Panel divided over ‘Monologues’
Professors, bishop’s representative discuss sociological implications of controversial play

By MADELEINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

A panel discussing the sociological implications of "The Vagina Monologues" followed the second production of Eve Ensler's controversial play Thursday in DeBartolo 101 and incorporated the views of Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy through a representative.

Opponents continued to protest the play after 20 to 30 students who walked out of Wednesday's performance, and greeted the attendees by banding them religious medals and a copy of D'Arcy's condemnation of the show.

The panel was composed of Lisa Everett, D'Arcy's representative and co-director of the Office of Formation of the Catholic Family in Fort Wayne-South Bend, sociology professor Jessica Collett, anthropology professor Carolyn Nordstrom and political science professor Christine Wolbrecht.

Everett, the only member of the panel who also appeared after Wednesday's performance, echoed D'Arcy's sentiments regarding the "Monologues" and restated many of the same points she made the previous night.

In a six-page statement released on March 12, D'Arcy said allowing the play on campus "...is not consistent with the identity of a Catholic university" and said the play was

ND student reports rape
Female claims sexual assault in dormitory

By BILL BRINK
News Editor

A female student reported an alleged sexual assault to Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP) on March 23, NDSP assistant director Dave Chapman said.

The police report on NDSP's crime blotter listed the offense as "rape.

According to Chapman, the alleged assault took place in a residence hall late Friday night or early Saturday morning. The student reported the incident to authorities Saturday, he said.

The suspect was an acquaintance of the student Chapman said, and was invited to the student's room.

NDSP would not say whether the suspect was a student or in which dorm the alleged assault occurred. For privacy reasons, NDSP would not say whether the victim was taken to the hospital or received medical attention.

"The case is continuing and being investigated," Chapman said.

The alleged sexual assault case is the first of its kind reported to NDSP this year, Chapman said.

In an email sent to students after the interview, NDSP reported that "The student reported that the assault was committed by a male acquaintance that was an invited guest in the student's residence hall room."

Contact Bill Brink at wrinbk@nd.edu

Panel examines local effects of immigration

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

Panelists said deporting illegal immigrants had a negative effect on the South Bend community Wednesday in DeBartolo Hall.

Panelists examined the issue from the perspectives of religion, healthcare, law, education and economics.

Senior economics major Jamie Grebowski's summer research project, which examined the economic impact of undocumented workers in South Bend, started after immigrant parishioners of St. Adalbert's Parish were deported in immigration raids.

Grebowski, along with other researchers, surveyed 62 immigrants, 40 of whom were undocumented. Their survey was based on the tactics of adults in the community according to assets such as labor income, consumer goods purchased and taxes paid. The survey also looked at benefits they receive from government programs such as welfare.

A survey average of $4,000 a month per individual is going into the community from undocumented workers, he said.

The study ultimately concluded that the deportation of undocumented immigrants negatively affects South Bend's economy.

"Deporting undocumented workers is economically harmful to South Bend. We established that, in total, the immigrant population contributes between $2 million dollars and about $10.5 million to the community," Grebowski said.

Manager of Memorial Hospital's Hispanic Initiative

see PANEL/page 4

ND-8 simulates poverty
Group sponsors dinner to raise awareness on campus of world hunger

By LINDSAY SENA
News Writer

World poverty awareness group ND-8 tried to simulate experiences of those living in extreme poverty by dividing students into different socioeconomic groups during the second annual Hunger Banquet Thursday in the Coleman-Morse Center.

"We are here because 1.2 billion people live in extreme poverty, surviving on less than $1 a day," freshman Cohen Halloran said.

ND-8 officer Christie Hannon, who was the chief planner of the Hunger Banquet, said she hoped students left the banquet with a "better awareness of the reality of the people that live in poverty, and also an appreciation of what we have."

see DINNER/page 6
INSIDE COLUMN

Lost in Harry Potter

It's 9 p.m. on Thursday and I'm watching Xander take my bracelet and light it on fire by losing to West Virginia with two minutes left. The only explanation: 'Lost' isn't on this week.

I came to the realization that many of the characters lives in 'Lost' have alter-egos in 'Harry Potter'. Jack is Harry Potter, gone down, like Harry, one goal, to get off the island at all costs, motivates him throughout the series. For 14 years, a 101,000 know it the whole time, but his goal is to destroy Voldemort. Both are misunderstood by their friends at times, and both plug the voice of reason in their respective settings.

My favorite character on 'Lost', Ben, is clearly Snape. Is he good or bad? Ben once guarded the entire island; Snape was once a Death Eater. One second Ben is shooting people in the back, the next, he's dividing secrets to Locke. Nothing Snape does is selfish and it's impossible to interpret the motives or ends of his actions. Are his occlumency lessons intended to protect Harry from Voldemort or widen his mind so the Dark Lord can get easy access? Difficult questions, and like Snape in the books, I don't think we'll find out Ben's motives and goals until the end of the series.

The gaussian cloud of death has to be Voldemort before he got his body back, if only for the physical likeness. The implau- sibility of both also links them. Where does a cloud of gas come from an island in the south Pacific? How did one-seventh of Voldemort's soul survive to float around in Albania for 14 years? Urn blood? I'm not buying it.

Xavier just forced overtime. Ballin. Juliet has got to be Cho. She's not right for Jack in the same way as Cho wasn't right for Harry. Jack's only with her to tick off Kate for sleeping with Sawyer. Soap opera-esque drama aside, it's the truth.

Jacob, the invisible voice in the shack that only Ben can talk to, is the Dumbledor of the island. I don't know what it is? It, but I do know that it known everything it wants to know. Ben is right about far too many things for Jacob not to be. Likewise, it's Dumbledor's always Severus steps ahead of everyone else and know the outcome of events, as well as their causes, before they happened.

Locke is Malfoy, an impudent little brat whose got past climbing into a hole he doesn't know how to get out of. Just like Malfoy failed to kill Dumbledor, Locke couldn't discern what Ben knew, what the Dharma Initiative was, or why the people from Whitman's boat are there.

There are some other possibilities. Hurley as Neville? (Invisibility. Jim as Krumm? (Tough times with English. Sawyer as Cedric Diggory? (Athletic ladies' man).)

In Harry's absence, I'll continue to make connections and look forward to the rest of 'Lost.' In high spirits because Xavier raised down tides in overtime to win, keeping me intact. I look forward to 'Lost' with happiness and confusion.

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

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and strives for the higher standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize this we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-654-51 so we can correct it.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT TELEVISION SHOW ARE YOU ADDICTED TO AND WHY?

Kevin Donohue

"The Way Things Work," because I'm trying to figure out myself.

Manuel Ogul

"The Office," I don't need a reason. Dwight says it all.

Ellen Fitzsimmons

"Lost," because I like to talk about it at Finnigans.

Patrick Leinkuehler

"Lost," because they never answer any questions.

Beck Roan

"I like 'House,' because of Chase's hair.

OFFBEAT

Man tries to pay bill with toilet paper check

RINGHAMTON, N.Y. - An upstate New York man embossed in a dispute over his water bill is not being allowed to pay off his debt with a check written on toilet paper. Ron Borgna tried to settle his $2,509.66 bill with a check written on To- let paper Wednesday.

The disagreement began in September 2006 when Borgna received a $422.90 water bill. Borgna claims he was overhilled. With addi- tional charges, penalties and late fees that bill has grown.

Binghamton city officials refused to accept the check. After a short argument, Borgna was escorted out of the building. Borgna says he is appealing the judgment against him in small claims court.

Python surprises owner of new apartment

GLEN BURNIE, Md. — Anne Arundel County police say a Glen Burnie woman was surprised by a three- foot python that slithered out from behind her media stand while she watched tele- vision in her living room. It happened Sunday at the woman's apartment in the 8000 block of Green Orchard Road.

The woman, who has lived in the apartment for two months, does not own the snake. Officers believe the snake was left behind by a previous tenant.

The snake will remain at Animal Control in Millersville for five days to give its owner a chance to pick it up. If it's not claimed, officers say the snake will be sent to a rescue organiza- tion.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

"The Vagina Monologues" will be performed today in 101 DeBartolo at 7 p.m. A panel discussion will follow the performance.

BCAC is looking for volun- teers to help with BCAC Fashion Show 2008. The show takes place April 5 at 8 p.m. Please email 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 "Black Liberation" 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 "Armageddon" 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 minia- ture golf tournament, Saturday at Stepans Center at 8 p.m. Free pizza, pop and Jimmy John's will be available. The event benefits Lou Gherig's Disease research, and iPods, cameras and itunes gift cards will be raf- fled off.

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

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

The Observer • PAGE 2

Friday, March 28, 2008

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY TONIGHT SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY

HIGH 44 48 51 53 50

LOW 35 32 36 36 34

Atlanta 76 / 52 Boston 37 / 33 Chicago 39 / 26 Denver 51 / 28 Houston 81 / 65 Los Angeles 70 / 52 Minneapolis 39 / 23 New York 41 / 36 Philadelphia 47 / 41 Phoenix 87 / 57 Seattle 46 / 35 St. Louis 48 / 41 Tampa 82 / 61 Washington 64 / 50
University to host Asian film festival

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

The University of Notre Dame will host filmmakers and scholars March 27 to 29 (Thursday to Saturday) for the annual Asian Film Festival and conference, this year titled "Love at First Sight: Romance and Relationships in Asian and American Cinema."

The festival will showcase four award-winning films in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. Admission is $6 for the general public, $5 for Notre Dame faculty and staff, $4 for seniors, and $3 for students. Tickets may be purchased in advance at http://performingarts.nd.edu or by calling the center box office at 574-631-2800. The films are:

- "Train Man" — This 2005 film directed by Masanori Murakami is based on true events that took place on a popular bulletin board Web site in Japan. This is the fairy-tale story of one geek, one beauty, and 1,000 noisy chat room residents. (March 27 at 7 p.m.)

- "The Trouble with Romance" — Directed by Gene Rhee, this 2007 film takes place in one Los Angeles hotel where each room hides a different trouble with romance. (March 28 at 7 p.m.)

- "My Sassy Girl" — This 2003 film directed by Jae-young Kwak is based on an on-line serial written by Kim Ho-uk that details his relationship with his off-the-wall college girlfriend. (March 29 at 7 p.m.)

- "Onkara" — Directed by Vishal Bharadwaj, "Onkara" is a film adaptation of William Shakespeare’s tragedy, "Othello." This 2006 film traces one man’s unrelenting jealousy and all-consuming obsession against the backdrop of political warfare in the interiors of Uttar Pradesh. (March 29 at 10 p.m.)

The 2008 Asian and American Film Festival is presented by the Center for Asian Studies, DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the Provost Office’s Asia Initiatives. It is sponsored and supported by more than a dozen departments, offices and organizations at Notre Dame and several external organizations, including the Korean Cultural Center in Los Angeles.

Eric’s Promise collects donations

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary’s Editor

As part of a Lenten project, Saint Mary’s students helped collect clothing for the Saint Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County as part of the Eric’s Promise project.

Last year, Mary Molnar, the director of nursing at the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care in South Bend, visited a class of Saint Mary’s nursing students to discuss different aspects of hospice care.

While there, she told the students about her son, Eric Henry Molnar, who was killed in a car accident in early 2002. Senior Lindsey Piehl, the president of the Student Nurses Association (SNA), said Molnar told the group that Eric had gathered several bags of old clothing to donate to Saint Vincent de Paul.

"His Lenten mission which he told his mother was to "be more giving,"" Piehl said.

Eric was never able to make that donation to Saint Vincent de Paul due to the accident, but his mother made sure the clothes made it to the center, she said. Molnar decided to continue her son’s mission to be more giving each year.

"(Molnar) has encouraged the South Bend Community to continue in fulfilling Eric’s Lenten wish by collecting clothing and household goods during the Lenten season," Piehl said. "To this date more than 65,000 pounds of items have been donated."

"This was a great opportunity for our community to be more like Eric Henry ..." Piehl said.

Contact Liz Harter at charre01@saintmarys.edu

EARLY ADMISSION

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CONTACT: Liz Reagan 305 Brownson Hall 631-0622 Reagan.9@nd.edu
Panel continued from page 1

Leonora Battani said immigrants in South Bend are given access to health care regardless of their legal status. "We're in South Bend are very lucky that we have two hospitals that treat patients from seven or eight counties," she said. "They treat immigrants just that any person needs to be treated.

According to Battani, the language barrier presents the greatest challenge for health care professionals when treating immigrants. "The biggest problem we have is language — that is where the inequities start. Many hospitals can't offer language services, including interpreters or translation of documents," she said. "Here in South Bend, most of the major health services are bilingual — that has a lot to say for where we live and how welcoming we are to immigrants."

Helping to combat language barriers in South Bend through the South Bend Community School Corporation, bilingual education coordinator for the South Bend Community School Corporation Bill Barna said students who are learning English as a second language are often the first generation in their family to do so.

"In our 'English as a New Language' program, 96 percent of students have Spanish as their home language, in second place at two percent is Arabic and then there's about 24 other languages that make up the rest," Barna said. According to Barna, children face many pressures as a result of having parents who are immigrants.

"Of all the students we serve, 75 to 80 percent are citizens of the U.S.; however, their parents may not be citizens," he said. "This has implications for our school system and puts pressure on parents that truly affects the students."

Barna also said immigration raids have affected many of the students he works with, and the raids have a negative impact on their learning and concentration in the classroom. Barna said his department works to ease the communication barrier for students' parents.

"We provide ... translation services in Spanish for our parents," he said. "Any time there's a conference that needs an interpreter; we provide that to the school. We translate a number of illegal documents for parents, so parents are knowledgeable about what is happening in school and with their child."

Immigration laws also present many hurdles for families, according to directing attorney of the Immigrants' Rights Center at Indiana Legal Services Lee A. O'Connor. "There are substantial legal problems for people who are here as immigrants," O'Connor said. "We often think of people here as legal or illegal, and that's not a good way to think about ... It's often more of a continuum than an issue of undocumented or not."

O'Connor said there is an emerging trend of immigrant men marrying American women in South Bend. "One of the things that really surprised me when I came to South Bend was the number of situations where you have a Mexican man married to an American woman," O'Connor said.

O'Connor said immigrants have to complete a two-step process in order to gain legal status. First, a U.S. citizen has the right to petition for a relative who is an immigrant. Then an immigrant must qualify affirmatively.

O'Connor said this is almost impossible for anyone who entered the country illegally to attain a visa. "Immigration law has been made so complicated and difficult in the last few years, that even people with a clean record that are married to an American [citizen] face a daunting process," O'Connor said.

He also said immigrants who enter the country are asked to go back to their country of origin and apply to the U.S. Consulate before returning to the U.S. But once immigrants leave, they are disqualified from being able to acquire a green card for 10 years.

"If immigrants come back in again unlawfully, it's a permanent bar and they have to wait 10 years before they can come back ... That's what I think for and away is the biggest problem," O'Connor said.

Fris Cox, Associate pastor of St. Adalbert Parish, examined immigration concerns from a religious standpoint, and said Catholics should look to the Gospel of Matthew.

"We are supposed to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world ... adding something distinctive to the word today," he said. "When I look at the Church, I think we've sometimes lost our way and become invisible. Immigration profoundly affects our Church, and it's a decisive question for us."

Cox referred to a parable of Lazarus in the Gospel to emphasize his claim that the poor are often forgotten by society.

"As a Catholic university, education needs to be marked by the sign of the cross. We need to have the vision to see Lazarus out there, hear the cry of the poor and ... have the courage to act," he said. "There are many lenses we can put on the issue. What we believe as a Church is that the most important lens is the lens of faith. Are we going to take the lens from sounds bites on radio talk shows or from the lens of faith?"

Cox said based on his experiences in his parish, he believes the community has much to gain from immigrants.

"These are people that come from a rich Catholic heritage, from being new life in our churches," he said. "We will be enriched by welcoming the stranger."

The panel, entitled "Implications of Immigration for South Bend," was sponsored by the Department of Economics and Policy Studies and the Department of Economics and Econometrics.

Contact Becky Hogan at bhogan2@nd.edu.

Dance continued from page 1

the event so far has been positive.

"The community has really embraced the event. I think they were ready for something outside the box," she said.

The event has been heavily publicized on television, radio, and billboards.

"We're confident and hopeful our marketing efforts will pay off big the day of the event ... It's a little bit of the 'If you build it they will come' mentality," Kronk said.

Kronk also said although she is unsure of the exact number, IUSB is ready to handle thousands of participants.

"We're prepared for thousands and with the way things are going with word spreading so much, we're optimistic that the event will be a success," she said.

To encourage students from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross to attend, Kronk said IUSB is working to provide transportation to the dance site. The event coincides with the annual Blue-Gold game on April 19, but Kronk said this is another good reason for students to consider buying a Miracle Pass.

"When determining a date for the dance marathon we took all high school and college academic calendars into consideration as well as other community events. This weekend is the first without spring breaks and vacations," Kronk said.

Contact Katie Peraza at kperaza@nd.edu.
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Wilders offers film critical of Islam

**AMSTERDAM —** A Dutch lawmaker released a film highly critical of Islam on Thursday, setting off protests around the world and a series of discussions by analysts on the possible impact of its release.

The Dutch government had warned Wilders that a film offensive to Muslims could spark violent protests in Islamic countries, like those two years ago after a film ridiculed the Prophet Muhammad.

"The film equates Islam with violence. We reject this," Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende said in a televised reaction.

Wilders posted his 15-minute film on a Web site Tuesday. Shortly afterward, Dutch television channels showed segments of the film, and several discussions by analysts on the possible impact of its release.

**Bush endorses Croatian NATO bid**

**ZAGREB, Croatia —** President Bush says he "strongly supports" Croatian membership in NATO, pledged to deliver a "no retreat" speech on the fighting crisis in Iraq, and expressed hope the United States would continue to fight terrorism.

"I am confident that America and her partners will succeed," Bush said in a televised speech Thursday. "We will succeed, and we will succeed because we are determined to succeed.

Bush said he was glad the judges did not reinstate the death sentence, but added that he will continue fighting to get his client a new sentencing hearing.

"Either get a new sentencing hearing or be sentenced to life in prison," he said.

**Local NEWS**

Murder appeal set to begin in May

**INDIANAPOLIS —** A former state trooper who was convicted of murdering a motorist on a stretch of mountain highway had motorists and police on edge Thursday in a region where memories of the deadly Beltway snipers still haven't faded.

Authorities were seeking at least two people suspected of firing shots the night before that hit two cars, a van, a tractor-trailer and an ascrowd at Interstate 64 just west of Charlottesville. Two people were injured, but not seriously.

Col. Steven Nichols said. A senior vehicles analyst at the Air Resources Board in Sacramento, told The Associated Press that California's largest automakers must sell nearly 60,000 hybrid vehicles while they develop the more advanced technology that will allow mass production of pure zero-emission vehicles.

**Environmentalists and health advocates criticized the lowering of the zero-emission goal for vehicles.** They said the threats posed by global warming, lends urgency to greatly reducing vehicle emissions.

**They have accused rival Shiite parties, which control Iraqi security forces, of engineering the arrests to prevent them from mounting an effective campaign for provincial elections expected this fall.** The Saudis expect to make major electoral gains at the expense of rival parties, including those that maintain close ties to the United States.

**Iraq**

Al-Maliki vows 'no retreat' in Basra

Mobs protest against Prime Minister after he cracks down on Shiite militias

**BAGHDAD — Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki vowed a "no retreat" Thursday in the fight against Shiite militias in the south of Iraq, as thousands of protesters demanded he resign over the crackdown on two armed Shi'ite groups and extremists fired rockets into the U.S.-protected Green Zone.**

**Shiite militia leader Muntada al-Sadr called Thursday for a political solution to the growing crisis and an end to the "shedding of Iraqi blood." But the statement, released by a close aide, stopped short of order­ing his Mahdi Army militias to halt attacks in the Green Zone or stop fighting in Basra, Iraq's second-largest city.**

In a sign of the deteriorating security situation in Iraq, NATO seized ahigh-profile inmate speaking on state TV. al-Maliki said in a televised reaction.

"We ... regret that Mr. Wilders has released the film. We believe it serves no other purpose than to cause offense," he said.

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Vagina
continued from page 1

"pornographic and spiritually harmful."

Eludes, said the Monologues underline the point it claims to have proven about the sexual acts celebrated in the
desecrate women.

"It is the philosophy of the Monologues exalt sexaul pleasure as an
end in itself, severed from truth and importance of the" Wolbrecht said.

She pointed to the mono-
logue entitled "The Little Conchie Snatcher That Could," which detailed the
positive experience of a teenager's estrangement from an
older woman.

"Sexual seduction of a minor, even if portrayed positively as an act of salvation," she said. "You can't let it both
raped.

Collett spoke on the socio-
ological and sexual symbolism of the play.

"I was shocked with some of the language and topics of the play," she said. "At least I realized that that was exactly the point," she added.

While many condemned this technique of shock, Collett said it is an effective way to capture attention and make a point.

"This exhibits the power of language," she said. "To many of us, it takes an effort to overcome the negative connota-
tions surrounding the word 'vagina' by saying it and shutting it.

Collett highlighted her experiences working in rape crisis centers in Europe as a testament to the truth and importance of the Monologues, because it can give a voice to the countless women who have been brutal-
ized.

"I have seen this in Yugoslavia and Africa," she said. "People tell stories about what hurts and what needs healing.

Whether or not someone likes the Monologues, the "Monologues" is insequen-
tial and Nordstrom said that is what is being said, she said it better," she said. "But you can't run away from the question.

Nordstrom said the response the Monologues elicited and the full audiorium that came to see the play indicated that "nothing says something is being said that is still important and still needs to be said.

Wolbrecht related the Monologues to the second wave of feminism that occurred in the 1960s. She compared it to the tactic of "counter-slandering," the tech-
nique of feminists to bring awareness of issues to the public, the often-criticized shock tactics used in the "women's movement.

"The idea was that through sharing they could see the damage that which their own lives were shaped, con-
structed, and dominated by gender," Wolbrecht said.

"I forget how moving it is to see students speak about things no one else is saying," Wolbrecht said. "I was so inspired by the play.

The "Monologues" con-
cludes its run tonight at 7 p.m. inDIFFOTO 101.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

U.S. reports troop deaths

Soldiers, families mourn as officials up the number of casualties to 4,000

Associated Press

FORT STEWART, Ga. — Staff Sgt. Christopher M. Hake had begun his Army career in a ceremonial unit, serving as an escort during funerals at Arlington National Cemetery and marching in President Bush's 2001 inaugura-
tion parade.

But he wanted to do his part in Iraq. So Hake, of End, Okla., transferred in 2003, with 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart in southern Georgia, deployed to Iraq in 2005 and returned for a second combat tour late last year.

"This deployment, he told me, "You couldn't pay me to come home early," said Peter Hake, the soldier's father. "He was a squad leader and loved his guys that worked under him. He said they would die for each other, and they did."

Hake, 26, and three Fort Stewart soldiers in his squad died Monday from wounds suffered when a roadside bomb exploded into their Bradley armored vehicle the day before. The Army announced the four deaths Sunday, pushing the mili-
tary's count of U.S. service members killed in Iraq to 4,000, and released their identities Thursday.

The military's count varies slightly from an independent tally kept by The Associated Press, which on Thursday counted 4,004 service mem-
bers killed in Iraq.

Also killed in the explosion were Spc. Jose A. Rubio Hernandez, 24, of Mission, Texas; Pfc. Andrew J. Habsieger, 22, of Festus, Mo.; and Pvt. George Delgado, 21, of Palmdale, Calif.

"He wanted to be known for something, and now he is," said Rubio's wife, Jennifer Guerrero, of McAllen, Texas.

"I was a big-hearted kid who couldn't help others," Rubio said in a letter to his father.

"I have a dream of going to college and being a teacher," he wrote. "I am a die-hard Houston Astros fan, and I will have a job after I graduate."

Rubio was killed in a knee injury. He wanted to be a doctor, but his dream was "to help people, and be the one that others come to when they need help."

"I was the one in the family that helped everyone," Rubio said.

His family and friends were devastated by his death.

"He was such a caring person, and I know he would want that," Guerrero said.

"He will be missed so much by his family." Rubio's father, Eloy, said,

"He was a hard-working, hard-playing child who never gave up. He was always there for others."

Rubio's father said his son was a good student and a hard worker.

"Rubio was always a leader, always working hard," he said.

"He was an all-around good person. He was always there for others, always helping others."

Rubio's family said he was a good father to his two children, a son and a daughter.

"He loved his kids and was always there for them," his father said.

Rubio was a "great kid, a great person," his father said.

"He was a great kid, and he was always there for us," his father said.

"He was always there for others, always helping others, always giving back."
**MARKET RECAP**

**Stocks**

| Dow Jones | 12,302.46 | -120.40 |

**Treasuries**

| 10-YEAR NOTE | +1.14 | +0.040 | 3.554 |
| 13-WEEK BILL | -1.57 | -0.020 | 2.820 |
| 30-YEAR BOND | +1.06 | +0.046 | 4.736 |
| 5-YEAR NOTE | +1.30 | +0.033 | 2.576 |

**Commodities**

| Light Crude (t/bbl) | +1.68 | +107.58 |
| Gold ($/troy oz) | +0.20 | +954.00 |
| Pork Bellies (cts/lb) | -0.90 | -19.41 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exchange Rates</th>
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<td>YEN</td>
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<td>CANADIAN DOLLAR</td>
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**BRIEF**

**Wall Street sinks on tech concerns**

NEW YORK — Wall Street sank in volatile trading Thursday after the government confirmed that the last quarter of 2007 did indeed suffer a sharp economic slowdown. For the second straight session, the Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 100 points.

The technology sector was particularly weak after business software maker Oracle Corp. reported worse-than-expected fiscal third-quarter sales and issued a cautious forecast. Meanwhile, data suggesting that trading Thursday after the government forecast. Meanwhile, data suggesting that high fuel prices had begun to take their toll on business and consumer sentiment was released.

Oracle fell $1.51, or 7.2 percent, to 19.43, and the Nasdaq dropped $14.11, or 1.3 percent, to $444.08.

**Wiring inspections cancel more flights**

DALLAS — American Airlines and Delta Air Lines canceled hundreds more flights Thursday as they continued inspections of planes. American Axle and Manufacturing Holdings Inc. is starting to hit U.S. young drivers hard. But GM spokesman Dan Flores said "we're good at affecting the dealers very fast," said Jim Graham, president of UAW Local 1112 at the Lordstown assembly plant near Youngstown.

Graham said GM is running out of parts time late in the shift on Thursday, Flores said. Closing the Lordstown complex, which makes the Chevrolet Cobalt and Pontiac G5 small cars, could hurt GM the most since the cars are selling well due to high gasoline prices.

Through February, the Cobalt, which gets up to 33 miles per gallon of gasoline on the highway, saw sales rise more than 43 percent when compared with the first two months of last year, according to Autodata Corp. G5 sales are up nearly 19 percent.

**Chinese paramilitary police patrol Lhasa, the capital of China's Tibet Autonomous Region, Thursday.**

Strikes cause GM parts shortages

**DETOUR — The increasingly bitter monolithic strike at auto parts maker American Axle and Manufacturing Holdings Inc. is starting to hit General Motors Corp. where it hurts.**

The GM factories that make cars in Michigan and Ohio soon will be affected by the strike. The company has fully or partially shut down 28 GM plants in the U.S. and Canada due to parts shortage.

GM confirmed Thursday that the strike will force it to shut the Detroit-Hamtramck assembly plant after Friday's lone shift, and a local union president in Michigan said Thursday that his complex will be shut down on April 4.

Previously the strike had affected only plants that assemble or supply parts for slowing pickup trucks and sport utility vehicles.

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**Associated Press**

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**S&P 500**

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Girls die after not receiving medicine

Associated Press

WESTON, Wis. — Police are investigating an 11-year-old girl’s death from an undiagnosed, treatable form of diabetes after her parents chose to pray for her rather than take her to a doctor.

An autopsy showed Madeline Neumann died Sunday of diabetic ketoacido­sis, a condition that left too little insulin in her body. Everest Metro Police Chief Dan Vergin said.

She had probably been ill for about a month, suffering symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, excessive thirst, loss of appetite and weakness, the chief said Wednesday, noting that he expects to complete the investigation by Friday and forward the results to the dis­trict attorney.

The girl’s mother, Leilani Neumann, said that she and her family believe in the Bible and that healing comes from God, but that they do not belong to an organized religion or faith, making doctors and fansatics have nothing against doctors.

She insisted her youngest child, a 3-year-old, was remaining strong at this time. "We are remaining strong for our children. Only our faith in God is giving us strength at this time."

Leilani Neumann mother of Madeline Neumann

"I mean, she's refusing. She's going to fight it. ... We've been trying to get her to take her to the hospital for a week, a few days now."

The aunt called back with more information on the family’s location, emergency logs show. Family members made a 911 call from the home. Police and paramedics arrived 63 minutes and immediately called for an ambulance that took her to a hospital.

But less than an hour after authorities reached the new home, Madeline — a bright student who left public school at home schooling this semester — was declared dead.

She is survived by her par­ents and three older siblings.

"We are remaining strong for our children," Leilani Neumann said. "Only our faith in God is giving us strength at this time."

The former chiefs of state say shuttering the prison could cooperate." Powell said he agrees, argu­bing that the biggest threat to a peaceful relationship with China would be Taiwan declar­ing its independence.

"And, frankly we can keep that from happening," said Powell.

Some of the strongest words were reserved for the trade embargo against Cuba.

"The 50-year-old embargo has not worked, not worked to our benefit or their benefit. This is one of those issues that is driven more by politics than fore­ign policy," said Christopher.

"When policies don’t work for 50 years," he said, "it’s time to start thinking about some­thing else.

Kissinger, who served the Nixon and Ford administra­tions, urged an end to both issues at a conference in downtown At­lanta.

Kissinger urged that from America's image abroad.

"One has to talk with adver­saries," said Kissinger, who served under President Clinton.

Baker suggested the dialogue could center on a common dilemma, saying a "disfunc­tion­al Iraq, a chaotic Iraq, is not something that’s in the interest to Iran. There’s every­thing on their part to help us, the same way they did in Afghanistan."

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Arkansas homes devastated by flooding

Nearly half of state affected as weather forecasters call for more storms and residents watch waters rise

Any real estimate on the damage will have to wait until the floodwaters drain, Kelley said, a process that may take days. The flooding in Arkansas began with storms March 17 in the northwest corner of the state and federal and state officials have been able to assess the damage only where the water has receded. Thirty-five counties — nearly half the state's 75 counties, declared federal disaster areas. One person was killed in the storms in Arkansas, and another remains missing.

The National Weather Service issued a flash-flood warning for the White River and Little River basins, which flow into the Mississippi River. The warning began at 8:30 a.m. Thursday for the White River's downstream reaches, including areas along the Tennessee, Arkansas and Missouri borders.

Wednesday night a “slow-moving, boxy low pressure system” began to develop over the northern part of the state. It was expected to move slowly to the south, bringing rain and flooding to parts of western, central and southern Arkansas through Thursday and Friday, the service said.

The system was forecast to bring heavy rains and tornado warnings to parts of the state, where floodwaters have already been significant. The service said Thursday that it was looking at 20 inches of rain in some areas, which could cause up to 200,000 homes and businesses to be damaged or destroyed. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Thursday that the system could produce up to 500,000 cubic feet of runoff per square mile.

Arkansas Public Service Commission spokesman Richard Kelley said Thursday that the flooding was likely to cause more damage than any other recent flood in the state. About 28.7 million bushels of grain were likely to be lost because of the flooding, which is about 40 percent of the state's total grain production. The service said that the flooding could cause up to 200,000 homes and businesses to be damaged or destroyed. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Thursday that the system could produce up to 500,000 cubic feet of runoff per square mile.

The state is still assessing the damage, but Kelley said Thursday that the flooding was likely to cause more damage than any other recent flood in the state. About 28.7 million bushels of grain were likely to be lost because of the flooding, which is about 40 percent of the state's total grain production. The service said that the flooding could cause up to 200,000 homes and businesses to be damaged or destroyed. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said Thursday that the system could produce up to 500,000 cubic feet of runoff per square mile.
LIVE from LEGENDS
The 07–08 Season is coming to a close...
we've saved the best for last.

Friday, March 28
Orquestra Caribe - Live Salsa Band
Doors - 9:30pm | Show - 10pm

Saturday, March 29
Lucky Boys Confusion - Chicago Punk/Rock
Doors - 9:30pm | Show - 10pm

Friday, April 4
Stephen Kellogg & the Sixers - American Pop/Rock
with Alexa Wilkinson & Red Wanting Blue
Doors - 9:30PM | Show - 9PM

Saturday, April 5
Kyle Dunnigan - Comedian, Reno 911
Doors - 9:30pm | Show - 10pm

Friday, April 11
Shino - Country Music Sensation
Doors - 9:30pm | Show - 10pm

Saturday, April 12
Kinya Dawson - of Juno Soundtrack & Moldy Peaches
with Angelo Spencer & L'Orchidee 'N' Hawai
Doors - 9:30pm | Show - 9:00pm

Friday, April 18
Todd Barry - Comedian, Comedy Central
Doors - 9:30pm | Show - 10pm

Saturday, April 19
Minus the Bear - Seattle Indie/Rock/Electronica
with Portugal the Man & The Big Sleep
Doors - 9:30pm | Show - 9:00pm

Friday, April 25
The Starting Line - Final Show of the Year
Doors - 9:00pm | Show - 10pm

Saturday, April 26
Notre Dame Battle of the Bands - details online
TSA disallows body piercing

Woman asked to remove nipple ring before boarding airplane

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A Texas woman who said she was forced to remove a nipple ring with pliers in order to board an airplane called Thursday for an apology by federal security agents and a civil rights investigation.

"I wouldn't wish this experience upon anyone," Mandi Hamlin said at a news conference. "My experience with TSA was a nightmare I had to endure. No one deserves to be treated this way."

Hamlin, 37, said she was trying to board a flight from Lubbock to Dallas on Feb. 24 when she was scanned by a Transportation Security Administration agent after passing through a larger metal detector without problems. The female TSA agent used a handheld detector that beeped when it passed in front of Hamlin's chest, the Dallas-area resident said.

Hamlin said she told the woman she was wearing nipple piercings. The woman then called over her male colleagues, one of whom said she would have to remove the jewelry, Hamlin said.

Hamlin said she could not remove them and asked whether she could instead remove them and asked "if you could instead remove one bar-shaped ring with pliers in order to pass through the checkpoint, no matter what they're wearing or where they're wearing it," said Hamlin's attorney, Gloria Allred, reading from a letter she sent Thursday to the director of the TSA's Office of Civil Rights and Liberties.

Hamlin said she heard male TSA agents snickering as she took out the ring. She was scanned again and was allowed to board even though she still was wearing a belly button ring.

"After nipple rings are inserted, the skin can often heal around the piercing, and the rings can be extremely difficult and painful to remove," Allred said in the letter.

Hamlin filed a complaint, no one deserves to be treated this way," said he was unaware of the incident. There is no specific TSA policy on dealing with body piercings, he said, "as long as it doesn't sound the alarms.

If an alarm does sound, "until that is resolved, we're not going to let them through the checkpoint, no matter what they're wearing or where they're wearing it," said Hamlin.

People routinely pass through security wearing wedding rings without problems, and it might take a large piece of metal to trigger an alarm, Baird said.

On its Web site, the TSA warns that passengers "may be additionally screened because of hidden items such as body piercings, which alarmed the metal detector."

"If you are selected for additional screening, you may ask to remove your body piercing to private as an alternative to a pat-down search," the site says.

Hamlin would have accepted "a pat-down" had it been offered, Allred said.

Hamlin was publicly humiliated and has "undergone an enormous amount of physical pain to have the nipple rings reinserted" because of scar tissue, Allred said.

"The conduct of TSA was cruel and unnecessary," Allred wrote. "The last time that I checked a nipple was not a dangerous weapon."

TSA spokesman Dwayne Baird said he was unaware of the incident. There is no specific TSA policy on dealing with body piercings, he said, "as long as it doesn't sound the alarms."

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Shakespeare scholar

Stanley Wells will explore

issues of sexuality in the age

of the Bard in a lecture

March 31 (Monday) at 5 p.m.

in the

Philbin Studio of

the

University

of Notre Dame's

DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

Sponsored by the Deborah J. Loughrey Endowment for Excellence in Shakespeare Studies and Shakespeare at Notre Dame, the event is free and open to the public. Tickets are required and may be reserved by calling the center's box office at 574-631-2800.

Titled "Sex and Literature in Shakespeare's Time," Wells' talk will discuss sexual behavior and attitudes toward sexuality in Stratford and London, with emphasis on theater and the court, in the late 15th and early 16th centuries, and examine some of the ways Shakespeare and his contemporaries made use of sexual subject matter. The discussion will be candid and

the event is not intended for young or sensitive audiences. Following Wells' lecture, guest artist Eunice Roberts will present a performance of "...one, two, three..." a one-woman show she developed based on Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night." Roberts is an associate director of Actors From The London Stage, an international touring theater troupe based at Notre Dame.

A prolific writer and editor, Wells has served since 1978 as the general editor of "The Complete Oxford Shakespeare." He also has served as co-editor of "The New Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare Studies" and co-author of "William Shakespeare: A Textual Companion." His books include "Literature and Drama," "Royal Shakespeare: Studies of Four Major Productions at the Royal Shakespeare Theater," "Looking for Sex in Shakespeare," and "Is it True What They Say About Shakespeare?"

Wells serves as chairman of the Trustees of Shakespeare's Birthplace and is emeritus professor of Shakespeare studies at the University of Birmingham and honorary emeritus governor of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre.
Jenkins balances ‘Monologues,’ Catholicism

In 2006, University President Fr. John Jenkins outlined his criteria that must be met for "The Vagina Monologues" to be performed on campus. Academic freedom, he said, must be maintained regardless of how the material meshes with teachings of the Catholic Church. Allowing the play to be performed on campus is not the same as endorsing the content of the play. Jenkins, as the leader of a Catholic university, walked a fine line between the "Catholic" and "university" characteristics of Notre Dame and found a delicate balance between the two.

In a replay of two years ago, amid much debate on and off campus, Jenkins said that "Monologues" could be performed on campus as long as the performances had an academic panel to discuss the play and its relation to Catholic teaching afterwards.

Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D’Arcy voiced his opposition to the play and Notre Dame’s allowance of the play on campus while alumni and concerned Catholics also protested the play. D’Arcy has been the most prominent critic of Jenkins’ decision and has issued multiple statements condemning the “Monologues” and their performance on campus. The play, he said, portrays ideals, such as homosexuality, extramarital sex and sexual relations between adults and children that contradict Church teaching. By allowing the performance, he said Jenkins tacitly endorsed it, as well as the values contained in it.

Jenkins said allowing the play on campus is equivalent to discussing a philosopher or a writer whose views do not align with the Catholic Church. D’Arcy said watching a play is not the same as discussing it in a classroom setting because people are not required to participate in discussion of the play and its relation to Catholic teaching as they would be in a classroom.

D’Arcy’s criticism is legitimate and well-articulated, but it misses the mark. The entire University is a classroom meant to enrich all areas of students’ lives and stimulate intellectual thought both inside and outside an actual classroom. Students at Notre Dame are smart enough to realize that allowing the "Monologues" on campus does not mean the University endorses its content and realizes its allowance on campus is meant to inspire dialogue and debate.

Jenkins did not waver in his decision to allow the "Monologues" to be performed on campus, which is a positive thing for the University. Were he to cave to external pressure, he would cause people to lose the direction in which he was leading Notre Dame. He would still receive criticism, but it would instead come from his faculty and student body, many of whom believe in promoting academic freedom. He was going to catch flak no matter what decision he made, and by allowing the play this year, he reaffirmed the University’s commitment to academic freedom that will enable it to remain among the nation’s elite universities.
To narrate the tale of the remaining two Democratic presidential candidates, modify the famous Charles Dickens opening phrase in "A Tale of Two Cities" to describe the current state of the race.

"It is the best of times, it is the worst of times, the election of wisdom and the election of foolishness, it is the spring of Life along with the season of Darkness, it is the spring of hope following the winter of despair. We have everything before us, but we may gain nothing. We were all going direct to heaven while campaigning in Iowa — we now seem to be going direct the other way."

This was written nearly 150 years ago tells the story of Charles Darnay and Sydney Carton, similar looking men who are, however, very different in their personalities. Their particular doppelganger is character in who why but with different interests, beliefs and convictions, they both fall deeply in love with the same woman.

Darnay is a romantic French aristocrat while Carton is a cyni­
cal English barrister. In the end, Darnay marries the woman but is eventually convicted as an aristocrat and sentenced to be guillotined. Ultimately Carton visits Darnay in his prison cell, drags him, swaps clothing and in an act of self-sac­
rifice is executed in place of Darnay. Ironically, this tale could have been written as a metaphor to describe our modern-day campaigns of Democrats Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama. It is indeed the best and worst of times for them, or the Democratic Party.

The votes and returns about Clinton’s inaccurate account of her 1996 visit to Rosalind and Obama’s tepid distancing of himself from Reverend Wright’s inflam­
atory comments are natural elements of political campaigns. Yet both sides for­
got that truth squads find each side lacking every day.

For Clinton, examples suggest that deleg­
ies should act independently while Obama calls for delegates to follow vot­
ing results. Yet when New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson chooses Obama despite his state voting for Clinton, Obama keeps him in silence while Clinton supporter James Carville calls him a Judas. Furthermore, it is dising­
uous of Obama to look at the Dole ban­ner as distractions which he claims take away from the debate about war when in media interviews his own cam­
paign manager continually accuses Clinton of saying anything to get elected — a famously 2000 tactic that Karl Rove used against Vice President Al Gore. Yet, despite complaints from both sides, cam­
paigns are about making points and counterpoints.

This week’s NBC News/Wall Street Journal Poll found that Democrats are evenly split in support of both candidates at 45 percent. Both equally raised their negative ratings by 5 percent. Clinton’s positive rating lost 8 points while 55 per­
cent of Americans are disturbed about Obama’s pastor, Reverend Wright. Interestingly, both Democrats poll at 44 percent against Republican John McCain, although McCain gains 4 points against Clinton. Regrettably, a fifth of both Clinton and Obama supporters say that they are open to voting for McCain. Moreover, this week’s Gallup poll found that 28 percent of Clinton and 19 percent of Obama supporters support McCain.

Discussing as the political pundits may lament while responding to current polls the Democratic Party and both candi­
dates can unite for the fall election. But it will demand real courage from both candidates by joining with the other team.

Rather than the Obama camp taking offense when Clinton suggested that they could run together, Obama should have seen it as a signal from Clinton that she would accept the vice presidency. With the odds favoring Obama as the nomi­
nee, he gambles that much of Clinton’s supporters would actually vote against him if he does not ask Clinton to join the ticket. In the past, other candidates avoided more rancorous feelings with a unity ticket.

Despite the delegate count, both Democrats have come so far in so many ways, and yet ironically their support remains evenly split. They must be as the Dickens characters and become a dream team to assure victory. To para­
phrase the Dickens closing expressing Carton’s thoughts before he faced the guillotine, “It is a far, far better thing that they may have done; it is far, far better that ticket they go to than (or we) have even known.”

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame ’73, is a communications strategist who served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton’s administration. His column usually appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at hotmail.com.

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

Los P
the prince charming of yore, forget the control top pantyhose, and ignore the Spice Girls' suggestion of "strength and courage in a wonder bra." While all of these may have been good options for ego boosting and self-image enhancers, Christina Ricci's new film offers a novel take on the modern girl's sense of fulfillment. Self-empowerment beyond body image is in, thanks to "Penelope."

For centuries, little girls, young females and grown women alike have looked to films for fairytale romance and ideal beauty. "Penelope" flies in the face of this delusion of perfection, giving this fairy tale's damsel a very real problem. Okay, maybe not so real.

Penelope has the standard troubles of many girls: poor body image, a nagging mother and boys. Her dilemma over her body image extends past the typical discomfort over chubby thighs or a flat chest. The victim of a family curse, Penelope has the face of a pig. And no, this isn't some drunken insult uttered by a sexually frustrated frat boy. The phrase "pig face" is a rather literal description. A pig-nose and floppy ears are definitely not ideal mating material. But the only way to break the curse is to marry Penelope off to an aristocratic young man. Her parents, however, decide to lock her up away from public ridicule. Meanwhile her mother is obsessed with breaking the curse, and pursues the altar with a vengeance. Of course, this quest is marked by every mother's standby of overbearing nagging.

And finally, Penelope's "boy problems." Nearly all of her suitors run away at first sight of her, so a second date is typically out of question. Eventually Penelope does find the right guy (James McAvoy), and the standard fare of heartache and redemption ensue. The ampit leads Penelope to flee from her isolation and allows her to discover the world and more importantly, herself.

"Penelope" combines supernatural elements of a fairytale with modern, relatable problems. The characters, though in less than normal circumstances, speak to something that every ordinary person can understand and the healthy body image message makes the film fulfilling for modern girls and women.

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The talented cast deserves credit for making the film successful. Christina Ricci uses the perfect amount of anguish without an excess of whininess. She evokes empathy from the audience and relates to them in a highly tangible way. Her mother, played by Catherine O'Hara, seems to recall every mother's inability to impose her will on her daughter. She embodies overbearing parenthood with a comic talent that rails on the audience's nerves and makes them laugh.

Additionally, James McAvoy artfully morphs "Prince charming" into a character that is realistic, flawed and soulful. Unlike the typical love interest, McAvoy is weighed by his own demons. He is incapable of rescuing himself, much less the damsel in distress. Hence his twist of fairytale love is offbeat, yet palpably appealing. Through his chemistry with Ricci, indie meets fairytale.

The detail and craft put into every character makes the story rich and diverse. Even the supporting cast, which includes Reese Witherspoon, brings unique offerings that help reintroduce an old story of romance and self-discovery. "Penelope" finally gets the modern fairytale right. Its lovable characters and noble message are truly memorable and it promises to make audiences fall in love — with themselves.
Its springtime and snow is falling in South Bend. Thankfully, Ryan Adams has provided a moody accompaniment to the melancholy spaces outside our windows. His album "Love is Hell" carefully exposes the most dangerously emotive portions of the human heart and mind.

Conceived in moments of heartbreak and questioning of the authenticity of love, the record explores a vast range of experiences and ideas, eventually realizing love is indeed hell.

Opening with the track "Political Scientist," Adams sings of a dysfunctional couple, both political scientists. Raddled by the passage of years and a hollow sense of love for each other, they exist within a world of uneasiness and bad memories. Adams sings, "Her husband’s divorced but he treats her that way of course / Because he needs her just like he needs medicine / She forgets to write him anyway / What’s red and white and nearly over / Political scientist." While the lyrics are somewhat unclear and vague, they highlight the confusion between the husband and wife, emotions the couple clearly cannot understand.

A key element of the record is the intermixing of songs inspired by the stories and experiences of others amidst the hyper-personal, depressing songs inspired by Adams’ own intimate experiences. One of the most delicate tracks on the record is the near-heartbreaking "Please Do Not Let Me Go." Without a doubt written at the end of a relationship, Adams sings "True love ain’t that hard to find / Not that you will ever know / Would you leave for awhile? / Please do not let me go." It’s simple, cutting and deeply poignant; one of the true gems on the record.

One track likely inspired by the experiences of another, is "Shadowlands." A stirring portrait of a decaying family thrust into the torments of separation, drug addiction and broken love, a hollow sense of love for each other, they exist within a world of uneasiness and bad memories. Adams sings, "Her husband’s divorced but he treats her that way of course / Who just couldn’t make a sale / Threw the wedding ring in the sewer / And damned them all to hell / The roaches climb the walls / From the hotel / Where he calls / Most people never find a love." Not straying from the obvious thesis of the album, Adams gives voice to a moment and a history understood by most everyone, yet rarely acknowledged with such honesty of tragic perspective.

While Adams rarely features cover songs on his records, "Love is Hell" features a brilliant cover of the Oasis hit "Wonderwall." With a bluesy melody, the song seems fit to be heard in the back of a late night piano bar. Practically every song on the record is stellar. Yet it is not a record for sunny days and fresh romance. It’s a record for the those late night hours staring through the window into the blackness, just as it’s a record for those late March days when you simply cannot believe that the daylight is still gray and the snow is still falling in South Bend.

Contact James Costa at jcosta1@nd.edu
Senior guard Derrick Low in North Carolina’s victory Thursday.

Junior Tar Heels forward Tyler Hansbrough grabs a rebound over West Virginia’s sophomore forward Saturday with a clear home-court advantage, playing in an arena located about two hours from its Chapel Hill campus. The Tar Heels — facing a team that had completely shut down its first two tournament foes — started the game with a defensive performance that was the school’s best in the tournament since Williams was born.

"We continued to talk about this throughout the year, the fact that we’re tired of hearing that North Carolina can’t play defense and that’s going to be our weak link," junior Marcus Ginyard said. "But tonight, I think you see that this team has the capability of buckling down and being that great defensive team."

There was no room to argue with the Tar Heels’ vocal leader. Fourth-seeded Washington State (26-9) managed just 18 field goals for the game while scoring 20 points below its average. The Cougars also went 2-for-16 from 3-point range as the Tar Heels pulled away.

The 47 points were the fewest allowed by the Tar Heels in an NCAA game since 1940. "Defensively we thought we were really good," Williams said, "but yet let’s be honest: they missed some open shots."

North Carolina improved to 24-1 in NCAA games played in its home state and is 7-0 all-time in Charlotte Bobcats Arena. Now they can focus on erasing the lingering memories from last year’s final game: a double-digit lead late in the second half of an overtime loss to Georgia Tech in the NCAA tournament.

"We know what happened," senior forward Kyle Smith said. "We don’t want to have it again. That’s been our load of our attitude, and that’s the mentality we have.

For the first time in this tournament, the Tar Heels, the nation’s second-highest scoring team, didn’t matter. Nor did it matter that Huggins straggled much of the way, instead, fashioning a deliberate Washington State team that had held Winthrop and Notre Dame to a combined 81 points in the tournament, the Tar Heels looked determined to prove they could play some tough defense, too.

Washington State missed shot after shot — sometimes open, many often not — while the Tar Heels kept pushing forward and drawing fouls with a relentless transition attack. The Cougars got one of the거점, from the perimeter, on junior Taylor Roach scoring a combined 12 points on 4-for-21 shooting. "It was freezing out there," said Weaver, who had 10 points. "Just a lot of good looks offensively, but we were pretty awful.

Muskeeters 79, Mountaineers 76

In a span of 46 critical seconds late in overtime, B.J. Raymond made more 3-pointers than the entire West Virginia team did all night.

He went from "non-factor" to nonplussed, calmly knocking down two long-range jumpers that lifted Xavier past coach Bob Huggins’ Mountaineers 79-75 Thursday night in the West Region semifinals.

Third-seeded Xavier (30-6) rallied from a 19-point deficit in overtime, and will seek its first Final Four appearance when it plays the UCLA-West Virginia winner Saturday. By his lights of points from overtime, hit a 3-pointer from the top of the key to put the Mountaineers 75-74 with 1:18 to play. He then shook loose on an inbound play, took a crosscourt bounce pass from Stanley Burrell and made a 3 with the shot clock expiring for a 74-73 lead with 30 seconds left.

"I was kind of a non-factor for the first 40 minutes," Raymond said. "I knew when I got back in there, I had to make something happen.

The second 3 was the dagger. "I wasn’t a great play that I drew up," Xavier coach Sean Miller said. "It was a terrific pass by Stanley Burrell and an amazing shot off the bounce by B.J."

Huggins said his defense clogged up the intended play but "something fell asleep" to allow the wide-open 3.

Josh Duncan scored a career-high 26 points despite foul trouble to lead Xavier. Xavier, which led by 18 early in the game, rallied from a 71-65 deficit in overtime.

Xavier's Alex Hoppen scored 18 and had 10 rebounds for the seventh-seeded Mountaineers (26-11) before fouling out in the overtime.

West Virginia missed four of five free throws in the overtime. Alexander missed one with 14.2 seconds left in regulation that would have given his team a 65-64 lead.

Xavier shot 11-for-19 on 3s while West Virginia was 1-for-11 from long range. The Mountaineers had only one worse performance on 3s this season, going 1-for-27 in a loss to Cincinnati.

"I don't know what we are shooting on the year," Alexander said, "but it is definitely better than 10 percent. In a close game like that, if we would have shot even half of what we normally shoot, it would have made a big difference.

Going into the game, West Virginia had shot 35 percent from 3-point range.

Duncan was 3-for-4 on 3s, Drew Lavender 3-of-6 and Raymond 2-of-4.

"I shot that shot probably 100,000 times in my life," Raymond said of his last 3. "It is easy once you've shot it so many times."

Da'Sean Butler added 16 points, 14 in the second half for West Virginia. Butler also fouled out in the overtime.

Xavier has been in a regional final only once, in 2004. Despite the loss, Huggins has said that he would keep the team for the Final Four. Xavier has been in a regional final only once, in 2004.

Huggins got fired at Cincinnati — a school he led to the 1997 Final Four — after a drunken driving arrest and sat out a season before surfacing at Kansas State in 2007. He guided that team to the NET, where it lost in the second round.

* * *

**TAR HEELS nab second-straight Elite 8 appearance**

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**THE OBSERVER • CLASSIFIEDS**
OSU out of cellar, into Sweet 16

Associated Press

STILLWATER, Okla.—Oklahoma State guard Taylor Hardeman has tried to forget about her freshman season. At that time, either.

It's easy to understand why. Just two years removed from going winless in the Big 12, the Cowgirls are in the NCAA tournament's round of 16 for the first time in 17 seasons.

Hardeman, a junior, doesn't acknowledge Oklahoma State's rise from the depths has made her appreciate this season's success even more.

"It's a blessing to see where it's come from and where it could even go," Hardeman said. "Some people don't understand how hard it really is to come from that to this." Oklahoma State (27-7) faces LSU (29-5) on Saturday in the New Orleans regional semifinals. It's a long way from going 6-22 and 0-16 in the league in 2005-06.

Even the record doesn't adequately depict how overmatched Oklahoma State was. The Cowgirls closed with 17 straight losses, all but three coming by 10 or more points.

The constant drubbings were enough to test the perpetually positive attitude of Kurt Budke, the coach Oklahoma State hired to return the program to respectability.

"That first year was tough," Budke said Wednesday. "We were going into games with no chance to win. You hoped your young kids played hard and that they didn't get beat by 40." Smith started 22 games that season for the Cowgirls and now tries to look back for positive lessons gleaned from that difficult time.

"There were some bumps in the road, but you don't have any success without struggle," she said.

"When you win, you get a lot more respect and you get recognized. As a freshman, it was like we didn't even exist. No one really came to our games and no one really acknowledged us. But now that we're winning and doing great things for the university, it's totally changed." Oklahoma State has some tradition of success in women's basketball. In 19 seasons under coach Nancy Dott Taitman, the Cowgirls made seven trips to the NCAA tournament. During the 1990-91 season, Oklahoma State went 27-6 and reached regional semifinals.

In Brief

LSU QB Perrilloux could return to practice Monday

BATON ROUGE, La. — LSU quarterback Ryan Perrilloux returned from suspension and could be allowed to practice with the team by Monday.

Perrilloux, who finished last season as heir apparent for the starting job, made up six workouts he missed while on team suspension before he can practice, coach Les Miles said Thursday. If Perrilloux finishes those workouts by this weekend, he could get back on the field next week and might play in the Tigers' spring game on April 5.

"Ryan has a chance to play in the game if he does the things he should be doing," Miles said. "He will be allowed to compete fully for the position."

Miles suspended Perrilloux in February, shortly before spring practice began, for unspecified team violations.

Olson to retire from Titans after playing 10 years in NFL

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Kenji Olson decided to leave college a year early in 1998 because the offensive lineman wasn't sure how long his back would hold up in the NFL.

He announced his retirement Thursday having lasted 10 years with only three interior linemen playing more games than Olson in that stretch.

Not bad for a guy hoping to last maybe five seasons.

"Honestly, I was just shooting to make the team when I got here," he said. "I was just happy these guys took a chance on me, a guy who recently had back surgery."

"There were definitely issues about it. I'm just glad they took a chance on me. I'm glad I was able to deliver and put together a pretty good career," Olson said at a news conference.

Draft hopeful Benedict found dead in home

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Heath Benedict, a two-time Little All-American offensive lineman from Newberry College in South Carolina, was found dead on a couch in his home.

Jacksonville police said no foul play is suspected in the death of the 24-year-old Benedict, a 6-foot-4, 321-pound senior who had high hopes of being selected in the NFL draft next month.

Benedict, who redshirted at Tennessee as a freshman in 2002 before moving on to Newberry, was a native of the Netherlands. He played high school football at the Peddie School in Hightstown, N.J.

"He was a big, tough man, but he had a very gentle heart," Newberry president Mick Zais said. "He was a teddy bear."
**WOMEN’S LACROSSE**

**Notre Dame to take on winless Huskies**

By MATT GAMBER  
Associate Sports Editor

No. 13 Notre Dame (7-4, 1-1 Big East) looks to keep Connecticut (0-8, 0-2) winless for at least another day.

"The big thing is that it is a Big East game, and any time you play a Big East team it's a battle. It's a game you have to win and can make an impact," senior captain Caitlin McKinney said. "We hope we've learned our lesson not to take teams lightly.... The biggest thing is to keep the game about us and not about them, to come out early and get it done from the beginning."

The Huskies will host the Irish in Storrs, Conn., for tomorrow's noon game looking to shut down Notre Dame's high-powered offensive attack. The Huskies have been blown out in each of their last two games, losing 24-4 at Syracuse and 18-3 at Yale in the last week.

The Irish offense, led by junior Jillian Byers (42 goals, 10 assists) and McKinney (25 goals, 13 assists), will look to capitalize on a reeling Connecticut team.

"We just need to play the way we've played all year," said senior attack Heather Ferguson (11 goals, 10 assists). "It's humongous," McKinney said of the spread-out scoring. "It really started in California [over spring break] when we had people stepping up, and that was really big. It just makes us a better team. The good teams have a bunch of people assisting and scoring because people have bad days, people get face-guarded."

"The fact that our offensive is diversifying more is definitely a positive thing, and I hope we do even more of it in the future," said senior attack Shannon O'Brien (112 block east of Bend, IN 46637)

**Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu**

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**MEN’S LACROSSE**

**Irish look to make it three straight**

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will try to build on its two-game winning streak as they travel to Louisville to take on Bellarmine on Saturday.

The Irish (7-4) enter the game ranked No. 7 in the Inside Lacrosse Media Poll, fresh off a 13-6 win against Drexel last Saturday, March 25. That win came on the heels of a 19-7 drubbing of Dartmouth March 15.

Senior attack Alex Wharton and junior attack Duncan Swesty played significant roles in both wins. Between them, the pair have scored nine goals and made 11 assists in the last two games.

Wharton was named player of the week of the Great Western Lacrosse League for his six-point effort in the Dartmouth win. Head coach Kevin Corrigan said Thursday that Wharton and Swezey's collective success is mainly the result of experience.

"The two of them have been playing together ever since [2005]," Corrigan said. "They came in this year and really started clicking. Both of them have been very aggressive but also smart with the ball, and they communicate really well. Playing together for a couple years now has definitely helped them."

Between Wharton, Swezey, and senior midfielder Michael Podgajny, who tied his career-high with four assists against Drexel, the Irish look set on the offensive end of the field. According to Corrigan, though, the team's main goal as it heads to Bellarmine will be more on the defensive half of play.

"The biggest thing for us is we need to establish ourselves in the way we have in our other games — defensively," Corrigan said. "That takes the pressure off of our offense. We can be a very defensive team when we're diligent and when we communicate. We've started off a number of our games very well and given up very few goals in the first quarter that's a really important thing because it relieves the pressure and allows us to play our game."

**Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu**

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**SMC GOLF**

**Belles pursue Div. III title**

By ALEX BARKER  
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's continues in its pursuit of a qualifying spot in the NCAA Division III championship as it competes in its second event this spring at the Northern Kentucky Invitational in Perry Park, Kent.

Competing alongside the Belles will be five of the top 10 teams in Div. II as well as several strong Div. III teams including the No. 5 team.

"The competition will be fierce," Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. "Our goal is to finish as the top Division III team in the field."

Katie O'Brien has led the Belles for the last year. The senior captain won the MAIA's most valuable player award last fall and brought Saint Mary's to a third place finish in the conference. Freshman Emily Gore also played well this fall garnering second-team all-MAIA honors and is an important factor in bringing the Belles to the championship event this spring.

"I expect both of them to continue to play well and score low this spring," Hamilton said. The Belles made great strides during the offseason and Hamilton believes his team has what it takes to propel them to the top of their conference.

"I think we have worked harder than our competition ..." Mark Hamilton  
Belles coach

In the first event of the spring, the Belles placed 10th at the St. Andrews Invitational in Pinehurst, N.C. This weekend's tournament is the second of seven events on the schedule for Saint Mary's this spring.

**Contact Alex Barker at abarker2@smu.edu**

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**Women's Lacrosse**

Senior captain Caitlin McKinney flies past a Canisius defender in Notre Dame's 22-10 victory on Feb. 15.

**Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu**

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**Men's Lacrosse**

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI  
Sports Writer

The Irish look to make it three straight...
With joy and thanksgiving we invite you to celebrate
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Louisville reaches Elite 8 with victory over UT
Earl Clark nets 17 points in addition to 12 rebounds; Cardinals coach Rick Pitino now 8-0 in Sweet 16 play

Associated Press
CHARLOTTE, N.C. Tennessee's Wayne Chism tried to pick up the loose ball, only to be quickly outnumbered. Louisville's Earl Clark and Preston Knowles both dove to the floor, and it's left the Cardinals' coach a victory away from a sixth trip to the Final Four.

After a horrible start, Chris Smith had 11, but the Volunteers continued their NCAA tournament shooting slump.

Tennessee went 3-for-20 from 3-point range and finished 11-for-38 in three games. It was another disappointing end for Pearl, who has resurrected the program at Tennessee in his third season, but hasn't been able to get the Vols into the round of eight.

The Volunteers, who were outrebounded 43-28, dropped to 0-5 in regional semifinals and finished with a school record for victories in a season.

"This doesn't take much away from the finest season in the history of Tennessee basketball," Pearl said. "No team has accomplished the things these guys accomplished this year, and I am awfully proud of them."

Louisville power forward Earl Clark dunks the ball in front of Volunteer forward Tyler Smith in the Cardinals 79-60 win Tuesday.

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MEN’S TENNIS

Irish look to end three-game skid against OSU

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame is looking to bounce back after three straight losses, but the No. 27 Irish will have to be on top of their game as they take on No. 2 Ohio State.

The Irish have had recent luck against the Buckeyes despite losing to them 7-0 last year in Columbus. Overall, the Irish hold the upper hand in head-to-head competition with a 26-22 record.

"Two years ago they came here and we upset them," coach Bobbi Baysill said. "Last year we went there and they beat us, but I feel like we can coexist with them and make it a close match."

The Irish recently fell to No. 50 Kentucky with their other two losses coming at the Blue Gray Tennis Classic. The Irish fell to No. 33 Boise State, and No. 8 Tulsa in two close matches.

"We were in all of our matches against Arizona, the Irish lost to both Boise State and Tulsa," Baysill said.

"Against Kellogg (Boise State) was up a set and 4-3 when the match was stopped. (Dan) Stahl has won a lot of close matches lately.

After the National Team meets, Baysill decided change needed to be made in the doubles lineup to get more productivity out of his No. 2 team.

The No. 1 team of senior Sheeva Parhizi and Helgeson did not change. However, Baysilay teamed junior Santiago Montoya with senior Andrew Roth, and slid freshman Tyler Leisha down to No. 3.

"Each of the guys have had their moments in the sun. Hopefully, the maturity I expect will show itself soon."

Bobbi Baysill
Irish coach

SMC TENNIS

Belles try to bounce back after home loss

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

St. Mary's heads off to Saint Mary's

On Friday, Feb. 19, the Irish will hit the road again for its conference opener, a doubleheader at DePaul Sunday.

"This team is itching to play in the Big East and prove what Notre Dame softball is about this year," junior pitcher Brittney Bargar said.

The beginning of the conference season signals the opportunity for the Irish to live up to their expectations.

"This conference season, I expect perfection, out of myself as well as this team," Bargar said. "We have the talent this year, and the sky is the limit."

That said, a scheduled game against Illinois-Chicago was postponed and has not been rescheduled.

The Blue Demons (19-9) currently sit at No. 24 in the USA Today/NFCA poll.

The Irish met the Blue Demons three times last year, losing twice at DePaul in late April before exacting some revenge on their home field with an 8-2 victory in a game that advanced the Irish to the finals of the Big East tournament where they fell to Louisville.

Those eight runs served as a stark contrast to the one run the Blue Demons scored against the Irish last year.

"I do think our doubles are very good coming up.

But especially at No. 1 and No. 2, we have some good matches," coach Chuck Ruhlin said. "We have a good effort on our part.

I think we have some good matches with our No. 2 in singles, Jillian Hurley, and in the No. 6 spot with Jessica Camillo.

If we improve," Ruhlin said, "we can win sets and matches in the middle of our singles.

With a young team of two sophomores and eight freshmen, St. Mary's has had to do some adjusting this season.

"We need to learn to compete on the next level, and that's an ongoing process," Ruhlin said.

"Our girls are learning that this is a new level, and it takes some adjustment, and we're working towards that."

This weekend, St. Mary's will take on Saint Mary's College on Friday morning at 11:30 a.m. and at 3 p.m. and Saint Mary's is currently ranked No. 18 in the NAIA, is 2-0 and is getting some recognition, after winning the Tri-State Conference Championship in the fall.

"This is going to be a very strong tournament," Ruhlin said.

"Very soft competition that will force us to try to improve. We'll give our best effort, and hopefully the strong competition will pay off towards the end of the season where it counts as many flights as we can and improve."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel@smuds.edu
NBA

Anthony-Iverson duo combine for 63 in win

Afflalo scores 15 stepping in for Hamilton as Detroit clinches Central division title with win over beleaguered Heat

Associated Press

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 32 points and sparked the decisive run in the third quarter of the Denver Nuggets' 118-105 win over the sliding Dallas Mavericks on Thursday night.

Allen Iverson added 31 points for the Nuggets, who won their fourth straight and moved into a tie with Golden State for the eighth and final playoff spot, one game behind the Mavericks. The Warriors played Portland later Thursday night.

The Nuggets' grand night was capped when forward Nene entered the game with 1:17 left, marking his return in the court 27 months after surgery to remove a malignant teresal tumor, and just over a month after undergoing chemotherapy.

He was given a standing ovation as teammate Kenyon Martin embraced him in a bear hug. Nene hoped to play 5 minutes, but those plans were scrapped when the Nuggets fell behind early.

"It's not about how he plays," coach George Karl said an hour before tip-off. "We're just happy he's back and we're going to celebrate his coming off of major cancer surgery, and we're just going to celebrate. This has nothing to do with basketball. We're just happy he's with us." The Nuggets also got 10 boards from Dahntay Jones and overcame a 30-point night by Josh Howard and 19 points and 15 assists from Jason Kidd.

The Nuggets are 10-9 since acquiring Kidd from New Jersey, but none of the wins was against teams with winning records. Six of their final 10 games are against teams above .500.

Dallas fell to 1-1 since losing MVP Dirk Nowitzki indefinitely with knee and ankle injuries.

After trailing by 15 points early, the Nuggets took a 94-86 lead into the fourth quarter. Kidd was left unguarded on the left elbow and swished a 3-pointer in the third quarter to give the Mavericks a 79-71 lead, but the Nuggets responded with an 18-2 run.

Anthony scored half of the Nuggets' 20 points in the game-turning spurt. His breakaway slam dunk gave Denver its first lead since the opening minutes, and Anthony Carter followed with a breakaway 3-point-play to make it 82-79 and force a timeout.

After a jumper by Howard, Anthony sank four free throws with 3:17 left in the third quarter for an 86-81 lead after Dallas coach Avery Johnson and Howard received technicals for arguing a personal foul on Howard.

Howard surpassed his scoring average of 19.6 points with a 22-point first half, leading Dallas to a 70-60 lead at the break.

With 16 points, Jerry Stackhouse (10.6) also passed his scoring average by halftime. So did Kidd (10.6) with 13 points as Dallas shot 60 percent from the field.

Afflalo, starting in place of the injured Richard Hamilton, had a career-high 15 points as the Pistons clinched the Central Division title with a 85-69 victory over the Miami Heat.

"I'm out there with four All-Star-caliber players, so they aren't going to be paying much attention to me," Afflalo said. "I hit a couple shots early and that let me get comfortable.

Afflalo talked to the media while watching his alma mater, UCLA, take on Western Kentucky in an NCAA tournament game.

"The best part about my situation is that I've got a lot of veteran teammates that have all been through this before," he said. "They're able to calm me down and tell me what to do."

Despite their constant teasing about his poor dunking ability — Rasheed Wallace told him he wasn't going to be able to dunk a basketball — Afflalo has earned the respect of his teammates.

"He's done a great job all year," said Chauncey Billups. "He's worked hard in practice, he works hard before games, and when he gets an opportunity, he takes it. He's been big."

The win ensured Detroit's fourth straight division title and sixth in the last seven years.

"It means a lot," Billups said. "Every year, we're picked to finish second, third, maybe even fourth, but at the end, we're in first. That feels good."

Detroit didn't clinch the title in stellar form, though. The Pistons came in having lost three of four, and struggled against the hapless Heat.

Those guys had nothing to lose, and they were going to try to prove some things — earn a roster spot or secure things for next year," Pistons coach Flip Saunders said. "We executed down the stretch. Any time you hold a team, I don't care who it is, to 24 points in the second half, you have a chance to win."

Miami, which has lost 13 of 15, dressed nine players, including four rookies and two second-year players.

"It's hard to evalute young guys when you aren't playing them with your best players," said Miami coach Pat Riley. "We're asking them to do things we wouldn't normally expect them to do."

Rookie Blake Ahearn, who came into the game with seven career points, led Miami with 15, but only two other players reached double figures.

"The guys that are out there playing, we have a lot of pride," said Chris Quinn, who led Miami's starters with 11 points.

"The only thing we can do is play as hard as possible. We've got 10 or 11 games left, and we've got to leave it all out there."

Reserve Jason Maxiell had 15 points for Detroit, while Billups added 13 points and 11 assists.

Miami led for most of the first half and had an eight-point advantage late in the second quarter, but Detroit narrowed the gap to 45-43 at intermission. The Heat outrebounded the Pistons 20-15 in the half, including a 6-1 advantage on the offensive boards.

The Pistons went ahead early in the third quarter, but wasted an opportunity to build a big lead. They missed seven free throws in the period, including five by Antionio McDyess.

That let the Heat stay in the game, but Detroit had expanded the margin to 66-55 by quarter's end. Maxiell had 11 points and five rebounds in the period.

Miami got within 70-65 with 7:30 to go, but Rasheed Wallace answered with a 3-pointer. Afflalo's three-point play moved the lead to 80-69 with 2:39 left and the Pistons finally took control.
Squad opens spring season

Captains will split time between Pac-10 Challenge and Lubber's Cup

By LULU ZHANG
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame women's crew team, led by senior captains Allison Marsh, Laura Pearson, and Amanda Polk, will open its 2008 spring season with two challenges — part of the team will head to Palo Alto, Calif. to compete in the Pac-10 Challenge presented by Windemere Real Estate, while the other will head to Grand Rapids, Mich. to compete in the Lubbers Cup. Notre Dame faces Stanford on Saturday morning, UCLA on Saturday afternoon, and UC Berkeley on Sunday morning. The team has won the women's trophy the past two years at the Lubbers Cup, and although they have a reduced squad this year, Coach Stone says they are up to the challenge. Coach Stone said the team had scrimmaged Northeastern over break, but has a more solid lineup at this point. The team has been training hard, and Stone is expecting a great performance from each member of his squad in its opening weekend.

Contact Lulu Zhang at lzhang5@nd.edu

Irish gear up for 3-game series against Bearcats

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

About a week and a half ago, Notre Dame (12-7-1, 0-1) seemed to hit rock bottom after blowing a seven-run lead and giving up the last two innings to Texas Pan-American. Talk about a turnaround. Notre Dame is building into a three-game series against Big East rival Cincinnati (10-9, 2-1), the Irish have won five in a row since the Broncos' debacle.

"We're much more confident now," Notre Dame coach Dave Schrage said. "We've been pitching better, our offense has been explosive. It also helps when you have from Sharpley batting as well as he is. He’s knocked six homeruns within the past couple of games and driven in a bunch of runs."

After the sweep of Big East rival Georgetown, the junior was named the Big East player of the week for his offensive production, making him the first Irish player to gain the honor since Craig Cooper did so in April 2006. With the win streak, Schrage said he can feel his younger players gaining confidence and starting to fit into their roles.

"Oh, they're definitely maturing," he said. "They're developing as a group, and overall just playing with more confidence. A lot of them are starting to understand where they fit in on the team. Sometimes when you come in as a freshman, you're not exactly sure what to expect, and since we play a lot of first-year kids, we had some early struggles."

Notre Dame looks to stay undefeated in conference play against the Bearcats this weekend, while Cincinnati would love to gain some ground in the league standings.

Despite the Irish momentum, Schrage does not want to take the Bearcats for granted, mainly because of their own recent hot streak.

"They're playing real well," Schrage said. "They're coming in as a talented bunch on a four-game streak of their own. Their pitching is much improved from last season. (Cincinnati) also has a veteran lineup that features some speed. They're leadoff man, [sophomore] Kyle Weiland close nine times as of late and its turned into wins."
**NCAA Men's Basketball**

**Sloppy UCLA eked by WKU**

Associated Press

UCLA can make a double-digit victory count.

With Kevin Love scoring a career-high 29 points, the Bruins nearly flattened away a 21-point halftime lead and hung on to defeat Western Kentucky 88-78 in the NCAA West Regional on Thursday.

Top-seeded UCLA (34-3) will play No. 3 seed Xavier on Saturday for its third consecutive Final Four.

The Bruins were more relieved than happy to survive the Hilltoppers, who took advantage of UCLA's sloppy play to pull within four points late in the game.

"Unacceptable, unacceptable, unacceptable," Love said.

"That's all I can say."

"It was unacceptable the way we played in the second half. If we're going to keep playing like that, we're not going to be in this tournament very long."

The Bruins routed overmatched Mississippi Valley State in the first round but haven't resembled a No. 1 seed since.

They sweated out a two-point victory over Texas A&M in the second round.

"That was another exciting game for all the Bruins fans out there," UCLA coach Ben Howland said. "We need to keep you guys awake and on the edge of your seat."

Without Love, the Bruins would be in hibernation already.

Love had 14 rebounds and hit 10-of-14 shots from the floor.

Love had help from James Keefe, who had 18 points and 12 rebounds, both career highs.

Russell Westbrook added 14 points and 11 rebounds.

Keefe, a sophomore who has battled back from shoulder surgery last August, played sparingly most of the season.

"I mean, that's why I came back, you know?" Keefe said.

Tyrene Brazelton scored 31 points — 15 in the second half — and Courtney Lee added 18 for 12th-seeded Western Kentucky (29-7).

"We just dug ourselves too big of a hole in the first half," Western Kentucky coach Darrin Horn said. "I'm unbelievably proud of my team."

Early on, the Bruins looked primed for a blowout, blitzing the Hilltoppers with a 23-4 run midway through the first half.

UCLA led 41-20 at halftime, but Western Kentucky wouldn't go away. The Hilltoppers began pressing, and the Bruins started to unravel. They had 12 turnovers in the first 15 minutes of the second half and finished with 19 in a season-high.

The Bruins appeared in trouble when point guard Darren Collison fouled out — for the first time this year — with 3:59 to play. Collison had four points and four turnovers.

"They came out in some different egos," Collison said. "We didn't read the plays right. Everybody was sped up."

At that point, senior guard Mike Montgomery answered points in less than a minute in back-to-back 3-pointers.

"We were up 21, so it was a little bit of a hole in the first half," Western Kentucky coach Darrin Horn said.

"I think we finally decided situation down the stretch," Howland said.

Although the Bruins did not let the scrappy Hilltoppers draw closer than six the rest of the way, they hadn't been dominant. Five of their last eight wins had been by three points or less, and another came after they forced overtime.

The Hilltoppers had won eight straight games and reached the round of 16 for the first time since 1993, when Horn was a sophomore guard. At No. 12, Western Kentucky was the lowest remaining seed in the tournament, along with Villanova.

Early on, Western Kentucky looked the part of a 12th-seed. The Hilltoppers came out jittery, with four turnovers in the first minute and a scoreless stretch midway through the first half.

Lee made two of his first 13 shots from the floor.

Things were no better at the other end, where Western Kentucky had no answer for Love.

D.J. Mogley and Jeremy Evans each scored 10 for the Hilltoppers in a 7-2 span in the first minutes, and Evans went to the bench with his second foul three minutes into the game.
Lady Vols
continued from page 28
many weapons that you really can't just get at one person and try to shut one person down. Because of that, McGraw said, she would look for a defense that could guard many people simultaneously. "The problem with Tennessee I think they're all going to get their points," she said. "So we've got to make a stand somewhere. That's what we'll have to decide." In contrast, Parker, Notre Dame has a senior class that isn't quite done yet. Gaines and guard Charell Allen, whose career-high 35 points put Notre Dame in the Sweet 16, continue to drive the team, McGraw said. "I think Tulyah and Charell have a great sense of urgency," McGraw said. "Tulyah has had that all year long. She has been the driving force of the team. She is the heart and soul of our group. She gives us energy and makes us go." Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS
Irish try to stretch win streak to 6
In-state rival No. 24 Indiana faces No. 19 Notre Dame at home

BY DAN MASTERTON
Sports Writer

No. 19 Notre Dame (12-7) will put its five-game win streak on the line against the No. 24 Indiana Hoosiers Sunday at 12 p.m. in the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Indiana (14-3) entered Friday with a seven-game win streak and has a chance to extend that streak to eight against Michigan State on Friday at noon. However, I will never get much of a response from him, so I didn't really know what to expect in that area. "Ability-wise, I thought he had it, and he's proved to me that he's ready to compete, play tough when he needs to play tough. He has a great temperament in that he doesn't let things rattle him. That will be key for Pearce and the Irish tonight against a high-powered Buckeye offense. Rest assured, though, if No. 24 Notre Dame wins that, Pearce will have been a major factor. "No matter who wins Friday night or Saturday night or in the Frozen Four, a big part of it is going to be because of goaltending," Jackson said. "You can't win a championship without a great pitcher or a great quarterback -- you have to have that go-to-guy, that guy that can make the difference in goal." Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Pearce
continued from page 28
has a positive outlook on hav­ ing to compete for his position, even during the season. "As the season's gone on and I've played more and more, I've felt more confident in the net, learn­ ing from expe­ ri­ ence," Pearce said. "I'm not com­ placent and I'm not taking my spot for granted even now. I know I have to play and battle for my own posi­ tion." "Competition always breeds excellence, as they always say. You look down the ice and you see Phillipps and [sophomore] Tommy [O'Brien] making big saves and playing well, and it makes you even better, makes you want to work even harder." While the favorite for the job was a mystery to the players, Jackson said he was confident Pearce would eventually be the one to emerge. "I told him going into the sea­ son that it was his job to lose," Jackson said. "He was a junior, he had paid his due, he didn't [complain]. He fought through the last two years, and I think that's a part of why he's having success now — he didn't let it impact him in a dramatically negative way." If anything, Pearce said, watching Brown, a Hobey Baker finalist last season, con­ tributed positively to his play. "I think having [Brown] around, especially last year," Pearce said. "He was always on top of his game, and our team was always in it — I don't think he ever had a bad game, and I remember one had games through the whole year, maybe."

And Pearce, who boasts a conference-best 1.92 goals­ against average, has done just that, even through Notre Dame's second-half scoring drought that has seen the Irish score more than two goals just three times since the end of January.

The Hoosiers' impressive overall record comes against an unimpressive schedule. Indiana has played just two ranked opponents and lost both matches whereas the Irish are battle-tested, going 2-6 against their eight ranked opponents. Irish have also yet to face much individual competition. Over their 17 matches, the Hoosiers' singles players have faced only eight ranked singles players all season. The Irish have a 17-29 record in singles matches against ranked players.

In their match-up with the Irish, the Hoosiers will face three ranked singles players in Notre Dame's No. 38 junior Keely Tefft, No. 105 soph­ omore Cosmina Ciobanu, and No. 114 sophomore Kulip Krisk.

The strength of Indiana's singles lineup is at the bot­ tom. Brianna Williams, who has been playing No. 5 sin­ gles, has won seven matches in a row and is 16-1 for the dual season.

Myriam Sepol, who has been playing No. 6 singles in Indiana's lineup, follows Williams. Sepol has tri­ umphed all six times she has taken the court this dual se­ ason. This dynamic pair teams up to comprise Indiana's most successful doubles duo.

The pair of Sulpel and Williams is 10-1 playing together, primarily as the No. 3 doubles team for the Hoosiers.

The Irish doubles attack has dropped just two of 18 matches amidst a streak of six doubles points wins in a row. The pair of Tefft and senior Brook Buck remain No. 1 in the country while the No. 50 pair of Ciobanu and sophomore Colleen Riedley continue to quietly dominate with a 12-1 record.

On the singles side, the Irish win streak has been led by the strong play of Krisk. She is 16-3 on the dual sea­ son and has won 14 of her last 15 matches. The domi­ nance of Krisk and solid play and the bottom can often go overlooked in the lineup.

The competition between Indiana and Notre Dame's strong bottom halves should be intense and could ulti­ mately decide if the Irish streak will grow to six.

Contact Dan Masterton at dmastert@nd.edu
NCAA
continued from page 28

The No. 4 Irish will match up against the No. 1 seed University of New Hampshire in the first round of the West regional in Colorado Springs, Colo. The Wildcats are led by senior forward Matt Fornataro and Mike Radja, who combined for 89 points on the season. In net, Kevin Regan led the Hockey East Association with a sterling 2.12 GAA and a .928 save percentage.

"We've seen a little bit of them on film already," Irish senior captain Mark Van Gulider said. "But they're a talented team with good speed."

The speed may play to New Hampshire's advantage on the Olympic-size ice sheet at World Arena, which is smaller than the NHL-size rink on which the Irish are used to playing. The Wildcats, on the other hand, play their home games on the larger sheet.

Jackson, though, has plenty of experience playing on smaller rinks during his time coaching the United States junior team. He said some effects of the rink, like the theory that the added open space leads to more offense, were exaggerated.

"I think it actually hurts the game offensively because there's so much additional space that you can kind of get lost in," Jackson said. "The biggest thing is that you have to learn to play more inside the dots."

"It's an ocean, so if you get trapped playing outside the areas that you normally do, you can play a lot of perimeter hockey," Jackson said.

However, Jackson said the Wildcats will likely spread out the ice and could work to their advantage on the bigger sheet. New Hampshire, like the rest of the HEA, plays a much more up-tempo, fast-paced game. The conference is traditionally smaller and quicker than the slower-paced OCHA.

"They're an extremely talented team," Jackson said. "They have the same kind of talent as a team like Miami, but they play the game a little differently." Van Gulider compared the Wildcats' offensive talent, if not playing style, to OHA rival Michigan.

"They have that kind of talent and that kind of speed," Van Gulider said. "We're going to try to frustrate them again like we do against offensive-minded teams. It'll be a challenge.

This is the second straight year the Irish have qualified for the NCAA tournament, and only the third time in the program's history. Last year, the Irish beat the Wildcats 1-0 in the 2003-2004 season.

"I think that kind of talent they have that kind of offensive ability," Van Gulider said. "It's a little different, obviously you're opposite us to be a little bit stronger." junior forward Garrett Regan said of bringing the underdog Wildcats to know what we've got going on inside of our locker room, and from that you can see a trend.

If the Irish beat UNH on Friday afternoon, they will move on to face the winner of the Michigan-State Colorado College matchup.

The Irish have plenty of experience with the Spartans, having played them twice in CCHA play this season, falling 3-1 in East Lansing and tying 1-1 in the Joyce Center. Notre Dame hasn't faced the boys from the CC, though, since it lost 3-1 in the 2005 season.

"That bracket is awesome," Van Gulider said. "There's awesome teams there.

For now, though, Jackson and the Irish are focused on New Hampshire and only New Hampshire.

"We're 120 minutes away from playing in the Frozen Four, and that's the only way we have to look at it," Jackson said. "But we've got to straggle off every minute with great play. We have to worry about the first minute before we worry about the first 20 or the first 60.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

UNH
continued from page 28

because they were good. From 1992 until the present, the Wildcats have missed the NCAA tournament only three times (1993, 1996, 2001). They played for the national championship in 1999 (they won) and 2003, and tickets to see their games were hot commodities mostly gotten from friends who knew friends who had a couple extra.

UNH players came to skate and teach at our youth hockey practices, and we played a lot of games on our massive Olympic ice surface at the Whittemore Center. During the winter that the Whit was being built, the Wildcats practiced at our local rink, a 30 second bike ride from my house.

My teammates from the youth hockey league would line around the rink during their practices, hoping for a stray puck shot over the net or trying to snag a broken stick. The Wildcats were larger-than-life celebrities to kids and adults alike, regarded much in the same way that Notre Dame football players often are.

Not much has changed since then. And that goes for the one sticker that sticks to UNH like right haunts Scott Norwood.

The Wildcats chose in the NCAA Tournament. For a Notre Dame team that struggled the second half of the season and lost two games before buckling into the Tournament as a No. 4 seed against No. 1 UNH today, the Wildcats' Tournament history might seem bright.

Last year, No. 1 seed UNH lost to No. 4 Miami in the first round regional game played in Manchester, N.H. — a 60-minute drive from their campus.

The Wildcats have lost by scores of 7-1 (as a No.3 seed to No.2 seed Harvard in 1994) and 9-2 (in the first round to No. 6-seed Denver in 1995 as a No. 3 seed). In 2000, auto­ pod Niagara wiped them out of the first round with a 4-1 sur­ prise.

Overall, UNH has a 12-20 record in the NCAA Tournament, including losses in the championship game to Maine and Minnesota — the latter a 5-1 slaughter that was never close.

Notre Dame has played a grand total of three Tournament games with a 1-2 record, two games of which came last year with a first­round win before a quarterfinal loss to Michigan State.

The UNH Tourney history book is a leather-bound Encyclopedia Britannica volume to Notre Dame's Chinese food takeout menu. And that experience counts against a lot of teams.

But maybe not the Irish. Notre Dame has an ace up its sleeve, the king of hearts that took the Irish from league bottom feeder to national con­ tender. That man is Irish coach Jeff Jackson.

Jackson already has won three national championships and seems destined to pick up a few more before he's done. He knows how to coach his players for the biggest stage in college hockey, which has always been a criticism tossed around UNH coach Dick Umile.

In hockey, the intangibles — the ability to motivate, to instill confidence, to never under or overestimate an opponent — make a huge impact. The truth is any team can win a hockey game, no matter how bad they look on paper. It only takes a weird carom off the corner boards to the front of the net or a lucky deflection to turn a game. UNH's Tournament fullness could just be a case of bad luck repeated on an endless loop that is finally broken this year. Or Notre Dame's struggle in the second half of the season could disappear behind a miraculous playoff run.

It could go either way. But if the Irish pull off the upset on Olympic ice and defeat No. 1 seeded New Hampshire in the Hockeytown tonight, don't be sur­ prised.

New Hampshire doesn't always do what it should, trust me on that one.

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcasilly@nd.edu
BLAcK DoG

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[Crossword Grid]

[Horoscope]

FRIDAYS WITH FRAN

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Don’t get hit by Maxwell’s silver hammer...dummy.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21) Did you know Dustin Hoffman plays Captain Hook? Also, how cool would it be to have a book for a hand?
CANCER (June 21-July 22) In the same vein, what’s the deal with cyborgs that have wheels for legs?
LIGO (July 23-Aug. 22) Did you know there’s a school in California called LIGO Dunbar named after LIGO?
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Don’t settle for plain pee. Try to dehydrate yourself and make it orange.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Gyrate.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) It’s time to re-seab.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Hey, wanna go to Between the Buns? Also, how cool would it be to have a book for a hand?
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Look out for the Butt-baby. He’s growing up.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Bend and snap. Text (582)975-9265 if you know where that reference comes from. The winner will get my main props. Not propellers, just props!
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Oh, WORD!
HOCKEY

It's Tourney time

Squad faces NH after nearly missing NCAA

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame may be lucky to have made the NCAA tournament, but now that it has, the Irish plan on making some serious noise.

"We have nothing to lose. It's one game or done," Irish head coach Jeff Jackson said. "We might as well go out and empty the tank and play the very best we can to see if we can play again Saturday with an opportunity to get to the Frozen Four."

Just making the Tournament was a challenge for the Irish, who qualified despite losing in the CHA semifinals against Miami, and then falling to Northern Michigan in the consolation game. Due to the complex nature of selection process, if Notre Dame had tied NMU instead of lost, it probably would have been left out of the NCAA Tournament.

Jeff Jackson brings in winning ways for Irish

I grew up a 20-minute drive away from the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus, along one of the wooded, two-lane roads that pass for major thoroughfares in my state.

Like someone who was born and raised in Tuscaloosa on 'Bama football, there was no college hockey OK. Like someone who was raised in New Hampshire, hockey may differ more than their fans' accents, but there was no denying that in rural New Hampshire, the Wildcats were king.

They were hockey gods

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

On a neutral court, Notre Dame will face a two-loss team that beat them by 24 points in the Joyce Center. A team that has won all 19 of its games against the Irish. A team with the best player in the country and one of the best coaches in the history of the game. And a team who can shoot from the outside, something the Irish struggle to defend.

Notre Dame's in a deep.

These are the obstacles that coach Pat Summit, forward Candace Parker and No. 1 seed Tennessee present when they face the No. 5-seed Irish at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City Sunday at 9:30 p.m. during the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament.

But Irish coach Muffet McGraw said these are the obstacles Notre Dame must look past to be successful.

"We have a lot of respect for Tennessee and what they've done, but we cannot come into the game feeling intimidated," she said.

Notre Dame reached the Sweet 16 for the first time since 2004. Players who have been to the Tournament before are telling the freshmen to enjoy it.

"I was talking to [guard Melissa Lechlitner], she said, "Soak it up, it doesn't happen very often."

Freshman guard Brianna Mallory said, "I'm very happy with my team, and can't wait to play Tennessee."

Not surprising, considering the outcome of the last game between the two teams. Tennessee hit 11-of-20 3-point attempts when it beat Notre Dame 87-63 on Jan. 5 at the Joyce Center. Notre Dame still has trouble guarding teams behind the arc — Oklahoma guard Jentry Plumley hit six of her 10 3-point attempts and the team hit nine of its 16 during Notre Dame's 79-75 overtime win over the Sooners in the Tournament's second round Tuesday.

"We definitely got yell at that for," guard Toluay Gaines said of Plumley's performance. Mallory said the team is always thinking about improving perimeter defense.

"That's something in the back of our mind that we know we need to work on," Mallory said. "We've just gotta get out and play. We can't let Vols guard Angie Bjorklund or anyone get hot on their team."

McGraw agreed and said the team put too much stress on post defense.

"We just have to get that attitude of, 'we're going to get out and guard the 3-point line,'" she said. "I think we're too worried about inside."

Both McGraw and the players stressed team defense as a necessary factor for a win over Tennessee. The Lady Vols score 78.8 points per game and have two legitimate 3-point threats.

Guard Alexis Hornbuckle hits 43.5 percent of her 3's in attempts, and although Bjorklund averages a comparably middling 37.4 percent from behind the arc, she buried seven of 15 during the Sweet 16.

Not to mention Parker, who averages 21.1 points per game and 8.2 rebounds per game. She had 20 points and eight rebounds in the first contest against Notre Dame.

Not to mention Parker, who was worried so much about Candace Parker we didn't pay enough attention to the perimeter," McGraw said.

"And I think that they have so