Grad student lends aid in Bangladesh

Shawn Ahmed pestinates studies, liquidates accounts to chronicle service trip to East Asia

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Assistant News Editor

The mission of the University of Notre Dame calls its students to rise to extraordinary levels in service to others. Still, it is rare to see a student liquidate his accounts, postpone his studies, and travel halfway around the world to hand out mosquito nets and clean water in a disaster area.

Shawn Ahmed, a 26-year-old graduate student in sociology, did exactly that, all the while chronicling his exploits on YouTube and Flickr under the pseudonym, "The Uncultured Project." Ahmed has been in Bangladesh since late June.

"I call it 'The Uncultured Project' because there really is nothing sophisticated about it," he said. "I just have no formal training or concrete plan. I just bought a camera, grabbed my computer, and flew to Bangladesh to see if I could make a difference."

His mission was inspired by Notre Dame's 2006 forum on world health, which featured Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, a renowned poverty expert.

"I would not have started [the Uncultured Project] if I was just an undergraduate from my University," said Ahmed, who previously attended Toronto University. "In September of 2006, I said, 'I would not have started [the Uncultured Project] if I was just an undergraduate from my University.'

Ahmed has been in Bangladesh since late June. The park will feature 200 large specimen trees, a lawn, and a terrace extending from the DPAC that "will act as a place for receptions, performances, and other special events," Marsh said.

"Weaving through the lawn of the Cyclone Sidr disaster in Bangladesh last year."

Irish Green construction to resume this spring

The area behind the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will be turned into a park called Irish Green, set to resume construction this spring.

By JOHN TERNEY
News Writer

Construction on the Irish Green, a park behind the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC), will resume this spring, with the hope of being completed for the beginning of the Fall 2008 semester, University Architect Douglas Marsh said. The park is being built with an unspecified amount of money given by an anonymous donor, Marsh said.

The Irish Green is considered part of the DPAC site in the 2002 Campus Plan, which aims to allow the University to expand in a way that retains the character of the campus, but also does not prevent or stifle growth.

The park will feature 200 large specimen trees, a lawn, and a terrace extending from the DPAC that "will act as a place for receptions, performances, and other special events," Marsh said.

"Weaving through the lawn of the Cyclone Sidr disaster in Bangladesh last year."

Wabruda sponsors conference

Club promotes unity, history through event

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

In observance of African-American Heritage Month, the Notre Dame student group Wabruda will sponsor the first annual Black History Conference this weekend.

Wabruda, named Notre Dame's chapter of the club for the 2006-07, means "brother" in Swahili. The club has been around for at least a few years and has grown to 20 members, said William Davis, the club's president, who has been president of the club for the past two years.

The group aims to promote brotherhood in the Notre Dame black community through professional experiences, community service and intellectual elevation, Williams said, and it also works to prepare its members for success after Notre Dame by educating them about the need for more black men in corporate America. Williams said service is an important part of the club's mission and has included such efforts in the past as a Black History Month presentation at the Robinson Community Learning Center and playing bingo with seniors at Heilbrun Center.

"When you give back to the community, it makes you better as well," Williams said.

College to hold Hypatia Day

Saint Mary's professor of mathematics, Mary Connolly, has been involved with the event since its inception. She said Hypatia Day has been very successful in the past.

"Girls leave Saint Mary's bubbling over with what they have developed and constructed in the lab. We want to encourage them to hang on to that excitement over math," Connolly said.

Close to 30 Saint Mary's math students are involved, along with representation from the math, science, nursing and chemistry clubs.

This year's participants were specifically selected by their local math and science teachers. They had to demonstrate their abilities and mathematical talents and as a result, Misiolek has high expectations for the event.

"After meeting in our classrooms and labs with our students who have succeeded in math and science, we hope these younger students will feel confident they can do it too," Misiolek said.

Jessica Brinker, president of the math club and a math major, highlighted the event's significance.

"Hypatia Day is a great opportunity for younger girls to get a glimpse of college life and become more excited in math and science," Brinker said.

The day begins with a keynote speaker, typically a female figure in the math
Lover of Love

I shall remember three years ago what Tom Hulce, then the producer of ABC's "Nighttime," told my journalism class about the news industry.

"You have to be kind of masochistic and love hard work," he said. "If you can be normal, and not be so compulsive, God bless you. But if you can't, and you're stuck with that, go into news."

I'm stuck with that. I've known it for 18 years. What I didn't realize yet was how many other people were the same.

It's not that everyone at The Observer is seriously considering a career in journalism. (There are just a few, actually.) It's that all of us are passionate about news, either. Nearly 200 people contribute to this paper, and for plenty of different reasons. Many aren't as idealistic as that "ethical obligation" to tell the truth, inform the public and uphold democracy - the lessons we're taught in journalism classes.

Still, there's a little masochism in so many of us.

From 12-hour shifts to three-hour weeks to deadline struggles, I've been continually amused by what people tolerate - and with little complaint. OK, people do complain about the paychecks.

I've watched people step into demanding editing roles not because they want because they know how much they were needed. I've watched writers and photographers quickly agree to six or seven last-minute trips when the team they've been covering makes it into a tournament. And I've watched reporters drop everything when something more important than midterm papers happens - like the deaths of two students earlier this week.

Whether it's ditching classes, skipping night-watch, running on three hours of sleep - or putting up with a certain staff member who listens to nothing but Carry Nation - everyone at this paper makes sacrifices.

But I've done virtually nothing to install this sense of responsibility in staff members. They already have it.

I shouldn't be surprised. After all, people show up at the cruiser in downtown South Dining Hall intending to work. But wonder how many extra articles and 4 a.m. nights a same person is willing to handle.

Then again, most people down here aren't completely sane. When people start making jokes about how convenient it would be if we had cats and a shower in the office, you know there's deep thinking (and personal hygiene) are a little-off, so say the least.

I'm fully aware of how much the general public does not care if we get our sleep or our hygiene. But if you're in our critiquing merit list - Jacques Blier, anyone? - I still dislike when people issue vague, sweeping attacks against the media. I know in my career, I'll meet those journalists that give all of us a bad name - the self-important, take-charge types who drive on splashy headlines and their own pretense.

But I've spent four years with some pretty selfless people, who I've thought of the paper this year, know they worked hard for us.

For me, masochism isn't something destructive. It's a lover of love. To all those who have labored with me, I'm beyond grateful. Thank you.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Maddy Hanna at mhanna@nd.edu

\[ Correction\]

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 you find four or more minutes, please call us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

CONTRIBUTOR

Maddy Hanna
Editor-in-Chief

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WILL GET BEST PICTURE AT THE OSCARS?

\begin{itemize}
  \item Brad Duffy, 
  \item Connor Martin, 
  \item Heathen Johnson, 
  \item Laura McCarty, 
  \item Molly Boyle, 
  \item Stephanie Leyva
\end{itemize}

Brad Duffy, senior Fisher
Connor Martin, senior off-campus
Heather Johnson, sophomore Welsh Fam
Laura McCarty, freshman McGlinn
Molly Boyle, freshman Pasquarilla Fast
Stephanie Leyva, senior off-campus

"Juno because it's a pro-life movie."
"I party harder than Paul Wall."
"No Country for Old Men."
"Ratatouille."
"Ten Things I Hate About You."
"Definitely Juno."

Former Irish basketball great Austin Carr cries in jubilation during his welcoming in the Joyce Center at Notre Dame's 82-70 win over Pittsburgh Thursday night. Carr was recently inducted to the College Basketball Hall of Fame.

OFFBEAT

Fish launched into space to study motion sickness

STOCKHOLM, Sweden - Seventy-two small fish were briefly launched into space by researchers Thursday, hoping their swimming patterns would shed some light on motion sickness.

German researchers sent the eels on a 10-minute rocket ride that blasted off from a launch pad in northern Sweden, said Professor Reinhard Hilbig, who was in charge of the project.

"They were very happy, I think they want to have another flight," he said.

The thumbnail-sized fish were filmed as they swam around weightlessly in small aquariums during the unadulterated space environment. The German team will now study the video to see if some of the fish swam in circles because that is what fish do when they experience motion sickness, said Hilbig, of the Zoological Institute at the University of Stuttgart.

Man arrested twice within four hours

MOSCOW, Pa. - Police say a Lackawanna County man suspected of drunken driving was released in custody of his sister, who took his keys. But four hours later police got another call. This time it was to a Covington Township intersection where authorities say the man crashed his car into a state Department of Transportation end loader.

State police say Daniel Corbett, 56, of Spring Brook Township, was taken to Community Medical Center both times - about 2 a.m. Wednesday and again at about 6 a.m.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

As part of the Ten Years of Excellence lecture series, professor Karen Hein Ahlborn from the department of finance at DePaul University will speak at 10:40 a.m. today in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

Mass will be celebrated for the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter today 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 today 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 today at 7 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 in Washington Hall.

There will be a Lenten Retreat of reflection, mass, and reconciliation sponsored by the Community and Liberation at Notre Dame Campus Ministry in 330 Colman-Morse Center. Saturday from 9 am-12 pm. All are invited to attend.

Notre Dame hockey will play Ohio State today and Saturday at 7:35 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.

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
\hline
\textbf{DATE} & \textbf{TODAY} & \textbf{TONIGHT} & \textbf{SATURDAY} & \textbf{SUNDAY} & \textbf{MONDAY} & \textbf{TUESDAY} \\
\hline
\textbf{LOCAL WEATHER} & & & & & & \\
\hline
\textbf{TODAY} & HIGH & 27 & 20 & HIGH & 17 & HIGH \\
\hline
\textbf{LOW} & LOW & 20 & HIGH & 17 & HIGH & 18 \\
\hline
\textbf{TONIGHT} & HIGH & 33 & 18 & HIGH & 25 & HIGH \\
\hline
\textbf{SATURDAY} & HIGH & 40 & 20 & HIGH & 27 & LOW \\
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\textbf{SUNDAY} & HIGH & 35 & 15 & HIGH & 35 & LOW \\
\hline
\textbf{MONDAY} & HIGH & 20 & HIGH & 27 & LOW & 15 \\
\hline
\textbf{TUESDAY} & HIGH & 40 & HIGH & 35 & LOW & 15 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

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 Hall at mhanna1@nd.edu or Kyle West at kwest1@nd.edu if interested.
Park

and terrace will be path­ways, benches, and a monu­ment, but that has not yet been designed.

The opening of the Irish Green is timed to coincide with the beginning of the construction of the Irish Street Commons, Marsh said. By incorporating the park into the “Park Street plan, the University hopes the Irish Green and its events serve as a link between the cam­pus and the South Bend residential community.

“It is designed to be a transitional space between community and campus,” Marsh said. “We believe that it will be attractive to the entire Notre Dame and South Bend communities.

The Irish Green’s proxim­ity to DPAC will also play a major role in its utility.

According to Marsh, DPAC will serve as both the terrace and the large expanse of the lawn to host performances and other events.

Contact John Tierney at jtierney@nd.edu

Jazz

continued from page 1

Temporal jazz, all-percussion steel drum bands to a salsa jazz band, and for groups of people to less than 10 people, this year’s CUF will be unlike any past festivals.

Francois said the biggest challenge this year is the addition of a new concert block on Saturday from 1-5 p.m. In previous years, the festival took place on Friday and Saturday nights, but it will now feature four extra hours of per­formance time on Saturday after­noon.

With this added time will be a student jam session where music­ian members of the visiting bands will gather on stage for an hour-and-a-half set.

“Nothing like this has ever been done before at CUF, so we expect it to be an exciting performance,” Francois said.

Unlike other college festivals, CUF is a black-owned festival that focuses on learning. The second year will be highlighting the performances in private feedback sessions directly after the perfor­mance.

The judges include Jamey Aebersold, saxophone; Greg Benetumili, guitar; Nancy, piano, Dan Morgenten, writer

and historian, Larry Ridley, bass; Marvin Stumm, trumpet, and Cif Wallace, drummers. Each of those judges performed at CUF when they were college students.

Aside from judging, those seven musicians will perform in their own groups Saturday night at 10 p.m.

Bands chosen for the festival were selected from a group over 200 applicants who were asked to submit a CD of their perform­ances. Groups were chosen based on their talent level and diversity of music.

In past years, CUF has hosted jazz greats like Henry Mancini, Cecil and Dee Dee Bridgewater, John Faddis, the Clayton broth­ers, and 2008 Grammy-winner, Herbie Hancock.

“For 50 years Notre Dame has been bringing top-tier jazz pro­grams to campus to celebrate this American-born style of music, and we are committed to keeping the standard high,” Francois said.

All CUF events are free for Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s, and Holy Cross students. Tickets are required for Fridays 7-11 p.m. session and Saturday’s 1-11 p.m. performance and can be obtained in the Lafortune Box Office.

Contact Gene Noone at enoono@nd.edu

Professor studies west Irish villages

A ghost town of stone houses frozen in time for decades, the island of Inis Airc, just off the western coast of Ireland, is an unhabit­ated graveyard where roof­less build­ings remain untouched by the islanders who were forcibly relocated to the mainland by the British government in 1960.

“It’s eerie,” said Ian Kuijt, asso­ciate professor of anthropology at the University of Notre Dame. Kuijt, who in 2005 wrapped up a 5-year excavation studying the origins of agriculture at a Neolithic site next to the Dead Sea in Jordan, decided his next proj­ect would take place in a more hospitable climate and one, with some of his students, is exploring the history of Inis Airc, and other, abandoned villages

across Ireland’s west coast.

“My wife and I spent three weeks bicycling through western Ireland in 1995,” he explained through a phone, “and it was just so beautiful and so accessible. I fell in love with the place.”

His reason for ultimately selecting this corner of the world to research is more profound and actually evolved from his widely popular Archaeology of Ireland book, which he teaches every two years and for which he and his students travel to Ireland over fall break to travel to various sites.

“I wanted to look at what, in many ways, is very much an understudied problem,” he said.

What process created the cultur­al landscapes of the Irish coast? The core of it, in many ways, is the process of landscape creation, which he explained through a phone, “The Great Famine. There has been surprisingly little research on the human agency and ethnol­ogy of this period of time.”

Kuijt’s international, multi-dis­ciplinary research team is com­prised of graduate and under­graduate students and, along with Notre Dame, researchers from University College Dublin, Trinity College Dublin and Carfiff University.

The group is conducting a gen­eral study of the mountaineous Connorama region and case stud­ies on Inis Airc and Omeoy Islands, Errislands and Streamstown Bay in County Galway. Many of the islands have no road or train access, and there are no medical facilities or services, which promoted their evacuation by the government.

Last summer, Kuijt took seven Notre Dame undergraduate stu­dents to conduct the initial ar­chaeological assessment of the sites. Sophomore Ryan Lash helped with an analysis of the nearby Omeoy Island.

Kuijt recorded all of the aban­doned cemeteries and artifacts, including a medieval shell mound, by mapping them using satellite recording systems and describing their features, Lash explained.

“We uncovered more than 100 sites. While the students took note of what was above ground, Mark Schnurr, associate professor and chair of anthropology at Notre Dame, used a remote sensing ground-generating rapid device to locate underground remains. His detection of abandoned fires­place, shell mounds and build­ing earth by sand dunes will help minimize damage in future.

“I was impressed with the incredible archaeological record and how relatively little is known about it,” Schnurr said.

Now that the “groundwork” has been laid, this summer Kuijt and his team will spend a week at Inis Airc recording all of the aban­doned buildings and use this to understand other areas where destruction has taken place.

They also will conduct excavations at several villages, where Kuijt hopes to learn more about the fauna.

“We have information about poisons being in dietary resources, which they were,” he said. “But we have no understanding of what other types of food people ate, so how do we understand the diet of these people on this particular resource disappears?”

In addition, three students will interview elderly people from Airc until 1960 but now reside in neighboring villages.

“My hope is that their life was like back then and what they understand they have of the history, which they know as well as the migration of people to the United States. They hope to convince at least a few people to journey back and be inter­viewed on video camera in an effort to document folklore and life on the islands.

Report this text
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Ex-colonel to testify for terror suspect
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — In a stunning turnaround, the former chief military prosecutor at Guantanamo Bay said Thursday he would be a defense witness for the driver of Osama bin Laden.


"I feel that I can help," Davis said in a telephone interview from Washington. He called it "an opportunity to tell the truth."

At the April pretrial hearing inside the U.S. military base in southeast Cuba, counsel for Hamdan, a former bodyguard of al-Qaida leader bin Laden, asked for a defense team plan to argue that alleged political interference cited by Davis violates the Military Commissions Act, Hamdan's military lawyer, Navy Lt. Brian Mizer, told the AP.

Gives U.S. more data about Iran

WASHINGTON — For the second time in recent weeks, Washington has given the U.N. nuclear watchdog information on what it says were Tehran's attempts to make atomic weapons, but much of it is of doubtful value, diplomats said Thursday.

The diplomats also told The Associated Press the three-page update, for the first time since early last month, was sent to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.S. agreed to to let the Iranians look at some of the materials they could request, but Tehran has shown no interest.

LOCAL NEWS

Republicans protest immigration bill

INDIANAPOLIS — Republicans walked off the floor of the Indiana House Thursday night in protest of a potential vote on legislation that could prevent any GDP amendments from being offered to legislation aimed at penalizing employers who hire illegal immigrants.

Senators said it would be too weak on tackling illegal immigration. Some wanted to offer changes that among other things would lift the state or local governments from providing public assistance to illegal immigrants. That would include help in obtaining employ­ ment, housing, higher education or other types of assistance.

Serbia

Mob breaks into U.S. embassy

BEELITADA — Angry Serbs broke into the U.S. Embassy compound Thursday night as rioters rampaged through Belgrade from the get-go, putting an exclamation point of violence on the Western world's protest against Western support for an independent Kosovo.

At least 150,000 people called in Belgrade, waving Serbian flags and signs proclaiming "Stop USA terror," to denounce the bid by Kosovo's ethnic Albanian majority to create their own state out of what Serbia considers the ancient homeland of their culture.

Protesters burned American flags and the mob that attacked the embassy tore down the U.S. flag there. Crowds also ransacked a McDonald's, hosted stores and fought with police in front of other diplomatic compounds in a display of their growing thirsting in Serbia over the secession of what has been its southernmost province.

A charred body was found in the U.S. Embassy after the fire was put out, but all staff were accounted for, embassy spokeswoman Dana Perino said. Belgrade's Pink TV said the body appeared to be that of a foreign.

White House spokesman Dana Perino strongly criti­ cized Serbia's government, saying its leaders "were attacked by thugs" and Serb police had done enough to stop it. State Department spokesman Sean McCormick said the U.S. was concerned by the "surge of violence and threats" in Belgrade.

"Serbian national government has said it won't resort to military force, but the street violence could be a tactic to slow moves by more countries to follow the U.S., Britain, Germany and France in quickly recogniz­ ing Kosovo's independence," USA Today's Brian Fung wrote.

"Russia and China lead the states standing with Serbia," McCormick said. "But it seems to me that Kosovo's example could encourage separatist sentiment else­ where. The Kremlin has underlined its displeasure by hinting it might back separatists in pro-Western nations such as the former Soviet republic of Georgia."

"Serbian officials dis­ missed violence earlier in the week as "insignificant," and no police were guard­ ing the U.S. Embassy com­ pound even though it had been targeted previously. American officials said the offices had been closed at midday because of security concerns.

Milo drain Veljovic, a top Interior Ministry official, said that security forces had the situation under control and that mobs had been broken up.

The American Consulate on Thursday in Belgrade, Serbia, held a public gathering in front of the damaged McDonald's restaurant after a protest rally against Kosovo's independence on Thursday.

Associated Press

UCLA files for restraining order on activists

LOS ANGELES — The University of California went to court Thursday to try to keep animal rights activists away from UCLA employees and graduate stu­ dents who say they have been threat­ ened because of their research.

Three times since June 2006, Mohawk cocktail-type devices have been left near the homes of faculty members who oversee or participate in research that involves animals, according to a state­ ment from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Researchers' homes have also been vandalized and they have received threatening phone calls and e-mails, according to the university. On at least one occasion a faculty member received a package rigged with razor blades, the statement said.

"Enough is enough," UCLA Chancellor Gene Block said. "We're not willing to wait until somebody is injured before taking legal action to protect our faculty and administrators from terrorist tac­ tics, violence and harassment."

The University of California's Board of Regents filed suit in Superior Court in Santa Monica on Thursday, seeking a temporary restraining order and perma­ nent injunctions keeping activists away from UCLA employees and graduate stu­ dents engaged in such research, said university spokesman Phil Hampton.

At one time the university has several hundred ongoing research proj­ ects that involve the use of animals, he said.

Hampton said the suit specifically requests restraining orders and injunc­ tions against the Animal Liberation Front, the Animal Liberation Brigade, the UCLA Primate Freedom Project and five protesters believed to be affiliated with those groups.

The suit alleges that the defendants invaded researchers' privacy, interfered with business practices and intentionally caused emotional distress. It also asks the court to prohibit the defendants from vandalizing their property, violat­ ing local noise ordinances or dissemin­ ating personal information about universi­ ty personnel over the Internet.

Associated Press

Rioters in Belgrade, Serbia walk past a burning car in front of a damaged McDonald's restaurant after a protest rally against Kosovo's independence on Thursday.

Rioters protest American support for Kosovo's independence; one charred body found inside

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Associated Press

Rioters in Belgrade, Serbia walk past a burning car in front of a damaged McDonald's restaurant after a protest rally against Kosovo's independence on Thursday.
Clinton to Obama: Stop stealing words

New York senator accuses rival candidate of political plagiarism, elicits disapproval from Democratic audience

Associated Press

AUSTIN — Hillary Rodham Clinton accused presidential rival Barack Obama of plagiarizing her campaign speech Thursday night, but drew boos from a Democratic debate audience when she dared to call him the candidate of "change you can believe in.

Obama dismissed the charge out of hand, then turned the joint session of the crowd against himself when he countered, "What we shouldn't be distinguishing is whether each candidate. We should be lifting the country up.

The exchange marked an unusually pointed moment in an otherwise civil encounter in the days before March 4 primaries in Texas and Ohio — contests in which some of Clinton's supporters say she must win to sustain her campaign for the White House.

The former first lady has lost 11 straight primaries and caucuses as she trails her rival in delegate counts. Obama has won a pair of big union endorsements in the past two days.

In a university auditorium in the heart of Texas, the two rivals agreed that high-tech surveillance measures are preferable to confrontation of a force to combat illegal immigration.

They disagreed on the proper response to a change in government in Cuba in the wake of Fidel Castro's resignation. Clinton said she would refuse to sit down with incoming President Raul Castro until he implements political and economic reforms. Obama said he would meet "without preconditions," but added the U.S. agenda for such a session would include human rights in the Communist island nation.

They also sparred frequently about health care, a core issue of the campaign.

Clinton said repeatedly that Obama's plan would leave 15 million Americans uncovered.

But he, in turn, accused the former first lady of misrepresenting the issue by working in secrecy when her husband was in the White House.

"I'm going to do things different," he said. "We can have great plans, but if we don't change how the politics is working in Washington, then neither of our plans are going to happen.

Clinton was combative and complimentary by turns, and reflected on her well-known personal struggles in the debate's final moments.

"Everyone here knows I've lived through some crises and some engaging moments in my life," she said — a thinly veiled but clear reference to her husband's affair with Monica Lewinsky and subsequent impeachment. But she added that nothing she had been through matched the everyday struggles of voters.

Then, offering unprompted praise to her rival, the one-time front-runner said, "No matter what happens in this contest, I am honored to be here to back Barack Obama."

Both candidates were plainly popular with the debate audience. During one break someone in the crowd shouted "Obama," and the former first lady quickly responded, "Our candidate."

"Words are important and words matter but actions speak louder than words," Clinton said in an effort to change the subject.

"And the implication is that the people who've been voting for me or are involved in my campaign are somehow delusional," Obama said.

Clinton also raised Obama's use in his campaign speeches of words first uttered by his friend, Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick.

"If your candidacy is going to be about words then they should be your own words," Clinton said.

"If your candidacy is going to be about words then they should be your own words." — Hillary Clinton

New York senator

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. Notre Dame graduate and 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 Scandiano. 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, Nano Science Institute, etc.)

Application Deadline: Wednesday, February 27, 2008
Notre Dame

Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship Program in Italian Studies 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall University of Notre Dame
## Market Recap

### Stocks

| Dow Jones | 12,284.30 | -142.96 |

### Treasuries

| 10-YEAR NOTE | 4.10 | -0.133 | 4.794 |
| 13-WEEK BILL | 1.61 | -0.035 | 1.940 |
| 30-YEAR BOND | 3.96 | -0.091 | 4.533 |
| 5-YEAR NOTE | -0.21 | -0.186 | 2.807 |

### Commodities

| Light Crude (West) | $147.98 |
| Gold ($/oz.) | $1,105.94 |
| Pork Bellies (cents/lb.) | 0.93 |

### Exchange Rates

| YEN | 107.460 |
| EURO | 0.6738 |
| Canadian Dollar | 1.0194 |
| British Pound | 0.5995 |

### Blad data fans fears of recession

Regional manufacturing news and index of leading economic indicators disappoint

**Associated Press**

NEW YORK — The stock market finished with a sharp loss Thursday after bleak readings on the economy heightened investors' fears of recession. The Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 140 points.

Wall Street was disappointingly calm when the Philadelphia Federal Reserve reported that regional manufacturing indexes were more than predicted.

Another piece of bad news was the Conference Board's January index of leading economic indicators, which posted its fourth straight drop.

Investors had already been pricing in another interest rate cut — perhaps up to half a percentage point — after minutes from the Federal Reserve's last policy-setting meeting indicated central bankers will remain vigilant about the economy.

The Fed, which meets again March 18, has forecast slower growth and continued risks to the economy from housing and credit markets.

Though investors were assured by the central bank that it will lower rates again if necessary, that expectation has not been enough to galvanize their confidence in the stock market and the economy.

Wall Street remains concerned that the economy could be so weak that rate cuts will take several months to work their way through the economy, which won't prevent further deterioration.

The Dow is a little bit like a fire engine pulling up to your street, said Brian Gendreau, investment strategist for ING Investment Management. You're happy help has arrived, but still, your house is burning down.

The Dow fell 142.96, or 1.15 percent, to 12,284.30. The biggest loser among the Dow 30 components was General Motors Corp. after lender GMAC LLC, which is part-owned by GM, said it will slash hundreds of jobs at its auto finance business. GM fell $1.24, or 0.49 percent, to $24.30.

Broader indexes also declined. The Standard & Poor's 500 index shed 17.50, or 1.29 percent, to 1,342.53, while the Nasdaq composite index fell 27.32, or 1.17 percent, to 2,299.78.

"What you're seeing is a tug of war out there," said Arthur Hogan, chief market analyst at Jefferies Co. "There are those that believe we're in a recession and earnings will move lower, and others that feel we're working on a Bottom. That can change the direction of stocks minute-by-minute."

Bond prices moved sharply higher on expectations of a rate reduction. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, fell to 3.78 percent from 3.9 percent late Wednesday.

Light, sweet crude for April delivery dropped $1.47 to settle at $98.23 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, after the government reported that U.S. crude oil inventories increased by more than expected last week.

Crude had reached a new high above $101 in overnight trading.

Gold jumped to a record high above $950 an ounce on Thursday, while the dollar dipped slightly against most major currencies.

## Earthquake hits northeastern Nevada

Two people were reported injured when a 6.0-magnitude earthquake shook a rural northeastern Nevada town, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

The quake, which had an estimated magnitude of 6.0, according to the U.S. Geological Survey's National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo., struck at 6:19 a.m. (PST) in a sparsely populated area near the Nevada-Utah line.

Elko County commissioners declared a state of emergency. "Almost every house here is a shake down. We have no services and no fuel," Commissioner Mike Nannini said.

Donna Anderson of Wells said she was surprised by how abruptly the quake hit.

"It just immediately jumped into rattling the walls," she told The Associated Press from the Wagon Wheel residential motel where she lives with her dog, Sis. She said it seemed like the shaking went on for "five or six hours" but probably lasted only a few minutes.

"I wasn't too scared at first but I felt like everything was just going to crumble down around us," she said.

Gov. Jim Gibbons toured the area and said most everyone was safe, citing just three minor injuries.

"I think we were just blessed that Mother Nature struck when it did ... rather than some time later on when the people would be out and about and the sidewalks might have had more people on them when those structures came down," he said.

Almost all the 700 residential structures in town had some damage, said Tom Turk, a state spokesman at the scene.

The temblor was felt across much of the West, from northern Idaho and Utah to Southern California, and as many as 30 aftershocks were reported.

"Definitely a lot of people felt this, and if they were sleeping, they were woken up," said USGS geophysicist Carriean Bedwell.

In Wendover, Utah, on the Nevada-Utah line, Tammy Wadsworth was ironing clothes when the quake hit.

"I kept thinking, 'When is it going to quit?"' A couple pictures fell off the walls," she said. "One of my grandkids ran outside. They didn't know what else to do. It scared them."

The most serious damage was reported in Wells' largely unocu­ pied historic district, where an esti­ mated 20 to 25 buildings have been "heavily damaged," Elko County Sheriff's Sgt. Kevin McKinney said.
CUBA

Cuba to decide its future

Country likely to keep Castros in power in Sunday's elections

Associated Press

HAVANA — A technocrat whose reforms are credited with making Cuba's economy grow after the Soviet collapse. A former Fidel Castro aide who worked with the U.S. government to oust Fidel in the late 1980s, Gabriel Roig, is up for another term in Sunday's election, the closest thing Cuba has to a presidential race.

Roig, 76, has been in line for the presidency for decades and has been acting prime minister for the past month. He took the helm in July 2006.

Roig has spoken of unspecified "structural changes" and called for an open discussion of problems in the country. It is unclear what kind of economic reforms the Communist Party leadership is willing to allow, and its choice of vice president will help determine whether the president has a mandate for change.

It's up to the National Assembly — a superlegislature, the parliament elected last month — to meet and pick the 31 people who will be the Council of State. The 31 then elect the president. The new council's makeup for several weeks, probably taking into account the policy priorities of the term.

The sixлогб committed to Cuba's continued existence under Fidel Castro's leadership is acting Cuba's prime minister. The six-logб committed to Cuba's continued existence under Fidel Castro's leadership is acting Cuba's prime minister.

Roig, a 1993 graduate of the University of Havana, is credited with helping to boost the country's economy after the Soviet collapse. Cuba's economy grew at an average rate of 5.5% a year from 1995 to 2001, partly because of the global oil price increase.

"Fortunately, our process can still count on cadres from the old guard and others who were very young in the early days of the Revolution." — Raul Castro, acting Cuban president

Liberia

Bush reassures ruined country in African tour

Associated Press

MONROVIA — President Bush offered encouragement and help Thursday to lift this shattered country from years of ruinous fighting as he concluded a tour of war-ravaged Africa that traveled with Raul to Vietnam and China. With perfect English and a pleasant, bespectacled face, Raul would be a key player if the next U.S. president accepts Fidel's pleas for talks.

One man who could shatter efforts to put a young man and young leader is Ricardo Alarcon, who would have to resign as prime minister of the National Assembly to take the position. At 70, he is a long shot, but he has wide experience, including a stint as foreign minister and two tours as UN ambassador.

Urban and eloquent, he is also a tiresome and has long been Fidel's point man on Cuba-U.S. affairs, representing his country in talks with U.S. officials. He was a key player in Cuba's successful battle to push an offshore and arriving after Bush's

"It's easier to tear a country down than it is to rebuild a country." — George W. Bush, president

As the crisis escalated in 2000, the U.S. dispatched hundreds of thousands of armed troops to the two countries, the United Nations observer mission to Iraq was suspended, and the United Nations observer mission to Iraq was suspended.

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Man poisons wife with lethal dose of antifreeze

ELKHORN, Wis. — A man was convicted Thursday of poisoning and suffocating his wife, who left behind a letter implicating him should she come to an "early demise."

Mark Jensen, 48, was found guilty of first-degree murder in the death of his wife, Julie Jensen, and faces a mandatory life prison sentence, with the judge to determine if he should ever be eligible for parole.

Mark Jensen stood silently at the jurors as each concurred with the judgment. Balliffs led him quietly out the side of the courtroom afterward.

"I'm convinced the jury reached the wrong decision," defense attorney Craig Albee said. "I'm hopeful that Mark will get a new trial."

Julie Jensen, 40, was found dead in her Pleasant Prairie home on Dec. 3, 1998, after being sick for a few days. Mark Jensen was charged with killing her in 2002, but legal wrangling over evidence repeatedly delayed the trial.

The evidence included a letter she wrote implicating her husband of 14 years should anything happen to her, as well as her statements to police, a neighbor and her son's teacher that she suspected her husband was trying to kill her at the time.

"I pray that I am wrong and nothing happens, but I am suspicious of Mark's suspicious behaviors and fear for my early demise," Julie Jensen wrote in the letter. She told the neighbor to give it to police only if she died.

Julie Jensen's four brothers spoke at a news conference afterward, thanking the jurors, law enforcement agents and witnesses who testified against Mark Jensen.

Families had to endure hardship and muster a lot of courage to come forward," Michael Griffin said, adding that he hoped the case would give hope to other victims of domestic violence.

Jurors deliberated for about 32 hours over three days before reaching a verdict Thursday.

Juror Sandra Schott described Julie Jensen's letter as "extremely important" in their deliberations.

"At first, (the letter) wasn't making any sense to me. It was one of the people having doubts," she said. But she turned around as jurors delved deeper into Julie Jensen's words and the evidence supporting the prosecution's claims.

In closing arguments, attorneys on each side had said there wasn't enough evidence supporting the other's theory about the way Julie Jensen died.

Prosecutor Robert Jambois said Mark Jensen plotted to kill his wife, searching the Internet for information on ethylene glycol, a commonly used antifreeze and the toxic chemical in her drink juice spiked with the toxic chemical.

"It's going to be really a busy spring and summer, and of course we're always looking for fallback positions just in case things don't work out well," said Dr. Nancy Cox, flu director at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "There's a lot of work that will be going on...and try to make sure that everything comes together in such a way that there will be plenty of vaccine."

One concern: A strain called Brisbane/10 that's responsible for much of this winter's misery doesn't grow very quickly in the laboratory, potentially complicating already laborious vaccine production.

The flu vaccine must be reformulated every year to keep up with the fast-evolving influenza virus. The recent good news was that one firm, MedImmune, said the new recipe may have made a rare wrong bet on which strains would cause the disease. "The flu season got off to a slow start, but it rocketed in mid-January as some new strains began to circulate," and the CDC found the vaccine is a good match for each about 40 percent of the virus now spreading in the U.S.

"There's a lot of work that will be going on...and try to make sure that everything comes together in such a way that there will be plenty of vaccine."

Dr. Nancy Cox
director for Disease Control and Prevention

University of Notre Dame
Emerging Directions in Probability and Statistics
February 29—March 1, 2008
(Friday—Saturday)

EPA reports industry decline in toxic wastes

WASHINGTON — Toxic chemicals from industrial plants and factories declined by 2 percent in 2006 despite increases in mining and petroleum sectors, the government said Thursday.

Companies reported that 4.25 billion pounds of toxic chemicals were released into the air, onto land, into waterways, injected deep into the ground, or stored on site as waste. That is about 105 million pounds less than in 2005.

About one-third of the chemicals, or 1.41 billion pounds, were reported released into the air; 10 percent less than in 2005, the Environmental Protection Agency said. An additional 250 million pounds of chemicals went into waste pits, a 3 percent decrease.

The annual Toxic Release Inventory was updated for 2006, the latest year for which figures are available.

• The metal mining industry reported it released into the environment 40,000 fewer tons of toxic chemicals than it did in 2005. A 4 percent more than in 2005.

• The electric utility industry had the second largest release, 1.02 billion pounds. But it also reported the largest decrease, about 6 percent.

Next was the chemical industry, which reported a 4 percent decline, to 514 million pounds.

The reporting included 76 million pounds of releases, an increase of 8 percent.

About one-third of the facilities, or 1.4 billion pounds, were reported released into the environment. About one-third of the facilities, or 606 million pounds, were reported released into deep underground waste pits.

The 2006 figures reflected a change EPA made in 2004, which reduced the amount of information that some companies reported to the government. Companies could turn in shorter, less detailed forms if reporting was lower than a reporting threshold for the previous year. That's because reporting is often done by in-house labs, which may not have a proper reporting system in-house.

In the past, more detailed information had to be provided in a longer form, which included a list of the chemical.

Some of the changes have made the EPA's annual report of releases more valuable because it covers a wider range of chemicals.

The EPA said the changes only streamlined the reporting forms to make them easier to fill out.
In light of his 23-point, 12-rebound performance in Notre Dame’s 82-70 win over Pittsburgh last night and his inspired play this season, The Observer endorses forward Luke Harangody for Big East player of the year.

The 6-foot-8 bear of a power forward has lifted the Irish throughout this season, displaying an uncanny combination of raw power, intensity and skill.

The numbers don’t lie. Sporting a sweltering 23 points and 11 rebounds in Notre Dame’s 101-68 win over Cincinnati (Feb. 13), Harangody’s line 40 points, 19 rebounds, 1 steal and 1 block with a 11-of-13 (.846) field goal percentage in a win against Maryland earlier this year.

It is Harangody’s athleticism that sets him apart from the rest. His hops are truly equal to his size and his girth, and he possesses a quickness that belies his size.

Like a young Shaquille O’Neal, Harangody is capable of winning any battle on the floor. He can muscle his way to the basket and finish strong or score from anywhere on the floor.

But Harangody is much more than just a power forward. He has the quickness to get to the basket and score with his back to the basket.

In my opinion, Harangody is the best player in the Big East. He is certainly the best player on Notre Dame.”

We should be endorsing Harangody for Heisman. Throughout the past two seasons, Harangody has built a hard-nosed reputation for himself by hustling, busting and generally outworking the competition, battling for boards and scoring in all manner of put-backs, baby hooks and bank shots.

It’s safe to say no one would call the Big East the Big Easy. Bear in mind that Harangody’s numbers come from grinding night in and night out against stiff competition in a conference crazy enough to be the toughest in the country from top to bottom. And Harangody flies right in with the Big East’s hard-nosed style of play, having borne more than his share of hard fouls, bruises and floor burns in this hardwood school of hard knocks.

Nine days ago, Harangody turned in one of the best performances of his young career, dropping 32 points and hitting 16 caroms in a loving effort against Connecticut on Feb. 13. He scored a career high in points despite having to contend with the long arms of 7-foot-3 Huskies center Hasheem Thabeet, making his feat all the more impressive.

For leading the Big East in scoring, leading Notre Dame to a likely NCAA Tournament berth, we commend Harangody’s play thus far this season and endorse him for Big East player of the year.

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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

So gay?

I was sitting in LaFortune a little while ago listening to two of my friends in the business school discuss a recent test. When discussing a certain section of the test, one of them exclaimed, “Yeah, that part was gay.” I got this strange feeling when I heard this. It was not because I was shocked that he would use the word “gay” to describe a business test, but rather that describing things as “gay” has become such an integral part of our day-to-day conversation.

I cannot pinpoint a reason or time when everything seemed to become “gay.” But I can’t think of any adults I know who refer to basic concepts and objects as “gay,” so it is clearly something that has developed during our lifetime. I also do not know why things have become “gay.” For example, it is technologically impossible for a test to be gay. Tests may or may not have physical desires to other tests (I have timed one I checked). But everything that we do not like now is “gay,” and no one ever seems to stop and think why we do this.

I will admit that at many points in my life I have described things as “gay.” Friends who would amuse me would be “gay,” teachers who gave lots of homework were “gay,” and music that did not enjoy was “gay.” Calling things “gay” is now natural. Yet in almost all of these instances, the thing I was describing was in no shape or form “gay.” There are plenty of other words that I could use to describe these things. They could be lame, stupid, dumb, or idiotic. But whenever I encounter something that rubs me the wrong way, it instinctively becomes “gay,” and it makes no sense.

What makes this even weirder is that if we were to use another orientation to describe these disreguarable things, the reaction would be much different. If I were to describe a friend who was a bit funny as “so Catholic,” people would freak out. Same thing if I were to call a homework assignment "so Asian." Yet if either of these things were called "gay," everyone else would most likely agree, even though it makes no sense.

Everyone knows that Notre Dame is not the most accepting place for homosexuality, but we should not use this as a reason for things to be called “gay.” The issue at hand is not the morality or concept of homosexuality. It is about making sense and showing respect. No affiliation should be used to describe things we do not like.

The rather significant portion of the world that is gay probably does not like to be associated with all things lame either. No affiliation should suffer this fate, no matter how much one disagrees with it. I do not think that this name-calling will ever really end. It has become such a part of us that most of us do not even think about it. In fact, I bet someone one will read this and ironically proceed to call it “gay.” But I hope that at some point in the future we can all stop, think, and maybe come up with a better word to describe things that bother us.

Tim Gallo
sophomore
Sand Hill
Feb. 20

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**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

“When I read about the evils of drinking, I gave up reading.”

Henny Youngman
U.S. comedian

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**THE OBSERVER**

Friday, February 22, 2008

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**THE OBSERVER**

By Joseph McMahon, Associate Sports Editor (smccoy@nd.edu), Chris Kinsky, Business Manager (ckinsky@nd.edu) and Mary Jesse, Associate Managing Editor (mjesse@nd.edu)
Confessions of a latte liberal

Edwards 26 and Biden 5 — out of 968 registered voters of which 371 voted in the 2006 election. Gotta love that.

I must admit, however, that the purposely egg on the gotcha types by describing my experience in the last administration at the end of each column. Some of these readers suffer from the same germ that oppresses our political process — they cannot let go of the past. Mention the word “Clinton” anywhere in my column and, lo and behold, a vampire is summoned. In one e-mail, a reader proudly tied a newly discovered terrorist group to my pockets. And to my President “You-Know-Who” pardoned ten years ago. Just shows even those presidents can have a clouds crystal ball. Gotcha up for that reader.

I describe my alternative category the “Schoolmarm” group because those readers who could and strictly perform my context. Last year, a Notre Dame Sports Information Primary ran quickly e-mailed me to correct my bowl appearance comments between Charlie Weis and Ty Willingham. I noted that both had equal- ly appeared in bowl games, but was painfully corrected by the fact that Willingham never appeared in an "SB" regardless of how much money his bows paid to the university. In a university world, some can so easily and quickly be corrected. A few years ago, Weis was graduating student at a higher rate than Willingham. Weis and Ty White House while watch­ ing Hillary up close. I support her bid for the presidency based upon my first- hand knowledge and the belief that she is better qualified. You caught me. I confess.

Over all, though, I have learned much from readers as I celebrate my bicenten­ nial by writing. I am a Latte Liberal from that pure skim version, but I belong behind the barista’s counter. I’m more of a caramel macchiato … one who out of a sense of history stood overnight in line to pass by Ronald Reagan’s casket in the Capitol Rotunda. I strayed from the glorious liberal path because I worked in Bill Clinton’s White House while watch­ ing Hillary up close. I support her bid for the presidency based upon my first- hand knowledge and the belief that she is better qualified. You caught me. I confess.

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As the Star bucks wing of the Democratic party. I may not be of the liberal path because I worked in Bill Clinton’s White House while watch­ ing Hillary up close. I support her bid for the presidency based upon my first- hand knowledge and the belief that she is better qualified. You caught me. I confess.

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

Cautiously, I would dare to say that this data is fairly indicative of how most people feel about culture issues and I feel this moderate approach could be applied to our problems and issues. For example, I think most would agree that women should be able to express themselves over the issues of female oppression and objectification, as the Monologues seek to do. However, I’m guessing many of those same people would agree that a woman rolling on the stage faking an orgasm and the glorified raping of a 16-year-old girl by an older woman hardly qualifies as “healing academic expres­ sion.”

A more important issue for Notre Dame is perhaps that of Catholic faculty precisely, so some mod­ eration could definitely be helpful. I think most people would agree that we adhere to the principles at Notre Dame and is valuable to us in any discipline, and per­ haps more so in certain Arts and Letters subjects (e.g. Juvenile Dame and is valuable to us in any discipline, and per­ haps more so in certain Arts and Letters subjects (e.g. Juvenile
gestures flail about in an effort to refute me. Information marm quickly e-mailed me to correct my bowl appearance comments over the heads of all, though, I have learned much from readers as I celebrate my bicenten­ nial by writing. I am a Latte Liberal from that pure skim version, but I belong behind the barista’s counter. I’m more of a caramel macchiato … one who out of a sense of history stood overnight in line to pass by Ronald Reagan’s casket in the Capitol Rotunda. I strayed from the glorious liberal path because I worked in Bill Clinton’s White House while watch­ ing Hillary up close. I support her bid for the presidency based upon my first- hand knowledge and the belief that she is better qualified. You caught me. I confess.

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"NO COUNTRY" SHOULD TAKE TOP HONORS

Get ready for the best night of the year as Oscar turns on and we breathe a sigh of relief that the show can, after all, be its 100-day writers' strike. We'll see if host Jon Stewart can fair better his second time around or if we're left praying that Billy Crystal would just come back and host again. And even though we can't see to wait to see the best-dressed starlets and the monstrous suit that Johnny Depp will inevitably show up in, the real reason for Oscar night is to honor the industry's best. Assistant scene editors Cassie Belek and Negamie DeFyza give their picks on who will take home the Oscar gold. Tune in Sunday at 8:00 p.m. on ABC to see if they're right.

Best Supporting Actor
Javier Bardem ("No Country for Old Men"). Hal Holbrook is brilliant and heartbreaking in "Into the Wild" and I would love to see him take home the Oscar just for being an adorable old man, but Javier Bardem is guaranteed to win for "No Country for Old Men." He deserves it too. Bardem portrays a man who on the outside appears to be a psychopathic killer, but really, his character just operates by different principles and a different morality. Bardem makes it so that by the end of the film, we don't hate his Anton, but we do fear him.

Best Supporting Actress
Amy Ryan ("Gone Baby Gone"). This is really the only major Oscar category that is still up for grabs. Although Menken and Stephen Schwartz's chances with "Enchanted." The Disney duo are geniuses, but Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová's captivating performance of "Falling Slowly" is more than deserving. In "Once," the music is the film so it's only fitting that it gets a win in the original song category.

Best Original Song
"Falling Slowly" (from "Once"). It's called vote-splitting folk, and that's what's going to ruin Alan Menken and Stephen Schwartz's chances with "Enchanted." The Disney duo are geniuses, but Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová's captivating performance of "Falling Slowly" is more than deserving. In "Once," the music is the film so it's only fitting that it gets a win in the original song category.

Best Cinematography
"There Will Be Blood." I wish "There Will Be Blood" had been nominated in a different year than "No Country for Old Men" because it deserves so many more awards than it will. But this category is one that should go to Roger Deakins for his impossible shots in the film. Bardem is guaranteed to win for "No Country for Old Men," which just won the BAFTA, but look for the Oscar to go to "There Will Be Blood." Much like Charles Fester Khan in "Citizen Kane," when Daniel is on screen no other character matters. Day-Lewis, who stayed in character even when the cameras turned off, intensely portrays the crazed effects of a man driven by ambition until he finally drinks Paul Dano's milkshake once and for all. We can only hope that Day-Lewis' acceptance speech will be as touching as his Heath Ledger-inspired speech at the Golden Globes.

Best Actress
Julie Christie ("Away From Her"). Her strongest competition is Marion Cotillard ("La Vie en Rose") with Ellen Page ("Juno") going up for the surprise attack, but Christie will certainly add the Oscar to her already-filled awards shelf come Sunday. She last won the Oscar for 1965's "Darling." A win for Christie would be validation for older actresses throughout Hollywood.

Best Adapted Screenplay
"No Country for Old Men." The adapted screenplay and director categories will be (slightly) early indications as to whether or not "No Country for Old Men" will win best picture. It's true that "No Country" was most captivating in its silence, but the dialogue we did hear was brilliant. Its main competition is "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly," which just won the BAFTA, but look for the Academy to show its love for "No Country."
As Notre Dame's lone senior, Rob Kurz has been through it all. Now he's passing that wisdom on to his teammates.
**COMMENTARY**

Kurz's leadership crucial for success

Each of Notre Dame's starting five brings something different to the table.

Forward Luke Harangody is the star, the Big East Player of the Year candidate who is capable of putting up 30-point performances with a dazzling array of hook shots, up-and-iners and out-of-nowhere tip-ins.

Guard Kyle McAlarney is the sharp-shooter — the short, scruffy guy from Staten Island with perfect form and a dead-eye jump shot.

Point guard Tory Jackson is the distributor who seemingly racks up assists just from being in the game and can hit runners in the lane even after he's disappeared among much taller players.

Swingman Zach Hillesland is the high-flyer, throwing down alley-oops and darting around heavy-footed centers for reverse lay-ups.

And then there's that other guy.

He's the one you never hear TV announcers yelling about. The one whose highlight video consists almost entirely of mid-range jumpers. The other player in front-page photos waiting for a rebound in case Harangody misses that spinning hook shot.

He may not be flashy, but the Irish would not be where they are today without Rob Kurz. Kurz, the only senior on the 2007-08 roster, is also the team's only captain. He's a coach on the floor, directing traffic and keeping everyone on the same page.

Kurz keeps the squad on an even keel. He's the only player on the roster that was here for the late season collapse in 2005, when the Irish lost five of their last six, including a first-round NIT game against Holy Cross. And he remembers the painful winter of 2006, when Notre Dame lost five straight games by a combined 11 points.

Maybe that's why the only senior on the Irish roster seems to be the one to hit the big shot when his team needs it.

On Jan. 5, after Notre Dame saw a 21-point lead slip away against Connecticut, it was Kurz who hit a three pointer with 3:11 left to give the Irish a 64-61 lead they wouldn't relinquish.

Last Sunday against Rutgers, with Notre Dame clinging to a 67-66 lead and under a minute remaining, Kurz buried a baseline jumper to put his team up three and allow it to hold on for the win.

Sometimes, however, the captain realizes that his best contribution is to get out of the way. In both matchups with the Huskies, the 6-foot-9 forward spent most of his time on the perimeter so that Connecticut forward Jeff Adrien couldn't help double team Harangody.

Kurz's consistency this season has bordered on absurd. While other players have career highs one night and then are off the next, Kurz gets a near double-double every game.

The senior has been in double figures in either points or rebounds (often both) all but three conference games so far — and in two of those "off nights," against Marquette and Connecticut last week, he was battling the flu.

It hasn't been easy to be a senior in Notre Dame athletics this school year. The small number of football seniors was brought up by many (including myself) as a main reason for the team's struggles. Other teams, like hockey and women's soccer, also have small senior classes.

When a team has very few seniors, outsiders often assume it's a "rebuilding" year. Notre Dame was picked to finish ninth in the Big East this year. Rob Kurz made sure that didn't happen. He accepted his mantle of leadership, brought his younger teammates together and, so far, has led the Irish to their best season since he's been in South Bend.

Not bad for "that other guy."

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu.

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**2008 Big East Standings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last game</th>
<th>Next game</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(11-3) W, 65-58, Prov.</td>
<td>vs Cincinnati</td>
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<td>(11-3) W, 61-50, Syr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>(10-3) W, 65-60, DePaul</td>
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<tr>
<td>(10-3) W, 82-70, Pitt</td>
<td>vs Syracuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>(9-5) W, 73-64, St. John's</td>
<td>vs Rutgers</td>
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<td>(8-5) W, 52-51, USF</td>
<td>at Georgetown</td>
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<td>(7-6) L, 70-82, ND</td>
<td>vs Louisville</td>
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<td>(6-7) W, 78-56, WVU</td>
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<td>(5-8) L, 60-65, UConn</td>
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<td>(4-10) L, 58-65, G'Town</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2-12) L, 51-52, Cincy</td>
<td>vs Seton Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2-12) L, 68-71, ND</td>
<td>at Marquette</td>
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**Crunching the numbers**

**BIG EAST STATISTICS**

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Everybody loves Rob

Only Irish senior leads with consistent play, 'wise' advice and a little unintentional humor

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Editor

It takes a lot to make Rob Kurz angry. But two years ago, when Kurz watched the NCAA Tournament, he couldn’t stand watching it.

Fresh off a 2005-06 season full of agonizing close losses, Kurz and his Notre Dame teammates failed to make the Tournament for the second year in a row. For and, his career at Notre Dame was not going the way he planned and watching others dream of playing in the NCAA Tournament while he sat at home certainly didn’t help his blood pressure.

“It was so frustrating and as soon as the season ends, you’re working toward next year and the first thing you think of is your No. 1 goal to make the Tournament,” Kurz said. “It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over.”

In Kurz’s sophomore season, the Irish experienced enough heartache to inspire a B.B. King record in confer­ence, and like two years ago, didn’t help his Tournament games in your way he planned.

“I don’t think it enters into your mind because the focus is more on winning that one game. I mean, it’s a tournament, you’re not playing against one guy. You’re playing against a team,” Kurz said.

“It was brutal because we felt we were one of those teams where we had the talent to be playing in the Tournament games in your room when the season is over. It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over. It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over. It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over. It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over. It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over. It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over. It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over. It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over. It’s incredibly frustrating and just the amount of attention the Tournament gets, it’s tough to not be a part of it. It’s brutal watching the Tournament games in your room when the season is over.
Injuries slow Orange quest for NCAA berth

Young Syracuse team in the midst of crucial eight-game stretch

By FRAN TOLAN Special Writer

Notre Dame has a chance to damage — if not burst — the bubble of NCAA hopeful and Big East rival Syracuse when the Orange visit Notre Dame Sunday.

Syracuse defeated No. 8 Georgetown last Saturday but fell to No. 18 Louisville Monday. The team is in dire need of another resume-building win before Selection Sunday.

The Orange are in the midst of a month-long stretch in which seven of their eight opponents are or have previously been ranked this season.

Syracuse (17-10 overall, 7-7 Big East) has fought hard to keep Syracuse competitive in Devendorf's absence. Green averages 17.6 points and 7.4 rebounds per game while Flynn has shouldered much of the load to keep Syracuse competitive in Devendorf's absence. Green drop 15.2 points per contest. They've been hurt with a couple injuries but they're getting more experienced as the season goes on.

"They've been hurt with a couple injuries but they're getting more experienced as the season goes on." - Zach Hillesland, Irish forward

Syracuse's RPI, which currently stands at No. 46, signifies that the Orange have been hurt with a couple injuries but they're getting more experienced as the season goes on.

The Big East race.

"The main thing for us: They obviously shoot a lot of threes and they have some young athletic guys," Kurz said. "The key for us is gonna be how well we defend them."

"I'm sure they relish the opportunity to get another resume-building win, to come in here and add to the win they got against Georgetown," he said. "We're expecting a very focused team to come in here and certainly we'll be focused as well." - Zach Hillesland

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Fines to the bench for the entirety of Big East play.

Jackson said Devendorf also has difficulty watching the Orange play as they attempt to make a late-season run. "I talk to him a lot and it hurts," Jackson said. "It kinda gets under his skin because he sees he can't really help them out."

"They've been hurt with a couple injuries but they're getting more experienced as the season goes on."

Syracuse guard Paul Harris drives past Louisville guard Preston Knowles in a 61-50 Orange loss Monday in Louisville, Ky.

Syracuse's RPI, which currently stands at No. 46, signifies that the Orange are fighting for our lives in the Big East race.

Paul Harris said the Irish are just as hungry as the Orange for strong conference wins.

"It's obviously gonna be a critical game for them but at this point in the season, it's a crucial game for everybody," Kurz said.

The top four Big East teams are awarded byes in the first round of the conference tournament and the Irish (19-5 overall, 10-3 Big East) now sit in fourth place.

On a national scale, Notre Dame has the No. 21 RPI, which would leave them in line for an NCAA Tournament seed between five and seven if the postseason were to begin today.

"We're fighting for our lives to get an NCAA tournament bid and obviously to get a first-round bye in the Big East tournament," Kurz said. "So, I mean, to say that they have more to play for than us ... depends on how you look at it because we feel like we have just as much, if not more, to match the intensity of the visiting Orange.

"I'm sure they relish the opportunity to get another resume-building win, to come in here and add to the win they got against Georgetown," he said. "We're expecting a very focused team to come in here and certainly we'll be focused as well."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

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"Juno" should leave with Best Picture

Best Supporting Actor
Javier Bardem (“No Country for Old Men”). Give it up, people. Javier Bardem. He won the BAFTA, the Globe, the SAG, and every other award in every foreign country or American city’s film society. He is viciously perfect in the hopeless and disastrously self-destructive mother of a kidnaped girl is frustrating and divine. She should win, but Blanchett will take it. She can’t walk into the Oscars with two nominations and walk out empty-handed. The woman is a chameleon (one must realize that Blanchett is nominated for playing Bob Dylan and the Queen Elizabeth II). Tilda Swinton has been gaining accolades for her job in “Michael Clayton,” but I think it will be Blanchett.

Best Supporting Actress
Cate Blanchett (“I’m Not There”). Amy Ryan is brilliant in “Gone Baby Gone.” Her complete and blatant portrayal of the hopeless and disastrously self-destructive mother of a kidnaped girl is frustrating and divine. She should win, but Blanchett will take it. She can’t walk into the Oscars with two nominations and walk out empty-handed. The woman is a chameleon (one must realize that Blanchett is nominated for playing Bob Dylan and the Queen Elizabeth II). Tilda Swinton has been gaining accolades for her job in “Michael Clayton,” but I think it will be Blanchett.

Best Animated Film
“Ratatouille.” The movie is just too good. No one can topple the animation monster that is the precious union of Disney and Pixar. Any other non-Pixarific year, “Persepolis” would win. The unique film, based on a comic book about a girl growing up in Iran and then being educated in Europe, manages to be touching and political at the same time. At a film festival or internationally “Persepolis” would win, but at the Oscars, René, the irresistible cooking rat, will reign supreme.

Best Original Score
“Atonement.” That score is amazing. The funny French melodies were lovely and it enhanced the story with textbook precision. That being said, “Atonement” is just too good. It is a film with artistic flair, and that is why it will clean up in the artsy categories.

Best Original Song
“Falling Slowly” from “Once.” I am pulling for “Falling Slowly” from “Once.” That was a funny film. Whether or not anyone liked the movie, this song is so complete and expressive that it doesn’t need the movie at all. It could easily stand on its own. That being said, “Enchanted” has three nods, so odds are certainly in Alan Menken and Stephen Schwartz’s favor. Sweet and catchy though these songs may be, “Falling Slowly” kicks its butt in the musicality category. Let’s just hope that the Academy realizes this.

Best Cinematography
“Atonement.” The movie is simply beautiful. The director of “Pride and Prejudice” once again gives us a movie in which any frame could be a painting. This is the “beautiful” category, and “Atonement” is just that. “No Country” and “Diving Bell” are meaty competition, but it would be a sin to ignore the film in French and left audiences feeling great. This nearly impossibly written all over it, but “Juno” is just good enough to topple them all.

Everything else would end up in the annals of Oscar history, with an "oh, yes, yes, yes good," and eventually begin to gather dust. But in ten years I do believe I will still sit down to watch “Juno.” Will it win? Probably not. But it should. Lastly, keep an eye out for Kevin Spacey. Coming up on his 20th nomination, this time for sound mixing for “Transformers.” After a series of close losses, it should be about his time to come home with a win.

Overall, this Academy Awards should be one of the most memorable shows in recent history. There have been so many good films that are deserving of an Oscar that the competition should make for a great ceremony.

Look for the favorites to come home sporting some new bling, but don’t be surprised if there is more than one upset.

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

Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@nd.edu
Walker's three pushes Hurricanes past Thrashers
Flailing Flyers lose ninth straight at the hands of San Jose; Satan’s late goal lifts Islanders 1-0 over Tampa Bay

Associated Press
Raleigh, N.C. — In the congested Southeast Division, one sustained stretch of solid play could make the difference between winning the division or missing the playoffs.

After the Carolina Hurricanes overpowered the Atlanta Thrashers 5-3 Thursday night, Carolina coach Peter Laviolette hopes the Hurricanes are in the middle of such a spurt.

"They've played six games where I've really liked the way we've played," Laviolette said.

Even after losing captain Rod Brind'Amour to a season-ending torn ACL on Feb. 14, the Hurricanes are 4-1-1 in their last six to cut back what counts for a seven-point lead in the Southeast.

With the victory, the Hurricanes extended their division lead to four points over the second-place Capitals and five over the third-place Thrashers.

Carolina is again 5-0-1 in its last six home games.

"This time of your year, you've got to look within your own stall and say, 'I've got to bring what I've got tonight to help out,'" Carolina's Scott Walker said. "That's what everybody's been doing. I think everyone's been doing a great job.


Eric Perrin, Mark Recchi and Todd White scored for Atlanta.

Thrashers goalie Kari Lehtonen had one of his busiest nights of the season, making 41 saves. Twenty-one of those came in the first period when Carolina carried the play, outshooting the Thrashers 21-5. Only Lehtonen's victory kept play kept Atlanta in the game.

Sharks, Flyers 1
Simon Gagne is out for the regular season. Peter Forsberg squashed his comeback attempt. Danny Briere has not played up to his hefty $52 million free-agent contract.

Throw in other assorted injuries and a confidence short-age and it's no wonder the Philadelphia Flyers are on a nine-game winless streak.

Douglas Murray and Milan Michalek scored 42 seconds apart early in the third period to lift the San Jose Sharks to a victory over the Flyers on Thursday night.

This is a challenge and there is nobody outside of our locker room that is going to make a difference," Philadelphia coach John Stevens. "It's up to each guy to make a difference."

The season keeps getting worse for the Flyers, who started the month as one of the top teams in the Eastern Conference. They lost their ninth straight game (0-8-1) and the home crowd boomed a team that dropped out of the conference playoff standings.

"It's pretty much rock bottom now," Flyers captain Jason Smith said. "We better turn around quickly now or we're not going to be in a good spot."

Jonathan Cheechoo scored his 17th goal for the Sharks, who snapped a five-game losing streak. Evgeni Nabokov made 26 saves for San Jose.

Islanders, Lightning 0
This New Yorkers victory had it all: spotless goal-tending from Rick DiPietro, timely scoring from Miroslav Satan, and blissful quiet from Chris Simon.

The Tampa Bay Lightning never stood a chance.

Satan snapped a scoreless tie in the third period and DiPietro stopped 32 shots for the New Islanders, who welcomed back suspended forward Simon and won their sixth straight victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Thursday night.

DiPietro was perfect in snapping the Lightning's 10-game road run of earning at least one point (7-0-3). He blanked Tampa Bay for the second time this season despite New York missing key injured defensemen Brendan Witt, Andy Sutton, Bruno Gervais and Chris Campoli.

"Good living and good praying. I'm not sure what it is," Islanders coach Ted Nolan said. "Ever since the Islanders broke a seven-game skid on Feb. 12 with a win against Philadelphia, they've been unstoppable.

New York is enjoying its best stretch since another six-game winning streak from Dec. 21-33, 2003, and has climbed back into the Eastern Conference playoff chase.

Simon returned from a record 30-game suspension levied by the NHL against him in December for his hike on the back of the leg of Pittsburgh's Jarjoa Rutto.

Simon took his first shift 2 1/2 minutes into the opening period, alongside rookies Blake Comeau and Frans Nielsen on the Islanders' fourth line, and heard a few boos and louder boos when he hit the ice and touched the puck.

"The most important thing is that we won," he said. "My teammates have been so supportive and have been great to me. I can't control what other people think and how they react. I respect that they have their opinion, and I'm just going to keep working hard in gaining their back."

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In the con­ference's one deadline day, the Carolina Panthers traded for former Panthers receiver Larry Fitzgerald.

Fitzgerald, who was the leading receiver of his two teams in the Eastern Conference, signed a six-year contract worth $57 million. His signing was one of several moves made by Panthers general manager Marty Hurney.

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The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 1224 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $5 per line per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without refund.
Candace Parker to forgo senior season at Tennessee

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Candace Parker, the Tennessee All-America forward who made dunking in women's basketball almost commonplace, ended all the speculation.

Parker, the first woman to win a national slam dunk contest, will skip her final season at Tennessee for the chance to play professionally.

"This was the most difficult decision I've ever had to make, but I think this is the best choice for me," Parker said Wednesday.

"I've been blessed with great coaches and teammates, an outstanding education and the best women's basketball crowd support in the country, I will miss Tennessee, but I am eager to take this next step in my career." The redshirt junior will graduate at the end of this season and plans to participate in the summer Olympics.

Memphis faces Tennessee in battle of powerhouses

Tenn. - Igor Kokoskov has been hired to mean bragging rights within Tennessee. Come Saturday night, this usually inconsequential state rivalry will receive national attention.

"These 1-2 matchups are usually reserved for Tobacco Road or some place in Indiana or Ohio," Tennessee coach Bruce Pearl said Thursday. "And the fact that it's in Tennessee is something that I think all high school basketball players and high school coaches and different folks that love basketball in the state of Tennessee are certainly proud of."}

Ben Wallace, right, was traded to the Cleveland Cavaliers along with Wally Szczerbiak in a three-team deal that sent Larry Hughes and Drew Gooden to the Bulls.

Indiana Pacers 106-89 victory over the Bucks Tuesday night in Milwaukee.

IN BRIEF

Ben Wallace, right, was traded to the Cleveland Cavaliers along with Wally Szczerbiak in a three-team deal that sent Larry Hughes and Drew Gooden to the Bulls.

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James finally got some help to win an NBA title.

In an 11-player trade involving Cleveland, Chicago and Seattle, the Cavaliers acquired center Ben Wallace from the Bulls and forward Wally Szczerbiak from the SuperSonics, two players to possibly get James and the Cavs through the Eastern Conference and back to the finals.

Cleveland general manager Danny Ferry, unable to finalize major deals in the past, pulled off a colossal one as the clock ticked down in the final hours before Thursday's 3 p.m. deadline.

The Cavaliers sent guard Larry Hughes, forwards Drew Gooden and Cedric Simmons, and guard Shawn Brown to Chicago for Wallace, one of the game's top inside enforcers, and forward Joe Smith.

Cleveland acquired the sharp-shooting Szczerbiak and guard Delonte West from Seattle for forwards J.R. Rider and Donald Sloan.

The Cavaliers will also get Chicago's second-round pick in 2009. The SuperSonics will receive guard Adrian Griffin from the Bulls.

The deal caps a busy month of trades around the NBA as several stars, including Shaquille O'Neal, Jason Kidd, Shaq Marion and Pau Gasol, all were dealt to new teams. The Gasol swap triggered an arms race of sorts among the Western Conference's top squads, while this one could have a big impact at the top of the East.

Plagued by injuries this season, the Cavaliers are nine games behind Detroit in the Central and are fourth overall behind Boston, the Pistons and Orlando in the conference standings.

James, who is having an MVP-caliber season, had hoped Ferry could pull the trigger on a deal as the deadline neared. But Cleveland's superstar probably couldn't have imagined such an overhaul.

Ferry traded 60 percent of the starting lineup Cavs Mike Brown sent out on the floor for Wednesday night's game in Indiana.

In the 33-year-old Wallace, the Cavaliers are getting a defensive intimidator. But Big Ben will give them little or nothing on offense. He was a disappointment for the under-achieving Bulls, who enter Friday's game 17- games out of first in the Central.

Chicago signed Wallace to a four-year, $60 million contract in 2006. He has two years remaining on that deal worth roughly $30 million.

Ben Wallace, right, was traded to the Cleveland Cavaliers along with Wally Szczerbiak in a three-team deal that sent Larry Hughes and Drew Gooden to the Bulls.
**Men's Track**

**Notre Dame tries to defend Big East title**

By EUGENIA ALFONZO
Sports Writer

The Irish will be tested this weekend as they travel to New York to defend their Big East conference title for the third year in a row.

Even though the team has been qualifying members for the championships since the Blue and Gold Invitational from the beginning.

"We worked quite hard last week," Irish coach Joe Plane said. "We've been tapering down to let the kids who have been hung up recover."

The Irish have achieved over 45 qualifications for the championships since December. "John Cavanaugh is ranked first for the 800-m race," Plane said. "Also, Justin Schneider is ranked first for the heptathlon while the distance medley, 4 x 400-meter relay, and 4 x 800-meter relay are excellent as well."

The Irish hope that the well balanced structure of their team will give them an advantage as they head into tough competition at the New Balance Track and Field Center this weekend.

"Each event has some real quality in it and we've got to score points in a lot of them," Plane said. "The 60-meter race is going to be an important event because Georgetown is ranked first and second.

The 60-meter isn't the only event in which the Irish will face a challenge. "The mile should be real good to watch along with the throws," Plane said. "Really every event will be good to watch."

The Irish are prepared to face off against Connecticut, Louisville, and Georgetown, forming four of the biggest competitors for this year's championship.

"There's four teams that could win it, and we're certainly one of the four," Joe Plane
Irish coach

The first day of the meet starts at 8:00 a.m. this Saturday.

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at calmpez@nd.edu

**Harangody smash**

Irish forward Luke Harangody shoots during Notre Dame's 82-70 win over Pittsburgh Thursday in the Joyce Center.

**ND Women's Track**

**24 to compete in conference tourney**

Failure to capture individual titles in 2007 led to second place finish

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

In the book of numbers, Notre Dame has the edge.

Last year in the closely contested Big East Indoor championships, Notre Dame finished a close second to Georgetown.

That time, the Irish had 22 athletes who qualified to participate. This year, they have 24.

Notre Dame will try to convert this advantage into better results in the form of team and individual championships.

But Irish coach Tim Connelly is not as concerned about improving the team's overall finish as much as he is routing for better individual results from his athletes.

Notre Dame's failure to capture individual titles in 2007 doomed the team's chances.

"We're really not sure what to expect team-wise, as there are a number of really strong teams that should be in the hunt to place high," Connelly said. "To be honest, we really focus more on each athlete doing his best and contributing all that they can to the team effort."

The Irish have a slew of athletes who are favorites to place well in their respective events.

First among them is Anna Weber, who will look to continue her dominance in the weight throw and the shot put. Weber has set school records in both events and has already qualified for the NCAA meet in the shot put.

A reigning All-Big East performer, Mary Saxer looks to improve on her second-place finish last year.

Meanwhile, Alyssa Hasan has a strong chance to win the Pentathlon; she has already qualified for the NCAA meet.

The Notre Dame runners — led by Joanna Schultz, Cora Dayon, Natalie Johnson and Kelly Langhans — hope to find more success in the running events than the Irish had last year.

Connelly's outlook for the team this weekend is simple.

"Right now the goal is to go in there and have each of the 24 women who will compete try to compete as well as they can and come away feeling that they did all they could to help the team," Connelly said.

"In this sport you can't control what the other person or team does, all you can control is your own effort."

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu

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Duke overcomes doubles loss, downs squad

By DAN MASTERTON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame could not hand undefeated Duke its first loss of the season, as the No. 8 Blue Devils beat the Irish 4-3 in Durham, N.C. Thursday.

Cloeen Rieley and Cosmina Chiribau started the match strong with an 8-5 doubles win, and Kali Krisik and Kristen Rafael clinched the doubles point for No. 15 Notre Dame (6-3) with an 8-6 victory.

Even with the doubles point in hand, Brook Buck and Kelsey Tefft, the No. 3 pair in the nation, made a strong showing, completing a sweep of the doubles matches with an 8-6 win.

Duke stole the momentum back, however - Gibanu and Katie Potts dropped the first two singles matches, each by the score of 6-3, 6-1.

Krisik responded for the Irish by winning a hard-fought match over Duke’s Amanda Granson, 6-1, 7-6 (7-3). Granson pushed Krisik to a tiebreaker in the second set, but Krisik overcame Granson’s rally to tie the match at two.

The Blue Devils answered back when Tara Ayer defeated Buck 6-3, 6-4. Ayer’s victory put the pressure back on Notre Dame, and it was up to Rieley and Tefft to win both the remaining matches.

Rieley pushed Duke’s Reka Zsilinszka to three sets, but the No. 13 singles player in the country won the third set convincingly. Zsilinszka’s 6-2, 3-6, 6-1 victory won the match for Duke.

The Irish finished strong as No. 59 Tefft fought her way to an upset victory over No. 16 Elliah Nze. Tefft rallied after losing the first set to improve to 10-1 in singles play on the dual season. Her 5-7, 8-6, 10-7 win made the final score 4-3 in favor of Duke.

The Irish will have to put this loss behind them quickly - two more elite opponents loom on this weekend’s three-game road trip. The tough stretch continues today as the Irish travel to Winston-Salem, N.C., to battle No. 19 Wake Forest (2-1).

The Demon Deacons have not played in 19 days, but they will try to shake off the rust and avenge a 7-0 loss to Notre Dame last year. The all-time series is tied 9-9, but the Irish have won three straight. They will look to make it four in a row when they visit the UNC Indoor Tennis Center at 3 p.m. today.

Contact Dan Masterton at dmastert@nd.edu

Irish junior Katie Potts returns a volley during Notre Dame’s 5-2 win over Ohio State on February 14 in the Eck Tennis Pavilion. The Irish lost to Duke 4-3 Thursday.

North Dining Hall will be CLOSED Saturday, February 23rd, 2008 for Notre Dame’s Scholarship Fellowship Benefactor Dinner.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

THE OBSERVER • SPORTS
**ND SOFTBALL**

**ND to play 2 in Gainesville**

By SAM WERNER  Sports Writer

Following days in the desert, the Irish seek water.
A week after splitting four games in the Kajikawa Classic in Tempe, Ariz., Notre Dame will find a little hydration at the Aquafina Invitational tour-
ament in Gainesville, Fla.
Notre Dame will play a dou-
bleheader today, facing Georgia State at 11 a.m. and North Florida at 1:15 p.m. Irish coach Deanna Gumpf and her squad will then go up against unde-
fated No. 7 Florida on Saturday.

"Florida has a great team," Gumpf said. "They have a great pitching staff and they're hitting the tar out of the ball." At 14-0, the Gators are off to the best start in school history.

"The goal with [Florida is to win a big game," Gumpf said. "We've got to go in there, give them a good game, and bear down." The Irish hope to improve on their 2-2 showing in Arizona last weekend. The Irish beat Utah and California but came up short against Western Kentucky and No. 3 Texas A&M.

"I expect to play better than we did last weekend," Gumpf said. "That's my No. 1 expectation." Over the week, Gumpf said the team worked on situational plays, in order to improve defensively and in pressure hitting situations.

"Gumpf said she tried to live the team as many situational, game-like at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Contact Andy Ziccarelli at aziccare@nd.edu

**SMC BASKETBALL**

**Belles try for rebound at Olivet**

By MEAGHAN VESELIK  Sports Writer

After a nine-point loss to the No. 1 Hope on Saturday, Saint Mary's is back on the road tonight as it takes on Olivet in Olivet, Mich., at 7:30.

"We need another strong team in the MIAA," Belles coach Jenn Henley said. "They have a new coach and a lot of fresh faces." Olivet is 7-9 overall and 5-3 in MIAA play.

"Our goals continue to be to improve our defense and keep points out of the paint," Jen Henley Belles coach said.

The bench has been produc-

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**ND Softball**

**Irish travel to Ohio State to take on rivals**

By ANDY ZICCARELLI  Sports Writer

Last weekend marked two important events for Notre Dame. The Irish notched 22 goals in their 22-10 win over Canisius — a tie for the second largest margin of victory in school history. In addition, the Antarctic players were named All-MIAA.

"How can you not be excited to go play Ohio State?" Tracy Coyne Irish coach said.

The game should be an aggressive one. Coyne expects to see a lot of pres-
sure from the Buckeye defense, particularly against Notre Dame's two top scorers, Tracy Coyne.

"We have to be ready to handle those situations," said Coyne.

The Irish take on Ohio State in Columbus at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

Contact Andy Ziccarelli at aziccare@nd.edu

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**WOMEN'S LACROSSE**

**Irish to play Ohio State in season opener**

By ANDY ZICCARELLI  Sports Writer

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"The bench has been produc-

**THIS WEEK IN IRISH SPORTS**

**EARLY ARRIVING FANS WILL RECEIVE IRISH HOCKEY STREET SIGNS ON FRIDAY**

By MARK BRIGGS  Sports Writer

Early arriving fans will receive Irish Hockey Street Signs on Friday and Irish Hockey Ice Scrappers on Saturday.

**$9 HOCKEY (s) vs. Ohio State**

By JACOB GOLDBERG  Sports Writer

"We're on a roll." The Irish are on a seven-game winning streak.

"I expect to play better than we did last weekend," Gumpf said. "That's my No. 1 expectation." Over the week, Gumpf said the team worked on situational plays, in order to improve defensively and in pressure hitting situations.

"Gumpf said she tried to live the team as many situational, game-like at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

**Stadium**

**How can you not be excited to go play Ohio State?**

Tracy Coyne Irish coach

The Buckeyes’ defense will be aggressive.

"We expect to see a lot of pres-
sure from the Buckeye defense, particularly against Notre Dame's two top scorers, Tracy Coyne.

"We have to be ready to handle those situations," said Coyne. The Irish take on Ohio State in Columbus at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

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"We have to be ready to handle those situations," said Coyne. The Irish take on Ohio State in Columbus at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.
BASEBALL

Irish open season this weekend with four games

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Schrage season with four games this weekend. The squad will leave behind the frigid Indiana winter to compete in the Clearwater Invitational at Jack Russell Stadium in Clearwater, Fla. The Irish are slated to take on tournament host Liberty today before playing a double-header Saturday and finishing up against Albany Sunday. Irish coach Dave Schrage said the event is a good opportunity to gauge his team's progress since the beginning of spring practice.

"The nice part about coming down here and playing early is, at the end of the three days, you have something to work on and you find out what are some of the things we need more work on," Schrage said. "It'll be a good measuring stick to see how far along we are compared to last year.

Last year was Schrage's first with the Irish, and despite posting a 28-28 record, he said the season was a learning experience for many of the players.

"I think that having a year under our belt — some of our veteran players have a little more experience, they know our system a little better so it's been a little bit smoother spring," Schrage said.

When the Irish take the field in Clearwater, they'll have their first outdoor action of the season. The team will attempt to readjust to external factors that are not an issue at the team's indoor practice facilities.

"You work on picking up fly balls in the sun and communication between infielders and outfielders and things like that, things you don't normally work on," Schrage said.

Despite the difficulties encountered with playing outside, Schrage said he expects a good showing from his team this weekend.

"Its always an adjustment, I think just the depth perception and the background with being outside," he said. "But I think we're a lot better this year than we were last season.

In the team's season opener, the Irish will take on Liberty today at 1 p.m. Schrage said Liberty should be the most formidable team of the three the Irish face in the tournament.

"They're ahead of everybody a little bit because they've just been outside," Schrage said. "And they're usually one of the best three teams in the Big South [conference] anyway... They'll be a good squad.

The Irish will look to shut Liberty down behind right-handed ace David Phelps, who posted a 1.88 ERA last season.

On Saturday, Notre Dame will play a day-night doubleheader, with a game against Iowa during the afternoon then a nightcap against Liberty. The Irish will face Albany again on Sunday.

Schrage said he is not necessarily concerned with the team's record this weekend, saying instead he hopes the Irish treat the trip as an opportunity to improve.

"We don't go into it saying, 'I want to win four' or 'I want three,'" Stauge said. "The biggest thing is just play good and get better every day down here. And get the younger kids, get them some experience, test the nerves out and see where we're at."

Contact Fran Tolran at ftolran@nd.edu

MEN'S LACROSSE

Undefeated team to host Nittany Lions

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI
Sports Writer

Even though Notre Dame is 1-0 after beating rival Marist College six games against Penn State, Irish coach Kevin Corrigan isn't worried about his team's record.

"Obviously there's only two possible situations at the start of the season," Corrigan said Thursday. "You're either 1-0 or 0-1 and 1-0 beats the hell out of 0-1. The ranking and all that stuff [are] meaningless at this point. It's February, for goodness sakes. We're just worried about the next game and what we're doing.'"

Notre Dame opened the season with a 7-6 win against No. 17 Loyola, Md., on Jan. 22. Irish coach Kevin Corrigan isn't worried about his team's record.

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WORLD VIEW is an initiative from the Office of the President to promote constructive dialogue about issues of race, class, ethnicity, religion, and gender through the arts.

In the wake of one of the worst natural and humanitarian disasters ever to visit American shores, nearly 600 African Americans were airlifted to the almost entirely white state of Utah without knowing where they were going. Desert Bayou seeks to examine whether two cultures can come together in a time of utter chaos, or whether their differences prove too great a challenge to overcome. In their own words, evacuees of Hurricane Katrina tell how they survived the storm-of-the-century and out of the rubble ended up at a military installation in the desert of Utah.

With interviews from recording artist Master P, celebrity Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, evacuees, political and military leaders, and community and social figures, the questions of race, politics, and religion hurtle toward each other in this truly American story: a story of loss and reunion, sorrow and rebirth, anger and rejoicing, but most of all, a story of hope.

Director Alex LeMay will discuss his film and answer questions from the audience following the first screening. LeMay is an award-winning feature film and broadcast director. Over his 14-year career, he has directed a number of acclaimed feature films, as well as provided commercial media for some of the world's top-tier companies.

Friday, February 22, at 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. in Browning Cinema, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

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Jackson

continued from page 24

"I tried to cross over and I lost the ball because the ball was so slippery and my hands are so small—I ain't got no big man hands," Jackson said. "I ended up getting it back—I thought I lost it—and I spun because the [defender] tried to cut me off. I just ended up spinning and I saw a wide open basket." Jackson's bucket began a 22-6 run that turned the tide of the game and gave the Irish a 75-64 lead with 1:50 remaining in the contest. The spurt was capped off with two free throws by junior forward Ryan Ayers, who had drilled a 3-pointer two minutes earlier.

"I told [Ayers] to be more aggressive offensively," Brey said.

"That was a huge (3-pointer) up top," Brey said. With 6:24 left to play, Irish junior guard Kyle McAlarney drilled a 3-pointer to cut Notre Dame's deficit to one point. Less than a minute later, McAlarney hit another try to tie the score at 61-61. Before draining those two deep shots, McAlarney had made just 1-for-6 from beyond the arc.

"When I got my first look at the second half, I just put it up and it went in," said McAlarney. "I'm kind of a streak shooter. If I hit one I know that kinda gets me going a little bit and makes me feel good, helps me get into a rhythm on both ends of the court."

Brey said he was pleased that McAlarney never stopped hunting for shots.

"The one bomb he took to kind of break their backs, that wasn't a great shot but I loved that he took it because of the belief," Brey said.

McAlarney scored 13 of his 15 points in the second half.

On the Pittsburgh possession after McAlarney's game-tying 3-pointer, Irish forward Luke Harangody stole a pass by Panthers forward Tyrrell Biggs at the top of the key. Harangody, who finished with 23 points and 12 rebounds, cruised to the other end of the floor for a two-handed dunk that gave Notre Dame its first lead of the second half.

"I saw his eyes and I just made a gamble and went for it and luckily got it," Harangody said. "That's a great thing to have. It definitely helps a lot."

Brey agreed with Harangody, saying that the home fans gave the Irish the boost they needed to overtime the Panthers.

"It was the loudest I ever heard it get in there tonight," Brey said.

"When you play here in this crowd, you can play through fatigue better than the road team. And we did that tonight."

Irish senior captain Rob Kurz scored 14 points as the Irish improved to 20-5 overall and 10-3 in the Big East.

Note:

- Notre Dame honored Irish career and was named a consensus All America and the AP/USA Player of the Year in 1970-71. In an emotional speech, Carr said the greatest aspect of his life was playing for Notre Dame. After the ceremony, he walked off the court to the chant of "We love Austin."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Saturday, Feb. 23
Stepan Center
Doors Open 6:30
Tickets $7 at
Lafortune Box Office
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Tenuta

continued from page 24

Tenuta was previously a defensive coordinator for Marshall, Kansas State, Southern Methodist, Ohio State and North Carolina.

Known for his heavy blitz packages, Tenuta said he and Brown would continue to send extra men.

"I'm an aggressive attacking guy, so obviously, I hope and Corwin is, too," he said. "So we're going to attack and get downhill and make things happen."

Contact Bill Drinn at wbrinn@nd.edu

Tenuta to learn the players and what they can do first and foremost and adapt to that aspect."

"I'm an aggressive attacking guy, so obviously, I hope and Corwin is, too," he said. "So we're going to attack and get downhill and make things happen."

Tenuta said adapting to Brown's 3-4 defense would not pose problems because in his 4-3 scheme, he would often drop a defensive end into coverage, essentially creating a 3-4 defense.

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Tenuta said the personal touch of coach Weis, he said, cemented in his mind the need to come to Notre Dame. Tenuta said he had offers from other schools, but when Notre Dame came calling, it did not use its athletic department bureaucracy to contact him like other schools did. Weis picked up the phone himself.

"To me, that was big," Tenuta said. "That put even more in it for me."

Tenuta's connection to Notre Dame started early, when he was a child growing up in Ohio.

"Growing up in Ohio you had Ohio State, you had Michigan, you had Notre Dame," he said. "That's just the way it was."

"Every Sunday morning wondering whether I can remember back when John Huarte was a quarterback with [Terry] Hanratty and [Jim] Seymour and [Joe] Theismann to [Tom] Carsewood ... I mean, that's Notre Dame."

Now that he's here, Tenuta has to help fix an Irish defense that allowed 195.4 rushing yards per game last season. He will work closely with Brown, whose philosophies, he said, are similar to his. He's based on the people he's been around and some of the people we've been around, I've been around, so all of it comes into play," he said. Lining his play-calling abilities did not bother Tenuta in the least. He said his past jobs allowed him the versatility to accept whatever role he played.

"I've been a coordinator most of my career and also not been a coordinator," he said. "That part is no big deal."

Tenuta said adapting to Brown's 3-4 defense would not pose problems because in his 4-3 scheme, he would often drop a defensive end into coverage, essentially creating a 3-4 defense.

"The Yellow Jackets made sacks in each of their six seasons. Last season, Georgia Tech's defense led the nation in sacks with 3.69 per game. The defense ranked No. 20 in the nation in both yards allowed and rushing yards allowed. Tenuta was previously a defensive coordinator for Marshall, Kansas State, Southern Methodist, Ohio State and North Carolina.

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Contact Bill Drinn at wbrinn@nd.edu
Houston beats Miami for tenth straight win

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Rockets’ 10th straight win was somewhat bittersweet.

McCray scored 23 points and Yao Ming added 21 in a 112-100 victory over Miami on Thursday night, a win that sent the Heat to their 11th straight loss.

Earlier in the day, the Rockets learned Mike James and Ronzi Wells were traded to New Orleans for Bobby Jackson and Danny Harkins and that Kirk Snyder was sent to Minnesota in exchange for Gerald Green.

“Everything happens for a reason and we’ve got to be thankful that this is a business,” Carl Landry said. “We’ve got to be positive about the situation and try to go on and continue the winning streak.”

Houston has won 14 of its last 15 games and the winning streak is its longest since the championship sea- son of 1993-94 when the team opened with 15 straight. It is the fourth time in team history that the Rockets have had a double-digit winning streak.

They won’t have to wait long to see two of their old friends as they meet West- leading New Orleans on Friday.

“We lost a couple of guys that were well around our locker room,” Rafer Alston said.

“That’s the name of the game,” said Yao Ming.

The Rockets led comfortably most of the way and were ahead by 11 before Carl Landry wowed the crowd by putting his arms out as if he were going in to dunk the ball. But he didn’t make it and missed the rest of the game with a surgically repaired left knee.

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THE CROSSWORD

Friday, February 22, 2008

Sound
They act on
Black birds
Like smooth-
Airport uniform
Detente
Key
Fed up with
to go under this
Dried out
Kind of year
Fed in (over)
Dilation
Kind of game
Pasta
Mathematician
Crest
Ditsy waitress
Exchange of
Requirement
Some
Puzzle by Mike Rothauge:

A recurring affair.

Hey aren't you in my class?

Tideline

Did you say ladybugs?

1 Across
2 22 Sound
26 They act on
24 Black birds
27 Airport uniform
13 Detente
14 Key
6 Fed up with
19 Dried out
17 How some ashes are scattered
18 Queensland
15 Indication of nighted fright
22 They act on impulses
24 Like smooth-running engines
26 Black birds
27 Airport uniform

Across
1 Kind of year
2 Fed in (over)
3 It follows
4 "Bummer"
5 Shortened word
6 Exchange of thoughts?
7 Rum up
8 Name of 11 ancient kings
9 Some collars
10 "White Flag"
11 Recovered from
12 Beloved
14 Sign
15 Transition to a heliocentric model of the universe, e.g.
19 Late rocker
20 Answer to previous puzzle
21 Auction
23 Draft
51 "Win some, lose some"
53 Historic capital of Scotland
54 Concerning
55 "Outsight!"
56 "Outsight!
57 Landing
2 Down
1 Pass
2 Free
3 "Outsight!
37 Philadelphia area
4 Rough estimate
5 "Guilty," in a Latin legal phrase
6 Exchange of thoughts?
7 Rum up
8 Name of 11 ancient kings
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THE SINGLE LIFE

Hey aren't you in my class?

Tideline

Did you say ladybugs?

1 Across
2 22 Sound
26 They act on
24 Black birds
27 Airport uniform
13 Detente
14 Key
6 Fed up with
19 Dried out
17 How some ashes are scattered
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2 Free
3 "Outsight!
37 Philadelphia area
4 Rough estimate
5 "Guilty," in a Latin legal phrase
6 Exchange of thoughts?
7 Rum up
8 Name of 11 ancient kings
9 Some collars
10 "White Flag"
11 Recovered from
12 Beloved
14 Sign
15 Transition to a heliocentric model of the universe, e.g.
19 Late rocker
20 Answer to previous puzzle
21 Auction
23 Draft

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, use one letter to form each puzzle to form four ordinary words.

RATIE

GEDHE

YURSE

CEDITE

What the guidance counselor did when he picked up the hitchhiker.

Threats for the lift
You shouldn't thumb a ride

A: """"

(A answers Monday)

Yesterday's answer:

Jumbles: BERET CHAMP CAUGHT MASCOT

Answer: When the winning doubles partners wore the same outfits, it was -- GAME, SET, MATCH.

THE OBSERVER

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BASKETBALL

A double shot of T-Jack

Jackson's double-double leads team to victory

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Tory Jackson is a mere 5-foot-11.
But he played as if he was a foot taller than that, Thursday as Notre Dame came from behind to beat Pittsburgh 82-70 at the Joyce Center.

In a matchup between the two best rebounding teams in the Big East, the Irish point guard grabbed 13 rebounds to go with his 16 points and five assists.

"It's got great athletic ability and strength and he's got such a will about him and heart," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "He's a winner. He really is a winner.

Notre Dame trailed 58-53 with just over eight minutes to play when Jackson took the ball coast-to-coast for a layup. The sophomore appeared to lose control of the ball but managed to keep his dribble and spin through two Pittsburgh defenders before converting the basket.

Irish sophomore guard Tory Jackson goes for a layup during Notre Dame's 82-70 win over Pittsburgh Thursday. Jackson had 16 points and 13 rebounds.

FOOTBALL

New coach says blitzes fit with ND

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Despite facing questions about his defensive style meshing with defensive coordinator Corwin Brown's 3-4 scheme and his affinity for the blitz, the only doctrinal tidbit John Tenuta revealed in his introductory press conference Thursday was his strategy for sneaking into the football stadium at Ohio State.

"I never got caught," Tenuta said with a proud smile. "For six years they couldn't catch me.

Tenuta, who joined the Irish as the new assistant head coach/defense on Jan. 31 after serving as the defensive coordinator at Georgia Tech for six years, will coach the linebackers next season. He arrived in South Bend Monday and has been working with the linebackers, but said he's not sure exactly what he has to work with.

"When we watch film," he said. "But, I mean, that's a tough question after four days. I've got guys out there. They had two rotating lines ... eventually, you're going to get tired."

The teams played a fast-paced but scoreless first half, during which Jackson fired 11 shots, including five straight on power play, at Dillion freshman netminder Sean Kearns, who made an array of spectacular saves with his stick, glove and body.

Despite all the Zahmbies' chances, it was the Big Red that broke into the scoring column first. Though many of its early attempts came in transition following Zahm misses, it wasn't until Dillon senior Jamie Rowland put home a rebound from junior Will Cushing 30 seconds into the second half that the Big Red made the score 1-0.

"I just crashed the net and