in 14 games.

The Badgers struggled in the game’s opening minutes with the new look, missing seven of their first eight shots and falling behind 7-3 after Fall’s left-handed hook fell.

Calipari eventually got a spark from Allen, who forced a 14-3 run with two 3-pointers and a driving layup. The Tigers followed that run with another, scoring 15 of the game’s next 17 points on their way to 40-18 halftime lead.

Allen had another 3-pointer during the second run.

Allen had 11 points at the half and Willie Kemper, another reserve guard, scored seven.

In the second half, the Tigers stretched their lead to 40 points. SMU has lost eight of its last nine games.

Badgers 60, Hawkeyes 54

Marcus Landry scored 16 points, Brian Butch added 12 and No. 8 Wisconsin held off Iowa on Wednesday night for its 13th victory in 14 games.

The Badgers struggled in the game’s opening minutes with the new look, missing seven of their first eight shots and falling behind 7-3 after Fall’s left-handed hook fell.

Calipari eventually got a spark from Allen, who forced a 14-3 run with two 3-pointers and a driving layup. The Tigers followed that run with another, scoring 15 of the game’s next 17 points on their way to 40-18 halftime lead.

Allen had another 3-pointer during the second run.

Allen had 11 points at the half and Willie Kemper, another reserve guard, scored seven.

In the second half, the Tigers stretched their lead to 40 points. SMU has lost eight of its last nine games.
Shootout victory gives Sabres' fifth win in six tries

Ovechkin nets league-best 46th goal in Capitals victory; Blackhawks continue to slide with loss to Oilers

Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The Buffalo Sabres finally found a way to skate away with a full two points against the New Jersey Devils.

Losing the previous three meetings with the Devils this season in shootouts, the Sabres used conservative goals by Drew Stafford and Henrik Tallinder in tiebreaker No. 4 between the two teams to win 3-2 on Wednesday night.

Stafford beat Martin Brodeur with a wrist shot in the first round of the shootout, and Tallinder followed with a silky deke. Buffalo goalie Ryan Miller denied Brian Gionta’s wrist shot in the second round to give the Sabres their second straight win.

It wasn’t unexpected that this game was decided by a shootout. What was surprising was Tallinder’s first-ever shootout goal coming against a future Hall of Fame netminder.

Tallinder was able to elude Brodeur’s poke-check to deliver the win for a surging Sabres team that moved to within two points of the Eastern Conference second-place Philadelphia Flyers.

"Assistant coach James Patrick told me yesterday to be ready," Tallinder said. "I got the call, so I’m happy.

"Tallinder came in slowly before Brodeur lunged forward with his stick and then calmly moved the puck from his backhand to his forehand, to slide it into the empty net.

"I know what guys usually do, and when you get a defenseman it’s usually pretty rare," Brodeur said. "It makes it a little harder when you come on you.

"Michael Ryan and Jason Pomrinic scored in regulation for the Sabres, who won for the fifth time in six games.

"It was huge for us to get that extra point," Stafford said. "We’re desperate for them right now. We stuck with it, and it shows that we’re hungry.

The Devils trailed 2-0 midway through the second period and nearly pulled off another stirring comeback. New Jersey defeated Pittsburgh on Monday in overtime after being down a pair of goals in the third period.

But ultimately, they squandered an opportunity to move into a tie for first-place in the Atlantic Division with Philadelphia, which lost to Washington on Wednesday.

"I didn’t think we played that bad," said Brodeur, who finished with 20 saves. "For the most part they didn’t get a lot of great chances.

Karel Rachunek and Mike Mottau scored for the Devils, who had their two-game winning streak snapped. New Jersey also lost for the first time in four games on the road.

Miller finished with 24 saves and hasn’t allowed more than two goals in his last six starts.

Capitals 4, Flyers 3

There’s no telling where the Washington Capitals would be in the standings if Bruce Boudreau started the season as head coach.

Matt Bradley and Viktor Kozlov scored 44 seconds apart early in the third period to lead Washington over the Philadelphia Flyers on Wednesday night.

Mike scoring leader Alexander Ovechkin got his league-best 46th goal and Brooks Laich also scored for the Capitals, who moved into first place in the mediocre Southeast Division.

Since Boudreau replaced Glen Hanlon 21 games in, Washington has gone 20-10-4 to move all the way up from last place in the Eastern Conference.

Oilers 4, Blackhawks 1

Joni Pitkanen had a goal and an assist, and the Edmonton Oilers defeated the Chicago Blackhawks Wednesday night for their second straight win.

Jarret Stoll, Dustin Penner and Ethan Moreau also scored for the Oilers, who moved within five points of eighth place in the Western Conference.

Patrick Sharp had the only goal for the Blackhawks, who have lost five in a row.

Edmonton broke a 1-1 tie 8 minutes into the middle period on the power play as Penner tipped Sam Gagner’s shot over Chicago goalie Patrick Lalime’s shoulder.

The Oilers extended the lead 34 seconds later as Moreau outmuscled Cameron Barker in front of the net and redirected Ladislav Smid’s shot past Lalime. Pitkanen closed the scoring in the first minute of the third period as he skated to the top of the faceoff circle.
Mets hope Santana signing will erase late collapse

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Johan Santana arrived at Shea Stadium on Wednesday, put on his No. 57 New York Mets jersey for the first time and said he anticipated little difficulty in adjusting to pitching before some of baseball's most demanding fans.

"I think the game is the same," he said. "I'm not going to let that affect what I do on the field."

The Mets introduced Santana with a choreographed news conference, one that began with video highlights and Latin music. After an extended period for still and video cameras and a brief statement by Santana, the Mets turned up the house lights of Shea Stadium's Diamond Club for questions.

Santana answered many with cliches, speaking how he would take things one day at a time, that success was a team effort and that he will have to make adjustments to pitching in the National League. He understands that Mets fans demand a World Series championship — or at least an NL pennant — immediately following last year's September collapse.

"Of course, it has to be this year," he said, as his wife and father looked on. Santana walked in a gift shop already stocked with replicas of his new jersey in home pinstripes and black, as well as in children's sizes.

Mets general manager Omar Minaya introduced Santana, who agreed last Friday to a $137.5 million, six-year contract that allowed his trade from the Minnesota Twins to be finalized the following day. Minaya pronounced it was the start of "a great era of Mets baseball."

"Welcome to the city of baseball," Minaya said. "I think the game is the same. I'm not going to let that affect what I do on the field."

Johan Santana
Mets pitcher

"I think the game is the same, I'm not going to let that affect what I do on the field," said Santana, the Mets' first choice but that was Santana's first choice but that both bidders were acceptable.

"I think he would have been perfectly happy if he had went to Yankees. I think he would have been perfectly happy if he had went to the Red Sox," Greenberg said.

The Mets were not the only team to add an ace this offseason. The NL West champion Arizona Diamondbacks acquired Dan Haren from Oakland, giving them a nasty 1-2 punch of right-handers in Trevor Hoffman. Philadelphia boasts blossoming lefty Cole Hamels, and the Chicago Cubs have two bulldogs in Carlos Zambrano and Ted Lilly.

"It's not about verbally saying who's the team to beat. It's about going out there and showing it," David Wright said.

Newly acquired Mets pitcher Johan Santana tells reporters Wednesday he expects a smooth transition to his new club.

"It's not about totally making bold predictions. It's not about verbally saying who's the team to beat. It's about going out there and proving it," he added. "Philadelphia did both last year. They made the predictions and they went out and backed it up."

The Staff of the Sandpiper Beacon

Beach Resort would love to come up with the ROCK STAR SPRING BREAK PANAMA CITY BEACH TOUR BUS...

BUT IT'S JUST TOO M@%$ COLD UP THERE! See ya in Sunny Florida..... Love ya

800-488-8828
www.sandpiperbeacon.com

Seafood Celebration

Featuring

Combination del Mare

Sauteed Tilapia, Shrimp and Roma Tomatoes over Angel Hair Pasta with White Wine & Lemon Dill Buter Sauce; Served with Crabmeat-Suilded Mushrooms

Other Seafood Celebration Items

Mussels in Saffron • Scampi Aglio • Salmon alla Griglia
Capellini & Crabmeat • Shrimp & Scallop Scampi • Shrimp Ravioli...

Papa Vino's Italian Kitchen

Unmistakably Italian • Unbelievably Good

5110 Edison Lakes Parkway
Mishawaka • 574-271-1692
www.PapaVinosItalianKitchen.com

Sandpiper Beacon

The Staff of the Sandpiper Beacon Beach Resort would love to come up with the ROCK STAR SPRING BREAK PANAMA CITY BEACH TOUR BUS...

BUT IT'S JUST TOO M@%$ COLD UP THERE! See ya in Sunny Florida..... Love ya

800-488-8828
www.sandpiperbeacon.com
NFL

Goodell to pursue Spygate

Associated Press

HONOLULU — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell is willing to pursue any believable information in the Spygate case.

Goodell said Wednesday the league has been in touch with representatives of former New England Patriots assistant coach Matt Walsh, now a golf pro in Maui. Walsh, who did video work for the Patriots when they won their first Super Bowl after the 2001 season, was not interviewed as part of the NFL’s investigation into New England illegally taping opponents coaches in the last two years.

“If there is new information that is credible, new material that could be credible that would help us,” Goodell said, “yes, we’ll look at it.

“We’ve had people come to us over the last six months with material that we pursued and it didn’t lead to anything.”

Goodell said he didn’t know if there might be more information available.

Sen. Arlen Specter, with whom Goodell said he expects to meet in the next week or so, questioned the thoroughness of the NFL’s investigation that led to a $500,000 fine for coach Bill Belichick, a $250,000 fine for the Patriots organization, and the loss of this year’s first round draft pick.

Specter also wondered why Goodell had the six tapes turned over by the Patriots destroyed, along with notes the team gave Goodell, Walsh, who did not return phone messages and an e-mail from The Associated Press, reportedly videotaped the St. Louis Rams’ walk-through the day before the February 2002 Super Bowl against New England.

TENNIS

Dementieva, Szavay advance to quarterfinals

Associated Press

PARIS — Elena Dementieva of Russia and Agnes Szavay of Hungary overcame resistance from unseeded opponents Wednesday to reach the quarterfinals of the Open Gaz de France.

The fourth-seeded Dementieva defeated Petra Kvitova 7-6 (7), 6-2 while No. 7 Szavay beat Tatiana Garbin 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

Kvitova traded two breaks of serve with Dementieva, forcing a tiebreaker where two unforced errors cost the Czech qualifier the first set.

“During the tiebreaker, it was so close,” Dementieva said. “I knew I had to go for the winner. Otherwise, she was going to kill the ball. She was going for the winner all the time. I didn’t want to play defensive today.”

Kvitova had opportunities again in the second set, but wasted five break points to let Dementieva finish with a return winner.

“I knew it was going to be a tough match for me because she won four matches here,” Dementieva said. “She was playing really well today. She’s serving very hard and she has a very powerful play. It was not an easy first round for me.”

Meanwhile, Szavay earned an early break in the third set and completed her victory on her second match point when Garbin netted a ground stroke.

Szavay broke Garbin at 3-3 and won the first set when Garbin double-faulted. But the Italian saved three break points at 5-4 in the second and rallied to square the match.

Dementieva will face either Yuliana Fedak or Katerina Bondarenko, both of Ukraine, while Szavay will meet the winner of Thursday’s match between second-seeded Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia and Katarina Srebotnik of Slovenia.

Earlier on Wednesday, Frenchwomen Virginie Razzano, Nathalie Dechy and Alize Cornet advanced to the second round.

Razzano outlasted eighth-seeded Alona Bondarenko of Ukraine 6-2, 4-6, 7-5 to face Cornet, who beat Klaara Zakopalova 4-6, 6-2, 6-1, Dechy edged Peng Shuai 6-4, 7-6 (8) and will next play top-seeded Anna Chakvetadze of Russia.

“I could have lost today against Alona,” Razzano said. “Two days ago, I could barely walk at the airport after arriving from China.”

She, Dechy, and Cornet were on the French team eliminated by China in the first round of the Fed Cup last weekend.
Barlow continued from page 24

Barlow continued from page 24

led the Irish in scoring in four straight games, starting against Villanova on Jan. 16 and ending against No. 1 Connecticut on Jan. 27. In Notre Dame's 104-86 win at George-town on Jan. 19, she scored 21 points, one shy of her career mark against DePaul on Jan. 23 and going 8-of-12 from the field.

Since opposing defenses sometimes key on guard Charol Allen, Barlow, "almost in a quiet way, will get 20 points," McGraw said.

"Generally she just scores out of the offense," McGraw said. "She offers defensive rebound. She scores on the break, but I think she has better than 30 percent from the 3-point line, containing the ball, all that. Rebounding hasn't been as good as it was last year." Preaching improved defense and rebounding, Barlow sounded like a true McGraw student. McGraw laughed at the correlation and said Barlow was a good defender, but still could improve.

"I felt that she would be a great defender. She has the ability defensively. Offensively she's playing pretty well, she doesn't have to work on that as much, so she can always get better defensively." McGraw summarized Barlow's importance to the team and noted in terms of her scoring ability or defensive play, but by describing her attitude.

"She's smart, she's just really determined. She hates to lose," McGraw said. "She's competitive, she's going to do whatever she can-whether it's taking a charge, or tracking down a loose ball, or diving for something or shooting. She's a great teammate and a great team player." Contact Bill Brink at wbrik@nd.edu

Kurz continued from page 24

up a total line of 17 points and 10 boards against Seton Hall Wednesday night.

He has recorded 10 double-digit rebounds and has scored more than 10 points in 15 of Notre Dame's 21 contests.

Pretty steady. And speaking of steady, remember those season averages of 13 and 8.1 that were previously stated? He finished last season with averages of 12.6 and 8.1. When asked if he cares about the lack of attention paid to his production, Kurz shrugs the question off.

"I just try to go out and do my thing," Kurz said. "I'm always just worried about the team getting a win, and as long as we're doing that, I'm satisfied." Kurz said he simply tries to help his younger teammates concentrate on achieving their goals.

"I just have to make sure everyone comes to work every day," he said. "We just have to focus, just prepare for every game."

So "afterthought" is certainly the wrong word to describe Kurz, who is clearly an integral part of Notre Dame's success. His play may often go unnoticed but that is due more to his workmanlike approach than people's ignorance of his impact. Maybe Kurz's statistics are not mentioned because his consistency renders them almost boring. In other words, a double-double is not considered anything special.

Well, at least not for Kurz. It seems like he reaches that milestone virtually every game.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

---

THIS WEEK IN IRISH SPORTS

#8 HOCKEY

vs. Ferris State
Friday @ 7:30pm
Saturday @ 7:30pm

PAPA JOHN'S

HOME GAME

GOLD GAME

#21 MEN'S BASKETBALL

SAT, FEB. 9TH @ 12PM

SAT. MARQUETTE

MEYOS INVITATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD

PRELIMS: Fri Evening/Sat Morning
MEYOS MILE: SAT @ 2:30PM, FINALS TO FOLLOW

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2008

The Observer • SPORTS

page 21
Alma was canceled due to Wednesday night against SMC so we’re feeling good about that. Tom’s really helped set the tone for our doubles team in singles play of sophomore Cameron Ellis, who is riding a 10-game winning streak to an overall record of 19-2. In terms of doubles play, however, Georgia looks to be a tough opponent. The No. 36 duo of junior Monica Dancevic and senior Kelly Hyndman stand at 10-1 on the season, while No. 30 tandem of sophomores Naoko Ueshima and Yvette Hyndman stand at 9-1 on the year.

Coach Louderback views the first round of the tournament as an excellent opportunity to defeat an evenly matched squad. “I think they’re a very good team,” he said. “We match up very well with them. We’ve played them before and it was a great match so we’re looking forward to it.”

The winner of the first round will face the winner of the match between No. 75 Wisconsin and No. 4 Georgia Tech.

Jay Louderback Irish coach

“We’re playing the top teams in the nation so they will have their hands full.”

SPECIAL TO THE OBSERVER

Saint Mary’s game Wednesday night against Alma was canceled due to inclement weather.

The game has been rescheduled for tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the Angela Athletic Center at Saint Mary’s. The Belles are 9-10 overall and hold a 5-6 record in the MIAA. The Scots are 7-10 and 4-6 in conference play.

Colin Keeler
Patricia Landers
Sarah Lechleiter
Jonathan Proch
James Lewis
Michael Lucas
Joseph Maurer
Thomas McGarry
Kevin McNamara
Ryan Miller
Timothy Miller
Alexandra Moen
Caroline Morel
Timothy Moeller
Matthew Moritz
Benjamin Murphy
Francis Nackerman
Paul Nagel
Matthew Nagy
Eric Nolan
Jeffery O’Brien
Terence O’Connor
Brendan O’Reilly
Aaron Patzwald
Jeffrey Pawlick
Carolina Pegues
Francisco Pereda

Melissa Petersen
Laura Pillari
Steven Prendergast
Samantha Proch
Ariana Pylus
Robert Ray
Brian Rockwell
Kevin Rottman
James Ryan
Ashley Satterlee
Bettany Scanlan
Andrew Schenck
Aston Schrage
Eric Scott
Matthew Shea
Dennis Siedlik
James Simonse
Connor Simpson
Stephanie Srienzi
Steve Sienko
Hannah Skinner
Kathleen Smith
Jeremy Hazzell
The Pirates with 26 points on 8-14 shooting.

Contact Frank Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

April 7, 1988

Thursday, February 7, 2008

The College of Engineering Welcomes Early Admitted Engineering Intents

The College of Engineering welcomes early admitted engineering intents. We hope to see you in our Class of 2012.
THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

Make checks payable to: The Observer
and mail to:

[Box 779, Notre Dame, IN 46556]

Enclosed is $120 for one academic year
Enclosed is $65 for one semester

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City __________________________ State ______ Zip _____

Eugenia's Web site: westwood.com for fun, supplements for confidential consultations

Happy Birthday! You have a host of things you want to do this year but, the more you focus on what really matters, the better you will do. Set your priorities and stick to them. Emotional issues can be the mixed partnerships dealt with. Your numbers are 14, 16, 20, 24, 32, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep things a secret today. The less you share with others, the less opposition you will face. You can get a lot accomplished if you work quietly on your own behind the scenes. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't listen to what others say or think that what is common will work best for you. Trust your own judgment. 5 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A geographical change can turn a mediocre life into a spectacular one. Money is in the picture and a chance to try your hand at something new will be available. 5 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Do something that will enhance your personal life. Get involved and take action and you will impress the people you encounter and other, the less opposition you will face. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can make a difference if you are serious about a cause. Get involved and take action and you will impress the people you encounter and others, the less opposition you will face. 5 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get over whatever is being thrown at you personally by looking at what is going on in your world and the decisions you make will provide the support you need. 5 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get over whatever is being thrown at you personally by looking at what is going on in your world and the decisions you make will provide the support you need. 5 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The more you learn about the people you meet, the more willing they will be to get to know you. The influence that the new people in your life will give you will be more important than you think. 4 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotional reactions will be faster, so think before you do something you may regret. Spend time researching something you want to know. Attend a class or visit someone who can help you find your way. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Have some fun and you will discover a new way to do something that will be beneficial to you financially, professionally or even physically. Follow through with some of your thoughts and ambitions. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can make some personal changes that will make the people you are close with appreciate you more. Time is not wasted. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Try a Cleveland Browns game and you will find that your day will be better. Be a Samaritan to others and be happy. Your life will be better. 1 star

Horoscope answer page two.

Make checks payable to: and mail to:

[Box 779, Notre Dame, IN 46556]

Enclosed is $120 for one academic year
Enclosed is $65 for one semester

The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556
MEN'S BASKETBALL

Pirates plundered

Notre Dame blows out Seton Hall in first half

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame came out firing in the first half and blew Seton Hall out before the halftime buzzer even sounded. The No. 22 Irish cruised to a 95-69 win and improved to 17-4 overall and 7-2 in Big East play.

"It was a great win for us," senior forward Rob Kurz said. "We knew this would be a big game and we had to come to play."

Each team made 6-of-12 3-pointers in the first half but the Irish hit 20-of-47 shots overall and forced 12 turnovers in the period to take a 47-27 lead into the locker room.

The Irish were sloppy at times during the second half but it didn't matter as Luke Harangody finished with 22 points and 13 rebounds to lead his squad to the victory.

After Irish guard Kyle McAiarney hit a 3-pointer to put Notre Dame up 69-44, Seton Hall put together its only rally of the game. Senior guard Brian Laing made a basket then the Pirates picked up a steal and another hoop. After a Notre Dame timeout, Seton Hall forced yet another turnover and Laing hit a 3-pointer to cut the deficit.

"We knew we'd have a great opportunity and we just couldn't make the plays," Seton Hall head coach institute McGraw said.

Irish forward Rob Kurz, right, blocks a shot from Pirates guard Jamar Nutter during Notre Dame's 95-69 win over Seton Hall Wednesday night in Newark, N.J.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Barlow has basketball in her blood

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

All college athletes run short on time, and Ashley Barlow was no exception. She had an interview followed by film study session, but her priorities were elsewhere:

First, she had to make a shot.

The sophomore guard air-balled two from half-court — she swears she made one earlier, on her first shot of the day — before settling for the 3-point line. She missed a three or four, fixed each errant shot with a stare as if the ball had disobeyed her instructions by veering away from the hoop. After knocking one down from near the top of the key, she could finally talk.

"I'm not a perfectionist, so I wasn't surprised Irish coach Muffet McGraw. "I think she's just the most determined player I've ever had," McGraw said. "That's the single word that always comes to mind when I look at her."

It was unusual to see Barlow miss that many consecutive shots. She recently

Irish guard Ashley Barlow dribbles up the floor during Notre Dame's 78-59 win over Western Kentucky on Nov. 13.

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Squad prepares for top-ranked teams

Weather delays ND's arrival to tournament

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Notre Dame head coach Jay Louderback has a routine that he expects his team to follow before tournaments. Usually, he will stress the squad's mistakes from previous matches and focus on hitting to prepare for the contest.

This time around, however, Mother Nature wasn't cooperating with his program.

En route to the ITA National Women's Team Indoor Championship in Madison, Wis., the Irish faced some inclement weather. Unable to continue to Madison, they were forced to stay the night at a motel between South Bend and Madison.

"We're stuck in the middle of Wisconsin," Louderback said.

"We were lucky to get a room actually. There was a pretty bad traffic accident, and with all the snow, we decided to call it a night, and head over there tomorrow morning."

Fortunately for the Irish, they aren't scheduled to play No. 6 Georgia in the first round of the tournament until 4:30 p.m. today at the Nielsen Stadium in Madison.

A total of 16 teams await Georgia, including No. 1 Stanford, No. 2 UCLA, No. 3 Northwestern, No. 4 and defending champions Georgia Tech, as well as No. 7 California.

Coach Louderback believes the tournament is an excellent way for his team to gain experience playing some of the best competition in the nation.

"We're guaranteed at least three matches this weekend," Louderback said. "And when you play some of the best teams in the nation, you're going to have some great games and experiences."

Notre Dame is looking to build