COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group approves 2008-09 treasurer

By JOSEPH MCMONAGH
Assistant News Editor

The Council of Representatives (COR) met Tuesday for the first time since Feb. 5 to approve current Student Union Board treasurer Kaitleia Gaines for the same position next year.

The meeting was delayed an hour and a half because only 11 council members showed up — one member short of quorum, the minimum number of representative needed to hold a vote. Student body president Liz Brown, however, insisted on delaying the meeting rather than canceling it because Gaines needed to be being perceived as politically incorrect. Instead, the military campaign was spun as a defensive side of the "war on terror," he said.

"Error is a tactic," Santorum said. "The Bush administration cried Roosevelt getting on the radio and saying we're going to go to war in Arkansas. Are we at war on terrorists? Absolutely not," Santorum said.

Instead, Santorum said America is at war against radical jihadists. Like President Bush has emphasized in the past, Santorum was careful to note that this is not a war against Islam.

"I'm not fighting a religion, we're fighting radicals within the religion. There is a war within

Santorum discusses 'war on terror'
Former senator calls conflict's label inaccurate, urges Americans to understand the enemy

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

The United States "war on ter­ror" is a battle against a specific set of theologically motivated groups, former Sen. Rick Santorum said in McKenna Hall Tuesday.

In a lecture titled "Gathering Storm of the 21st Century," Santorum, a Republican from Pennsylvania, blasted the government for misidentifying the enemy and urged the audience to accept the notion that America must fight alone:

The war is a campaign against Islamic jihadists, he said, but the Bush administration and the news media have refused to define it as such out of fear of

Candidates' health care plans scrutinized

By MARCELLA BERRIOS
Assistant News Editor

More than 60 students took a study break Tuesday to hear John McCain supporters say Barack Obama's health care plan is too focused on long-term results and Obama supporters say McCain's plan won't significantly improve Americans' ability to afford insurance premiums.

Two professors and two stu­dents made up the panel that dis­cussed the presidential hopefuls' proposals regarding health care.

Sophomore Adam Joines kicked off the discussion support­ing Obama's plan, which focuses on making health care available to the 47 million Americans including 9 million children — that currently don't have access to it.

Joines said about $50-100 bil­lion of the health care budget goes to overhead costs and administrative expenses, instead of these 47 million people.

"That money is going nowhere," he said.

But senior Karen Stockley, the student panelist representing McCain, said Obama is "wrong if he thinks we can solve problems by trimming the fat in the sys­tem."

She said improving cost effec­tiveness wouldn't result in signifi­cant cost savings. Stockley also disapproved of Obama's proposal to raise more money for health care by forcing employers to pay a fee if they fail to provide their workers with the appropriate medical insurance.

"If this 'play or pay' fee is enforced, employers will simply pass the cost down to their work­ers," she said.

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By LAURA LISOWSKI
News Writer

A smile can go a long way. With that in mind, a student club has taken on the task of raising money to pay for the reconstructive surgery of thousands of chil­dren around the world who suf­fer from facial deformities.

The Notre Dame chapter of Operation Smile — which helps children in more than 26 countries, including Bolivia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Peru, the Philippines, Israel and Vietnam — can cover all of the expenses of a single surgical procedure with as little as $240.

"It will pay for the full amount of the operation: doctor's fees, any supplies needed and any recovery the patient might need as well as any other expenses that come up," Dee said.

Since its inception in 1982, Operation Smile has treated more than 115,000 children suf­fering from facial deformities, such as cleft lip and cleft palate, the organization's Web site said.

There is currently a network of about 500 Operation Smile Student Student Service Center chapters — across the U.S. and around the

Fashion is new form of expression for feminists

Modern women use style to make statements

By ELIZABETH KELLY
News Writer

The feminists from "The Feminine Mystique" era were intentionally everything but fem­inine, but that attitude has eroded, the director of women's studies at Oakland University said Tuesday.

Jo Reger argued that modern feminists not only embrace styl­ish clothes and makeup, but they also use these symbols of womanslness to make political statements.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Orioles magic

Right now in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., my beloved Baltimore Orioles are beginning Spring Training.

Most fans see this time as one where every team has a chance to win because, until Opening Day, every team is in first place. Even Cub fans, closer Ryan Dempster thinks that the “loveable losers” will win the World Series — and some Cubbies fans even believe him.

I have my own bold prediction to make for the 2008 season: The Orioles will suck.

Baltimore’s young talent is still a few years away from developing — if it ever does — and its “veteran leadership” consists solely of Kevin Millar. The O’s have no pitching (rotation or bullpen), no solid cleanup hitter and a few glaring holes on defense.

The quick note on Millar, who many people call a “great clubhouse guy,” is that his is that he can’t hit, can’t catch and can’t run, but, boy, he sure is funny.

Saying the Orioles will be terrible is not a novel notion this year, just as it has not been any of the last 10 seasons. The real reason I am writing this is because this annual 162-game suck fest has influenced my development at least as much as anything else in my life.

I still pine for the Orioles to succeed every year, anticipating each game with youthful exuberance. I love to see the O’s play at Camden Yards, going as often as possible, but often brood silently as I watch them miserably fail. The on-the-field failures of my other favorite teams this season — Irish football and the Baltimore Ravens — I can look past; there is hope on the horizon for both and I can see it.

Not for the Orioles.

It is not their talent they get some sadistic pleasure in losing, and they enjoy seeing their pain on their slowly dwindling loyal fan base. They tease fans with early successes, bringing them hope that they may soon turn the corner and be competitive again, only to fall further behind their divisional rivals.

But yet I continue to support them. Maybe it’s stupid or crazy to keep watching their pain, but I do. I want the Orioles to succeed, but I know they won’t, and I keep watching.

I like the team I started supporting when I was young, and even though I love my girlfriend, even though I love her, the Orioles will always be my first true love, the kind you can never let go — no matter how hard you try.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpatrick@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets an error on page 2 of the previous issue. We incorrectly stated that the Atlantic 143/29 Boston 90/36 Chicago 23/13 Denver 56/23 Houston 61/35 Los Angeles 76/50 Minneapolis 24/13 New York 41/34 Philadelphia 41/36 Phoenix 78/52 Seattle 51/42 St. Louis 36/20 Tampa 60/54 Washington 42/34 is not accurate. The correct issue is Atlantic 43/29 Boston 90/36 Chicago 23/13 Denver 56/23 Houston 61/35 Los Angeles 76/50 Minneapolis 24/13 New York 41/34 Philadelphia 41/36 Phoenix 78/52 Seattle 51/42 St. Louis 36/20 Tampa 60/54 Washington 42/34.

The Observer regrets that the list of妩媚的芭蕾舞者 who are in the lead role of the production of Urinetown: The Musical was inaccurate. Different actors are performing in the lead role at different stages of the production. The correct list of performers is as follows: Cara Norton, Jose Duarte, Katie DeMartini, Michael Verdone, Michele Monk, and T.J. Smith.

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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 Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu or Kyle West at kwest1@nd.edu if interested.
spending several years interviewing young women across the country, Heger came to the conclusion that this trend — which she describes as "oppositional fashion" — is making an important statement for contemporary feminism.

Heger noted that the feminist movement of the 1960s and 1970s "looked at fashion as a form of enslavement" and viewed conventional concepts of femininity and sexuality as something created by patriarchal society. In her research, however, she found that contemporary feminists "are now reclaiming the feminine as something powerful."

Heger suggested that the trend is a backlash against the 1960s feminist stance on sex. Heger said some contemporary feminists complain that earlier feminism "made feminists so oppressed and uptight that feelings of sexuality had been totally destroyed."

Women who were a part of the feminist movements of the 1960s and 1970s often have trouble understanding this trend among contemporary feminists, viewing current fashion statements as a step back in the fight for women's rights, Heger said. Others may trivialize contemporary feminist fashion as "just playing with clothes."

Heger, however, said the women who make full use of their clothes and bodies to express themselves — and in the process redefine ideas of femininity and sexuality — are doing something significant.

"In politicizing fashion, the body has become a sign of resistance," Heger said. She told the audience about a photograph taken at the 2004 March for Reproductive Rights, in which the two women are shown topless — with the exception of two carefully placed stickers promoting abortion rights.

"They want you to look at them in a certain way," Heger said. "Where they're drawing your eye has a political message."

But because of the tendency to ignore the reality of contemporary feminists' "oppositional fashion" as a form of protest or expression, several sociologists believe the feminist movement is dead, Heger said. But Roger believes the movement is "very much alive," even though modern feminists may not organize in the same ways they did 40 years ago.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Rebels attack buses, bomber kills 8

BAGHDAD — Insurgents targeted passenger buses north of Baghdad on Tuesday, as a suicide bomber killed at least eight people west of Mosul and gunned down 21 men traveling through Diyala.

The latest bloodshed highlighted the slow-going, punch-counterpunch U.S.-led campaign against al-Qaeda in Iraq, more than a month after Iraq's prime minister said he expected the fight for Mosul to be a "dreadful" battle.

The Americans view the northern campaign as a test to safeguarding the country from the surrounding Mosul, a major transportation hub which the military has described as the terror group's last urban bastion.

Tuesday's bombing, 40 miles west of Mosul, struck a bus traveling from that city to the Syrian capital of Damascus.

Russia limits liberties as election nears

MOSCOW — The Kremlin has clamped down on an election that could make致富 than 3 million people from Daytona Beach to Fort Lauderdale.

The retired Army colonel plans to return to the University of Technology, as a tenured faculty member in the College of Technology.

"Col. Dietz was the ideal person to take on the difficult assignment of merging the state's public safety services into one efficient department to prepare and protect Hoosiers," Daniels said.

LOCAL NEWS

Antiterror official returns to Purdue

INDIANAPOLIS — The head of Indiana's Department of Homeland Security is resigning to return to Purdue University, the governor announced Tuesday.

J. Eric Dietz has been the agency's executive director since March 2005, when Gov. Mitch Daniels combined the emergency management and anti-terror official returns to Purdue department since March, as a tenured faculty member.

"Col. Dietz was the ideal person to take on the difficult assignment of merging the state's public safety services into one efficient department to prepare and protect Hoosiers," Daniels said.

NORTH KOREA

Orchestra's visit brings hope for better ties

played the last notes of the folk song "Ariang," the adoring audience stood and applauded enthusiastically, waving to the musicians. Orchestra members some who moved to tears — paused with their instruments and waved back, an emotional finale to the concert that was the highlight of the Philharmonic's 48-hour visit.

The enraptured crowd drew music director Lorin Maazel out for a final bow after the rest of the ensemble left the flower-adorned stage at the East Pyongyang Grand Theater.

The concert was broadcast live on North Korean TV, meaning it was heard beyond the 2,500 people in the theater, North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, one of the world's most reclusive leaders, did not attend; there was no way to know whether he watched.

"We may have been instrumental in opening a little door," Maazel said after the performance. He dismissed the significance of Kim's absence, saying: "I have yet to see the president of the United States at one of my concerts. Sometimes a statistician is too busy."
Santorum continued from page 1

Islam already," he said. Santorum also said moderate Muslims were speaking an important language in the Middle East, and the Americans need to engage and debate the radicals.

With the discussion of the "war on terror" permeating the country, Santorum said, "It's a mistake to try to fight the war on terrorism, the difference between the two warring cultures, and the origins of the enmity.

He said he defines the enemy — radical Muslims — in religious terms because they define themselves in religious terms.

"Let's see what it is nothing to do with religion. I think it does," he said. "I think they believe in the caliphate, and they believe that they are called to liberate society from laws that are not of God and institute divine law, and that is liberating. I can understand how they see their self-liberation as liberating all of us in the West from the-INFILTRATION."

Also, Santorum said the way the enemy defines Westerners is good of its religious motivations. "How do they define us? Infidels. It's a religious term," he said of jihadists. "They are in a holy war. Everything they say, everything they do, is based on theology. Yet we ignore that. We try to make it a politically correct war. The American people will not sustain this war unless they know why we are fighting it. And they don't."

Santorum said the most profound difference between the American and Islamic cultures is in the conception of time. "The culture we're dealing with is ancient and has a different perspective of time and importance. America is a brand new baby."

"If you bring about Armageddon, you end time, and the Mahdi will return," Santorum said. "That's why we are really tough on Iran. But we're afraid to talk in terms of religious prophecy. We're afraid to offend anybody."

Santorum said, "It's important to me in the war against the jihadists, he said, as it is America's most powerful religious force. He called the Notre Dame students in the audience the McKenna Center "the Jews."

"If you guys go south, that is bad news for this country. The Catholic Church is what is holding us together," he said.

Although the war on radical jihadists is often portrayed as a conservative cause, Santorum said the American left has more at stake than the right.

"If you think about what are the pillars of the American left — feminism, homosexual rights, civil rights, separation of church and state, reason over faith in the public square, parable, abortion on demand — can you think of any group of people on the face of the earth that are, point-for-point, 180 degrees from the American left, any more than the jihadists?"

In the radical Islamic world, "the very act of making you an infidel," Santorum said. "There is no room for reason or thinking. You simply submit to the will of God irrespective of its rationality."

The idea that "any man-made law is an affront to God," is sticking points between democracy and the Islamic jihadist world, Santorum said. "When you try to spread democracy in the Islamic world, this is a complete affront to everything they believe. This is a theological problem. Yet we have not described it in those terms," he said.

Santorum concluded his beteau by stressing the urgency of the war against the jihadists and by comparing our current condition to that of Britain in 1940.

In June of that year, France had fallen to Nazi Germany and Adolph Hitler turned his military toward Great Britain. For the next 18 months — until Japan attacked Pearl Harbor — the United Kingdom acted alone as America allowed its only ally to fight "objective evil" by itself. That, he said, was "Britain's hour."

"This is America's hour," Santorum said. "Like Britain in 1940, we are alone. Completely alone. We will not have anybody at our side. Just us. Just those who hold on to the tenets of Western civilization, those who have a reason to fight."

Contact John Tierney at jtierney@fdu.edu

It's 8:30 pm on Tuesday, and I need help with my computer

No worries!

Call the OIT Help Desk at 631-8111

In addition to our regular hours, we offer computer help over the phone from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday.*

You can even call us on Sundays between 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

* Extended Help Desk hours are in effect during the normal academic year when school is in session.
Wall Street reversed earlier weakness amid rising costs.

Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez, the chair of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, looked at the Federal Reserve and said, "The Fed is under pressure to act."

The economy nearly stalled in the final three months of last year and probably in barely growing or shrinking now. The data rein­forces the notion that the economy is slowing down.

The S&P/Case-Shiller home price index released Tuesday that nation­wide prices dipped 0.3 percent in the fourth quarter, the first annual decline in 16 years. Eleven states posted declines in values for the year, while prices in nine states appreciated more than 5 percent.

The OFHEO index is calculated using mortgages of $417,000 or less that are bought or backed by gov­ernment-sponsored mortgage com­panies Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. That excludes properties bought with some of the riskier types of home loans or homes in more expen­sive markets like California and the Northeast.

A shopper makes a purchase at J & F Market in Palo Alto, Calif., Tuesday. Consumer confidence plunged in February as Americans worried about less-favorable business conditions.

House prices still falling nationwide

In Brief

Dow up on IBM's $15 billion buyback

NEW YORK — Wall Street reversed earlier losses and rallied Tuesday after IBM announced a $15 billion stock buyback, suggesting that rising consumer confidence is waning. The data reinforced worries that the United States is suffering from stagflation, a state when the economy weakens amid rising costs.

"In a word: stagnation," said David Abromowitz, a senior fellow at the Federation of Homeowners. "It's a toxic economic stagflation that the nation hasn't seen in three decades. Prices are speeding upward at the fastest pace in nearly 40 years, a quarter-century ago, even as the economy groans from rising costs. Economists call the disease "stagflation," and they worry it might be coming back.

Already, paychecks aren't stretching as far. And jobs are harder to find, threatening to set off a vicious cycle that could make things even worse.

The economy nearly stalled in the final three months of last year and probably in barely growing or shrinking now. That's the "stagnation" part of the equation. Typically, that slowdown would slow infla­tion as well — the second part of the diagnosis — but prices are still marching higher.

The latest worse-news came Tuesday: a govern­ment report showing wholesale prices climbed 7.4 per­cent in the past year. That was the biggest annual leap since 1981.

"We're in a slowdown," Press Secretary Dana Perino said at the White House, where the economics team was looking at a number.

Once the twin evils of stagflation take hold, it can be hard to break the grip. People tend to back off on their spending as they are stingy by rising prices and shrivel­ing wages. Businesses also scale back rising costs and declining demand. Fru­strated customers, clamp down on their hiring and capital invest­ments.

That would be a night­mare scenario for Wall Street investors, businesses, politicians and most every­one else. They're already looking to the Federal Reserve for help, but the Fed's job is complicated by the situation.

The mission of the Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues is to nurture economic growth and keep inflation under control. To brace the deteriorating economy, the Fed since September has been ratcheting down its key interest rate. Another cut is expected in March. However, to combat inflation, the Fed would be expected to boost rates instead.

"The Fed has its hands full. It is preoccupied with the economic slowdown at the front door, but inflation looks to be sneak­ing in the back door," said Greg McBride, senior financial analyst at Bankrate.com. "If that trend continues, the Fed would need to show the economy some tough love, meaning higher interest rates to keep inflation from getting out of hand.

On the other hand, Brian Bethune, economist at Global Insight, said Bernanke can fight only one war at a time, and the more pressing issue right now is to shore up the ailing economy. "That's the war that needs to be fought. The war on infla­tion will have to come another day," Bethune said.

Maybe things won't be so bad. Stock prices rose for the day, continuing a recent mini-rally. And Federal Reserve vice chairman Donald Kohn said in a speech that he doesn't expect the recent elevated inflation readings to persist.

"But the recent information on prices undermines the need to continue to monitor the inflation situation very carefully," he added.

House prices still falling nationwide

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Economists fear stagflation returning

Toxic mix of rising prices and slowing economy could be on the horizon, experts say

Associated Press

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The Obsever

Market Recap

Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Stocks

Dow Jones

12,684.92
+114.70

Up/ Same: Down/ Same: Composite Volume:
2,331 81 997 4,102,204,169

AMEX

2,347.81
+40.90

NASDAQ

17.51

NYSE

9,302.80
+92.72

S&P 500

1,381.29
+9.49

Nikkei (Tokyo)

14,007.32
+182.60

FTSE 100 (London)

5,870.47
+87.90

Change/ Share

Dollar

Price

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE

-1.06
-0.42
3,860

13-WEEK BILL

-1.66
-0.035
2,075

30-YEAR BOND

-0.15
-0.007
4,657

5-YEAR NOTE

-2.00
-0.59
2,896

Commodities

Light crude (NYMEX)

+5.63
100.88

Gold (S/oz)/ spot

+8.40
948.90

Pork belly (cent/lb)

-1.00
94.30

Exchange Rates

Yen

107.3900

Euro

0.6267

Canadian dollar

0.9820

British pound

0.5032

The Obsever

Economists fear stagflation returning

Toxic mix of rising prices and slowing economy could be on the horizon, experts say

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Once the twin evils of stagflation take hold, it can be hard to break the grip. People tend to back off on their spending as they are stingy by rising prices and shrinking wages. Businesses also scale back rising costs and declining demand. Frustrated customers, clamp down on their hiring and capital investments.

That would be a nightmare scenario for Wall Street investors, businesses, politicians and most everyone else. They're already looking to the Federal Reserve for help, but the Fed's job is complicated by the situation.

The mission of the Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues is to nurture economic growth and keep inflation under control. To brace the deteriorating economy, the Fed since September has been ratcheting down its key interest rate. Another cut is expected in March. However, to combat inflation, the Fed would be expected to boost rates instead.

"The Fed has its hands full. It is preoccupied with the economic slowdown at the front door, but inflation looks to be sneaking in the back door," said Greg McBride, senior financial analyst at Bankrate.com. "If that trend continues, the Fed would need to show the economy some tough love, meaning higher interest rates to keep inflation from getting out of hand.

On the other hand, Brian Bethune, economist at Global Insight, said Bernanke can fight only one war at a time, and the more pressing issue right now is to shore up the ailing economy. "That's the war that needs to be fought. The war on inflation will have to come another day," Bethune said.

Maybe things won't be so bad. Stock prices rose for the day, continuing a recent mini-rally. And Federal Reserve vice chairman Donald Kohn said in a speech that he doesn't expect the recent elevated inflation readings to persist.

"But the recent information on prices undermines the need to continue to monitor the inflation situation very carefully," he added.
approved before March 1.

If the Council had not met, it would have marked the fourth time in five weeks that a meeting did not take place. This semester, the Council has only met four times. Brown cited sickness, not having enough voting members and a lack of issues as the reasons for canceling the last three meetings. Brown declined to further comment on the situation.

The Council approved Gaines unanimously during the rescheduled meeting. Normally, one of the treasurer’s assistants from the previous year takes over the position, but both of Gaines’ assistants are studying abroad this semester, and the incoming treasurer takes over on March 1.

Because Gaines is only a junior, she decided to hold the position again next year.

In other COR news:

The representatives unanimously voted to approve the Financial Management Board’s reallocation of funds for the Student Union’s budget. This year’s budget resulted in a surplus of $10,972.32, which Gaines said would be made available to the class councils and extracurricular clubs.

Whatever amount of money is left over will be put into the technology fund for student organizations, Gaines said.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmah06@nd.edu

The club plans to find 5-10 people on campus with a “fantastic” smile, take their picture and put them above a collection bin in LaFortune, Dee said. Students will donate money to the person they want to win. She said anybody interested in being one of the best smiles on campus should e-mail her.

She also encouraged students to join the club to help make “a tangible difference in the lives of children around the world.”

“It is so rewarding to see all of the money we raise go directly to those who need it,” Dee said.

Dee became involved in Operation Smile because she believes in “the power of a smile,” she said.

The Notre Dame chapter of Operation Smile began in 2003 with then-student Dan Musick.

Contact Laura Lisowski at llisowsk@nd.edu

For a nomination form, please visit our website at: http://osa.nd.edu/programs-and-links/dennymooreaward.shtml

Nominations are due by Tuesday, March 11, 2008.
Town evacuated after wildfires

Associated Press

ROBERT LEE, Texas — Fire officials kept watch Tuesday on a wildfire threatening this town of 1,200 people, but evacuated residents were allowed to return. Wildfires across the state, mostly in West Texas, since Monday have charred nearly 390 square miles — about 250,000 acres. The largest was a 219-square-mile blaze some 50 miles west of Robert Lee, and officials expect that number to be revised upward since assessments can be made, said Anne Jeffery, an information officer for the Texas Forest Service.

Officials were monitoring a roughly 30-square-mile fire that threatened Robert Lee, about 250 miles southwest of Dallas. While residents were allowed to return, schools remained closed Tuesday.

"It's still hot here," said Robert Lee Superintendent Aaron Hood, who sent his wife and two children to nearby San Angelo overnight while he assisted in evacuations. "You can still smell the smoke and smell the fire. If the high winds get up again, we just have to be ready."

He said some homes burned in the smaller communities of Silver and Edith near the E.V. Spence Reservoir.

On Tuesday, fires were stoked by winds up to 50 mph. Three firefighters were injured in a truck accident. David Abernathy, an incident commander with the Texas Forest Service, said Monday he was aware of at least two dozen separate fires across the state and expected there to be "many, many more that we won't know about until local fire departments report in."

"We had so many fires that there is no possible way to have enough firefighting resources for that many fires," Abernathy said. Texas had the same conditions that you might expect in Southern California with some of their Santa Ana winds. The right conditions came together. It's extremely rare for us to see that."

Some fires were likely started by wind blowing down power lines, he said.

Four firefighters were injured in Archer County, about 200 miles northwest of Robert Lee, when two fire trucks collided head on after one swerved around a car that pulled out into the road, said Becky Purser, the county's emergency management coordinator. Jeffery said two firefighters in West Texas were treated for smoke inhalation Monday.

While residents were allowed to return, schools remained closed Tuesday.

PAKISTAN
Suicide bomber kills high-ranking general

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — A suicide bomber on Monday killed the Pakistan army's surgeon general, the highest-ranking military officer to die in an attack since President Pervez Musharraf joined America's war against terror.

The strike was a reminder of the extremist threat just as Musharraf resists pressure to quit from opponents who swept last week's parliamentary election.

A presidential spokesman on Monday dismissed suggestions from three U.S. senators that the embattled Pakistani leader might beat a "graceful" retreat from power.

Musharraf was elected to a new five-year presidential term last year by Pakistani lawmakers, "not by any senator from the United States," spokesman Rashid Rehman told the Associated Press. "So I don't think he needs to respond to anything that is being said by these people."

The one suicide bomber targeted Lt. Gen. Mustaq Baig's black Toyota sedan when it stopped for a red signal on a busy road in Rawalpindi, a city just south of the capital, officials and witnesses said.

Baig, the army's top medical officer, died along with his driver and guard, the army said. Five civilians were also killed, it said.

Dozens of troops and plainclothes security officials cordoned off the area, where at least six other damaged cars stood. Forensic investigators gathered debris, including pieces of flesh, and put them in plastic bags.

Iqbal Ali, a witness who had been walking toward a nearby government office to get an identity card, said he saw a man run into the road shortly before the explosion.

Army spokesman Maj. Gen. Arshar Abbas said Baig was the most senior army officer killed in an attack since Pakistan sided with Washington after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States.

Musharraf himself survived at least three attempted assassinations on his life before he retired as army chief in November.

Abbas said it was unclear who was behind Monday's attack.

The government blamed "extremist elements" who were "damaging the cause of Islam" and spoiling Pakistan's international reputation. Authorities will "not let the perpetrators succeed in their evil designs," caretaker Prime Minister Mohammedmian Soomro said.

Suicide bombings are spectacularly repeated in Rawalpindi, where the army has its headquarters, in recent months, mostly targeting security forces. A gun and suicide attack also killed opposition leader Benazir Bhutto as she left a campaign rally in the city on Dec. 27.

Bhutto's party finished first in Feb. 18's parliamentary elections, while supporters of Musharraf were trounced, prompting some opposition leaders to call for him to resign.

The Bush administration appears to want Musharraf to continue in office even as it shifts its focus to his successor as army chief and the next government.

However, Sen. Joe Biden, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who met Musharraf after observing the election, said Sunday he would advise the president to seek a dignified way to leave office.

"If I firmly believe if they [political parties] do not focus on old grudges — and there's plenty in Pakistan — and give him a graceful way to move," then it could happen, Biden, a Democrat, said on ABC television.

"There is a leadership gap in Pakistan — and give him a graceful way to move," then it could happen, Biden, a Democrat, said on ABC television.
Last month, the Washington Post reported that suicides among active-duty military personnel have reached their highest level since 1980. It was also reported last month that the U.S. is not prepared for a catastrophic attack on the country. The suicide rate among soldiers and America's lack of preparedness for a national emergency are both symptons of a larger problem: Our overseas commitments have stretched our military too thin. Redeploymenets and longer stays in war zones are putting increasing amounts of mental and physical stress on the servicemen in our armed forces, and our two-front war has left too much of our military equipment inequoperable. Clearly, our current military policy is unsustainable.

Thus, it is no surprise that all of the leading presidential candidates have called for an increase in the size of our military. Hillary Clinton has called for increasing our military by 80,000 troops. Barack Obama, although pledging to remove all combat brigades from Iraq within 16 months of his presidency, believes that our military should be enlarged with 65,000 additional forces in the Army and 27,000 in the Marines. John McCain doesn't give a specific number for a troop increase, but one can only imagine how many more troops we'll need to carry out his planned 100-year occupation of Iraq and "bomb, bomb, bomb Iran" military adventurism.

The leading candidates feel we need better proposals for a larger military, but they seem to be overlooking the feasibility of their plans. In 2005, the Pentagon announced plans to increase the size of the Army by 30,000, but by the end of the year the Army had the worst recruiting year in three decades. How do Obama, McCain and Clinton expect to add 180,000 troops to our military when we can't even increase it by 30,000? In 2006 and 2007, the Army got back on track and met its recruiting goals, but only because it enlisted a larger percentage of applicants with low test scores and it recruited more soldiers who require a waiver for felony convictions. The Army wants 90 percent of its recruits to have high school diplomas, but only 79 percent of last year's recruits did. Lowering standards to increase enlistment can cover shortages for a brief period of time. But if done for too long, the quality of our armed services will suffer.

Finding adequate replacements for our military will be a daunting task, so I'd like to offer up the following four-part plan to any presidential candidate who wishes to adopt it as his own.

1. Reintroduce conscription. America's youth have become too apathetic, and most college students will graduate feeling unfulfilled having never burned their draft cards, marched on Washington (for the Main Building) or smoked weed while listening to Bob Dylan. It's time to rein­vigorate a true spirit of patriotism among young Americans by reinstating the draft.

2. Increase immigration. McCain has received a lot of flack from conserv­atives for his amnesty-granting comprehensive immigration plan, but this plan is a surefire way to increase the size of our military. Our open borders, let immigrants in, and then send them to the Middle East.

3. Outlaw abortion. If our politi­cians want more pieces for their war games, our country has to stop killing babies before the chess match even starts.

4. Reduce our foreign military com­mitments. This is probably the most radical part of my plan. Not including the 250,000 troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, we currently have 300,000 troops stationed in 120 coun­tries around the world. I don't know why we have 1,200 troops in Belgium and another 1,300 in Senegal, which makes me suspect that they could be put to better use elsewhere. We also maintain 56,000 troops in Germany and 33,000 troops in Japan even though these countries are two of the world's top-five economies. I realize there's a possibility that Hitler will return, but I also think that Germany and Japan can afford to take care of themselves. Finally, let's put a stop to any further military entangle­ments. Ahmadinejad might be insane, but he's easier to deal with than the anarchistic terrorists that would replace him if we were to overthrow Iran's government and attempt an occupation.

Our military is currently in shamb­les from over expansion. Our per­sonnel are worn out, our equipment is damaged and America has been left unguarded. Instead of spouting rhetoric about an increasingly large military, our presidential candidates should be reconsidering the role of our foreign troop commitments and start making promises to bring home as many as possible.

Zach Entzer is a senior history and economics and environmental sciences major. Contact him at zeinterz@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Nader presents third option

It's deja vu all over again. On NBC's "Meet the Press," Ralph Nader announced his decision to make a run for the White House. Again. The self-proclaimed independent has tried and failed to do so for four times already, and apparently, he isn't deterred by the heated race.

To say the least, the Democrats aren't jumping for joy over the news. The last few times he's tried to make a run, Democrats cried waterfalls over his siphoning votes away from their candidates, namely Al Gore in 2000. Nader himself said it was the Democrats' fault their candidate failed to establish a platform that could nix the Republicans' character.

Democrats are already on the offensive. John Pearce, the president of ralphdortonun.com, said on the website, "We continue to strongly believe that any third party candidacy in the U.S. two-party system has the inevitable effect of helping elect those most hostile to one's agenda. In this case, that means helping elect Republicans."

Pearce and others hope a Sen. Barack Obama nomination will make Nader more invisible than he was in 2004, thereby staking the claim that a Hillary Clinton-Led Democratic party would falter to the Republicans as a result of yet another Nader intrusion. As Pearce suggests, only the power of Obama can prevail in November, and only he can guide our country in the right direction.

But the fact that someone would suggest that it's "Two party or Bust" is rather upsetting, as if there were only two degrees of understanding in politics; that for every election, it's one or the other. It's your choice between two candidates whose outlook is, at the end of the day, only marginally different.

It's John Jackson or Jack Johnson. Disagree with both? Then tough shit, you're out of luck.

Nader was never siphoning votes. He is giving people what they want: a candidate who agrees with their politics.

Americans shouldn't have to compromise their political integrity simply because the candidates operate on a narrow ideological base. The progressive community demands real change to turn this country around and a candidate that embodies that mentality.

In our current political atmosphere, change is not easy to come by. It is estimated 25 percent of college-aged women are affected by some form of disordered eating. This means that here at Notre Dame, approximately 20,000 of our students make up a women's college makes Notre Dame look like a women's college. The fact that Notre Dame has an amazing group of professional counselors, doctors and nutritionists who are fully equipped to help people deal with eating disorders. It takes a lot of courage to ask for help in treating an eating disorder alone.

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Scene's Top Video Picks

JJ Ross' Dunk
Judging from the crowd's reaction, apparently JJ does this two or three times a game.

Apple Soundtrack
Someone with too much time on their hands makes a song using the computer presets from a Mac. Way better than you would imagine.

Papelbon Learns Spanish!
The man catch pitch, and we know the man can dance — but it appears he can't speak Spanish all too well.

Parkour Soccer
Even if you aren't a fan of the beautiful game, you will admire the skill of these guys passing the ball back and forth — while doing front hand springs ... on a bridge.

Gmail Painting
Ever thought about painting your dorm room to look like a giant mural of Google's Gmail? Just in case, you should watch this.

Star Wars According to a 3-Year-Old
In case the mysteries of the galaxy far, far away are just a little too confusing, you can have them explained to you by this 3-year-old girl.
With the title of its latest album, British Sea Power asks the world a simple question: "Do You Like Rock Music?" Well, British Sea Power, most people do. But they might not be so sure if they like your rock music.

See, rock music is supposed to be more than just the music. It's a state of mind. It's a way of life. It's an attitude. Everyone knows that, but British Sea Power seems to have forgotten that when it made one of the most boring and derivative rock albums in recent memory.

Well, it's all right to be a little derivative. Every good act is borrowing from someone else. Even The Beatles made their share of covers, and the Fab Five sure didn't invent the genre. They just fit it to themselves - made it their own - and by doing so, they made it better.

This is not trying to say that British Sea Power should be The Beatles. But honestly, what's the point in trying your hand at an honest rock album if you're not going to inject your own personality and emotion into ideas that you stole from other acts?

In this album, there are echoes of The Arcade Fire, U2, The Pixies, among others. And that's OK! Really, it is. These are great bands, and any band worth its weight in salt water would be honored even to be mentioned in the same sentence as these bands.

But the problem here is that the sounds are stolen from these bands are not changed at all. BSP doesn't apply them to a new aesthetic. They don't give them better arrangements. They don't treat them well in your hands, care for them, and nourish them. No, in BSP's hands, these stolen sounds die because they have no heart.

Don't get mad. This is not saying BSP doesn't play them well. In fact, BSP is a very technically proficient band. All the instruments are played well. The production is solid. It all sounds fine, but it's just all so empty - so cold.

Take the song "A Trip Out," for example. This song was everything this album could be: short, punchy and fast-paced, it's a fist-pumper to be sure. And it's a good rock song. But instead BSP buries it in the middle of the album, and starts out with what sounds like an Arcade Fire demo tape and a bloated, formless, shapeless blob of a song that tries so many rock song clichés, that it just breaks down under the weight. BSP's lead singer sounds like he's just snoring through the lyrics. The lyrics might not be very exciting to begin with, but at least he could have injected some due energy into the words. It's pret-

This is not trying to say that British Sea Power should be The Beatles. But honestly, what's the point in trying your hand at an honest rock album if you're not going to inject your own personality and emotion into ideas that you stole from other acts?

Contact Mychal Stanley at wstanley@nd.edu
Marion's big night helps Heat snap 11-game skid

Turkoglu chips in 17 points in the fourth quarter to seal win over Nets; Howard picks up 50th double-double of season

Associated Press
MIAMI — For one night, it all worked. Half-court alley-oop passes, 3-pointers in transition, even the occasional lucky bounce off the glass. The Miami Heat still have the worst record in the NBA. But they looked nothing like the league's worst team Tuesday night.

Shawn Marion scored 24 points and had 14 rebounds, Udson Haslem added 17 and the Heat used a huge third quarter to beat the Sacramento Kings 107-86 and snap an 11-game losing streak.

"I know we've had it in us," a visibly relieved Heat coach Pat Riley said. "I don't know where it's been. But tonight, we played extremely well. We just played a complete game for 48 minutes."

"I feel like it's a mosquito in a nud- ist colony," Riley added. "I know what to do. I just don't know where to start."

Dwyane Wade finished with 15 points and nine assists for the Heat, who won for just the second time in their last 28 games and did so in style, with their largest margin of victory since winning 30 points in Miami's first game.

Miami held Sacramento to 10 points in the third, 14-20 in the fourth quarter, a Heat franchise record. The Heat held a 31-11 edge in the third period, the first time in more than a year Miami outscored an opponent by at least 20 points in a quarter, and went on to become the final NBA team this season to reach the 30-victory mark.

The Heat said it was their best third quarter in two years running since the championship year," Wade said. "That's what you like to see, especially coming out at halftime, putting a team away and really showing that we wanted the game.

Udonis Haslem scored 16 points, while Ron Artest and Kevin Martin each finished with 14 for the Kings, whose starters were outscored 80-48 by Miami's first five.

Sacramento missed its first 14 shots of the third quarter, not getting anything to fall until Quincy Douby's jumper with 2:37 left in the period.

By then, Miami was in full control.

"That probably is about the worst we've played all year," Kings coach Doug Scott said. The guys were not focused on what they were trying to do. I just thought it was a bad effort on our part.

Miami's franchise-record streak of 125 straight leftovers ended; there were 357 unsold tickets.

The Heat couldn't have complained about much else.

Mark Blount finished with 14 points and nine rebounds, Earl Barron and Ricky Davis each scored 11 and Joann Williams added 10 points. Williams matched Wade with a game-high nine assists for Miami, which won for the first time since shredding Shaquille O'Neal to Phoenix 108-104 on Nov. 29.

The Heat started the third quarter the way they wanted, running, a 4-0 capped by Wade's three-point play. He hit it by Brad Miller on a drive, the ball teetered on the rim and eventually dropped through.

All of Sacramento's scoring during that 9-minute stretch came on free throws by Artest.

"Wow," Artest said, when asked about the third quarter. "They came out and took that third quarter in the first couple of minutes and usually, when you've got that, you've got a good chance to win the game.

Indeed, it was a rare easy night for Miami, which enjoyed a 20-point lead late in the third quarter, their largest of the season.

"It was the championship," Wade said of the forward he teasingly said, "I hope you enjoy it, because you're not going to see it again."

Turkoglu was almost perfect in the final 12 minutes. He hit all four of his shots from the field, including two 3-pointers, and 7 of 8 free throws. He also had two rebounds, an assist and a steal playing the entire quarter.

"When the time came, I was ready and my mind said," Turkoglu said, "I'm going to be aggressive, let's try to score another point for the team."

"I don't know whether I should try to score two points," Martin said. "Now I just try to string a few of them along."

Magic 102, Nets 92

With the game on the line in the fourth quarter, the Orlando Magic have no problem getting the ball to Hedo Turkoglu.

The 6-foot-10 forward has been money for the Magic in crunch time all season. He put on a show Tuesday night, scoring 17 his 25 points in the final quarter in decision over the New Jersey Nets.

"We have great confidence in him," coach Stan Van Gundy said. "He gets the opportunities and he comes through when we have put the ball in his hands in those situations."

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"When the time came, I was ready and my mind said," Turkoglu said, "I'm going to be aggressive, let's try to score another point for the team."

"When you come out and play the way we played tonight, it's going to be fun," Turkoglu said. "It's time to play and have some fun.

"I plenty of minutes. Usually when you do that, you tend to make some easy shots in the game," Haslem said.

Miami held Sacramento to 8-for-14 shooting, including 1-for-6 from Artest.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the North Dome office, 204 South Donga Mall. Deadline for next classified is 1 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $5 per character per day, including all space. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without征求ing refunds.

"Some people call me the space cowboy, Yeah call me the space cowboy..."
NCAA Women's Basketball
Associated Press Poll

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NCAA Women's Basketball Coaches' Poll

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CCHA Conference Standings

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NBA

Houston Rockets center Yao Ming will miss the rest of the season because of a stress fracture in his left foot. The Rockets had won 12 straight games before the team announced Ming's status.

Rockets lose Ming for remainder of season

Associated Press

HOUSTON — All-Star center Yao Ming is out for the season with a stress fracture in his left foot, a stunning blow to the surging Houston Rockets.

General manager Daryl Morey made the announcement Tuesday, hours before the Rockets put their 12-game winning streak on the line against the Washington Wizards.

Yao was having a terrific season, averaging 22.8 points and 10.8 rebounds per game.

"It is not an injury we feel he can play with," Rockets team doctor Tom Clanton said. "I've made the recommendation that it be treated surgically and we are working with him to get other opinions just to be certain that that is indeed what should be done."

If Yao chooses surgery, Clanton said, it would involve placing screws across the bone to hold it together. The second option would be to treat it with a cast and crutches. Both options involve a healing time of about four months.

Clanton would not say when Yao could play again, but said he doesn't expect the center to miss the Beijing Olympics in August. Morey told the team before Tuesday's shootaround, and added he doesn't believe the injury compromises Houston's playoff hopes. The Rockets were 36-20 entering Tuesday's game.

"We've been playing exceptional ball and Yao's been a huge part of that," Morey said. "We feel very confident about our playoff push. We've managed to step up and play well without Yao in the past and coaches and players feel confident that we're going to continue to play well and make the playoffs this year."

Morey acknowledged that it was difficult news to receive when the team has been playing so well.

"It's a pretty big swing from a high to a low, with how we were playing," Morey said. "We feel like our supporting cast is superior to when we played without Yao in the past. We remain ready for the challenge ahead."

Clanton said there was no specific event that led to the injury, but rather an "accumulation of stresses on the bone. Yao first experienced soreness and pain in his ankle before the All-Star game and tests were done Monday when the situation didn't improve."

This is Yao's fourth major injury in the last two years. He missed 32 games last season with a fracture in his right leg and 21 games in late 2006 with a toe infection that required surgery.

IN BRIEF

Clemens looking to move beyond drug discussions

KISSIMMEE, Fla. — Roger Clemens arrived at the Houston Astros' minor league club house on Tuesday and walked straight to a fenced-in bullpen to greet his oldest son, Koby, a catcher in the Astros' system.

He snapped at a photographer who started clicking pictures.

"This isn't a zoo!" Clemens barked.

The seven-time Cy Young Award winner was calmer a few minutes later, but refused to answer questions about the Mitchell Report or a possible criminal investigation into his denials of steroid use.

"Everything's been said that needs to be said on that," Clemens said. "We're moving forward. It's baseball time."

Clemens thinks the public is tired of hearing about performance-enhancing drugs in the sport. He is.

De La Hoya announces plan to retire, albeit slowly

CARSON, Calif. — Oscar De La Hoya plans to fight three times this year, then retire.

"I'm at that stage of my career now where I can't take it further," the 35-year-old De La Hoya said Tuesday. "I can't go on for the next two years, three years. It's just time to hang up the gloves."

"This is the year," De La Hoya was speaking with a small group of reporters after a news conference to discuss his May 3 bout against Steve Forbes, a runner-up on television's "Tournament of Contenders."

De La Hoya was speaking with a small group of reporters after a news conference to discuss his May 3 bout against Steve Forbes, a runner-up on television's "Tournament of Contenders."

A former champion in five weight classes and one of boxing's most recogizable fighters, De La Hoya wants to meet Floyd Mayweather Jr. in a September rematch of their bout last May. Mayweather won by split decision.

Glove wizard Vizquel to miss four to six weeks

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — San Francisco probably will be without Omar Vizquel's sparkling defense at shortstop on opening day.

Vizquel will have arthroscopic surgery on his left knee Wednesday and is expected to miss four to six weeks. The 11-time Gold Glove shortstop who turns 41 in April, tested his knee Tuesday but said the pain was too much to handle.

"My knee was feeling good," Vizquel said. "I wanted to give it a hard shot in order to make a decision. It didn't work. I felt a little pop when I was running. That's what I wanted to see — to see if I could sustain the pain, and I couldn't."
Pats' Colvin among newest cuts

New York Jets cut three former starters; Vikings trade Williamson

Associated Press

Linebacker Roosevelt Colvin, who played on two Super Bowl-winning New England teams but was plagued by injuries throughout his time with the Patriots, was released by the team Tuesday.

Colvin, who went out with a foot injury after 11 games last season, was signed as a free agent from Chicago in 2003. He missed 14 games in 2003, then played all 16 games the next three seasons, registering 20 sacks in those seasons.

The Patriots also cut linebacker Oscar Lua, who missed all of 2007 with a knee injury after being drafted in the seventh round last April.

With the free-agent deadline three days away, several teams cut players to create more cap room.

Wide receiver Eddie Kennison was released by Kansas City after seven seasons there. The 35-year-old Kennison was the Chiefs' top wide receiver for most of that time, but was limited last season by hamstring and shoulder injuries to only eight games, catching 13 passes for 101 yards.

He had 1,000-yard receiving seasons in 2004 and 2005, joining Andre Carson as the only players in Chiefs history to accomplish that feat.

Washington released disappointing receiver Brandon Lloyd, who had only 25 catches in two seasons with the team. The Redskins traded two draft picks to the San Francisco 49ers for Lloyd before the 2006 season, then signed him to a long-term contract that included $10 million in guaranteed money.


McCareins, acquired in 2004 in a trade with Tennessee, never developed into an impact receiver. In four seasons in New York, he had 141 catches for 2,062 yards and seven touchdowns. He saw limited action last season, catching just 19 passes for 232 yards.

Dyson, signed as a free agent from Seattle in 2006, had five interceptions in two seasons with the Jets, but just one in nine games last year as a back-up. He started every game at left cornerback until he was injured in Week 15 of the 2006 season, and was then replaced by rookie Darrelle Revis in 2007.

Dyson, bothered by a foot injury throughout training camp, was inactive for six games and didn't play in the Jets' last five games. Clarke struggled as the replacement for Pete Kendall, starting 14 games at left guard last season. He may have sealed his fate when he was beaten by Richard Seymour on Kellen Clemens' first pass against New England in Week 14. Eugene Wilson intercepted the ball for a touchdown, and the quarterback missed the rest of the game and the following week with a rib injury. Clarke was inactive the last two games.

In a deal that won't be official until the start of the trudeful agency season at midnight Feb. 29, Minnesota agreed to send disappointing receiver Troy Williamson to Jacksonville for a sixth-round pick, according to someone familiar with the trade. Williamson was the seventh overall pick in the 2005 draft.

San Francisco re-signed linebacker Roderick Green shortly before the veteran pass-rusher would have become an unrestricted free agent. Green spent parts of the last two seasons with the 49ers.

Cincinnati re-signed receiver Antonio Chatman and defensive end Jonathan Fanene. Chatman agreed to a two-year deal last season. He may have sealed his fate when he was beaten by Richard Seymour on Kellen Clemens' first pass against New England.

Chatman was the seventh overall pick in the 2006 draft.

Fanene got a three-year deal. The fourth-year player appeared in 14 games and had six tackles and one sack.
Indiana holds on for narrow victory over Buckeyes

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Dan Dakich thinks Indiana basketball should be about the players. One day soon, it might be again.

But not yet.

The Hoosiers’ high-profile coaching change again overshadowed basketball Tuesday night, and Indiana fans showed Dakich with a victory stroll after No. 12 Indiana beat Ohio State 72-69 — even though Dakich didn’t think he deserved it.

“This isn’t about my stamp or anything like that,” he said afterward. “This is about these players and what they had in front of them before last Friday.”

At stake for the Hoosiers (24-4, 13-2 Big Ten) is their first outright Big Ten title since 1993, a high seed in the NCAA tournament and, of course, a sentimental finish for former coach Kelvin Sampson, who resigned amid NCAA allegations of five major rules infractions on Friday.

Dakich, who had been an interim successor and assistant coach, was chosen Friday as the university released the NCAA report on Feb. 13.

Several players again wore the initials “KS” on their sneakers, yet the crowd was filled with images of the tumult that has rocked this storied program over the past two weeks.

One fan waved a sign that read “Dan Dakich 4 Prez.” Others held placards that read “KS” and “If you ain’t cheating, you ain’t trying.” A woman even got caught looking ahead, voicing her opinion for Dakich’s successor by waving a sign in front of Ohio State’s Thad Matta near the end of the halftime break.

It read “What’s The Matta? Hire Thad!”

After enduring the circus-like environment of the past two weeks, the Hoosiers just wanted to play basketball.

“We love coach Sampson and we wish he was out there with us,” Bassett said. “But we’re right up there at the top of the Big Ten and we can’t do nothing but get used to it.”

The Buckeyes made that very clear in Tuesday night’s physical slugfest.

Kosta Koufos scored 21 points, hitting four 3-pointers to lead Indiana. Eric Gordon, the Big Ten’s top scorer, finished with 17 points and six rebounds. D.J. White added 16 points and eight rebounds despite fighting cramps and Indiana won its fourth straight, all coming since the university released the NCAA report.

Have some fun. Save some lives.

Legends

Thursday, February 28th Midnight

WIN A SEASON OF GREY’S!

Grey’s Anatomy and Trivia

Indiana guard Eric Gordon puts up a shot past Buckeye center Kosta Koufos in a 72-69 Hoosier win Tuesday.
Pittsburgh beats Islanders despite allowing 52 shots

Pittsburgh now 1 point behind Devils for Eastern Conference lead; Bruins' Thomas gets second shut-out of season

Associated Press

UNIONDALE, N. Y. — If the Pittsburgh Penguins thought they were getting a break when giving up 52 shots, just think how good they’ll be when Sidney Crosby and Martin Brodeur are passing the puck to each other.

On the day the Penguins won the trade deadline sweepskeeps and added Connor McDavid from Anaheim to play with Sid the Kid, Ty Conklin sidestepped the show.

Conklin made an eye-popping, career-best 50 saves Tuesday night in the Penguins’ 4-2 victory over the New York Islanders.

"Sometimes shot choices aren’t indicative of the game necessarily," a humble Conklin said.

Tyson Elikins and Jeff Taffe scored first-period goals for trade-depleted Pittsburgh, and Conklin faced the New York onslaught coming up in December after Marc-Andre Fleury injured an ankle. Conklin has gone 17-4-5.

Pittsburgh jumped over Ottawa and is just one point behind New Jersey for the lead in the Eastern Conference and Atlantic Division.

"I haven’t seen a goalie steal a game like that this year," Penguins defenseman Ryan Whitney said. "He’s probably our MVP since Sid went out, he and Malkin. It’s not something we want to have a habit of though."

Just hours after the Penguins made the biggest splash by acquiring Hossa for forwards Connor McDavid and Erik Christensen, Pittsburgh pulled out a win despite being outshot 52-26.

Frans Nielsen scored on Conklin in the second period to get the Islanders within 2-1. Trent Hunter hit the crossbar less than 2 minutes into the third, and New York dropped its second straight following a six-game winning streak.

"We thought if we keep pressing on them, we’d score some goals and take over the game, and we didn’t do that," forward Miroslav Satan said. "It just wasn’t our day. We just have to remember what we did for six games in a row."

Pittsburgh went 2-for-4 on the power play, compared to 1-for-9 for New York, on the outside of the Eastern playoff picture.

"I’m not really sure we played our best game," Conklin said.

The Penguins piled on, giving up nine goals to New York’s four. They are expected to play Thursday when the Penguins visit Boston. One captain Crosby returns from a broken rib and another, captain Marc-Andre Fleury, from a high ankle sprain and joins Hossa on a line, the Penguins will possess one of the NHL’s most potent offenses.

"It’s a privilege for us to get help like that and we’re going to be ready to play well and make a long run," Whitney said. "We’re a good team, but we just got a lot better." The Islanders dominated the Penguins in the first period, yet were down 2-0. New York registered a season-best 23 shots and gave up six.

The Penguins grabbed the lead 10:50 in and they did it with their second shot, both coming on the same shift. Malkin got to a rebound of Petr Sykora’s drive and carried the puck behind the net and out on the left side. He drifted backward into the left circle and snapped off a shot while gliding that beat Rick DiPietro. It was Malkin’s 36th goal and his 13th in 18 games since being assigned by the Assistant Provost for Enrollment.

NHL

NHL

Most candidates will specifically seek an African American Recruitment Coordinator.

Candidates should possess a bachelor’s degree and strong familiarity with all aspects of student life at Notre Dame.

As part of the Undergraduate Admissions staff, the counselor is expected to make an important contribution to the recruitment and selection of the first-year class by managing relations with the prospective applicants, their parents, high school personnel and alumni in an assigned geographic area.

Responsibilities include extensive planning, travel and communication within the geographic area, assessment and evaluation of applications and conducting group/individual information sessions. Additional responsibilities will be assigned by the Assistant Provost for Enrollment.

Among our candidates, we will specifically seek an African American Recruitment Coordinator.

Attention Seniors!

Notre Dame’s Office of Undergraduate Admissions anticipates hiring Admissions Counselors this spring!

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Candidates should possess a bachelor’s degree and strong familiarity with all aspects of student life at Notre Dame.

Essential qualities include strong communication and organizational skills, enthusiasm, diplomacy and the willingness to work long hours, including many evenings and Saturday mornings.

Please Note: Interviews will be scheduled after April 1.

Preferred start date is July 1, 2008.

Please forward your resume to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions

220 Main Building

Attention: Alisa M. Fisher, Senior Associate Director

Wednesday, February 27, 2008
NCAA Men's Basketball
Vandy upsets UT, win streak now at 7
Commodores 18-of-18 at home this season

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Tennessee Volunteers found out being No. 1 can be tougher than beating No. 1.

Shan Foster scored 32 points and No. 18 Vanderbilt knocked off Tennessee 72-69 on Tuesday night — a day after the Vols moved into the top spot in the rankings for the first time in school history.

The Vols (25-3, 11-2 Southeastern Conference) beat then-No. 1 Memphis on Saturday night 66-62 on the western edge of Tennessee for their ninth straight victory to earn that spot themselves, then had to travel back to the middle part of the state to defend their top ranking for the first time.

Vanderbilt (24-4, 9-4) has hosted the No. 1 team nine times and won eight of those games with victories in the past four, including then-No. 1 Florida last year. The Commodores also now have won all 18 home games this season and 31 of their last 32.

Jermaine Beal added 17 points and Alex Gordon 11 as Vanderbilt knocked off the Volunteers for the second time this season and 31 of their last 32.

Tennessee stayed close enough to keep sending Vandy to the free throw line and pulled within 72-69 on Chism's dunk with 7.5 seconds. But Ross Neithner got the ball past the Vols' pressing defense, Foster threw it upcourt to Keegan Bell. The Vols fouled him with 1.8 seconds left, and he missed both attempts. But a last throw at the basket went deep into the seats after the buzzer.

Vanderbilt nearly ran Tennessee out of the gym in the opening minutes by scoring 10 of the first 13 points and jumppong out 23-9 on A.J. Ogilvy's dunk with 10:36 left in the first half. Then they went cold, finishing by hitting only two of their final 12 shots. They went nearly seven minutes without field goals before Foster hit his fourth 3 with 3:57 to go.

This time, the Commodores had a sellout crowd making it even louder than what the Vols faced from a bigger group in Memphis' FedExForum. In Memorial, sound just rolls off the cinder block walls and back onto the floor, and one sign summed up the Vols' fate: "Enjoy Second Place Next Year."

The combination of the travel and quick turnaround left the Vols exhausted, and it showed in the first half as they hit only eight of 34 shots, too often shooting away from beyond the 3-point line where they hit only 6-of-17. They finished 20-of-61.

Wayne Chism, who had 16 points and 18 rebounds when Tennessee beat Vandy in Knoxville 89-60 last month, had four points and four rebounds.

Vanderbilt led 31-28 at the break after nearly blowing a 14-point lead in the opening half. The teams swapped the lead four times with three ties before Alan Metcalfe's 3-pointer broke a 44-all tie with 14:20 left, and Vandy never trailed again.

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Write Sports. E-mail
Chris at sports@nd.edu
Bulls
continued from page 24
help us win; we are not in any way a one-man team.
Sophomore Erin Williamson has taken over in the face of injuries. The 6-foot-1 center is averaging 477 from the field with 4.6 rebounds per game. Williamson led the Irish off the boards a g a i n s t DePaul with eight.
"I'm really happy with the way she's become a presence in the game at both ends of the floor," M c G r a w said. "Defensively, you don't know if she's gonna block the shot or take the charge which makes it a lot harder for the offense.... She's playing the best basketball of her career."

Even with players like Williamson leading the Irish at both ends, McGraw isn't underestimating South Florida. Senior guard Shantia Kessler is a threat from both inside and outside the arc, averaging .373 from the field and .408 for 3-pointers.

"I thought she was a really good player last year but she was kind of overshadowed with Jessica Dickson.... Now she's really come into her own, she's playing really well," McGraw said.

But McGraw said she feels the defense is strong enough to handle Grace.

After struggling early on with their defense, the Irish have improved dramatically over the last month. They are likely to look even further improve their defense.

We are really looking for those last three games to kind of get better at some things," McGraw said.

"We're happy with the defense and now we can take up with the offense a little bit more."

M c G r a w
Irish coach

"We're happy with our defense and now we can take up with the offense a little bit more."}

By G R I F F I N D A S S A T I
Sports Writer

A five-point lead wasn't good enough for Saint Mary's Tuesday.
The Belles entered the locker room with a 25-20 lead over Olivet in the first round of the MIAA tournament and ended with a 71-62 win. The Comets held the Belles to 13.3 percent shooting from the field in the first half.
The Belles emerged from the locker room hungry for a win. But Belles coach Jenn Henley said the talk in the locker room didn't go much beyond basic strategy.

"The biggest thing was that we wanted to get into the paint to score," Henley said. "We wanted to execute our two-man game and get to the foul line as much as we could because that's what we've been doing all season."

The Belles came out on fire in the second half, jumpin out to a 16-2 run fueled by three straight three-pointers by junior guards Katie Nashid and Meghan Conley and senior guard Alison Kessler.
The run put the game all but out of reach for the Comets, who didn't get within single digits of Saint Mary's until there were 55 seconds left in the game. The Belles succeeded in getting to the paint — the team shot 51.9 percent from the field in the second half and went 4-10 from 3-point range.

Kessler again led the Belles in scoring with 23 points to bring her season total to 520, breaking her own single-season scoring record of 497, set last year. Nashid and sophomore forward Anna Kammrath each tallied 10, and junior forward Erin Newsom scored eight points and grabbed 10 rebounds.

Saint Mary's will face Saint Mary's in the quarterfinals.

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

"The biggest thing was that we wanted to get into the paint to score."

Jenn Henley
Belles coach

"[Hope is] still the No. 1 team in the country so we have our hands full."

Jenn Henley
Belles coach

The University of Notre Dame Multicultural Student Programs and Services is proud to invite you to a humorous presentation of inventions of Africans and African Americans disappearing!

Staying on campus during spring break? Need something to do?
Date: Friday, February 29, 2008
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Hesburgh Library Auditorium

5

Recycle The Observer.
VeNard
continued from page 24

Irish coach Jeff Jackson before he was hired. It didn't take long for VeNard to make an impression on his future coach.

"It was interesting because he had real, real long hair," Jackson said. "But he's just a model citizen, and I could tell that from my first official meeting with him as a coach.

VeNard played in 29 of the team's 36 games in Jackson's first year as coach — missing the first three due to a stress fracture — and participated in only 17 the next season.

Jackson said injuries were always the main reason VeNard was not starting.

"By the time he got back, somebody else had been playing real well," Jackson said. "So it was hard for him to get back in the lineup. It wasn't a matter of him not playing well.

So far this season, VeNard has played in every game for the Irish. He credited his newfound durability in an extra 10 pounds he added in the off-season, bulking him up to 198 pounds.

"This year I came in much heavier and more in shape than I ever have," VeNard said. "I think the extra weight definitely helped me."

Also, VeNard has been putting the puck in the net more than ever before, notching five goals on the season after only scoring two career goals in his first three seasons.

"He's got a deceptive shot," Jackson said. "Sometimes he's erratic, but he can shoot the puck."

VeNard said his offensive production is about luck, rather than skill.

"I was just going out there, putting my head down and shooting as hard as I can," VeNard said. "I think it might be more or less out of luck. I don't think about scoring goals when I go out there, but it sure has been fun."

Fellow senior Brock Sheahan said VeNard's main role is not as a sniper, but as a leader.

"He's done a really great job showing guys how to be a great guy on and off the ice," Sheahan said.

Jackson echoed Sheahan, saying the senior was a great role model for younger teammates.

"He's just a level-headed young man," Jackson said.

VeNard's leadership abilities extend off the ice. He is president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, a group that serves as a liaison between the administration and student-athletes.

"It's actually really important and it's a great honor for him," Sheahan said. "He's always honest for making sure we're out in the community."

VeNard's executive role, however, means he doesn't get to take a hard time about it, calling himself "El Presidente," that kind of stuff," Sheahan said. "It's always fun giving it to him.

Faced with the task of rallying a team that has suffered from poor play in recent weeks, VeNard is optimistic about the future.

"We never faced this type of adversity last year," VeNard said. "My message to the guys is to just stay positive. Stay positive with each other and stay positive with yourselves.

As VeNard's experiences at Notre Dame shows, positive thinking can pay off.

"VeNard's gone through some really tough times here that other players might not be able to deal with, dealing with injury after injury," Sheahan said. "He's shown that he's a very good defense man and I'm very impressed with what he's done."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

Ruth
continued from page 24

said. "And instead of getting nothing for [Fedorov], they got a good hockey player."

The Russian center, who won the Hart Memorial Trophy for the NHL's most valuable player in 1994, has 469 goals and 663 assists in his career. He is fourth in points, goals and assists in Detroit history.

The Capitals currently sit in 11th place in the Eastern Conference and are five points behind the Philadelphia Flyers, who occupy the final playoff spot.

The Blue Jackets are in a similar position in the Western Conference, sitting at 11th overall and five points behind the final playoff berth.

The Capitals drafted Ruth (6-foot, 201 pounds) in the second round (146th overall) of the June 2007 Entry Draft. Prior to the draft, Central Scouting ranked Ruth as the No. 11 draft-eligible North American and 32nd among all North American skaters.

Jackson said there was a good chance that Don Boyd, the Blue Jackets' director of player personnel, was on hand at last weekend's Notre Dame-Ohio State series because Boyd's son, Peter, is a freshman forward for the Buckeyes.

Fedorov left the Red Wings in 2005 before moving to Detroit in 2005.

Fedorov was drafted by Detroit in 1989 while he played for the Red Army club team in Moscow. He defected from the Soviet Union to the Goodwill Games in Seattle in 1990 and caught a plane to Moscow.

Ruth has one goal and two assists in his five games this season and a plus-13 rating. Last season, he was an alternate captain for the under-18 U.S. national team.

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

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Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Record
continued from page 24

shot," Hillesland said.
Notre Dame leads the league in
rebounding margin (+4.8 in
conference play) and total
rebounds with 43.6 per game,
and forward Luke Harangody is
first in conference with 11.9
boards per game. Even though
Syracuse, who's second in
rebounding margin, out-
rebonded Notre Dame 51-33
on Sunday, the Irish aren't wor-
rried performances like that
will be a trend. The team has
worked to correct the problems
they had against the Orange.

"When we get beat on the
boards, I think the guys on the
perimeter — myself, Ryan,
(point guard) Tory Jackson —
we lose our guys because
boxing out is really not a priority
for us but it should be," McAlarney said. "But when
we're really boxing out and
everyone is boxing out their
own guys that's when we out-
rebond teams and that helps
out our big guys a lot."

Few would have guessed the
Irish would lead the Big East in
rebonding, considering the
Irish don't have a skyscraper in
the middle like Georgetown's
Roy Hibbert or Connecticut's
Hasheem Thabeet; and they
play a lot of 2-3 or 1-2-2 zone —
defenses that make it harder
to box out the opponent.

"It's something we enforce in
practice when we're in zone,
block the guy out in your area," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "It's easier
d than done sometimes.
I think also sometimes
you can be too worried
about knock outs. It's a bal-
ance point and a fine line.

But Brey said boxing out isn't
always the best way to grab
rebounds.

"Sometimes you just need
to go get the ball. Harangody
and Kurz, Hillesland — they
can just go get the ball sometimes," he said.

Once Kurz or Harangody
grab a defensive board, they're
looking right away for Jackson
who'll take off down the floor.
Hillesland, meanwhile, has the
quikness and the ball handling
ability to take it the length of
the floor himself. But when
both Jackson and Hillesland are
driving in transition, they
try to get an open look for
McAlarney before the defense
can get set to guard him.

"That's the No. 1 priority
when I'm pushing the ball is
I try to get Kyle easy looks
because he shoots such a high
percentage and it's such a
weapon that when we're in
transition I try to find him for
an open look," Hillesland said.

"Whenever I get the ball, he
knows I'm looking for him
because he sprints down
the line and tries to spot up at
the elbow-extended or the wing."

Contact Chris Hine at
chine@nd.edu

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ACE UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIPS

Our new undergraduate internship program offers students interested in becoming ACE teachers an opportunity to advance our mission of service to under-resourced Catholic schools.

We seek rising seniors for these paid internships. Application for these positions will include an early application to join ACE.

Applications become available March 10. Please contact ace@nd.edu if you'd like to apply!

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, Nanovic Institute, etc.)

Application Deadline: Wednesday, February 27, 2008
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame
**THE SINGLE LIFE**

**LINA PAEK**

Early in the evening we spent a few minutes

*I love you more than a word can say.*

In a few seconds, he said to me,

"You're the only one who can make

*me feel happy.*"

**CROSSWORD**

Across 40 Plague 41 Brute 1 1960s singer Steve McQueen 3 Jose Cuervo, for one 66 Bun toppers 14 1 830's light 2 33 A book in the Book of Mormon 31 A politician, often 52 A band, Taylor, Wilson or 48 "The Guiding Light" 55 The tagline of dancers 56 A crossword, with the 1997 Pivoting razor 59 A work of dancers 60 "How Do I Live" 61 A hit to this puzzle's theme 62 Ocean liner 63 "No, you can't." 65 Airmail 66 An airer 67 A military property 68 A puzzle is an airer

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

**JUMBLE**

- Answer: A judge will do this when he has a tennis racket.

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**HOCKEY**

**Young and old**

Injury-free VeNard lends on and off the ice

By SAM WERNER

Sports Writer

It may have taken Dan VeNard three years, but he finally has a regular spot in the Irish lineup, and he's making his presence known.

After being shuffled in and out of the lineup, mainly due to injuries, the senior defensemen from Vernon Hills, Ill., has finally found a regular spot on the Notre Dame defense.

"I guess I just stayed out the way of people," VeNard joked.

After the first 11 games of his freshman season, VeNard was sidelined with a separated shoulder that would cost him seven games; another shoulder injury later in the season would put him out for six more.

VeNard was one of the players on the panel interviewing

see VENARD/page 21

**Men's Basketball**

Offensive boards help K-Mac set 3-point record

By CHRIS HINE

Sports Writer

Kylo McAlarney broke a Notre Dame record by draining nine 3-pointers before Sunday's 94-87 win over Syracuse, but the record would have remained intact if not for a little help from junior forward Zach Hillesland on the offensive glass.

In the second half against the Orange, Hillesland grabbed two offensive rebounds, and each time he did, he was passed to McAlarney who found an open spot beyond the arc against Syracuse's scrambling zone defense.

It might have seemed like luck that McAlarney, who is hitting 46 percent of his 3-pointers this year, was open after an offensive rebound, but in fact, the Irish work on finding their shooters after an offensive rebound because it's a prime opportunity for them to get an open look.

"Every time we get an offensive rebound, Coach Brey is yelling at me, or he's yelling at [forwards] John [Kurz], or Ryan [Ayers] or whoever to spot him. It's a shooter because we're trying to build plays and offensive rebounds like that."

Once a shot goes up, the defense looks skyward and looks for shooters like McAlarney.

"The defense is kind of a little stirruped up as it is, and sometimes we have trouble getting Kyle open looks, so when we get an offensive board, it's a good time to get Kyle an open look."

**ND Women's Basketball**

Irish return home to face South Florida after three-game trip

By DEIRDRE KRASULA

Sports Writer

Muffet McGraw's nerves might be shaking the Irish, but her appetite isn't.

The undersized Irish in 2007 gave McGraw enough stress to fill up on chocolate and strik without gaining weight.

This year, sitting at 21-6 going into the Big East tournament, McGraw must eat salad to keep her figure.

No. 8 Notre Dame returns home today to take on South Florida in the first of three games before the start of the Big East tournament. The Irish look to finish their season 3-0 on their final run, securing a bye in the first round of the tournament.

"It's really important for us to finish strong," Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said. "Right now we've got a bye and we're in control of our destiny, we have to win out to keep that bye."

"Mathematically we might not have to, but that's what we want to do. Two wins will do it but that's not gonna be good enough for us."

The Irish enter tonight's match after going 2-1 on their three-game road trip. Notre Dame defeated Syracuse and DePaul 79-67 and 66-64, respectively, and fell to No. 5 Rutgers 57-51.

But McGraw isn't too worried about the loss to the Scarlet Knights.

"I'm proud of this team and of what we've accomplished because last year we had three road games in a row — against ranked teams — and we went 0-3," McGraw said. "And we had the same situation this year, and we go 2-1, and we played really well at Rutgers."

The Irish take on the Bulls with a much smaller bench than they had at the start of the season. Freshman

Irish guard Tulyah Gaines drives to the basket during Notre Dame's 81-66 win over Pittsburgh Feb. 10.

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