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‘Monologues’ return to campus amid controversy
Eve Ensler’s much debated play sees walkout protest after first act at DeBartolo

By JOSEPH McMATHON
Assistant News Editor

"The Vagina Monologues," Eve Ensler’s controversial play exploring female sexuality, returned to campus last night in DeBartolo 101 despite cries of protest from students, alumni and local bishop John D’Arcy. The performance was followed by a panel discussion featuring three University professors, a representative of D’Arcy’s office and a surprise appearance by the president of the Alumni Association Richard Nussbaum.

The play, which was performed by Notre Dame students and sponsored by the University’s departments of anthropology, political science and sociology, protests violence against women and argues that a woman’s vagina is not dirty but rather an inherent part of her identity.

"We were worried about vaginas," producer Lisa Kuhl said in her introduction. "Violence against women is a common day occurrence."

Several Notre Dame students, however, saw the play as an affront to the Church’s teachings on sexuality, which they believe have no place at a Catholic University.

After the first monologue, Stephanie Elise Newsome performs in Wednesday’s Vagina Monologues performance.

By BILL BRINK
News Editor

Congressman Joe Donnelly expanded on the meaning of “pro-life” to include supporting post-birth care — such as health care, insurance and school lunch programs — in his address to the Notre Dame Law School Wednesday.

Donnelly, the Democratic representative of Indiana’s second district said despite people’s impressions of the Democratic Party, the party is not inherently pro-choice.

He told a story of a question he received during a candidate night in his 2006 campaign. A woman asked why it was his business if she and her pregnant daughter decided an abortion was the best option for the child and family.

Donnelly responded that the issue became one of what is necessary to define human life. Since he defines an unborn baby as a human, he said, he is constitutionally required to protect it.

"That was the end of questioning on that subject for the night," he said. "The point is to protect that child."

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Donnelly expands pro-life definition

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By BILL BRINK
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The Indiana University of South Bend, Bethel College and Ivy Tech as part of a question and answer session sponsored by the Northern Indiana Student Democrats at Legends Wednesday.

"I passionately believe in my mom as a young woman, a young voter and a young Democrat," she said.

Clinton was accompanied by actor Sean Astin, best known for his roles as the title character in "Rudy" and as Samwise Gamgee in "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Spring Fever

Are you like me, finding yourself looking out the window of Delbartolo wishing the snow would melt and the temperature rise? Have you been waiting one too many weeks for the bitter cold, wind, and constant precipitation to subside? Are you ready to put away your sweaters and winter coats; eager to break out the short-sleeves and flip-flops?

If you can't resist putting off homework to toss a football around on the quad the moment it reaches fifty degrees, longing for the days when you can walk from your dorm to LaFortune without a coat and gloves, you may have a case of Spring Fever. You are not alone.

I feel the only cure for this malady, no matter what your age, is to go outside and play. It seemed a lot of students on Notre Dame's campus were feeling the same way that first really warm day, a week ago last Friday. As soon as classes were finished I grabbed my roommate and lacrosse stick and headed out to South Quad.

Much like the first snow had brought masses of students out onto the quad, the warm weather enticed guys and girls from every dorm outside to play football, frisbee, lacrosse, baseball, even some golf on the grassy quads while the sidewalks on campus and around the lakes were busy with people running, walking, riding bikes, and feeding the ducks.

We all must have known it wouldn't hang around for long because so many of us took advantage of the beautiful weather while it lasted. Who could blame us after such a long, snowy winter in South Bend?

And what is it about the spring we love so much; why does this particular season make us feel the way we do? Poets have been writing about the phenomenon for years but now scientists can explain the symptoms of Spring Fever with scientific evidence about our brain's chemical reactions to the light, warmth, and scents of the spring season.

Just as increased sunlight can put people into a depression during the winter, (now called Seasonal Affective Disorder—SAD), the increased sunlight that comes with springtime leads to more release of serotonin, making us happier. The chemical ingredients of sexual attraction are engaged with special intensity in the springtime thanks to warmer weather, less clothing, and the flowery aromas of the season, giving us a greater desire to socialize and even, perhaps, fall in love.

Seems we were right to seize that sunny day because unfortunately that one and the other few nice days surrounding it tricked us with a "false spring" that quickly vanished with the arrival of much more winter weather. The 20th was technically the first day of spring if you go by the calendar, but it looks like we'll still have to wait a little while before the last traces of winter fade away.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Blair Chemidlin at bchemidlin@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

The Viewpoint Issue "Bayou Bob" on March 20 stated that Beijing was awarded the 2008 Winter Olympics. Beijing was awarded the 2008 Summer Olympics.

In Brief

"The Vagina Monologues" will be performed Thursday and Friday in 101 DeBartolo at 7:30 p.m. A panel discussion will follow the performance.

BCAC is looking for volunteers to help with BCAC Fashion Show 2008. The show takes place April 5 at 8 p.m. Please e-mail BCAC@nd.edu if you are interested.

Amanda Anderson, Caroline Donovan Professor of English Literature at Johns Hopkins University, will speak at the 2008 Annual Ward-Phillips Lecture Series. Her lecture is titled "Bleak Landlord" and will continue through Friday at 5 p.m. in 100 McKenna Hall. A reception follows the lecture.

The Student Union Board will show the movie "Atonement" in 101 DeBartolo at 10 p.m. Thursday, 8 and 10 p.m. Friday and 8 and 10:30 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are $3.

Siegfried Hall will host the Rambler Scrambler, a miniature golf tournament, Saturday at Stepan Center at 8 p.m. Free pizza, pop and Jimmy John's will be available. The event benefits Lou Gehrig's Disease research, and iPods, cameras and iTunes gift cards will be raffled off.

The Notre Dame baseball team will play Cincinnati Friday at 5:05 p.m.

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: What musical artist would you like to see come to Notre Dame and why?

Natalie Stilt sophomore

"Spice Girls, because they are ready for 'Summertime.'"

Lindsay Williams sophomore

"Kenny Chesney, because I think everyone is ready for 'Somewhere.'"

Morgan Cullen freshman

"Jason Mraz, because he's all about the word play."

Jennifer Hensler freshman

"That French guy who played the music for 'Pride and Prejudice'...so nice."

Jenny Lewis junior

"Kenny Chesney, because he is ready for 'Summertime.'"

Lauren Buck junior

"Miley Cyrus, because she has to redo herself after the last time she freaked out."

The Notre Dame chorale rehearses for their performance on Wednesday, April 2 at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Wednesday.

OFFBEAT

Rancher who sold snake vodka bottles arrested

SANTO, Texas — A rattlesnake rancher who calls himself Bayou Bob found a new way to make money: Stick a rattler inside a bottle of vodka and market the concoction as an "ancient Asian elixir." But Bayou Bob Poppelwell's bright idea appears to have landed him on the wrong side of the law, because he has no liquor license.

Poppelwell, who has raised rattlesnakes and turtles at Bayou Bob's Brazos River Rattlesnake Ranch for more than two decades, surrendered to authorities Monday. He spent about 10 minutes in jail after the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission obtained arrest warrants on misdemeanor charges of selling alcohol without a license and possessing alcohol with intent to sell.

Drunk driver found with marijuana, pants off

YONKERS, N.Y. — Suburban New York police say a drunken driver had a suspended license and had marijuana in her car. Oh, they also say she didn’t have any pants on.

Yonkers police say 22-year-old Long Island resident Angelica Buchanan was found Saturday standing bottomless in a street near her car. They say she was so drunk she had to be hospitalized. Police say she claimed she wasn't wearing pants because she needed to use the bathroom. They've charged her with driving while intoxicated, unlicensed operation of a vehicle and marijuana possession.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY TONIGHT FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY

HIGH 47 44 37 48 36 51 53
LOW 37 30 28 32 36 31 32


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STUDENT SENATE

Thursday, March 27, 2008

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

Student Senate passes resolutions, proposes technology committee

New organization would allow for increased communication between Student Senate and the student body

By CLAIRE REISING

In the last meeting of the current administration’s term, the Student Senate passed three resolutions and discussed the possibility of creating a Committee on Campus Technologies.

Senators Carol Hendrickson and Ryan Brellenthin of the Committee on Academic Affairs proposed the addition of this committee in response to the number of technological issues that Academic Affairs addressed this year, such as e-reserves and student print quotas. Brellenthin added that these issues have come up in them, it really cuts dent print quotas. Hendrickson said that the University Council on Academic Technology Representative, communicates with OIT.

“It’s very difficult for one person to be proactive for the entire student body,” he said. Hendrickson said having a committee solely devoted to technology would allow senators the time to initiate innovative ideas, instead of just addressing issues as they arise.

“It would be innovative in terms of coming up with technology that other committees might not be brainstorming about,” she said. Despite the potential benefits of a committee on technology, student body President Liz Brown expressed concern that the Senate may be “stretched” with a new committee, since members would be spread over more committees.

Additionally, student body vice president-elect Grant Schmidt said the new administration may create another committee, the Student Outreach committee. This committee would get campus feedback through a census surveying the student body once a semester on issues that student government is addressing.

“We’re going to get feedback — concrete numbers — for students to be able to see and for us to be able to see what’s bothering students,” he said. Besides discussing tentative committees, the Senate passed the resolution supporting the addition of sexual orientation to Notre Dame’s non-discrimination clause, which was debated at last week’s meeting. Also, senators discussed the outcome of the student survey, town hall meetings and dorm sessions concerning the hiring of Catholic faculty.

The student government report stated that “the majority of students seems to value academic credentials more than religious affiliation when hiring faculty but do care about maintaining Notre Dame’s Catholic character.” Hendrickson said the report will be sent to the Office of the Provost and the Faculty Senate, and the Student Senate passed a resolution asking the faculty and administration to keep students informed about the issue and involved in dialogue.

“Basically what this resolution does it emphasize the importance to communicate about issues like that ... and take seriously our efforts to have a dialogue,” Hendrickson said.

In other senate news:

• The Senate passed a resolution from the Committee on Academic Affairs with suggestions for future in-dorm study spaces. Farley Senator Victoria Perez, who drafted the resolution, said as new dorms are built, rooms that were originally study spaces will be converted back. Suggestions include white boards, more outlets and more lighting.

• Judicial Council President Ashley Weiss said the Student Union Board Committee selected Bridget Keating, the senior class president, for the Michael J. Palumbo Award. The award honors an undergraduate student for “outstanding dedication and service to the Notre Dame Student Union.”

Contact Claire Reising at creising2@nd.edu

Brand new, furnished townhomes
for this Fall Semester, 2008

2 blocks east of the Notre Dame athletic fields, off Willis Street

A limited number of new Irish Crossings three and four-bedroom townhomes, specifically geared for today’s college student, are now available for lease for this fall semester.

No more old school housing.

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• Security/alarm system on front and garage entrance doors
• Furnished bedrooms with built-in desk, full-size bed, dresser and closet and full bath
• Free Internet & Cable
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Strict covenants enforced.

Lease today and move into your brand new townhome for fall semester 2008. Call Diane at 574.261.3338 or email us at diane@Irishcrossings.com.
We need administration," and anyone said.

"I'm proud of my mother's position in consistent in that she has cut her health care costs, for universal health care since the early 1990s," she said. "What she in proposing now is informed by the lessons she learned then.

Senator Clinton's current health care proposal would allow all Americans to buy into the federal government's health care plan, which she claims will increase the size of the public health care programs. Americans that cannot afford that would be covered by a voluntary individual policy.

"Average premium cost would be 50 to 55 percent percent because of the larger pools," Chelsea Clinton said. "You're more likely to die in America if you don't have health care. I think that's immoral.

She also said government-sponsored health care can help make some American companies, such as automobile manufacturers, more competitive by allowing them to cut their costs for universal health care.

"You can never have a true unleashing of America's capacity to compete with these health care costs," she said.

In addition, Clinton said her mother would support scientific research, rather than stifling it like the current administration.

One thing that unfortunately has happened under the current administration is the cut of certain scientific research," she said.

The next question posed asked how the decision making process would work in the Clinton White House, and what role former president Bill Clinton would play.

Clinton said while her father would be willing to serve whenever the next president is, he is currently content doing his charity work.

"I'm proud of my father's administration and I'm proud of the work that he does today, and that's what he wants to keep doing," she said. "However, he'd be willing to serve whoever the next president is.

The audience also asked about Senator Clinton's current plan to deal with the housing crisis. The burst of the housing bubble could see one to two million families lose their homes to foreclosures this year.

"My mother has been talking about the housing crisis for more than a year, before any of the other candidates and before the current administration," she said. "We need to do the morally right thing to help keep people in their homes.

Senator Clinton's plan would include a possible bailout of homeowners, similar to the ones used to rescue Wall Street financial firms over the past several years.

Clinton answered questions on her mother's foreign policy stance, in particular on the Iraq War. While she doesn't support troop withdrawal, Clinton said her mother has been a leading figure in demanding accountability from the Pentagon.

"I'm proud that my mom was one of the first Senators to ask the Pentagon what its plans to end the war in Iraq were," she said.

Clinton said it is necessary to remember the safety of Iraqis, civilians, but at the same time the country must start making its own political decisions.

"We have a moral obligation to the people who have helped keep our troops safe," she said. "But we need to send a message to the Iraqis that they need to make political choices for themselves.

Moreover, Clinton said her mother would focus on strengthening diplomatic ties with the Middle East, including engaging countries that the Bush administration has refused to talk to.

"My mother was the first person to say that she would open diplomatic relations with every country in the region," she said.

Although she is often pegged as a divisive figure, Clinton said her mother had a strong record of bipartisanship. She cited her mother's work with conservative Republican Senator Lindsey Graham and former Speaker of the House and long-time Clinton nemesis Newt Gingrich.

When asked what her mother's appeal to young voters was, who tend to be attracted to Barack Obama, Clinton said her mother's plans for making college more affordable should make her the premier choice for young voters.

"One area where my mom is more progressive is college and graduate school affordability," she said.

Her plans include expanding Pell Grants, federal higher education grants funded by the Department of Education, and the reinitiation of low-interest direct federal lending. Senator Clinton also plans to establish a national public service academy similar to the military academies.

Although Clinton said she strongly believed her mother is the best candidate, she concluded by stressing the need for a Democrat in the White House and urged the audience to support whomever the party nominates.

"I hope that you'll vote for whoever the Democratic nominee is," she said. "I believe that we need a Democratic administration.

In his introduction, Atkin said he is supporting Senator Clinton for three reasons: her commitment to the issues, the poignancy of the issues that she has included in her platform, and her wealth of experience.

"First lady of the United States is a sacred position," he said.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahe6@nd.edu.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. patience wears thin with N. Korea
WASHINGTON—The United States and South Korea said Wednesday that patience is wearing thin with North Korean officials pressing North Korea to hand over a promised declaration of nuclear weapons.

A nuclear weapons declaration, which was due by the end of last year, has deadlocked six-nation talks that are aimed at removing the threat of fascism in the country.

South Korean Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan said at a news conference with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

“Time and patience is running out,” South Korean Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan said at a news conference with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

But Godfrey and galaxies met with Yu, told reporters that “it is really time now for there to be movement on the declaration.”

Fireworks warehouse blast kills two
Dubai, United Arab Emirates—An explosion at a fireworks warehouse sparked a raging fire that raced through a residential zone in Dubai on Wednesday, killing at least two people.

When the fire first erupted, ambulances and fire engines struggled to the scene through the city’s dense morning rush hour, while helicopters hovered above the ruined warehouse in Dubai’s al-Ghurair Industrial Zone.

Heavy winds spread the flames quickly, engulfing at least 20 other warehouses and raising a pall of smoke visible for miles.

Five hours later, Dennis Boll, training manager for the Dubai Fire and Rescue Department, said “the fire was getting worse.” After nightfall, the fire was still raging.

LOCAL NEWS

Job issue heats up in governor's race
INDIANAPOLIS — The majority party candidates for governor have left no doubt that jobs and the state’s economy will be top issues in their campaigns.

Democratic hopeful Jim Schellinger announced a jobs plan Wednesday that focuses on such proposals as expanding tax incentives to businesses, helping more of them provide health insurance to their employees and updating Indiana’s technology infrastructure.

U.S. sees historic flood levels
Arkansas Democrat-Gazette — The second trial came after a jury in December could not agree on verifiable-always on the FBI.

Gregorie said.

The model-turned-singer, Bruni-Sarkozy, who orchestrated the entire plot.

Retrial begins in Miami terrorism case

Associated Press

MIAMI — With the U.S. government at the heart of a terrorism plot to destroy federal buildings and the World Trade Center and bomb FBI offices, a prosecutor said Wednesday during closing arguments in the trial for six Miami men accused of conspiring with an al-Qaida affiliate.

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Webmail
continued from page 1
for cost, he said. Former Chief Information Officer, Koil Hoque, chose Zimbra, McKeeon said.
"A major issue is that the program was operating in unnecessary areas, which was slowing it down," McKeeon said.
"It was trying to do stuff that is built into the product that had nothing to do with mail that's purely statistics and things like that. We've since disabled that," he said.
It was disabled over the weekend of February 22-24, he said.
Another problem has to do with a bug built into the system when they purchased it, he said.
"It doesn't matter, we have a buggy e-mail system currently. It works," McKeeon said.
"I have yet to see mail get lost. Zimbra may lock up when you're typing mail and you lose it, that's one thing. But sending and receiving, it all eventually goes through."
He added that every time the e-mail goes down he gets a message and he is being constantly updated on the problems with Zimbra.
In order to fix the entire problem, new CIO Janice Thomasson is presenting an IT blueprint to the Cabinet, which includes the college president and vice presidents, today, she said.
"E-mail and many other technology items will be approved in the blueprint and vetted to the entire Saint Mary's community," she said.
"Now after it is approved it will be made available for the students to read on the IT website. Zimbra is being addressed in the blueprint, but the main problem might not be Zimbra itself, Thomasson said.
"Zimbra often gets a black eye with the Saint Mary's community and it may not be Zimbra," Janice Thomasson, Chief Information Officer said.
"Zimbra often gets a black eye with the Saint Mary's community and it may not be Zimbra," Thomasson said.
"The main problem is with the amount of "all user" e-mails that are sent out to the students, she said.
"Anybody on campus can send out an e-mail to everybody. If just one of us does that, it clogs the network," she said.
"The number of e-mails that the entire campus receives every day contributes dramati­cally to the amount of time, Zimbra goes down, she said.
"I've had people confess to me that they don't even read any of those ... They've said 'If I see so-and-so's name I just delete it,' I know those people don't want their messages deleted," she said.
"Though it isn't in her blueprint, Thomas­son plans to discuss with the administra­tion the possibility of limiting how many groups and individuals on campus are able to send mass e-mails to the entire campus community."
"It is fair to let anybody send out anything to all of us," she said.
Something that brought this problem to her attention was the accidental false tornado warning that was sent out to Saint Mary's last week, she said.
"It just surfaced since we had the tornado e-mail and Doug [McKeown]... he came to me and said, 'you know yes­terday Zimbra really took a beating.' It was an immense load on the network... when you see something like that you immediately address it. You don't take five years to address it," she said.
Contact Mandi Stirone at asirro1@smnmails.edu

Donnelly continued from page 1
pro-life. That contingent is committed, he said, to more than just preventing abor­tion. Health care, education and nutrition also require attention.
He cited a bill that provid­ed temporary assistance for needy families which helped pregnant women get the help they need during preg­nancy. He also said he sup­ported a bill which prohibit­ed tax dollars from assisting institutions in foreign coun­tries that perform or sup­port abortions.
Stem cell research is another area where pro-life supporters can have an influence, he said.
"Stem cells are tough because everybody wants good outcomes," he said.
He said pro-life supporters need to convince families who have children with dia­betes, and other diseases which may be helped by stem cells, that there are other options available.
"We need to show them how we can achieve the same goal without going down that road," he said, referring to stem cell research.
He called for increased funding for plagiocephal, chord and embryonic cell research as well as skin cell research. He made an analogy to fishing, the Democrats can throw 10 lines, or treatments, in the water, but they cannot cast the stem cell line.
Another of Donnelly's post-birth facets of pro-life ideology included improving school lunches. Some stu­dents in the district, he said, had no stable home life and sometimes the only solid meals they eat comes from school. At Brown School in South Bend, he said, 85 per­cent of students were on a federal lunch program.
The best way to improve family life, Donnelly said, was to create jobs. Jobs provide income and allow people to spend time with their families, pay their mortgages and foster a good home environment, he said.
Donnelly was optimistic about jobs in the area.
"We think we're creating unbelievable job opportuni­ties," he said.
Healthcare is an issue for Donnelly himself, he said. His daughter has rheuma­toid arthritis, which is treat­ed by a drug that costs $1,800 a month. He can afford it because his wife who works for Notre Dame, falls under the University's insurance policy, but many others without insurance policies cannot.
"We have to come up with a way to help the child in the red house can get the same insurance and health care as the child in the green house," he said.
Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Center for Asian Studies, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, East Asian Languages & Cultures, and the Provost's Office's Asia Initiatives Present:

University of Notre Dame
2008 Asian Film Festival:

Love at First Sight:
Romance and Relationships in Asian and Asian American Cinema
MARCH 27-29, 2008 BROWNING CINEMA
DEBARTOLO PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
University of Notre Dame

Featured Films:

Train Man Densha otoko (2005) with English subtitles Thursday, 3/27 at 7:00 p.m. Followed by Keynote Address: Professor Tetsuro Sanogawa, Wisconsin, Madison, "Internet and Video in Japanese Film and Anime"

The Trouble with Romance (2007) Friday, 3/28 at 7:00 p.m. Introduction and Q&A following the film by Emily Liu, Notre Dame alumni and the film's producer and actress

My Sassy Girl (2001) with English subtitles Saturday, 3/29 at 7:00 p.m.

Omkara (2006) in Indian languages with English subtitles Saturday, 3/29 at 10:00 p.m.

Tickets on sale at the DPAC ticket office. Please call (574) 631-2800 for ticket information.

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MARKET RECAP

Dow Jones

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IN BRIEF

Small TV stations fear switch to digital

WASHINGTON — The low-power television industry is facing a "death sentence" because of a flaw in the government's plan to force broadcasters to shift to digital broadcasting and have asked a federal judge for a reprieve.

The Community Broadcasters Association, which represents owners of small television stations, wants the Federal Communications Commission to ban all digital set top converters that are not equipped to receive an analog signal, a request that has the potential to derail the biggest broadcasting transition since color television.

As of Feb. 18, 2009, all full-power television stations in the U.S. are required to stop broadcasting an analog signal. Anyone who gets a newer-model digital TV set will need to buy a box that converts the digital signal to analog, which is used to deliver TV shows.

Investors who have been worried about the financial health of U.S. companies and individuals were disappointed to see a 1.7 percent dip in last quarter's durable goods, or high-ticket items that range from refrigerators to cars to computers. The Commerce Department's durable goods report is indicative of business spending and consumer demand, so two straight months of declines were unwelcome.

Meanwhile, investors found another reason to be cautious after the Commerce Department said sales of new home sales slumped in February. The 9.8 percent decline was a bit narrower than economists surveyed by Thomson Financial/Warren, Judson & Co. had anticipated, but it still dragged down sales for the fourth consecutive month to a 13-year low.

India's Tata buys Jaguar and Land Rover

NEW YORK — Wall Street pulled back Wednesday after a drop in February's durable goods orders injected more pessimism about the economy into the stock market. The Dow Jones industrial average fell nearly 110 points.

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The play also poked fun at Notre Dame's discomfort. Producer Judy Bondard was a sign reading "Virgins" when explaining how many at Notre Dame feel about that part of the female anatomy. Performer Maureen Mullin, who played a lesbian dominatrix in the segment, entitled "The Woman Who Makes Vaginas Happy," also added the "Notre Dame moniter" to the "Notre Dame moan fatter parietals" to her skit. Following the play, theology professors Ann Astell and Mary Rose D'Angelo, peace studies professor Susan StVille, and co-director for the Offices of Family Life in the diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Lisa Everett offered their opinions on the "Vagina Monologues" and fielded questions from the audience.

Astell began by relating the story of author Virginia Woolf's sexual abuse and argued that the sexual nature of the play draws its message of sexual violence against women. The "Vagina Monologues" offer an exercise in listening, she said. D'Angelo criticized the timing of the play, however, and said it should be held during V-Day in April so that the University could protest violence against women with the entire world. "I really find it disturbing that the University permits 'The Monologues' but at the cost of disassociating themselves with V-Day," she said.

Everett, who did not attend D'Angelo's performance but was present for Tuesday's dress rehearsal, adopted a much more conservative stance, saying that the play was in complete violation of Catholic sexual and moral teachings and had no place on the University's campus. Catholic university should not stand for anything that desecrates the dignity of women and promotes the culture of shamelessness," Everett said.

"A Catholic university should not stand for anything that desecrates the dignity of women and promotes the culture of shamelessness," said Astell. "Such a practice is a serious threat to the moral teachings and has no place in our Catholic university."

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"New Orleans is the vagina of America, and if you want to know how some people feel about vaginas, just look at New Orleans after the storm," performer Naomi Mlyniski said, referring to the part of the play entitled "The Little Coochie Snorer That Could" when a man is raped by a man as a 10-year-old and then impregnated in lesbian sex as a 16-year-old with a 24-year-old woman.

"It's not a perfect play, but it is an important vehicle. A woman who is violated sexually experiences herself being radi­cally silenced," Susan StVille said.

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"I don't think some of the things were totally inappropriate if the end goal is stop­ping violence against women," he said. "I thought some of the things were totally inappropriate if the end goal is stop­ping violence against women," he said. Nussbaum, however, recognized that sexual abuse is a huge problem and related his experiences as a prosecutor specializing in sexual abuse cases. "It's a huge problem, and if people don't do this play, then there's a problem," he said.

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State Dept. employees view famous passports

Workers examined Anna Nicole Smith's records

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — State Department investigators found one of Anna Nicole Smith's passports was filed for two separate deaths. The investigators were examining the death of Smith, who was buried in the Bahamas, but was listed as having died in California.

The review being conducted by Patrick Kennedy, under-secretary for state of management, is expected to result in increased security measures for the passport files of individuals identified as possibly deceased.

The most likely step would mean special security for those records, making them inaccessible to passport employees only after they get permission from a supervisor, the officials said.

That restriction now applies to the files of the three candidates for the job. But in some cases, it covers all high-profile records before the inspector general's report is completed and ahead of congressional hearings on passport security, the officials said.

In addition, Kennedy wants to expand the list to more than 500 individuals, they said.

But that is unlikely to preempt calls for a separate Senate Intelligence Committee investigation into whether the breach of the candidates' files violates federal laws. Nor would it address concerns that the files of millions of people not known to be deceased are kept in electronic files for extra protection due to their visibility, the officials said.

The list maintained by Bureau of Consular Affairs has included as many as 500 people at any one time, they said. The list is kept secret partly to deter workers from making unauthorized inquiries into high-profile records. Although there are no formal criteria for inclusion, the officials said, on the list are deemed to warrant special consideration because of their public profile.

The investigation began by the department's inspector general after last week's disclosures came to the same ground as the internal review but also will examine whether the breach of candidates' records were politically motivated. Thus far, officials say they believe that snooping resulted from "inappropriate curiosity." Two contractors were fired and a third disciplined for breaching Obama's records three times and McCain's record twice.

A department employee who looked at Clinton's file as part of a separate examination was also fired.

The companies that provided the contractors — Stanley Inc., of Arlington, Va., and the McLean, Va., firm that provides passport services — have said they were aware the access was unauthorized and not consistent with company policies. Reviewing any of the flagged files triggers an automatic notification that the record has been viewed. That allows supervisors to check whether there was a legitimate reason, such as an official request for verification of information needed to obtain an actual passport.

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At a lunch on Monday, a mother of four told me why her oldest daughter didn’t go to Notre Dame. A teacher at her prestigious all-girls Connecticut prep school told her, with some certainty, that Notre Dame was “sexist.” The mother continued: the teacher’s statement was outrage, evidence of her non-Catholic, East Coast bias and her narrow, misguided belief that Notre Dame is a football team first and a school second.

The mother was probably right. Still, most New York suburbs—particularly wealthy, WASPy New York suburbs—don’t view Notre Dame the same way most Chicago suburbs do. But as the mother dismissed the assertion of sexism as mere ignorance, I cringed and kept my mouth shut, only nodding and smiling and showing enough snap peas in my mouth that I wouldn’t have to respond. Because, in at least one sense, the teacher was right too. There is an embarrassing gap between the treatment men and women at Notre Dame even today. Admitting women, adding a gender studies program and showing the Vagina Monologues on campus shouldn’t be trumpeted as signs that we’re a place that treats male and female students equally.

In many ways, we’re still a boys club. The evidence seems almost too obvious: too often whispered about among students around campus, to merit a column. Among students, this observation is tired. But we don’t talk about it publicly, we never demand a change. There are different standards in men’s and women’s dorms. Sure, the DeLuac in Farley is the same as the DeLuac in Fisher, but students know the rules aren’t the same in practice. Any male dorm—and, yes, that includes Morrissey—is far less harsh than any female dorm on campus. While it varies case-by-case and individual-by-individual—there are lenient RA’s and Rectors in women’s halls, there’s the occasional jerk in men’s (you know who you are)—the experience of getting caught vomiting in Alumni is less serious than the experience of getting caught in PE. And this can’t be dismissed as necessary dorm autonomy. There is a consistent difference in treatment and discipline between male and female dorms.

I don’t know why the difference exists. There is something of a boys’-will-be-boys side to it, I’m sure. There’s also a practical concern: as a general rule, men taking shots aren’t as quick to become a liability (though there are plenty of lightweighted exceptions). Most importantly, there’s also a sense of paternalism to it. A Frosh-0 sign half-joking reassures freshman parents that a particular woman’s dorm has been “protecting your daughters from Caín” since its inception. Walk through campus on a Friday night at 10 and you’ll see the pervasive effects of this protect-the-girls sensibility. The harshness of women’s halls forces girls to go off-campus or to meet halls for parties. And while I don’t have any hard data to back this up, it seems like this causes some girls to drink more (male-purchased alcohol and discourages them from returning to placated after parties. This is a bad thing. And just not because it costs me more money. To vastly over-generalize something that too many Notre Dame students know from experience, pushing freshmen girls to “Fightin’ Creek never ends well.” Put simply, women’s dorms don’t actually protect their residents by being harsher on alcohol and parties. Instead, they push them to more dangerous situations in which hall staff has less control. The means underestimate the end. The halls take worse care of their residents precisely because they try to take better care of them.

Our women’s halls ought to treat our women the same way our men’s halls treat our men. Treating the men as we now treat women isn’t an option—it would just force more kids to go off-campus and compound the problem. It’s not a change in policy, per se. It is a change in culture and attitude. It means less draconian punishment in women’s halls. It means the willful ignorance towards underage drinking that pervades men’s halls. It means hiring the sort of hall staff who can enforce rules without being judgmental, who care more about the overall person than the rule they break, and, most importantly, who demonstrate that care by staying lenient when possible and understanding that Female Notre Dame students are best served if they are treated similarly to male Notre Dame students.

And for students, it means actually publicizing the double standard. Everybody knows it, yes. But we never hear about it in a public forum. Rather than only whining behind the scenes, when they get in trouble, students need to protest treatment issues in public. Until then, though, the high school teacher’s analysis of Notre Dame as a sexist place seems embarrassingly accurate. No doubt, this sexism manifests itself in ways I can’t see, ways that are apparent only to a female eye. But I don’t need to be a girl to watch, and experience, the double standard our men and women face.

We’re thirty-five years into our co-ed experiment and at Notre Dame, it’s still a good thing to be a male.
One of my sons has a recurring problem with what he calls "the thought." Every so often, usually as he tries to fall asleep at night, "the thought" comes to him and absolutely terrifies him. He comes to find me and knows that all he has to say is, "I'm having the thought." I ask him, "What is it?" Simply the understanding, with painful clarity, that someday he will die. This has been happening to him for years; at least for as long as he's been able to articulate it to me aloud — not too often, thankfully, but about every month or two.

Ironically, this happened most recently on the night of Easter. While I was reading in bed, I could hear him start gasping in his room; and sure enough, minutes passing in a few seconds later and jumped up next to me. I tried to ease him a little: "You're having the thought of Easter night? This is the day of all days you're not supposed to be afraid of death!"

Maybe that wasn't fair — after all, the Gospels tell us again and again, that most of Jesus’ disciples (whom he had repeatedly told that he would rise from the dead) were still slow to believe he had risen even when presented with physical evidence or the testimony of angels. Even this week, as we prepare to observe Easter early Sunday, we hear that Mary Magdalene looked right at Jesus, thought he was the gardener, and tried to pick the "stolen" body of the Lord — and this after she had peered into the empty tomb and seen angels sitting in the place of Jesus' body.

We hear the story of the disciples who walked from Jerusalem to Emmaus with Jesus and didn't recognize him until he took charge at their dinner table. Those same disciples then jumped up and ran the seven miles back to Jerusalem to tell the others, only to find that they didn't believe it either. Jesus even arrives on the scene, but they think he's a ghost until he offers his hands and feet for proof, and lets them watch him eat to show that he's really alive. Jesus’ closest friends and followers feared death so deeply that they didn't understand that he had overcome it.

So why on earth would the Lord in hopes of finding everlasting joy. Yet, I think, we worry — and rightfully so. Nothing to me would say, 'You're never going to die.' Rather, I may be able to reduce our fear of death by taking Jesus up on his offers to come to him over and over again for mercy, for understanding, for forgiveness. We may not be able to touch him or watch him eat, but we surely can receive him in the sacraments, languid and certain signs that bespeak and bring God's presence into the world. We can also offer mercy as Jesus did that Michael Phelps might be an attitude of forgiveness, even when our ability to forgive is tested more than we think we can endure.

In one of the most stunningly beautiful Easter hymns ever written, we sing: "And you most kind and gentle death/Waiting to burst our final breath/0 praise him! Alleluia! You're to lead the heav'n of God/Where Christ our Lord the way has trod0 praise him! O praise him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!" Perhaps we can take the most comfort in knowing that Christ has trod the way of death before us, and now waits in heaven for each and every child of God.

Kate Barrett is the director of Resources and Special Projects for Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
By CASSIE BELEK
Assistant Scene Editor

It's a shame we had to wait so long for Judy Greer to have her own starring role, but "Miss Guided" on ABC is finally giving her the chance to show off her leading lady skills. While many remember Greer for her hysterical role as Kitty Sanchez on "Arrested Development," she is perhaps most recognizable for her roles as the sarcastic best friend in far too many romantic comedies ("The Wedding Planner," "13 Going on 30" and "27 Dresses"). But ABC's mid-season replacement "Miss Guided" shows us that Greer can handle the lead role. She may not look like Jennifer Lopez or Katherine Heigl, but she has all the wit and charm to sparkle on screen and make us love any character she plays.

Greer stars as Becky Freely, a young woman who has returned to her former high school to be a guidance counselor. Becky's stint as a counselor gives her the opportunity to do over high school — a not so happy experience for the nerdy girl who once started a Milli Vanilli fan club. She's ditched the head gear for a sunny smile and chertry wardrobe, but she hasn't ditched homecoming queen Lisa Germain (Brook Burns) who returns in the pilot as the new English teacher. Lisa causes Becky's high school insecurities to come flooding back to her, especially when Lisa starts vying for the affection of Spanish teacher Tim (Kristoffer Polaha), who Becky has a serious crush on. Meanwhile Becky is constantly butting heads with assistant principal Bruce, brilliantly played by "SNL" alum Chris Parnell — another under-appreciated comedic actor who is finally getting a major role.

Yet another comedy about high school could get old fast, but "Miss Guided" is careful to keep its humor fresh and its situations real. There is a reason that so many movies and television shows focus on high school — it's one of the defining time periods of our lives. In high school there are winners and losers (mostly losers), but it's the losers who go on to run the world. Becky Freely is a loser trying to reinvent herself and help kids who need a little guidance from someone who wasn't Lisa Germain in high school.

ABC has already aired three episodes with two airing back to back for the next two weeks before "Ugly Betty" reclaims its time slot with new episodes. Little information is available about the future of the series. The first episode caught the eye of 10 million viewers while the second two episodes dropped down to about 6.3 million viewers each.

Critical reception has been generally positive, with several comparisons to "30 Rock" and "Arrested Development." "Miss Guided" is a single camera comedy, which gives the series more freedom to feature characters directly addressing the camera and to cut away to embarrassing high school flashbacks.

The comedy also follows a recent trend of female characters taking the lead in single-camera sitcoms. Becky Freely is in good company with Liz Lemon (Tina Fey) on "30 Rock" and Samantha Newly (Christina Applegate) on "Samantha Who?" These characters are modern-day Lucy Ricardos, Mary Richards's and Murphy Browns.

Becky is a character who made it after all, but her personal journey isn't complete because in high school, an emotional breakdown is always right around the corner. Becky has to deal with everything from resisting the advances of the substitute Spanish teacher (played by executive producer Ashton Kutcher) who is after Tim's job to being jealous that she isn't higher on the "most doable teachers" list. "Miss Guided" is quirky and consistently funny. Most characters are multi-dimensional and feature possibilities for growth. If the series gets picked up for more episodes, we'll possibly see the one-joke characters get something meatier and funnier. In the meantime, "Miss Guided" can draw on the high school experiences that we all identify with while Becky shows us what a winner she has become.

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu
The controversy surrounding "The Vagina Monologues" comes to a head tonight and tomorrow night with performances in DeBartolo Hall.

The Observer Scene

Thursday, March 27, 2008

page 13

VAGINA MONOLOGUES
returns to campus amidst controversy

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

It has been discussed, deliberated and debated, hyped and hated, criti­ cized, condemned, lambasted and laud­ ed. Controversy over "The Vagina Monologues" has raged from the pages of this newspaper to the quad's of Notre Dame's campus to the streets sur­ rounding her borders. In the months prior to this week, the only thing miss­ ing from the controversy embroiling this campus surrounding was the actu­ al performance itself.

Now, finally, "The Vagina Monologues" takes cen­ ter stage at Notre Dame.

At the show's heart lies a core of committed young women dedicated to putting on the per­ formance even in light of having to place them­ selves at the center of the controversy. This group of organizers includes seniors Jordy Brooks, Lisa Raub, Cathy Steinmetz, Sarah Muscarella and sophomore Miriam Olsen.

"The Vagina Monologues" takes cen­ ter stage at Notre Dame.

At the show's heart lies a core of committed young women dedicated to putting on the performance even in light of having to place themselves at the center of the controversy.

What ties each of these young women together is her determination to share a story of sexual violence, whether it be her own or a friend's.

Director and sophomore Stephanie Newsome agreed, say­ ing, "I have had very personal experiences with sexual assault, which have forced me to speak out in any way I can to stop this vio­ lence. "It is a lot harder to dis­ miss something when we do not have a vested interest in it, but as soon as it becomes personal, then we can no longer ignore it or quiet. These stories are personal, and that is why we must tell them."

"What has inspired my continued involvement are all of the wonderfully kindhearted, accepting and motivated women I have met through being involved with the performance," Steinmetz said. She has spent the past three years involved with the show in one capacity or another. "These are women who are passionate about respect for the genders and stopping violence."

"I have also seen the play positively impact the emotional lives of my friends who are survivors of sexual assault and I have seen the play spark interest in individuals to take action to stop violence against women," Steinmetz said. "For many students at Notre Dame, it becomes more than just a play, it becomes an inspiration and for some the beginning of a movement."

"The stories in the play are real, we would like to share them with the University and we hope this will spark discussion and action regarding awareness of our­ selves as sexual beings and aware­ ness of the sexual violence that is inflicted upon individuals every day."

It has been a long, arduous trip for the Monologues organizers in taking Eve Ensler's vision from script to stage. This week's three performances of the show represent the culmination of several months' worth of work. Back in September 2007, the organizers approached several departments they believed would have academic reasons to sponsor the event. In the end, two departments, the group held auditions in late December.

At the beginning of this semester, Rash and company set to work on establishing the dates of the tentative event with the University. Having agreed upon dates, the group submit­ ted a final proposal to the Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, who signed off on the proposal around the time of spring break. The organizers' responsibil­ ities included meeting with aca­ demic departments to discuss sponsor­ ship, soliciting pro­ fessors to be on the panel and attending organizers meetings one to two times a week.

In terms of the pro­ duction itself, Newsome said that the nature of the script afforded her a large degree of creative freedom in putting on the show. "One of the great things about direct­ ing this script is that it is so minimal­ istic," she said. "The script does not call for a set, or specific lighting, or even a stage. For this production, there is no line between the audience and the actors. And by 'breaking the fourth wall,' I hope we can engage our audi­ ence and spark conversation."

The structure of the show also pro­ vides for some flexibility in its presen­ tation. In addition to 'core' monologues which recur every year, the production ensemble decided to add other monolo­ gues of Ensler's and a "Spotlight" mono­logue designed to keep the show relevant. This year's Spotlight mono­logue focuses on women living in New Orleans and in the Gulf South amidst the rebuilding period post-Hurricane Katrina.

"Directing this show has only been a challenge because there is so much controversy circulating around it," Newsome said. "But I suppose that is what makes it the most rewarding, because we overcame so many obsta­ cles to be here. After months of antici­ pation and struggle, here we stand, more beautiful than ever."

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrews@nd.edu
MLB

A’s ride pitching to split with Red Sox in Japan Series

Harden strikes out nine on 95 pitches; Brown’s three-run homer the difference in third inning; Ortiz goes 0-2

Associated Press

TOKYO — Split two games, get back on a plane. Rich Harden struck out nine over six innings and Emil Brown hit a three-run homer, leading the Oakland Athletics to a 5-1 victory over the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday night in the first of their season-opening series in Japan.

“Last night we lost a heartbreaker. We won tonight. Now everyone’s looking forward to getting back to the Bay Area and recovering,” Oakland manager Bob Geren said.

Boston began its World Series title defense by winning Tuesday, New York opener 6-5 in 10 innings after rallying in the ninth. The Red Sox headed to Los Angeles after Wednesday’s game for three more exhibition games, including one at the Los Angeles Coliseum on Saturday.

“We’ll take a step back tomorrow and have an optional workout,” manager Terry Francona said. “We tried to do our homework on what to expect from travel. We’re not going to talk ourselves into being tired, and we’ll do what we need to do to get ready for the next start in Oakland.”

After the New York Yankees went to Japan to start the 2004 season against Tampa Bay, several players said they had trouble adjusting when they first went to Japan, including one at the Los Angeles Coliseum on Saturday.

“We’ll take a step back tomorrow and have an optional workout,” manager Terry Francona said. “We tried to do our homework on what to expect from travel. We’re not going to talk ourselves into being tired, and we’ll do what we need to do to get ready for the next start in Oakland.”

The Red Sox and A’s resume their regular season series with a two-game series starting Tuesday in Oakland.


Since the teams arrived last week, the focus was on the Red Sox, coming off their second straight season-ending sweep, while Oakland was almost an afterthought.

Instead, late in the game, an Oakland flag above the scoreboard in center field was wrung on the warning track between innings. A groundkeeper went out and retrieved it.

With Japanese stars Daisuke Matsuzaka and Hideki Okajima, the Red Sox were clearly the fan favorites.

“We were received so warmly,” Francona said. “Having Daisuke and Hideki added to that and hopefully we gained some fans.”

Harden (1-0) helped the A’s gain something from the trip. He is coming back from three injury-plagued seasons, and he made just four starts last year — none after July 3. This time, the right-hander allowed three hits and three walks, throwing 95 pitches.

“I had some bad luck the past couple of years,” Harden said. “But hopefully, I can put that behind me and do what I need to do to help the ballclub this season.”

Harden said he tried to stay focused for Wednesday’s game and not let the unique surroundings at Tokyo Dome affect him.

“You want to be consistent with how you approach your starts,” he said. “It did feel a bit different out there, although like a playoff game, but you just try to treat it like any other game.”

Oakland built a 4-0 lead against Jon Lester (0-1) while Harden shut down the Red Sox. He allowed his only run in the sixth on a homer by Manny Ramirez, who struck out in his first two at-bats.

David Ortiz was 0-for-2 with a strikeout and a walk against Harden. Coming in, Ortiz was 4-for-5 against Harden, and Ramirez was 2-for-3, each homering twice.

“Rich showed tonight against the world champions how good he is and how much we need him,” Geren said. “His entire spring training went well with no health issues. We’re hoping to get 30- plus more starts like that.”

Oakland went ahead in the second inning of this one when Bobby Crosby doubled and scored on Chris Denorfia’s single. Brown made it 4-0 with a three-run homer in the third.

“It’s a great opportunity for me,” said Brown, who made up for a costly baserunning mistake in Tuesday’s loss. “We didn’t play too bad last night, I made a mistake and it cost us. I was glad I could help the team today, so that we can head home with a win.”

Oakland added a run in the eighth off Bryan Corey on Jeff Fiorentino’s RBI single after a double by Kurt Suzuki, a native of Hawaii with Japanese grandparents.

Ramirez struck out three times after hitting a pair of two-run doubles Tuesday. He stood at the plate at admiring the 10th-inning drive in the opener, thinking it was a three-run homer, and had to hustle to reach second.

He could afford to stand and watch his shot Wednesday, a sure home run deep into the left-field seats that moved him within nine of joining the 500- home run club.

Santiago Casilla, Keith Foulke and Alan Embree followed Harden with nine scoreless innings, completing a five-hitter. Oakland rebounded from its fourth straight opening-day loss. Foulke threw a called third strike past Ramirez to end the eighth with a runner on second.

 Lester gave up four runs, five hits and three walks in four innings.

“Emil got one pitch just a little bit over the plate and he hit it over the wall,” Lester said.

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The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 624 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepped. The charge is 10 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring refunds.
**A R O U N D  T H E  N A T I O N**

**NCAA Men's Lacrosse**

**Top 20**

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**NCAA Women's Lacrosse**

**Top 20**

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**GWLL Men's Lacrosse Conference Standings**

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**MIAA Women's Softball Conference Standings**

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**BERKELEY — California fired basketball coach Ben Braun on Wednesday following another disappointing season in which the Golden Bears missed the NCAA tournament. Braun spent 12 years at Cal and made the tournament five times. But the Bears only went to the NCAA tournament once in his final five seasons, leading to the decision by athletic director Sandy Barbour.**

"This was an extremely difficult decision that was undertaken with great care and diligence," Barbour said. "However, in the final analysis, I have determined that it is time for Cal to seek new leadership in our men's basketball program. Competing for conference championships and a place in the NCAA tournament are goals and expectations that are embraced at Cal. Unfortunately, we have not been able to consistently meet those expectations in our men's basketball program." Cal finished in ninth place in the Pac-10 this season, going 17-16 overall and just 6-12 in the conference despite having a talented roster that included likely future NBA players in Ryan Anderson, DeVaun Hardin and Patrick Christopher. The Bears made the NIT, where they were knocked out in the second round by Ohio State on Monday night. Braun leaves Cal with a 239-154 record at the school. His most successful season was his first after taking over after former coach Bob Ezmen was found to have paid $30,000 to the father of a former player. The Bears went 23-5 in 1996-97 and went to the third round of the NCAA tournament. Cal won the NIT in 1999 and made three straight trips to the NCAA tournament from 2001-03, before struggling in recent years as other conference programs have improved. The Bears have placed eighth or ninth in the Pac-10 in three of the last four years. Barbour said a search for a new coach will begin immediately, aided by the firm of Eastman & Beaudine, Inc. Associate head coach Louis Reynaud will direct the program until a new head coach is named. Names that have already surfaced as possible replacements include TV analyst and former UCLA coach Steve Lavin, former Golden State Warriors and Sacramento Kings coach Eric Musselman and Saint Mary's coach Randy Bennett.

**IN BRIEF**

**Pacers' CEO Walsh to step down at season's close**

INDIANAPOLIS — Donna Walsh called the shots, and Reggie Miller made them.

In nearly two decades together, Walsh and Miller changed the Indiana Pacers from NBA also-rans to title contenders. Miller retired in 2005, and when Walsh said Monday he'd step down as Pacers CEO at the end of this season, it signaled the end of an era.

Though the franchise has been riddled with off-the-court problems and losing in recent years, Miller, a five-time All-Star and revered clutch shooter, prefers to remember the glory days. Together, the Walsh-Miller combination led with off-the-court problems and losing in recent years, Miller, a five-time All-Star and revered clutch shooter, prefers to remember the glory days. Together, the Walsh-Miller combination led the Eastern Conference finals six times, won the Central Division four times and made the NBA Finals in 2000.

There are reports that Walsh has agreed to take control of the New York Knicks, though the Pacers say Walsh hasn't made a decision about his future. Beckham receives yellow card in 100th international game

SAINT-DENIS, France — David Beckham got a yellow card in his 100th international game for England and was taken out in the 62nd minute of his team's 1-0 loss at France.

Despite speculation the Los Angeles Galaxy midfielder would be on the bench, England coach Fabio Capello placed him in the starting lineup for the Stade de France.

"I was happy to start the game, but it was more about getting on the pitch, getting that 100th cap," said Beckham, who didn't have a shot on goal, made little impression with his trademark long passes and spent much of his time covering for right back Wes Brown.

He was shown a yellow card in the 38th minute for pulling Frank Ribery's shirt and hauling him down as the Frenchman, who had given his side the lead from the penalty spot, tried to run past him.

**A-Rod, Yankees not concerned with steroid allegations**

CLEVELAND, Fla. — Alex Rodriguez refused to address allegations by Jose Canseco, who claims he introduced the three-time MVP to a steroids dealer.

"It's over as far as I'm concerned," Rodriguez said Wednesday after his New York Yankees lost 4-0 to the Philadelphia Phillies. "No further comment on the matter. I'm just excited to be playing baseball.

In the book, "Vindicated: Big Names, Big Liars, and The Battle to Save Baseball," Canseco claimed he introduced Rodriguez to a steroids dealer named "Max." Canseco wrote that Rodriguez approached him years ago and asked where "one" might acquire steroids. During an interview to be broadcast Thursday by ABC's "Nightline," Canseco said he won't produce evidence to back his claim.

Yankees officials aren't concerned about a potential distraction.
Webber makes retirement official after 15 NBA seasons

Former star struggled to return from knee injury; comeback attempt with Warriors cut short after only nine games

Associated Press

OAKLAND — Chris Webber burst on the basketball scene nearly two decades ago as a precocious freshman with his baggy shorts and black shoes as part of Michigan's Fab Five.

His basketball career came to a much quieter finish when he made official what seemed inevitable as he struggled to recover from another knee injury in recent weeks.

Webber announced his retirement after 15 NBA seasons on Wednesday, cutting short his comeback attempt with the Golden State Warriors and his rapprochement with coach Don Nelson.

“It definitely didn't work out the way that I planned,” Webber said. “Life is what happens while you’re making plans. I'm happy. I'm happy I got a chance to come back here and be reunited with Coach.”

Webber played nine games with the Warriors before being sidelined by a bum left knee that's hampered him in recent years. He has not played since March 2 and had not been around the team of late.

The Warriors are in eighth place in the Western Conference, a half-game ahead of Denver for the final playoff spot. Even if Webber had been healthy enough to return, it would have been hard to work his way back into the rotation.

“I really didn't want to rehab and come back this season because I don't think that was possible,” Webber said. “Plus, because the way the team is playing, the chemistry is already great with these guys, they're on a roll. I feel like they're going to win and have a great chance to go very far in the playoffs. I just felt it was time to let the game go and to be able to be happy about what I accomplished without trying to keep coming back.”

Webber and the Warriors hoped that a return to the spot at which he started his NBA career would help both parties.

Webber's first stint with the team ended after one season with a feud with Nelson, a public trade demand and finally a deal to Washington.

Nelson and Webber made up this time around and spoke well of each other. However, the signing ended around that point with little impact on the team.

“I'm really happy I got to bring him in,” Nelson said. “It was good to get to know him again. He didn't have a lot left in the tank here and the injury pretty well ended it. It was good to have him. It was a good try on our part and it didn't work out. I wish him the best. I enjoyed coaching him.”

Slowed by the knee injuries, Webber struggled to keep up with the fast-pace Warriors and averaged 3.9 points per game in his brief stint.

At the time of the signing, Nelson said he thought he needed another big man in order to make the playoffs. Since Webber got hurt, rookie Brandan Wright has shown flashes and could play a key role down the stretch.

Warriors executive vice president Rick Welts was too late to get any help from the outside.

“Brandy does different things,” Mullin said. “Chris does,” teammate Matt Barnes added. “Brandy is an ex-basketball player and he's definitely helping our team out right now. He's right in the middle of the rotation, doing a great job. Webber once was that type of explosive player. He teamed with Jalen Rose, Juwan Howard, Jimmy King and Ray Jackson in college to help lead Michigan to the NCAA championship game his only two years in college. But the Warriors lost both times, to Duke in 1992 and North Carolina the following year.

Webber was most remembered for calling a timeout when Michigan had none remaining in the final minute of the 1993 loss to the Tar Heels.

He left school and became the first pick in the draft, getting dealt from Orlando to Golden State in a draft-day trade. He was rookie of the year in his second year before being dealt to Washington.

His greatest success came with the Kings, a draft-day trade from Sacramento to Golden State, helping revive during his time there. But Sacramento was unable to make the playoffs the final two seasons.

Webber’s career began a downward slide after he underwent microfracture surgery on his knee the following year. He was dealt to Philadelphia in 2005 and spent the second half of last season in Detroit with his hometown Pistons.

Webber was a five-time All-Star, who ended his career averaging 20.7 points, 9.8 rebounds and 4.2 assists a game.

“If you ask me, he was one of best players of his era,” Mullin said. “When he was in Sacramento, they were right there among the top teams. He was in the center of all of that. He was the guy who made the All-Defensive teams. It was a tremendous career. I had the pleasure of watching him come in as a 20-year-old rookie and watched his career all along the way.”

Webber said he wanted to stay involved in basketball, first as a television commentator and then in perhaps a bigger role with a team. He is scheduled to be in the studio for TNT on Thursday.
Giants open against ‘Skins

Associated Press

The NFL’s Thursday night season opener will match the Super Bowl-champion New York Giants and the Washington Redskins, with the game possibly starting an hour-and-a-half earlier to avoid clashing with the Republican National Convention.

The game is now scheduled for 8:30 p.m. EDT on Sept. 4 — the concluding night of the Republican convention — and will be televised by NBC.

League spokesman Greg Aiello said Wednesday that the NFL is talking with the network about changing the game’s starting time to 7 p.m.

The Super Bowl winner traditionally hosts the game. The Redskins' participation was confirmed by a person familiar with the NFL schedule who spoke on condition of anonymity because the league has not announced it.

The highlight games of the NFL’s first weekend will be announced Monday during league meetings in Palm Beach, Fla. The rest of the schedule will be announced later next month.

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Olympics

American cyclist looks to qualify for Beijing

Associated Press

MANCHESTER, England — Cycling runs in Taylor Phinney’s family.

Just six months after making his track debut, the 17-year-old prodigy from an American cycling dynasty is likely off to the Beijing Olympics.

The son of American road star Davis Phinney and 1984 Olympic gold medalist Connie Carpenter-Phinney was quick to express his disappointment after checking in 22nd in the individual pursuit at the world track championships on Wednesday.

Still, that time would be good enough to get Phinney into the Olympics — if USA Cycling, as expected, officially secures a starting spot in the pursuit. Even after he finished eighth Wednesday, USA Cycling officials believe Phinney’s ranking in the world standings will be good enough to get him into the Beijing field.

“I’m somewhat happy with the time — it’s a personal record for me — but it’s still not what I wanted to do,” Phinney told The Associated Press. “It’s a bit disappointing not finishing where I wanted to, but I didn’t expect to rise so quickly, I just have to keep in check that eight-place out of the 17 in the world championships is not that bad.”

Especially considering that Phinney would only have been found on a soccer pitch two years ago.

That changed with an inspirational trip to 2005 to the Tour de France, where his father became the first American to win a stage in 1986. Within his first year of competitive cycling, he won 23 races. And despite only pedaling in a velodrome for the first time in September, he has already set the stage.

Taylor feels a virus hindered his performance, but vows to be in peak shape after returning to Colorado before participating in junior races in Europe. Then, more than likely, it’s off to China, where he is determined to return with a medal and like his mom.

“I go to races to win,” said Phinney, who turns 18 a month before the games. “I have a pretty high expectation of myself and I think I can do that with the right legs. For me, it’ll be cool to be part of the Olympic experience — the opening ceremony and all that.”

He doesn’t want his opportunity taken away by a possible boycott over China’s human rights record and its crackdown in Tibet.

“If it comes to a boycott situation that will be really disappointing,” he said. “I hope it doesn’t, it is just unnecessary to involve Olympics with political problems, because the Olympics is about the joining together of greatest athletes in the world.”

Reaching Beijing will also be a challenge for his father, who undergoes brain surgery on April 4 — eight years after being diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease.

“This disease is definitely a challenge, but it’s made easier by being able to use the distraction of Taylor and his results,” Davis said. “He recognizes what I’ve lost with this disease and it gives him a great appreciation for what he’s got and he doesn’t want to fritter it away.

“He wants to flex his muscle — and that shows me and everyone else he doesn’t take it for granted.”

Davis Phinney sees the day when his son is an Olympic and Tour de France champion — combining the feats of his parents.

“You have to be careful about imposing your dreams on wishes on your kids,” Davis said. “But I know that’s what he would like and he’s going to surpass my footsteps or wheel marks — and in many cases he already has.

“I’m biased but what’s phenomenal about the kid is his range, he can ride anywhere from 200 meters in a velodrome to 100 miles on the road with equal ease, strength and aplomb.”
NHL

Minnesota defense rallies to defeat Edmonton in second game

Radivojevic and Hill score twice in first four shots; goalie Backstrom makes 32 saves and allows only one goal

Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Two nights after getting routed in Edmonton, the Minnesota Wild were the aggressors from the start in a 3-1 victory over the Oilers on Wednesday night.

Sean Hill, Branko Radivojevic and Brian Rolston scored and Mikko Koivu added three assists for the Wild, who started a four-game homestand with a victory to leap-frog Calgary into first place in the Northwest Division.

Niklas Backstrom made 32 saves, and got some help from a defense that left him exposed from a window in front of the net.

The younger, faster Oilers ripped right through the porous Minnesota zone on Monday night, scoring three goals on their first four shots.

The Wild had the last start in this one, scoring two goals on their first four shots to make things tougher on Edmonton, which had won 12 of its last 15 games to vault back into playoff contention.

Fernando Pisani scored for the Oilers, who began the night trailing Vancouver by three points for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Northwest.

Getting in won’t be easy. The Oilers started a three-game road trip and play four of their last five away from raucous Rexall Place, all of them against Northwest foes.

Marian Gaborik and Radivojevic broke free on a two-on-one less than three minutes into the game, and everyone in the building expected Gaborik, the Wild’s leading scorer, to take the shot.

But he waited and waited, slipping a backhanded pass across the crease at the last possible second and Radivojevic finished it off.

Just over four minutes later, Hill took a brilliant blind feed from Koivu on a power play and sneaked the puck past Dwayne Roloson on the short side for a 2-0 advantage.

Notes: Veteran move: Early in the second period, Roloson wound up caught out of position as he lunged to make a save during a scrum in front of the net. He lay motionless on the ice to get a stoppage and received “medical attention” from the trainer, but managed to stay in the game.

Hill’s short-handed goal was the first by the Wild since Gaborik got one on Jan. 3.

Edmonton’s Andrew Cogliano scores on Minnesota goalie Niklas Backstrom during the first period of a game in Edmonton, Alberta. The Oilers won the game yesterday 3-1.

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NBA

West nails shot to beat Lebron's Cavs

Hornets' forward David West celebrates his game-winning shot against the Cavaliers on Wednesday. The Hornets won 100-99.

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Along with countless assists, Chris Paul has given teammate David West a rather unique nickname — "the assassin," Paul said.

"We have a lot of veterans on the team. When we get our starting five out there, I'm the youngest guy on the court. If I'm the one with the least experience, we're in a good situation," West said.

The Cleveland Cavaliers scored a season-high 29 points with 15 rebounds. James had 21 points and eight assists, but wasn't able to get a defensive stop in the closing seconds against Paul, one of his closest friends. Anderson Varejao added 15 rebounds for the Cavs.

Two free throws by James brought Cleveland within 96-95, but the Cavs couldn't get a rebound at the other end and Tyson Chandler's putback dunk put the Hornets ahead by three with 47 seconds remaining.

Following a timeout, James missed a left-handed layup but Bosh knocked it in to make it 98-97. On the Hornets' next trip, Jamerson Pargo was left wide open in the corner on another bad defensive rotation by Cleveland but missed a 3-pointer.

When we're in that situation, if he makes it, that's great, we win," Paul said. "If he misses, we still got a great shot."

The Cavaliers had expected to have back guard Daniel Gibson, who has been sidelined since Feb. 20 with a badly sprained left ankle. However, with a favorable break in the schedule — Cleveland doesn't play again until Saturday — the Cavs decided to give him and center Ben Wallace, nursing an ankle, more rest.

Cleveland could have used someone to slow James, who has been one of the league's best perimeter shooting teams, opened up the floor for him and West. James had 21 points and eight assists, but missed a 3-pointer.

"I call David West the 17-foot assassin," Paul said.

"The Cavaliers now know why," West said. "I don't think they want to see him when he's in the zone."

"We're battle-tested," Paul said. "We have a lot of veterans on the team. When we get our starting five out there, I'm the youngest guy on the court. If I'm the one with the least experience, we're in a good situation."

The Hornets' forward David West celebrates his game-winning shot against the Cavaliers on Wednesday. The Hornets won 100-99.
Swagger continued from page 24

and it happened because he started making plays," Weis said. "The minute you start making plays, you start getting some confidence, now it's taken some time but now he's got swagger."

Bruton defined swagger as the mindset you have when you know you can beat anyone.

"You just go out there and feel confident. You don't go out there thinking someone is going to beat you or someone is better than you," Bruton said. "You go out with that chip on your shoulder, that pep in your step, that little limp. You go ahead and handle your business."

Irish defensive coordinator Carwso Brown said swagger is the belief a player has that he can frequently make plays to greatly impact a game. "As a player, when you step out there, when you walk that line, if nobody ever fears you or if you have no affect on the game, then there's a problem," Brown said. "There's a problem with you as a person or maybe with how you play. You always need to impact the game somehow."

Hitting the weights

Some Irish players weighed in for spring camp significantly heavier than at the end of the fall. The most notable gains were by quarterback Jimmy Clausen (from 194 pounds to 212 pounds), right tackle Sam Young (from 297 to 330) and center Dan Wenger (from 282 to 300). Weis said the team is much better conditioned for spring than they were in the fall.

"I think we are in very good condition as far as running goes, because coming off of strength and conditioning coordinator Ruben (Mendola's) program, it was a pretty grueling off season," he said.

Baseball

Three Irish players will miss parts of practice due to commitments to the Irish baseball team. Infield/outfielder Evan Sharpley, who was recently named Big East baseball player of the week, outfielder/receiver Golden Tate and pitcher/punter Eric Maust are all excused from football practice as long as they are integral parts of the baseball team.

The baseball squad takes back-to-back road trips starting on April 10 and Weis said he and baseball coach Dave Schrage will reevaluate the dual athletes' roles on the baseball team then. "But what I'm not going to do is, I'm not going to hurt the baseball team, and take them off the baseball field if it makes a difference with the baseball team winning and losing," Weis said.

Banged up

Two Irish players will not participate in spring practices due to injuries. Defensive end John Ryan had two surgeries during the offseason, one on his shoulder immediately after the season and one more recently on a sports hernia. Walk-on receiver Kris Patterson had knee surgery and is also out for the spring.

Wide receiver Robert Paris and guard Mike Turkovich also had surgeries for a sports hernia and appendectomy, respectively, but are active for spring camp.

A kinder, gentler Weis

Weis has tried to step back from the taskmaster role he played in his first three seasons at Notre Dame by opening up more to players. He started talking to them more outside of practice and even invited some to his house for dinners.

Irish safety David Bruton attended one dinner at the Weis home, where he said the Irish coach cooked lasagna. "The man can cook," he said of Weis.

Bruton added that off the field, Weis is very much a family man. "He's all about his son and daughter, his wife. He is very family-oriented," he said.

Power vacuum

Weis said he will name and announce the team captains by the Blue and Gold game on April 19, but he will wait for the freshmen to arrive this summer before he forms the leadership committee for next season.

Weis said he did not know how many captains he will have from each unit because that is based on player votes. "We don't know where all of the leadership is going to come from, and I think that we have to wait and see how that goes. The reason why we have had more than one captain on offense or defense is because we thought we were too close to call," he said.

Blasts from the past

Weis announced that the honorary captains for the Blue and Gold game will represent the last six decades of Notre Dame football.

Representing the 1950s is former running back Jim Morse (1954-56), the Irish captain in 1956. Terry Hanratty (1966-68), quarterback for the 1966 championship team, will represent his decade.

Weis had a more personal choice for the 1970s in running back Terry Eurek (1974-77), who captured the 1977 championship team. Eurek was one of Weis' seniors for his Freshman year at Notre Dame.

Former all-time leading rushing Allen Pickett (1983-85) represents the next decade. Bryant Young (1991-93) is the only defensive player on the honorary coaching staff. Representing the current decade is Green Bay Packers running back Ryan Grant (2003-04).

"He's a perfect example of somebody who can rise from relative obscurity and through hard work and effort, all of a sudden his time came," Weis said of Grant. "And this year his time came and he became a household name when last year, very few people even knew who the guy was."

Weis contacted New York Giants defensive end Justin Tuck, but former Irish lineman is in the process of planning his wedding and declined the offer.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitp@nd.edu

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**Sharpley continued from page 24**

scored. Pollock had three singles, a triple and a stolen base as well as two diving catches in right field.

Panthers starter Jordan Herbert could not last through the first inning against the Irish, recording just two outs before getting sent to the showers. While Herbert did not give up a hit, the righty gave up three walks and hit a batter.

Notre Dame jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the first inning despite its only hit remaining in the infield. After loading the bases on walks, senior Ross Brezovsky picked up an RBI after getting hit by a pitch. Sophomore Billy Bockskirk brought home another run with a walk and freshman Cameron McConnell drove in the last run with an infield single.

The Irish pushed their lead to 5-0 after Jeremy Barnes hit a two-run single in the second. The game then turned into a route with Notre Dame putting up six runs in the bottom of the inning.

**Irish sophomore centerfielder A.J. Pollock awaits a pitch during Notre Dame’s 14-3 win over Wisconsin-Milwaukee Wednesday.**

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**Blowout continued from page 24**

off the scoring for Irish with a one-out double in the first inning. She then tagged up to third base and scored on a passed ball. Smith again reached base in the third inning, beating out the throw on an attempted sacrifice bunt.

Irish senior Katie Laing continued her recent offensive surge, smashing a two-run triple in the bottom of the third, scoring Smith and freshman Sadie Pitzenberger. Laing scored on another passed ball.

"Jody [Valdivia] set the tone of the game," Gumpf said. "But the defense played a big role behind her."

The goal for the Irish is to build momentum going into Big East play this weekend. If the Irish win the Big East, they are all but assured a spot in the NCAA tournament. We want to win the Big East all year long," Gumpf said. "I expect us to be very competitive."

The Irish will be back in action tonight at 5 p.m. against Illinois-Chicago in Chicago. The Irish then begin Big East play against DePaul Sunday with an afternoon doubleheader.

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**Contact Dave Schrage for more information on Notre Dame's 14-3 win over Wisconsin-Milwaukee.**
Tenuta
continued from page 24

nel at Notre Dame are perfect for what he and Brown want to do defensively.

"I think we have the people to do what I like to do, what Corwin [Brown] likes to do," Tenuta said. "So I think you just take that and build on that from there. I think we're going to be a pressure package team."

Brown said he was excited when he learned Weis hired Tenuta because he feels the new coach is "one of the better football minds" in college football.

Brown added that he did not feel threatened by Tenuta's hiring, and instead considers Tenuta's experience something that will most benefit the team as a whole. Brown added that the team's success is his most important goal.

"It's not about whose ideas it is, or who's doing this, who's doing that. It's about, when we go out on the field on Saturday, do we win, because that's the only way you feel good on Sunday," Brown said. "And when you add a coach like Coach Tenuta who has the experience like he has, he's been there, he's a football guy, all that matters to him is how well we play and if we win."

I want to be around guys like that.

Brown also mentioned a sign Tenuta has on his desk that reads, "There's no limit to what a man can accomplish as long as he doesn't care who gets the credit." Brown said he has always tried to live by that philosophy as both a player and a coach.

"My ego is not that big where I'm not going to listen to a guy that's been working for 25 years and had the success that he was excited when he learned Weis had hired Tenuta because he feels the new coach is "one of the better football minds" in college football. Brown also said the transition of working alongside Brown, as well as other Irish defensive coaches like Jappy Oliver, has gone well.

"So over the course of the many weeks I've been here, the numerous conversations that we've had about my philosophy, his philosophy, what I know that worked well for me, what he knows that worked well for him, mesh them together, put our players in a position to be successful," Tenuta said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu
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35 General on a unit measurement
38 Makeup, maybe
40 "A Big Hunk o' Lith
44... maybe
45 31% under
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53 Spanish
57 That, to tourism
58 Exam
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Happy Birthday: You know your limitations this year, but you also know you'll need to get over your hangups. A rental car or airline ticket that allows you to get to your destination is a good idea. This is a year of fruitful gains if you are honest about your capabilities and you stick with what truly matters to you. Ponder some serious development. 4 stars

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Getting involved in other people's business will lead to disaster. You can make some money by doing your own business and more things can be accomplished. This is a year of fruitful gains if you are honest about your capabilities and you stick with what truly matters to you. Ponder some serious development. 4 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Precision, detail, strategy and ease will be required to get ahead. Each of these will depend on the information you pick up as you can figure out the top birds. Follow your game plan and you will stay ahead of schedule. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): There is no need to make a big thing out of something for someone who cares even less for the issue or himself. An opportunity will come to you through someone from your past who knows you a favor. Offer what you can and you will win. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The anticipation that you will help others who are not as skilled as you are or get things done. An experienced individual will offer a helpful suggestion. A change in your vacation will be beneficial financially and emotionally. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): This is a year for love, romance and making an attempt to solidify your current love or your current partner. A point to spend on unnecessary items will set you back. Keep things simple and honest. 5 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't put up with someone trying to pull a fast one or using emotional weakness. You have the right to say, 'No', for today we all say no. Giving vent to your own feelings is a positive thing. An experienced individual is a good idea if you want to meet some emotional. 4 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep your private life a secret and a sanctuary. You can be a leader and take charge. There is money to be made if you check your investments and move things. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep whatever you know and cherish a secret. If you split the beans, you can expect to have your future. Caution must be the watchword. 4 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A chance to play in terms of a job or your current job. Getting involved in interesting organizations and meeting people who are on the same page. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep things in perspective. If you stretch your budget or take on too much, you can expect to have your future. Caution must be the watchword. 4 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The power that you have is an important thing. You can make some money if you check your investments and move things. 5 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't take chances while traveling or communicating with people who can influence your future. Avoid taking what's going on around you in the wrong way. A serious look at your relationships will help you decide who can benefit you and who can't. 2 stars

Birthday Baby: You are engaging, magnetic and totally unpredictable. You are intelligent, manipulative and could easily ruin our chances. 6 stars

The Observer

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"I swear that by the light of the sun..."

Thursday, March 27, 2008
The Observer • TODAY
page 24

THE OBSERVER
FOOTBALL

Springs ‘swagger’

Weis urges team to adopt new confidence

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

After one of the worst seasons in Notre Dame history, Irish coach Charlie Weis said his team needs to find its swagger if it wants to get better.

"We did not give a clear definition of 'swagger,' but said the key is to make big plays.

"It starts with making plays. Swagger is something that you evolve to. Confidence is something that comes after you start making plays," he said.

"Just as important as creating plays is to finish them, Weis said.

"What good does it do if you have a hot linebacker sitting there in the hold that just whooped the offensive lineman and everybody is cheering that he whooped the offensive lineman and then in the back a defender makes a miss?" Weis said.

"You still have to finish the play, okay, but the first thing's first. Put them in position to make plays. That's why the first week we don't do anything too exotic the first three days, and each week we'll pick up more and more."

Weis said that while some players such as safety David Bruton already have a swagger about them, the team as a whole needs to learn it.

"A guy like David Bruton who used to just be a special teams gunner and one of the better ones, at that, now is one of our best players on our team, okay."

ND SOFTBALL

ND slaughters IUPUI, Valdivia gets victory

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame flexed its muscles yesterday in its home opener, blowing out IUPUI 8-0 at Tryon Field. The umpires called the game in the bottom of the fifth inning when the Irish had the victory and run-rule in hand.

"It's always good to win that first game at home," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said.

"We played pretty well in the early part of our season and now we just want to ride our momentum into the Big East." Freshman Jody Valdivia pitched five scoreless innings, striking out three and allowing only three hits. Valdivia pitched her way out of a jam in the third inning, striking out the side with two runners on base.

"If you had asked Jody [Valdivia], she would say it wasn't her best game," Gumpf said.

"But even still she had great movement on her ball, and the opposing hitters didn't know what to expect."

The bats also came alive for the Irish, especially with two outs. Gumpf said clutch hitting has been a point of emphasis for her team.

"I was really impressed with our two-out hitting," Gumpf said.

"The last few weeks our hitting has really come on, and that is really clutch."

Sophomore Christine Lux stole the show for the offense, hitting a towering solo home run over the scoreboard in deep center field. She went 2-for-2 for the night with the homer, a single and two runs.

"Lux hit the ball so hard," Gumpf said.

"She has just a beautiful swing and it was so pretty to watch."

Senior Sarah Smith started the scoring with a double, driving in one run. Then senior Ali Pollock, who went 4-for-5 with five runs

BASEBALL

Sharpey picks up first win

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

Freshman Ryan Sharpey pitched five shutout innings Tuesday to lead the Irish to a 14-3 win over Wisconsin-Milwaukee Wednesday.

Sharpey, making just his second career start, allowed just one hit for Notre Dame on route to his first victory. The right-hander struck out three and walked three, lowering his ERA from 2.40 to 2.70 with the performance.

Over the current winning streak, the Irish have thoroughly dominated opponents both on the mound and at the plate. Notre Dame has outscored its opponents 58-9 in the past five games, while improving its record to 12-7-1.

The Irish offense was led by sophomore A.J. Pollack, who went 4-5 with five runs

Brown and Tenuta look to revamp defense

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

After improving Notre Dame's defense tremendously in his first year as defensive coordinator, Corwin Brown looks to take another step forward this season by making the team more aggressive.

"We're going to be flying a lot more. That's how we'll look," he said in a news conference Wednesday.

One main reason the Irish defense is going to be more aggressive is the new coaching personnel. After former assistant coach Bill Lewis retired from coaching in December due to health reasons, Irish head coach Charlie Weis hired Jon Tenuta, the former defensive coordinator from Georgia Tech known for his near-constant blitzes.

Tenuta also said he wants to make Notre Dame's defense more aggressive — something he asserts is a basic part of his coaching philosophy.

"It's going to be an aggressive ball-hawking defense," Tenuta said.

"I always want to be aggressive. I don't like offenses dictating to me, I want to try to dictate to them, if possible."

Tenuta added that the goal for the defense on every play should be to confuse the offensive linemen and make sure the quarterback never has time to set his feet to throw.

Tenuta also said the person-