Junior, sophomore presidential ticket win runoff election with over 65 percent of Thursday vote

By JOSEPH MCMAHON

Junior class president Reish and sophomore class president Schmidt received over 2,000 votes, 65.06 percent of the total 3,569 votes cast.

"We're glad to see that the student body's support was behind us, and we're excited to take over office and experience and our leadership styles. I don't know if we would have done anything differently because we really worked on for a while," Reish said. Current student body vice president Braun and Sorin senator Chamberlain received 28.94 percent of the total. Their ticket forced a runoff election after Monday's primary when Reish and Schmidt won 48.43 percent of the total.

"To speak frankly, we gave it our all and did everything that we thought we could do," Braun said. "We had a lot of faith in our platform and a lot of faith in our experience and our leadership styles. I don't know if we would have done anything differently because we really worked on for a while," Reish said. Current student body vice president Braun and Sorin senator Chamberlain received 28.94 percent of the total. Their ticket forced a runoff election after Monday's primary when Reish and Schmidt won 48.43 percent of the total.

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**INSIDE COLUMN**

**A St. Patrick's suggestion**

Valentine’s Day — the day of same-sex siters in the dining hall, girls receiving chocolates and flowers and happy couples strolling hand in hand as they circle the lakes at Notre Dame or cross the bridge at Lake Marion at Saint Mary’s — is over. 

Thankfully, now we have all the time in the world to focus on the next religious and commercial holiday that will be celebrated on campus. And celebrate we will.

Bring on St. Patrick’s Day. This year marks the first year that the holiday does not fall during the time allotted by the University for spring break since 2005. Originally, this year’s spring break was not scheduled for March 1-9, but the University changed the dates because they were in conflict with Holy Week and the Easter holiday.

Therefore, students will be able to celebrate the traditionally Irish holiday with their fellow Irish faithful at both Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s. Now, this inside column is not going to turn into the place and ways you can celebrate that one day, but rather, I am here to let you know of the incredible idea that our Irish brethren have adopted for this year, and every year only, of celebrating for TWO days.

The Irish Bishops announced in July of 2007 — see how late I am in letting you all know about this opportunity! — that because March 17 is the second day of Holy Week, the most holy week in the Catholic calendar, they are shifting religious celebrations for St. Patrick’s Day to March 15. If you can do quick math in your head I know that you are already smiling. If you can’t and had to check your cell phone calendar like I did, let me save you the trouble.

The Irish Bishops have moved St. Patrick’s Day to March 15 — Saturday, March 15.

The Council of Bishops in the United States have not made a similar declaration of shifting the feast day to the previous Saturday, and I’m not sure if they are planning on doing so. Therefore I don’t think that we should exclusively celebrate St. Patrick’s Day on March 15.

Instead, I propose that we students spend two days celebrating the patron saint of Ireland who introduced the concept of the Trinity to the Irish people using the three leaves of a clover in whatever way you deem fitting.

Whether you plan to wear a bit of green, speak with an Irish lilt to your accent, or attend a St. Patrick’s Day parade or partake in some green beverages, I hope that you enjoy yourselves on the upcoming holiday.

Aftnrall, who is more entitled to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day than those who call themselves the Fighting Irish.

**THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THE INSIDE COLUMN ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHOR AND NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE OBSERVER.**

**Contact Liz Harter at eharter1@stmarys.edu**

**CORRECTIONS**

Due to a production error, student holy water president Maria Braun’s name appeared as Maria Brown in a photo caption on Thursday, Feb. 14 issue of The Observer. The Observer regrets the error.

**QUESTION OF THE DAY: ARE YOU GOING TO THE SPICE GIRLS’ CONCERT IN CHICAGO TOMORROW NIGHT?**

Brittnn Mawby
fresman
Walsh

"They asked me to go, but I already have plans." 

Christina Karam
sophomore
McGlin

"I think it would be fun to rock out to some fourth grade classics." 

Teddy Schaefer
fresman
Fisher

"Hell yes! I ‘wanne to be their lover." 

Claire Kleinman
fresman
Lyons

"I would, but my mini-skirt and platform shoes are at the cleaners." 

Lauren Kopsky
junior
Farley

"Do you have an extra ticket?"

Sophomore Matt Hopke leaves Irish Gardens with a bouquet of flowers for his girlfriend on Valentine’s Day. Irish Gardens is the florist’s shop located in the basement of LaFortune. Shockingly, it was busy throughout the day there.

**IN BRIEF**

Ken Hackett, president of Catholic Relief Services, will lead a roundtable discussion about the accomplishments of the Millennium Challenge Corporation and its plans for the future, especially in Africa, today at 10:30 a.m. in C-103 in the Hesburgh Center.

There will be Stations of the Cross tonight at 7:15 in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Stations will be held each Friday during Lent.

The Notre Dame women’s lacrosse team will play Canisius tonight at 5 in the Loftus Center. Admission is free.

The Black Cultural Arts Council is hosting its annual Black Coffeehouse tonight at 7 in the LaFortune Ballroom. Tickets cost $6.

The Pasquerilla East Music Company (PEMC) will perform “Kiss Me, Kate” tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Student tickets are $6.

Pasquerilla West is showing the movie ‘A Time to Kill’ (1996) Monday at 9 p.m. in the dome party lounge in honor of Black History Month. Admission is free and marks will be provided.

The Notre Dame Jazz Band, Symphonic Winds — Winds and Symphonic Band will play a concert for Junior Parents Weekend Saturday at 2 p.m. in Leighton Concert Hall. Tickets are $10 for general admission, $8 for faculty/staff, $5 for seniors, and $3 for students.

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

**WEATHER**

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2008 

**TODAY**

SMC sophomores host events for parents’ weekend

By SARAH MAYER
News Writer

While most Saint Mary’s students had the all-school Leadership Conference to break the monotony of winter, the sophomore class has an additional activity to keep things interesting.

"It’s important to have a parent’s weekend because it’s nice to be able to show your parent’s what your life is like at school," said Camille Gebert, sophomore class president.

The first planned event is a meet and greet with professors and students. Parents will be able to purchase t-shirts and visit the bookstore, where they can see where your environment is.

The first planned event is a meet and greet with professors taking place this afternoon. Parents will be able to purchase t-shirts and visit the bookstore, while they meet professors and listen to a performance from Saint Mary’s a cappella group, Bellacappella.

"We have a lot of hard work, but it will definitely be a fun weekend," Gebert said.

About 200 parents will come to campus this weekend, Gebert said.

Sophomore Parents’ Weekend, which starts today and lasts through Sunday, has planned the weekend for about two months and some of the events have been booked for a year, sophomore class president Camille Gebert said.

"It has been a lot of hard work, but it will definitely be a fun weekend," Gebert said.

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There will be a few scheduled events, Gebert said, but she didn’t want parents and students to run from place to place.

"It’s important to have a parent’s weekend because it’s nice to be able to show your parent’s what your life is like at school," she said. "It’s nice to share a weekend of events with your parents and to see your school to them. They get to see where your environment is.

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"It’s important to have a parent’s weekend because it’s nice to be able to show your parent’s what your life is like at school," said Camille Gebert, sophomore class president.

The dinner will include a silent auction and a raffle for baskets made by the sophomore board, parents and friends of the College.

The weekend is about strengthening the relationships of Saint Mary’s sophomore’s and their parents, Gebert said.

"I hope that this weekend brings a sense of unity and bonding between the daughters and their parents," Gebert said. "As we are growing up fast, and maturing into women, it’s important that our parents be witnesses to this growth.”

Sophomore Kate Ortigara is excited for her parents to see the campus.

"I hope my parents get a better sense of my lifestyle here and see the Saint Mary’s atmosphere,” Ortigara said.

Contact Sarah Mayer at smayer01@saintmarys.edu

BCAC ready to host ‘Black Coffee House’

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

Students will gather to appreciate the power of words at tonight’s Black Coffee House, hosted by the Black Cultural Arts Council (BCAC) in the LaFortune Ballroom.

"It’s a talent show of sorts, more focused on spoken words, poetry, song and dance," said Tristan VanVoorhis, president of the BCAC.

The show’s theme this year is “Freedom of Expression.” It will "celebrate the power of words," according to the BCAC website and will take place at 7 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom and will run for two hours, VanVoorhis said.

Attendees can expect a show similar to those in the past. Traditionally, it will be the same sort of show, same type of acts," VanVoorhis said.

Individual students as well as student groups, including Voices of Faith Gospel Choir, will perform at the event, VanVoorhis said. He also said dance acts are more oriented to interpretive dance style.

About 40 to 50 students will perform in 13 different acts, VanVoorhis said.

In order to be part of the show, expectations around 200 people to view the event. He said the Coffee House is a unique way for students to express themselves.

"The Black Coffee House recognizes different students and their talents here on campus," VanVoorhis said. "[Students] may not have another outlet to share their talents with the community. We have the Coffee House as a venue for them to perform.”

Tickets cost $6 for general admission, and beverages and light refreshments will be served.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscol@nd.edu

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Lecture

continued from page 1

the reason why it is seen as oppressive to women, but many women wore the burka anyway.

When they remove the burka it is a sign of new political order, not women's liberation. The real oppression was the women's struggle for educational and economic opportunities, which were also banned by the Taliban, Stankioui said.

"We believe that liberation comes from within. It is not passively received," Stankioui said.

There has been a recent resurgence of hijab in the Muslim world. Women are making the informed choice to wear it. They see it as a sign of piety and also it gives them liberation from a proscription with beauty, Stankioui said.

The burka is also an important tool for Muslim women because it gives them anonymity and safety, she said.

The ISLU will continue today with workshops in the morning and will conclude with the keynote speech by Dr. Johnetta Cole, the first female president of Spelman College, at 12:30 p.m. in the Little Theater.

Contact Nikki Taylor
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Reish

continued from page 1

Once they take office, Reish and Schmidt say they will immediately begin to implement their platform, as well as accept student feedback.

"Buy one we want to start connecting more to the student body," Reish said.

"Gather our team and staff together and day one start with our initiatives and also connect to our student body to see what initiatives they want to see done," Schmidt said.

One of those initiatives they hope to accomplish soon is making DVD rentals in the Juddle free. But the pair also hopes that, over their year in office, they can significantly improve the overall life of the student body.

"All of our ideas are researched and most of them can be implemented pretty quickly. I think the free DVDs is going to happen quickly," Schmidt said. "Now that it's all said and done, I hope students realize that we truly do want to make a difference.

After learning of their defeat, Braun and Chamberlain gave a lot of credit to their opponents for the strong campaign they ran.

"I hope and Schmidt definitely ran a great campaign," Chamberlain said. "We just focused on running our campaign throughout the process. The student body made their choice, and looking back on it, even before we knew the final result, I think the student body is going to be in pretty good shape.

After Monday's election, the pair realized that they needed to change their strategy. "What we did is look at our platform and looked at areas of weakness and prepared for the debate on Wednesday," Braun said.

"By no means did we resign ourselves to the fact that it was over. We did realize that there were better ways to handle it. Hopefully we demonstrated that," Reish and Schmidt's victory also marked a change in a trend in student government dating back through the past four administrations in which either the student body president or the executive assistant to the president had won the top office the following year.

When asked how he felt about being the person to finally break this trend, Reish responded he thinks the student body needed a fresh perspective and hopes to be part of the team that will accomplish that.

Braun said she knew her current position as student body vice president did not guarantee her victory in this year's election.

"We came in here approaching the campaign with the sense that nothing is guaranteed," she said.

"The fact that it didn't work out for us proves that legacy is not the end-all-be-all. That's probably the way it should be. In this case I'm a firm believer in the idea that things have a way of working themselves out, and it's for the best of the student body.

Both Braun and Chamberlain said they do not know what they plan to do next, although Chamberlain said that right now he is just focused on getting through Junior Parental Weekend.

"I think when that God closes one door he opens a new window, and what that is, I don't know yet, but I'm excited to find out," Braun said.

Contact Joseph McMahon
jmcmahon@nd.edu

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Clinton's black supporters waver

"You've got to represent the wishes of your constituency," says deflecting superdelegate

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a fresh sign of trouble for Barack Obama, a former top aide to Hillary Rodham Clinton, one of the former first lady's most vocal and popular supporters intends to vote for Republican John McCain. "We will attend the convention," said Christine Samuels, a veteran of Clinton's 2000 and 2004 campaigns, "but it will be the first of its kind — we will be undertaking because of the potential that people around the country could otherwise harm to our party and the nation." Romney endorsed Obama in 2008.

Washington Post

Bush orders Navy to down satellite

WASHINGTON — President Bush has ordered the Pentagon to use a Navy missile to attempt to destroy a broken U.S. spy satellite — and thereby minimize the risk to humans from its toxic fuel — by intercepting it just before it re-enters the atmosphere, officials said Thursday. "The effort is the first of its kind," said McCain, referring to his earlier ranks. "We know it was a hard campaign and now we move forward, we move together for the good of our party and the nation." The move is the latest in an election period which has seen the Interior Ministry, run by hard-liners—close to President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, disqualify more than 2,000 prospective candidates — most of them reform-minded. About 280 of those candidates were reinstated Tuesday at the Supreme Council, which has a hard-line constitutional watchdog. But reformists who stuck in Ohio and Wisconsin said the choice was insufficient to ensure a fair election.

Associated Press

New study suggests cancer, obesity link

LONDON — Being obese or even overweight may increase a person's risk of developing up to a dozen different types of cancer, European researchers report in a new study. "To make the link between cause and effect, we need to lick several boxes," said Dr. Andrew Renihan, the study's lead author and senior lecturer at the School of Cancer Studies at the University of Manchester. "This study begins to lick the first two or three boxes, but more research is needed to confirm it." The researchers compiled data from 141 studies and considered more than 280,000 cases from North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia. The subjects, both overweight and normal weight, were followed for about nine to 15 years, with researchers tracking their body mass index, or BMI — a calculation based on weight and height — and correlating it with incidents of cancer. In men, an average weight gain of 33 pounds increased the risk of esophageal cancer by 52 percent, thyroid cancer by 33 percent, and colon and kidney cancers each by 24 percent, the research found. Washington "if we help them complete their work on this critical bill." An Capitol Hill, House Republicans stormed out of the House chamber to boycott a vote to hold too presidential candidates in contempt for failing to cooperate with an inquiry into whether federal prosecutors were cited for political reasons.
The Vagina Monologues provide a safe place for women to give a voice to their experiences — both positive and negative — but always empowering. "The most important difference is that the SMC Monologues has a very local focus — these are the stories of Saint Mary's — the voices of Saint Mary's. The Vagina Monologues is a great play; however, we feel that the SMC Monologues is a better fit for Saint Mary's as they reflect the stories of our women." The Monologues have been successful over the past few years, attracting more than 300 people last year, Faunce said.

Associate professor of psychology Catherine Pittman, and faculty advisor to the Monologues, recognizes that what sets the SMC Monologues apart from the Vagina Monologues is its local focus.

"The Monologues follow the same tradition of Ensler's, allowing a variety of women's voices to be heard," she said. "The difference here is that all of the stories, all of the experiences, are those of members of the Saint Mary's Community. The stories have happened in a place that we are familiar with and in the lives of those people who we may know. There are our stories, reflecting our experiences.'"

Saint Mary's first pioneered the idea of writing their own monologues four years ago to characterize the unheard voices of the community, Pittman said.

"This reflects the comfort and competency with writing that characterizes our campus," this year, USJB is following Saint Mary's model as it debuts the first-annual Michiana Monologues.

"We are excited to see this idea catch on," Pittman said. Pittman recognizes the importance of the Monologues to create a venue for discussion and a place to further the College's mission.

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"Our administration would not prevent students from performing the Vagina Monologues, because we feel that they are more relevant and meaningful to our community, and even though it takes more effort to write, review, and select monologues, we feel it is worth the effort." Faunce echoed her sentiments, noting that the Monologues are a critical opportunity to both unite the College and voice the unheard.

"Women's voices should not and cannot be silenced. We need to use each change to recognize and celebrate our experiences as women," she said. "If our experiences are played down and neglected, we cannot move forward." The dates of the performance coincide with V-Day, Feb. 14, to further cement the message of empowering women and hearing their stories, Pittman said.

"We are following the tradition of V-Day, choosing a similar time," she said. "Also, in the same tradition, we will be giving all the proceeds to a rape crisis center in South Bend." There is a $3 suggested donation to S.O.S., which is the only sexual assault crisis hotline in St. Joseph County.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohler1@saintmarys.edu

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**Friday, February 15, 2008**

**FRIYDAY FEBRUARY 15 at 4 pm ROOM 330 COLEMAN MORSE**

**Paolo Mancinelli** from Rome, Italy, will speak about the history and work of the Community

**A COMMUNITY OF SANT'Egidio PRAYER FOR AFRICA WILL FOLLOW AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE COLEMAN MORSE CHAPEL**

The Community of Sant'Egidio, begun in Rome in 1968, is a Catholic Lay Association, a movement of lay people dedicated to prayer, charity, and living the Gospel message. Today there are over 60,000 members in more than 70 countries. In 2001 the Community of Sant'Egidio received the Notre Dame International Award for its work in international peace negotiations and service to the poor around the world.

The Notre Dame Community prays on Wednesdays at 6:30 P.M. at the Notre Dame LOG CHAPEL and on Thursdays at 6:30 P.M. at S. ASSISTANT'S CHURCH. Our service to the elderly is at CARDINAL NAGLE HOME on SUNDAY at 7:00 P.M.

For more information contact Richard Lasalvia@sbcglobal.net or Michael Driessen at mdriessen@nd.edu

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**The Improvised Shakespeare Co.**

**"A Two-act improvised comedy in the style of William Shakespeare could go wrong in so many ways." —Andrew Shimmon**

"These three showed up on their 'third & none other! You never performed like...'

"It was one of the funniest, most amazing things I have ever seen!" —The Charleston City Paper

"They turned up on their 'Third & None Other! You never performed like...'

"It was one of the funniest, most amazing things I have ever seen!" —The Charleston City Paper

"They turned up on their 'Third & None Other! You never performed like...'

"It was one of the funniest, most amazing things I have ever seen!" —The Charleston City Paper

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**SMC continued from page 1**

ences of sexuality, relationships, among many other elements that shaped their lives," she said. "The Vagina Monologues provide a safe place for women to give a voice to these experiences — both positive and negative — but always empowering. "The most important difference is that the SMC Monologues has a very local focus — these are the stories of Saint Mary's — the voices of Saint Mary's. The Vagina Monologues is a great play; however, we feel that the SMC Monologues is a better fit for Saint Mary's as they reflect the stories of our women." The Monologues have been successful over the past few years, attracting more than 300 people last year, Faunce said.

Associate professor of psychology Catherine Pittman, and faculty advisor to the Monologues, recognizes that what sets the SMC Monologues apart from the Vagina Monologues is its local focus.

"The Monologues follow the same tradition of Ensler's, allowing a variety of women's voices to be heard," she said. "The difference here is that all of the stories, all of the experiences, are those of members of the Saint Mary's Community. The stories have happened in a place that we are familiar with and in the lives of those people who we may know. These are our stories, reflecting our experiences.'"

Saint Mary's first pioneered the idea of writing their own monologues four years ago to characterize the unheard voices of the community, Pittman said.

"This reflects the comfort and competency with writing that characterizes our campus," this year, USJB is following Saint Mary's model as it debuts the first-annual Michiana Monologues.

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Contact Katie Kohler at kkohler1@saintmarys.edu
FEMA trailers fail safety tests
Agency to rush Katrina victims out of 35,000 units and into temporary housing

BElOW THE OBSERVERS
page 7

MARKET RECAP

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IN BRIEF

Bernanke calls economy "sluggish"

NEW YORK — Wall Street retracted Thursday after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke predicted a sluggish recovery until later in the year and more mortgage-related losses at banks. The Dow Jones industrials fell 175 points.

Though the Fed chairman's comments suggested the central bank is still open to further interest rate reductions, the tone was, as expected, somber. Bernanke said the housing and credit crises have weighed on the economy and curbed hiring. If the job market deteriorates, consumer spending, which is crucial to a sustainable recovery, will only worsen.

The Labor Department said Thursday the number of workers on nonfarm payrolls in December fell 9,000 to 348,000 last week. But after the January jobs report that showed the first net jobs loss in more than four years, Wall Street remains worried that businesses are becoming cautious about hiring and that unemployment will compound the debt problems that have been slamming the markets and the greater economy.

After three strong days on Wall Street, investors found scant encouragement in Bernanke's testimony and cashed in their gains.

Swiss develop underwater convertible

GENEVA — OK, so the Swiss have invented a car that runs on land and underwater. But do they REALLY have to make it a convertible?

It's called the "Ocean" and is the brainchild of James Bond-inspired Lotus Esprit from "The Spy Who Loved Me." That fictional vehicle traveled on land, and when chased it had a geyser in a helicopter, plunged into the water and became an airlift submarine — complete with "surfpegs" and "deph charges."

But "Q" isn't responsible for this one. BMW is designing the car — which is codenamed "s"-armed — was developed by Swiss designer Hiplisped Inc. and is set to make a splash at the Geneva Auto Show next month. Company CEO Frank Rinderknecht, a self-proclaimed "fan of James Bond," said he has been working 20 years to recreate the car he saw Roger Moore use to drive off of a dock.

Export growth shrinks trade deficit

WASHINGTON — Despite a soaring foreign oil bill and another record deficit with China, the overall U.S. trade deficit declined in 2007 after setting two new annual records.

The Commerce Department reported Thursday that the deficit dropped to $711.3 billion last year, a decline of 6.2 percent. The trade deficit with China continued to rise, growing to $263.7 billion, that was the largest gap ever recorded with a single country. Chinese imports surged despite a string of high-profile recalls of tainted products.

The Bush administration credited its free trade policies for spurring strong growth in exports. But economists contended that even with the lower overall deficit, the imbalance is still nearly double what it was in 2001, the year Bush took office.

For December, the deficit fell by 6.9 percent to $58.8 billion, a bigger-than-expected improvement to close out the year.

Analysts said the decline in the dollar over the past two years has helped spur strong increases in U.S. exports, with American goods now cheaper and thus more competitive in many overseas markets.

Trade deficit with China got the most attention. It continues to rise, growing to $263.7 billion, that was the largest gap ever recorded with a single country. Chinese imports surged despite a string of high-profile recalls of tainted products.

The Bush administration credited its free trade policies for spurring strong growth in exports. But economists contended that even with the lower overall deficit, the imbalance is still nearly double what it was in 2001, the year Bush took office.

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Students

continued from page 1

more common.

"Unfortunately, this is kind of becoming an occurrence on college campuses across the nation. Hopefully, this trend will stop," she said.

Brown also expressed a sense of grief at the NIU tragedy.

"This is a hard thing to react to," she said. "This sort of thing has become all too common at schools in the United States."

Senior Meghan Jebb, who was studying in Dublin at the time of the Virginia Tech tragedy, questioned the universality of school shootings.

"I don't know if this kind of thing happens in other countries. After the Va. Tech shootings, the kids in Ireland were like, 'why do they have guns?'" she said.

Colleen Fleshman, who is from Illinois, said that her first reaction after hearing the news was to call her friends who attend NIU to make sure of their safety.

She said she was relieved to find that all her friends were alright.

Although the shooter’s motivations are not yet known, some students have wondered about the timing of his attack.

"He probably picked Valentine’s Day for a reason," junior Ryan Simmons said.

Sophomore Kyle Hagelskamp agreed.

"It's too bad that people don't feel the love and support of the world and resort to doing something like this," he said. "We need to work on providing a loving and supportive environment to try to prevent this sort of tragedy."

Brown stressed that while she obviously hopes that no similar situation would happen at Notre Dame, the University has precautions in place designed to manage a tragedy.

"Certainly we hope it would never happen at Notre Dame," she said. "We think our campus is very safe. But if it were to ever happen, I'm thankful that we do have the correct measures in place to adequately inform the student body and react quickly."

These measures include the Emergency Networking System that will alert students to any emergency situations through text messages, phone calls and emails. These emergency situations include shootings.

Contact John Tierney at tierney.16@nd.edu
5 killed, 16 injured in university shooting
Gunman dressed in black opened fire in Northern Illinois lecture hall with shotgun, handguns; four died on scene Thursday, killing five students and turning suicide, authorities said.

A rapid-fire 5 killed, 16 injured in university shooting Friday, February 15, 2008.

The ceremony is the most for graduate student in sociology, to for all juniors and their parents. Following the ceremony is the most for the reasoning behind the lecture hall when the shootings happened. He could hear the chaos a few feet above his head. "The shotgun blast must have been so loud," said Gentile, a 27-year-old media studies instructor. "It sounded like something was dropping down the stairs... We had no idea what was happening then."

Then, shorter, sharper noises replaced the loud boom. "I thought it was gunshots. There was a pretty quick succession... just pow, pow, pow," said Gentile, who didn't leave his office for about 90 minutes. He used a surveillance camera just outside his office to confirm that the people knocking on his door were police.

George Gaynor, a senior geogra­phy student, was in Cole Hall when the shooting happened, told the student newspaper the Northern Star that the shooter was "a skinny white guy with a stocking cap on." He said, "The study-abroad pro­grams have grown in popularity at Notre Dame, especially over the last fifteen years or so, impacting JPW somewhat, but the weekend still draws a major percentage of the class each year." The weekend will conclude with a Sunday brunch in the Joyce Center. Many students study abroad during the spring semester of their junior year and, therefore, cannot participate in JPW. The committee has created a way for the parents of these students to experience the Notre Dame community by opening the event to seniors who studied abroad in the spring of 2007. Approximately 50 seniors and their parents will participate in JPW. Senior architecture majors, who are all abroad during their junior year, host their own par­ents' weekend every spring. The program, called Expo Roma, showcases all of the seniors' work from their previous year in Rome. The students decorate the lobby of Bond Hall to look like Rome, fly in a professor from Rome as a guest speaker and present a slide show of their time abroad to their parents.

"It really liked [Expo Roma] last year because it was a really personalized Junior Parents' Weekend for us archies," Caitlin Shanon, a fifth-year architec­ture major said. "It's a weekend organized by us, and it's all about our experiences in Rome, our junior year. It's a very personal way to show our experi­ence at Notre Dame to our par­ents."

The University's juniors are looking forward to this weekend with anticipation. For Miller, she sees it as a chance for her parents to be able to understand her life at Notre Dame.

"With my parents coming here, a lot of stories will be shared between my family and my friends and their families," Miller said. "Having these mem­ories will add to the reminder to why we love this place so much." Contact Ellyn Michaelis at emichaelis@nd.edu

Attention First-Year MBA's

Would you like to earn an $18,000 fellowship for your second year?

The William G. McGowan Charitable Fund has just awarded the MBA Program a grant that covers $18,000 for the second year for an MBA student!

Applicants must comply with the following criteria:

- Must currently be enrolled full-time in the first year of the MBA Program
- Must currently have at least a 3.0 GPA
- Must submit a 500-1000 word essay on the contributions of William G. McGowan, founder and Chairman of MCI, to today's business world in general or to the telecommunications field in particular
- Must submit one letter of recommendation from a faculty member
- Must exhibit attributes such as scholarship, talent, leadership qualities, character and community involvement

All First-Year MBA's are eligible, excluding those that are already receiving a full tuition scholarship.

Deadline: Applications are due to Rachel Gerkey in the MBA Office by Thursday, March 20, 2008.

The winner will be announced in early May
Contact information: Gerkey 2@nd.edu

JPW continued from page 1

ings similar to those in her class. "I am really excited about having my parents come to experience what my life is like here," Miller said. "They will be able to see where my friends come from by examining their parents and be able to understand what makes Notre Dame so special to me.

The weekend's events will commence tonight with an opening reception at the Joyce Center for all juniors and their parents. The program will be the for­mal event of the weekend and is a chance for the students and their families to become acquainted with one another over appetizers, dessert and dancing.

The JPW on Monday morning's events are designed to be more specific to each individual student. Juniors will begin the morning participat­ing in a college specific "col­legiate workshop" in order to offer their parents insight into their academic life at Notre Dame. For lunch, the families will return to the students' resi­dence hall to socialize with friends and families of the other residents.

Following Saturday's luncheon is the JPW mass, beginning at 5:30. University president Father John Jenkins, will preside. Saturday's events will con­clude with the president's Dinner at Father's Paradise Where Father Jenkins and junior class president Bob Reish will speak in addition to live entertainment.

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Please recycle The Newspaper

Friday, February 15, 2008
The Observer • NEWS
Page 9
Letter to the Editor

Batman's superiority evident

The Batman vs. Superman debate is the hottest thing to hit The Observer since the Batman/Robin debates. And I commend The Observer for scrutinizing a plot in their series for “Hottest things to hit the Observer”.

The much-pandemonized Superman is a platitude in every way. As we were watching him being vaporized in the series, Superman’s superiority was never explicitly defined. However, one easily discerns that Superman is a superhero with every advantage – like being invulnerable to heat, being able to fly, having superhuman strength and speed, and a preternaturally strong moral compass.

As for Batman, the character himself has a superior essence. He is a classic example of the ‘outlaw hero’. He aspires to the ‘good’ values, but he has a superior and rebellious nature which defines his character.

Moreover, where does Batman shop for his kryptonite ring? Not in Gotham, but in Hong Kong. I am sure that Miss牙了解一下 can find a kryptonite ring in Hong Kong.

The Batman vs. Superman debate is just another angle of the debate about a superior hero. What does it mean to be a superior hero? One who has the essence of being a hero, or one who simply has a superior power? Is it simply a matter of power? Superman is a much superior hero, but Batman has his own unique ways.

In conclusion, Batman is a superior hero, not only because of his superior powers, but also because of his essence. He is a hero who fights for the common man, and his superior essence makes him a more superior hero than Superman.

Sincerely,

John Doe

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Observer Poll

How long will the Notre Dame Men's basketball season last? 

Vote Percentage

Intact through season 344 - 79%

Pittsburgh (Feb. 21) - 75%

Syracuse (Feb. 24) - 10%

St. John's (Mar 5) - 4%

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Quote of the Day

“If you hate a person, you hate something in that person which isn’t part of yourself. What isn’t part of ourselves doesn’t disturb us.”

Hermann Hesse

German author
A tribute to our tainted water supply

Before I begin, I would like to thank my parents for reading this JPW weekend. I wish I could thank my other parents for reading during this workweek.

A couple of weeks ago (before I contracted the black plague and was quarantined to my room), I was over at The Rock doing some lifting when I realized that I had forgotten to bring bottled water with me. My choice: Risk my life from the possibly contaminated drinking fountain outside the second floor gymnasium, or simply go without water. While my mouth was desperate for some liquidy goodness, I attempted to persevere. I could not go without a swig, however, and I was forced to drink from the ancient spouts on floor two. Even though I can't assume that the killers I got after can't have gotten back to my unsafe workout hydration practices, I think my subjugation could have given me the willpower and strength to simply follow the example of one Easter Heathman.

Last month, Easter Heathman passed away in the weeks that followed his diagnosis. I remember describing how he was one of the first people I met on campus (one of the classiest head coaches I have ever seen). Best of all, the excellence of our team and our coach has inspired remarkable athletic efforts from the national audience through ESPN. There's been only one dome in the world.

The Leprechaun Legion has also had many opportunities to display its spirit. However, I've noticed that the cameras love to watch us during these games. There's been only one picture of The Rock, just as there's only one rock to honor the memory of Coach Rockne. As a coach who undoubtedly cared about fitness, I'm certain his teams were a hard-working, intelligent, naysay group of men that were feared by teams across the country far cry from our current roster of athletes undoubtedly went through tough practices as well. They probably took many water breaks from the best sources that north-central Indiana has to offer.

There's been only one great coach to honor us with such a downdroop facility. Knute Rockne was a coach who undoubtedly cared about fitness. I'm certain his teams were a hard-working, intelligent, naysay group of men that were feared by teams across the country far cry from our current roster of athletes undoubtedly went through tough practices as well. They probably took many water breaks from the best sources that north-central Indiana has to offer.

Are we really honoring him with this workout facility where students are afraid to contract diseases from the water? I don't know if my recent plight with a flu-like virus is a direct cause of drinking Rockne-water, but it certainly would not shock me if the water in the facility is brought through lead pipes to get to the students who are counting on it. I could be wrong, but I even think one of the campus professional tickets runs on a closer source. I suggest, if you hope they won because we all know the student body president has enough power to get this done.

Anyways, what we really ought to do to raise awareness about our situation is bring in a celebrity who has experience cleaning up water. I'm thinking we could get Erin Brockovich herself. She sure knows enough about cleaning tainted water. It's almost a gift to our great coach that we honor him with such a downdroop facility.

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Monologues ineffective

Dear Notre Dame Students,

As an alumna from Our Lady's esteemed University, I have a suggestion to you: Don't limit yourself. You are some of the absolute best and brightest students that America has to offer. I have spent countless hours analyzing Notre Dame's academic freedom debates throughout the years, especially with regard to the Vagina Monologues.

I have to admit that I was pretty ignorant regarding the Monologues back in 2002, so in 2005 I started to read them. The first line of the Monologues is: “If You’ve Got It, Use It.” I have been able to watch almost every skit. Not only is this play inappropriate for Notre Dame, its performances are not suitable for any university.

Religion really has nothing to do with it. The play is vulgar, tasteless and destroys the spirit of womanhood. My question to so many universities is, “why do so many believe the Monologues are the answer to end violence against women?” I do not see it as an answer but as an additional problem!

We will not end violence against women until we appreciate woman's physical, emotional, mental and spiritually.

I am trying to be as open-minded as possible, but I cannot appreciate the Monologues and I do not think Notre Dame students could ever achieve this task. Wake up Notre Dame and use the gifts God has given you. Stand up for women and women's rights.

There are countless ways to cooperatively work together as a university to end violence against women.

The Vagina Monologues, which are unnecessarily antithetical to the college scene, do not allow the University to work together to fight this battle. The Vagina Monologues turn a majority of students and alums due to its unreflective graphic nature and inappropriate language and actions. Let's work together.

There's still a way to make sense of this issue. We are all aware of the need for education with regard to the Vagina Monologues. This is where the Vagina Monologues could be of service. The Vagina Monologues could be a way to help students to think of these ways of thinking. Don't ever sell yourself short!

The Vagina Monologues have been very successful, and by the way, those students who are not so hard to think of ways to think of these Monologues are not the only ones that I think of. There are many other creative ideas for the Vagina Monologues. One is to use it to raise awareness about the problems with violence against women.

A play presents an opportunity to reach a much larger audience than most other forms of entertainment. Monologues are a perfect example of this. There are many different ways to reach this audience. For example, the Vagina Monologues could be used to raise awareness about the problems with violence against women.

Women's empowerment not expressed in Monologues

The last time I checked, rape and child molestation were not women's empowerment issues. They were considered violent crimes against women. The central message of the show is that "great sex is possible between people who have absolutely no emotional commitment to each other." The play's message is that sex is possible between people who have absolutely no emotional commitment to each other.

The final play is that it has censored and glorified rape, child molestation, pornography and prostitution. The play's message is that sex is possible between people who have absolutely no emotional commitment to each other.

In a world where feminists and all those who fight for the rights of women and women's rights are so important, it is surprising that the Vagina Monologues are not used to better effect. The Vagina Monologues are not used to better effect.

I hope some sort of agreement can be reached by discussing this and I hope people participate in this discussion. Nothing sends a more powerful message about us than what happened.

Jeff Eyrman
O'Neill Hall
Jan. 24, 2001

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Jeff Eyrman
O'Neill Hall
Jan. 24, 2001
For his FTT Honors Thesis project, senior Nate Grams began working on something new and mix things up — literally.

In writing and directing "The Flight," he convened the texts of Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll House" and Kinoshita Junji's "The Twilight Cranes," creating an original work that is an amalgamation of both plays.

The two plays make for an interesting marriage, which Grams found interesting that "The Flight" follows two couples and deals with the issue of the sacrificial woman often-times implicit in Ibsen and Kinoshita's works. "My inspiration for creating this project was the opportunity to do something completely original," he said. "I started with research into playwriting, into Suzuki Method, into the Japanese Theatre styles, scholarship on the works, everything. And from all this, I've created a synthesis that I can actually call my own, and that feels really cool."

Some might say taking on such an ambitious enterprise is for the birds, and Grams might agree, but for a different reason — he titled his play "The Flight" because it employs the image of women as birds. "Birds are these beautiful creatures with the power of flight, but the act of keeping one represents a tremendous loss of freedom," he said.

In writing the play, Grams said he cut the plays in what he calls "dialogic manner," where the narrative goes back and forth between one world and the other until the final scene, where the story arcs overlap completely.

By his estimation, Grams said he took about half of the lines in "The Flight" from the two texts, with the remainder coming from his own hand. In addition to writing and directing the show, Grams also does the choreography, music, set and costumes — everything, in other words, short of taking on the stage himself.

"I've gotten my chance to try a little bit of everything this show," he said. "Just about the only thing I haven't done for this show is act, which is fortunate because I have a fantastic cast, and I don't know if I could do what they do."

"The Flight" features Jennifer Beaton as Nora, Luke Cenendez as Torvald, Huyen Nguyen as Tsu, Devlin Preston as Yohyo, Tadashi Thomas as the Narrator and Kenneth Hamilton as the Drummer. His crew includes Shay Horton as Stage Manager, James Miller-Marquez as light designer and Tashi Thomas as the Narrator and Kenneth Hamilton as the Drummer.

"Everyone in this show has been so awesome to work with and truly generous with their time in helping to bring this show together," Grams said. "There's no way I could ever repay everyone, but I hope that work speaks for itself."

"The Flight" has some unique Japanese influence, which Grams says dates back to his years in high school, where he studied Japanese and traveled to Japan, which in turn introduced him to Noh and Kabuki Theater. He also said that his exposure to Suzuki Method came from one of his professors here at Notre Dame named John Sirmon.

Suzuki Method is a movement technique and acting which combines traditional forms of Japanese theatre including Noh, Kabuki and Nogaku. "Suzuki is based on the principle of forms, kind of like ballet," he said. "The biggest obstacle to this is the fact that much of Suzuki is very physically strenuous, but you must always fight to appear calm and relaxed at all times, ready to do anything, at any speed, in a moment's notice. [...]. I think it instantly creates this incredible collective pressure on stage."

Noh is a traditional, ancient form of Japanese theatre which dates back to the 1300s. Half of Grams' source material, "The Twilight Cranes" was originally written in this style.

As far as his future goes, Grams said he has already auditioned with several graduate schools for acting and is currently waiting to hear back from them. Regardless of outcome, Grams said he remains committed to his craft and is prepared to go "the starring role" route.

"If he's not accepted, then I think I plan on moving to Chicago next year and just trying to act and direct professionally," he said. "And he's good. Professionally."

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**Grams draws inspiration from Noh and Kabuki theater**

By TAE ANDREWS

Scene Editor

"Watch Me" is a one-woman show that features O'Shea utilizing the Ophelia archetype in one-woman show.

By TAE ANDREWS

Scene Editor

When senior Erin O'Shea takes the Phyllis Studio Theatre stage tonight, all eyes will be on her and only her, which is considering that "Watch Me" is a one-woman show.

In preparation for her FTT Honors Thesis Project, O'Shea spent the last year and a half conducting research into the character of Ophelia from Shakespeare's "Hamlet." To this extent, she examined paintings, read scholarly articles and listened to music inspired by the story of Ophelia, and read plays and poetry which paralleled the Ophelia story. Over the course of Shakespeare's play, Ophelia goes mad and is later found dead.

The plot of "Watch Me" traces a young woman named Sammy Union who tries to deal with a stalker through therapy. For the purposes of "Watch Me," O'Shea said she tried to adapt the Ophelia archetypal character into a modern woman in her character Sammy Union.

"Watch Me" is not a typical story, but they may share similar emotions," she said. "The Ophelia archetype, in my opinion, is one of a victim. In Hamlet, she is more of a pretty object than an actual person. The male characters display great amounts control over her. Ultimately, the various pressures and anxieties become too much.

"Granted, not all women share these circumstances," she said, "but most of us understand what it is like to feel helpless or objectified at some time. Some fill the role of victims, while some refuse to be victims and find the strength to persevere."

"Watch Me" represents O'Shea's inaugural effort at writing for the stage. "It's definitely been an interesting experience," she said. "One thing I found repeatedly was that just because something looks good in print does not ensure it will sound equally good when read aloud. I can't tell you how many times I've gone back and edited to make things more 'actable'."

Although her "all things Ophelia" approach gave inspiration into the character, O'Shea said she still suffered from writer's block, a common malady of freshmen playwrights.

"I found a lot of quality material, but I had trouble starting," O'Shea said. "I just had blocks of material."

A discussion with a professor led her to ask herself, "Who's telling the story and why?" From there, things really started to progress quickly, she said.

She also said that one of her most inspirational source materials was a book she read entitled "Reviving Pipher: A Psychiatrist, and in the book, she tells about the many experiences she has had with patients. O'Shea said, "Essentially, she tries to explain that all girls share the same, or at least similar, issues — we're all modern-day Ophelias or Thans in our own ways."

"Revising Ophelia," combined with O'Shea's discovery of a Marlene Dietrich picture, led her to think of a woman in therapy, which led to the therapy angle in her show.

"Watch Me" is O'Shea's name for her show — because she said the meaning of the name is "listener," and in "Watch Me," the character receives phone calls from her stalker daily. "I chose the last name of Union because I felt that it would be another way to symbolically show the union between my modern character and Ophelia. Since a stalker is primarily interested in watching, I felt that "Watch Me" was a fitting title."

O'Shea also said she enjoyed the challenge of acting solo on stage, although she did find rehearsals a bit lonely. "It is a totally different experience doing a one-person show than being in a cast with other actors," she said.

"However, the performances are just as exciting as they are in a typical multi-person show. One thing that I find tricky, though, is remembering what line comes next. When it's just you up there, there's no one to give you a cue."

"Watch Me" is but the latest performance on a resume which paints a picture of an actress unwilling to stay away from the stage. Prior to "Watch Me," O'Shea performed in the PEMCo Musical Revue during her sophomore and junior years in addition to taking roles in "Oregon Trail," "Family Entertainment" and "Rage for the Stage" with the St. Edward's Hall Players. Last fall, O'Shea performed "A Bright Room Called Day" and has a role in the upcoming production of "Dr. Faustus" on the DPAC. She also performed in Shakespeare in Summer Shakespeare at Notre Dame during this past summer.

"Watch Me" is the latest in a long line of plays and has a role in the upcoming production of "Dr. Faustus" on the DPAC. She also performed in Shakespeare in Summer Shakespeare at Notre Dame during this past summer.

"Whatever happens will definitely be interesting," she said, "but I trust that everything will work out for the best."

Contact Tae Andrews on tandrew1@nd.edu
By MARK WITTE  Assistant Scene Editor

There is a show running on the third floor in the back of Washington Hall that you might not know about. It’s a play about stories: dark, violent stories. It’s a play about truth, lies, torture, little green pigs, slow-motion smack-downs and vehicular beheadings. Most importantly, it’s a play that you don’t want to miss.

The St. Ed’s Players have undergone a courageous endeavor with “The Pillow Man,” which opened yesterday in Washington Hall’s Lab Theater. The play is a work by the young and famous Irish playwright, Martin McDonagh. When it first opened in London at the Royal National Theatre in November 2003, it was to wide acclaim, eventually winning the prestigious Olivier Award for “Best New Play” in 2004. It’s in these giant footsteps that the St. Ed’s Players are trying.

Director Megan O’Donoghue described the production of the play as having been a “really ambitious challenge,” partly due to the show’s venue.

Unlike a regular theater, where the audience directly faces the performers, the Lab Theater is a “Theater in the Round.” By the nature of venue places the actors in the center of a stage which is surrounded by the viewing audience. It’s tough for performers because they must constantly shift their position, so as not to have their backs facing any side of the audience for too long.

However, the Lab Theater suits this production well.

“Given the scale of this space, the show becomes a lot more intimate,” assistant director Eddie Velazquez said. “It sets the mood for the style of the show.”

The style is stunning, hilarious and horrifying, but also one that psychologically challenges the audience from start to finish.

The story is set in a totalitarian dictatorship, a place similar to East Germany before the fall of the Wall, only more painfully humorous. It follows a few hours in the life of Katurian K., Katurian (Stephen Iwanski). Katurian writes hundreds of disturbing short stories but has only managed to publish one in his career.

His parents are dead and his only remaining family member is his mentally-handicapped sister Michala (Katie Manfred), with whom he shares all the gruesome tales he writes. Katurian has a deep affinity with his stories, one that he’ll sacrifice anything to protect.

The play picks up with Katurian being interrogated by two police officers for a pair of child-murders that bear strange resemblance to matching death sequences in Katurian’s stories. One of the officers, Tupolski (Joe Edmunds), is a fast-talking detective whose chief interrogation method is to “disconcert and destabilize the prisoner with asinine nonsense.” It’s a method that works well, and he starts out by convincing Katurian that the totalitarian dictatorship is not about restrictions, but rather, about guidelines. He also claims he’s the good cop.

The bad cop, Ariel (Joe Vittoria), had a rough childhood — a fact that will get you beaten to a pulp if you bring it up — and he operates on a very short fuse, dealing Katurian beat-downs on a whim. While Tupolski tries to befuddle a confession out of Katurian, Ariel just complains, “Why don’t we just start torturing him and cut out all this ‘asinine nonsense.’”

The play takes a disturbing twist when Katurian finds out that his stories have influenced someone in a profound way. That is, a profoundly sadistic way. But I won’t spoil it for you.

O’Donoghue and Velazquez have done an incredible job with the play’s direction and the actors all spit off their lines with impeccable timing. The interactions between the two cops and Katurian are an absolute riot and constantly tread between the hilarious and the shocking.

Iwanski does an excellent job evoking our sympathy for his character’s imprisonment and feelings for his sister, while at the same time bringing out laughs with the occasional hot-headed outburst. Manfred convincingly pulls off Katurian’s mentally-damaged sister.

The show ironically opened on Valentine’s Day. You won’t find much in the form of materialistic, cutie-tootie love, but there’s no lack of beauty.

O’Donoghue said one of the reasons she felt so attracted to the script of “The Pillow Man” was because, “It’s got a grotesque story, it’s horrific, but it’s beautiful in the end.”

When you see Katurian recite the full story of the Pillowman to Michala, you’ll know why.

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu

By CHRIS McGRADY  Assistant Scene Editor

Warning: Do not operate heavy machinery while listening to this album.

Jack Johnson’s latest, “Sleep Through the Static,” is more of what we have come to expect from the island pop-rocker. It’s filled with the same syrupy sweet, slow, smooth rhythms that drip from his guitar, and fall us into a gentle and tranquil state.

This album features the same signature sound that permeates the bulk of Johnson’s work. Full of bar chords that was Caribbean and the silky-voice that is clearly meant for the beach. “Sleep Through the Static” will appeal to the average fan of the average listener.

This album sounds remarkably like his previous efforts (don’t they all?). The CD appears to be the kind you pop in for some good background music, something that doesn’t really demand your full attention. Maybe this is a good thing — but maybe it’s not?

The album lacks a signature song. There is no “Better Together” or “Banana Pancakes,” or even a “Flake” or “Bite Your Toes.” These songs are the set of songs that seemed to make up the “Fluke” in Johnson’s other efforts.

Before all you island hoppers get your coconuts in a jumble, this isn’t to say the album is bad. Actually, it’s far from bad. It’s nice — a soothing mix of love songs and island tunes.

Just don’t expect for any of these songs to be anything like the way that “Banana Pancakes” was. It’s just not going to happen. Johnson’s music is just plain forgettable. Not bad, not great — just there.

The album is a set of songs that assert themselves, albeit not impressively. If there is a “hit” on this album, it is “If I Had Eyes.” This is the sixth track on the album and has a borderline catchy piano-influenced sound. Like many songs on the album, Johnson swaps his acoustic guitar for an electric model. For this song, at least, it works.

The title song, “Sleep Through the Static” is probably the second-best effort on the album but just don’t have much going on. The song takes a political tone saying, “Who needs sleep when we’ve got love? Who needs keys when we’ve got clubs? Who needs police when we’ve got guns?” The song, however, is just not powerful enough to carry the anti-militarism message.

The song “Angel” is just in time for the season of surrounding Valentine’s Day and is a nice little acoustic ditty. This song will likely find its way onto “Love Misch” around the country, and rightfully so — Johnson seems to do his best work when writing lyrics about love.

Overall, the album is decent, but underwhelming. If only he had a few more songs that could be a big seller. It’s good — just not good for Jack Johnson. But if background music in what you are after, this album is for you.

Contact Chris McGrady at cmcgrady@nd.edu
Islanders edge Maple Leafs, stay in playoff race

Associated Press

TORONTO — After a seven-game winless slide damaged their playoff hopes, the New York Islanders are once again counting on a last-season run to get back to the post-season.

"We saw the improbable last year when we were left for dead," goalie Rick DiPietro said after the Islanders slipped past the Toronto Maple Leafs 5-4 on Thursday night. "There's still a lot of hockey left."

The Isles won their last four games of the season last year to sneak into the playoffs and are hoping to do the same with 24 games left in the regular season.

Russian Fedotenko scored two of his team's four power-play goals and the Islanders pulled within four points of the eighth seed in the Eastern Conference with 23 games to play in the regular season and have five games left before the Feb. 26 trade deadline.

"Basically, that's what's going on right now," Fedotenko said. "But we can't feel sorry for ourselves. We still have to play. You can't just give up and do nothing."

DiPietro made 27 saves for the Islanders while Vesa Toskala stopped 24 of 28 shots. "We should've won that hockey game, but we didn't play well," Stajan said. "We can't come in here and say we played as well as we could, because we didn't."

Berard opened the scoring on a power play 3:45 to go in the first period, busing into the slot and redirecting a Miroslav Satan pass past Toskala.

Fedotenko tied it 2-2 at 14:36 when he took Satan's nifty pass across the slot and slid it an inch past the goal line under Toskala.

Hurricanes 4, Penguins 2

The Carolina Hurricanes were missing three key defensemen again this season but their performance that ranks among the NHL's best. Then they discovered an method of scoring goals and made the Penguins' goal-scorers: Turn up the pressure at the other end of the ice.

Lightning 5, Flyers 3

With each road victory, the Tampa Bay Lightning are desperately trying to make a late run at a playoff berth. "It's not something we can just sit around and watch," coach Michel Therrien said. "You have to work hard to get it."

Lightning center Sidney Crosby scored for the fifth straight game, defenseman Brooks Orpik added his first goal of the season and Sabourin made 42 saves for Atlantic Division-leading Pittsburgh, which dropped its second in a row and fell to 6-2-1 in their 12 games since starter Sidney Crosby sprained his ankle.

"We're missing a lot of players and you know on the road it is eventually going to catch up with you," Pittsburgh coach Michel Therrien said. "I think the last two games have been tough. We just have to regroup."
AROUND THE NATION

Friday, February 15, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER’S WIRE SERVICES

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NCAA Men’s Hockey
USCHO.com/CSTV Division I Poll

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MLB

Roger Clemens, right, and Brian McNamme, left, swear in before a congressional hearing about McNamme’s testimony in the Mitchell Report on steroid use in baseball that implicated the former New York pitcher.

McNamee’s lawyer expects executive pardon

Associated Press

One of Brian McNamme’s lawyers predicted Roger Clemens will be pardoned by President Bush, saying yes some Republicans treated his client harshly because of the pitcher’s friendship with the Bush family.

“It would be the easiest thing in the world for George W. Bush, given the corrupt proclivities of his administration, to say Roger Clemens is an American hero, Roger Clemens helped children,” Emery said in a telephone interview. “It’s my belief they have some reason to believe they can get a pardon.”

During Wednesday’s session before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Clemens repeated his denials under oath, which could lead to criminal charges if federal prosecutors conclude he made false statements or obstructed Congress.

“I’m not aware of Mr. Clemens having been charged with anything,” White House deputy press secretary Tony Fratto said after being told of Emery’s remarks.

Emery cited his friendship with Bush’s father, who, among other things, was of course overplaying his “Scooter” Libby, his vice president’s chief of staff. Libby was convicted in the case of the leaked identity of a CIA operative.

In addition, Emery said he thinks Bush would pardon Clemens even before an indictment or conviction, as President Ford did with President Nixon.

During the hearing, Clemens cited his friendship with Bush’s father.

President George H.W. Bush, a baseball fan who regularly attends Houston Astros’ games, Clemens said he was on a recent hunting trip when the older Bush called with words of support.

When all this happened, the former president of the United States found me in a deer blind in south Texas and expressed his concerns that this was unbelievable, and stay strong and hold your head up high,” Clemens testified.

Emery said as he thought about the testimony overnight, Clemens’ reference to the call from the elder Bush convinced him the questioning by Republicans was a concerted effort.

IN BRIEF

Qualifying races set stage for Hendrick-Gibbs showdown

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — They showed up as favorites, endured a wave of failures and found a way to stay at the front of the Daytona 500.

There’s a reason Hendrick Motorsports and Joe Gibbs Racing are the ones to beat in NASCAR. Now, they’ll try to beat each other in a super showdown in the biggest race of the year.

“It’s going to be the epic battle, and it should be the battle of a lifetime and the century,” Gibbs driver Tony Stewart quipped. “There may not be another battle of this proportion for the rest of my life, my career, for the century.”

Stewart was of course overlooking the magnitude of season’s opener. But when Hendrick driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Gibbs driver Denny Hamlin each won a qualifying race Thursday, it set the stage for a fabulous battle.

Dolphins release veteran line­backer

MIAMI — If Zach Thomas decides to play a 13th NFL season, it will almost certainly not be with the Miami Dolphins.

Thomas, a seven-time Pro Bowl linebacker and one of the most popular and productive players ever to wear a Dolphins uniform, was released Thursday, the biggest move yet in Miami’s massive rebuilding project.

“I have a tremendous appreciation and admiration not only for the Dolphins organization, but for the fans as well, for all of the support that they have given me,” Thomas said in a statement, in which he thanked owner Wayne Huizenga, new football operations head Bill Parcells and general manager Jeff Ireland.

The 34-year-old linebacker said he plans to play with another team next season. There’s always a chance he could re-sign with Miami, although that seems, at best, doubtful.

“I am healthy and look forward to playing in 2008, but will always consider myself a Miami Dolphin,” Thomas said.

Bryant chooses rest over surgery for injured finger

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. — Kobe Bryant was diagnosed with a torn ligament in his right pinkie finger Thursday and the Lakers All-Star has decided not to undergo surgery that could sideline him for six weeks.

The damage occurred when Bryant dislocated the finger at New Orleans on Feb. 5, and was aggrav­ed in Wednesday night’s game at Minnesota.

The team said Thursday that the damage was more extensive than first believed. There is a complete tear of the radial collateral ligament and avulsion fracture, in which a small bone fragment had been pulled off by a tendon.

around the dial

NCAA Men’s Basketball
Pittsburgh at Marquette
9 p.m., ESPN
ND WOMEN’S GOLF
Irish face tough field in first spring tourny

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

After a three-month break in competitive play, No. 20 Notre Dame tee’d off the second half of its season at the Central District Invitational tournament in Parrish, Fla., on Monday.

Held at the River Wilderness Golf Club and hosted by Michigan State, the tournament should prove to be the toughest contest yet for the Irish, who started the season strong last fall with three first-place finishes in five tournaments.

Notre Dame will compete against stiff competition this weekend, including No. 7 Arkansas, No. 21 Michigan State and No. 25 Texas A&M.

Head coach Susan Holt said the young Irish golfers, led by freshman So-Hyun Park, will be tested.

“We’ll be right on our heels a lot of the time on this one,” Holt said. “This is tough competition. These are tough teams. We’ll be at a little bit of a disadvantage because of the recent weather in South Bend.”

Although the team hasn’t been able to practice at its indoor facilities, Notre Dame has not played in a competitive tournament since October’s Ann Rhodes Intercollegiate in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Holt said it is difficult to prepare mentally for tournament play after the extended break.

“Golf is basically hitting shots and playing holes and managing our game,” Holt said. “We’re able to work on our short game indoors at our practice facility and work on our driving outdoors. I want to look to get us back into our mode, that thought process that comes with managing the game.”

As a result, the focus for the Irish this weekend is to ease themselves back into competitive play.

“I’d like them to get comfortable again out on the course,” Holt said. “If they can really hone in on managing the game and managing the course, we can save some strokes. I don’t expect them to be spot on, I just want them to focus on managing the course and themselves.”

The River Wilderness Golf Club is a par 72, 6,100-yard course, featuring winding water hazards and tricky approach shots. It has hosted the Central District Invitational since 2002.

“It’s a playable, scoreable course,” Holt said. “It’s a good course to get back into it. The greens are large and undulating and can be fast depending on the weather. That’s the real trick to scoring well, to play the greens well.”

After a practice round on Sunday, the tournament rounds will be played on Monday and Tuesday.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

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Irish open season at ASU tourney

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

The Irish will escape for the weekend from the South Bend cold to compete in Arizona State's season-opening Kajikawa Classic in Tempe, Ariz., this weekend.

The team will run a gauntlet of five games in the course of the three-day weekend. The tournament starts Friday and will include two of the top teams in the nation - No. 1 Arizona and No. 3 Texas A&M.

"We are going into a hot-bed of competition right off the bat," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "These are five very good teams we are going to play."

Notre Dame is coming off a 32-24 loss in the 2007 season and its ninth consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance. The Irish hope that their tough early schedule will help them prepare for the remainder of their spring schedule.

"These first couple of games will give us an idea of where we are at as a team," Gumpf said. "We have to believe that we are good enough to beat anyone."

The Irish return only five starters, two of which are seniors. Despite being a young team, Notre Dame will look to play a balanced game this weekend and in the upcoming season. The experienced trio of senior second baseman Katie Laing, junior pitcher Britney Barger, and junior infielder Linda Kohan will lead the new Irish players.

"Katie [Laing] will be very important for us this year, especially since she is only one of two seniors," Gumpf said.

Freshman pitcher Jody Valdivia is expected to make an immediate impact. It will be up to Valdivia and her fellow freshmen to step up and fill in the laps in the absence of a few of our старе players." Gumpf said. "But I like a lot of what our young players bring to the table."

The Irish will kick off a tough Friday morning with a game against Arizona. The Wildcats went 50-14-1 last year and will return six position starters along with All America pitcher Tarynne Mowatt. The Wildcats enter the tournament ranked No. 1 in almost every preseason poll.

"I think that if we don't get the jitters, we will be able to play very well," Gumpf said.

The Irish face Western Kentucky and No. 3 Texas A&M on Saturday. The second game will likely prove more trying for Notre Dame as Texas A&M is 5-1 on the season. But Gumpf said the Aggies are only one team of many in the competitive pool.

"There are no easy teams in the field," Gumpf said. "Cal is the only team below .500, and they won't be very for long."

The Irish wrap things up Sunday morning against Cal Poly at 4-320 (4) before returning home.

Contact Jared Jedick at jkedick@nd.edu

ND SOFTBALL

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"We are going into a hot-bed of competition right off the bat."

Deanna Gumpf Irish coach
**Men’s Golf**

ND begins spring with Florida invite

By PETE REISENAUR  
Spor Sex

Notre Dame starts its sec-
ond season this weekend when they travel to Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla., to compete in the John Hayti Collegiate Invitational.

North Florida will host the invitational at the Country Club, where national powers No. 2 Alabama and No. 5 UCLA,  

The Irish fared well during the fall despite not winning any tournaments. They have finished no worse than ninth and as high as second on a number of occasions.

This season continues the team’s resurgence under head coach Jim Kubinski. Until the start of this year, Notre Dame’s play against national-
lly-ranked opponents has helped its rebirth. Since Kubinski arrived, the Irish have defeated 13 top-25 teams and posted 12 top-five tournament finishes. The underclassmen have performed well for the Irish this season. Four of the top five scorers for the Irish are underclassmen, and the two lowest scores have come from freshmen or sophomores. Sorororine Doug Fortner leads the team with a 73.72 stroke average, followed by freshman Tyler Hock, who has a 73.20 average.  

Freshman Jeff Chen (73.33), senior Greg Rodgers (73.621 and junior Jash Sandman (74.00) round out the top five leading scorers.

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**SMC Basketball**

Belles face last-place Kalamazoo  

Squad looks for second win of season after Hornets loss

By MEAGHAN VESELIK  
Spor Sex

Saint Mary’s will look to bounce back after a 78-70 loss to second-place Albion in the seventh-place game. The seventh-place game is the head back to the court on Feb. 9. Kalamazoo is at home. When Saint Mary’s (5-8 MIAA, 9-17 last season) and Kalamazoo (11-12 MIAA, 4-17) last faced off in January, Allison Kessler scored a layup and two free throws in the last minute of the game to give the Belles the 72-69 win — bringing her game total to a school record 41 points.

“I think our game on Saturday against Kalamazoo will be a big challenge for us,” head coach Jenn Henley said.

The Hornets kept the game close the entire 40 minutes of their last meeting, leading the half and up until the last minute of the game.

Since that game, the Belles have gone 2-3, defeating Tri-State and Adrian 74-71 and 61-51, respectively. However, the Belles have continued to post impressive numbers offensively and defensively. In addition, Kessler set a new Saint Mary’s career three-point record in last week’s loss to Albion. The senior has made 133 shots from outside the arc in her career.

But there is always room for improvement — especially on the offensive end.

“Our focus continues to be on the offensive side of the ball,” Henley said. “We have to figure out a way to play forty minutes of team defense in order to be successful down the stretch.”

The Belles have shown improvements on defense as of late, but were outrebounded 33-28 against Albion.

Despite defensive struggles, the Belles’ offense has been a consistent strong point this season. The team has aver-

aged 67.2 points per game under the guidance of lead-
ing scorers Kessler and Erin Newsom, averaging 19.8 and 11 points per game, respecti-
vely. Kessler leads with 415 points this season, 61 from the school’s record and 34 points from the record for most career points. Newsom leads Saint Mary’s in r  

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d with a total of 179 this sea-

son.

Going into their last three regular season games, Henley’s expectations for her team hasn’t changed.

“We are at a point in the season when we should be playing our best basketball,” Henley said. “We don’t have many opportunities left in the regular season. The post-
season is just around the cor-

ner and we look forward to it.”

Saint Mary’s takes on Kalamazoo on Saturday at 3 p.m. at the Angela Athletic Center.

Note:  
This week is Women’s Basketball Coaches Association “Think Pink” week to raise breast cancer awareness and honor its sur-

vivors. The Saint Mary’s ath-

letic department encourages all of its fans to wear pink this Saturday in support.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at  
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**Men’s Track**

Irish use week off to prepare for Big East

By EUGENIA ALFONZO  
Spor Sex

Just because the Irish have the weekend off doesn’t mean they won’t be working.

“We don’t have a meet this weekend so we’re going to train very hard,” head coach Steve Piane said. “Especially on Saturday, we’ll be working hard and then see what happens a week from here.”

The Irish nabbed over 45 Big East qualifications during the indoor season, but are now focus-

ing on the Big East conference championships, which take place at the Armory in New York, N.Y., on Feb. 23 and 24.

Notre Dame had some setbacks to their performance, Piane said.

“Actually a lot of people have been sick with the flu, but they have gotten better and are expect-

ing to do well,” he said.

It’s not going to just be the flu that the Irish will be battling in a week. The Irish face four top teams at the Big East Invitational.

“University of Connecticut, Georgetown and Louisville (and Notre Dame) round out the top four teams,” Piane said. “In fact, Georgetown might be the most improved team of the Big East, while Louisville wins the outdoor Big East meet last year.”

The strong showing at the Mego Invitational last weekend helped give the Irish momentum before headi-

ng to New York next week.

“It was a great meet overall,” Piane said. “There were over thirty teams here and it was a very hard competition, jumps and throws were very good as well.”

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at  
ealfonzo@nd.edu

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**Jewish Prayer**

Rabbi Eric J. Siroka  
Temple Beth El, South Bend

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**The Observer ♦ SPORTS**

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**WOMEN’S LACROSSE**

Laxers begin season with Canisius, Duquesne

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Writer

Coming off an 11-6 year (3-2 Big East), No. 12 Notre Dame will host Canisius at 5 p.m. tonight before taking on Duquesne at noon Sunday. Both games will be played in the Loftus Sports Center.

Despite losing five starters from last year’s squad, including a pair of all-Big East performers, the Irish will enter tonight’s season opener with both experience and confidence, thanks in part to senior captains Caitlin McKinney and Becky Ranck.

“We did lose some starters, but we’ve traditionally had a good bench and I think that’s the case again this year,” said McKinney, a two-time All-American midfielder who scored 44 goals and recorded 21 assists a year ago. “With those positions opening up, you do kind of hold your breath, but the people who have been in there have been doing awesome. It’s nice to see new faces and fresh people in there.”

A highly-touted freshman class joins the returning cast of McKinney, Ranck, junior attacker Jillian Byers — a two-time All-American who scored 58 goals last season — and junior midfielder Erin Stoeckert (21 goals, 15 assists) to provide the Irish with a balance of youth and experience.

Couch Tracy Coyne said the ups and downs the senior class has undergone — from three wins as freshmen to a Final Four appearance as sophomores to missing the NCAA tournament last year — are a positive heading into another campaign.

“Now, here this group is as seniors with a good perspective and a good vision,” said Coyne, who is entering her 12th year at the helm of the Notre Dame program. “The younger players on this team have definitely felt the unity of the senior class, and the seniors have done a great job outlining what we want to accomplish this season and then demonstrating that in practice.”

Between Ranck’s ability to lead the defense by example and McKinney’s light-hearted, more vocal leadership style on offense, the Irish seem to have just the right recipe for success.

“The older girls on the team have really been able to welcome the freshmen and teach them how we do things,” Coyne said. “Because of that, the burden really isn’t on the younger players to have to do things other than follow the things the older players do.”

Coyne also said the athleticism of freshman midfielders Kaitlin Keena and Shaylyn Blaney will have them starting soon.

Though Notre Dame seems to have the leadership aspect of the game down, much is yet to be determined as far as playing strategy goes. The Irish have yet to even scrimmage heading into tonight’s opening contest, a first in Coyne’s tenure here.

“I guess we’ll find out tonight what our style’s going to be,” said Coyne. “Generally, we like to be an up-tempo, aggressive-on-defense type of team.”

“There are a lot of unknowns, but we know what we do well. We’ll go out with a game plan, but we’ll be ready in-game to make any adjustments that are necessary.”

While the Irish are still unsure of how their returners and newcomers will mesh during live games, one thing they aren’t lacking is confidence.

“It’s not just about winning the Big East or making the NCAA Tournament — it’s about winning every game and doing everything right, not having any regrets,” Ranck said. “I don’t think having the national championship as a goal is outlandish at all because we have so much potential.”

Quick to catch themselves before looking too far ahead, Ranck and McKinney both said the Irish will “take one game at a time”, but clearly, the long-term bar has been set — high.

That being said, the long road begins tonight.

“The most important thing is that we have a lot of respect for Canisius and Duquesne,” Coyne said. “So we’re going to go out and bring what we need to get it done — which is win. Bottom line: 2-0 after the weekend.”

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

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**THIS WEEK IN IRISH SPORTS**

**#12 WOMEN’S LACROSSE (LOFTUS CENTER)**

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**Sun, Feb. 17th @ 12PM**

VS. DUQUESNE FREE BEANIE BEAR TO FIRST 200 FANS
ND Women's Tennis
Irish take down OSU to even their record

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

After participating in three matches in as many days at the ITA National Team Indoor, No. 14 Notre Dame has a lot on its plate this weekend as the pace of this season begins to pick up. The Irish started their three-game weekend home stand with a 2-5 victory over No. 47 Ohio State on Thursday bringing their record up to an even 4-4 this season.

Irish coach Jay Louderback commented on the overall fatigue of his squad heading into the match.

"Maybe they were a little tired," Louderback said. "This is the part of the season when we start to play a lot of matches grouped together. We have three this week and three the next. After the ITA (National Team Indoor), we went a little short in practice on Tuesday and Wednesday. One thing we really wanted to focus on was our doubles play over practice."

The extra work paid off. Notre Dame secured the first two doubles matches against the Buckeyes to take the 1-0 lead.

The national No. 3 tandem of senior Kayla Treanor and junior Kelly Kellty took the first match 8-2 over Buckeyes junior Angela DiPasquale and sophomore Christina Keseo.

Sophomore Kosmina Cocuna and Galileen Rieley ensured the Irish would start the match 1-0 with their 8-4 victory over Ohio State's senior Caitlin Keesey and graduate student Cami Hubbs.

"It was exciting to see our doubles play well," Louderback said. "We won all three and it signaled a great start to the weekend."

The Irish carried the momentum from their doubles win into singles play.

"It definitely set the tempo for the rest of the afternoon," he said. "We started our last three or four down 1-0, and our players got tired of it. It's always tough to play from behind, and I'm really excited we won all three." Keeping the momentum rolling, the Irish won the first three singles matches, clinching the victory in just 1:31.

Jirka Kriski took O'Keefe in two quick sets 6-1, 6-3 followed by junior Katie Potts' 6-1, 6-0 victory from the No. 5 spot over Hubbs.

Tefft played from the No. 1 spot for the first time all season and didn't waver under the pressure. Tefft's 6-4, 6-2 win over Ohio State's senior Cm~mina Escobedo completed the doubles sweep with a 8-3 ousting of the Buckeyes with the 4-0 lead. The junior improved her dual action record this season to an unbeaten mark of 8-0.

Ohio State gained its first point once Buck came to face Escobedo. However, it was not the senior's play that gave the point away, but a rolled ankle instead. Buck was in position to take the match until she was forced to retire because of the injury.

Notre Dame went on to pick up one more point as Cocuna and Keseo of Cocuna in the No. 3 spot, 6-3, 6-2 win. The Irish won't have to rest in time as well.

"We have a senior who has been there you feel more confident. He won a match like he did on Saturday as a freshman over Florida State," Bayliss said.

Bayliss said the doubles teams played well last weekend after struggling in the previous match.

"Both of our opponent's coaches were impressed by the doubles play last weekend," Bayliss said. "Whenever you lose there is a great sense of urgency to play well. We came out with more energy and were able to keep the momentum going against Wisconsin and SMU."

In the win over Wisconsin, Parbhau pulled out a four-hour match in a thrilling finish. He clinched the Irish victory in the third set, won in 6-3, 6-2, 6-4. "They're a very good defensive team, and we like to control the tempo of the game," senior Montoya said.

"They're very disciplined on offense and have a lot of sustained possessesions," senior captain Shane Koppens will likely lead the Greyhounds offense after the team began to pick up. "We have guys who have been playing together and used to running the offense in place," he said.

The contest with Loyola is just the first step in a tough opening stretch for Notre Dame. Four of the first five Irish opponents are ranked in the preseason top 25.

"We look forward to playing a high level of competition," Corrigan said. "We have to prepare knowing we can't relax and have to start right away.

The Irish and Greyhounds will face off at 1 p.m. at Dine Speeg-Aakens Field.

Contact Michael Bryant at
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Parbhau continued from page 24

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"We look forward to playing a high level of competition," Corrigan said. "We have to prepare knowing we can't relax and have to start right away.

The Irish and Greyhounds will face off at 1 p.m. at Dine Speeg-Aakens Field.

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Parbhau pulled out of the four-hour match in a thrilling finish. He clinched the Irish victory in the third set, won in 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

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"Senior Sheetla Parbhau was a big key to our victory last weekend," coach Bobby Bayliss said. "When you have a senior who has been there you feel more confident. He won a match like he did on Saturday as a freshman over Florida State."

Bayliss said the doubles teams played well last weekend after struggling in the previous match.

"Both of our opponent's coaches were impressed by the doubles play last weekend," Bayliss said. "Whenever you lose there is a great sense of urgency to play well. We came out with more energy and were able to keep the momentum going against Wisconsin and SMU."

In the win over Wisconsin, Parbhau pulled out a four-hour match in a thrilling finish. He clinched the Irish victory in the third set, won in 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

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Irish senior Sheetla Parbhau returns to a shot during Notre Dame's 4-3 win over Wisconsin on Feb. 9. Parbhau won his match, which lasted four hours, in three sets.

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Recycle The Observer.
Big East
continued from page 24

guished in the cellar of the conference for most of the season. The Scarlet Knights are 2-11 against Big East foes this conference. But despite the teams’ dissimilar fortunes, Brey said Rutgers will not be an easy test for the Irish.
“Rutgers are not as good a team as we were, Connecticut, or we’ll be in trouble.”

Irish forward Zach Hillesland said Notre Dame will not make any drastic adjustments for the contest with Rutgers.

We have to be as ready to play Rutgers as we were Connecticut, or we’ll be in trouble.

Mike Brey

Irish coach

Orangefield
continued from page 24

guards Fantasia Goodwin and Nicole Michael at 13.0 each and guard Morrow at 12.4. McGraw said that what makes the Orange scoring threats even more dangerous is that their offense is so ver-
satile.
“They’re just all really good at different things — hitting the ball, just said. “It’s a nightmare matchup for us.”

McGraw said Syracuse presents her team with a lot of tough matchups especially because senior guard Tylah Gaines has been the team’s best defender all sea-
son — can only guard one player at a time.
“Obviously there’s a lot of mismatch-
es. We’re going to work really hard,” (Thursday) on improving their ball-handling and
the ball, just see if we can guard them better,” McGraw said.

Notre Dame will also look to continue improving its rebounding Saturday. The Irish have three players from the Irish. Doc
Margaret Lunney at 9.5, Michael at 7.9 and Jones at 7.8 who all average more rebounds per game than anyone on Notre Dame’s roster.

There’s something to build on later Friday, Wednesday’s win but not a whole lot to change from our game plan,” he said. Even though the Irish beat Connecticut knocked the Irish from the second-place slot in the Big East standings that they had occupied for several weeks, junior forward Ryan Ayers said the team is more con-
cerned with simply playing well every game.
“That [drop in the stand-
ings] is not a really a big issue,” Ayers s a id . “Connecticut’s a really good team. We lost to a really good team so we shouldn’t even worry about that.”

Irish sophomore Luke Harangody’s 32 points and 16 rebounds against Connecticut raised his overall averages in those categories to 20.8 and
10.4, respectively. In confer-
ence play, he has scored 43 points and 12.1 rebounds per contest lead the Big East. Brey, meanwhile, lacks a superstar, but has a very bal-
anced offensive attack. The Scarlet Knights feature three players — J.R. Inman, Corey Chandler and Anchorage Farmer — who have double-
figure scoring averages for the season. In addition, Rutgers freshman guard Mike Cobbs averages 10.9 points per game during Big East play.

Hillesland said the Irish are happy they do not have a long layoff and are hungry to get back on the right track.
“We really thought we could have won that (Connecticut) game and it kind of leaves a bad taste in your mouth,” Hillesland said. “So we’re def-
initely eager to get back on the court and try it out against Rutgers.”

Contact Fran Tolon at ftolon@nd.edu

For my parents and a lot of the extended family making the trip up there, it’ll be a neat experience.

Jordan Pearse

Irish goalie

The Irish will attempt to

practices this week, both high and intense, so I think we’re ready to get things going.”

The Irish will attempt to overcome potential symptoms of jet lag following a journey that began with their team bus ride to Chicago on Wednesday, continued with Thursday’s flight from Chicago to Seattle, and ended with the drive to Fairbanks, Alaska, Anchorage, where the Irish landed via a flight south. The travel is more of a frame of mind. It’s really not an issue unless you make one out of it,” Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said.

“We’re not going to follow the pro-
per procedures as far as rest and hydration, we should be OK.”

While most of the Irish spent the early part of the week practicing and re-
trekking unfamiliar territory, Pearce, an Anchorage native, was focused on a return to his childhood roots.
“Anchorage is about a six-
hour drive from Anchorage, but Alaska’s Alaska. It’s all I know. I grew up playing a lot of my youth hockey,” Pearce said. “I know a lot of families and a lot of the extended fam-
ily all planning on making the trip there, it’ll be a neat experience.”

Alaska Olympic rink, which is 15 feet wider than an NHL or NCAA rink, will force the Irish to be well-aware of straying too far outside, Jackson said. “When you play in the Olyregon rink, you really have to make sure you don’t get caught, playing outside the dots offensively or defensively,” Jackson said. “If you do on the offensive side of the puck, you’re not going to generate much offense and you’ll be stuck playing perimeter hockey. If you’re drawn outside the dots defensively, they may find opportunities we wouldn’t,” McGraw said.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Road redemption?

Squad travels east to face Scarlet Knights

By FRAN TOLAN Sports Writer

After an 84-78 loss to Connecticut on Wednesday night, Notre Dame will again head east to play Rutgers on Sunday. And despite the tough loss to the Huskies, the Irish had an upbeat attitude before practice Thursday.

"I think our confidence is still sky high," senior captain Rob Kurz said. "We've been playing great and one loss is not going to derail our confidence in any way."

The defeat at Connecticut dropped Notre Dame's Big East record to 2-3, but coach Mike Brey said his team is excited to play away from the Joyce Center.

"I love that we have another road game in an on-campus facility," Brey said. "That fun base is on us always — it's a tough place to play.

While the Irish fell to 8-3 and 1-2 in the Big East with the loss to Connecticut, Rutgers has just apparently, not being a unique problem for the Irish this year. They have been among the top teams in the Big East, and the Scarlet Knights are currently ranked No. 13 in the AP poll. The game is expected to be a tough one for the Irish. The game will be played at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Team's 3-game road stretch starts with Syracuse

By JAY FITZPATRICK

Notre Dame begins a three-game conference road trip — the only one this season for any team in the Big East — on Saturday against Syracuse in the Carrier Dome.

"I think he's up for coach of the year," said Irish coach Muffet McGraw of Hillman. "He's done a great job. He has a really good group."

One reason for Syracuse's success this season is its ability to take care of its home court. The Orange have fallen only once in the Carrier Dome — a 66-59 loss to then-No. 1 Connecticut.

The Carrier Dome presents a unique problem for the Irish. So far this season, the Irish have played in front of an average of 5,367 fans per game, including three games of over 10,000 people. But at Syracuse, where the maximum capacity for basketball is 33,000, the Orange only average 1,463 fans in their 11 home contests.

"They're just getting better, so it's a good start for them," McGraw said.

McGraw said she wants to make sure her team gets plenty of time in its shootaround to prepare for playing in that kind of environment.

"It's just a vast, empty backdrop," McGraw said. "And it's just apparently, not being a shooter myself, hard to shoot at places like that."

Syracuse is also able to get help defensively from a wide variety of players this season, including four who average double-digit scoring. Guard Chandrea Jones, who transferred from Odessa College (a junior college) after last season, leads the team with 15.9 points per game, followed by Orange senior forward Rob Kurz guards Bearcats senior forward Marcus Sikes during Notre Dame's 91-74 win over Cincinnati on Jan. 15. Kurz had 17 points and 10 rebounds in the game.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Record-setting defense back for season opener

By MICHAEL BRYAN

Two teams with postseason expectations will face their first test Saturday when Notre Dame travels to Maryland to play ranked Loyola-Maryland in the season opener.

The Irish, ranked No. 10 in the Inside Lacrosse preseason poll, will travel to Baltimore to face the No. 17 Greyhounds. The same two teams met in last year's season opener, a close match in South Bend.

The Irish trailed late but rallied for a 9-7 win thanks in large part to goalkeeper Joey Kemp, who held Loyola scoreless over the last 22 minutes. Despite the win in last season's opener, the Irish are 3-13 all-time against Loyola. The Greyhounds are 15-1 at home openers in the program's history.

Even though Loyola lost several starters from last year's NCAA Tournament team, Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said this year's squad could be one of the best in the country.

MEN'S TENNIS

ND carries streak to Seattle

By KATE GRABAREK

Notre Dame carries a five-match winning streak to Seattle this weekend for the National Team Indoor competition, which begins today.

The Irish have not lost since falling 5-2 to No. 1 Virginia on Jan. 27 and will face No. 8 UCLA in the first round of the tournament.

The No. 9 Irish (7-1) won two matches last weekend over Southwestern Midwest University and Wisconsin.