Jenkins greenlights ‘Monologues’

Despite criticism from Church leaders, the ‘Vagina Monologues’ will again be performed on campus

By BILL BRINK
News Editor

"The Vagina Monologues" will be performed on campus this spring, University President Father John Jenkins said in a statement Monday, a month after criticism from Church leaders revived debate about the role of the sexually explicit play at a Catholic university.

Jenkins said the student proposal to perform the "Monologues" — which received approval from several academic departments and the dean of the College of Arts and Letters before he reviewed it — was consistent with guidelines established in spring of 2006.

Jenkins and chairs from Arts and Letters after 10 weeks of campus-wide discussion, stipulate that academic panels will be held after each performance. "a thorough and sympathetic account of the Catholic tradition in relation to the issues raised in the play.

The performances will take place March 24-26. "My decision on this matter arises from a conviction that it is an indispensable part of the mission of a Catholic university to provide a forum in which multiple viewpoints are debated in reasoned and respectful exchange — always in dialogue with faith and the Catholic tradition," Jenkins said. See JENKINS/page 4

Hilton Garden Inn faces burglary attempt

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's Security, Notre Dame Security/Police and St. Joseph's County Police apprehended two burglars attempting to rob the Hilton Garden Inn on Indiana Route 933 in the early morning hours of Feb. 28, local news outlets said.

The St. Joseph's County Police received a call at 4:10 a.m. from the front desk clerk at the Hilton, the news outlets reported. The Hilton borders Madeleva Drive, which is Saint Mary's property.

The clerk reported that the hotel had been robbed and a maintenance man was attempting to subdue one of the suspects in front of the hotel, according to the South Bend Tribune.

Sgt. Dale Shines, a Saint Mary's security guard, was monitoring the St. Joseph's County Police frequency at the time of the robbery and decided to patrol the area. David Gariepy, director of Saint Mary's Security, said "The attempted burglary caused a concern for our campus should the perpetrators have decided to escape towards our property."

Gariepy said.

NDSP also responded to the robbery after being contacted by the St. Joseph's County Police, who requested mutual aid from another police agency, Phil Johnson, director of NDSP said. Gariepy said NDSP arrived "nearly simultaneously" with see HILTON/page 4

Speakers kick off Body Image week

Conference promotes awareness of eating disorders, examines campus health

By ANN-MARIE WOODS
News Writer

People feverishly working out on the elliptical machines, countless wannabe bodybuilders pumping iron, students running around the lakes in the middle of winter and the Subway line surpassing the midnight hour are scenes that may seem familiar to most here at Notre Dame.

The student government's gender issues committee, however, is now raising the question of why this is the case. Is Notre Dame simply a healthy campus? or are there deeper issues concerning health and body image that pervade the campus, as students obsess over a need to be thin, fit and "perfect"?

With millions of Americans, many on college campuses like Notre Dame, suffering with eating and body image disorders, the gender issues committee has organized "Live As You Are: 2008 Health and Body Image Conference," in conjunction with National Eating Disorder Awareness Week.

Promoting greater awareness and understanding of eating disorders, the "Live As You Are" conference is bringing these issues to the forefront of Notre Dame, hoping to provide support, education, and insight for professionals and students alike.

Sophomore Patrick Tigue, co-chair of the student government's gender issues committee, has been a part of the planning and organization of the conference, along with senior co-chair Brenda Doyle. Modeled after last year's Eating Disorder Conference, Tigue and Doyle "decided to change the conference to make it more gender neutral and accessible as many people, as possible."

Tigue said.

Started in the spring of 2007 by a Notre Dame student suffering with an eating disorder, the conference has seen IMG/pge 4

College's former pres dies

Sr. M. Alma Peter served SMC for 34 years

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

Thirty-eight years after her inauguration as the President of Saint Mary's College, Sr. M. Alma Peter died at Saint Mary's Convent Friday.

Alma Peter was 98 years old and worked for Saint Mary's 34 years in both a teaching and administrative capacity. She was appointed as the College's president from 1970-72.

Current president and 1972 alumna Carol Ann Monroy expressed sympathy at the loss of the former educator.

"I have known Sister Alma since my days as a student at Saint Mary's College," she said. "I am deeply saddened by her passing."

After taking her Final Profession in 1933, Alma Peter received a bachelor's degree from Immaculate Heart College in Los Angeles and a master's degree in chemistry from Marquette University. She also held an honorary doctor of humanities degree from Saint Mary's College and an honorary doctor of laws degree from the University of Notre Dame.

She joined Saint Mary's faculty in 1950 and became the academic dean in 1962. She was instrumental in

Observer appoints eight new editors

Observer Staff Report

Five new editors assumed their roles on the 2008-09 General Board positions, Editor in-Chief Chris Hine announced Monday. Three editors are abroad, and will begin their roles in the fall of 2008.

"It's a challenge to put out five papers per week while maintaining good grades in the classroom," Hine said. "But I have complete faith in everyone's ability to maintain the high standards established by outgoing editors."

The other appointments are:

+ Will Brink, news editor
+ Mary Jesse, graphics editor
+ Kara King, viewpoint editor

See image/page 4

see SMILE/page 6

Peter Gariepy, a police officer at the University of Notre Dame. He said, "We are continuing to see an increase in the number of cases related to eating disorders at our institution."
INSIDE COLUMN

What a sad truth

Racism in America isn’t any more curable now than it was 30 years ago. For those of you who read “racism” and flipped to the comics, bear with me. I just wanted to grab your attention and makes us wonder what the situation is about the progress we have made in this country. The following is not a sick joke; it actually happened.

Over spring break, at a large southern state university, I watched a college student tie a piece of rope around the neck of an African-American Barbie doll, tie the other end to a ceiling fan and turn it on, to ravenous laughter of most others in the room.

Anyone who says racism is gone is absolutely kidding themselves. This incident told me two things. First, no amount of sensitivity training can eradicate racism and it does not end with a casual interest in personally inspiring something like this. Although I didn’t have the privilege of witnessing this, the guy claimed he tilted his head and a lighter together to blow-torch the doll’s face as well. He must think this was funny because no one told him otherwise. He must have grown up in a society where a diner didn’t prohibit this type of behavior. Unless the stem of the problem is removed, manifestations like this will occur.

Second, the twisted humor was infectious. Most people in the room who didn’t break into laughter fell into slack-jawed shock and let loose a “That’s horrible,” or something along those lines. As time passed, however, their faces slowly broke into sheepish smiles, and they became more and more amused.

Some might see this as a harmless col­

umn prank, pegged on by alcohol and an audience. It may be relatively harmless in the privacy of an apartment, but what happens if it becomes public? Anyone remember the Jena Six?

Others may fault me for making a sweeping generalization about a country or a campus. Perhaps this was just an isolated incident; this guy’s family and upbringing was an exception to the rule. But it didn’t hurt that, and I bet many other people don’t either. I know people who refer to people by their race across the room, and they are some of my favorite characterizations about them. And it’s not usually done tastefully. Then again, can it ever be done tastefully?

As long as racism goes unchecked dur­

ing childhood, people will continue to become racists. It may seem harmless while it is the brain of the suffer­ing, but if a person becomes the target, it represents a continuing problem in this country.

It goes deeper than whether someone can catch a tax or not. As it stands, watching, my mind racing in disbelief, realized the true extent of the problem. I was adept to this issue, and watching was my first step. I am soon aware of the soul of our society, and the only way to remove it is to dig it out, seed by seed.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Bill Brink at ubrink@nd.edu

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT’S THE BEST THING ABOUT RETURNING TO CAMPUS AFTER SPRING BREAK?

Katie Gradecki sophomores Welsh Fum - "That Easter is in a week and a half."

Jenny Scully sophomores Welsh - "Seeing John Saulitis all day every day."

Dan Haggerty sophomores Morrissey - Being neighbors with John Saulitis all day every day.

Manessa Treece freshman Lewis - Going back to the D-half - South for sure!

Brian Lee senior - "Having internet so I can watch Lost."

Offbeat

Collision with overpass cancels obese man’s date

MEXICO CITY - When Manuel Uribe went out on a date, he made all the necessary arrangements: a forklift to carry him out of the house and a flatbed tow truck big enough to haul the formerly half-ton man and his bed to a party.

But even the open road wasn’t big enough to han­
dle Uribe’s dream of cele­

brating a budding romance and his success in losing about 440 pounds.

Uribe was halfway to a picnic near his Monterrey­

area home on Sunday when one of the posts holding a sun-shielding tarp over his bed hit an overpass.

Uribe’s blood pressure dropped so much his doc­
ers advised him not to go on the celebration and being documented by about two dozen photographers and reporters from around the world — was canceled.

March Madness: rest and relaxation after vasectomies

SPRINGFIELD, Ore. - For guys who park in front of the TV during college bas­
kets, March Madness, the Oregon Urology Institute has a suggestion.

Why not use that time to recover from a vasectomy?

"When March Madness approaches you need an excuse ... to stay at home in front of the big screen," the clinic’s radio ad says.

"Get your vasectomy at Oregon Urology Institute the day before the tournament starts. It’s not a big deal." Institute Administrator Terry FitzPatrick said men need to two days to recover from the procedure — but not all take the time.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

In brief

The Bengal Beat semifinals will be held tonight at 7 at the Joyce Center Fieldhouse. Tickets are available at the Ticket Office.

Ann Simonott will deliver the keynote address entitled "Sex, Power and the Media" of the "Live As You Are: 2008 Health and Body Image Conference" at 5 p.m. in McKenna Hall.

The RecycleMania Art Contest will take place tonight from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Booley Room of the LaFortune Student Center. The contest will judge art made from recycled materials.

Chip Epilon will show the film "World Trade Center: Anatomy of a Collapse" tonight at 6 in the engineering lounge of Fitzpatrick Hall. The film, pro­
duced by the Discovery Channel, is part of the Civil Engineering Movie Series.

The Notre Dame women’s lacrosse team will play Delaware at 3 p.m. Thursday on Moose Krause Field.

The film "I’m Not There," which tells the story of legendary singer Bob Dylan at different stages of his life and with differ­
et actors in the lead role, will be shown at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on Thursday at 7 p.m.

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

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

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, the article entitled "Theology On The Lecture Focus on Friends" in the Feb. 28 edition of The Observer incorrectly identified the speaker at the lecture as Richard Feigen. Feigen’s name is actually Klein. The Observer regrets this error.


THE OBSERVER • PAGE 2
Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Special to The Observer

Hispanic Magazine has ranked the University of Notre Dame 13th on its 2008 list of "Top 25 Colleges for Latinos," the sixth year the University has made the list since its debut in 1999.

The magazine based its evaluations on academic excellence, Hispanic enrollment and achievement, selectivity, graduation rates, student-to-faculty ratio, percentage of Hispanic faculty, financial aid, and also provides an administrative home and support for the Latino student clubs on campus.

"Students are central to our mission and have been incorporated into the life of the institute from the beginning," said ILS director Gilberto Cardenas, assistant professor for institutional relations and the Julian Samora Professor of Latino Studies.

"Recognizing that the needs of individual students vary, we strive to create a sense of community at Notre Dame through maintaining a balance among education, research and outreach. We have established both a minor and supplementary major in Latino studies and offer a variety of classes in fields including political science, sociology, theology, literature, history and art. We provide a wide array of research and experiential learning opportunities, and we sponsor or subsidize a gamut of cultural and academic events for students many initiated by the students themselves."

TOUR GUIDES NEEDED

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions intends to hire new guides for the summer 08, fall 08 and spring 09 sessions.

Applications are available for pick up now:
220 Main Building

Please return by 5pm on Tuesday, April 1.
Questions? E-mail Beth Giudicessi: egiudice@nd.edu
Hilton
continued from page 1
Shines and both worked to
achieve a second suspect
between the Hilton Garden
Inn and the Inn at Saint Mary's.
When Shines arrived, he
offered assistance to the St.
Joseph County police officer
already there and ascertained
whether or not other suspects
were involved. Evidence
deter-
ned whether a continuing
through campus. Evidence
had affected the safety of Saint
Mary’s campus, Garvey said.
Garney said.

"Nothing provides
a complete
security blanket and we there-
fore encourage all to
be aware of
their surround-
ings and vigi-

ant to suspi-
cious persons and activity," he
said.

"We encourage
everyone to
report all suspi-
cious activity and persons
to campus security or the
police.

The Observer
could not
reach the Hilton Garden Inn
and the St. Joseph County
Police.

Contact Liz Harter at
lharter@stmarys.edu

Jenkins
continued from page 1

Jenkins continued from page 1
dition — even around highly
controversial topics," Jenkins
said in the statement.

In February, the U.S.
Conference of Catholic
Bishops moved its conference
from Notre Dame to a convent
in Mishawaka to avoid
connection with performance
of the play.

The play, which had been
performed at Notre Dame for
six years before moving off
campus in 2007, has drawn
criticism in the past, most
notably from South Bend-Fort
Wayne Bishop D’Arcy. In
2006, D’Arcy released a state-
ment disavowing with Jenkins’
decision to allow per-
formance of the play.

Jenkins said he regretted
that his decision would offend
people like D’Arcy as well as
members of the Notre Dame
community, but felt it was
best for the University.

"While I know the decision
is likely to disappoint many,
and perhaps satisfy no one,
I truly hope, in my judgment,
the action that best reflects
my inclusive mission of Notre
Dame," Jenkins said.

The Observer could not
reach D’Arcy Monday night.

Douglas Brown, assistant
vice president for Iowa
and Information, would not
comment on any recent criticism
of Jenkins’ decision but said
the statement came because
"this year’s proposal has been
approved."

The anthropologist, sociology
and political science depart-
ments co-sponsored the event,
and Notre Dame’s Brooks
organized the play. She said
she was pleased with the level
of support the play has
received.

"It's been great, everyone
has been really supportive
and helpful in getting this
academic event," she said.

"We are happy with the
academic aspect to the per-
formance will enhance the
play.

"I was happy going into this
year to make it academic," she
said. "We thought it was
important that everyone
understand it. With the
academic panel, it was one of
the greatest things to do for the
performance.

Protest was on campus.
"We have the policy
during the protest over the
academic panel."

Brown said the policy
does not mean to call the
university.

"The issue is a matter of
policy," she said.

Sponsoring speak-
er and events was an
"indispensable means for
providing educational
opportunities," he said.

"The events are best for
developing with students," she
said.

"I will make sure that
clearance does not
With the policy,
the panel will discuss
each performance after the
play concludes. Jenkins
said in his state-
ment, and at least one of the
members of the panel will
discuss how issues raised in
the performance relate to
the Catholic tradition.

Contact Bill Brink at
wbrink@nd.edu

The Riley Prize
Art History and Criticism
The Department of Art, Art History and Design is
pleased to announce its annual competition for the Riley
Prize in Art History and Criticism. Current Notre
Dame undergraduate and graduate students are invited
to submit essays on any topic in the history of art or art
criticism for consideration in the competition. Essays
must deal with the visual arts. They may have been
written in conjunction with a course taken at the
University, but need not have been.

Rules governing the competition are available in the
Art Department Office, 306 Riley Hall.

Two copies of the submission must be delivered to the
Art Department Office by 4:00 PM, Tuesday, March 25th
to be eligible.

A student may only submit ONE entry.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Al-Qaida responsible for kidnappings
CARIO, Egypt — Al-Qaida’s Islamic North Africa claimed responsibility for kidnapping two Aus­tralian journalists working for Al Jazeera on its Arabic-language channel.

A man who identified himself as Salah Abu Mohammed said in the recording that his group kidnapped the two Australians on Feb. 22 in a forest near the Hezbollah-controlled south Lebanon border. He said the hostages were in good health.

"We tell Western tourists that at the same time this news is reported, the news of our brothers are being slain in Gaza with the Jews with the assistance of the Western states," said Abu Mohammed.

The hostages have previously warned and said bearing witness would be strife in the land and not and will not be able to protect you, and the hands of the mujahedeen can reach you whichever you are on the Tunisian soil.

Serbian leaders call for an election
BELGRADE, Serbia — Serbia’s caretaker governors urged the president Monday to call early parliamentary elections in May after the cabinet collapsed in a political impasse over Kosovo’s declaration of independence and ties with the European Union.

The European Union called on Serbia’s leaders to form a stable government and keep their country on course to join the bloc, while the Bush adminis­tration urged them to focus “on the future.”

Early elections are seen as a test of whether Serbia will continue on a path toward EU mem­bership in the next year or fall back into a cycle of growth of the 1990s under the late strongman Slobodan Milosevic.

National News

Auburn student’s murderer confesses
AUBURN, Ala. — Authorities say a man accused of killing an Auburn University student confessed to shooting her and attempted to rape her before she shot herself.

The 18-year-old freshman from Marietta, Ga., was found fatally wounded Tuesday, about eight miles from the campus. Lockhart in the statement describes setting her car on fire after the shooting.

His statement was read in a Lee County courtroom Monday. He says in the statement that he abandoned Lauren Burck on the Auburn cam­pus, robbed her and attempted to rape her before she shot herself.

Polar bear legislation decision delayed
ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Three conservation groups sued the Department of the Interior on Monday to prevent the Bush adminis­tration from exempting polar bears from endangered species protection.

The club’s Web site dis­plays photographs of scient­ists clad women with their faces hidden. It also shows hourly reports depending on whether the prostitutes were rated with one dia­mond, the lowest ranking, or seven diamonds, the highest.

The prostitution ring, identified in court papers as the Emperors Club VIP, arranges connections between wealthy men and more than 50 prostitutes in New York, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Miami, London and Paris, prosecutors said. Four people allegedly con­­ected to the high-end ring were arrested.

The club’s Web site dis­plays photographs of scient­ists clad women with their faces hidden. It also shows hourly reports depending on whether the prostitutes were rated with one dia­mond, the lowest ranking, or seven diamonds, the highest.

The most highly ranked prostitutes cost $5,500 an hour, prosecutors said.

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The scandal was first reported on The New York Times Web site.

Spitzer spoke hours later Stunned lawmakers gath­ered around television screens at the state Capitol in Albany to watch, and a media mob gathered outside the office of Lt. Gov. David Paterson, who would become gover­nor if Spitzer was to resign.

It took opponents only min­utes to call for his resigna­tion.

"Today's news that Eliot Spitzer was likely involved with a prostitution ring and his refusal to deny it leads to one inescapable conclusion: He has disgraced his office and the entire state of New York," said Assembly Republican leader James Tedisco. "He should resign his office immediately."

Spitzer, 48, built his politi­cal reputation on rooting out corruption, including several headline-making battles with Wall Street while serv­ing as attorney general. He stormed into the governor's office in 2006 with a historic share of the vote, vowing to continue his no-nonsense approach to fixing one of the nation's worst govern­ments.

Time magazine had named him "Cruiser of the Year" when he was attorney general and the tabloids proclaimed him "Eliot Ness."

But his term as governor has been marred by prob­lems, including an unpopu­lar plan to grant driver's licenses to illegal immi­grants and a plot by his aides to smear Spitzer's main Republican nemesis.

Spitzer had been expected to testify to the state Public Integrity Commission he had created to answer for his role in the scandal, in which his aides were accused of misusing state police to compile travel records to embarrass Senate Republican leader Joseph Bruno.

Spitzer had served two terms as attorney general while he pursued criminals and civil cases and cracked down on misconduct and conflicts of interests on Wall Street and in corporate America. He had previously been a prosecutor in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, handling organized crime and white­ collar crime cases.

Local News

RCA Dome memorabilia to be sold
INDIANAPOLIS — Stadium seats, turf and even a piece of the roof of the RCA Dome's roof are available to buy online by fans who want a piece of Indianapolis sports history.

A pair of stadium seats will cost $450. Along with fixed-price items, an online auc­tion is under way to build a memorabilia for the iconic roof that include lockers for tight end Dallas Clark and a media watch, and a media mob gathered outside the office of Lt. Gov. David Paterson, who would become gover­nor if Spitzer was to resign.

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IRAQ

Suicide bomb kills five U.S. soldiers
BAGHDAD — A suicide bomber killed five U.S. soldiers as they chatted with their Kuwaiti friends while on a foot patrol in central Baghdad on Monday, the deadliest attack on American forces in Iraq since the heavily fortified capital in more than eight months.

The bombing, just four days after nearly simultaneous blasts killed scores of Americans in a U.S.-run, Shiite-dominated commercial district, again showed the insurgents' ability to strike inside a capital secured by hundred of security checkpoints, U.S.-funded neighborhood watch groups and hundreds of miles of blast walls that surround buildings and cordon off districts.

The military insists that recent attacks do not point to a growing trend in violence, and continues to tout the security gains achieved over the past year.

At any rate, the push over the past six months to place U.S. bases inside neighborhoods and get soldiers out of their armored vehicles increases the Americans' vulnerability to attacks. While the face-to-face con­­tract from foot patrols builds good­will, it also gives suicide bombers, who often slip past security vehicle checkpoints by walking, better access to striking soldiers.

On Monday, the soldiers were walking in a shopping district of the predominantly Sunni Mansour neigh­borhood when a man in his 30s deter­­nated his explosives about 30 feet away, said a police officer who wit­nessed the attack. He spoke on con­­dition of anonymity because he was not allowed to talk to the media.

Four of the soldiers died at the scene, and the fifth died later from wounds, the military said. Three other American soldiers and an Iraqi interpreter were also wounded in the attack, which military spokesman Maj. Mark Cheadle said was "was reported to us as a suicide bomber."

Iraqi police said two civilians were also killed.

It was the deadliest attack against the U.S. military since Jan. 28, when five soldiers were killed in a roadside bomb in the northern city of Mosul.
Documention fraud causes adoption limbo

Discrepancies found with papers of nine kids

Associated Press

GUATEMALA CITY Luciayn's adoptive parents say she was born 14 months ago by Cesarean section to a single mother who, as a result, she could be raised by a loving family in a six-bedroom Indiana farmhouse.

But now some of the documents appear to be fraudulent, part of a slw of irregularities at the agency handling Luciayn's adoption that have led dozens of babies in danger of being seized from their anguished American adoptive parents. The probe also casts a cloud of uncertainty over some 2,900 pending U.S. adoptions.

Prosecutors describe their probe of Casa Quivira — considered Guatemala's best adoption agency — as their first serious attempt to investigate a $180 million industry that has made tiny Guatemala the largest source of American babies adopted here.

The system has delivered 29,400 Guatemalan children into U.S. homes since 1990 — so many that one in every 100 Guatemalan babies born each year was growing up in an American home.

But after a monthlong investigation that began with the seizure of 46 babies from Casa Quivira last August, prosecutors say they found fraudulent cloaking the true identities of at least nine children and that half their birth mothers couldn't be found at all.

The fraud points to much deeper problems with the flawed adoption system that Guatemala's government replaced in January, and casts a cloud of uncertainty over the backgrounds of thousands of children now growing up in America, the Associated Press has learned.

After intense lobbying by U.S. parents, most of the 2,900 pending U.S. adoptions will likely go forward, partly because Guatemala lacks the resources to fully investigate them. Parents of the Casa Quivira babies, however, are stuck in the very nightmare they tried to avoid by spending at least $30,000 per child for hassle-free adoptions.

"I certainly wouldn't want to give Luciayn back," said Mary Ball, the child's adoptive mother, whose welling up. "She's our family. She's our daughter." Prosecutors say the problems at Casa Quivira include illegal payments to at least one birth mother, stolen identities — including that of a child born 22 years ago — and a mentally ill birth mother who was incapable of giving consent.

A Guatemalan judge said he would announce Tuesday whether to pursue a trial against Casa Quivira's adoption and notary. Prosecutors also have obtained an arrest warrant against the American owner, and they want fresh DNA tests for all the babies, even those whose paperwork is apparently in order.

"Their rights to an identity are violated because if their mothers have no identity, nei-
BRAZIL

Energy company accused of labor abuse

Associated Press

SAO PAULO, — A team from Brazil’s Labor Ministry found "degrading" living conditions for 133 sugarcane workers employed by an ethanol company whose investors include former President Clinton and other high-profile financial players.

At five sites inspected, workers complained they were suffering from hunger and cold, and all of the larvae were overcrowded and with terrible sanitary conditions, according to a statement issued Friday by Jaqueline Carrijo, who led the inspections last month and plans to shut nearly half of its 184 stores.

That retreatment, along with the Chapter 11 bankruptcy of catalog retailer Lillian Vernon Corp., marks the beginning of a wave of retail bankruptcies that is expected to go well beyond the home furnishings stores hurt by the housing malaise.

"This is economic Darwinism," said Dan Ansell, a partner at Greenberg Traurig LLP and chairman of its real estate operations division. "Those retailers and businesses that have a product that is desired by consumers will survive, and those who do not will not."

President finds these allegations deeply troubling and expects the vacancy rate to be high in the coming months, according to a statement issued Friday by Jaqueline Carrijo, who led the inspections last month.

The target of the probe, Brazil Renewable Energy Co., is a BNDES-funded project that is suffering from high lignin levels in its sugarcane due to a lack of water and pesticides.

The probe, initiated by the Brazilian Labor Department, is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Associated Press

The signs that smaller retailers are struggling are unavoidable at malls across America: "Going out of business" sales at many Wards Wilson stores, up to 70 percent off at KB Toys.

At the once-sizzling Paradise Valley Mall in Phoenix, the space once occupied by Bombay Co., the furniture chain that went bankrupt last year, is empty. Wards Wilson just finished liquidating its inventory, KB Toys, Ann Taylor and American Eagle feature bold posters advertising steep discounts.

"I don’t think it brings much business when all these stores are closed," said Michelle Green, a sales clerk at Fred Meyer Jewelers.

Now, consumers who are closing their wallets amid rising gasoline prices and a housing slump are forcing specialty retailers in large part on their brands. While still healthy overall, mall centers are being hurt by the housing downturn like Paradise Valley — are suffering the most store shutdowns.

Retailers, including Ann Taylor Stores Corp., Talbots Inc. and Pacific Sunwear of California Inc., have closed hundreds of stores this year. For this year, gadget seller Sharper Image Corp. filed for bankruptcy protection last month and plans to shutter nearly half of its 184 stores.

That retrenchment, along with the Chapter 11 bankruptcy of catalog retailer Lillian Vernon Corp., marks the beginning of a wave of retail bankruptcies that is expected to go well beyond the home furnishings stores hurt by the housing malaise.

"This is economic Darwinism," said Dan Ansell, a partner at Greenberg Traurig LLP and chairman of its real estate operations division. "Those retailers and businesses that have a product that is desired by consumers will survive, and those who do not will not."

Unless the economy dramatically improves, Ansell believes retail bankruptcies this year could reach the highest level since the 1991 recession. More closings could leave gaping holes in the nation’s retail centers, which have already seen average vacancy rates creep up to between 7 percent and 8 percent from less than 5 percent over the last six months, according to data from NAI Global, a commercial real estate services firm.

Gas prices could reach $4 a gallon

NEW YORK — Gasoline prices were poised Monday to break a new record for the third consecutive day, helped by a drought receding from the West, rising production costs and a strong dollar.

The national average price of a gallon of gasoline rose 0.7 cent overnight to $3.22 a gallon, 69 cents higher than one year ago, according to AAA and the Oil Price Information Service. Last May, prices peaked at $3.22 as demand surged and a surge of refined product which saturated supplies. That record will likely be left in the dust soon as gas prices accelerate toward levels that could approach $4 a gallon, though most analysts believe prices will peak below that psychologically significant mark.

In its last forecast, released last month, the Energy Department said prices would likely peak around $3.40 a gallon this spring; a 5.6 percent increase from $3.40 a gallon this spring.

A shopper walks by an Ann Taylor store a shopping mall in San Jose, Calif. Retail stores, like Ann Taylor, are beginning to feel consumer shopping recoil.

Retail stores are feeling a cutback

Drop in consumer spending causes many outlets to file for bankruptcy

MARKET RECAP

Dow Jones

Market Recap

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Big Apple approves Harlem rezoning
Residents fear proposal will sap character from the lively main street neighborhood

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A city commission has approved a massive rezoning plan for the heart of Harlem that would create condominiums and performing arts space, hotels and trendy restaurants with high-profile tenants as Major League Baseball, the city said.

The rezoning plan approved by the Planning Commission will revive a cultural identity that had been threatened by unregulated development on 125th Street, a main thoroughfare where neighborhood legends past sit side-by-side with newly arrived banks and chain stores.

A new development sprouts among the soul food restaurants, funky record stores and bookstores in the Apollo Theater, Harlem’s main stage, and one of the nation’s 10 greatest last years — is struggling to retain the character where they have flourished for decades.

But many longtime residents fear that 125th Street will price them out of their homes, as it happened even more of their community.

"It will be a disaster," said Sikulu Shange, the owner of a 125th Street record store for more than three decades. "People come to Harlem, they don’t come to see a Melrose. They don’t come to see a Burger King," he said. "They want to come to places like The Record Shack, like Sylvia’s (the famed soul food restaurant), where they can come down and feel the atmosphere of Harlem. All these things, they are in danger.

Many business leaders disagree with Shaw Harlem who is mostly blind, well respected by Republicans and Democrats.

Former New York City Mayor Edward Koch recently called Paterson a "very capable, not-withstanding his near sightlessness. He’s never impeded his public actions or his personal actions, and he’s really over- come it in an extraordinary way."

Paterson, who does not use a cane or a guide dog, can make out shapes and even people up close. He lost most of his sight as an infant when an infection damaged his optic nerve. He still talks of his fragile self-esteem in childhood and recalls not being invited to parties because “people thought I would fall and hurt myself.”

Paterson’s disability has never been an issue in Albany in his 20-year political career. He has memorized lengthy, impassioned speeches without missing a mark; cited arcane legal references in fast-paced debate; and won more victories for his party in the Senate than any other leader in the Legislature. His efforts brought Democrats to within a seat of taking the Senate majority for the first time in decades.

Critics and supporters alike all point to the intellect, compassion and humor that Paterson brings to the Statehouse. When Spitzer picked him to be his running mate in 2006, Paterson deadpanned: "I told Eliot, ‘Whenever you are trying to reform a system, you need a person with vision and a person who is a technician,’ and that’s what I am because I sure don’t have vision.”

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — Less than two years after he reluctantly ran for lieutenant governor, David Paterson is suddenly in line to be only the third black governor since Reconstruction, and the first in New York.

"He’s the next governor and probably quite soon," said Maurice Carroll, director of Quinnipiac University’s Political Institute and a longtime New York political reporter.

Attention turned to Paterson immediately after word surfaced Monday that Gov. Eliot Spitzer had been linked to a high-priced prostitution ring. In a brief appearance in front of reporters, Spitzer issued a vague apology and did not mention resignation.

If Spitzer quits, Paterson automatically becomes governor and would complete Spitzer’s term, which ends Dec. 31, 2010.

There was no immediate comment from Paterson, a 53-year-old Democrat who is mostly blind, well respected by Republicans and Democrats.

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According to the Associated Press, the rezoning plan approved by the Planning Commission will revive a cultural identity that had been threatened by unregulated development on 125th Street, a main thoroughfare where neighborhood legends past sit side-by-side with newly arrived banks and chain stores.

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Associated Press

GREGORIAN CHANT FROM MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS

Schola Musicorum

830 & 9:30 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2008

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MANHATTAN DEPARTMENT FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

POSTER

PHONE 212-535-7650 FOR TICKETS
**Ferry system faces rough waters**

**Associated Press**

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, Wash. — Starved for money for nearly a decade, the nation's largest ferry system has hit rough water.

The ferries that cruise Puget Sound and surrounding waters have become symbols of the Pacific Northwest, recalling its rich maritime history and figuring prominently in movies and television shows such as "Grey's Anatomy." But beneath their cheery green-and-white paint scheme, the aging ferries are rusty, old and unreliable.

Some boats have been yanked from service for repairs. Routes have been canceled and schedules thrown off.

"We have a love-hate relationship with the ferries. It's our highways and there's always massive uncertainty," said Pete Gilles, 38, as he caught a ride to Bainbridge Island in Puget Sound, en route to Port Townsend, north of Seattle.

"We've delayed the system to limp along, ignoring the long-term consequences," she said.

The Washington ferry system hauls 24 million passengers each year, about a quarter of all U.S. ferry passengers. Its 24 vessels range from a tiny boat that links Tacoma to Vashon Island, to a tourist-friendly international run that winds through the scenic San Juan Islands to Vancouver Island in British Columbia.

On upscale Bainbridge Island, thousands of commuters take the ferry to work in downtown Seattle, filling boats that can carry 200 passengers on each 30-minute crossing.

"For many riders, it's a pleasant time for drinking coffee and reading the morning paper. Sometimes catch up on work using free wireless Internet access. Others just catch a few extra winks."

"It's not cheap, even though the state subsidizes the system. A walk-on passenger pays $6.70 a day — $134 a month, minus commuter discounts. Driving a car onto the ferry costs $11.55 each direction, or $460 a month for 20 workdays."

But many commuters cheerfully swallow those prices, making up the difference on cheaper real estate across the water from pricey Seattle.

**Offspring fear risk of Alzheimer's**

**Study shows 22 percent of adults with memory-loss disease developed the illness**

**Associated Press**

CHICAGO — One parent with Alzheimer's disease is tough enough. But what about two — the memory-robbing illness striking families for the first time through both parents?

"I'm hoping to heck that the pharmaceutical companies come up with something better than there is now. It's not a nice way to die," said Gayle Dorman, 62, of Sudbury, Mass., whose father died of the illness. "I'm hoping to heck that the pharmaceutical companies come up with something better than there is now."

The study was funded by the National Institute on Aging and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

"I'm hoping to heck that the pharmaceutical companies come up with something better than what there is now," said Gayle Dorman, 62, of Sudbury, Mass., whose father died of the illness. "It's not a nice way to die."

Bird disclosed in the paper that he has a licensing agreement with Athena Diagnostics Inc. The company does lab testing for a gene related to late-onset Alzheimer's. But Bird's agreement involves genetic discoveries unrelated to Alzheimer's, he said, and the company had nothing to do with the research.

In the study, diagnoses were confirmed through medical records, autopsies and examinations by researchers. The parents with Alzheimer's had 297 children who lived to adulthood and 61 of those children had Alzheimer's.

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Tuesday, March 11, 2008

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**Editorial Cartoon**

James Dechant
Forever Conclusion

The House and the Senate presented the President with a bill last week that would have prevented American intelligence agencies, specifically the CIA, from using certain techniques of prisoner interrogation that many countries and human rights groups have labeled torture. One critical technique is waterboarding, a method where interrogators stretch a prisoner onto his back, gag his mouth with cloth or plastic film, and pour water onto his face. Waterboarding induces gagging, simulates the sensation of drowning, and gives the fear of imminent death. President Bush quickly vetoed the bill, sending a clear signal that the United States will allow torture when and where it deems fit.

The sanction of waterboarding puts us in the proud ranks of interrogators from the Spanish Inquisition, Putin’s Chechnya regime, and the Khmer Rouge, all of whom used the techniques or variations thereof. The President tried to draw attention away from waterboarding, pointing out that the bill “would not simply ban one particular interrogation method” but “would eliminate all the alternative techniques we’ve developed to question the world’s most dangerous and violent terrorists.” The President is correct; the bill would ban any technique not found in the U.S. Army Field Manual. Those secret, unlisted techniques (all of whose effectiveness remains disputed) include being made to remain standing for exorbitant lengths of time, undergoing slaps to the belly, and standing naked in cold cells while being drenched. The Bush administration insists the United States does not practice torture and tries to sanitize the image of “enhanced interrogation techniques.”

That dark euphemism cannot disguise the fact that waterboarding is designed to psychologically ravage prisoners (who may or may not have received a trial, given current U.S. policy with the goal of extracting information. The CIA actually prohibits waterboarding presently and claims not to have used the technique since 2003, but the President wants to leave the option on the table. The consent of the President and Attorney General in specific cases could allow for its use.

The President who condones all this once asked his candidacy on promises to clean up Washington. He vowed to restore dignity to government. But if we are truly to be a nation of moral dignity acting on our principles, then our policies must reflect our character. By permitting even the chance that the CIA might use torture, we effectively give ourselves the power to choose when another human being suffers. We make ourselves the ultimate moral authority. Supporters of this abhorrent policy cast up a miseducated vision of American justice and portray ourselves as infinitely more pragmatic than those who oppose torture. They think they alone accept the “tough reality” of our current military situation and understand that the valuable information torture can yield. But tell me who is more realistic: the “bleeding-heart liberals” who believe we can foil terrorists without resorting to inhumane methods and compromising our morality, or “freedom-loving patriots” who buy into the action-hero notion that such techniques are the best defenses against an unavoidable reality. Rather than resign ourselves to an endless cycle of conflict, we must look beyond the violent discourse of military superiority, become better than our enemies, and set a moral example for the world.

James Dechant
Senior Editor

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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**Boxing with purpose**

In response to Ryan Simmons’ “Strong Bodies Fight” (Feb. 28), I agree that there is much more to the Bengal Bouts than winning a trophy. The Bouts do a fantastic job of raising money for the poor and underprivileged of Bangladesh. Simmons’s perception that all the practices and training were just for the sake of sport is far from the truth. It is a great view of the situation and one that I’m sure the boxing club desires for all their fighters. Many fighters participate for one year to say they gave it a shot, and in the process helped create a great cause. As a former Bengal Bouts participant and one of the few honesty fighters, I believe fighters dropout one year due to “selfish pride.” Before joining the boxing club, I had never even heard of it. I decided to participate in the Bouts in order to prove to myself that I can take a punch and return it while helping a great cause along the way. However, this year I joined the Notre Dame Rugby Club and to add boxing, along with other activities and school, would be far too great a time commitment for me. I understand many boxers have not boxed after their first year due to similar reasons, or because of class, or because boxing simply wasn’t their thing. Bengal Bouts participants deserve great respect, the amount of respect, and the purpose of the fights should be kept in mind. How those who used to box but do not continue after their first year should not be associated with “selfish pride,” but instead remembered and applauded for their year of dedication, hard work, and service.

Ben Frost
Zahm House
Feb. 27

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**Defending ‘Brettopia’**

During the recent presidential elections for Student Government, we all heard numerous campaign pledges from the various candidates. I noticed a recurring theme: most of the candidates stressed that their most important goal was serving Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s, and freshman and novices who drop after their first year. Simmons is wrong judging those who do not fight after their first year. Those young men (and women) who made the Baraka Bouts should be complimented and appreciated. It takes a great deal of courage to enter the ring, not ridiculed because they find it is not for them. Their one year of service did not go to waste. They participated in the Bengal Bouts and helped raise money for the Bangladesh Missions.

During the past ten years, 60 fighters have participated in the Bouts. Most of the fighters strive to make the Bouts as fun and interesting as possible. Simmons’s statement that “selfish pride is for freshmen and novices who learn to drop after their first year.” First, I would not consider fighting just for a shot to win “selfish pride.” Numerous fighters enter the ring to prove to themselves that they are capable of facing fear, taking a punch and delivering one back. Some happen to be good at it and enjoy it — others, not so much.

Who’s to say if one enters the Bouts in order to try to prove his “selfish pride?”_combo is out of a competitive nature and the desire to win — all the while keeping the mission of the Bouts in perspective.

Furthermore, I see no correlation between this selfish pride and Simmons and me personally, but mostly just me, then I suggest it start considering the shared and unique aspects of both “coolk” people and nerds that no one even valid, that has been beaten into the ground, that no one even valid, that has been beaten into the ground, that no one will  ____1____ are selfish. His efforts and ours are driven by the belief of that this school has been the first time in five years that I’ve seen any articles specifically countering the wanton use of sex, besides those arguing against “The Vagina Monologues.” Also, each year there are several things put on by the student right to life organization, including talks on respect for life. So has been refreshing to see the article regarding pornography by Fr. Lou DelFRA and the recent Yaratoka article. A college-age man caught me off guard one day by asking me how to keep pure and chaste. I didn’t know if he was Catholic or not, so I didn’t give him the complete answer — which for a Catholic would be a frequent participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, both attending and receiving. A third major help would be daily, individual private prayer, including prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Brother Bill Mowes, C.S.C.
Columbia Hall
Feb. 28

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**Comics in good humor**

If ever I have any daughters in the future, I would love for them to attend a college like Saint Mary’s. However, as Liz Freehike and others’ “outrage” illustrates, there is one thing that is clearly not being taught at Saint Mary’s: a sense of humor. You have to be able to make fun of yourself. "Black Dick," a comic making fun of Georgians (Feb. 27), portraying them as less than a big trailer truck, couldn’t have lived in Georgia my entire life and never once set foot in a trailer. Yet I laughed. From the typecasted character of Cohutta on MTV’s “The Real World” to the brotherly-“living” Georgia girl on “Nip/Tuck,” pop culture constantly presents Georgians in a stereotypical way. Yet they’re hilariously in their absurdity.

And that’s the point of the comics. You don’t get a caricature made at Disney World only to be out-raged that it doesn’t look like you. Being offended at a comic that pokes fun at a Saint Mary’s education only reveals your inner insecurities about such an institution. If we’re going to get offended at every comic that stretches the truth to the point of absurdity, we got stuck with poorly drawn pictures that are innocent in context and are not anti-NP (am I right?).

So I applaud Didiel and the other comics that do nothing but try to make the reader laugh. If you have a problem with a cartoon that makes light of any group, you can find me in my ’69 Dodge Charger making out with my sister and writing my next novel. And lastly, congratulations to Greg Yaratoka on his recent Observer article, “Challenging male promiscuity” (Feb. 26). From my reading of the Letters to the Editor for almost the last five years, it would seem that the main interest of students is proving they are more mature than the freshmen for the weekdays to be free of classes and to get to the importance of issue fights and sex at least attempting to find a sexual partner, and if not in reality, at least in imagination.

Bill Mowes, C.S.C.
Feb. 28

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**Real issues**

Consistent with Gregory Yaratoka’s article, “Challenging male promiscuity” (Feb. 26). From my reading of the Letters to the Editor for almost the last five years, it would seem that the main interest of students is proving they are more mature than the freshmen for the weekends to be free of classes and to get to the importance of issue fights and sex at least attempting to find a sexual partner, and if not in reality, at least in imagination.

This year’s school has been the first time in five years that I’ve seen any articles specifically countering the wanton use of sex, besides those arguing against “The Vagina Monologues.” Also, each year there are several things put on by the student right to life organization, including talks on respect for life. So has been refreshing to see the article regarding pornography by Fr. Lou DelFRA and the recent Yaratoka article. A college-age man caught me off guard one day by asking me how to keep pure and chaste. I didn’t know if he was Catholic or not, so I didn’t give him the complete answer — which for a Catholic would be a frequent participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, both attending and receiving. A third major help would be daily, individual private prayer, including prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Brother Bill Mowes, C.S.C.
Feb. 28

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**Nerds hurt too**

Last I checked, which I do at least six times a day, the Observer was “an independent newspaper serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students.” I find it weird how I can’t find now why I’m constantly checking that, but that’s a separate issue.

Despite this stance, The Observer forces its audience, practically at gunpoint, to turn against itself several times a year. I agree with Liz Freehike’s view ("Offensive comic strip demeans women," Feb. 27) that the Viewpoint has been pretty dull lately, what with there being no comic strip controversy in the last several months. In fact, it rarely stirs an exciting debate, outside of politics, campus traditions, the Vagina Monologues, race and gender issues, and religion — which certainly speaks to the actual intellectual vigor of its readership. Bottom line — but I digress. A truly offensive comic that not only is disgusting to, but also disparages against, nerds and so many of the students whose petty phrase “geek" presumably “serve” should not be your full-back for increasing readership.

The "Fighting Commenting on-girls’ Arrogity" comic published recently ("Loeberkates," Feb. 26) actually hurts the opposite group that it intends to insult. It makes active, "cool" people with round glasses and comic writers — look like arrogant snobs. And we all know that a bully is really just insecure in his own stupid core. How pathetic that a person who has actually spoken to a girl in their entirety unneccessary and uncalled for display against school spirit and team support is simply outrageous. This is not the first time NDSF has chosen to break up one of these sleeping sessions, and I doubt that it will be the last unless quick and efficient action is taken.

Students camping out for basketball games is far from unprecedented at schools around the country, and even has a rich history at our own University.

The team’s performance over the past few years should show that Mike Brey is bringing the program back to the status it rightly deserves. However, when one looks at the truly elite basketball programs around the U.S. (North Carolina, Kansas, Duke, etc.), it is evident that Notre Dame has not gone to continue.

In the words of one very distinguished and (nearly) handsomer former presidential candidate: "The only thing that should be louder than these pants is the voice of the student body." Well, Bob and Grant really want to make their mark in the coming year, they should get started right now by opening discussion with NDSF and ResLife about arranging a safe haven for students that might not be offended this year. We camp out and watch our Fighting Irish take the hardwood. With almost all of this year’s squad returning, next year is bound to be an exciting year for Notre Dame basketball. It would be unfortunate if, during a year that could be so important for the program, the University allowed the negative actions of NDSF to continue.

Dan Rinkus
Feb. 24

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**Letters to the Editor**

Boxing with purpose

Real issues

Nerds hurt too

Defending ‘Brettopia’

Comics in good humor
By CASSIE BELEK
Associate Scene Editor

Will Ferrell's act may be getting old but it's still good for a few laughs in his latest comedy offering, "Semi-Pro." Ferrell morphs into a pair of short shorts and continues his tryst of playing an oversized buffoon who can't seem to get a grip on reality. It's a stab that has brought in box office gold over the years, but after seeing "Semi-Pro," it is clear that Ferrell will need to explore new avenues before his comedy becomes stale. But then again, he does wrestle a bear this time around.

Ferrell stars as Jackie Moon, a one-hit wonder (for the disco ditty "Love Me Sexy") and owner, head coach and power forward of the Flint Tropics, the worst team in American Basketball Association. When Jackie finds out that the ABA is going to merge with the National Basketball Association, he trades the Trojics play like a second string high school basketball team, the cast appears to be a collection of second string players from the Will Ferrell and Judd Apatow gang. With star players Paul Rudd and Steve Carrell moving on to bigger and better projects, Ferrell is left with people like Rob Corddry and Andy Richter. While there is no doubt that these comedians are absolutely hilarious, "Semi-Pro" does little to demonstrate their comedic talent. These actors will have to keep on trying to find their "Anchorman" since Ferrell never quite loses his shine.

"Semi-Pro" can make no claims of brilliance; it's meat and potatoes comedy. Will Ferrell-style. True fans of Ferrell will appreciate his performance, but those looking for a good movie won't find it here. "Semi-Pro" could have used more over-the-top, ridiculous situations and less realism and heart. After all, one of the funniest scenes in the movie features Jackie M. sun and the resea horse on rehearsing for tainment. All version is tak

Woody Harrelson demonstrates the Xs and Os of Ed Monix, a member of the last-place Flint Tropics.

Contact Cassie cleckle@nd.edu

Director: Kent Alterman

CASSIE BELEK, Associate Scene Editor

Woody Harrelson demonstrates the Xs and Os of Ed Monix, a member of the last-place Flint Tropics.

Semi-Pro
Donners' Com

Director: Kent Alterman

Contact Cassie cleckle@nd.edu

Semi-Pro
Donners' Com

Director: Kent Alterman
"I feel like my mind is an encore."

These immortal words were uttered by a friend during a much needed coffee break. After hours of drawn out academic exertion, we, like many others, flocked to Waddick's for our daily ritual of caffeine. This remark most likely does not warrant being recounted in print. But alas, I've looked beyond the superficial lunacy of the comment. Its claim made me consider some very real and existential truths about life under the influence of caffeine that is.

Truth Number One: Coffee defies reality. In college, there is no escape like caffeine. The most obvious case of coffee's delusional power is its dominance over sleep deprivation. Coffee is the all-nighter's best friend. Any advisor or physician would suggest water and healthy eating habits as the perfect fuel for your academic fighting machine. But then again, who listens to someone whose trying to rob us of our god given right to eat fried foods and stay awake into the wee hours of the morning? This article is about wonderfully unhealthy caffeine habits, not addiction to carrots and such. Ultimately, everyone knows that nothing provides a quick fix like a hot cup of joe. Coffee can defeat the worst karma and the dreariest day with rejuvenation and energy. It provides miraculous services to college students everywhere.

Truth Number Two: Cause and Effect. As mom always said, "Everything in Moderation." Caffeine can do strange and wonderful things. Case and point: 2 AM trip to St. Liam's after two pots of extra strong coffee. Heart palpitations aren't as cool as they sound. And then there is the whole confusing affect of being awake when you should be asleep. There is that point in caffeine where up becomes down. The thin line between opposites becomes confused and nonsensical mental encore. Remember that mental encore.

Truth Number Three: You are what you drink. The beautiful thing about coffee is its ability to complement the personality of every drinker. Black coffee for those not so faint of heart. Frappaccinos for our beloved pink-iPod-listening Grey's Anatomy fans. Cappuccinos for seniors missing their year abroad in Europe. Soy infusions for granola yuppies. Mochas for chocolate lovers. The stereotyping is endless. Coffee is all about what you, as an individual, want. Just remember that you define your coffee. Don't let your coffee define you.

Caffeine may be the path to greater enlightenment. So make sure to hit up your cafe of choice. Whether it comes from Waddicks, Decio, or Starbucks, approach your daily jolt with a newfound appreciation. It may open your eyes to your own, nonsensical mental encore. Then again, it could also leave you a sleepless zombie. But at least you'll be in good company.

The views expressed in Scene & Heard are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of The Observer. Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffer1@nd.edu
MEN'S LACROSSE

UNC hands squad first loss

By GRUFFIN DASSATTI
Sports Writer

No. 1 Notre Dame lost for the first time this season, falling 8-6 to North Carolina Saturday in Chapel Hill.

The Irish (4-1), ranked No. 7 in the most recent Nike/Inside Lacrosse coaches' poll, were too careless to prevent the Tar Heels (4-2) from winning their first road game of the season.

"It was one of our worst games of the year," head coach Kevin Corrigan said. "We didn't handle the pressure.

WANTED

Santiago Montoya and senior Summeres to get the doubles point. Irish junior Brett Helgeson and Ryan Howe and sophomore son's tournament, as they easi­
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27 nationally sealed the dou­

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Men's Tennis

Team falls to defending champs

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

On March 1, Notre Dame travelled to Illinois to face the defending national runner-up.

In the end, the No. 7 Fighting Illini proved why they advanced so far in last sea­son's tournament, as they easily overcame No. 15 Irish by a score of 6-1.

The Illini began the match with the No. 1 doubles performance to get the doubles point. Irish senior Steven Fiske and junior Sheeva Parbhu fell 8-2 to the Illini pair of senior Ryan Buehler and sophomore Billy Heiser, who are ranked No. 20 nationally.

With the loss, Helgeson and Parbhu fell to 8-5 on the year. That's of the No. 27 Illini pair of sen­ior Brandon Davis and senior Ruben Gonzales, ranked No. 27 nationally sealed the dou­bales point with an 8-3 win over the Irish.

Senior Santiago Montoya and junior Andrew Roth. Irish freshmen

with 5:45 left in the first period. The score was Hunt's first of five and began a run of five unanswered Tar Heels goals that lasted until the second half. The Irish did not beat their team at halftime because it knew its situation. "If the game got out of control like we thought it would, we didn't want to give the Irish any momentum," head coach Kevin Corrigan said.

When senior attack Alex Wharton copped a 4-1 Irish run with 4:24 left in the third quarter, the score was 6-4 in favor of North Carolina. Despite the run, the Irish could not overcome Zimmerman's spectacular play in a game where the keeper set a single-game NCAA record with 18 saves.

While Corrigan was disappoint­ed with the score, he said the Irish still know what they have to do to win the game against Dartmouth and beyond.

"It was just part of the contin­uum of the game. We didn't get the first of the two goals with an assist to junior midfielder Peter Christman just over a minute later.

Junior midfielder Ben Hunt scored the Tar Heels' first goal with 5:45 left in the first period. The score was Hunt's first of five and began a run of five unanswered Tar Heels goals that lasted until the second half. The Irish did not beat their team at halftime because it knew its situation. "If the game got out of control like we thought it would, we didn't want to give the Irish any momentum," head coach Kevin Corrigan said.

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"It was just part of the contin­uum of the game. We didn't get the first of the two goals with an assist to junior midfielder Peter Christman just over a minute later.
Miami Heat guard Dwyane Wade talks to reporters at a press conference Monday, Heat coach Pat Riley announced that Wade will sit out for Miami's remaining 21 games this season to further rehab his left knee.

**Wade finished for the season**

Associated Press

MIAMI — Dwyane Wade, who needs time to heal, and the Miami Heat saw no reason to further postpone the inevitable.

Wade will miss the remainder of the season so he can further rehabilitate his surgically repaired left knee, which has bothered him for about a year. He will undergo a powerful shock-wave treatment later this week, and hopes he will be pain free in time for next season.

"I'm doing what's right," Wade said Monday night. "I would love to be out there with my teammates, but in the long run, I think my teammates would love for me to be healthy and be out there with them when we're fighting to get in the playoffs again.

There's no chance of that this year — Miami entered Monday's game against the Los Angeles Clippers with the NBA's worst record, 11-50.

So, with all hope of saving this dismal season gone, Heat coach Pat Riley agreed that the time has come to shut down his All-Star guard.

"There's no doubt it's a function of the record. My God, it didn't take a news bulletin for that," Riley said. "Yes, we aren't going to make the playoffs. It's a lost season. We know that. We don't want it to be a lost career. That's how I look at it."

Wade finishes the season averaging 24.6 points, fifth-best in the NBA. He will miss Miami's final 21 games, and essentially get about 37 months off before the U.S. Olympic men's basketball team reconvenes to resume training for this summer's Beijing Games. Riley clearly has some concerns about seeing his franchise's best player expose himself to potential injury, but indicated he won't bar Wade from playing for his country, either.

"That's Dwyane's decision," Riley said. "He wants to be an Olympic champion.

Wade still wants to be part of that, yet acknowledged that playing in China isn't his primary goal right now.

"I'm still committed to the Olympic team," Wade said. "But right now, my focus is on getting healthy." That's been his focus for some time.

Injuries have been a constant throughout Wade's five NBA seasons, especially since the Heat won the title in 2006. He dislocated his left shoulder last February, returned for the final few games of the regular season, but was so..."
Sandman earns third place overall

By PAT STYNES
Sports Writer

Irish coach Jim Kubinski cer-
taxly know what he was talk-
ing about when he said Junior Josh Sandman "has the talent
to mix it up with the top play-
ers."

Over spring break, Sandman
played the best golf of his
career, posting a score of
seven-over par and leading
Notre Dame to a 12th place
finish in the NCAA Col-
legiate Invitational.

Sandman fin-
ished in third place individu-
ally, just two shots behind tournament
winner, USC's Tim Sluijter.

"Josh is as physically
talented as any player in the
country. He is growing both emotionally and in his decision making," Kubinski said. "I've seen sev-
eral top players grow in leaps and
bounds from their freshman
year to their junior year. Josh is in that position."

But the 12th place finish for
the Irish was not solely based
on Sandman's strong play. Sophomore Doug Fortner did well in his return to his home
state of California, shooting 17-
over par and placing 39th. But
the sophomore's first-round 81
handicapped his strong finish.
He posted scores of 74 and 75
in the second and third rounds,
respectively.

"Josh is as physically
talented as any play-
er in the country."

-- Jim Kubinski
Irish coach

Notre Dame celebrated spring
break in style, winning three of
four in the Worth Invitational

and three of five in the Long Beach State Invitational, including a 2-1
victory over No. 24 Virginia Tech.

Junior standout Britney Bargar
was named the Big East pitcher
of the week after posting a .55
ERA in 25.1 innings throughout
the week.

"The pitchers really stepped up for
us this week," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "Brittney [Bargar] pitched a one-hitter for us against Long Beach State, and we lost 1-0. That is almost unheard of."

Senior Katie Laing had a strong
offensive performance for the
Irish, breaking the Notre Dame
career record for doubles with
50.

"Katie Laing does not get caught
when she is at bat," Gumpf said. "She is consistent and she
just fights and fights until she gets
a hit."

The Irish began the break in
Fullerton, Calif., by beating up
Pacific University 11-3 and UC
Davis 6-5, behind strong pitching
from Bargar and freshman Jody
Vaivalia. Vaivalia tallied a career
high nine strikeouts against UC
Davis.

The bats came alive for the
Irish, who had been in a bit of a
slump earlier in the season.

"We faced some of the best
pitching in the country," Gumpf said.

The Irish then traveled to the
Long Beach State Invitational in
Mayfair Park, Calif., to take on
some of the best pitching in the
NCAA.

"We faced three of the best
pitchers in the nation going against UCLA, Virginia Tech, and
Long Beach State," Gumpf said.

"Virginia Tech's pitcher [Angela
Tompkins] is probably the best in the entire country."

The Irish believe that facing the
country's best is the best
equipment for the team's progress.

"Every game is important to
dead Wallace, to show that we are able to compete
with the best pitching in the
country and even beat them," Gumpf said.

"That is great for the girls
confidence."

The Irish lost to UCLA and
Long Beach State in one-run
heartbreakers. In those two contests, the Irish pitching staff allowed just two earned runs over
13 innings.

Bargar allowed only one run
and six hits with four strikeouts in
a 2-1 victory over Virginia Tech
while Vaivalia also impressed against Cal State-Fullerton in the
rematch, hurling seven shutout
innings.

The final game of the trip, a 3-1
victory against Cal State Northridge, belonged to Pitzenberger, whose two-run dou-
bles was enough to ensure the
Irish victory.

As a freshman, Pitzenberger
really handles herself with great
self-confidence," Gumpf said.

Pitzenberger's work ethic has
rubbed off on all of the freshmen,
who all have excited Gumpf.

"Everyone is contributing," Gumpf said. "This is a really great
freshman class."

The Irish hope to ride their
momentum into next weekend's
Charleston Southern University
Invitational.

Contact Jared Jedick at
jedick@nd.edu

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SMC SOFTBALL
By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer
Saint Mary's posted an 8-2 record on its spring break trip to Florida.
On the first day of play, the Belles split their two games. The first, a 1-0 win over Clark University, was highlighted by the performances of junior pitcher Calli Davison, who gave up three hits over five shutout innings, and sophomore outfielder Ashley Peterson who went 3-for-3 with three runs scored, and freshman outfielder Hayley Bojorquez. Bojorquez had a single and a double while driving in two runs in her first college game. In the second game of the day, a 14-12 loss against Anna Maria College, Davison and junior Ashley Fusaro had four RBIs each.

The Belles split again on day two, beginning with an 8-0 win over Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) followed by a 5-3 loss to Dominican University. Against WPI, Davison won her second game with six shutout innings and senior McKenna Corrigan went 2-3 with 3 RBI.

The Belles swept their competitors on the third day of the trip, winning 6-0 over Wisconsin Lutheran and 5-4 over St. Joseph College. Davison notched another win with seven shutout innings against Wisconsin Lutheran, and Corrigan got the win against St. Joseph's. The fourth day of competition was another Belles sweep. Davison and junior Faith Bojorquez combined for a 6-0 win over Wesleyan and again beat Eastern University 7-1 and hosted DeSales University 4-2. Pitching was once again an important factor against Eastern, as Davison improved her record to 4-2. In the second game, the offense was the key as Peterson drove in three runs and sophomore Maureen Healy went 3-for-4.

On the last day of their trip, the Belles put together another two-game sweep by once again beating WPI, 10-2, and getting revenge on Dominican with an 11-2 effort. Healy and Peterson had big games again, both going 3-for-4 against WPI. Davison won her fifth game of the trip and struck out seven.

The Belles will begin their home season on Thursday against Manchester College.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

SMC TENNIS
By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer
Playing seven matches in five days isn’t ideal for any team, but Saint Mary’s managed to come out on top in four of them as it opened up its tenth season over spring break in Orlando. Their young team of two sophomores and eight freshmen ended the week with a record of 4-3.

“One of our goals of the week was to have a winning record and we achieved that goal,” Belles coach Chuck Rubino said. “Another goal we achieved was showing improvement, which we definitely did towards the end of the week.”

Saint Mary’s began play on March 2 against Methodist College, an NAIA qualifier last season. The Belles lost 8-1, with their only victory coming from freshman Laura Arnoldos, who beat Methodist’s Lauren Hulse 6-4, 6-3.

As the week progressed, Saint Mary’s seemed to overcome their first match anxieties and grabbed a 7-2 win over Martin Methodist early on Monday. But the Belles were unable to keep the momentum as they lost 8-1 to Tuskegee on Tuesday and Wayne State on Wednesday and Thursday.

Against Martin Methodist, freshmen Belles Jillian Hurley, Betsy Reed, Jessica Camp, and Jessica Kosinski all came out on top in singles play. Sophomore Lisa Rubin also won her match. Rubino and Reed dominated Martin Methodist’s Fidhima Diaz and Alison Weiers 8-1 on the doubles side, while the Saint Mary’s pair of sophomore Gallerie Gebert and Hurley fell 8-1 to Martin Methodist’s Jenny Herd and Flora de la Garza.

The Grand Valley State matchup was another story for Saint Mary’s. The Belles seemed to recover thanks to a win by No. 2 singles player Hurley, who downed Grand Valley’s Kathryn Grashorn 7-6, 6-4.

A day off from competing proved to be exactly what Saint Mary’s needed. On both Wednesday and Thursday the Belles beat both King’s and Ursuline 9-0. Gebert and Hurley proved themselves as the Belles No. 1 doubles pair, winning 8-0 on Wednesday and No. 3 Reed had a strong showing of her own on Thursday, defeating Ursuline’s Danielle Robinson 6-0, 6-0.

Saint Mary’s finished off the week with competitive play Friday, defeating St. Scholastica 7-2 but losing 6-1 to UAC on Saturday. Gebert and Hurley showed their strength once again with an 8-5 defeat of St. Scholastica’s Katie Molloy and Paula Beckermann, but were unable to carry their winning way into the afternoon, losing 8-2 to Wayne State’s Milena Vukosnovic and Sharon Powers.

“No. 2 singles player Jillian Hurley had a great week, going 6-1,” Rubino said. “She played exceptionally well, she was slow on first day and then won six in a row.”

Hurley was named one of Saint Mary’s athletes of the week, an honor Rubino said was well deserved.

Overall, the Belles were pleased with their first week of competition. “Over spring break, it became apparent that we really have good chemistry as a team, which is going to be an advantage when it comes time to pull together some big wins,” Gebert said. “I hope that we can stay competitive as our season starts in hopes of bringing home a title.”

Looking ahead to the start of MIAA competitions on March 18, Rubino said his team is well prepared.

“The week was good prep for the MIAA in terms that we saw teams that were a lot better than MIAA teams, such as Grand Valley and Wayne State, St. Scholastica is comparable to our team and others in the MIAA, and there were some matches we were not prepared for. This was a good stepping stone for us as we get into the MIAA matches next week.”

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mveselik@nd.edu
**ND WOMEN’S LACROSSE**

Irish go 1-2 on west coast

By ANDY ZICCARELLI
Sports Writer

Notre Dame headed west to California for its spring break but took a very businesslike approach to its relaxing destination. The Irish played three games against Pac-10 competition, failing to Stanford and Oregon before finally breaking through with an 18-8 victory over California Saturday.

Over the course of the week, forward Jillian Byers continued to play at a high level, notching 15 goals in the three games. Byers has netted 30 goals on the season. Byers, who Irish coach Tracy Coyne called an "awesome finisher," now has 142 career goals, which puts her at second on Notre Dame’s all-time list. Byers was also named a preseason first-team All-America by Inside Lacrosse magazine.

"Jill understands how to work her defender and get herself open and the team has been great at finding her so she can finish," said Coyne.

After dropping the opening game of the trip at Stanford, 13-9, the Irish looked poised for a rebound against Oregon, racing out to a 7-5 halftime lead. The Ducks, however fought back and managed to tie the game late. Senior Caitlin McKinney pounced in three goals in the game and Byers added a goal of her own, including one with 4:38 left that gave Notre Dame a 13-12 lead. But the Irish could not hold the lead. Oregon scored with 15 seconds remaining to tie the score at 13-13. Then, with three seconds left, Ducks attack Ilsa van der Berg fired a shot into the net, giving Oregon the decisive goal and the victory. Irish goalie Erin Goodman stopped 12 shots but could not stop the final two, which proved to be the difference.

Saturday, however, the Irish bounced back. Notre Dame came out with a fury, amassing a 12-4 halftime lead behind four goals from Irish junior Jane Snooker. The 12 first-half goals were a season-high for the Irish. In the second half, the Bears could not get much closer, as the Irish continued their aggressiveness on both offense and defense, capturing the victory 18-8.

The Irish will return home for a three-game homestand starting Saturday against Delaware.

Contact Andy Ziccarelli at aziccarelli@nd.edu

**ND WOMEN’S GOLF**

Team cruises at Rio Verde Invite

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

The Irish started spring-clean-up by a little early last weekend, sweeping both the team and individual awards at the Rio Verde Invitational.

After struggling at last month’s Central District Invitational, No. 26 Notre Dame cruised to a comfortable first-place finish at last weekend’s Rio Verde Invitational in Rio Verde, Ariz. The Irish shot an 11-over par 875 (294-290-291) to capture their program record fourth team victory this season.

Notre Dame freshmen So Hyun Park led the field with a 4-under 212 (72-70-70), her second career first-place finish. Two other Irish golfers also finished in the top-10 — Annie Brophy and Kristin Wetzel finished second and sixth, respectively. Park and Notre Dame carded tournament-low individual and team scores of 70 and 290, respectively.

“I feel like we all played well,” Irish senior Susan Holt said. “The opportunity to score low at the golf course was there and we took advantage of that. We capitalized when we needed to and we were able to lower our scoring average. I think it’ll give us a confidence boost for the rest of the season.”

No. 48 Texas Tech led after the first round, shooting a 291, but faded in later rounds to finish 18 strokes behind the Irish, good enough for second place (893). Arkansas-Little Rock (908), and Eastern Michigan (909) rounded out the top 5.

Notre Dame was led by a one-two punch of young golfers, with sophomores Brophy shooting an even-par 216 (71-73-72) on the tournament. The second-place result was her highest career finish and lowest career three-round score, while Saturday’s 1-under par 71 was her lowest career 18-hole score.

Fellow sophomore Kristin Wetzel finished sixth overall with a five-over par 221 (74-72-75), a career-best score and placement. Junior Lisa Maunu shot a 14-over par 232 (78-83-71) in her first season at the Irish. Sophomore Julie Kim completed the round as an individual entrant, shooting a 21-over par 237 (77-80-80) in her first event of the season.

Notre Dame hit the links again this weekend at the Betsy Price Longhorn Invitational in Austin, Texas, March 17-19.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

**SMC GOLF**

Belles struggle at St. Andrew

Observer Staff Report

Saint Mary’s finished 10th in an 11-team field at the St. Andrew Spring Invitational at Woodlake Resort and Golf Club in Fresno, Calif.

Belles senior Kate O’Brien led the Belles with a two-round total of 158 (79-79), finishing in a tie for 10th place. Emily Gores’s 184 was the Belles second-best finisher. Perri Hamma, Meredith Fantom and Meghan Lehr rounded out the scoring for the Belles with respective scores of 184, 191 and 194.

Pfeiffer won the team event with a team score of 639, 97 strokes ahead of the Belles.

**ND WOMEN’S ROWING**

Squad has strong showing in first meet

Observer Staff Report

The Irish defeated Northeastern in all nine races between the two teams on the last day of Notre Dame’s spring break trip in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

The Irish varsity eight blue boat beat Northeastern’s A and B squads in the opening race.

And the Irish were just getting started. Notre Dame won the other two varsity eight races, as three varsity four races and three novice eight races.

“We had a good week of training outdoors and trained very hard,” head coach Martin Stone told 262.com. “I was pleased with how we responded in our first races of the season. We know what we need to work on, but all in all, it was business with our performance. The Irish will next compete in the Windermere Real Estate Rowing Classic March 29-30 in Palo Alto, Calif.

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FENCING

Deep Irish squad downs Buckeyes

By KEN FOWLER
Senior Sports Writer

Ohio State stood tall, but Notre Dame showed off in depth at the Midwest Regional on March 2.

Buckeyes fencers captured titles in five of the six events at the Regional but the Irish earned 11 medal positions, compared to Ohio State's seven.

With that, and the combined results from the regular season, Notre Dame automatically qualified the maximum 12 fencers to the national event, which begins Thursday.

The Buckeyes, meanwhile, earned 11 automatic berths. Ohio State's senior sprinter Kaela Brendler finished ninth at the Regional but received an at-large bid to the NCAA Championships to give the Buckeyes the maximum 12 entrants.

A year ago, Penn State earned the national title ahead of second-place St. John's and third-place Columbia. Notre Dame and Ohio State qualified only 11 fencers in 2007, but finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

This time, Ohio State, Notre Dame, St. John's and Columbia will be the only teams with the full allotment at the national event. Ohio State, ranked No. 1 on the women's side and No. 2 on the men's side, will also have another factor playing in its favor — home-sport advantage.

Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said Ohio State is the favorite, but he is looking forward to the event, at which seven of the Notre Dame fencers will be freshmen.

"It's encouraging and it's a little bit scary," Bednarski said of the youth movement.

He said that the young team is not fully prepared for the "intense pressure" of the national event, but that they are "mentally strong."

"A young team is always unpredictable," he said.

The story from the Regional, though, was the back-and-forth between the Buckeyes and Irish, who looked poised to make a run at the title. That is, if they don't knock each other off in the process.

Notre Dame's sweep of the medal positions in the men's epee — Karol Kostka earning gold; Greg Schoolcraft, silver; and Greg Howard, bronze — was the only such dominance in any weapon.

Ohio State's Andras Horanyi won the men's foil competition, but Irish freshmen Zach Schiritz and Steve Borrmann took the top two spots, respectively, and Notre Dame freshman Barron Noyam placed third.

Buckeye Alexandra Obrazcova won the women's epee event, while Northwestern's Christa French earned second and Irish sophomore Kelley Hurley took fourth.

In women's foil, Buckeye Oksana Dmytruk bested Notre Dame junior Adrienne Nott and Hurley took second.

Irish freshman sabreist Sarah Breitman finished third, behind Ohio State champion Slohhin Byrne and Buckeyes runner-up Eileen Green.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

WOMEN'S TRACK

Weber, Hasan shine at Wilson Invitational

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

Not even some of the fiercest competition Notre Dame has faced all season could keep Anna Weber from continuing her dominance in the throwing events at the Alex Wilson Invitational this weekend at Lotus Sports Center.

The junior took first place in the weight throw and finished fifth in the shot put. Her throw of 19.23 meters met the NCAA provisional mark.

Another standout was junior Alyssa Hasan who won the pentathlon by over 200 points. Hasan, coming off a second place finish at the Big East Indoor Championships, has already met the NCAA provisional mark for the Pentathlon.

The tough competition limited the number of Irish competitors who were able to place in their respective events.

Freshman Marissa Treece finished off her successful season by placing seventh in the 3000-meter run. Senior Jacqueline Carter and Freshman Abby Higgins took 17th and 18th place, respectively, in the 800-meter run.

The Alex Wilson Invitational continues as the last chance for athletics to set NCAA provisional marks in order to gain entry into the National Championship meet. With the exception of the national meet, this marks the end of the indoor season.

Monday night the qualifiers for the NCAA meet were announced and Hasan will be the only Irish representative.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu

Write Sports. Call 631-4543.
Hockey
Irish set to face Ferris State

By KYLIE CASSILY
Sports Writer

No. 12 Notre Dame splits its last regular season series two weekends ago with Western Michigan. The Irish erupted out of the first round of the CCHA playoffs with a bye, the Irish will sit on the sidelines in the second round.

The Irish (22-12-4) will play the fifth-seeded Bulldogs in a best-of-three game series this weekend with a game on Friday night and running through Sunday, if necessary. Ferris State (17-15-1) was one of four higher seeded teams to win its first-round series last weekend as the fifth-through-eighth place squads squared off, while first-through-fourth place teams sat out.

The Bulldogs swept their first-round opponent, Western Michigan, by scores of 4-3 in overtime and 6-3. Those wins came a weekend after the Irish were outscored 3-0 on the road to Western Michigan before winning at home on senior night, 4-1.

Notre Dame and Ferris State will meet for the 18th time this season, playing each other four times — two at home and two on the road. The scoreless tie at the end of the game dropped the decision that night to the Irish as Ferris' Scott Corbin took the loss.

In the second round of the CCHA playoffs, Ferris State will play at home on Friday night at 7:35 p.m. at the Joyce Center, where Saturday's game will begin at 7:05 p.m. Sunday's game, if necessary, will begin at 7:05 p.m.

Contact Kyle Cassilly at kcas@nd.edu

Break

continued from page 24

the game was knotted at four when freshman pitcher, Jay Pollock stepped to the plate with two outs in the bottom of the third and delivered a two-run double that put the Irish up 6-4. Headed into the sixth inning, Irish junior catcher Kyle Weidlein had already brought home a run and didn't just toss, tossing a scoreless frame to close out the game and pick up the save.

Tate continued to contribute, going 3-for-4 with two runs scored against the Bulldogs. Tate also added a stolen base in the contest that helped the Irish extend their lead.

Despite not picking up the decision, Irish freshman starter, Mike Perry, got the win, allowing only three hits and two earned runs. On only 74 pitches, the righty struck out five in his first ever start and didn't walk a Irish. Senior relief pitcher Tony Langford picked up the save and allowed a two-run homerun and surrendered the lead.

Boston College College, Notre Dame

In the second half of a doubleheader, Notre Dame dropped the decision to the Eagles partially because it allowed three home runs on the evening.

Sophomore Wade Korpi's homecoming to Lake Worth, Fla., was ruined despite a decent outing. The southpaw went 6 and 2/3 innings, allowing four earned runs on nine hits. Three of those hits were infield singles.

Early on, the catcher Tony Sanchez hit a three-run blast in the fifth inning to put Boston College on the board. In the seventh and ninth frames the Eagles added two more home runs from senior outfielder Ryan Akel and freshman catcher Kyle D'Angelo to give the Boston College more than enough run support to beat the Irish.

Notre Dame 11, Maine 10

As the game went into extra innings Tuesday, Sharpley had seen enough action. Sharpley belted a two-out solo walk-off home run in the bottom of the tenth to propel the Irish over the Black Bears on March 4.

Sharpley entered the contest in the seventh inning as a pinch-hitter, and the move paid off as the infelder went 2-for-3 on the day with a double and three hits.

Notre Dame's bullpen contributed 4 and 1/3 scoreless innings to tide the game back in with it in late runs. Sophomore relievers David Mills and Steven Drueckert, as well as junior Brent Graffey continued to hold the Irish offense to six, and allowing only two walks.

Lehigh 4, Notre Dame 2

On Thursday, Notre Dame allowed a pair of home runs that gave its opponent the runs to pick up a victory. Lehigh combined the long ball with a solid pitching performance from sophomore hurler Rob Russell, who allowed two earned runs in 6 and 2/3 innings.

Mountain Hawks sophomore closer Jordan Warnecke picked up his second save of the season with 2 and 1/3 innings of scoreless relief that secured the Lehigh win, dropping the Irish record to 4-4 on the year.

Texas A & M vs Cornell Christi
5, Notre Dame 2

Tournament host Islanders benefited from a solid performance from their senior walking pitcher, Brian Anderson. He went 5 and 2/3 innings without allowing a run to pick up the victory.

 Aside from the home-field advantage, Irish coach Dave Schrage said the credit should go to the Islanders' hurlers for the win.

"It was their home opener," Schrage said. "They were excited to go out there and have big crowd behind them but the credit should go to their pitcher. He did a great job against us, and overall had a good outing.

Notre Dame starter Phelps was 1-0 on the year, went six innings, allowing four earned runs and a sea-son-high 6 walk.

Notre Dame 10, South Alabama 4

The Irish bounced back from an opening-round loss in the Whitetailg Classic with a victory over the Jaguars on March 8. An eighth-inning four run inning put Notre Dame past South Alabama, as the team struggled together a series of hits.

"We put the on the board, and hitting is contagious, so before we knew it, we had put up a solid inning that helped us get the win," Schrage said.

Schrage said he hopes his offense can begin to produce on a game-to-game basis.

"I was pleased with the run, but we need to see more of these," Schrage said. "The frustration comes when we can't play consistent baseball and see these results in consecutive games on.

Korpi benefited from the Irish scoring and picked up a victory. Going 5 and 1/3 innings and allowing three runs on nine hits.

Arizona 16, Notre Dame 0

In addition to the most lop-sided defeat of the season, Arizona notched 20 hits and scored seven home runs and 11.3 rebounds per game.

Wideawake junior starter Ryan Perry excelled in the contest, going seven scoreless frames and allowing only a pair of hits while striking out eight.

"He's a great talent," Schrage said. "His pitches were hitting the 97 MPH mark. He had an excellent outing, and that's why he'll probably be one of the top-10 picks in the draft.

Although the defeat was an ugly one for the Irish, Schrage tried to take some positives from the loss.

"This showed us that when we relax and play our style, that we're a pretty good team," Schrage said. "But we're going to have to play a lot more relaxed and play nervous.

"There is the bitter loss, however, the Irish are looking ahead.

We have four days to put this behind us," Schrage said. "This is a loss that can wake the team up — hit them right between the eyes. Hopefully we can look at this and play better from here on out."

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Men's Basketball
Pair of ballers named to Big East first team

By CHRIS KHOREY and CHRIS HINE
Sports Writers

Notre Dame sophomore forward Luke Harangody and junior guard Kyle McArthur were voted to the Big East All-Big East first team Monday by the league's headcoaches.

This is the third straight year that the Irish have had at least one player on the all-conference first team. In 2006, guard Chris Quinn was honored while guards Colin Falls and Russell Carter both had a spot last season.

Harangody led the conference in both scoring and rebounding during the regular season, averaging 23.3 points, including a career-high 40 against Louisville Feb. 28, and 11.3 rebounds per game.

"To be on the first team is a huge honor," Harangody said. "You kinda think who you're among right there and it's a good class to be in."

McArthur averaged 15.0 points per game and led the Big East with 6.0 assists made. He scored over 30 points on three different occasions.

"I'm pretty surprised, I'm shocked that I made it," McArthur said. "There are so many good players in this league."

Harangody was named to the Big East All-Rookie team last season. This honor is the first season of distinction honor that McArthur has received.

In addition to the Irish players, Cincinnati's Deonta Vaughn, Georgetown's Roy Hibbert, Louisville's David Pudgett, Pittsburgh's Sam Young, South Florida's Kentrell Grazzini, Seton Hall's Brian Laing, West Virginia's Joe Alexander and Connecticut's A.J. Price and Jeff Adrien also made the list.

Contact Chris Khovery at chkhovery@nd.edu and Chris Hine at chhine@nd.edu
**Bulls**

continued from page 24

back. They scored but we didn’t put our heads down and my shot ended up falling,”

With Kurz in foul trouble for much of the game, Irish junior forward Zach Hillesland delivered 10 points and seven rebounds in 28 minutes of playing time.

Even though it might have been somewhat of a stretch, Jackson compared Hillesland to the forward’s favorite NBA player.

“I told [Hillesland] during the game he was attacking the rim like Kobe Bryant,” Jackson said. “He was just getting in there and going. He played smart and he played poised. He knew he had a mismatch and he took advantage of it.”

Freshman guard Dominique Jones led the way for South Florida with 20 points and seven rebounds.

Irish coach Mike Brey said he was glad his team secured a first-round bye for the Big East tournament. The Irish do not have to suit up for Wednesday’s opening round and will play in the quarterfinals Thursday against either Marquette or Seton Hall.

“This was a grueling week for us because it was three games in a week and we had to play hard to get them,” Brey said. “So to not play until Thursday, I think, helps us get our legs under us and get a little more refreshed.”

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

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The Office of Student Affairs is now accepting nominations for the

**Denny Moore Award**

For Excellence in Journalism

Candidates must be seniors who exemplify the qualities for which Denny Moore was known, including personal integrity and character, commitment to Notre Dame, and writing ability.

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Nominations are due by Tuesday, March 11, 2008.

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**Collapse**

continued from page 24

Up 14-2 early, Notre Dame gave up a jumper and a pair from the charity stripe to Panthers guard Xenia Stewart, but bounced back with a strong traditional three-point play from guard Brittany Mullen to go back up 17-6. That was Notre Dame’s last points for the next five minutes.

The Panthers clawed their way back in the game (pun intended) by simply waiting for Notre Dame to miss shots. And miss it did. Irish guards Lindsey Schrader, Melissa Lechlitner and Mallory combined to shoot 4-for-24 from the floor, including 0-for-6 from 3-point land.

Despite the atrocious percentage (14.2 percent for my fellow Arts and Letters students), Irish coach Muffet McGraw said that the shot selection wasn’t the problem.

They were all good shots. Brittany Mullen is our 3-point shooter. We want her to shoot 3s. Schrader had some wide-open looks in the first half. Lechlitner’s shots were all pretty good,” she said.

So if you’re already taking all the right shots, there has to be something that can be done to make this team better before Good Friday when the NCAA Tournament starts. And the solution is simple: Do the little things better.

In psychology, there is a term “postpartum,” which means the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. Case in point is Notre Dame’s loss on Sunday. What cost the Irish in the second half was not doing the little things — Mullen missing open 3-pointers, the guards leaving Panthers guard Xenia Stewart open to hit game-deciding triples and not boxing out Walker in the post. Forward Becca Bruszewski and Ashley Barlow each committed two fouls in six and seven minutes, respectively, and Lechlitner turned the ball over five times without getting an assist. (At least she was in good company since every Irish player who saw minutes had at least one giveaway.)

The other main issue with these problems is how prevalent they have been all season.

McGraw has talked about wanting to make her team’s 3-point defense better since media day. Back in October, she said it was a point of emphasis for her team. Even going back to last season it was a major problem for the Irish. And what did McGraw say was the final nail in Notre Dame’s coffin against Pittsburgh?

“Stewart hit those two 3s and I thought that was the game,” she said.

Same crap, different day.

But it’s not just the 3-point defense. Big men have protected the Irish all season long. Walker might not be in the same league as Tennessee’s Candace Parker and Connecticut’s Tina Charles, but her 18 points and 13 boards made it seem that way.

Now, I’m not pretending that I know how to fix these problems mostly because that’s not my job. I’m a sports writer, not a basketball coach. McGraw, on the other hand, is. She has to find a way to make these little problems disappear come Tournament time if she wants her team to keep dancing.

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

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpatrick@nd.edu

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Panthers
continued from page 24
"It's really disappointing to play so well for 29 games," Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said. "We've really had a great season and to end on a note like this the last two games is really disappointing for us after all the hard work we've put in throughout the year.

Pittsburgh center Marcedes Walker had 18 points and 13 rebounds in the game. Stewart had 13 points and guard Mallorie Winn added 12.

Irish guard Chared Allen led her team with 17 points and eight rebounds, and guard Ashley Barlow added 11. Notre Dame only shot 30.6 percent from the floor in the game.

Despite the Panther's comeback, Notre Dame kept the end of the game close until the last minute. Barlow made a layup to tie the score at 13 with seven minutes remaining, but Stewart hit the first of her two 3-pointers to give Pittsburgh the lead. Allen gave the Irish a one-point lead with three minutes left, but a triple from Winn and Stewart's second trey gave Pittsburgh a 56-51 lead.

"We needed to get something going and I didn't feel like I was contributing like the rest of my team, so I was just taking open looks and taking the shots," Stewart said.

McGraw acknowledged that Stewart's play late in the second half changed the eventual outcome.

"I thought Xenia Stewart was the difference in the game," McGraw said. "She hit those two 3s and I thought that was the game."

Notre Dame rendered Pittsburgh ineffective after the opening tip. Walker's layup with 1:02 left in the first half would be Pittsburgh's last basket until Stewart hit a jumper with 10:04 left, a span of 7:34. In that time, the Irish scored 14 points and squashed the Panther offense. They thwarted passes and blocked shots, clogged lanes to the basket and forced poor shot selection.

"I started to get a flashback of the West Virginia game because when we played West Virginia we had two points and they had about twelve like Notre Dame today, and we lost that game by a lot," Pittsburgh coach Agnus Berenato said of Notre Dame's early lead.

Just as the Irish had the opportunity to bury Pittsburgh, they swapped places with their opponents. It was now their turn to turn the ball over, throw passes out of bounds and suffer through offensive stagnation.

As Notre Dame's transformation took place, Pittsburgh's offense revived itself. Walker completed two back-to-back 3-point plays, and a Winn 3-pointer and a jump shot from guard Tameisha Harris tied the game at 17 with 4:36 remaining.

"We were too late back. We should have kept being aggressive but we were just relaxed and laid back," Allen said. "We should have been aggressive from the start. When you are up 14-2 you want to keep pushing it down their throat but we didn't do that."

McGraw said Notre Dame's offense, which didn't click even when they had the chance early, never got off the ground.

"Overall, offensively we didn't really play well. I don't think we moved the ball well," McGraw said. "I thought when we to the zone we stood around a lot never really got going."

Notes:

-Allen was named first team all-Big East, and Barlow and junior guard Lindsay Schrader were honorable mentions. Guard Brittany Mallory and forward Patrick Peters were named to the all-Big East freshman team.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

MEN'S TRACK

Irish compete in Alex Wilson Invitational

By EUGENIA ALFONZO
SPOm Writer

Notre Dame spent part of its spring break competing at the Alex Wilson Invitational at the Lofus Center and preparing for the upcoming national meet.

On the first day of competition, the Irish got strong performances from senior Kurt Benninger, who ran a 3:58 mile and helped the Irish distance medley relay earn the No. 11 seed for the NCAA National Indoor Championship. Other members of the relay squad included senior Adam Carrie, sophomore Blake Chaplin and freshman Austin Wechter.

For field events, freshman Justin Schneider placed ninth in the long jump while freshman Greg Davis led the Irish in the weight throw with 16.8 meters and a third-place finish. Freshmen Denes Verez and John Belcher followed close behind with 16.63-meter and 13.60-meter throws, respectively.

The second day held the same intensity as senior Jake Waters won the mile run with a time of 4:00, winning by almost three seconds. Other runners in the race included Irish juniors Daniel Clark and Patrick Smyth, who finished ninth and tenth, respectively. Schneider jumped 1.94 meters for a seventh-place finish in the high jump.

The Irish now face their final indoor meet at the NCAA Championships before heading outside for what is expected to be an exciting outdoor season. The National Championships are March 14-15 at Arkansas.

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at cafonzo@nd.edu

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**ND Women’s Basketball**

**The Pitts**

**Irish turn in subpar showing in Hartford**

HARTFORD — As I sat in my hotel room after Sunday’s game, one thought consistently ran through my head.

“How the hell did ND just lose to Pitt?”

I was appalled after the game — and with good reason. The Irish started the game with a suffocating defense that held the Panthers to two points in 10 minutes, got Pittsburgh center Marcedes Walker into early foul trouble, and managed to have a 22-21 edge on the boards.

But Big East basketball giveth, and Big East basketball taketh away.

**BASEBALL**

**Sharpely’s walk-off Homer highlights trip for ND**

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Over the week-long spring break, Notre Dame saw a bit of everything, ranging from a walk-off home run by junior Evan Sharpely to a 10-run loss to No. 1 Arizona. Overall, the Irish went 4-4 for the week.

At left, Irish guard Chezel Allen drives to the basket during Notre Dame’s 64-53 loss to Pittsburgh Sunday. At right, Irish coach Muffet McGraw displays her frustration during her team’s defeat.

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Irish clinch No. 3 seed in conference tourney with win at USF**

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

HARANGODY leads team as it holds off late charge by Bulls

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Luke Harangody strengthened his candidacy in the Big East player of the year race with 21 points and nine rebounds as No. 14/14 Notre Dame defeated No. 18/19 Florida 67-60 Saturday in the regular-season finale for both teams.

With the victory over the Bulls, the Irish clinched the No. 3 seed in the Big East tournament. And after nothing wins

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