

**The Observer**

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**NDSMCOBSERVER.COM**

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**CCAC convenes for first meeting**

Combined student, university-administrator, city-official group discusses student-town relations

By JOSEPH McMATHON

Assistant News Editor

Formed in late September as a partnership between university administrators and city representatives to discuss community relations, the University Attendance Coalition (CCAC) met for the first time Wednesday afternoon at the County-City Building in downtown South Bend.

"I’m grateful for our relationships with the universities and the opportunity to come together in this forum," South Bend mayor Stephen Lukecke said.

The CCAC was created five months ago after the South Bend Common Council members decided not to implement regulations requiring residents to pre-register large gatherings within the city. An ordinance eventually passed with provisions to that would require permits, if the Council voted to activate them.

The coalition, in the meantime, will serve as a forum that will facilitate discussion about issues important to community members.

To quote [University President] Father John Jenkins, "Notre Dame thrives when South Bend thrives, and South Bend thrives when Notre Dame thrives." local lawyer and member of the Notre Dame Board of Trustees submitted a letter calling for a "sustainable relationship of one community with another." The letter was presented at the first meeting of the CCAC.

**RESOLUTION passed to boost local products**

University encourages Food Services to support farming industry in nearby Midwestern states

By CLAIRE REISING

News Writer

The Student Senate passed a resolution Wednesday supporting an increase in Food Services’ budget for locally-sourced produce in the dining halls. The resolution states that the University should buy from local farmers to support the farming industry in the Midwest economy and to avoid the environmental effects of transporting goods over long distances.

Morrissey senator Tom Bauck, who drafted the resolution, said it includes foods from Wisconsin and from all states bordering Indiana. According to the resolution, Notre Dame Food Services (NDFS) will raise its local produce budget from three percent to seven percent over the next three years.

Karen Koski, Social Concerns Committee chair, said the Senate has discussed the percentage with NDFS, which believes it is a reasonable goal.

"These numbers are specific numbers that we talked to them about," she said. "They know what they need to do to support the local farmers and that the students are interested in getting those foods available to them." The resolution passed unanimously.

**Waste project yields surprise**

By SARAH MAYER

News Writer

Between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Wednesday, the 708 people who are in Saint Mary’s dining hall wasted 226 pounds of food, according to the Saint Mary’s Environmental Action Coalition’s "Weigh Your Waste" project.

"This is an incredible amount of food waste considering it was only collected for three hours out of one day," said head of public relations for SMEAC Ashley Cook. "Considering Saint Mary’s is a small school, I expected the food waste to be much less. According to the results, we have sent only 5 percent of the world’s population, but generate something that people are not used to seeing."

"Weigh Your Waste" was a collaborative effort between Saint Mary’s Office of Campus Ministry and Office of Social Concerns.

Contact Sarah Mayer at smayer01@stmarys.edu

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**SUB reps pick up new lessons at conference**

By LINDSAY SENA

News Writer

The Student Union Board (SUB) sent five student representatives and three Student Activities Office (SAO) representatives to St. Louis, Mo., to participate in an annual convention hosted by the National Association for Campus Activities last weekend.

The convention primarily focused on showcasing up-and-coming artists, but also hosted several educational sessions to benefit both student leaders and university staff.

Sessions covered topics ranging from "How to plan a successful lecture" to "How to recruit and retain volunteers," said SUB Board Manager Philip Ross. "Although much of the conference focused on showcasing novel talent, each day we went to one or two educational sessions," Ross said. "Some of them focused on leadership, but others offered guidance on the actual logistics of planning events."

"Learning to plan further in advance, communicate effectively, and organize a team to work in harmony with purpose all should not only help plan the best events but also can help strengthen the members of Notre Dame’s delegation to become better leaders all over campus.”

The sessions were led by student activities advisors, graduate assistants, talent agency staff and administrators “from schools all over the country," Ross said.

Ross attended a lecture by an advisor of Xavier University’s Student Activities Council and "I think that weighing out all of the food waste today and making it visible to everyone could really have an effect on how much is wasted," Cook said.

While this is the first year the SMEAC has done the "Weigh Your Waste" project, they have been doing events all year to make Saint Mary’s students more environmentally conscious.

On National Recycling Day, they dug through bags of trash separating the recyclables from the non-recyclables. Afterwards they set the actual trash out in front of the Student Center to prove that if students recycled, trash accumulation would be much less.

Also, SMEAC writes “mirror memos,” where facts about the environment are written on mirrors throughout campus. This week’s fact is “Americans represent only 5 percent of the world’s population, but generate 30 percent of the world’s garbage.”

Later in the year, they hope to do another "Weigh Your Waste" in hopes that student waste levels have gone down.

If the waste does not go down, Cook says that the club will “think of alternative options to really get the point across.”

Cook said Sodexo’s food service on campus, was an environmental issue. "They thought it was a great idea and were very willing to let us do what we asked because they also know that food waste is a problem," Cook said.

Students should be on the lookout for posters with results of "Weigh Your Waste." Cook hopes this will have an effect on students.

"As our dining hall has such an abundance of food there will always be some waste, but it is good to get the facts out there so students can realize that it is a problem that they could do something about."
INSIDE COLUMN

Passing the torch

So, I'm sitting in Observer headquarters in the basement of South Dining Hall at 1:43 a.m. and I realize there's no Inside Column. (This is one of the many joys of being an editor.)

And, unfortunately, I am not very creative. So, I'll take this opportunity first, to apologize for wasting space, and second, to discourage people from reading on.

I guess this is as good a time as any to talk about a recent change in my life and many others who work for the Observer.

Tonight is our annual "Turnover Dinner." What this means is that the Editor-in-Chief turns in her nameplate and, thus, all her executive responsibilities at the paper. And next week, all the remaining editors will do the same.

Tonight, at 6 p.m., Maddie Hanna will get her life hack as a college senior and, hopefully, enjoy her newfound freedom.

It's almost like a mini-graduation — moving forward from something you've invested in so much time and energy in for the past four years. It is emotional. It is sad. It is exciting.

Our turnover dinner is one of the few times a year the majority of the staff gets together. The sports writers get to know the news writers. The photographers share a drink with the graphic designers. We say a few speeches, have some pizza and look on to the next two months where the incoming editors have to come into their own.

The year doesn't start in August for the Observer. It begins in March or February for some. We have to train a new staff, recruit writers and do all the grunt work you never imagine it takes to give you a daily newspaper. We like to do it, don't get me wrong. But tonight, we get to put ourselves on the back and reflect on our 42nd successful year as the "Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's." From scandal to lecture, from Big East win to devastating football loss, The Observer is there to cover it. Some days, we struggle. Other days, we are one of the top-read college newspapers in the nation. We strive to be that for you everyday, but we know that's not possible. Tonight I want to hail the outgoing senior editors for all their hard work and dedication to the 2007-2008 Observer and also let the student body know that there is a new set of editors in town who will be striving to make an already great newspaper better.

To Maddie, Ken, Kyle, Mary Kate, Karen, Chris, Tae, Dusty and Joey, good luck and thanks for your help and dedication to The O. Have some fun tonight. (And I.S. It has been the greatest honor and privilege to work for Kyle Cassy for the past three years and learn from arguably the greatest hockey writer in Observer history.)

Cheers.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Katie Kohler at kkohler1@stmarys.edu.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: What is your favorite book you've had to read for school?

Angela Carothers: junior
Pasquella East

"Dante's Divine Comedy. It's got politics, forbidden love, suicide and retribution."

Brad Rathe: freshman
Dillon

"To Kill a Mockingbird. It addresses a lot of relevant issues."

Elisabeth Peterson: junior
Welsh Family

"School? I don't read for school."

Francisco Fernandez: sophomore
Fisher

"Beyond Good and Evil, because I'm in a dark mood today."

Jenny Lewis: junior
Badin

"My favorite book is 'Harmony and Voice Leading,' because music theory is provocative and inspiring."

Kyle Uti: sophomore
Fisher

"The Great Gatsby. The lessons of the story transcend generations."

Junior Dan Braun, left, stands outside South Dining Hall to promote a new Web site for downloading student course notes called "Kneebit." The program is free.

OFFBEAT

Meatloaf the cat heads home after trek

PHOENIX — A cat named Meatloaf who took a 3-week cross-country ride stuck in a storage container is back home to Florida. Arizona Humane Society officials say the 2-year-old gray cat apparently crawled into the large locker in Pompano Beach, Fla. as a man loaded it for a move to Phoenix.

The container spent time in a Florida warehouse and on a semi-trailer before being delivered to a company's Phoenix facility. A worker heard a cat meowing inside the container late Tuesday and found him hanging 6 ft. above the unharmed. The man who was moving remembered a similar cat near his older apartment. Meatloaf's owners had put posters around their neighborhood and the apartment manager recalled them when Humane Society called.

Man drives stolen car to police station

ANDERSON, S.C. — Authorities say a man drove a stolen car to the Anderson County Sheriff's Office to demand the return of nearly $2,000 officers seized from him during a drug arrest last June. Deputies said after they told Charles Chambers, 38, to leave Tuesday afternoon, an officer noticed he got into a car that matched the description of a vehicle stolen about three hours earlier. Another officer pulled the man over and told him to stop the car. The officer said Chambers stuck a screwdriver in the ignition to shut it off because the vehicle's key switch had been removed.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

"The Call of the Entrepreneur" will be shown today at 5 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business.

The men's basketball team will play against No. 22 Pittsburgh tonight at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

As part of the Ten Years of Tenure lecture series, professor Karen Hunt Ahrend from the department of finance at DePaul University will speak at 10:40 a.m. Friday in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

Mass will be celebrated for the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter Friday at 5 p.m. in Alumni Hall Chapel. Father Brian Daley will preside and the Notre Dame Gregorian Schola will perform.

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

The 50th Annual Collegiate Jazz Festival will begin Friday at 7:30 p.m. with a concert featuring at least four different bands. The festival will conclude Saturday with an afternoon concert at 1 p.m. and an evening concert at 7 p.m. All events will be held in Washington Hall.

Notre Dame hockey will play Ohio State Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and 7:05 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

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

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY TONIGHT FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

HIGH LOW

19 9

22 13

19 9

29 13

27 11

31 21

22 21

2008
Aragon given national Latino poetry grant

Special to The Observer

Francisco Aragon, director of Letras Latinas, the literary program of the Institute for Latino Studies (ILS) at Notre Dame, has been awarded a grant from the San Antonio-based National Association of Latino Art and Culture (NALAC) to organize “The Wind Shifts: New Latino Poetry ON TOUR.”

Named after the anthology Aragon edited last year with the University of Arizona Press, the tour features 25 poets and will kick off Saturday (Feb. 23) at the Society of the Four Arts in Palm Beach, Fla. It will travel to five other cities in the next two years, including May 31 at The Loeb Literary Center in Minneapolis, and Sept. 25 at the Richard Hugo House in Seattle.

With the exception of the first reading, which will feature three poets, each subsequent stop on the tour will showcase no fewer than four poets from “The Wind Shifts.”

In addition to initial support from the NALAC Fund for the Arts, the tour is supported by The Guild Complex, a community-based literary organization in Chicago, and by several private donors.

The Guild Complex was a natural partner for a project like this because Letras Latinas already collaborates with them to produce “Palabra Pura,” a bilingual poetry reading series in Chicago, said Aragon, who recently joined the Guild Complex board.

Letras Latinas seeks to enhance the visibility, appreciation and study of Latino literature, both on and off the Notre Dame campus, with a focus on projects that identify and support emerging Latino writers.

The NALAC Fund for the Arts is a pilot grant program designed to help Latinos develop their creative talents and make lasting contributions to Latino communities and society as a whole. Launched in 2005 with major support from the Ford Foundation, the fund provides financial resources to strengthen Latino arts organizations and to support Latino artists in the creation of their work.

Founded in 1999, the ILS fosters understanding of the U.S. Latino experience by advancing research, expanding knowledge and strengthening community. Building on the intellectual legacy of Julian Samora, a pioneering Latino scholar and professor of sociology at Notre Dame, the institute supports interdisciplinary initiatives in Latino studies as a key component of the University’s academic mission.

Looking for solid business and accounting experience to put on your resume?

The Observer is accepting applications for a 2008-09 Business Manager and Controller. Responsibilities include preparing a yearly budget and handling payroll for a 200-person staff.

Since the Controller will take over as the 2009-10 Business Manager, Controller applicants should be sophomores, or juniors staying for a fifth year.

Both positions are salaried, about six to 10 hours a week.

Please contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu or Kyle West at kwest2@nd.edu if interested.

Satellite to be shot down

Navy plans to hit falling spy device once weather conditions are right

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon said Wednesday that because of new technology, it is now open for it to try to shoot down a failing spy satellite.

The Navy is planning to hit the satellite with a heat-seeking missile as early as Wednesday night, but officials had been waiting for the space shuttle Atlantis to return to Earth so it would not be hit by falling debris.

“We’re now into the window,” a senior defense official told a Pentagon press conference minutes after the shuttle landed at 9:07 a.m. EST. He said it will remain open until Feb. 29 or 30 and that the decision to attempt a shot will depend on conditions in the atmosphere, such as sea levels, winds and other variables.

“We’re watching weather today,” he said. The ground rules of the news conference were that the official could not be quoted by name.

The military will be making decisions each day on whether to proceed with an attempt or not — and criteria could change several times each day, he said.

The official said an attempt to shoot down the satellite will be available only seconds each day, the official said.

The attempted shootdown was approved by President Bush out of concern that toxic fuel on board the satellite could crash to earth, the Defense Department has said. Officials will know nearly immediately whether the missile has hit the satellite, but it will take a day or two to know whether the fuel tank has been destroyed, officials said.

The military has readied a three-stage Navy missile, designated the SM-3, which has chocked up a high rate of success in a series of missile defense tests since 2002. In each case it targeted a shorter or medium-range ballistic missile, never a satellite. A hurry-up program to adapt the missile for this anti-satellite mission was completed in a matter of weeks. Navy officials say the changes will be reversed once this satellite is down.

The government issued notices to aviators and mariners to remain clear of a small, undefined section of the Pacific Ocean beginning at 10:30 p.m. EST Wednesday, indicating the first window of opportunity to launch an SM-3 missile from a Navy cruiser, the USS Lake Erie, in an effort to hit the wayward satellite.

Having lost power shortly after it reached orbit in late 2006, the satellite is out of control and well below the altitude of a normal satellite.

The Pentagon wants to hit it with an SM-3 missile just before it re-enters Earth’s atmosphere, in that way mini­mizing the amount of debris that would remain in space.

Left alone, the satellite would be expected to hit Earth during the first week of March. About half of the 5,000-pound spacecraft would be expected to survive its plunging descent through the atmosphere and would scatter debris over several hundred miles.

Adding to the difficulty of the shootdown mission, the satellite will have to do better than just hit the bus-sized satellite, a Navy official said Tuesday. It needs to strike the satellite with an anti-satellite weapon changes had been made to compensate for the lack of heat.
Announcing the Year 2008 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2008 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed $3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Students must be undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Scandinano. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:
1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their degree program at Notre Dame;
2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals;
3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow;
4) a budget indicating the costs involved;
5) two letters of recommendation
6) a transcript showing all grades and courses completed
7) a list of other sources of funding (being sought or confirmed) for the same project
(i.e. Office of International Studies, Nanovic Institute, etc.)

Application Deadline: Wednesday, February 27, 2008
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame
The nation's highest court dealt Wednesday, a day after he met with the North's year after he shot people at the end of Tempe denied to love over the past eight decades and enjoy an pleasure in the quality experience they have come are anticipated, said Tom Spackman Jr., whose at the park, although future expansion projects cover water damage court

Man indicted for foiled Super Bowl plan

The new owners plan few immediate changes in the park, even though he was deep under the sea. Several callers told local radio station W-Shnts that the quake was felt strongly on Sumatra, but there was no immediate reports of damage or injuries. A magnitude-9 quake off Sumatra's coast in 2004 triggered a tsunami that killed more than 230,000 people in a dozen countries, most of them in India.

Cuba

Raul Castro inspires hope for change

Cuba's acting President Raul Castro delivers a speech in July 2007 over a stone depiction of his brother and former President Fidel Castro.

Associated Press

HAVANA — After a 19-month trial by acting presi­dent Raul Castro, Cubans seem ready to focus on what his government will bring once Fidel Castro formally steps down as Cuba's all­powerful head of state and government.

Their expectations, already raised by Raul Castro's talk of "structural changes" and "big decisions" to come, couldn't be higher. Many Cubans believe that will mean people open businesses, own homes and even travel abroad.

But given that Raul is already 76, it could fail to a new generation of leaders to fulfill or frustrate Cubans' dreams of prosperity.

As acting president, Raul Castro has made it clear he will not carry out many of his older brother's policies. And while hoping that Raul and his likely No. 2, Carlos Lage, will advocate for change, Cubans wonder how that will work.

Castro, the world's only one-party state, has made by the island's government's caretaker and that the rate would stabilize. Experts said it wasn't surprising since 2004, when the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston reported a great enough to overcome the increase in deaths that year.

The resignation, announced Tuesday, should give Raul Castro more autonomy than he's had as the government's caretaker since Fidel was sidelined by intestinal surgical in July 2006.

The younger Castro raised eyebrows last week when he spoke at a state-controlled economy with his reported fascination with China's economic reforms, calls for unspecified "structural changes," and acknowledged that govern­ment wages averaging $19 a month do not satisfy basic needs. He also encour­aged Cubans to open a fearless and critical debate, as long as they remember that the final decisions will be made by the island's Communist leaders.

"The way we reach deci­sions, and I'm talking about big decisions," he told student leaders in December 2006.

Many Cubans want to hear more such talk from their next leader. Inspired by Raul, some young Cuban cultural figures have called recently for eliminating onerous visa requirements and other lim­i­tations on their freedoms, a message that resonates with ordinary Cubans.

"This is what we need. I hope to God people have more freedom — the freedom to have opinions and always speak their minds," said 37-year-old Lydís Pérez after dropping her son off at school. "People talk in the hallways or the back rooms... There's a lot of fear." Fidel Castro, however, insisted in his resignation letter that "the regime will not disappear — or stay quiet if he sees his revolution going astray."

"This is not my desire to you," he wrote. "My only wish is to fight as a soldier in the battle of ideas. I shall continue to write under the title, "Reflections of Comrade Fidel." It will be another weapon you can count on. Perhaps my voice will be heard."

As the Cuban leader of his first vice president, Raul Castro has been his brother's constitutionally designated successor for decades, so the big question is who will take his place. As no. 2 on Sunday when the National Assembly selects Cuba's new leader.

A leading candidate is Lage, the de-facto prime minister, who at 56 is in a full generation younger than the Castros. He's among the most experienced leaders in a power structure dominated by septuagenarian former rebels, and he has built a reputation as a reformer.

A less likely possibility could emerge from a handful of leaders in their 30s and 40s, such as Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque, whose Communist fervor earned him the collective nickname of "Young Talibans."

Cancer deaths rise after downward trend

The cancer death rate has been declining since the early 1990s, and early in this decade was declining by 1 percent a year. The actual number of cancer deaths kept rising, however, because of the growing popula­tion.

So it was big news when the rate dropped by 2 percent in both 2003 and 2004, enough to cause the total number of cancer deaths to fall for the first time since 1930.

President Bush and others hailed as a sign that federally funded research was making strides against the disease. But now the death rate decline is back to 1 percent. And the 2005 numbers show annual cancer deaths are no longer falling, but are up more than 3,400 since 2004.

The declining rate was no longer great enough to overcome the increase in population, said Elizabeth Ward, a co-author of the cancer society report. Officials with the organization say they don't know why the decline in the death rate eased.

It may be that cancer screenings are not having as big an effect as they were a few years ago, said Dr. Peter Ravdin, a research professor in biostatistics at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

"One possible example," in 2004, the largest drop in deaths among the major cancers was in colorectal cancer. Experts gave much of the credit to colonoscopy screenings that detect polyps and allow doctors to remove them before they turn cancerous.
CCAC continued from page 1

Trustees Richard Nussbaum said, "Students, University administers and South Bend representatives make the importance of continuing the dialogue that began when the ordinance was first proposed." I'm just concerned that we should not be.biasing the things from either points of view," said Councilmember Ann Panza. The discussion includes the University campus. "I think dialogue is the most important thing."

However, the outpour is far from complete. Only 15 of the 21 total seats had been filled as of Wednesday. Moreover, Indiana University South Bend was the only local school to send a representative besides Notre Dame, as both Saint Mary's College and Holy Cross College refused to send a representative because they didn't feel the "buddy" Kirsits. Kirsits asked Notter to sit in for them. Student Affairs Fellow Mark Purmon and the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Bill Kirk to contact both schools before the next meeting.

We'll like to get them on board," Kirsits said.

One development noted by several Council members was a reduction in the number of complaints they received due to local student parties. Kirsits also noted a decrease in the number of students taken to local hospitals for alcohol poisoning.

"Personally, and I can't quote any stats, I saw there was a decline in the alcohol toxicity response calls," Kirsits said.

Kirk attributed this trend to increased University pressure on off-campus students.

"The offices I supervise are responsible for responding to the epidemic standards," Kirk said. "Last fall, it became clear that students' off-campus behavior would not be something that is clearly scrutinized. We did not like the tolerance that the University for that behavior would be very low.

Members of the Common Council also attributed this decrease in out-of-control parties to the work of student body president Kirk Kirsits.

"We created a Good Neighbor Guide and an off-campus seminar," Brown said. "We hope these things will be printed in mid-March.

However, although these improvements are seen as steps in the right direction, Luerke said it's important to permanently establish a respectful atmosphere.

"We feel positive with the way the fall went, some of it perhaps because of enhanced publicity," he said. "I hope that once you establish a culture of students' respectful behavior to neighbors that it continues.

Tim House, Common Council president and co-sponsor along with Panza, agreed with Luerke, adding that all actions parties must continue to use the forum provided by the CCAC.

"It's an ongoing dialogue, we need to keep the momentum among the whole group," he said.

One of the key aspects of establishing a respectful environment is simply getting students and neighbors together, said local landlord Mark Kramer. For the past seven years, Kramer has thrown block parties at the beginning of the year to bring students and South Bend residents together. "It's hard to disturb their neighbor if you've met them and you know your daughter and their son," local landlord Mark Kramer said.

Brown, however, said student parties was not the only issue the CCAC needs to address, and that security is very important as well. As far as student behavior goes, I think there's been some big improvements, but safety and security are big issues," she said. "That's the issue that's been prioritized by students over the past year."

Kramer, however, said the fact that he has two private security vehicles patrolling his properties, there was a break-in last week at one of his properties on St. Peter Street.

"We do whatever we can to prevent break-ins," Kramer said. "My concern is to protect student tenants and for the neighborhoods to have a better relationship with one another."

This, coupled with the rash of break-ins at College Ridge Apartments and Stadium Club Condos over Christmas break, has sparked student fears about break-ins. "At this time our main issue is break-ins," said SUB student association president Ivan Blount. Kramer, however, is already spending about $304 a month on security, leading Rouse to say, "I think that shows [Kramer's] commitment to student safety.

The CCAC did not discuss any specific plan for tempering the break-ins during last night's meeting.

Brown also said many students are concerned with the increase in tachicah fares being too high, and she said the cab companies should let students know about posted rates. "This is a big concern to students, she said. "For some reason students are having more and more problems with taxi-cab drivers over the past year."

Kirsits concluded the meeting by setting the date for the next forum — Thursday, March 13, at 3 p.m. "If we approach this in the proper way, we can make this a win-win situation," he said.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon@nd.edu

SUB continued from page 1

from a member of the University of Delaware's student activities office.

"The workshops on programming concerts were often lead by professional agencies,"ros said.

While representatives from many universities were at the conference, Notre Dame's program seemed to often "out compete," Ross said.

"There were very few times when we thought, Wow, why can't we do that?" Our line-up seemed like some of the best out there."

SUB left the conference with many new ideas and ways to improve our program and publicity," Ross said.

Some of our favorites included mini-contests to attract people to events and to make better alliances with campus media in order to promote our events. Our school covered their basketball arena with tarps and held a food fight for charity. Several schools also had tips on artist hospitality and ways to improve the inner organization of SUB."

SUB will host the 97th Annual Collegiate Jazz Festival this weekend in Washington Hall.

"SUB hopes to have a couple of concerts and comedians both in Legends and in other venues on campus. "We're working on a Chicago trip to see a Broadway musical or a baseball game, and possibly a PBS children's film." St. Patrick's Day celebration, our semester will end with a hang with AnFest, the spring festival, during the last week of April," Ross said.

Contact Lindsay Sena at lsen@nd.edu

Wabru's First Annual Black History Conference
Jordan Hall of Science, University of Notre Dame
9:00-10:00 am Continental Breakfast and Registration
10:00-11:25 am Lecture (Room 105), Reginald L. Robinson, Distinctive University Visiting Professor of Chemistry, Southern Illinois University (On Leave from Howard Law School 2007-2008): "Wake up! It's a Sleeping Con: Reacting the Great Potential of Black Americans."
11:30-12:30 pm Lecture (Room 105), Verge "Brother Sage" Gilliam, B.S., Central State University, Founder of the Association of African American Role Models (AAARM). "Underground Railroad"
12:30-1:45 pm Lunch Break
1:45-3:00 pm Lecture (Room 105), Bishop Gideon Adeji, Ph.D in Pharmacology and Biochemistry, founder of Crystal Horizons Investment Group, "Vision for Victory"
3:00-3:55 pm Small Group Discussions (Rooms 105. 310, and 322)
4:00-5:00 pm Sharing of Ideas (Room 105)
5:00-10:00 pm Break
10:00 pm-12:00 am Legends presents Spoken Word Concert starring acclaimed artist Ta'laam Acey, also featuring ND's own Kaila Washington, Matthew Tipton, Morgan Cleveland, and Christopher Stewart

Sunday, February 24th
11:00 am-5:00 pm Underground Railroad Trip to the Underground Railroad Cemetery in Vandalia, Mt; Family Farm in Paw Paw, Mi; Southerner's Station and Bertie Cobb, M, Facilitators: Sherman Amey and Verge "Brother Sage" Gilliam (RSVP to wabru@nd.edu ASAP to reserve a seat on the charter bus; seats are limited; $10 students and $20 other conference participants; lunch is covered)

Sponsored By:
Student Affairs
BCAC
Sustained Dialogue
Shades of Ebony
NAACP
Student Activities
**MARKET RECAP**

**Stocks**

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<th>Change</th>
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<td>12,427.26</td>
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- **AMEX**: 2,264.36 +17.83
- **NASDAQ**: 3,237.10 +20.90
- **NYSE**: 9,073.96 +50.92
- **S&P 500**: 1,360.03 +11.25
- **Nikkei (Tokyo)**: 13,565.32 +124.99

**FTSE 100 (London)**: 5,983.60 +73.30

**Commodities**

- **CRUDE OIL ($/bbl.)**: 5.89
- **GOLD ($/Oz.)**: 1,348.78
- **PORK BELLY ($/cwt.)**: 96.18

**Exchange Rates**

- **yen** to **US dollar**: 106.1100
- **Euro** to **US dollar**: 0.6792
- **Canadian Dollar** to **US dollar**: 1.0124
- **British Pound** to **US dollar**: 0.5148

**Treasuries**

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**Oil prices close above $100 for first time**

**NEW YORK** — Oil prices rose sharply Tuesday, climbing above $100 for the first time in more than two years, stoked by fears that oil prices are about to rise sharply. The surge in oil prices came as the Federal Reserve announced it was raising interest rates to help the economy. The central bank, which next month meets March 18, last month slashed rates by 1.25 percent.

"I think there is still a lot of wor­ries in the market that we have this stagnant growth in the economy and higher prices," said Richard Sparks, senior equities analyst at Schaeffer's Investment Research in Cincinnati. Investors likely were positioning themselves ahead of a half-dozen economic reports that could give the market further direction. Paramount to this will be Wednesday's Labor Department report on consumer prices for January, which is a closely watched gauge for inflation. The Fed will also release minutes from its last meeting.

Meanwhile, now concerns that banks are facing more financial problems this year dragged the stock market lower. Wednesday's Federal Reserve Board report on consumer prices for January, which is a closely watched gauge for inflation. The Fed will also release minutes from its last meeting. Meanwhile, now concerns that banks are facing more financial problems this year dragged the stock market lower. The market was also concerned that rising inflation might make the Federal Reserve reconsider its bias toward keeping interest rates low. The Fed said it was concerned that rising inflation might make the Federal Reserve reconsider its bias toward keeping interest rates low. The Fed said it was concerned that rising inflation might make the Federal Reserve reconsider its bias toward keeping interest rates low.
U.S. will not build new military bases in Africa

Associated Press

ACCRA, Ghana — President Bush said Wednesday that talk of the United States building new military bases in Africa to expand its influence in "balky" countries is "ridiculous." Bush said that the United States "is not going to build any bases," and he defended the 2006 announcement of plans to consolidate the military presence in Africa.

"The focus is to help African leaders deal with African problems," Bush said.

Bush sought to dispel the notion that the United States' efforts to combat disease and poverty in Africa are designed to gain influence in "balky" countries.

"Now is not the time to talk about building military bases. Now is the time to talk about helping our friends and our friends who are new, like the continent of Africa," he said.

The announcement of new bases in Africa was made during the administration's "Freedom in our Time" initiative, which aims to help more than one billion people with economic and social problems.

"This is not about expansion of military or economic might. This is about helping people," Bush said.

Several African countries, including Libya, Nigeria and South Africa, have expressed deep reservations about the plan to build bases in their countries.

"We are not going to build any bases, but we are going to work with our friends in Africa," Bush said.


Okla. attorney general goes after poultry companies

TULSA, Okla. — More than a dozen Arkansas-based poultry companies have violated state and federal laws limiting the disposal of animal waste in the Illinois River watershed, argues Oklahoma's attorney general.

Oklahoma is requesting a preliminary injunction to stop poultry companies from dropping animal waste in the 1 million-acre watershed. State Attorney General Drew Edmondson maintains that unless the court grants the request by the spring, the feed available in the waste could pose a health threat to humans and animals.

Edmondson told a federal judge Tuesday that waste from the birds is measured in tons and is not processed or diluted but dumped on the land "extensively as fertilizer and in excess of agronomic needs, in the most environmentally sensitive watershed in Oklahoma." Edmondson said.

The hearing on the injunction is expected to last several days and is part of an Oklahoma lawsuit that accuses Arkansas-based poultry companies of polluting the watershed with chicken litter.

"We believe that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has failed to enforce the Clean Water Act in the Illinois River Watershed with respect to these companies," Edmondson said.

State and environmental officials contend that years of illegal spreading of the poultry waste, which contains bacteria, antibiotics, growth hormones and harmful metals, is killing Oklahoma's scenic lakes.

Edmondson said the poultry companies in 2005, saying litter pollution rendered Lake Tenkiller in northeastern Oklahoma 70 percent oxygen dead and accused poultry companies of treating Oklahoma's rivers like open sewers.

Edmondson also said the amount of phosphorous dumped on the ground in the watershed each year is equivalent to the waste of 10.7 million people.

Kosovo

Nation embraces laid-back version of Islam

Associated Press

GNJILANE — Kastriot Sadiku has a confession: Like a good Muslim, he was near a mosque when Kosovo declared independence. But like a good Kosovar, he was just around the corner, slipping into his favorite pub.

"In the entire Muslim world, I think that's probably something that can only happen here, where our religion doesn't interfere with the rest of our lives."

Much has been made of Kosovo's status as the world's newest mostly Muslim nation. But its secular government, religious leaders and faithful have carefully distanced themselves from the slightest hint of extremism.

The Republic of Kosovo, they insist, embraces a decidedly laid-back version of Islam.

"Our Islam is 'Tire' — like Coke Lite or Marlboro Light cigarettes," said Ilmi Krasniqi, an imam at one of five mosques in the eastern town of Gnjilane. "This is not Baghdad, and what goes on in Saudi Arabia cannot happen here."

That is not to suggest that radical Islam has not impacted Kosovo's Muslim ethnic Albanians.

Last October, Agron Abdullahu — a 25-year-old Kosovo native living in the U.S. — pleaded guilty to charges of conspiring to provide weapons to five other Muslims who allegedly plotted an attack on the U.S. Army's Fort Dix military base in New Jersey. No attack was staged on the base, which is used largely to train reservists bound for Iraq.

Agora Hyseni, the chief imam in Gnjilane, said Muslims in fervently pro-America Kosovo have distanced themselves from extremist ideology or acts.

Abdullahu "was an isolated individual," Hyseni said in an interview with The Associated Press in his office, decorated with a small globe and the flags of Turkey and Saudi Arabia, where he said he was schooled in the tenets of Islam.

The people here feel no empathy for those kind of acts," he said. "They know very well what terrorism is because they've suffered through so many terrorist acts." "Terrorism" is an emotionally charged term in the Balkans, where an estimated 10,000 people were killed in Kosovo's 1998-99 war between ethnic Albanian separatist rebels and forces loyal to the late Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic.

Albanians long have accused Serbs of terrorist acts against their ethnic kin, and Serbs victims of terrorist attacks have done the same. But if terrorism is a relative term in Kosovo, so is "Muslim."

The Ottoman Turks imported Islam centuries ago, but it hasn't saturated this society. Kosovo was Christian before, about 7 percent of its ethnic Albanians are Catholics, and a cathedral is being built in the heart of Pristina, the capital.

The late President Ibrahim Rugova was fascinated with Roman Catholicism, and there were even unconfirmed reports after his death in 2006 that he had converted.

Kosovo is not the only place with a Muslim population and secular traditions — strong secular lifestyles exist in Turkey and Lebanon, but they are exceptions. Although the conflict here pitted Albanian Muslims against Christian Orthodox Serbs, who consider Kosovo the cradle of their religion and national identity, it was a battle for turf — not a holy war.

"We've never had a Christian-Muslim conflict here," said Albulena Hoti, 20, strolling in Gnjilane beneath the flags of the U.S., Britain and Germany — all among the first nations to welcome Kosovo after it declared independence Sunday.

"We're Muslims, but we're not terrorists," added Linda Kastrati, an 18-year-old student.

Stephen Schwartz, executive director of the Center for Islamic Pluralism, a Washington-based think tank, contends Kosovo will become a model of religious pluralism in Europe.

"Albanians, although Muslim in their majority, are fanatics only about their appreciation for America. Albanian Islam is moderate, and constitutes a bulwark against radicalization of European Muslims," he said.

"I don't think there's any other Muslim country in the world where there's so much Christian missionary activity that goes on undisturbed," Schwartz added.

Kosovo's conflict drew only a smattering of mujahedeen — Islamic fighters from the Arab world — unlike the 1992-95 Bosnian war, where they came by the thousands to aid their Muslim brothers.

There has been speculation that Kosovo, which has always enjoyed staunch backing from Washington, might give the U.S. a rare Muslim friend and some leverage in its effort to contain Islamic extremism.

"But interest U.S. in Bosnia did little to endear America to the wider Arab world. "America is not necessarily going to get a lot out of the Muslim world with this," Schwartz said.

Outside Gnjilane's main mosque, the crowd of young men includes some with long, wiry beards and short trousers. But they are quick to eschew the strict Wahhabi interpretation of Islam followed by al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden.
Last week, the circus came to Washington. And I was invited.

I wandered from a House office building press room as Roger Clemens and his former trainer, Brian McNamara, paraded on Capitol Hill to testify about Clemens’ alleged steroid use before the House Oversight Committee.

Circus is the only word for it. Fans lined the halls of the building, hoping to catch a glimpse of (and maybe an autograph from) the Rocket. Hundreds of journalists packed into the hearing room and an overflow flow.

The hearing, in the end, proved deeply embarrassing to both Clemens and McNamara. McNamara was turned into national television. Congressmen called him a liar and a criminal and brought up his sexual assault charge in his past. But Clemens may have had it worse, as the committee detailed friend and former teammate Andy Pettitte’s deposition indicating that he believed Roger had used human growth hormone.

The day after the hearing, though, Committee chairman Henry Waxman wished it never happened. Waxman told reporters, “I’m sorry we had the hearing. I regret that we had the hearing. And the only reason we had the hearing was because Roger Clemens and his lawyers insisted on it.”

Waxman had good reason to regret the hearings. While the hearings did, of course, embarrass Clemens and McNamara, the childhood of the repre

The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published in press and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. The newspaper is published by the student employees of the University of Notre Dame and is not controlled by the University’s administration. The Observer reserves the right to refuse advertisements based on content.

The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Uninvolved viewpoints on the majority of the reports of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor and department editors. Comments, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The first experiences of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to the Editor in Chief (Email: krusling.601@nd.edu).

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EDITORIAL CARTOON

FOLKS HERE IN A MESS
ITS EXCITED TO SEE ME

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Tag on anything at all and you’ll find it connected to everything else in the universe." - John Muir

environmentalist
There are times that a Christian commu­

nity gathers — as the Notre Dame com­

munity did on a bright nine in dateing for the Memorial Mass for our recently deceased classmates Timothy Aher and Connor Mc­

Grath when I become aware of the silence. It creeps in between the hymns and pauses between the services through the cracks of our false non-belief. When every­

one stops their faithful assurances of God's pres­

ence and closeness and protectiveness, there is a little queasiness on my part, but it was assuredly non-theological interior. A young man who has been wres­
ing with a vocationa l decision about the priesthood says to me, "I feel like I've been chasing God and God has not been in my life. God is here, has drawn close. One of the secrets that I have learned is to be present in my room with an acceptance letter from his long-­

sho­g­first-chance graduate school. No more natural time to say a proper thank­

ing. A married man asks for a meeting, and for his first time in his life, is able to talk about his growing addiction to pornography. Clearly, the Holy spirit is at work.

Father Lou DeFiore

Faithpoint

Letter to the Editor

Tragedy: a time of God's absence or presence?

Of the Notre Dame Tradition songs, the Alma Mater is by far the best — it's not overplayed, it inspires a sense of union, and it elicits the best reaction from the listeners.

On the evening of the 19th of February, I attended the memorial serv­

ices for Timothy Aher and Connor McGrath. At the Mass, there were countless priests and so many people that the entire basilica was filled. People stood behind the altar and all around the haptic chain, as persons for covered seats. At the end of the Eucharistic Sacrifice and Banquet to pray for the repose of Timothy and Connor's souls.

The Notre Dame family once again proved its uniting, love cen­

tered, and witness to the tragic and heart-rending deaths of two of our own. Notre Dame was certainly tried "as gold is tested through fire." What emerged was a truly striking, beautiful, and elegant example of Catholic identity in a university. Pope Benedict once called Notre Dame "a great Catholic University." How could anyone disagree after recent events?

Therefore, let's set aside our critical spirit once in a while and be grateful for just how great a place this is. And let me be the first to say: thank you to all my fellow students. Thank you to all the faculty, staff, and priests.

Thank you, Notre Dame

The question of Notre Dame's "Catholic identity" has once again come to the fore with a resurgence of the "Monologues" debate. I have nothing to say about that debate, but I do think that Notre Dame's true Catholic colors have become apparent. And they did so at Tuesday night's event hosted by Brian McGarity and Connor McGrath. At the Mass, there were countless priests and so many people that the entire basilica was filled. People stood behind the altar and all around the haptic chain, as persons for covered seats. At the end of the Eucharistic Sacrifice and Banquet to pray for the repose of Timothy and Connor's souls.

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Thank you, Notre Dame

Simon Carian

Senior

Memorial Hall

Feb. 20

Dinner. Let me act my age and I will let you

Decide. Make up your mind, things have
turned, and the boys will only react to the
talks we have had with a wide-eyed shock. And when we come to the point of God's

Presence, perhaps the silence is real. Surely tragedy is. Perhaps all we have is the example of one who walked into it all ... and discovered God's Presence.

Perhaps this is what we celebrated Tuesday night.
A song that can make you smile every time you hear it is worth its weight in gold. Whether as a result of nostalgic associations or the simple gazzy nature of the song, there are the ones that get remembered, that transcend the realm of merely "good" to become classics.

"I'm Not Gonna Teach Your Boyfriend How to Dance with You" by Jacksonville, Florida's Black Kids is one of those songs. From the bouncy keyboards to the Robert Smith-like vocals, this is a song that won't send a shiver down your spine when the term "1980s throwback" is sublimely described. Normally female backing vocals and use of the "doe doe doe doe doe"omatopoeia is a rock-and-roll cliché, but not here. Not when they're used in such a singular manner.

That's really what makes the debut EP by Black Kids so effective: Their wide-eyed sincerity and idealism shine in a world jaded by the constant barrage of media announcing the "next big thing." Ironically, it's that very naivety and enthusiasm that made Black Kids a "next big thing," at least on the internet, anyway. Regardless of whether they satisfy the hype machine when their full-length album finally arrives, we'll always be lucky to have the "Wizard of Ahhs" EP. It doesn't overstay its welcome; instead, the group leaves you wanting more. The four songs the album contains range from 3:32 to 4:26 in length, so no overindulgent drum solos or filler is to be found here. The songs arrive, make their point, and leave. It's over before you know it.

The EP opens with "Hit the Heartbreaks" and "I've Underestimated My Charm (Again)". His writing music that's catchy as hell, the group has a knack for making pop songs, with a jumpy bass line. Basically, it sounds a lot like youngf°m the Cure, or at least the more pop-esque of the band. It's catchy, mellow when compared to the other songs, with a jumpy bass line; it sounds a lot like Brian Wilson could only dream of writing. The song ends here, leaving the listener wondering what exactly this band would be capable of if they recorded a full-length album.

Please download the "Wizard of Ahhs" EP. The whole thing is free on the band's MySpace, and the songs are just too good to pass up. Black Kids show off their youthful exuberance in the music they play, something not seen very often. The music is pure pop, with a heavy 80's influence, but without the stigma normally attached. Their popularity is only going to increase, so if you start listening now, you can look cool in front of all your friends.

Vampire Weekend's debut is innovative, essential. The band already sounds like they've been making pop music for years.

The lyrics could be called a weak point, but to be honest, it's not their point to be deep thinkers. They have catchy lyrics that ultimately don't mean much, but they fit well within the sound that the band has created. "Vampire Weekend" sounds like the group of pop music that is also a product of the present. As the world gets smaller and more connected, it is only natural that our music will become more of an amalgamation of international styles.

Other countries have been influenced by popular American music for years. Hopefully Vampire Weekend will lead a new generation of applying world music genres to American popular rock.

But where Vampire Weekend succeed is in the band's ability to make a fun, listenable record. Other innovators in the genre are almost too experimental and only appeal to avid audiophiles. But Vampire Weekend has created a new sound that's accessible to everyone.

This is the first release of the year that I can see myself listening to and enjoying months down the line. It's the kind of music in which the 1900s ones that contain "the Moment", that magical portion of the song that grabs you and refuses to let go, forcing you to be a fan of the band forever. No, it's in the last 80 seconds of "I've Underestimated My Charm (Again)" where the song jumps back yet another 20 years to the 1960s, transforming into the kind of sublime pop gone that Brian Wilson could only dream of writing. The music ends here, leaving the listener wondering what exactly this band would be capable of if they recorded a full-length album.

Contact Mychal Stanley at wstanley@nd.edu
It is in his best performance to date as he captures the essence of an idealistic kid working on the '92 Clinton campaign. He has a great combination of charisma, comedic timing and good looks. But the true heart of this film are the three contenders to be Will's wife. Possibilities range from Emily (Elizabeth Banks), the blonde college sweetheart who worries the big city will change her man, to Summer Hartley (Rachel Weisz), the sultry brunette writer who has an unconventional relationship with her much senior professor (Kevin Kline) to April (Isla Fisher), the apolitical red-headed copy girl who quickly becomes Will's friend.

With most romantic comedies, the path to the film's conclusion is apparent and predictable, but the case is not so with "Definitely, Maybe." All three women have merits, but also flaws, allowing them to be worthy candidates as Maya's mother.

It also helps that Banks, Weisz, and Fisher's characters are not stale imitations of women. Instead, they are interesting and independent which makes Will's choice and the viewers' even harder. Reynolds acts as the perfect foil for these spunky women. Fisher particularly shines and is able to create a character distinct from her infamous portrayal of Gloria in "Wedding Crashers." Her quirky, talkative, free-spirited April is a wonderful offset to Reynolds' one-track-minded Will. Also, Kline is a scene-stealer as the drunken, womanizing Professor Hampton Roth. While entirely enjoyable, this film is not going to join the ranks of classic romantic comedies like "Love Actually" or "When Harry Met Sally" anytime soon. Actor Derek Luke is grossly underused as Will's best friend and business partner, and you never quite know why Will and his wife are getting a divorce.

But the movie was filmed in New York City, which is a refreshing change compared to most New York-based films. Writer/Director Adam Brooks creates the '90s ambience with care, remembering the oversized cell phones, the grunge of Kurt Cobain and truly crappy New York apartments.

The film could not have come out at a better time because in addition to a Valentine's Day release, it is also a whiff of nostalgia of the Clinton days. Will and his coworkers must navigate the rocky waters of Bill's affair with Gennifer Flowers and his unsuccessful definition of "is."

Will tells the story of his love life in chronological order with a few interruptions by an inquisitive Maya in the present day. The relationships are relatively realistic interpretations as they show all of the imperfections that come along with love. But, the most engaging love story is that between father and daughter. The two have a wonderful rapport on screen and their love for each other shows. Reynolds is actually a believable dad, Breslin is the heart of the story, and because she cares, we care.

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferrar1@nd.edu or nd.edu

Definitely, Maybe
Universal Pictures

Director: Adam Brooks
Starring: Ryan Reynolds, Abigail Breslin, Elizabeth Banks, Rachel Weisz and Isla Fisher

Elizabeth Banks plays Emily, Will Hayes' college sweetheart.

Rachel Weisz plays the intellectual, yet precocious Summer Hartley.

Isla Fisher plays April, a red-head who wants Will to be more than just friends.

Ryan Reynolds plays the recently divorced Will Hayes living in New York.

Will Hayes (Reynolds) reminisces of his love life with his daughter Maya (Breslin).

Maya (Abigail Breslin) is curious about how her father and mother first met.
Paul leads Hornets over Mavs in Kidd's debut
LeBron tallies second straight triple-double as Cabs beat Pacers; new point guard Williams shines in Nets victory over Bulls

Associated Press
NEW ORLEANS — Chris Paul had 31 points, 11 assists and a career-high seven steals, rallying Jason Kidd's debut with Dallas and leading the New Orleans Hornets to a 104-93 victory over the Mavericks on Wednesday night.

Kidd, acquired Tuesday from New Jersey, looked out of sorts at times, committing six turnovers.

Meanwhile, Paul's dazzling performance on both ends of the floor had the enigmatic crowd on its feet, raining down chants of "M-V-P!" for their own All-Star point guard while a hamper offering similar sentiments flapped from the upper deck.

Kidd, who had practiced only twice with his new team, finished with eight points and five assists.

While Paul dribbled surgically through Dallas' defense, Peja Stojakovic and Bobby Jackson shot with precision from the perimeter, combining for eight of the Hornets' 10 3-pointers as the Hornets won their fifth straight.

Stojakovic made three 3-pointers, while Jackson hit five and wound up with 17 points.

David West also scored 18 for New Orleans, despite playing with foul trouble in the second half. David West, now with the Dallas Mavericks, added 11.

Paul, whose nine steals tied a franchise high, scored 19 points in the third quarter, when he hit all seven of his shots, including a pair of 3-pointers, to help New Orleans surge to an 11-point lead.

New Orleans began to pull away when Stojakovic hit a 3-pointer from deep on an open 3 after Kidd got tangled up with two other players and fell after Paul fed Hilton Armstrong inside for a three-point play, then Paul rapped a 10-2 run with a pull-up jumper with just over a second left in the third quarter to give New Orleans a 75-64 lead heading into the final period.

New Orleans widened its lead to 17 in the fourth quarter, when Jackson made two of his 3-pointers and Dallas failed to look tired and miss shots.

Neither team led by more than six during an intense but sometimes sloppy first half, in which both teams turned the ball over 20 times.

Nowitzki and West each scored 14 points during the first two periods, but both also were called for fouls.

Kidd made an immediate contribution with four assists and feeding Howard for a basket in the corner. Kidd showed off his elite defensive skills, speed and helping instincts when he varied his shot-dropping abilities with the ball or playmaking at record speeds in a ball with seven.

Cavaliers star LeBron James passes around Pacers forward Jeff Foster on Wednesday in Cleveland's 106-97 win.

LeBron James scored 20 points and finished with 11 assists, and the Cavaliers wrapped up a challenging season with a 106-97 victory over Indiana in Wednesday night's game.

James had 16 points, seven rebounds and 11 assists in the final 12 minutes.

The fourth quarter was virtually even until James went up for a rebound and landed on Indiana's Travis Diener. Diener was called for a foul, and Indiana coach Jim O'Brien got a technical for disagreeing with the call.

Cleveland made two of three free throws to take a 99-94 lead.

Larry Hughes followed with a 3-pointer as the shot clock wound down and a 135-90 lead.

"I just go out and try to play my game," he said. "My game is not, you know, about getting others involved and helping each other on the defensive end.

James had 10 points, seven rebounds and six assists in the initial 12 minutes.

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James had 10 points, seven rebounds and six assists in the initial 12 minutes.

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**NHL**

**Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division**

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**MLB**

**In Brief**

Clemens will not appear at Disney celebrity weekend

Rogers Clemens has pulled out of an ESPN sports personality weekend at Disney Hollywood Studios. The decision comes a week after Clemens gave testimony to a congressional committee about his alleged use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Clemens says in a statement Wednesday, "I believe my current participation could be a distraction." ESPN spokesman Josh Krulewitz says ESPN "made the point that him being involved would be a newsworthy event," and his decision to withdraw was made in the past 24 hours.

Clemens had agreed to participate in "ESPN the Weekend" before the release of the Mitchell Report. The withdrawal came after Clemens and his former trainer, Brian McNamee, offered widely contradictory testimony to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on Feb. 13.

Clemens could request trade from Red Sox

Associated Press

FORT MYERS — Coco Crisp, who lost his center field job to rookie Jacoby Ellsbury in the postseason, said Wednesday he'd probably talk to the Boston Red Sox about trading him if it appears he won't get his starting job back.

"Honestly, I think so because I want to play," Crisp said before his spring training workout. "I wouldn't be happy sitting on the bench." He's not even certain he'll get an equal chance in the competition for the job.

Manager Terry Francona said Wednesday it would be.

"I'm not sure," Crisp said calmly when asked if the battle for the job with the prized prospect will be fair. "I don't know how everything's going to break down. I'm really unsure of a lot of things this year."

The 28-year-old Crisp started 145 games last year and played outstanding defense. But he batted only .266 in his second season with Boston after being obtained from Cleveland to replace Johnny Damon, who signed as a free agent with the New York Yankees.

The 24-year-old Ellsbury started the season at Double-A Portland. After being recalled Sept. 1, he played in 26 games, hitting safely in 23 of them and finishing the season with a .333 average with nine stolen bases in 33 games.

And after Crisp hit .182 in the first eight postseason games, Ellsbury became the starter in Game 6 of the AL championship series and hit .375 in the remaining six games—two wins against Cleveland and a four-game World Series sweep against Colorado.

"He was hot and I was struggling at that time," Crisp said, "so you get to put who's hot and who's doing the best out there offensively. So I understood it.

In the offseason, Crisp said he heard trade rumors involving Minnesota, Texas and the Chicago Cubs. He and Ellsbury were mentioned in reports about talks with teams involving pitcher Johan Santana, who went to the New York Mets.

"I would honestly rather be somewhere else and play than be on the bench," he said. "But I'll take whatever comes and deal with it and no knock against Boston. I love the fans. They treated me well.

The possibility of having a disgruntled player is one of the few clouds hanging over the World Series champions. Nearly the entire team that swept Colorado for the title is back.

Aside from a shoulder injury that figures to keep Curt Schilling out at least to the All-Star break, the Red Sox are healthy.

Rodriguez says he was tested 9 or 10 times in 2007

TAMPA, Fla. — Alex Rodriguez sat in the first-base dugout at Legends Field, surrounded by the usual circle of cameras, microphones and reporters. He knows the scrutiny will only increase as he approaches Barry Bonds' career home-run record, especially in an era when all top athletes must prove they haven't juiced up on performance-enhancing drugs.

In his first session with reporters during spring training, Rodriguez talked about baseball's drug-testing program and made a curious statement.

"Last year, I got tested 9-to-10 times," Rodriguez said. "We have a very, very strict policy, and I think the game is making tremendous strides.

"Rodriguez could have been exaggerating about the amount of tests, he could have been selected for an unusually high number of checks or he might have dropped a clue to something else.

around the dial

**NCAA Men's Hockey**

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**NCAA Basketball**

Pittsburgh at Notre Dame 7 p.m., ESPN

Michigan at Minnesota 9 p.m., ESPN2
NHL

VaneK's OT goal gives Sabres win

Associated Press
BUFFALO, N.Y. — After vowing the Buffalo Sabres would make the playoffs, Thomas VaneK backed it up with a clutch performance.

VaneK scored three consecutive goals, including four game-winners — two in overtime — in the Sabres' 6-4 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Wednesday night.

"We need points and we got two points, that's the most important part," said VaneK. "It's good to stop the losing streak at two and hopefully putting a streak the other way.

VaneK was the star three days after he all but guaranteed the Sabres would make the playoffs following a dreadful weekend in which Buffalo lost back-to-back games: 4-1 against Pittsburgh on Sunday and 5-1 to the New York Rangers on Saturday.

Buffalo improved to 9-2-2 in its past 13 games and into a three-way tie with Boston and Philadelphia for seventh in the Eastern Conference.

"It feels great," said VaneK, who has scored 12 goals — including four game-winners — in 11 games after he managed just 13 in his first 30 of the season. "It's finally coming and hopefully I can stay on my game here from now on.

VaneK scored twice in a span of 36 seconds, forcing overtime when he stuffed in Tim Connolly's goal with 1:45 left in regulation. Not done yet, VaneK capped a nifty tic-tac-toe play in overtime with Tampa Bay's Dan Boyle in the penalty box for hooking.

Jason Pominville started the play from the left point by feeding Jaroslav Spacek in the right circle. Spacek then immediately sent a pass through the crease to VaneK, who stuffed it inside the left post.

Derek Roy had a goal and assist while Connolly had three assists for Buffalo, who improved to 10-1-0 in its past 11 meetings against the Lightning.

Brad Richards, Vaclav Prospal and Chris Gratton scored for the Lightning, who fell to 4-1-2 in their past six, and remain in last place in the Eastern Conference.

The loss incurred Lightning coach John Tortorella, who erupted briefly in the team's locker room with reporters present.

"You better get it figured out, because I'm going to be around it," Tortorella yelled.

The coach was a little more composed during a post-game media availability.

"It's almost like someone has come in and invaded their bodies," Krzyzewski said.

"I had a feeling," said Jack McClinton, who scored 22 points for the Hurricanes. "Something just wasn't clicking. We were not our team. I just felt something great was going to happen, but we fell flat.

Miami made six of eight free throws in the final 41 seconds to preserve the victory. Duke's DeMarcus Nelson sank a layup with 2 seconds left to make the score 54-50, but before Sultan sank two clinching free throws before Nelson sank a pair of 3-pointers at the buzzer.

"We're going to turn this thing back around," Nelson said. "We've been too good all year to have whatever it is holding us back as a team. We're definitely going to find out what it is and address it. Our season is not going on a downward spiral.

Senior Dawney Collins scored a career-high 26 points to help the Hurricanes win their third ACC game in a row. They beat a top-five team for the first time since the first game in the season series Dec. 21, 1962. The Blue Devils had won all 10 games since.

"We're feeling good," said Jack McClinton, who scored 22 points for the Hurricanes. "Something just wasn't clicking. We were not our team. I just felt something great was going to happen, but we fell flat.

"It's a special win," Hurricanes coach Butch Jackson said. "I told the players to be careful to have the right atmosphere because we had lost eight straight games and we were all out of double teams. We made the ACC tournament but not in style. We felt we should have gone farther, but not like this.

"It's a special win," said Jack McClinton, who scored 22 points for the Hurricanes. "Something just wasn't clicking. We were not our team. I just felt something great was going to happen, but we fell flat.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Tar Heels cruise past Wolfpack

Associated Press
RALEIGH, N.C. — Tyler Hansbrough scored 22 of his season-high 31 points in the first half to lead North Carolina to an 87-62 victory over North Carolina State on Wednesday night.

"It's you the same thing every night," North Carolina coach Roy Williams said, "and that's absolutely the best that he can give you.

Hansbrough is averaging 27.8 points and 10 rebounds in the six game stretch that began with the Florida State win, keeping him atop the ACC in both scoring and rebounding.

On Wednesday night, he did a little of everything. He passed out of double teams. He made tough shots inside against N.C. State freshman star J.J. Hickson. He outfought and out­

Hansbrough came through with another big performance at No. 2

Miami guard Jack McClinton reacts after draining a jumper in the Hurricanes' 96-95 upset of No. 5 Duke.

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Woods rallies for win in match play

Associated Press

MARANA, Ariz. — Tiger Woods was running out of holes, but not hope.

He had never fallen three holes behind and come back to win in match play as a professional, and his predicament looked particularly dire Wednesday when he took a penalty shot in the desert to lose another hole against J.B. Holmes with five to play.

What followed was a charge that had Woods pumping his fists and Holmes shaking his head.

"You're playing the best player in the world, 3 up with five to play," Holmes said. "I just said, 'Don't do anything stupid. Make him beat you. And he did. What do you do?"

Woods won four straight holes with three birdies and a 35-foot eagle to produce another stunning rally in the desert, this one allowing him to escape in the first round of the Accenture Match Play Championship.

The last time Woods played, he shot 31 on the back nine of the Dubai Desert Classic to rally from a four-shot deficit to win. In the high desert north of Tucson, he played the back nine in 30 for a 1-up victory.

"For some reason, momentum just goes your way," Woods said. "You just get on a run. Sometimes the run is early in the round, sometimes middle or late. It just so happened the last two rounds, it was late. But I felt like I happened today. At least I had a run. I think I was playing good enough to win the match unless I had a run."

Fourth-seeded Ernie Els made a run to the airport, losing in the first round for the fourth straight time at this World Golf Championship. He shot 40 on the back nine, nine fall-6 down, and suffered his worst defeat (5-9) to players Woods 6 and 5 to Jonathan Byrd.

The other top seeds advanced, but not by much.

Phil Mickelson, fresh off his victory at Riviera, withstood back-to-back小鸟 putts of 40 feet by Pat Perez by making a 4-foot par putt on the 18th for a 1-up victory. Steve Stricker defeated him 20 holes with an 8-footer for birdie.

Woods started his match by hitting a tee shot into the desert and out of bounds. "One of the first shots I've hit in a long time," Woods said.

It looked as though it might end early until a 15-foot birdie on the 14th hole, followed by a meaningless birdie putt from 18 feet on the 15th after Holmes' three-putt. Woods' foot slipped on his downswing at the par-3 16th, and he found a foot-print in his line when he arrived on the green, but he rolled in a third straight birdie putt to square the match.

That led to the kind of the turbulence that stopped 35 feet from the hole for eagle. Woods had 45 feet and left it short, and Woods only wanted to make sure he didn't hit it too hard.

It was perfect.

"It was just one of those things where everything kind of turned my way," Woods said.

Holmes missed an 8-foot birdie putt on the 18th — the same distance he had when he beat Mickelson three straight weeks ago in Phoenix — that would have extended the match.

"He struggled a little bit early in the round, and then made every putt he looked at when he needed to," Holmes said. "That's why he's the best."

Four of the top eight seeds were gone after the first day of the Match Play, one of the most chaotic days in golf. Jim Furyk (No. 6) continued to struggle with his game, losing to Colin Montgomerie, 3 and 2; Justin Rose (7) fell to Rod Pampling, 2 and 1; and Rory Sabbatini, who played college golf at Arizona, lost to Bradley Dredge, 4 and 3.

"You can never really fancy your chances in this format," Lee Westwood said after making eight birdies in a 3-and-2 victory over Brandt Snedeker. "This is the kind of week where you unback, but you don't move stuff too far away from your suitcase."

Woods appeared to have his bags packed.

He had said Tuesday that when players fall behind two or three holes, they generally lose.

"We hope to be able to talk to him shortly," Walsh said. "If he does, he has been doing a good job for the Patriots. We want to talk to him before the Super Bowl."

New England coach Bill Belichick was fined $500,000 for the opening game of the 2007 season.

As a result of that investigation, New England coach Bill Belichick was fined $500,000 and the team was fined $250,000 and forfeited its 2008 first-round draft choice.

Six confiscated tapes and other documents pertaining to the Patriots' tapping were subsequently destroyed by the league.
Despite tragedy, La. team prevails

Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — Less than 24 hours after star point guard Shannon Veal collapsed on the court and died, the team mates at Glen Oaks High School finished what she started — winning a playoff game amid emotional support from the LSU women's basketball team and coach Van Chancellor.

Travis Mays and Yolanda Wells-Broughton.

"We went in there and congratulated them and let them know to keep their heads up," Chancellor said of LSU's assistant coach Sylvia Fowles said after the game. "I'll be hard to get over, but they're just in keep looking forward because that's what Shannon would want you to do."

Fowles said she remembers Veal attending basketball camps, and LSU guard Quiana Chaney said she remembers Veal as an avid fan of LSU basketball.

"She came to all the LSU games and she and her mom used to be out there getting autographs," Chaney said. "The least we could do is come out here and show our support." Starkey and Mays were at Monday's game to see Veal.

"She wasn't just a good player. She was an outstanding young lady," Starkey said. "She was going to play college basketball somewhere but she changed her life. You hate to lose anybody that young, with so much potential."

Veal, a 5-foot-8 junior, was the district MVP. She was averaging 14 points, 5.5 assists and two steals. A hypertrophic cardiomyopathy is the most common cause of sudden, unexpected death among young athletes, according to Dr. Kim Edward LeBlanc said. The condition makes it difficult for blood to leave the heart, but it is difficult to discern.

"It is rare enough that there is no recommendation to screen for it," LeBlanc said. Veal was diabetic and Don Moreau, chief of operations for the corner's office, said the condition may have related to the disease.

LeBlanc, chairman of the Department of Family Medicine at the LSU Medical Center, a specialist in sports medicine, said diabetes should not prevent an athlete from playing.

IRL

Open-wheel leagues near deal

Associated Press

The possible unification of American open-wheel racing series was in the hands of the low-water Wednesday, working out the final details of a deal that could re-energize the struggling sport.

Rather than a merger, the proposed deal, which could be announced as soon as Friday, would see some teams from the Champ Car World Series blended into the Indy Racing League's IndyCar Series, with immediate gains in car count and races.

"It is still not done, but still moving," IRL spokesman Fred Nation told The Associated Press Wednesday.

"The lawyers are still lawyering and we are still drafting deals and whittling away at the issues. We're optimisitic the issues can be resolved."

Meanwhile, Champ Car spokesman David Hidgon said series co-owner Kevin Kalkhoven, a key person in the negotiations was still in England on family business and would not return to the U.S. until sometime late Thursday.

Since the IRL began competing with what was then the established CART series in 1996, the two have gone head to head for drivers, teams, fans, sponsors and TV ratings, generally losing out on all counts.

Things have only gotten worse for the IRL, with car companies losing confidence in the current U.S. economic woes.

Before the proposed agreement, Champ Car was set to begin its season April 29 at Long Beach, Calif., with no more than 17 cars, while the IndyCar Series was in danger of starting its season March 29 at Homestead, Fla., as few as 16.

With the deal apparently nearing completion, it appeared Wednesday that between six and 10 cars from the Champ Car side would take the offer from IRL founder and Indianapolis Motor Speedway president Tony George of a free Honda engine lease program, free Dalarna chassis and $1.2 million in team incentives.

Several Champ Car teams are not expected to take George's offer because, even with the engines, cars and incentives, it would take an additional $2 million or more to compete in the IRL. The teams that don't have the sponsorship or backing to continue will either close down or move to sports car racing, which is less costly.

Obviously, those who would take the deal in its current form and show the market.

"I believe it would be a stronger series again with a lot of solid events," said Eric Bachelart, a former open-wheel driver and now owner of Conquest Racing in the Champ Car series.

"What the IRL has is a good package, with the Indianapolis 500 and some other things that will help attract sponsors. There will be lots of cars, lots of teams. A good show.

"I'd love to see everyone get involved, though. Bachelart was waiting anxiously to hear a confirmation that the deal is done.

"I'm ready to move any time soon and enter two cars in the IRL," Bachelart said. "I believe this is the best option to go that way. And, with Champ Car, it has lost a lot of credibility at this point."

CART went into bankruptcy in January 2004 and was bought by Kalkhoven, Gerald Forsythe and Paul Gentilozzi, all team owners in what is now Champ Car. They have since added Dan Petitti, another team owner, as a partner.

Led by Kalkhoven and Forsythe, Champ Car decided to go away from the traditional open-wheel oval and focus its efforts on city street races, hoping the carnivals atmosphere surrounding these events would assure success, and on racing outside the U.S., away from the IRL.

It worked, to a point. Champ Car's most successful events are the street, airport or road races in Long Beach, Edmonton, Toronto, Australia and Mexico City. And most of the races outside the U.S., including several events in Canada, are struggling.

Overall, the series made little impact in America, its home base.

The impending deal is expected to include Long Beach, Edmonton, Toronto and Australia in 2008, with negotiations for several other current Champ Car events to be added to the IRL schedule in 2009, likely including Toronto and Mexico City.

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Bosh scores 40 in win over Magic

Associated Press

TORONTO — The Toronto Raptors want to fine-tune their aggressive approach in the second half of games this season, tying Vince Carter's NBA single-game high of 129, set Jan. 15, 2006.

Raptors center Chris Bosh shoots over Magic center Dwight Howard in Toronto's 127-110 win Wednesday.

Bosh made 11 of his first 12 shots and even had a rare 3-pointer in the third quarter, struggling to contain a smile as he retreated back down court. Bosh is 3-for-3 from 3-point range this season.

"There was not one thing they did that made us uncomfortable," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "Chris Bosh, we could not guard. We're going to have to think about double-teaming him next time."

Van Gundy said Bosh "destroyed" Orlando center Dwight Howard.

Anticipating that Bosh would struggle trying to post-up Howard, Raptors coach Sam Mitchell urged him to face Howard one-on-one. With Bosh making shots, the strategy worked.

"When Chris is making his jump shot, he is just too hard to guard," Mitchell said. "He can go around, left and right, and he can shoot it. I told the coaches at halftime when we went into the locker room to just leave him alone, don't cover him because he doesn't need our help right now."

Carlos Delfino came off the bench to score 23 for Toronto, including five 3-pointers. Jamario Moon had 17 points and 12 rebounds, and Anthony Parker scored 16.

Howard led Orlando with 37 points and 15 rebounds, going 13-for-16 from the field and 11-for-15 from the free-throw line. Rashard Lewis and Hedo Turkoglu each finished with 16. Jameer Nelson had 12 and Maurice Evans 12.

A jumper by Juan Dixon with 30 seconds left in the third gave the Raptors 10 points. Jason Kapono added two more with a baseline jumper as Toronto took a 102-82 lead into the fourth.

Bosh and Calderon returned after Orlando opened the final quarter with a 10-2 run, closing to 104-92, but the Magic were never able to get the deficit below 10 points.

Van Gundy was unimpressed with the attempted comeback.

"Those kinds of runs happen all the time in the NBA," he said. "All (Mitchell) did was put Calderon and Bosh back in and game over."

Calderon helped ice the game with back-to-back 3-pointers and an alley-oop pass to Moon, giving the Raptors a 16-point lead.

Van Gundy showed his frustration as Toronto pulled away.

"I didn't like our level of competitiveness," he said. "I thought we were hanging our heads and stuff."

Howard agreed that the Magic appeared beaten.

"We missed a couple of shots, they come down and hit two 3s in a row and we hung our heads a little bit," Howard said. "We can't do that."
Irish lead conference meet

The women's swimming team jumped out to a roaring start on Wednesday at the Big East championship, finishing in first place after day one of competition with an overall score of 111 points at the Nassau County Aquatic Center in East Meadow, N.Y. "It was a great overall team effort," assistant coach Joel White said. "Every single person worked and did their part." Close on their heels was Pittsburgh, with a combined score of 97. Pittsburgh was the only Big East team to defeat the Irish this season in a dual meet, Connecticut (180), Louisville (170) and West Virginia (177) rounded out the top five after three events.

The Irish performed well in the relays, which are crucial to winning the overall title for the championship because they are worth double the points of individual events in the final standings.

The 200-yard medley relay team of senior Caroline Johnson, freshman Sam Maxwell, freshman Amywyyn Miller, and junior Christa Higgins set a new Notre Dame school record in the final heats at 6:32.45 and also earned an NCAA B-cut time. During the race, the Irish were trailing first-place Louisville, but eventually pulled ahead to place first in the race. Two members of the above quartet, Lylie and Hoffman, helped set the previous school record during the 2007 Big East meet. Along with current senior Ted Brown and current junior Jeff Wood, they achieved a time of 6:32.67.

The Irish also claimed fifth place in the 200 yard medley relay, gaining 28 points in the process. Hoffman, senior Andrew McKay, junior Sam Pendergast, and sophomore Ross Moore earned a time of 1:38.87 in the race.

Tomorrow's qualifying matches begin at 11 a.m. Those who meet the qualifying times will compete for points in the final heats at 6 p.m.

Coach Welsh hopes his team performs just as well tomorrow. "One of the beautiful things about swimming is you don't win by making someone else lose," he said. "You win by swimming fast. The emphasis is on having every person go as fast as they can. We aim to swim our races as fast as we can and think that we swam them right."

Contact Elynn Michalak at emichalak@nd.edu

Contact Jared Jedick at jjeck@nd.edu

Irish freshman Heidi Grossman dives during Notre Dame's 188-111 win over Louisville on Jan. 18.

THA TO METANIOSSIS (Think it Over)
Thursday, February 21

7:00 & 10:00 pm
Browning Cinema

HUMOR IN EUROPEAN FILM SERIES
presented by
The Nanovic Institute for European Studies
Kessler
continued from page 24

Four teams in the MAIA will get home-court advantage in the first round of next week’s conference playoffs.

The Bulldogs got within four of the record broken, the game really needed this win for us because then we’ll play the first round of conference at home,” Kessler said. “At this point we control our own destiny, and we are focused on beating Olivet.”

Contact Griffin Dassatti at gdassatt@nd.edu

KELLY FRANCISCO/The Observer

Irish sophomore Cosmina Ciobanu prepares to serve during Notre Dame’s 5-2 win over Ohio State on Feb. 14.

KELLY-FRANCISCO/The Observer

Belles senior guard Allison Kessler dribbles past a Bulldogs defender during Saint Mary’s 74-63 win over Adrian on Wednesday. Kessler broke the all-time Saint Mary’s scoring record in the game.

KELLY-FRANCISCO/The Observer

Kessler, who went 4-for-16 from the field but scored 22 of her game-high 31 points from the free-throw line, was backed up by junior forward Erin Newman’s 20 points and 14 rebounds.

The Bulldogs went within four on their first possession of the second half, but again the Belles rallied for a 14-point lead with six minutes to go in the game. Despite a late Adrian rally to get back within six points, Saint Mary’s held on for the important win.

“I’m just happy to be a part of it. I’ve only been here for two years and Allison started this her freshman year,” Henley said. “It’s not something we really talk about, it being an individual honor in a team sport, but this team really rallied around her and we’re proud of her. We were especially glad she could get it in front of her home fans.”

The record broken, the game won, Kessler and the Belles now have to look ahead to their next game.

“We really needed this win and Saturday is a must-win for us because then we’ll play the first round of conference at home,” Kessler said. “At this point we control our own destiny, and we are focused on beating Olivet.”

Contact Griffin Dassatti at gdassatt@nd.edu

Hear the cool sounds of the 50th annual collegiate jazz festival

The Festival Schedule

Wednesday, February 20
6:00 p.m. — CJF Coffeehouse
Lafayette Ballroom
Featuring ND Jazz Band II
Thursday, February 21
8-11:00 p.m. — CJF Swing Night
Lafayette Ballroom
Free swing lessons with ND Swing Club
9-11:00 p.m. — Open swing dancing with live music
Featuring M.O.B.B. and the AAJCBBO All-star Big Band
Friday, February 22
7-10 p.m. — Evening concerts block
Located in Washington Hall
Saturday, February 23
10-11:00 a.m. — Judges’ jazz Clinic
Nacci Band Building
Open to the public
All-day/evening concerts
Located in Washington Hall

For an extended schedule, visit www3.nd.edu/~sub/cjf/
Panthers continued from page 24
we haven’t played in a while, but we’ve seen them on TV, so we know them pretty well,” Kurz said.
The last meeting between the two squads in the Joyce Center was on March 5, 2005. The Panthers won 77-75 and domi-
ninated inside, scoring 56 points in the paint.
Kurz was a little-used fresh-
man at the time.
“I knew that whole game from the bench,” he said. “They just murdered us on the backboard.”
Cleaning the glass will be key in the 2008 edition as well, but Notre Dame matches up better this time. The Irish and Panthers are No. 1 and No. 2 in the conference respectively in rebounding margin.
“They pride themselves on defense and rebounding,” Kurz said. “It will be key for us to rebound as a team.”
Injuries have been a factor for the Panther squad.
Small forward Mike Cook is out for the season because of a knee injury he suffered in a 65-64 win over Duke on Dec. 20.
Kurz, who grew up near Cook, said it will be strange to play the Panthers without his friend in their lineup.
“I’ve known him since seventh grade,” Kurz said. “I’ve played against him many times.”
Point guard Levance Fields has been limited because of an injury for Pittsburgh. He played 20 minutes on Friday in a 72-54 loss to Marquette, his first action since a Dec. 29 loss to Ohio State.
Irish coach Mike Brey said he expects Fields to be near 100 percent for tonight’s game.
“If he’s out there at all tonight, he’s a lot better than he was last Friday,” Brey said.
In the absence of Cook and Fields, the Panthers will be led by forwards Sam Young and DeJuan Blair, who combine for nearly 30 points a game.
“If you’re going to beat Pitt, you have to defend your paint,” Kurz said.
After Connecticut’s 65-60 win over DePaul Tuesday, Notre Dame fell into fourth place in the Big East, half a game behind the Big East’s top three teams.
The top four teams get a bye in the conference tournament next weekend.
If the Irish can beat Pittsburgh, they will draw even with Connecticut and be half a game behind Big East rival co-leaders Georgetown and St. John’s.
Brey said the regular sea-
son championship hasn’t entered the team’s mindset yet.
“We want to be in position for a bye in the Big East tournamen-
t,” he said. “That’s about as deep as we’ve gotten as far as big picture.”
For Pittsburgh, tonight’s game represents an opportunity for both conference and national advancement.
The Panthers dropped the Top 25 after their blowout loss to the Golden Eagles on Feb. 15. The loss also dropped Pittsburgh to seventh in the Big East.
“They’ll be ready to play. They’re a proud program,” Brey said.
Mike Brey
Irish coach

Guilder continued from page 24
have persevered and are four-
year players that have made the commitment to becoming great people on and off the ice,” said Jackson, who inherited the Notre Dame program following Van Guilder’s freshman season.
“We’re a kind of guy who does things the right way. He’s a committed athlete, a committed student, he represents himself and our program with a lot of class, and he’s just a very mature young man — the kind of guy you feel comfortable with being in the public arena or repre-
senting us on campus in every aspect of how he behaves and represents himself.”
When Van Guilder reflects on his Notre Dame experience, the dramatic goals or big-game wins aren’t the only things that come to mind. He has become actively involved in community service, something in part to a lighter course load because of his summer school enrollment, but mostly due to an inner drive to give back.
“We’ve got all this free time, so we might as well go out and help a kid,” said Van Guilder, whose 23 points is good for second-best on the Irish squad. “My favorite part is that we each have a kid we road to every Wednesday, and to see the little guy’s progress ... he loves us being there, and it’s fun when you actually see the impact you make on someone’s life.”
Junior right wing Erik Condra, who lived with Van Guilder as a freshman when Van Guilder’s roommate left the program, said it will be “their time”.
“Van Guilder still defines himself as a leader,” Condra said. “He sets a standard as the moralist, a very religious guy, a guy that Irish hockey can look up to. And that he has, ever since Notre Dame’s absurdly showing in Van Guilder’s rookie cam-
paign that brought on Jackson to lead a program through the decline.
“That’s the thing I’m most proud of, where we’ve come since my freshman year,” Van Guilder said. “Coming from five wins and maybe six fans to an NCAA appearance, a conference championship and a big building — that’s one thing I can definitely look back on.
“We got comfortable losing freshman year — you’d come to the rink wondering how much we are going to lose by or when are we going to blow our lead this weekend. That atti-
cude’s so long gone that it’s really
cool seeing the progress the program’s made.”
Van Guilder played a large role in that transition, playing in every game — 50 straight — in his Notre Dame career.
For the third time in a row (last season as the team’s most improved player), Van Guilder was recognized for his leadership.
“Van Guilder was a little-used fresh-
man at the time,” Condra said. “I’ve never seen anyone better in the mushing division. He came in other guys. He came in and was able to fulfill duties on the defensive side of the puck and in penalty killing situations. And he’s a huge impact on Van Guilder’s goal-
scoring capabilities. Van Guilder still represents us on campus in every aspect of how he behaves and represents himself.”
That tells you about his dura-
tion, his conditioning, and his willingness to maximize his potential.
Though being called upon to fulfill duties on the defensive side of the puck and in penalty killing situations, Jackson said he played every situation, and he’s relied upon not just to be one of our better offensive players, but also defensively.
“Van Guilder was a big brother to me,” Condra said. “He took me under his wing a little bit by showing me the ropes.”
“Van Guilder’s been like a big brother to me,” Condra said. “He took me under his wing a little bit by showing me the ropes.”
Van Guilder said. “He took me under his wing a little bit by showing me the ropes.”
Van Guilder has been one of Notre Dame’s most important players this year.
That role has been one of the things Van Guilder said he’s proudest of.
“It’s been a lot different last year when it was a smooth ride all the way through and all the building block to be going our way,” Van Guilder said. “This year’s only going to make us a better team, better players and better people for it, but it’s defi-
nitely been a bigger challenge for sure.”
Van Guilder was the team’s most improved player three years ago.
“It’s a pretty tough thing to be ready to go on the ice because of injuries,” Van Guilder said. “That was the highlight of my career — so far. Hopefully I’ll replace that this season.”
Contact Matt Gambler at mgambler@nd.edu
ANOTHER UNFUNNY CROSSWORD

I was thinking about what you said and you're right; Hillary Clinton is running for president. Women are CEO, surgeons, authors, physicists—women really can do anything! Yeah!

LIZ MURPHY AND SARAH MUSCARELLA
ND has not beaten Pittsburgh since 2003

By CHRIS KOOREY
Sports Editor

No. 21 Notre Dame has won 34 straight games at home, but the Irish haven’t beaten Pittsburgh anywhere since 2003. One of those streaks will end tonight at 7 p.m. when the Irish host the Panthers at the Joyce Center.

The last time Notre Dame beat Pittsburgh was on Feb. 9, 2003, when all of the current Irish starters were in high school. The No. 10 Irish took down the No. 4 Panthers 66-64 in the final seconds.

Notre Dame (19-5, 9-3 Big East) has not faced Pittsburgh (19-6, 7-5) since Jan. 4, 2006, a 106-97 Panther victory at the Petersen Events Center in Pittsburgh.

Irish senior captain Bob Kurz said he and his teammates have followed the Panthers closely despite not facing them on the court.

“It’s the only Big East team we haven’t played,” Kurz said.

Irish guard Kyle McAlarney dribbles past Huskies junior guard Jarvis Nichols during Notre Dame’s 108-62 win over Northern Illinois on Dec. 20. McAlarney averages 15.1 points per game this season, heading into a home game tonight against Pittsburgh.

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish face three top-20 teams on Tobacco Road

By DAN MASTERTON
Sports Writer

The No. 15 Irish (6-4) head to North Carolina to see if Tobacco Road can play more than just basketball.

The net four of three straight top-20 opponents starts today at 5 p.m. when Notre Dame takes on No. 8 Duke (3-0) at the Sheffield Tennis Center in Durham, N.C. The Irish play No. 19 Wake Forest (2-1) Saturday and No. 5 North Carolina (6-3) Sunday.

The Irish have never beaten the Blue Devils at the Sheffield Tennis Center in four tries.

“We know we’re going to have a tough match. They’re real good, and I feel like they’re a top-5 team,” Irish coach Jay Louderback said.

Though the Irish have won the last two matches, both on neutral courts, Duke leads the all-time series 12-2. The Blue Devils are hot right now, coming off a 4-3 upset victory over No. 6 Florida.

Reigning ACC Player of the Week and No. 38 singles player in the country, sophomore Elizabeth Potkin, won the decisive three-set match to complete the upset for Duke. The Blue Devils’ singles attack is deep, also featuring No. 16 Elifah Nzo, who is 3-0 in singles play for the dual season and No. 13 Ilrka Zsinszka.

Duke also boasts a top-10 doubles pair in No. 6 Amanda Granson and Melissa Zang. They will square off with Notre Dame’s top pair of Brook Buck and Kelsey Toeffl, No. 3 in the nation.

Buck had a minor ankle sprain last week and sat out the 7-0 win over Wisconsin on Feb. 15, but she is healthy again, Louderback said.

“We didn’t need to play her against Wisconsin. She’s see BUCK/page 21

HOCKEY

Van Guilder shows class on ice

SmC BASKETBALL

Kessler sets all-time point record in win

By MATT Gamber
Sports Writer

Coaches and teammates recognized long ago the class with which senior captain Mark Van Guilder handles himself on the ice, in the classroom and in the community.

Now, so is the rest of the country.

Van Guilder, a right wing from Roseville, Minn., has been named one of 10 national finalists for the Lowe’s Senior CLASS Award: Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School award — a testament to four years of dedication to a program he has helped redefine, Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

That award is about guys who

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI
Sports Writer

Alison Kessler only shot 25 percent from the field in Wednesday’s 74-63 win over Adrian, and yet with 4-33 left in the first half, coach Jennifer Henley called a timeout so Kessler could get a standing ovation from the home crowd.

That’s because Kessler had just sunk a free-throw for her 13th point, giving her 1,534 points for her career and breaking the Saint Mary’s all-time record previously held by Jennie Taubenheim.

After the game, Kessler said the record had been on her mind coming into the game, but it wasn’t the only thing.

“I was just thinking that I wanted to get it over with so I could move on and not have it hanging over my head anymore,” she said. “It was really great that they took the time out to recognize it, but at the same time I was more worried about winning the game.”

Modesty aside, Kessler was right to be concerned with the team’s performance. Coming into Wednesday’s contest, the Belles (11-12, 7-8 MIAA) were in a four-way tie for fourth in the MIAA along with Alma, Olivet and Adrian. The top

By Al Gallay
Sports Writer

Irish senior Mark Van Guilder passes the puck during Notre Dame’s 2:1 overtime win over the U.S. Under-18 team on Feb. 1.

see GUILDER/page 22

see KESSLER/page 21

see PANTHERS/page 22

Mindfulness matters.