**Dorm holds successful marrow registry**

Howard Hall collects 375 donors, donations provide transplants for cancer patients

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

Howard Hall exceeded its goal of collecting 300 donors in its signature Bone Marrow Registry Thursday in the Dooley Room of LaFortune Student Center. Scheduled to last from noon until 8 p.m., event organizers were encouraged during the first 40 minutes of the event as they registered 60 donors.

When the event was finished, the event had registered 375 people, topping the initial expectation, according to sophomore Emily Stewart, event co-chair.

"You really underestimate how willing people are to donate," said sophomore Eleanor Trousdale, another one of the events co-chairs.

The event entered volunteers into the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), which keeps records of and contacts its registries when a cancer patient with matched DNA needs a transplant, according to NMDP's website.

The registration process consisted of students first filling out paperwork with their contact information and then swabbing the inside of their cheeks to obtain a DNA sample.

In the case of a DNA match, the donor would be contacted to donate marrow.

"If you're called, you could save a life," Stewart said.

The last 75 students to register only filled out the paperwork, since other supplies had run out.

"We will have the swab kits out the paperwork necessary to register for the National Marrow Donor Program in the Dooley Room of LaFortune.

*See Howard Page 3*

**Shack City to raise funds for homeless**

Participants will spend the night on South Quad to raise awareness for the less fortunate

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

In an attempt to emulate the real-life situation of homelessness, students will forgo the comfort of their dorm rooms or off-campus residences Friday night, rain or shine.

Through Habitat for Humanity’s Shack City event, the Notre Dame community plans to raise awareness and funds to combat homelessness.

Participants will construct homes out of cardboard boxes and spend the night on South Quad.

Habitat for Humanity education and outreach board member Jaime Amrhein said the event has a twofold purpose.

The first, Amrhein said, is to raise awareness of the conditions in which many homeless people are forced to live, and the second is to raise funds for the organization.

Funds raised from the event will help "to combat the homelessness that we are trying to raise awareness about," Amrhein said.

Proceeds from Shack City will help Habitat for Humanity to build the house that the organization has been working on in South Bend since October – the 14th house that the organization has built in South Bend, Amrhein said.

Steve Camilleri, executive director of Center for the Homeless in South Bend, will speak at the event, Amrhein said.

DJs from WVFI and three performers from Acoustic Café will be playing music on the quad.

In past Shack City events, Amrhein said there was a "community atmosphere," with many people playing football and Frisbee on the quad.

Shack City’s South Quad location enables Habitat for Humanity to speak at the event, Amrhein said.

The Rebuilding Together Program, a partnership of volunteers from local government, businesses and other organizations, has rehabilitated close to 700 homes in the South Bend area since 1989, according to the Office for Civic and Social Engagement’s Web site.

Because of the significant student turnout the past three years, the Shack City event this year has since gained increased visibility in the community.

"There are more submissions this year than there were last year, and we even got sub-

*See Uganda Page 4*

**Midwest film conference to be held at Notre Dame**

By THERESA CIVANTOS
News Writer

This weekend, Notre Dame will welcome students from across the Midwest in its second annual Midwest Undergraduate Film Conference.

The program will run from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Friday and from 9 a.m. until 5:15 p.m. on Saturday.

Thirty participants from 12 different Midwestern universities will present papers on different film genres. Papers range from topics with titles such as "Dangerous Women" to "Tales of the Uncanny" to "Heroes and Anti-Heroes."

"We’re probably the only undergraduate film conference in the nation," said Film, Television and Theater (FTT) professor Christie Becker, co-organizer of the event.

Becker said this conference is unique for its emphasis on undergraduate research. "Almost all conferences are geared to professors and grad students, but Notre Dame is a place that really inspires undergraduate research," she said.

Although the conference is only in its second year, Becker said, it gradually has become well known.

"It was started last year by Pamela Wojciak," said Becker. "It was such a success we decided to try it again."

Becker also said the conference has since gained increasing recognition in academic circles as well.

"There are more submissions this year than there were last year, and we even got sub-

*See Film Page 4*

**Students to bike 7,657 miles**

ND-8 and Building Together charity organize fundraiser for Uganda

By MADALINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

Students will collectively attempt to pedal the 7,657 miles between South Bend and Uganda today in order to raise money to build a Ugandan community school.

A joint effort of the ND-8 and Building Together charity, Bike to Uganda is the final fundraising event that will contribute to the construction of the school.

In the past, the group held a brick sale, a T-shirt sale and a Christmas tree ornament sale.

"Our goal is to raise $25,000," said Erin Jelm, ND-8 officer and Bike to Uganda organizer. "We are about $7,500 short, and we

*See Shack Page 3*
The time is now

If necessarily those of The McKenzie, advice when he knows about a bunch of stuff President Lincoln had no idea about. But that’s why I do what I do. Most of my work is dubitable, but I have a good sense of humor. (What about yours?)

But I think it’s important to remember that if we’re going to make any progress in the fight against AIDS, we need to focus on long-term solutions, not just quick fixes. For example, investing in research and education is essential. And we need to make sure that everyone, regardless of their socioeconomic status, has access to the care they need.

I also think it’s important to remember that history is not just about the past. It’s about the present and the future. And we can’t undo the mistakes of the past, but we can learn from them and use that knowledge to prevent similar mistakes in the future.

Finally, I think it’s important to remember that we’re all connected. What happens to one of us can affect all of us. And that’s why it’s important to work together to create a better world for everyone.

Brian McKenzie

The time is now, and it’s time to act. Let’s make a difference.
Super Bowl of Pop Culture

3 person teams compete in the Superbowl of Pop Culture to win fabulous prizes:ipod shuffles, Best of Notre Dame Football DVD boxset, $25 gift certificate to itunes, bragging rights.

Preliminary written test, Monday, 14 April at 7pm. Sign up at wvfi.nd.edu and receive more information.

Top teams compete in final round, Friday, 18 April at 9pm in the Carey Auditorium in the Library. Free food and door prizes to the audience.

WVFI, Voice of the Fighting Irish wvfi.nd.edu

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WVFI, Voice of the Fighting Irish wvfi.nd.edu
The Observer - CAMPUS NEWS

Film

continued from page 1

were last year, and we even got submissions from schools we didn't necessarily solicit. Also, two participants who did it last year are doing it again this year, so they must have liked it," Becker said. "Awareness and recognition of the conference is definitely growing."

Notre Dame professors will moderate the student presentations.

"The moderators are exclusively FTT faculty," Becker said.

Becker said Wojcik was inspired to start the conference while teaching an FTT Honors seminar last year. "This is a more advanced academic work that's beyond the usual," Becker said.

The conference, Becker said, gives undergraduate students the unique opportunity to share their research with their peers.

"One purpose of the conference was to get our undergraduate scholars to see each other's work," Becker said. "It's incredibly gratifying to not only show your work but also collaborate and learn from other people. It makes the academics very rewarding for the students." Contact Tricia Vivantes at tcvvamos@nd.edu

Rebuild

continued from page 1

years, the organization assigned Saint Mary's two homes this year, Call said.

In addition to providing the work force, Saint Mary's will donate new televisions, sloves, and other necessities. Financial sponsorship of the event comes from faculty and staff donations. Currently, Saint Mary's has raised over $1,000, Call said. The College will also provide construction tools.

Call said the project is a unique form of service.

"It's a very direct way to give back to the local community," she said. Students enjoy seeing their efforts immediately benefiting someone, Call said.

Senior Sarah Patten has been involved with the project for two years. She has witnessed many positive reactions from homeowners. "The homeowners have been overwhelmed in the past. They are really getting a more livable environment they could not have done by themselves," Patten said.

A South Bend native herself, Patten said the project enables students to get involved in the city community. Call also said the project has special significance for the Catholic college.

"It directly reflects Catholic social teaching," Call said.

Last year, Saint Mary's had a unique connection with the project. The owner of the sponsored home was the mother of a current staff member on campus. As a result, on a personal level, the project has been highly successful in the past for the college, Call said.

Over 600 Notre Dame students will also rehabilitate twenty-one homes in South Bend, although the University will not be sponsoring a specific home, Call said. According to Call, President Carol Ann Mooney's husband, George Rilla, a member of Rebuilding Together's Board of Directors, first suggested the project to Call.

"The homeowners have been overwhelmed in the past. They are really getting a more livable environment they could not have done by themselves."

Sarah Patten
Saint Mary's senior

Uganda

continued from page 1

hope to raise that from the bikers, she said.

The fundraising event will take place on Fieldhouse Mall from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. today. Rolfs is also sponsoring five stationary bikes to the cause, and we have been recruiting teams of 3-5 people from dorms and different clubs and departments," Jelm said.

The fundraising project began with the organization Building Tomorrow, headquartered in Indianapolis, but currently located on several U.S. college campuses in an effort to encourage University students to raise money for Ugandan schools.

"We have been working on Building Tomorrow all year. It is our number one effort," Jelm said.

"Building the school is a sustainable project. We are close to our goal, but we need people to help us push that last $7,500 so that these kids will be in school when we are in the fall," Jelm said. "75 percent of the funds will come from us, and the remaining 25 percent will come from the Ugandan community."

"The possibilities for a lasting relationship with the school are endless."

Erin Jelm
ND-8 officer

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The Observer
Friday, April 11, 2008

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The Observer

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Ugandan rebel declines peace deal

Associated Press

RAOYAKE, Va. — Most families of victims of the mass shootings at Virginia Tech have agreed, to an $11 million state settlement that will compensate the families of those who lost loved ones, pay survivors' medical costs and avoid a court battle over whether anyone besides the gunman was to blame.

Gov. Timothy M. Kaine said he represented 21 families, said the settlement was worth more than $11 million, but neither they use the governor would discuss its terms until final papers are drawn in a few days.

Grier and Fieberg said seriously injured victims "will be well compensated and have their health care needs taken care of forever," and that families who lost loved ones would be "simply compensated and cared for.

Seung-Hui Cho, a mentally disturbed student, killed 32 victims and wounded two dozen others in a classroom building at Virginia Tech on April 16, 2007 before committing suicide.

Twenty-two families had previously filed notice with the state that they may sue.

Cho killed two people in a dormitory, then killed 30 more than two hours later in a classroom building before taking his own life. University officials have been criticized for waiting about two hours after informing students and employees about the first shootings, which police initially thought were an act of domestic violence.

The gunman had been ruled a danger to himself during a court commitment hearing in 2005 and was ordered to receive outpatient mental health care, but never received treatment.

Attorney General Bob McDonnell's office had no comment on the settlement, spokesman Tucker Martin said.

It was not immediately clear whether the settlement was significantly different from an earlier state proposal, the details of which were obtained last month by The Associated Press. That proposed deal totaled roughly $8.5 million plus the cost of reimbursing and paying for medical and psychological treat-

ment for victims' families and survivors.

That proposal called for representatives of each of those killed to receive $100,000. A pool of $800,000 was set aside for the injured, with individuals eli-

gible to receive up to $100,000 apiece. Families of those killed could seek additional money from a $1.75 million hardship fund, and other money was to be set aside for attorneys' fees and a fund for charities.

The settlement also would give the injured and victims' families a chance to meet with the governor and university officials several times to discuss the mass shoot-

ings and changes on cam-

pus since then.

Grier and Fieberg said the settlement "will also result in the release of previously undisclosed facts and information turned up by our firm's investigation that will enable the public to better understand the events which caused this sense-

less tragedy."

By accepting the pro-

posal, family members gave up the right to sue the state government, the school, the local govern-

ments serving Virginia Tech and the community services board that provides mental-health serv-

ices in the area.

LOCAL NEWS

Ind. primary reaches frenetic pace

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana's just left. Barack and Bill are back. And look, here comes Hillary.

With less than a month until Indiana's May 6 pri-

mary, the Democratic presidential candidates and their surrogates are putting on a full-court press, wooing voters in a dozen cities over four days at a pace that's likely to get even more frenetic as the contest continues.

"If they would show up again even next week, I think the enthusiasm would still be there," said Allie Schmitt, vice chairman of the Delaware County Democratic Party. "It's been so long in Indiana and we've seen this type of excitement and the opportunity to have a candidate who's going to be in Indiana in the future.

This week's trips include a six-city bus tour by Barack Obama, who started in South Bend late Wednesday and will wrap up Saturday in Muncie, and a southern Indiana swing by former President Bill Clinton.

CHINA

Olympic committee head: "It is a crisis"

Associated Press

BEIJING — Crisis, Disarray, Sadness.

Four months before the opening of what was supposed to be the grandest Olympics in history, the head of the International Olympic Committee is using words that convey anything but a sense of joyous enthusiasm.

The 73-year-old Frenchman who has presided over 11 Olympic Games into one of the most politically charged recent history and presented the IOC with one of its toughest tests since the boycott era of the 1972 and '84 Games.

"It is a crisis, there is no doubt about that," IOC President Jacques Rogge said Thursday. "But the IOC has weathered many bigger storms."

At the same time, Rogge called on China to respect its "moral engagement" to improve human rights and to fulfill promises of greater media freedom. He also reaffirmed the right of free speech for athletes at the Beijing Games.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokes-

woman responded that IOC officials support adhering to the Olympic Charter and "not bringing any irrele-

vant political factors into the Beijing Olympics."

"I hope the IOC officials will continue to adhere to the principles set by the Olympic charter," Jiang Yu said. Rogge spoke in Beijing just hours after the completion of the torch relay in San Francisco, where the route was shortened and the flame diverted to prevent disruptions by massive crowds of anti-China protesters.

Rogge's use of the word "crisis" to describe the torch relay and the Beijing buildup came as a surprise. The Belgian orthopedic surgeon's comments usually are measured and low-key.

He cited previous crises — the attack on Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics and the boycotts of the 1976, 1980 and 1984 Games.

"The history of the Olympic Games is fraught by a lot of challenges," Rogge said. "This is a challenge but we cannot compare to what we had in the past."

Va. Tech families settle with state

Associated Press

ROANOKE, Va. — Most families of victims of the mass shootings at Virginia Tech have agreed to an $11 million state settlement that will compensate the families of those who lost loved ones, pay survivors' medical costs and avoid a court battle over whether anyone besides the gunman was to blame.

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ments serving Virginia Tech and the community services board that provides mental-health serv-

ices in the area.

National News

Another driver dies in Calif. shooting

LOS ANGELES — A teenage driver was killed in a car-to-car shooting at a freeway on-ramp early Thursday in the latest in several recent fatal road-way attacks in California.

Samantha Padilla, 19, of Los Angeles, was shot in the chest around 12:30 a.m. and authorities said she apparently was attacked while stopped at a traffic light at the end of an off-ramp from the 110 Freeway in South Los Angeles, police Detective Teresa Pena said.

A car pulled up alongside and someone fired about five rounds from a pistol.

George Ishaa, co-founder of the opposition group Kifaya, was arrested Wednesday night in a raid on his home in downtown Cairo.

Virginia Tech president Charles Steger walks past Norris Hall on Tuesday. A majority of the victim's families agreed to terms of an $11 million settlement.
American presence to remain strong in Iraq

Bush gives Petraeus freedom to evaluate number of troops in violence-ridden country for remaining 285 days of presidency

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Bush gives Petraeus freedom to evaluate number of troops in violence-ridden country for remaining 285 days of presidency

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Thursday that the number of U.S. troops in Iraq will drop to 100,000 by the end of the year, guaranteeing a heavy American military presence as the war grinds into its sixth year to the end of the Bush presidency.

President Bush, who is planning a visit to Iraq, said Petraeus, his top military commander in Iraq, can take "all the time he needs" to consider further withdrawals after the latest round of troop reductions is completed in July. In the meantime, Petraeus will continue what, until last week, had been a secret visit to Middle Eastern countries to talk with Arab leaders about the influx of foreign fighters into Iraq.

With 285 days remaining in his presidency, Bush set the course for the final stretch in a speech following two days of testimony before a disciplinary body that brought the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, Ryan Crocker, under fire.

Bush said that after the troop withdrawals, which are scheduled to be announced, end in July, he would give Petraeus 45 days to consider the effects of the drawdown. That would be followed by an indefinite period to reassess U.S. troop strength in Iraq, where new flare-ups of extremist violence are threatening to undercut security gains.

Bush argued that last year's troop buildup had succeeded in reducing violence, tapering of al-Qaida in Iraq and allowing normal daily activities to resume in many areas.

Because of that progress, Bush said, an already planned reduction in troops can be completed in July.

"Serious and complex challenges remain in Iraq, from the presence of al-Qaida to the destructive influence of Iran, to hard compromises needed for further political progress," Bush said in a White House address. "Yet with the surge, a major strategic shift has occurred.

.. This war is not endless."

Petraeus on Thursday reviewed for the first time that he had quietly visited several Middle Eastern countries to talk with the flow of foreign fighters into Iraq. The Associated Press learned that the trips, all taken since September 2007, recently included a visit to Jordan, Kuwait, Bahrain, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates.

Gates appeared before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Thursday and backed Petraeus from testimony he gave last fall when he said he hoped that drawdowns could continue throughout the year, which would have left about 10 brigades — or roughly 100,000 troops — in Iraq at year's end. When the committee's Democratic chairman, Sen. Carl Levin, asked Gates whether he still thought that was possible, Gates said: "No, sir."

In his White House speech, Bush also said he was ordering that Army combat tours be reduced to three months.

That was a response to heavy pressure from military commanders who say long, multiple deployments have trained the troops to its limits. Army units heading to Iraq must leave the service after 12 months instead of 15 months.

Critics of the president's war policies had noted that the order would not affect U.S. forces currently deployed on the front lines.

"The president still doesn't understand that America's limited resources cannot support this limitless war," Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said. "Let me be clear: this is a real call for a real pause. With today's announcement, the president has signaled to those people that he has no intention of bringing home any more troops."

"Instead he is leaving all the tough decisions to the next administration."

President Bush has an exit strategy for only one man, himself, on January 20, 2009."

Harry Reid Senate Majority Leader

Bush smiled briefly when he walked out of the Blue Room and strode across a red carpet in the Cross Hall of the White House to a standing ovation from Vice President Dick Cheney, his top military and diplomatic advisers and members of veteran service organizations. His face turned solemn as he began his 18-minute progress report on the war — one of the last of his presidency.

Bush acknowledged that the stress on U.S. forces was "real," but said top military brass had assured him that the all-volunteer force was strong and resilient enough to win the war on terror. "The surest way to depress morale and weaken the force would be to lose in Iraq," he said.

Democrats who want Bush's job weren't fazed.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., said the American people have run out of time and patience on Iraq.

She said the military buildup has failed to yield political progress in Iraq, and that if elected president, she will end the war responsibly. "It's charges the Iranian government denies." "If Iran makes the right choice, America will encourage a peaceful relationship between Iran and Iraq," Bush said. If it makes the wrong choice, Bush said "America will act to protect our interests, and our troops, and our Iraqi partners."

Bush also called on Congress to send him a spending bill for Iraq that does not include any timetables for troop withdrawals or exceed the $108 billion he has requested. Democrats want to add money to stimulate the economy with road-building funds, additional unemployment benefits, a summer jobs program and additional food stamp benefits. Bush said he would veto the bill under those conditions.

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Insurgents raise weapons in Baghdad Wednesday. Violence continued a day after Gen. Petraeus called for a suspension in troop withdrawal.

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The Observer  INTERNATIONAL NEWS Friday, April 11, 2008
The Observer

BUSINESS

American airline flight cuts continue

WASHINGTON — The U.S. trade deficit unexpectedly increased for a second straight month in February, raising concerns that the economy’s one-standout performer could be starting to flag.

The Commerce Department said Thursday that the deficit between what the U.S. imports and what it sells abroad rose 5.7 percent to $62 billion in February, the highest level since November.

Imports of goods and services shot up 3.1 percent to an all-time high of $213.7 billion, reflecting a big surge in imports of foreign cars.

Exports also set a record, rising by 2 percent to $151.4 billion, reflecting strong gains in the sale of American-made heavy machinery, computers and farm goods.

Critics claimed that the sharp rise in the trade deficit showed the continued failure of President Bush’s policies emphasizing negotiating free trade agreements as a way to promote U.S. jobs by boosting exports.

With businesses cutting 86,000 jobs last month, the most in five years, and the country likely in a recession, the debate over trade is expected to intensify in this election year.

Republicans contend Bush’s policies reflect the reality of the new global economy, while Democrats say that the president has contributed to the deficit by more than $3 million in manufacturing jobs since he took office.

“Wages are falling and the middle class is shrinking because of America’s trade deficits,” James Hoffa, president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, said Thursday at the end of a three-day convoy across Pennsylvania aimed at highlighting the failures of Bush’s trade policies.

Trade is shaping up as a key issue in the presidential campaign and in the fight for control of Congress. In an early showdown, being the Democratic-led House voted 224-195 on Thursday to reject Bush’s effort to force Congress to vote within the next 90 legislative days on a free trade agreement with Colombia.

The administration charged that Democrats were forsaking a key South American ally while Democrats said Columbus needed to do more to halt the violence against union organizers before they would consider the trade pact. The vote also calls into question pending free trade deals with South Korea and Panama.

In other economic news, the number of newly laid off workers filing claims for unemployment benefits fell sharply last week after having hit the highest level in more than two years in the previous week. The Labor Department said applications for jobless benefits totaled 357,000 last week, down by 5,000 from the previous week. Economists said the wide swings reflected in part the trouble the government is having in seasonally adjusting the figures.

MARKET RECAP

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| 5-YEAR NOTE | +0.04 | +0.03 0.94 |

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B辽宁省 Car park in storage as they await distribution to other parts of the United States from Tacoma, Wash. On Feb. 13.

In Brief

Microsoft bid may help rival Google

SAN FRANCISCO — Microsoft Corp.'s attempt to take over Yahoo Inc. has become so toxic that it may help Internet search and advertising leader Google Inc. grow stronger, undermining Microsoft's main reason for pursuing the deal in the first place.

"We find this to be a very advantageous situation for Google," Cantor Fitzgerald analyst Derek Berman said Thursday that the deal could get dragged out, the better for Google.

"Yahoo signaled it is bracing for a protracted showdown, the cancellations. AMR is running an exploratory advertising alliance with Google that could lead to a broader partnership and, according to published reports, a combination with the online operations of Time Warner Inc.'s AOL. Google also owns a 5 percent stake in AOL.

As part of the AOL deal, Time Warner would get a roughly 20 percent stake in the merged entity in a for a substantial sum of cash that would help Yahoo buy back some of its stock at a price well above Microsoft's offer, which was initially valued at $31 per share.

"This is the first time that we have seen real feasible alternatives that could derail the Microsoft deal," said analyst Jeffrey Lindsay of Sanford C. Bernstein & Co.

Berneraks sees action cannot wait

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said Thursday that regulators must move ahead on ways to prevent a repeat of the credit and financial crisis that plunged the country into recession.

"We do not have the luxury of waiting for markets to stabilize before we think about the next move," Bernanke said in a speech in Richmond.

Last month Bernanke, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and other top economic policymakers called for stricter regulation of mortgage lenders as part of a broad effort to prevent a repeat of the credit and financial problems that have damaged the economy.

American Airlines flight cuts continue

Fort Worth, Texas — The cancellation of thousands of flights this week will cost American Airlines and more than $1 billion in the company's chief executive said Thursday, but he said the nation's largest airline can withstand the losses.

American said it canceled another 570 flights Friday and disruptions will continue through Saturday as the carrier continues to check electrical wiring in all 300 of its MD-80s.

CEO Gerard Arpey said he took full responsibility for the airline's failure to correct the problem in a federal safety rule designed to prevent electrical fires in the planes.

American scratched more than 900 flights Thursday, the third straight day of major cancellations, while its mechanics worked overtime to check the aircraft and comply with the rule. The company said all its MD-80s would be back in service by Saturday night.

Arpey said neither the airline's mechanics nor the Federal Aviation Administration could blame for the more than 3,000 canceled flights so far this week.

The airline canceled more than 400 flights for the same reason two weeks ago. But the repairs done then didn't meet FAA standards, resulting in this week's debacles.

On Wednesday, Arpey's top lieutenant suggested that American had fallen victim to a suddenly more aggressive FAA. The agency has been under fire since disclosures last month of its lax enforcement of safety rules at Southwest Airlines.

In measured tones, Arpey said Thursday that the FAA "obviously is under their own set of scrutiny and pressure right now," but was only doing its job of "holding airlines to exacting standards."

Arpey said it was too early for the airline to estimate the cost of the cancellations. AMR is running a $500 million fund to help stranded passengers. The fund will provide $500 travel vouchers for stranded passenger and it lost revenue when it looked people on other airlines. On the other hand, it has saved what it had spent for fuel on those 2,500 flights.

"I think it will be in the tens of millions of dollars," Arpey said of the final cost. But he said the airline had built up enough cash and paid down debt to deal with the loss. He said the carrier has business-insurance interruption insurance, but he doubted that it would cover the cancellation-related losses.

American got some good news on Wall Street. Shares of parent AMR Corp., which fell 11 percent the day before, rose 70 cents, or 7.6 percent, to $9.87 Thursday.
Professor appointed to United Nations forum

The Observer • NEWS

Friday, April 11, 2008

Nepal

Election held in Nepal

Millions vote in country's historic election, return to democracy

CATMANDU — Nepalis embraced the country's return to democracy Thursday with millions voting in an election meant to secure lasting peace in a land riven by communist insurgents and an autocratic king. Undeterred by shootings and clashes that killed two people, many voters lined up before sunrise outside polling stations across this Himalayan land. Some even broke into applause when voting began.

With the rebels out of the Bush and contesting the vote and the monarch — the world's last Hindu king — likely to soon lose his throne, millions saw the country's first election in nine years as a moment too historic to miss.

"This is our chance to stop the bleeding," said Arpna Shrestha, a 47-year-old woman waiting to vote in Katmandu. "Always there was blood in Nepal. Not anymore."

An estimated 60 percent of the 17.6 million voters cast ballots at 20,000 polling stations. But the violence — including the slaying of an independent candidate — shows how hard it will be to forge true peace in this often ill-governed and violent country.

The election of a 601-seat Constituent Assembly to write a new constitution has been touted as the cornerstone of a 2006 peace deal with former rebels, known as the Maoists, following weeks of unrest that forced Nepal's king to cede power, which he had seized the year before.

In the two years since, Nepal has seen an armed uprising by ethnic minority groups — unrest that twice delayed the vote.

The election campaign was marked by clashes between supporters of rival parties and small bombings. In the two days before the vote, eight people were killed.

Thursday's death toll was lower than most had feared, but still marred a day that held great symbolic value for many in the impoverished nation, where 60 percent of the 27 million people are under age 35.

"We are getting our rights and these people have to kill. It's not good," said Gopal Acharya, a 22-year-old student and first-time voter.

In southeastern Nepal, assailants fatally shot an independent candidate outside a polling station. Elsewhere, motorcycle-riding gunmen unsuccessfully tried to kill another contender.

Also in southern Nepal, a supporter of the Nepali Congress died from wounds sustained in a clash with supporters of a minority ethnic group, the Madhesis.

Authorities were forced to postpone balloting until a later date at 33 polling places, said Chief Election Commissioner Bhu Raj Pokhrel. They includ ed a few stations in the eastern Ramechap district where Maoists blocked representa tives of other parties from observing the vote, said Home Ministry spokesman Ekmani Nepal.

Maoists also torched one polling station. Police said they arrested 15 men, seizing three grenades and a knife.

Maoist officials in Katmandu said they were trying to verify the reports.

Their leader, who goes by the nom de guerre Prachanda, hailed the election, saying in a statement, "We believe this will take Nepal to a new era."

But before Nepal can get there, significant challenges remain.

The violence could easily provide a pretext for any of the major parties — from the Maoists to centrist democrats to royalists — to reject the election's outcome.

Then there is the complexity of the vote itself, a mix of direct elections and a nationwide propor tional representation system with quotas for women and myriad ethnic and caste groups. International experts say it will be hard to sort out the results.

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LEARN. LEAD. SUCCEED. ... BECOME AN ARMY OFFICER! ARMY ROTC. START STRONG.
Dalai Lama visits United States

Spiritual leader makes first visit since Tibetan uprising

Associated Press

SEATTLE — The Dalai Lama arrived in the United States on Thursday for the first time since the recent turmoil in Tibet, serenaded by fellow Tibetans as he prepared to anchor an ambitious conference on compassion.

The exiled Tibetan spiritual leader came here a day after demonstrators disrupted the Olympic torch run in San Francisco in a protest of China's treatment of its people. The Dalai Lama will be attending a five-day conference that begins Friday.

With the Dalai Lama in town, some community leaders said they expected counter-demonstrations from pro-China groups.

But all was peaceful when he arrived at a downtown hotel Thursday, telling local Tibetans that he supports nonviolent protests against five decades of Chinese rule, which he was determined to stop.

Organizers of the five-day Seeds of Compassion conference in Seattle say the Dalai Lama's visit is expected to draw more than 150,000 people.

The Chinese community in Seattle has been split by the Tibetan situation, said Assunta Ng, publisher of the Northwest Asian Weekly, a local Asian-American community newspaper. Ng said she wouldn't be surprised if pro-China demonstrators show up at some of the events, and added that some Chinese students plan to protest the politicization of the Olympics.

The conference will feature dozens of workshops on various subjects, beginning with a panel discussion Friday with the Dalai Lama on "The Scientific Basis for Compassion: What We Know Now.

Tickets for events involving the Dalai Lama have already sold out, according to the conference Web site.

Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels said he supports the Dalai Lama's visit and will present him an honorary degree.

The Dalai Lama is scheduled to speak at the University of Washington, and will present him an honorary degree.

He wants compassion for both sides, for the Tibetans, for the Chinese brothers," said Lama Tenzin Dhonden, a Tibetan monk who headed the development of the conference.

"I wasn't going to be hit by the head by a two-by-four," Wooten said, supervising the cleanup of her Hurst home, which was punctured by a falling tree. "I just made me a cozy little den in there."

At one point, Oncor had about 250,000 customers without power in North Texas. Some could remain without power for days.

In Arkansas, dozens of roads flooded across the state and schools in Norfork, Marshall and Viola closed due to high water.

Explore the issues that challenge today's world...

Evangelium Vitae: Chapter III

Notre Dame Right to Life's 3rd Annual Collegiate Conference

Friday, April 11

Bobby Schindler
Rememhering Terri Schiavo
My Family's Battle to Save my Sister's Life
3:45 p.m. — 102 DeBartolo Hall

Phyllis Schlafly, JD
Activist Judges versus American Culture
7:00 p.m. — Gold Room, North Dining Hall

For full conference schedule & speaker bios, visit: www.nd.edu/~prolife/conference

Explore the issues that challenge today's world...

You Shall Not Kill

Saturday, April 12

Dolores Meehan
Men and Abortion: The Impact on Our Culture
10:15 a.m. — 102 DeBartolo Hall

Dr. Eugene Diamond
Doctors Should Not Kill
11:45 a.m. — 102 DeBartolo Hall

Rebecca Kiessling
Conceived in Rape: A Story of Hope
2:15 p.m. — 102 DeBartolo Hall

Dr. Alice Von Hildebrand
Mother of the Living
3:30 p.m. — 102 DeBartolo Hall

Severe weather causes flooding in the Midwest

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — A line of severe thunderstorms, possible tornadoes and even snow pounded the nation's heartland on Thursday, flooding nearly 200 roads in Missouri, closing schools in Arkansas and ripping the roofs of dozens of houses in Texas.

The band of storms stretched from Colorado and Nebraska, which was expected to get up to 10 inches of snow, to Texas, where high winds and driving rain at one point quarter of a million people were left without power.

In Missouri, 3-4 inches of rain fell in just a few hours, unleashing flash floods that swamped parts of 180 roads across the state.

Rescuers using ropes and life jackets pulled nine people from the offices of the Monett Times newspaper after the Kelly Creek burst its banks and surrounded the building. Police said the creek also threatened other businesses in downtown Monett and forced the evacuation of a nearby trailer park with about 10 to 12 homes.

Times publisher Lisa Craft said the afternoon newspaper's pressmen were high enough not to be threatened. But she said it was unclear when staff could get back in the building.

National Weather Service hydrologist Mark Fuchs said the Meramec, the eastern Missouri river that flooded in March and forced the evacuation of hundreds of residents, could reach what the service considers "major" flood stage in Arnold, about 20 miles south of St. Louis.

In Texas, at least 100 homes and buildings were damaged in West Texas and the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Straight-line winds carved out a destructive path across the city of Hurst, just east of Fort Worth. Downed trees littered residential neighborhoods, blocking streets, snapping utility poles and snapping power lines. Some large truck trees had snapped just a foot or two above ground level.

Evelyn Wooten, 69, said she spent early Thursday morning sitting alone in a front-hall closet wearing a motorcycle helmet and waiting out the storm in the sturdiest room in her house.

"I wasn't going to be hit by the head by a two-by-four," Wooten said, supervising the cleanup of her Hurst home, which was punctured by a falling tree. "I just made me a cozy little den in there."

At one point, Oncor had about 250,000 customers without power in North Texas. Some could remain without power for days.

In Arkansas, dozens of roads flooded across the state and schools in Norfork, Marshall and Viola closed due to high water.
The Notre Dame community welcomes our 2008 admitted students participating in the Reilly Visitation Weekend Thursday April 10 – Sunday April 13
We are happy that you are visiting us!

Elizabeth Andrews
Pat Arnold
Madison Barrett
Lorna Bernhoft
A.J. Betts
Stevie Biddle
Megan Carey
Mary Cass
Meghan Coveney
Alexa Craig
Trey Cryan
Carl Cullotta
Austin Culver
Ford Culver
Megan Don
Patrick Dunn
Tim Durso
Caitlin Furey
Zoe Hesp
Mariel Heupler
Claire Hunt
Tom Hutchinson
Kyle Kinnary
Nora Kovar
Christine Kreitinger
Paul Lambert
Connor LaPorte
Michael Lim
Skipper McShea
Jeremy Miles
Catherine Miller
Christopher Miranda
Laura Murphy
Kevin Nadeau
Richard Newcomb
Bobby Nordlund
Kathryn O'Connell
Mike O'Leary
Jenna Pettinger
Mackenzy Radolec
Teri Relation
Kyle Resnick
Nicole Resweber
Lindsey Reymore
Matt Richey
Elliott Rill
Rebecca Roden
Philip Salvador
Paul Scheetz
Tara Seely
Samantha Sirignano
Mike Smigelski
Patrick Spence
Dan Stevens
Kaleb Sutherland
Lena Sweeney
Tyler Thiret
Amanda Turk
Katie Veenstra
Kyla Wargel
Erin Watson
Zach Wehrmann
Josh Wise
Leon Zhou
Wanted Marine flees to Mexico, is arrested

Man accused of rape and murder of pregnant colleague, found over the border after hunt of several months

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — A Marine wanted in the brutal slaying of a pregnant colleague who had accused him of rape was arrested Thursday night in Mexico after a three-month international manhunt, authorities said.

FBI agents and Mexican authorities arrested Marine Cpl. Cesar Laurean around 7 p.m. EDT. He is charged with first-degree murder in the death of Marine Lance Cpl. Maria Lauterbach, whose burned remains were found in January in the backyard of his home near Camp Lejeune.

"You know my name. You know who I am," Laurean told T.R. Freeman, an Associated Press reporter in Mexico City, while being held at the Michoacan state Attorney General's office in Morelia, the state capital.

As if he was trying to explain, Laurean simply said, "Proof," but wouldn't explain what he meant.

Laurean appeared slightly disoriented. Asked what he would do next, he replied: "Do I have a choice? ... I don't know."

Magdalena Guzman, a spokeswoman for the Michoacan, Mexico, state prosecutor's office, said police were carrying out an anti-kidnapping operation stopped Laurean as he wandered on a rural road near his home in Guadalajara, a farming community where he had sold his car.

"Just communicating with Laurean is not against the law," Hudson said. To be an accessory after the fact you have to show someone provided assistance like information, but we don't have any evidence of that," he said.

Laurean and Lauterbach were both personnel clerks in the same logistics unit at Camp Lejeune, an expansive coastal base about 130 miles southeast of Raleigh that is home to roughly 50,000 Marines. Detectives believe there was a personal relationship between Laurean and Lauterbach on Dec. 14, after forcing her to remove money from her bank account.

Lauterbach accused Laurean of rape last spring, a charge he denied and one Naval investigators were unable to corroborate. Even though Laurean later told investigators he didn't feel Lauterbach posed a danger or threat to her, the pair was separated on base.

Lauterbach's father-in-law, Pete Steiner's cell phone, said. "We have not heard from him since he would waive extradition."

"We had intel that he had gone back to America to visit his family in Las Vegas and I was hoping they would arrest him in America," Hudson said. "But they didn't. This is a case that certainly is deserving to be tried as a capital case."

Lauterbach's mother, Mary Gray, received a call from the FBI informing her of the arrest.

"He said, 'It was just one of shock and surprise,'" Wilberding told WDBT-TV in Dayton, Ohio. "'She's been living with Cpl. Laurean long enough that she knew when the word came it really caught her by surprise, and she still isn't letting it all sink in.'"

A woman who answered the phone at Laurean's father-in-law, Bruce Shiffer, hearing inspector, Ohio, hung up without commenting when told of the arrest.

Mexico hesitated to extradite foreign murderers of the 1980s and 1990s, but U.S. officials have praised the country's increased cooperation in recent years. State Department officials said Mexico extradited 73 suspects to the U.S. in 2007, most to face murder charges.

Sometimes Mexico will forego the traditional extradition and deport a suspect, particularly for entering the country illegally, a much quicker process than the 150 U.S. citizens who were deported from Mexico last year.

Hudson said "It could be a year or two" before authorities would normally consider extraditing a suspect back to North Carolina if he decides to fight the extradition process.

"The extradition process is one where you have a right to appeal," Hudson said. "I have no idea if he would waive extradition."

Should Laurean be returned to North Carolina to stand trial, he won't face the death penalty, at least not immediately. The special agent in charge of the case, Pete Steiner's cell phone, said the pair was separated on base.

Lauterbach's backyard. "This is a case that certainly is deserving to be tried as a capital case."
The University of Notre Dame accepts qualified students regardless of immigration status, but all undocumented immigrants must finance their education. This solution is more than fair. Notre Dame should not punish those applicants for circumstances beyond their control — and it doesn’t. An undocumented immigrant’s admission is based on his or her merits just as with any other student.

But gaining admission and affording an education here are two separate issues. Guaranteed acceptance is a relatively recent phenomenon for the University. A large portion of aid is Federal, aimed to increase the ability of all U.S. citizens to afford a higher education. Undocumented immigrants, by definition, fail to meet this requirement and thus should not be considered for Federal aid. And, though the Notre Dame brand was approximately the 14th largest in the country as of September, it does not compare to those of Harvard or Princeton — two schools currently granting aid to undocumented immigrants.

Undocumented immigrants are not alone in their denial of guarantees of financial aid. International students must be able to pay for his or her four years here. The University’s commitment to meet demonstrated need applies only to U.S. citizens; undocumented immigrants are not being singled out in their denial. If financial aid were to be offered to undocumented immigrants who apply, international students must also be granted the same possibility. If undocumented immigrants received this aid and international students didn’t, it wouldn’t be unfair to international students since both groups are not officially U.S. citizens.

Moreover, the Notre Dame financial aid service is not the only way to gain funds for education. Countless independent scholarships exist for which potential students are free to apply. Students who chose to enroll here made the dream a reality on their own initiative. Notre Dame does what it can; setting reasonable limitations to maximize what aid is available. The University plays its part in offering acceptance. The University’s immigrant admission and aid policy is sound as it is. It gives undocumented immigrants a chance to receive a high-quality education without jeopardizing the ability of citizens to get one as well. Any revision to the policy may hinder citizens’ chances to attend Notre Dame and receive necessary financial aid. This issue requires a delicate balance between both sides, and the University’s policy strikes it well.

I know that the Notre Dame bubble prevents a lot of world news from entering our radar here on campus. So I would like to let everyone know about a lesser known school shooting which occurred in February of this year. Lawrence King, age 15, was shot in the head by his 14-year-old classmate Brandon in a California middle school classroom full of students. This boy, an 8th grader, was the victim of a premeditated hate crime. His friends and classmates said he had recently proclaimed himself gay and begun to wear makeup and jewelry to school. A few days before his murder, Larry asked Brandon to be his Valentine. Brandon responded by putting a bullet through his brain. In a similar tragic incident, Simmie Williams Jr., 17, was shot and killed on Feb. 22 in Florida while dressed in women’s clothing. Williams has been described both as gay and transgendered to person who identifies as or expresses a different gender than the one they were assigned at birth. Simmie was also African-American. Regardless of all the specific motivations of the killer, his murder was clearly motivated by hate. Some of you may have heard of Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old who in 1998 was robbed, pistol-whipped, tortured, tied to a fence and still killing. What’s worse, we’re still teaching young people through music and art that it is okay to stand up and say that we will not tolerate hate. Participate in the campus-wide series of events to raise awareness of and put an end to hate and discrimination based on sexual orientation. Participation to show support for your Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (GLBTQJ) friends, relatives and classmates. If nothing else, participate to honor the memory of Lawrence King, Simmie Williams Jr. and Matthew Shepard.

This issue is real and it will not go away. It’s time for all of us to help raise awareness of and put an end to hate and discrimination based on sexual orientation.

MELANIE LEMay
Sports Editor
Pasquerilla West Hall April 7
Alcohol in the ‘Real World’

On April 10 Ryan Slaney wrote “alcohol is a deterrent toward the academic and moral development of students here at Notre Dame.” (“Alcohol: Enemy of Academic and moral development.” April 10). Ryan, are you sure about that? Guess what, drinking alcohol does not stop once you leave college. To a certain extent it becomes more a part of your lives. As age and money are on no longer issues, alcohol is no longer a problem in college. Part of your “academic development” is to learn how to deal with alcohol, whether it is your usage or existing with other people’s usage. Alcohol is not going anywhere anytime soon in the “real world.” To ban it on campus and limit everyone’s “alcohol experiences” would only put Notre Dame students at a disadvantage once they join the workforce. I have yet to be at a firm function after work hours that did not involve alcohol. In addition, promotion days and events such as golf outings always involve alcohol. Would you truly want to be dealing with these types of social environments for the first time at your first job? Lastly, in my mind alcohol is the furthest thing from an “enemy” as you stated. Alcohol was present at some of the best times of my life, in fact, I even named my car “Alcohol” to my tailgates, my Notre Dame graduation party, my promotion parties and she even showed up for the best day of my life, my wedding.

Bill Nolan
Class of 2001
April 10

Alcohol a necessary evil

I used to open the viewpoint section every day to see what the feminists were saying about the Vagina Monologues, but now I find more and more articles written by students concerned for the greater good of the Notre Dame student body. After reading Ryan Slaney’s article “Alcohol: Enemy of academic and moral development,” (April 10) I felt compelled to respond. I am not here to argue for or against prohibition of alcohol on campus, that being said, we are in college. It is an undeniable fact that college students drink, for proof, just go to campus any Saturday night/Sunday morning.

If the university decided to prohibit alcohol on campus, there would be an increase in students partying off campus. The question is, where? You said yourself, Ryan, that alcohol consumption leads to poor decisions, and I agree. Students with cars could potentially drive back to campus after a few beers, cosmic, car bombs, etc., risking much more than their academic development. Allowing alcohol on campus is a safe decision, as long as those drinking do it responsibly.

Mike Mahoney
supervisor
Keough Hall
April 10

Beer is proof God loves us

Here is a little bit of history on the benefits of beer. For all of our nostalgia out there whining about how alcohol makes you who you are, think again.

A bunch of old dudes were sitting around, getting hammered and playing Kino. One dude said, “Ok Ben Franklin, you’re up: Truth or dare.”

“Uh, dare.”

“You have to tie a key to this kite and run around outside. Naked.”

Next thing you know, boa yea — electricity. Without electricity, how would Al Gore be able to drive his hybrid car? Think of all the great discoveries and inventions out there that were proba- bly for the benefit of all of us... and the ability to sit up while eating deep fried Snickers, hub caps that keep spinning every time you spot a hot air balloon, etc. The list goes on and on. So the next time you are thinking about not drinking “to escape,” think about what a simple beer kid threw up on the sidewalk, take a minute and think about the fact this same drunk kid might have just discovered something truly awesome.

Tom Marin
senior off campus
April 10

Unless noted otherwise, all images are from The Observer.
By CASSIE BELEK
Assistant Scene Editor

Her music became essential to “Juno,” and it helped give the indie film its heart and soul. However, Kimya Dawson is more than the “Juno” soundtrack. Dawson is a solo act since her band took a break in 2004. Both the band and her own music is featured on the “Juno” soundtrack, and composer Majow Messina used Dawson’s music as the basis of the film’s score.

Since going solo, Dawson has released five albums, the latest being 2006’s “Remember That I Love You” “Juno” borrowed four songs from the album, including “Tire Swing” and “Loose Lips.” Her sound is unique and often sounds quirky, but her words pack a punch. Chad Lavimonière, who is in charge of WVFI’s PIL and events and has been a fan of Dawson for two years, compares the artist’s music to the protest music of the 1960s. “I mean, she definitely inherits something from protest folk & In Pete Seeger and Bob Dylan to a certain extent,” Lavimonière said. But he also said that she has drawn comparisons to Mirah and even Lisa Loeb. He calls her music “opinionated folk.”

In The Moldy Peaches, Dawson played a part in influencing the anti-folk movement. While anti-folk, a subgenre of folk, is difficult to describe, it takes the core of folk music and gives it a new, experimental sound. “It’s not anti-folk as in they don’t like the way folk music sounds,” Lavimonière said. Instead, he said, the movement takes the same traits of folk music but puts a new spin on the genre: “A lot of folk is sort of soothing,” he said, “but this is a folk that shakes up.”

As for her heavy inclusion in the “Juno” soundtrack, Dawson can thank the film’s star Ellen Page for that. When director Jason Reitman asked Page what music the character Juno would listen to, the actress immediately said The Moldy Peaches, which led to Kimya Dawson.

In a November 2007 interview with Pitchfork, Page talked about why Juno would listen to The Moldy Peaches and Dawson. "Well the Moldy Peaches’ music is very humorous. I mean, it has a hint of novelty, but it’s full of so much heart and so much simplicity and it’s so genuine. It’s really unique and it’s quirky and all of those things, but it has heart to balance that,” she said.

Dawson is working on a new album, but in the meantime she will release a children’s album. In August entitled “Alphabutt,” Lavimonière said the album was most likely inspired by Dawson’s daughter, Panda Delilah. In fact, Dawson tours with both Panda and her husband, Angelo Spencer. Spencer and C’Orchidee D’Hawaii will open for Dawson’s concert.

Lavimonière wanted to bring Dawson to campus because she wasn’t a well-known artist to a wide audience before “Juno.” “I got really excited when she did the soundtrack to ‘Juno’ because that was really great exposure,” Lavimonière said. Lavimonière encouraged everyone to come to Dawson’s concert, even if they aren’t familiar with her work on the soundtrack.

“Even if people aren’t really interested in the message of the music, it’s a nice thing to listen to,” he said, adding that Dawson is still on her way up in the music scene. “We’re not catching her at her peak.”

The show starts tonight at 9 at Legends and doors open at 8:30. Admission is free for all Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross students. For more information on the concert, visit WVFI’s website, http://www.nd.edu/~wvfi/promo.html.
By CASSIE BELEK
Assistant Scene Editor

Fans are happy enough that “The Office” returned last night after a long, writers’ strike-induced hiatus, but students can continue their big, long sigh of relief with B.J. Novak’s appearance tomorrow night at Washington Hall.

Novak, who portrays former temp-turned-corporate-sleaze Ryan Howard and is a writer on the show, is the third “Office” cast member to visit campus as part of SUB’s “The Office” Comedy Series. Both Mindy Kaling (Kelly) and Craig Robinson (Darryl) appeared at Washington Hall on March 29.

Novak, who in 2003 was named one of Variety’s “10 Comedians to Watch,” will perform stand-up and will be accompanied by an opener who is not affiliated with “The Office.”

SUB’s special events programmers Pat Gartland and Matt McKenna first had the idea to bring Novak to campus during the writers’ strike, but then decided to expand the appearance into a series.

“We knew that some of the other cast members had backgrounds in stand-up and decided that we could do a stand-up series instead of just presentations and Q&A, as we did with the SNL speaker series last spring,” Gartland said.

In her stand-up routine opening for Robinson, Kaling joked about everything from Observer headlines to Scarlett Johansson’s deep voice and she even made a phone call to Novak so that he could announce that he was coming. Both actors came back onstage after their performances to answer questions from the audience before posing for pictures and signing autographs.

Gartland said that earlier in the day, he took Robinson, who had first visited family in Chicago, for a tour around campus and to the bookstore while Kaling slept since shooting on “The Office” had not ended until 3 a.m. in Los Angeles. But despite Robinson’s “Office” fame, he was not recognized by everyone on campus.

Craig and I actually did get stopped by the campus guards at the gated entrance,” Gartland said. “The guard would not let us on campus without a pass or a reason.”

Robinson alluded to the incident in his stand-up routine, which drew big laughs from everyone familiar with the strict guidelines of the guards at the entrance gates.

Coordinating the actors’ appearances proved to be somewhat challenging since “The Office” is shot and written every day of the week. Gartland said that Kaling, Robinson and Novak were only available on Saturdays, and even then Garlant and McKenna had to make sure that Washington Hall was available for those appearances.

Eventually, everything came together and “The Office” Comedy Series was created. Gartland said that SUB specifically looked for “Office” cast members with a background in stand-up and that it got its first three choices. While Novak’s appearance marks the last one by an “Office” cast member this semester, Garlant isn’t ruling out more “Office” appearances in the future.

“That will be up to the new programmers as they plan for next year’s events over the summer,” he said.

In the meantime, Garlant is just grateful to be able to bring people like Kaling, Robinson and Novak to campus.

“It is a great feeling to be able to program events that students are interested in attending,” he said. “I think one of the best things about SUB is that we can put on events or shows that students truly want to experience.”

For the most part, Kaling and Robinson appeared to enjoy their time here as much as the audience.

“Mindy’s first reaction to landing at the airport was texting Matt that ‘South Bend is so pretty!’” Garlant said. “We could not tell if she was being sarcastic.”

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu

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Novak Set to Round Out ‘The Office’ Comedy Series

In her stand-up routine opening for Robinson, Kaling joked about everything from Observer headlines to Scarlett Johansson’s deep voice and she even made a phone call to Novak so that he could announce that he was coming.

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Episodes of ‘The Office’ written by Novak

“Diversity Day” March 29, 2005

“Initiation” October 19, 2006

“Sexual Harassment” September 27, 2005

“Safety Training” April 12, 2007

“The Fire” October 11, 2005

“Local Ad” October 25, 2007

“Boys and Girls” February 2, 2006

“The Chair Model” April 17, 2008
Cubs capitalize on five-run fifth to beat Pirates

Boston defeats Detroit in front of record-breaking home crowd; Yankees avoid sweep with win over Kansas City

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — After needing the equivalent of three games merely to win twice in Pittsburgh, what a relief this reputation game was to the Chicago Cubs. Almost as big as the relief Jon Lieber gave them.

Gesванy Soto and Mike Fontenot hit two-run homers in Chicago's five-run sixth inning and the Cubs finished off a three-game sweep of Pittsburgh, winning 7-3 on Thursday night to run their winning streak to five games.

Soto had three extra-base hits, including two doubles, among his second career four-hit game, and Derrek Lee also drove in two runs during a three-run rally that gave the Cubs their sixth in a row over the Pirates dating to last season.

Lieber (2-1) got the decision by pitching 4 1-3 scoreless relief innings after starter Rich Hill needed 72 pitches to get through three innings, allowing three runs and three hits and walking four. Lieber pitched 7 3- scoreless relief innings in the series, three of them during a 10-8, 12-inning win Monday in the Pirates' home opener.

"Without Lieber, we really would have had problems," manager Lou Piniella said.

"We were looking for innings. ... (Hill) was all over the place. There was no use keeping him in there. It wasn't going to get any better."

The Cubs certainly didn't need to look for innings earlier in the series.

After going 12 and 15 innings to win the first two games — the first time in 81 years they've needed that many innings to win consecutive road games — the Cubs won this with one big inning against the pitching-thin Pirates, who dropped their fifth in six games.

"I'm glad it didn't go (extra innings)," said Soto, who went 3-for-17 while catching all 36 innings in the series — apparently with no effect on his offense.

The Cubs withstood two Pirates homer-driven comebacks to win 6-4 in 15 innings on Wednesday night.

"I think any situation like that, if anybody can go in there and do that, it's definitely huge," Lieber, a converted starter, said of prop­ing up the bullpen. "You want to give those guys a break down there, especially after last night's ballgame."

Soto had a chance to hit for the cycle, but he didn't think of trying to stretch a double into a triple in the seventh. He grounded out in the ninth.

"I already hit my one (triple) for the year. I'll take them if they come, but I don't want to get greedy," Soto said. "I'm not a triple-type guy."

Boston 12, Detroit 6

J.D. Drew went 3-for-3 with two runs and two RBIs, and Tim Wakefield hitched his knuckleball for five innings to lead the Boston Red Sox to a victory over Detroit on Thursday and send the Tigers to their 10th consecutive loss.

Wakefield (3-1) allowed eight hits and two walks while striking out six in 5 1-3 innings, giving up all of his four runs in the fifth inning. Detroit pitchers combined to throw 212 pitches, allowing 13 hits and nine walks.

Detroit's Ivan Rodriguez reached base all five times he came to the plate, with three singles, a walk and a hit-by-pitch.

The crowd of 37,612, boosted by the offseason addition of nearly 1,000 new seats, was the most at Fenway since World War II.

**New York, Kansas City 1**

Once again, Andy Pettitte came up big when the New York Yankees needed a win.

Petitte picked up his first victory and Alex Rodriguez and Melky Cabrera each homered and drove in two runs, helping the New York Yankees defeat the Kansas City Royals Thursday night and avoid a series sweep.

"Andy knows how to win big games," Yankees manag­er Joe Girardi said. "I don't know if I would call this a big game, but you don't want to be swept at the start of an eight-game road trip."

Pettitte (1-1) held the Royals to one run and five hits in 6 2-3 innings, and is 7-0 in his past nine starts against them. He has a career record of 12-4 with a 3.06 ERA against Kansas City, which is his best earned run average against any American League club.

After throwing 31 pitches in the first inning, when the Royals managed their only run off him, Pettitte needed just 61 pitches through the next 5 2-3 innings.

"I didn't have much at all the first couple of innings," Pettitte said. "I was extremely fortunate to get through that, thank good­ness. ... My command was extremely bad early on and I was fortunate to get away with some balls I left over the plate."

"I just started feeling good midway through the third inning and felt like I got into a really good rhythm. ... That was good to see, hopefully I can carry this one into my next one." Cabrera tied the game at 1 with a solo homer in the third, driving a 1-2 pitch to left and was the first left-hander the Yankees had faced this year.

Cubs closer Kerry Wood, right, celebrates with catcher Geovany Soto after the Cubs' 7-3 victory over Pittsburgh Thursday.

**MLB**

Red Sox DH David Ortiz, right, is congratulated by Kevin Youkllis after scoring on a manhã in the double seventh inning of Boston's 2-6 defeat of Detroit Thursday.
**Indians sign Carmona to new deal**

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The Indians tucked away one of their aces. Fausto Carmona, a surprising 19-game winner who wasn’t bugged by swarming insects in his first postseason start last October, agreed Thursday to a $15 million, four-year deal that could potentially earn him $48 million.

There was no rush to sign the 24-year-old, but the Indians are convinced Carmona’s best days are ahead and rewarded him with the highest guaranteed to a pre-arbitration eligible starter.

"This is a guy who has shown he wants to be great," Indians general manager Mark Shapiro said. "He has exceptional toughness, exceptional talent and intelligence. Those things combined with his work ethic make this a very easy decision." Carmona’s signing also gives the Indians protection in case they can’t keep reigning AL Cy Young Award winner C.C. Sabathia, who is eligible for free agency following this season.

"They are not interrelated," Antonetti said, "and it certainly wouldn’t hurt to have two 19-game winners in the rotation. We would like to have five of them. Carmona doesn’t want to consider the possibility of replacing Sabathia. "I want C.C. to stay here," he said through first-base coach Luis Rivera. "I want C.C. to be the No. 1 for a long time. I don’t care if I’m No. 2 for a long time."

With a wicked slider, Carmona went 19-8 with a 3.06 ERA in 32 starts and emerged as one of the AL’s top pitchers in 2007, one season after he went 1-10 and had a disastrous tryout as Cleveland’s closer.

But it was how Carmona bounced back from adversity that impressed the Indians, who signed him in 2000 as a 17-year-old.

In just over a week’s span in 2006, Carmona blew three saves, losing twice on game-ending homers.

**NCAA Men’s Baseball**

USA Today/ESPN Top 25

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**MLB**

Indians pitcher Fausto Carmona throws during an 2nd 7-2 victory over the Chicago White Sox. He was signed by Cleveland to a new deal on Thursday worth 15 million dollars over the next four years.

**IN BRIEF**

Couch Bill Self to remain at Kansas

Lawrence, Kan. — Bill Self has reached an agreement on a new contract with Kansas, just days after leading the Jayhawks to their first NCAA basketball title in 20 years. Self met with athletic director Lew Perkins on Wednesday and Thursday, and they emerged at an afternoon news conference to say they had reached general agreement on a deal that is still being finalized.

"I don’t know what the big deal is, to be honest," Self said, referring to the speculation over his future. "These last three weeks, four weeks, have been an absolute whirlwind. "I don’t know if a guy deserves to have as much fun as I’ve had," he said.

Olympic torch arrives in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Argentina is billing Friday’s Olympic torch run as an eyegning street festa, set to a tanga beat. But officials are worried enough about anti-China protests to mobilize thousands of police officers after torch runs in other cities caused chaos, and protesters warned of a Buenos Aires "surprise."

The Olympic flame arrived Thursday under heavy security from San Francisco, where police cut the torch’s route in half and sent the flame far away from demonstrators, disappoint­ ing many who had gathered to see it. Argentine authorities are deploying 1,100 federal police, 1,500 naval police and some 3,000 traffic police and volunteers — enough to ensure security "without going to the extreme that nobody will be able to see the torch," said government sports official Francisco Irazabal.

Changes in baseball drug testing are eminent

NEW YORK — Baseball players and owners plan to turn most of the authority over testing for performance-enhancing drugs to the program’s independent administrator while keeping oversight over drugs with a joint union-management body.

The sides established a third-party administrator when they amended their drug plan for the second time in November 2005, and they split author­ ity between the administrator and baseball’s Health Policy Advisory Committee, which has two members from each side.

Negotiators are close to an agreement that would amend the drug plan for a third time, and the independence of the administrator would be strengthened by establishing a fixed term and allowing his termination only for specified reasons, several people familiar with the talks said.
**SMC TENNIS**

**Belles to take on Tri-State**

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s suffered another tough conference defeat Wednesday at Hope, but will look to come back Saturday as they take on Tri-State (3-7, 0-4 MIAA) at home. The Belles (15-9, 1-4) defeated Wednesday 6-1 by the Flying Dutch.

“Tri-State hasn’t done real well in the conference,” Belles coach Chuck Veselik said.

Saint Mary’s freshman Jillian Hurley was the only player victorious for the Belles against Hope, winning the No. 2 singles 6-0, 6-0, over Christine Garcia. Her victory brings her singles record to 12-2. Hurley’s success at singles was not echoed in doubles play as she and partner Camille Gebert lost 8-2.

The Belles were swept in doubles, with the No. 2 duo of sophomores co-captains Lisa Rubino and freshman Brittany Reed falling 8-6 to Hope’s Christine Garcia and Danielle Wesley, putting up a record of 5-7 as a pair. The No. 3 doubles team of freshman Jessey Koury and junior0f frosh Camille Pasco were defeated 8-5 by Flying Dutch Katherine Garcia and junior0f frosh Linda Spanguolo.

“We just have to get more consistent,” Rubino said. “We made too many errors, especially unforced errors at Hope. Two of our doubles (Koury-Pasco and Jillian [Hurley] dominated at No. 2 singles) but we had errors everywhere else.”

Consistency from match to match has been one of Saint Mary’s biggest issues this season, but with a team of two sophomores and two freshmen, Rubino has been able to put it into perspective.

“We make errors at crucial points,” Rubino said. “We have to get over the hump, and it is part of the growing process.”

Fortunately for the Belles, the tough competition they’ve had to face has paid off in some matches, like their 9-0 sweep of Olivet April 1. Tri-State has not faced a loss this season, but will hopefully prove to be easy competition for Saint Mary’s.

“This is still only six players, so not a lot of depth,” Rubino said. “It will be a good match for us to tune up with this weekend.”

Saint Mary’s takes on Tri-State at 1:00 p.m. Saturday at home.

Contact Meaghan Veseilk at mvese801@stmarys.edu

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**ND WOMEN’S LACROSSE**

**Northwestern routs Irish on road**

By ANDY ZICCARELLI
Sports Writer

Notre Dame’s quest for a perfect five-game road trip hit a major roadblock Wednesday night, as the Irish fell to No. 10 Northwestern 16-2.

No. 8 Notre Dame was previously 3-0 on the trip and was coming off of a win at No. 7 Duke, the program’s first ever win in Durham, N.C.

Tracy Coyne Irish coach

“Tonight, it was a mistake when the Mavs tried coming back at the start of the game, but they couldn’t do much,” he said.

“I am going to get some rest before the next game,” Coyne said.

That’s why the club made the mistake of putting off any of those. Now, they’re doing it well and making a lot of right direction. We have to treat all these games like playoff games. We have a long way to go but winning games like these is big for us.”

Nowitzki scored 32 points and Terry had 21, all coming in the second half. The duo scored 25 of Dallas’ 30 points in the fourth quarter. They had to step up because Jason Kidd was ruled in the third with a bruised right knee. He hurt it on Sunday running into Shaquille O’Neal, then aggravated it in the first half. He tried coming back at the start and end of the third quarters, “but couldn’t do much,” he said.

“We’re coming together more and more, especially on the defensive end, and on the offensive end we’re playing well and making a lot of shots,” Nowitzki said. “We’re starting to build our confidence. If we keep going like this, we’re going to be a dangerous team in the playoffs.”

Mehmet Okur had 19 points and 14 rebounds for Utah, while Williams had 18 points and 12 assists. He was 7-of-16 after getting 6-of-24 in his previous two games. Andrei Kirilenko had 15 points and Carlos Boozer only 10 points and five rebounds.

The Jazz hit the division in their previous game, so they’re only playing for seeding, knowing they can finish no worse than fourth. Still, they’re 9-1 in the month and seven in a row. After trailing by 14 early, Utah made things interesting. Over the last 16 minutes, Utah had 14 lead changes and eight ties, with neither team leading by more than five points.

Williams hit a leaning 3-pointer with the shot clock running out to put the Jazz up 89-88 with 2:32 left. Dallas went back in front when Kirilenko was called for goaltending on a layup by Terry.

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**NBA**

**Dallas clinches playoff spot with win**

Nowitzki hits game-winning three-pointer with .9 seconds remaining on the clock

Associated Press

DALLAS — A playoff spot, Dallas Mavericks fans thought. A shot, too. Dallas went out and played like it.

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**PRAYERCAST**

A reflection from the ND Folk Choir

Friday, April 11, 2008
ND BASEBALL

Irish tied for first in Big East

Squad takes five-game win streak on the road against Villanova

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has climbed into a tie with St. John's for first place in the Big East, but the Irish know that means every opponent in the Big East, but the Irish know that series at Friday, April 11, is going to be a big series," Irish coach Dave Schrage said.

Schrage thinks his squad is well-prepared for the grueling stretch.

Notre Dame (18-9-1 overall, 7-2 this weekend in a matchup of red-hot squads. The Irish have won five straight games while the Wildcats have come out on top in their last seven contests.

"Villanova's the hottest team in the Big East right now . . . They've won seven in a row, all at home," Schrage said.

Notre Dame swept conference foe Rutgers at home last weekend but will now hit the road for the next two weekends. The Irish take on the Wildcats before heading to West Virginia next weekend.

Sophomore outfielder A.J. Pollock leads off at first during Notre Dame's 11-2 win over Rutgers Sunday.

Junior right-hander David Korpi and sophomore Eric Maust will round out the weekend rotation for Notre Dame. The three Irish starters boast respective ERAs of 3.94, 3.70 and 2.70.

Schrage said the Irish will be focused on the three-game sets with Villanova and West Virginia but will also keep their eye on a series against St. John's the following weekend.

"We've got six big games in a row before we get St. John's at home," Schrage said. "We've led the team we've got to win the next two series and hopefully get the show-down with St. John's."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu.

PGA

Woods four shots behind at Masters

By Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — The Masters had a familiar feel Thursday, from the warmth of a spring garden to the pockets of cheers that celebrated spectacular shots, even to some of the names on the leaderboard.

Justin Rose was at the top after 18 holes, the third straight time he's managed that.

Tiger Woods couldn't break 70 on the first day for the 12th straight year.

The four-time Masters champion failed to make a birdie at Augusta National for the first time since the opening round in 2003, although there was no reason to panic. He chipped in for eagle from 25 feet behind the 15th green to salvage an even-par 72, leaving him four shots behind Rose and co-leader Trevor Immelman.

Woods didn't sound terribly worried.

"I played a lot better than what my score indicates," he said. "I kept myself in the tournament. I'm right there."

So is Rose, and that's becoming a tradition like no other at the Masters — at least on Thursday.

The 27-year-old Englishman overcame a sluggish start with four straight birdies that carried him to a 68. The trick now is to figure out how to stay there over the next three days.

Rose led through 36 holes in 2004 until stumbling to an 81 in the third round. He was tied for the lead after 18 holes last year and stayed in the hunt all week until a late collapse on Sunday.

"Eventually you've got to go say, 'OK, it's time to step up,'" Rose said. "But I'm not putting too much pressure on myself."

Pressure might come from the course.

Unlike last year, when Augusta was brisk and brittle and the scores were among the highest in history, a warm afternoon of sunshine and only a light breeze brought back some of the scoring — and sounds of cheering — on the fabled course.

"I think the golf course is right where they want it," Rose said. "They can take it whichever direction they would like. If they want to create some birdies, they can do that. And if they want to make par a good score, that could be done. It's probably perfect right now."

Immelman has led a recent offensive tear for the Irish, garnering Big East player of the week honors.

"Any time you go on the road — I don't care where you're playing — it's going to be a big series," Irish coach Dave Schrage said.

"But right now I like how our lineup sets up. I like how we're swinging the bats and I like how we're playing defense."

A.J. Pollock has led a recent offensive tear for the Irish, garnering Big East player of the week honors.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu.

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International Festival Week

April 11th

Friday
BEIJING — Marion Jones gave up her Olympic medals, her relay teammates aren’t quite as willing.

Jones’ former relay teammates paid for her doping offenses Thursday, losing their medals from the 2000 Sydney Olympics as the International Olympic Committee stripped them from athletes who won gold with Jones in the 1,600-meter relay and bronze in the 400 relay.

“Clark, 400-relay and Andrea Anderson. The [48x733]Games due to her own doping violation dating to 1999. She ran only in the preliminary of the relay.

The IOC had sought to strip the entire American men’s team but the Court of Arbitration for Sport ruled in 2005 that there were no rules in place at the time of the Sydney Games for a whole relay team to be disqualified for an offense by one member.

“Jones ran in the finals and she was of her own admission doped during the Olympic Games,” Davies said. “Jerome Young was found to be doped before the Olympic Games and should never have competed in the first place.”

The next IOC board meeting takes place in Athens, Greece, in June, followed by another meeting in Beijing on the eve of the Aug. 8-24 Olympics.

Davies said that there was no timetable for a decision on redistributing medals, but noted there was an eight-year statute of limitations. The Sydney Games finished on Oct. 1, 2000.

After denying she had ever used performance-enhancing drugs, Jones admitted in federal court in October that she used the designer steroid “the clear” from September 2000 to July 2001. She began serving a six-month prison sentence last month for lying to investigators about doping and her role in a check fraud scam.

On other doping matters, the IOC board adopted its anti-doping rules for the Beijing Games, covering the period from the opening of the Olympic village on July 27 to the closing ceremony on Aug. 24.

Among new provisions, athletes will be considered guilty of a doping violation if they are found in possession of any prohibited substance, including marijuana. Missing two doping tests during the games or one during that period and two in the previous 18 months will constitute a violation. And athletes can be subjected to advance notice drug tests “at any time or place” during the games.
Belles seek fast start at Albion

By LAURA MYERS
Sport Writer

Saint Mary’s will focus on finally getting a first game win in Saturday afternoon’s doubleheader at Albion College. The Belles have lost the opener of their last three doubleheaders, as well as in a single game 10-1 loss Monday against Bethel.

Belles coach Erin Sullivan has described this as a lack of preparedness for each team’s style. This problem has remedied itself in the second game of the doubleheader, which the Belles have won in each contest. The Belles (15-6 overall, 4-2 MIAA) have a chance to redeem themselves Saturday against the Britons (11-8, 3-4 each team’s style.

This problem has remedied itself in the second game of the doubleheader, which the Belles have won in each contest. "We just need to trust all of the hard work and effort we have put in over the year," said Erin Sullivan, Belles coach.

The Belles have lost the opener of their last three doubleheaders, as well as in a single game 10-1 loss Monday against Bethel. "We are a better team than we have shown recently," said Sullivan. "We are looking to come out strong against Albion and show what we can do."

Albion is coming off a sweep of MIAA opponent Kalamazoo. In game one, pitcher Amber Hummel allowed only one hit in her third shutout of the season. The Belles have had a solid season despite the recent losses, and Sullivan does not feel that they have lost any confidence. "We just need to trust all of the hard work and effort we have put in over the year and go out and play hard," she said.

Junior Calli Davison (7-6) will start the first game, and senior McKenna Corrigan (8-0) will start the second. Along with pitching, Corrigan is one of the team’s top offensive players, leading the team with three home runs and second in RBI with 23. Junior Ashley Fusaro and sophomore Ashley Peterson, two-time reigning MIAA player of the week, respectively, lead the offense for Saint Mary’s. Peterson leads the team in every major offensive category.

The Belles rank fourth in the MIAA heading into tomorrow’s contest. The top four teams at the end of the season are invited to the postseason MIAA tournament.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Team suffers close loss to Northwestern

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

When the nation’s top-ranked team has continuously dominated its opponents and heads into town, at first, a 4-3 loss seems disheartening. For No. 16 Notre Dame, this was exactly the case after a close loss against No. 1 Northwestern.

Although the loss was frustrating, Irish head coach Jay Louderback realizes that his squad can compete with any team the country has to offer. "Well they weren’t happy," Louderback said of his team after the defeat. "And they shouldn’t be. But after a loss like that, you know you’re right there. Northwestern has been dominating teams throughout the season. Besides their one loss, they’ve completely dominated. It was their first 4-3 win all season, so we know we’re right there."

With that being said, the Irish are looking to close out their season this weekend with a pair of Big East opponents. Louderback is fresh off day and Marquette Sunday at the Courtney Tennis Center.

Part of the reason as to why the Irish were competitive against the Wildcats is because they went into the contest knowing that they could compete with the nation’s best team. "The win this weekend was exactly the case after a loss to Northwestern, and lost, so we know that we can go into Big East play and compete with anyone."

As it has been throughout the nine-game streak, the doubles play set the tone for the match against the Wildcats. The nation’s top pair of senior Brook Buck and junior Keely Tefft took care of their opponents 8-2. Coupled with an 8-5 victory from sophomores Cosmina Ciobanu and Calleen Rielley, Notre Dame was able to secure the first point of the match heading into singles play.

The Irish suffered a setback in the No. 1 singles when Tefft fell in straight sets, putting the score at 1-1.

The No. 2 and 3 singles stepped up to the spotlight and came up with huge victories as Buck and Ciobanu both handled their opponents. The lower half of the singles group is where the Wildcats made up the difference of the match and overcame a 3-1 deficit to pull out the victory.

Now that the nine-game winning streak Notre Dame had compiled is over, the squad cannot afford a letdown this weekend, and needs to keep winning as they head into Big East play. "We had a great practice today," Louderback said of Thursday’s session. "They came out fired up after Northwestern, DePaul is a very athletic team. They have a bunch of talent all around. It’s also the first time they’ve been healthy in a long time so we know what they can do. "We played well against Northwestern, and lost, so now we can’t afford a letdown."

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

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TENNIS

Sharapova wins at Bausch & Lomb tourney

Associated Press

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. — Maria Sharapova got the clay-court test she was looking for, but she almost got more than she bargained for.

Sharapova outlasted clay-court veteran Anabel Medina Garrigues in three sets over 3 hours at the Bausch & Lomb Championships on Thursday.

The top seed rallied from 3-0 down in the third set and survived 7-6 (3), 5-7, 7-6 (1) to move into the quarterfinals.

"There were a lot of ups and downs in the match," said Sharapova, who is making her clay season debut at Amelia Island Plantation for the first time. "I think I should have won the match in two sets, to be honest. But I stopped hitting the ball, and I kind of let her back in the match."

Three-time Bausch & Lomb champion Lindsay Davenport beat Karolina Sprem 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 in the first night match.

Sharapova needed in order to move into the third round before Sharapova beat Karolina Sprem 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 in the first night match.

Medina Garrigues controlled the momentum early in the third before Sharapova began the first of two bursts to escape.

Down 3-0, Sharapova won the next five games and saved several of her opponents' game points in the process to breathe easy at 5-3.

"It's the game of tennis, it can change really fast," Sharapova said.

"I changed again as Sharapova, seemingly in control, served for the match at 5-4. Medina Garrigues won the first two points and converted her sixth break of serve to win it 5-4.

But the tiebreaker went Sharapova's way from the get-go.

The Russian won the first three and the last four points as Medina Garrigues wilted under the setting Florida sun.

This type of win a marathon with long baseline rallies against a strong clay player was just what Sharapova needed in order to prepare for the French Open.

"I still feel like I can improve," Sharapova said. "Hopefully all these matches that I play here, as many as I can, will help me toward this year's French or future clay-court matches." Sharapova entered the Bausch & Lomb winner, her first seed, ranked No. 5 in the world with a 2008 record of 19-1.

Medina Garrigues came in as a No. 7 seed, ranked No. 29 with no quarterfinal appearances since September but with a staunch clay reputation.

They may as well have been equals Thursday.

"This is her specialty, this is where she does best," Sharapova said. "She grew up on this stuff, and she's very familiar with it."

Amelie Mauresmo had to work hard to earn her 500th career win in the third round. Mauresmo, the 2001 Bausch & Lomb winner, came back to beat seventh-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (6) in a match that took more than 27 hours.

Against Radwanska, Mauresmo was up 5-2 in the third before dropping two straight games to force a tiebreaker.

"Even though I had some opportunities to finish it off before the third-set tiebreaker, I couldn't make it," Mauresmo said. "I was glad that I was coming in and trying to go for it in that tiebreaker. That's what made the difference, I thought, in the end."

Maria Sharapova watches a serve to Anabel Medina Garrigues during their match at the Bausch & Lomb Championships Thursday.

SMC GOLF

Belles in second at Vasser

By ALEX BARKER

Sports Writer

Fresh off one of its best performances of the season in the first round of the MIAA qualifying tournament, Saint Mary's looks to maintain their solid play at the Vasser Invitational in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. this weekend.

Saint Mary's is currently second in the qualifier tournament after day one, just 1X strokes behind Olivet, the MIAA's fall season champions.

The Belles have developed some depth on the team that was not present during the fall season when they finished in third place. Freshmen Rosie O'Connor and Emily Gore have stepped up the spring and given senior Kaitie O'Brien some much needed support.

O'Connor has led the team in the past three tournaments, including the MIAA's qualifier and the fall season. Gore has also played very well this spring and shot an 84 in the qualifier.

After the Vasser Invitational, the Belles will play in the Illinois Wesleyan Spring Fling the following weekend before they compete in the final two days of the MIAA qualifier tournament April 25-26 in Marshall, Mich.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu

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Struggling Irish visit Wolverines

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

After dropping a 4-3 match Sunday to No. 63 William and Mary, the No. 34 Irish will look to regain some confidence this Saturday when they travel to No. 14 Michigan.

Notre Dame's loss on Sunday was only its third home loss this season after the team started off strong early in the season with many close wins.

"We won five 4-3 matches early and roost to No. 9," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "It was an inflated ranking, based on a small body of work.

Since beating North Carolina 4-3 at the Blue Gray Tennis Classic, the Irish are 1-5 with their only win coming over Ball State on Feb. 3, the Blue Devils were No. 10 and the win propelled the Irish to No. 9 in the rankings. The Blue Devils are now ranked No. 43.

While the Irish are looking to bounce back, Michigan is looking to do the same. The Wolverines had their 10-match winning streak halted by No. 17 Illinois on Sunday.

"Michigan had a rough weekend," Bayliss said. "They also played a closed match outdoors with Purdue. They have more Big Ten championships than any other team. They are clearly the favorite on paper."

The Irish haven't fallen to the Wolverines since 2002 when the Irish were ranked No. 4 and the Wolverines were No. 43.

"This team will be remembered for how we handle the stretch run," Bayliss said. "It will definitely be challenging. Winning and losing are equally contagious. Each is self-replicating."

Freshman Dan Stahl had a hard fought win against William and Mary on Sunday. Senior Sheeva Parbhu also had a big win for the Irish over the Tribe on Sunday.

Parbhu rebounded from a loss in doubles with junior Brett Helgeson to jump out to a five game lead in a singles match over Marwan Ramadani. Parbhu clinched the first set easily and raced to a 4-1 lead in the second, winning the match 6-1, 6-1.

"Winning and losing are equally contagious. Each is self-replicating."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

On Sunday the Irish will return home to take on Louisville at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at 1:00 p.m.

"Louisville is a very different team," Bayliss said. "They have a lot of new players and have had a pretty good season."

The Irish have also been plagued by South Bend's oft-plagued weather. Bayliss noted that the team's play had been affected by the inability to practice consistently outdoors.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrab01@saintmarys.edu

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This Week in Irish Sports

Softball

#19 Women's Tennis
Melissa Cook Stadium Dedication Weekend
Sat, April 12 @ 12pm & 2pm
vs. Rutgers
Sun, April 13 @ 11am & 1pm
vs. Villanova

#27 Men's Tennis
Sun, April 13 @ 1pm
vs. Louisville
Split squad travels to Mississippi, Michigan

By EUGENIA ALFONZO & ALEX BARKER
Sports Writers

Notre Dame will split-up the squad for the second consecutive weekend when they send athletes to both the Mississippi Open in Oxford, Miss., and the Spartan Invitational in Lansing, Mich., this weekend.

Coming off strong performances in both the Stanford and Purdue Invitational last weekend, Irish athletes will look to set more NCAA regional qualifying marks by taking advantage of the warm weather down south.

"There will be primarily sprinters, throwers and a few middle distance runners and jumpers competing at Mississippi," Irish distance coach Tom Connelly said. "Hopefully [Mississippi] will be warm and conducive for some good performances in the shorter races and field events.

The SEC will provide plenty of competition for the Irish in Oxford due to its history of top performances, including placing six teams out of the top-10 at the NCAA Championship last year.

The Irish hope facing tough competition will prepare them to perform well at the Big East Outdoor Championship meets at the beginning of May.

Those athletes who will compete at Michigan State in the Spartan Invitational will not have the same good fortune of weather. "The conditions at Michigan State could be pretty difficult — cold and rainy — but that is just the reality of spring time in the Midwest," Connelly said.

At the Spartan Invite, Notre Dame will face many familiar rivals and opponents, including Michigan, Purdue and Michigan State.

The Big East conference meet is rapidly approaching and each weekend's meet is becoming more and more important.

"There are only a limited number of opportunities to compete before the conference meet," Connelly said. "We need to take advantage of them."

Senior distance runner Jake Watson agreed. "These meets are for people looking to run the Big East standards," Watson said.

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at alfonzo@nd.edu, Alex Barker at abarker@nd.edu

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Irish open up new home field

Team breaks in Cook Stadium against Big East foes Rutgers, Villanova

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Riding an eight-game winning streak, the Irish will look to open up newly constructed Melissa Cook Stadium in style with back-to-back double-headers against Big East foes Rutgers and Villanova this weekend.

The center of attention isn't on any kinds of streaks or statistics for the Irish (24-10, 3-1 Big East), but instead on just playing well in their next game.

"We are not focused on the winning streak," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "All we are concerned about is beating these next two teams.

A point of motivation to win this weekend's series will be playing in brand-new Melissa Cook Stadium. The well-drained field has a fully-equipped locker room and a team room boasting televisions and couches that will allow the teams to unwind before and after games.

"The girls got to see it for the first time (Thursday), and they just loved it," Gumpf said.

Throwing out the first pitch will be Brian Boulac, the founder of the Irish softball program. Boulac was the first softball coach at Notre Dame and coached the stadium's namesake, Melissa Cook, in the program's formative years said Gumpf.

"Rutgers (16-21, 2-6 Big East) is coming off an impressive three-game winning streak to take on the Irish Saturday for the opening double-header. The first pitch in action at Melissa Cook Stadium will be hurled at noon by junior Brittany Bargay with the second game beginning at 2 p.m. and started by freshman Jordy Valdivia.

The Scarlet Knights have recently shown some pop off offense, with junior shortstop Kate Valiente going 3-for-7 at the plate in a double-header against Princeton in which she hit a grand-slam and drove in seven runs. Rutgers has very, very good hitters," Gumpf said. "They do a great job and are very tough to get out."

Villanova (14-14-1, 3-5 Big East) is also enjoying some hot hitting as of late, with a victory and a 9-9 tie that was called due to darkness in a double-header with Lehigh.

"If we want to be successful against Villanova we are going to have to limit our swings only to good pitches," Gumpf said.

If their recent play is any guide, the Irish should have no trouble mustering up some offense.

Senior second baseman Katie Laing has been on fire as of late, earning Big East Player of the Week honors last week.

Also hot in the batter's box is sophomore utility player Christine Lux, who had a phenomenal double-header against Eastern Michigan on Wednesday.

Lux tied the team record for RBIs in a single game held by former player Meagan Ruthrauff with seven in the opener. The impressive production included a three-run homer in the fourth inning.

Irish softball's new home, Melissa Cook Stadium, will hold opening ceremonies at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday before the doubleheader against Rutgers.

Contact Jared Jedick at jgedick@nd.edu

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Wideouts

continued from page 28

instead of just thinking about what he has to do he's out there reacting and being a ball player," Grimes said. "He's throwing the ball pretty well, he's looking good."

And the overall team chemistry is improving as well. More time spent together brings a better understanding of each other, both on and off the field.

"We're learning each other's tendencies, throwing more passes and catching more balls with each other, just spending more time with each other on and off the field," Grimes said. "With time, things improve."

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Defense

continued from page 28

playing with an intensity that seemed to be lacking in the first period. More players were getting more touches, and increased pressure was being put on Irish goalie Jordan Pearce.

"We came out [after the first period.] and I thought we played well the rest of the game," Porter said.

The duo of Porter and Kolarik combined for 116 points on the season, and tallied three more Thursday night that to beat a team with goal-scoring capabilities like Michigan, they just had to hold them off. After Michigan evened the game in the third, it must have felt like déjà vu for the Jackson's squad. In the teams' first meeting this season, a Jan. 18 matchup in Ann Arbor, Notre Dame also squinted out to a first period lead, only to have it vanish and eventually lose on a heartbreaker with 20.3 seconds left.

"We did it then, but we didn't get the job done this time," Kolarik said.

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Hust and fast.

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scoring over the left shoulder
center Kevin Portnr.

Notre Dame goaltender
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Notre Dame goaltender

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killing unit in
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Michigan goal and

Sauer's
penalty

They're going to be dangerous."
BLACK DOG

Michael Mikuska

Michael: You know it's all well and good to make fun at silly editorial policies, but censorship is a serious issue. College students are too aesthetic.

LOLLERSKATES

Didier Lewis

Top 10 reasons to loathe 'The Backer'

1) Longevity: the place is falling apart.
2) The Music: Yeah, 'Ghostbusters' is exactly what I want to hear on a Saturday night.
3) Location: if you don't live on campus or TC, you're screwed.
4) Freebies: paying $5 to drink in a walk-in closet and getting a drink ticket and slice popcorn isn't freebie.

JUMBLE

Henri Arnold Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ORVAS
HIWSS
LENAG
LAMAMM

Answer: (Answers tomorrow)

FRIDAYS WITH FRAN

Aries (March 21-April 19) Stay clean, stay focused. Frankenstein, have fun with your friends.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Your husband will be a lucky man on your wedding day. Well, at least as long as you have the veil over your face.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Bulge the ole' onion bag.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Be careful not to rear end another car today. Haha, it says rear end in the news.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) See if you can fit the hot dog in the hamburger bun.


Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You bought what? That's just gross... Yea, we know your secret.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) Clyde "The Astroglide" Dreiser will be on campus this weekend.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You're just plain whacky. Just plain.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Charlton Heston died and we all know who did it. Damn you all to hell.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) When he was born, was there even a 1 in 1,000,000,000 chance that the Undertaker wasn't going to become a professional wrestler? And there would have been more zeros in that question if there wasn't a limit on the horoscope space.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Try and eat some bath and body works type stuff this weekend... at night.

THE OBSERVER

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HOCKEY

Mile high miracle

Victory puts Irish in first ever NCAA final

By ELLYN MACHALAK
Sports Writer

DENVER — With effective first period offense and a final overtime goal by junior forward Calle Ridderwall, the underdog Irish defeated Michigan 5-4, earning their first ever entry into the NCAA National Championships.

"I have a rich tradition in playing the underdog role," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "The underdog thing is overvalued. When you get to this level, the teams in college hockey are so close where anything can happen."

Five minutes into overtime, Michigan goalie Bryan Hogan stopped senior center Dan Yanard's shot on goal. Ridderwall scored off the rebound, earning his fifth career goal, and lifting the Irish to a 5-4 win in sudden death.

Entering the game with only three goals in his first season they're so talented offensively," Notre Dame sophomore forward Bryan Tangh said. "But when you get a lead like that, it really doesn't mean a lot against a team like Michigan because they're so powerful."

Even with the lead, a Wolverine comeback was inevitable, and Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson knew it.

"They're just too explosive of a team to feel comfortable," Jackson said.

In the second period, Michigan's vaunted offense came to life, scoring two goals in 15 seconds, bringing the score back to 3-2, and completely reversing the momentum inside the Pepsi Center. A third goal two minutes into the third evened up the score, and Notre Dame's early three-goal cushion had evaporated.

"Obviously it wasn't the start that we wanted, but I liked the way our team regrouped in the second period," Wolverine coach Red Berenson said. "Our kids bounced back."

Notre Dame had made a crucial mistake — it gave the Wolverines space to create. In the first period, the Irish forechecked aggressively and no Michigan player could touch the puck without being pinned against the boards by a blue Notre Dame jersey. In the second, though, the Irish allowed Michigan to set up its offense and effectively cycle the puck, and on a team with players like Chad Kolarik and Kevin Porter, the Irish were asking for trouble.

"They possessed the puck quite a bit more than we did in the second period," Irish senior captain Mark Van Guilder said.

Michigan did its part too, taking advantage of the given space and

Team survives high powered Michigan offense when it counts

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

DENVER — All season, Michigan's offense has been known to score quicker than you can say "Go Blue." And Notre Dame experimented that explosiveness firsthand Thursday night.

Taking a 3-0 lead in the first intermission, and dominating basically all facets of the game, Notre Dame looked to be cruising towards a national championship berth, or they would have, if this were any team but the Wolverines.

"It's always great to get up on Michigan, because we know

Football

Experienced receiving corps bring flexibility to offense

By DEIRDRE KRASKULA
Sports Writer

A tandem of young of wide receivers brought a glimmer of hope to the end of last season. True freshmen Kamara and Golden Tate finally showed their potential in Notre Dame's 21-14 win over Stanford in November.

Quarterback Jimmy Clausen connected with Kamara six times to combine for a team-high 133 yards. Kamara had 357 yards on the season, behind only senior tight end John Carlson and sophomore Robby Parris.

From the looks of spring camp, things are likely to continue in that direction. Offensive coordinator Michael Haywood noted that the Irish are already ahead of their gameplan at this point in the spring season, a feat he attributes to the coaching staff and their attention to detail.

"We keep track of everything," Haywood said. "We keep track of every play that's made, every catch that is made by a wide receiver, every ball that is deflected, every ball that is dropped, every ball that is unaccepted, and every ball that is incomplete. For whatever reason."

In addition to spotting problems early enough to fix them, the Irish now boast a little bit more experience in the receiving lanes.

Rising senior David Grimes has the most experience at the position and has used what he's learned to guide younger players like Kamara and Tate.

He's an outstanding leader," Haywood said of Grimes. "He leads by example; he leads by the way he carries himself on campus. He acts like a champion at all times."

But finding leaders in upperclassmen is just part of Notre Dame's dynamic.

"I just see it as one big family, we go out and help each other," Kamara said. "Grimes helps me a lot, that's one of the guys I look up to. Just going out and being a family, being one, and we just compete to do our best."

Beyond being a leader, Grimes was fourth on the Irish squad with 224 yards in 2007. Rising junior Robby Parris was second with 361 yards.

With three of the four top receivers returning, the offensive staff is free to move players around to find the best combinations of two or three men.

"Each individual is adjusting to their position because we're moving wide receivers around," Haywood said. "Maybe by formation, maybe by position, and we're moving a lot of guys around and guys are learning conceptually — three-man concepts, two-man concepts — and as they learn this, they do a lot better job because they understand where they have to get as opposed to where the other receiver is at this time."

The Irish to try players in different positions is also an attribute to Clausen's experience. With a year of play under his belt, his confidence with himself and chemistry with his receivers is growing.

"It doesn't that all three of the top receivers have already had a season to learn Clausen's style."

"He's a lot more confident, just overall.