SMC security addresses recent safety concerns

Garipey meets with students to discuss incident at Regina Hall

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's director of security Dave Garipey and assistant director of security Stan Klimczak addressed concerned Regina Hall residents about security issues and concerns in a meeting in the North Lounge of the hall Thursday evening.

"There was a lot of concern... about the man on the roof," Garipey said. "There's a lot of basis for concern with the way security responded to that incident."

Garipey, referring to the trespasser who escaped custody after making his way onto the roof of Regina Hall April 5, alluded to the seemingly slow response to the incident from Saint Mary's Security detailed in the article "Slow Security response raises questions" in the April 17 edition of The Observer.

The front of Saint Mary's Regina Hall, where a trespasser was seen and reported to SMC security last week.

SND community to donate gently used dorm room belongings for citywide yard sale held near stadium

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

As the academic year draws to a close and students move out of their respective dorms and off-campus residences, they should not worry about the waste of throwing away their gently used belongings, or about to whom they ought to donate.

Starting this weekend, students can make donations to From Old2Gold, a citywide yard sale that will occupy about 70,000 square feet of the stadium concourse on May 24, said Frank Parker, Manager Central Receiving.

All proceeds from the yard sale will benefit South Bend area non-profit agencies.

"Students take anything that they have — personal items that they have — that they either no longer want or just want to donate, to non-profit agencies to help the community, and they put it out for our staffs to pick up and take to the stadium," Parker said.

Students will be able to donate a wide variety of gently used belongings to the sale.

"You name anything that students could have in the residence halls, and I'd venture to say that there's at least one of them at the sale," he said.

Items such as stackable storage containers, clothes, shoes, bikes, computers, printers, toys and sporting goods are typically sold, he said.

Members from the community, Parker said, also come to shop at the From Old2Gold yard sale.

"We had somewhere in the neighborhood of 3,900 to 4,000 shoppers last year," Parker said. Last year's sale generated over $43,000, Parker said.

All residence halls will have barrels to collect non-perishable food items and cleaning supplies, and twelve trucks will drive to residence halls to pick up other larger items, such as furniture, this weekend and during certain evening hours until May 21, according to Parker.

Trucks will also pick up items from other designated areas in and near residence halls during the day. Parker said, and each residence hall also has a designated area for wood from lawns.

"Students are requested to remove nails and screws from wood to ensure staff safety," Parker said.

Parker said the volunteers from non-profit agencies all over the South Bend area come to the sale to help with its setup.

"Last year we had thirty-nine agencies that were involved, and we decided to keep it that way because we've found that's a good number of applicants to date. A panel of SUB committee members and Legends representatives listened to each submission and narrowed the field to 10 per building," said Susan Johnson, the coordinator of campus entertainment for the Student Union Board (SUB).

Sixteen bands submitted demo CDs to SUB, the largest number of applicants to date. A panel of SUB committee members and Legends representatives listened to each submission and narrowed the field to 10 per building.

"We planned on choosing six to eight bands, but all of the submissions were top quality, so it was hard to even narrow it down to ten," said sophomore Mallory Davidson, co-programmer of campus entertainment for the Student Union Board (SUB).

"Something that really surprised us about this year's competition was the number of entries we received for the Battle," said junior Clint Simkins, co-programmer of campus entertainment for the Student Union Board (SUB).

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

Musician compete in Battle of the Bands

Students make longest spoon train

Group of 127 breaks world record on quad

By ELIZABETH KUHN
News Writer

A group of 127 Notre Dame students broke the record for the World's Longest Spoon Train in the middle of South Quad Thursday afternoon.

Junior Charlie Mahoney originally proposed the idea to his friends as a joke, but the group became serious and put on their submission CDs," said Davidson. "We really tried to make sure that a wide variety of music types for the Battle."
INSIDE COLUMN

You live, you learn

They say the college experience isn't so much about what you learn in class, but what you discover about yourself along the way. I always thought that was just an excuse for Notre Dame slipping another few thousand onto tuition each year, but after this Viewpoint Editor semester I'm beginning to see some logic to that argument. Some of the most important lessons aren't necessarily learned in the classroom or in the textbooks. Here's a little glimpse into what I've discovered this past semester.

Professors don't appreciate it when you do the crossword puzzle in class. To be fair, I realized this before I came to Notre Dame, but the only previous victims from my lack of attention were my grades. Oh how the times have changed. A certain finance professor, whose name may or may not rhyme with Blackerman, took matters to a new level of pain and humiliation with his recent aerial assault on my face.

I guess he's kind of an evil genius in that regard. I mean, if I were paying attention, I could have easily dived in, attempted to catch the football that so rudely interrupted my puzzling. Instead, I was left to deal with the Marsh Brady-esque consequences.

Last lesson learned. I now wait until after class to pick up my daily copy of The Observer.

Finance has actually provided me with countless such lessons in paying attention. Perhaps it's the obvious bribery in the form of free beverages. Bribery is seriously underrated as a means to an end.

So is free money randomly distributed to prove a point. I'm not sure I remember what the point was, but I do remember money being thrown to the ground.

And for all these random financial lessons, I've discovered even more outside of school.

75-minute classes are too long, especially in courses that are unfathomably miserable. But at least you can unplug in your desolation.

And, if you're willing to suffer that extra 25 minutes a day, you can have your Fridays free to go out there and gain even more collegiate experience.

Rico's is the best-kept secret that shouldn't be a secret. The food is delicious, fast and cheap.

TiVo is the best invention known to man. With it, you can enjoy teachers' tardiness to prorrate procrastinating.

Patrick's again. That'd be fine.

“Little spoon because a little fork would hurt.”

Kevin Dacey

sophomore

Stanford

“Big Spoon because everything's bigger in Texas.”

Andy Masak

junior

Dillon

“Junior because of Mike Ellerhorst and Margaret Knoedler.”

Caitlin Hildebrand

junior

Levis

“Matt Wilkey is always big spoon and Joel Sharbrough is always little with Chilato in the middle.”

Kevin Dacey

sophomore

Stanford

IN BRIEF

“Nacho de niños — a night for Panamanian children,” a benefit event, will be held today from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Coleman Morse Student Lounge. Tickets are $5 at the LaFonter Box Office and $7 at the door.

The Notre Dame baseball team will play tonight against Saint John's at 6:05 at the Frank Eck Baseball Stadium.

Men's Soccer will play the Mexico Under-20 National Team today at 7 p.m. at Alumni Field. Tickets are free for students.

Women's Lacrosse: Big East Semifinals will be held today at 7:45 p.m. against Georgetown in the Notre Dame Football Stadium.

The band “The Starting Line” will perform Friday at Legends at 10 p.m. as part of the Student Union Board's Antisocial Festivities.

The Notre Dame Battle of the Bands will be at Legends Saturday at 8 p.m.

La Alianza will sponsor the Latino Formal Saturday at 9 p.m. at the College Football Hall of Fame. Transportation is available from Main Circle at 9 p.m. running continuously until 2:20 a.m. Tickets are $10 for a single and $15 for couples.

Sorin College will sponsor its first theatrical performance "Rumors" on Sunday at 8 p.m. at Washington Hall. Tickets are available at the door for $3.

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

CORRECTIONS

The Observer respects itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and do not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Xern Xing at king65@nd.edu.

OFFBEAT

Legally blind man pummels home intruder

INDIANAPOLIS — A legally blind man beat up an intruder and held him at knife-point until police arrived at the man's eastside home, authorities said. Allan Kietz, 49, told police he was at home Monday morning when his small dog began barking and he encountered the man.

"I opened the door and just ran into him. I had him pinned in the laundry room and just kept pummeling," said Kietz, a former wrestler in high school.

He said he grabbed the intruder by the belt and dragged him into the kitchen, where he put a knife at the man's throat and tried to dial 911. "Being visually impaired, I couldn't get the buttons because I was using my left hand," he said. "I took it to myself about it," he said.

Woman finds 8-foot alligator in kitchen

OLDSMAR, Fla. — And some people get jittery about mice in the kitchen.

Authorities say 69-year-old central Florida woman found an 8-foot long alligator prowling in her kitchen late Monday night.

Sandra Fosoi says the gator must have pushed through the back porch screen door and then went inside through an open sliding glass door at her home in Oldsmar, just north of Tampa. It then apparently slithered through the living room, down a hall and into the kitchen.

A trap with Animal Capture of Florida removed the alligator, which was cut by a plate that was knocked to the ground during the chase. But no one inside the house was injured.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.
Sorin College to sponsor Neil Simon’s “Rumors”

By KATIE PERALTA  Assistant News Editor

Sorin College will sponsor its first theatrical event this weekend with a performance of Neil Simon’s farce “Rumors.” The show will be performed on Sunday and Tuesday nights at 8 in the LAB theater on the third floor of Washington Hall.

Proceeds from the event will benefit Saint Jude’s Uganda, established through Sorin’s Sophomore fund, said Chelsea Moore, co-director of the show. Although this is Sorin’s first fundraising theatrical event of its kind, Maltese hopes such shows continue in the future and that they fit snugly together. “It’s not immoral at all,” Moor said.

According to Maltese, the play features four couples at the dinner party of their friends’ 10th wedding anniversary. “The play is filled with hilarious slapstick comedy, misunderstandings, mistaken identities, drunkenness, marital disputes, various injuries, a car accident and a surprise ending,” Maltese said.

The set for the show is the largest ever to be used in the LAB theater, featuring five doors and a second story, Maltese said. The event is open to the Notre Dame community and tickets are available for $5 at the door.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

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Spoon continued from page 1

huge,” event coordinator Sharbrough said.

As ski team spoon co-captain with Kelly Rice, he planned and advanced the idea for the event. “Spooning occurs when two people lay on their sides facing the same direction so that they fit snugly together. It’s not immoral at all,” ski team junior Katie Rehberger said. “It’s a way to unite the campus.”

Students began to accumulate on South Quad around 4:30 p.m., though it took about thirty minutes for enough students to make a train long enough to heat the previous record of 98 people.

“We are still in the process of contacting the Guinness Book of World Records, Sharbrough said. “We expect that it will take at least six more weeks.”

Most of yesterday’s participants learned of the record-breaking train through their friends or the massive Facebook group. While many spooners were part of the online group, a number of them were recruited to join as they walked past on the quad.

“It’s fun to be outside, having a good time and doing something a little crazy,” sophomore Kelly Rice said. “And if I had to be in a situation, I would definitely be a spoon.”

“It’s fun to be outside, having a good time and doing something a little crazy,” Rice said.

Kelly Rice, sophomore

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Please recycle The Observer.

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Faculty & Staff Appreciation Event

April 28th and 29th

All Notre Dame Faculty and Staff will receive an additional 5%* off all regular and sale priced merchandise at The Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore, Varsity Shops in the JAC, and at the Notre Dame Clearance Center on Ironwood.

Receive a tall Starbucks coffee from the Irish Ink Café with your faculty or staff ID at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore on 4/28 or 4/29. Limit one person per.

* 5% discount is in addition to your everyday 20% discount. Faculty or Staff ID required. May not be combined with any other offer.

Valid in-store only. Excludes: “the shirt”, textbooks, gift cards, diploma frames, class rings, previous & online purchases, computer hardware & software, calculators, Steinner Memorabilia, Lladro, Waterford, & professional references. See store for further details.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year and for making us your bookstore of choice.

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The Observer ♦ CAMPUS NEWS page 3
Security continued from page 1

"The claims made by stu­dents to a large degree are absolutely accurate," he said.

The e-mail inviting Regina residents to the meeting said there is an "ongoing investigation about the incident," and all residents were encouraged to attend the meeting to "find out what security had done" regarding the case and what steps have been taken to make sure that it does not happen again.

Gariepy said security has investigated the incident further and found some discrepancies between the reports filed by the responding officer and the concerns voiced by the anony­mous source quoted in the April 17 article.

"Our initial reports didn't indicate [that security] had to bag a second and time before they searched the roof," he said. "To us, reading the report, we read it as the roof had been checked on the first floor,"

Gariepy said the initial responding officer said the man on the roof and made a deci­sion about the situation.

"The officer explained that she made a bad judgment call," he said. "Another call came in that diverted her attention and because of what she had assumed she went to help the other call. By the time our offi­cer went up on the roof [the suspect] had made his escape." He stressed there should not be any men on the roof after dark, and the construction tak­ing place on the roof of the building has been completed so there should be no ladders near the building at night either.

"There shouldn't be roofing contractors up there after dark," Gariepy said.

"We explained to the officer who responded. It's a relatively new officer with quite a bit of experi­ence. She's trained offi­cers and served as assistant security director at a different col­lege."

Gariepy said security is making changes in response to the situation so that such an occurrence does not happen again.

"That's not the way we would respond to the situation and that's not the way we want our officers responding to it," he said. "We want to make sure that security is responding ade­quate­ly to your calls for help.

Kliczmak said the most important thing a student can do to help keep campus safe to call security about suspicious activity.

"Don't assume that someone else is going to [make the call]; don't assume that it's nothing," he said. "If we don't know about it there's no way that we're even going to have a chance to catch anybody."

Kliczmak said students should never hesitate to call security.

"If you do not get an ade­quate response the next morn­ing call myself or Dave [Gariepy]," he said. "We do not cover anything up. We've made a mistake, we can do better."

Kliczmak said security is encouraging students to give their name and number when they call because they want officers to be able to respond to the student after they have investigated the activity that is reported.

"We're encouraging our guys to make contact with the per­son who made the complaint. You should be called back and explain what was found, that's just good police work or security work," Gariepy said.

The incident, Gariepy said, will be used in a positive man­ner as a method of training for our officers to be able to respond to the student after they have investigated the activity.

"When we make mistakes — even if it's not our mistake — we want to learn from it and make sure they're not repeated."

Dave Gariepy
Saint Mary's
director of security

Bands continued from page 1

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"When we make mistakes — even if it's not our mistake — we want to learn from it and make sure they're not repeated."

"The two said they want stu­dents to be safe in the chances that they make. Gariepy stressed walking in groups if they walk to the Grotto after dark or utilizing the escort service available.

"We encourage good safe decisions and safe transporta­tion options," he said.

Contact Liz Harter at charter01@saintmarys.edu

Yard Sale continued from page 1

and they come in throughout the month of May to sort all of the items, price them, get them set for display," Parker said. "And all the proceeds that we gain from the yard sale are divided up between the agencies that have volunteers working." From Old2Gold is in its fourth year at Notre Dame, but was modeled on Penn State and the Centre County United Way's Trash to Treasure, a similar project in which students donate items that are sold at a yard sale in Penn State's football stadium, Parker said.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscol@nd.edu
Man sentenced in oil-for-food case

NEW YORK — An Iraqi-American businessman who admitted helping Saddam Hussein's government in the oil-for-food scandal was fined and ordered to pay $2 million by a judge who said he provided substantial assistance to the U.S. government after his arrest. "It is a terrible day," the U.S. District Judge Denny Chin said Thursday as he sentenced Ali Mustafa Ismail, 47, to 16 months in prison.

Census Bureau scales back test run

A Census Bureau director who has scaled back its dress rehearsal for the once-a-decade national count, raising fears that the Census Bureau will lose its credibility, now says the bureau is ready to go on with the population survey as planned.

Local accused of school attack plot

Authorities detain teen after finding more than 100 knives, illegal snakes at his home

COSBY, judge lecture on parenting, values

Associated Press

Local accused of school attack plot

Authorities detain teen after finding more than 100 knives, illegal snakes at his home

Associated Press

Ryan Schallenberger, a student suspected of planning an attack on Chesterfield High School, appears before a judge on Tuesday in Chesterfield, S.C.

COSBY, judge lecture on parenting, values

Associated Press

Allegations of profanity, violence during teen's testimony

Ravi Maguru, assistant public defender, declined to comment on Thursday on the teen's claims of profanity or violence.

Federal prosecutor called on to address teen's testimony

Dvorak said he would bring any information he had to the defense team.

Candidate proposes state audit plan

The most detailed audit of state government would be performed and voting hours would be extended under a audit plan proposed Thursday by Democratic candidate for governor in the May 6 primary.

Proposed audit would detail state government

"We must find new and different approaches to organizing and delivering government to lower the cost and improve efficiencies," said Schellinger, an Indianapolis architect who is competing with former Michigan Secretary of State for the Democratic nomination for governor in the May 6 primary.

Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels has no primary opponent.

Schellinger said Indiana needs a comprehensive review of government at all levels, with state and local officials working together to decide what improvements are needed.

International News

U.N. announces anti-malaria initiative

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — A 16-year-old boy is accused of plotting an attack on his high school, prosecutors said Thursday, alleging that he discussed plans by e-mail with another person to carry out simultaneous "Columbine-like murders" in two states on Sept. 11, 2008.

Authorities detained the teen Tuesday on an initial charge of intimidation, St. Joseph County prosecutor Michael Dvorak said Thursday.

A school officer investigating an unrelated threat at Penn High School discovered Internet postings in which the teen discussed his support for the Columbine shooters.

Police searched the student's locker, backpack, home and laptop computer and found notebooks in which he wrote about killing a large number of people. They found he had searched the Internet on Monday for how to make propane tank bombs and for a reference guide on how to make explosives and other dangerous devices.

Meanwhile, prosecutors in Columbia, S.C., sought a mental evaluation for an 18-year-old accused of planning to bomb his high school.

Schellinger added that he wanted only to get young people to talk about their lives.

"I see these young people as a source of strength," he said.

Cosby told the invitation-only gathering of about 500 people, including teenagers judged by juvenile authorities as being "at risk," that his line was a culture of drugs and permissive sex.

"The problem with teenage pregnancy is the planning of it. There was no planning," he said.

"Let's get with those teenage children and their sex and having sex. I'm telling you, you've got to talk to your children," he said.

He dismissed critics of his approach who have said that he is airing dirty laundry.

"That's crazy," he said. "There are black people who have to walk around this dirty laundry."
Opus

continued from page 1

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Ford turns a surprising profit

Strong sales to Europe, South America help offset weak U.S. car and truck numbers

Associated Press

DEARBORN, Mich. — Ford Motor Co. surprised Wall Street on Thursday with a $100 million profit in the first quarter as strong results from Europe and South America helped offset the impact of a slumping U.S. economy that cut car and truck sales in its home market. Its shares rose almost 6 percent in morning trading.

The No. 2 U.S.-based automaker also said its latest round of early retirement and buyout offers netted nearly 4,000 hourly workers, fewer than Ford had targeted.

It's Ford's first profitable quarter since the second quarter of 2005 when it made $750 million. Ford reported a full-year loss of $2.7 billion last year, and it cautioned that the rest of this year will be tough.

"The remainder of 2008 will be a challenge but we are cautiously optimistic despite the external challenges," CFO Alan Mulally said in a statement. "Our plan is working.

Ford also lowered its industry-wide U.S. vehicle sales forecast for the full year to a range of 15.3 million to 15.6 million, in January it had expected full-year sales of 16 million.

Ford says it earned 5 cents per share in the first quarter compared with a $45 million pretax loss in the year-earlier quarter. It is Ford's first profit in the first quarter since the second quarter of the fiscal year, but that was an "improvement over a $613 million, or 29 cents per share, loss in the first quarter of last year.

Ford's logo hangs over the tails of unsold 2008 Taurus sedans at a Ford dealership in the southeast Denver suburb of Centennial, Colo., on April 13.

Microsoft's third-quarter profits drop

SEATTLE — Microsoft Corp. said Thursday its fiscal third-quarter profit fell 72 percent from a year earlier, when the software maker reported more than $1 billion in deferred revenue earned during the delays in the launch of the Windows Vista operating system.

The earnings report didn't affect the stock market. But investors, chewing over the company's guidance and a drop in its stock price in the last two months, were left with mixed reactions.

"Generally OK," with better than expected earnings per share but fourth-quarter guidance that came "in a little work," said Alan R. Ackerman, an analyst for Dain Rauscher Wessels. "This is not going to change our view on the company in any way.

"We're a little disappointed with the revenue," said Baird analyst Roger F. McNamee, who was 11 cents lower on the quarter.

"Despite a difficult economic environment, it was a very good performance," said Dain Rauscher Wessels analyst Ingrid Schumacher.

"It's a very good quarter," said McNamee, "with better than expected earnings per share and revenue.

"But it's hard to see the upside from here. We're looking for a stock price that is going to do a little bit better in the next few weeks."
5 people killed in van crash
Tractor-trailer flips car carrying mentally disabled people to the zoo

Associated Press

EIGHTY-FOUR, Pa. — A tractor-trailer slammed into a van carrying mentally disabled people on a trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo, flipping it onto its side, crashing it against a building and killing five people.

Witnesses told investigators the van stopped at an intersection and then pulled right in front of the semi on a rural highway. Crow worked for several hours Thursday to remove all the bodies from the van. Seven people were injured.

The accident happened about 9:45 a.m. in Somerset Township, about 30 miles south of Pittsburgh, minutes after the van had left a group home in Bellefonte.

"I just think it's one of those terrible, sad freak accidents," said Lynne Loresch, executive director of the Mental Health Association of Washington County, the group home operator. Loresch said the van was the second of two taking group home residents to the zoo. The first van arrived safely, but the group was told to return home, where they learned of the crash.

Three residents of the group home and two staff members were killed. The six other people in the van — all residents — were taken to hospitals. The tractor-trailer driver was treated at a hospital and released.

Authorities said they did not believe the tractor-trailer had been speeding. State transportation officials ruled it from the scene and planned to inspect it.

The tractor-trailer is owned by Stocker Trucking Co. in Gahoe, Ohio, and was driven by Stephen Iloue, 44, of Uhrichsville, Ohio. A man who answered the phone at Stocker Trucking declined to comment.

The van was pinned against a cinderblock storage building owned by a home gas- and oil-delivery business; a corner of the building partly collapsed.

The van was knocked onto its side and pushed roof-first into the building, causing the vehicle's roof to cave in, state police Trooper Frank Lewis said.

Two of the dead were removed by paramedics shortly after the accident, but the bodies of the driver and two residents had to be cut from the wreckage, Washington County Coroner Tim Wurutz said.

Killed were the driver, Sheryl Maiolini, 33, of Charleroi; staff member Mary Watkins, 43, of Ellsworth; and residents John Maiolini, 61, Richard Paquet, 43, and Julie Hughes, 41.

Maiolini was a five-year employee with a "superb" driving record, Loresch said.

The injured residents included three men and three women, who range in age from 48 to 58 years old.

Two of them had returned to the group home by late afternoon, Loresch said. The others were expected to survive and had minor injuries that included head, neck and spinal injuries and broken bones, Loresch said.

Loresch said people in the van that crashed are from the facility's enhanced personal care home, whose residents aren't locked down around the clock.

Most of the home's residents have schizophrenia or bipolar disorders. Some are there voluntarily, while others had been at Mayview State Hospital and are making the transition toward more independent living, Loresch said.

Authorities had no immediate theories about why the van pulled into the path of the truck on state Route 136.

Jeff Breen of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Washington County maintenance office said state officials were aware of safety concerns at the intersection of the two-lane highway and Brownlee Road, from which the van pulled out. The department had studied the intersection and planned an upgrade, he said, though he wouldn't provide specifics.

"We will look at it again and see if we will move this project ahead of other projects," Breen said.

Motorists on Brownlee Road, which travels north and south, must stop at the intersection of Route 136; motorists on Route 136, which travels east and west, do not have to stop.

Before Thursday, there had been 13 crashes but no fatalities at the intersection over the past five years, said Rich Karpinski, a PennDOT spokesman.

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 Authorities had no immediate theories about why the van pulled into the path of the truck on state Route 136.

Jeff Breen of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Washington County maintenance office said state officials were aware of safety concerns at the intersection of the two-lane highway and Brownlee Road, from which the van pulled out. The department had studied the intersection and planned an upgrade, he said, though he wouldn't provide specifics.

"We will look at it again and see if we will move this project ahead of other projects," Breen said.

Motorists on Brownlee Road, which travels north and south, must stop at the intersection of Route 136; motorists on Route 136, which travels east and west, do not have to stop.

Before Thursday, there had been 13 crashes but no fatalities at the intersection over the past five years, said Rich Karpinski, a PennDOT spokesman.
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VIETNAM
Orphanages accused of fraudulent adoptions

Associated Press
HANOI - Vietnam has failed to police its adoption system, allowing corruption, fraud and baby-selling to flourish, the U.S. Embassy says in a new report obtained by The Associated Press.

The nine-page document describes brokers scouring villages for babies, hospitals selling infants whose mothers cannot pay their bills, and a grandmother giving away her grandchild without telling the child's mother.

"I'm shocked and deeply troubled by the worst of the worst cases," said Jonathan Aloisi, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi.

Vietnam's top adoption official called the concerns "groundless." Bribery of orphanage officials may occur, but serious offenses such as baby-selling or kidnapping are not a problem, said Vu Duc Long, director of the Department of International Adoptions.

The dispute comes amid a boom in adoptions from Vietnam. Americans — including actress Angelina Jolie — adopted more than 1,200 Vietnamese children over the 18 months ending March 31. In 2007, adoptions surged more than 400 percent from a year earlier, with 828 Vietnamese children adopted by American families.

While China remains the most popular overseas country for adoptions, a growing number of Americans are looking to Vietnam, which has fewer restrictions. The wait for adoption approval has also gotten longer in China after authorities there tightened rules.

U.S. adoption agencies active in Vietnam said that despite some cases of wrongdoing, most adoptions in the country are ethical.

"Our experience has been a good one," said Susan Cox, vice president of public policy with Holt International Children's Services, based in Eugene, Ore., which has operated in Vietnam since the 1970s. "We are concerned about any unethical practices, but I would not agree that these cases are indicative of adoptions in Vietnam."

Another adoption agency, Families Thru International Adoption, of Evansville, Ind., said that corruption exists everywhere and it is up to the adoption agencies to screen who they work with in Vietnam and other countries.

"There's always somebody that is trying to do something under the table, and when there are children involved, the results are even more horrific," said program director Salome Lamarche. "As an agency, we have a responsibility to be very careful who we work with and only work with organizations that work in a morally responsible manner."
Here's to you

Stuff I could take or leave

In response to Tim Loftus’ “Grind My Gears” (April 23) and Eleanor Bradley’s “What Floats My Boat” (April 24), I present to you “Stuff I Could Take or Leave.”

From spasms of counting your own waffles — eh, they take awhile to make. — Rum Runners on Wednesday nights — I suppose if it’s somebody’s birthday, I’ll go. — sports other than football — yea, not real interested. — Holy Cross Games. — Memorial Day — it’s no 4th of July. — 4-star recruits — I guess we have to scalpel it somehow. — Inside/Outside — meh. — Meerkat Manor — commie-commie-commie. — global warming — not too concerned. — Sharrow — guess if I was buzzed. — Flipside events — I guess if I was drunk. — Funchloric Projections. — I guess I would attend. — attendance at the Jordan Hall of Science — perhaps if science wasn’t boring. — the yearbook — doesn’t strike my fancy. — Microsoft Vista — Peace Studies — don’t get it. — the Library — I guess it has a cool mural of Jesus. — Canada — high. — Chosser A. Arthur — full-rear nudity — I guess it’s okay. — Holy Hall Marathon — good for you, buddy. — grad students. — the MTV Movie Awards — really? — Midnight drummer’s circle — it was cool the first time. — free events at the HPMC — at the bathrooms are nice. — Bill Paxton. — Barracuda spam — Knoth Hall — I guess we’re grossed. — room on campus — War on Terror — not a big deal anymore. — Fingerprint — personal hygiene — not a priority. — Loyally Daughters is that me? — Kansas City — both sides of the front. — And that, my friends, is “Stuff I Could Take or Leave.”

Rob Annaidis
Matt Barcus
Chris Wilson
Andy MacKrell

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An informal survey:
Do you even bother reading the rest of this section? (Check box yes or no.)

Yes
No

Submit a Letter to the Editor (that people will read).

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The devil is compromise.”

Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian playwright.
It would be easy to lose sight of the good you are providing in your graduation speeches to graduating seniors by focusing on the wars overseas, rising gasoline prices, an unpopular president they have known since throughout their teen or a failing job mar­ ket. Not this year. Not this class. They are my "bros" since they will attend Notre Dame reunions during the same five-year intervals that I attend. So in May, they enter my world — one made up of pleasant or miserable indi­ viduals by each of you.

The late humorist and syndicated columnist, G. K. Chesterton, said that Notre Dame was founded on the idea of telling students during a chaotic year like 2008 that he was proud his generation was leaving them a perfect world. For that generation, he wrote, "Each of you has, in your own way, contributed to my life's work."

I am very excited for Ms. Bradley about the many things at Notre Dame that float her boat — "You know what really floats my boat." Since Bradley references. Not this class. They are my "bros" since they will attend Notre Dame reunions during the same five-year intervals that I attend. So in May, they enter my world — one made up of pleasant or miserable indi­ viduals by each of you.

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Thirty-two homemade boats will cross Saint Mary’s Lake tomorrow, vying for the coveted honor of winning the 22nd annual Fisher Regatta. Many boats will survive the waters and reach the other side, while inevitably some unlucky crafts will make the bottom of the lake their permanent home. The sailors and the spectators will make up the crowd for Fisher’s signature dorm event.

“Usually about ten to twelve hundred people show up,” Regatta co-commissioner Drew Clary said. “We serve tons of food that is generally gone in an hour,” he said.

Jay Farraher organized Fisher Hall’s first regatta in 1987. A freshman at the time, Farraher and some friends sought to create an event that united the men of Fisher Hall, while raising money for charity at the same time.

“We wanted to achieve [an event] on the level of Bookstore Basketball and the Keenan Review,” Farraher said in an e-mail. Twenty-two years later, Farraher is happy to see that Regatta has grown into an event that hundreds of people attend each year. “I am very proud of the fact that the Regatta is still going strong,” he said.

Race day will find boats made of every conceivable material lined up on the shore, ready to take on their opponents. There will be anywhere from two to eight people per boat, with each boat entered into either a male or female bracket, Clary said. The objective is to build a fast and efficient boat that will get the team across the lake before the opposing team, advancing them in the bracket.

“It is common for the girl’s dorms to have multiple boats. The guys are more competitive and generally focus all their energy on one boat,” he said.

While some boats are pretty basic, made out of wood and caulk, many people get creative with their building materials. One year, some girls made a boat with masts from the game Twister, while another group created a boat with “beer bong legs,” he said. Clary also pointed out that in the past, awards have been given out for “Most Creative Boat.”

However, while boat building materials run the gamut, not all of them stay aloft.

“Last year, Sorin’s boat sank right at the starting line,” Clary said. “There must be a fair number of boats at the bottom of that lake.”

Fisher, though, has learned in past years what works best in creating a fast and buoyant boat. Clary’s freshman year, the Fishermen built a boat that was about 500-600 pounds. “It was a monster, but really cool, like a party barge,” he said.

However, the boat of a boat required 22 men to carry it out to the lake, and by the time the boat was steadily cruising across the water, Fisher’s opponent had already crossed the finish line. But Clary and his dormmates have learned from their mistake, this year Fisher’s boat considerably smaller.

While some dorms like Fisher and Sorin try to learn from past mistakes, other dorms have a tried and true formula; namely, O’Neill.

“O’Neill has used same boat for several years. There are tallies on the side of the boat that show that the boat has won four or five times,” Clary said.

The fun and excitement encompassing the Regatta is the result of a major organizational feat. NDNP, the South Bend Fire Department, and South Bend’s Water Safety Unit are all involved in the event, Clary said. They partake in the event as a precaution, bringing in scuba gear and patrolling the water in motorboats. But the event is just as fun for them as it is for the students.

“They love it. Last year, one of the firemen brought his son, and he just road around in the motorboat with everyone,” Clary said.

Along with the safety precautions, the commissioners are also in charge of handling the money to be sent to the charity. Every year, the Regatta benefits the Andre House, a Holy Cross Organization service organization in the Phoenix area.

Every dorm donates $40 to enter their first boat. If they choose to enter additional boats, each one will cost $30, Clary said. The Dorm will also sell tee shirts priced at $10 to raise money. The cost of putting the event, namely the cost of food, is covered by dorms funds and sponsorships.

We have a tight budget so we expanded our sponsorship this year,” Clary said, stating that Catering by Design will donate about half of the food, and that Papa Johns will be supplying gift certificates to the race’s winners.

The day of the race starts at 7 a.m. for the commissioners. They will make sure everything is in place before waking up the rest of the dorm at 11 a.m. to finish preparations. At noon the grill will be fired up. Finally, at 1:00 pm, the races will commence.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu
By MARK WITTE
Assistant Scene Editor

"I've got a singular impression that things are movin' too fast," sings Matthew Callanan's character Jamie Wellerstein. It might be a comment on the show's one-act structure, but "The Last Five Years," by the Farley Hall Players, which opens tonight at the Mainstage in Washington Hall, is over and done before you know it. But that might not be a bad thing.

The show is directed by junior Connor Nowalk and stars a pair of singing sophomores, placing Carolyn Rose Sullivan as Cathy Hiatt, an actress who can't seem to catch a break, alongside Callanan's character, a budding novelist.

Written by Jason Robert Brown and first produced in Chicago in 2001, "The Last Five Years" does what its title suggests, recounting five years in the relationship of Jamie and Cathy, five years in which the couple come together and fall apart. And it does so in a single act.

But the musical also does something interesting with the story's chronology. It starts at both the beginning and the end.

When Cathy first takes the stage, five years have spanned and her relationship with Jamie is over. Lost and hurt, she sings, "I've been in love/For five years/In love/But now I'm alone/I've been in love/For five years/In love/But now I'm alone." But then Jamie takes the stage and the story reverts back to the beginning, where Jamie, on his first date with Cathy, sings a comical little ditty about being Jewish and in love. From there, Jamie's story progresses forward in time with his career, while Cathy's tale, and career, slides backward.

The show has an impressive amount of singing. "Obviously vocal stamina has been a challenge," Nowalk said, "But it's something we knew we were going to have to work on from the beginning, so we got it working from the start."

Between the two of them, Callanan and Sullivan sing four different pieces before the end of the one-act, and with no more than a few moments rest between songs.

As well, each piece has a different feel and style. With violinist Joe Edmonds and pianist Mark Wurzelbacher playing in the background, Callanan and Sullivan sing through a number of musical genres, expressing their character's love and frustration with one another.

Cathy's second song begins as a quiet reflection on a pier, but quickly becomes an accusatory rant as she berates Jamie for leaving her alone while attending to his rising literary career. In the middle of her song, Jamie appears in spotlight on the other side of the stage—a flashback—talking on the phone with an agent. He learns that his career is taking off. The spotlight switches back to Cathy and she begins to yell at him. "You and you and nothing but you!/Miles and piles of you/All of you/Nothin' but you/You and you and nothing but you!"

"The Last Five Years" chronicles five years in the life of Cathy Hiatt (Carolyn Rose Sullivan) and her husband (Matthew Callanan) both in forwards and reverse.

"The Last Five Years" by Jason Robert Brown is a show about sharing and communication and its breakdowns. The anxieties of separation the play addresses are things Nowalk feels students will be able to relate to. "People can relate to it, the feelings that come up, and it's just a great show. It's not an experience that you want to miss."

Moreover he feels the show is an excellent showcase for the cast. "[The play] shows off the talent here at Notre Dame. We have two incredibly talented performers, singers and actors as well as a violin and piano player." But Nowalk said he feels the play does something else.

"I think that musical theater has a lot of connotations. A lot people think they have a good idea of what it means," he said. "This is a different possibility of what musical theater can be and I think it's a success."

The Farley Hall Players' show isn't terribly long, and that might be its strength. It dives into the lives Jamie and Cathy, taking the audience along for a ride amidst their love, fear and separation, before coming too close. And it's a ride, which if experienced, surely won't be regretted.

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu

As well, the play's one-act structure may hint at something more. "I could shove an ice pick in my eye / I could eat some fish from last July / But it wouldn't be as awful as a summer separated from Jamie," sings Cathy. The play's structure then reassumes its separate ways, as Cathy progresses back toward the beginning, and Jamie moving more rapidly toward the end.

Jamie Wellerstein (Matthew Callanan) sings about all the women he has had to suffer through on route to meeting Cathy Hiatt in "The Last Five Years." Carolyn Rose Sullivan and Matthew Callanan perform one of many musical numbers during a dress rehearsal Wednesday night in Washington Hall.
Athletics first baseman Mike Sweeney, left, and catcher Kurt Suzuki miss a fly ball hit into foul territory by Twins center fielder Carlos Gomez during Oakland's 11-2 victory on Thursday, April 20.

"I'm excited about what we're doing over here," Davis said. "It's nice to get out there and get a win."
Larry Brown resigned as the executive vice president of the Philadelphia 76ers on Thursday in the hopes that he would be able to coach at least one more season at either the college or the professional level.

Brown rarely attended games or even practices in his second stint. He returned to the organization to help out his friend and former team president Billy King, and consulted when the 76ers traded Iverson to Denver last season. Not long after Iverson was gone, Brown was promoted.

Brown has been King's mentor since he hired him as an assistant coach in Indiana. When Brown came to Philadelphia in 1997, he brought King with him as vice president of basketball administration. King became team president after Brown resigned in 2003.

IN BRIEF

Goodell ready to punish the Patriots if necessary

NEW YORK — Roger Goodell is fully prepared to crack down again on the New England Patriots if his meeting with Matt Walsh uncovered a tape made of the St. Louis Rams' final walkthrough practice before the 2002 Super Bowl.

"I don't think it's appropriate for him to think it's just a friendly,orfessional, comment," said Crockett, who is a former NFL executive and now a consultant for the league. "If it's not, then it's a serious problem."
SMC TENNIS

Belles travel to Albion for first leg of MIAAs

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

After a bumpy start to its season, Saint Mary’s begins the first round of MIAA tournament play today as they take on Kalamazoo in Albion, Mich., at 8:30 a.m.

"Based on how well we’ve been doing lately as a team, I know we are ready to play it all on the line this weekend," sophomore co-captain Camille Gebert said. "If we want any hope of doing well, we are going to have to play confidently, as we have in the later part of our season. I have high expectations for our team in this tournament, as I’m sure we all do."

The MIAA tournament runs today and Saturday at Albion and nearby Spring Arbor University. Teams will compete in the opening rounds today and Saturday with the tournament final being played on Sunday.

Saint Mary’s singles and doubles have both shown improvement over the course of the season. Coming into the season with only two returning sophomores and eight freshmen, the Belles had a rough start. Losing three of its first five conference matches, Saint Mary’s turned the season around and stepped up its play.

Heading into the tournament, the Belles are presently fourth in the MIAA with a conference record of 5-3, and 10-9 overall. Saint Mary’s has also been showing a lot more consistency in recent matches, winning the last five matches. This past weekend, the Belles defeated conference rivals Kalamazoo and Alma 6-3 and 8-1, respectively.

Saint Mary’s hopes its recent momentum will carry over into the tournament this weekend, in both their doubles and singles. Leading the Belles this season for doubles has been the No. 1 duo of Gebert and freshman Jillian Hurley, who ended the regular season at 10-9, 6-2 MIAA.

At the front for Saint Mary’s singles is Gebert, currently at 11-8, 5-3 MIAA. Following Gebert is Hurley, whose strong debut season has helped the Belles in scoring many of their wins this spring. Hurley won all five matches in MIAA play, going 8-0, and 17-2 overall. At No. 3 singles for most of the season has been Reed, whose gone 10-8, 5-3 MIAA.

Up first for Saint Mary’s is a team they beat 6-3 this past weekend, Kalamazoo. If they defeat the Hornets, the Belles will take on the winner of Albion and Tri-State, and if they lose they take on the winner of that match.

"We play Kalamazoo first round, who we just beat on Saturday," Gebert said. "I know we can get past them, in which we’ll be playing one or two seed, Albion or Calvin, neither of whom are out of our reach.

Saint Mary’s has high hopes for the conference tournament, especially after their recent successes, consistency, and momentum.

"As long as we play like we know how to play, we will succeed," Gebert said. "It should be a fun weekend, lots of tennis, and lots of talent. We’ll see what kind of potential we have. I’m very optimistic."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mveselik@stmarys.edu

SMC GOLF

Squad competes for NCAAs

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s will put their season on the line this weekend as they continue the MIAA conference tournament this weekend in Marshall, Mich.

The Belles currently sit in second place after the first round, just 18 strokes behind Olivet.

Saint Mary’s has proven over the past couple of weeks that it can compete with the best teams in Division III, and hope to automatically qualify for the NCAA Tournament with a first place finish in the conference tournament.

Since the first round of the qualifier, the Belles have finished second at the Vassar Invitational and sixth at the Illinois Wesleyan Spring Fling.

At the Spring Fling, the team’s improvement was noticeable as Saint Mary’s finished only 7 strokes behind Olivet and shot the same score as the Comets on the final day.

Leading the Belles’ spring charge was freshman Bowie O’Connor and senior captain Katie O’Brien.

In the Vassar Invitational, O’Connor finished second overall, one shot off the lead, in the individual standings. Reigning conference MVP Katie O’Brien, who has led the Belles all season, finished in 16th place.

In the Illinois-Wesleyan tournament both women posted totals of 161 placing them in a tie for 17th overall.

If the Belles fail to pull ahead of Olivet this weekend, their NCAA Tournament hopes still won’t be extinguished. The top teams who do not receive the automatic bid from their conference tournaments will be thrown into a pool where a selection committee will decide which teams will join the automatic bids in the championship.

Based on their previous results, the Belles have a good chance of being selected if it were to come to the selection committee.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@ed.edu

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The Observer  •  SPORTS
Friday, April 25, 2008
SMC SOFTBALL

Belles to take shot at regular season crown

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's plays its last regular season game before the conference tournament Saturday afternoon, taking on first-place Tri-State.

The Belles (22-7 overall, 11-3 MIAA), currently third in the MIAA, have already reserved their spot in the upcoming conference tournament. But, with two wins on Saturday, it would be possible for Saint Mary's to become regular season champs.

The tournament, which begins May 1, is held at the home field of the regular season winner.

Taking two against Tri-State will not be an easy task, however. The Thunder (26-4, 10-2) have only lost two MIAA games, one against conference co-leader Alma and the other against fourth place Hope. They put together an 11-game winning streak earlier in the season extending from March 22 to April 5.

Belles coach Erin Sullivan said she wants the team to do well, especially because the doubleheader finishes the Belles' season at home.

"A good finish of our regular season would be a great motivator for the post-season," said Sullivan.

Saturday is also senior day for the Belles. Pitcher and third baseman McKenna Corrigan, the only senior on the team, will be honored for her commitment to the program.

Corrigan has been a fantastic leader for us all season and I am going to miss her love of the game, dedication and personality so much," Sullivan said.

Sullivan added that Senior Day is an extra motivation for the rest of the team.

"Corrigan deserves a good couple of games in her last time playing here," Sullivan said.

Sophomore Ashley Peterson may also have something to celebrate Saturday. The Belles' most productive offensive player has 51 hits on the season, two shy of the Belles' record. Peterson leads the MIAA in batting average (.510), slugging percentage (.790), on base percentage, and is tied for the conference lead in hits.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

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**ND SOFTBALL**

Notre Dame nets win and tie

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

The rain didn’t quite hold off long enough, and the second game was a Marathon header with Loyola-Chicago. Scores were 3-3 in the bottom of the seventh of the second game with the score tied at two again to begin the first tilt. The Irish started strong immediately. With Fleury to the plate, and Kohan slid Smith to scoreless. In the bottom of the seventh inning, Lux started falling in the bottom of the seventh inning and, with Fleury on first, the umpires spotted lightning and called the game, ending it in a tie.

Notre Dame 4, Loyola-Chicago 3

The Irish overcame four errors, three by freshman shortstop Cumpf, to beat Loyola in eight innings in game one.

Notre Dame got on the board first against the Ramblers, scoring in the bottom of the first inning when senior left fielder Sarah Smith, who had doubled to left center, scored on a Christine Lux single.

Loyola came back to tie the game at one in the fourth inning, and struck again in the fifth. The Ramblers used two hits and two Irish errors to plate two more runs and take a 3-1 lead.

"It’s always tough to give up runs," Bargar said. "Whether they’re earned or unearned, I’ve just got to keep doing what I’ve got to do to make this team win."

Notre Dame bounced right back with two runs of their own in the bottom of the inning. Amy Solava entered the game for Krista Crosson to pitch for the Ramblers, and struggled immediately. With Fleury on second and Smith on first, senior second baseman Katie Laing hit a long fly ball to center field. Schober caught the ball, but promptly dropped it on the exchange, allowing Fleury to score and Smith to advance to third. Two batters later, Ellis beat out a wild throw to second, driving in Smith. Senior catcher Lindsey Wernan singled, and Smith scored on the play.

Notre Dame pushed across a run in the sixth and seventh inning, and the game advanced to extra innings. Playing under international tie-breaker rules, each team started with a runner on second and the added frame.

After holding Loyola-Chicago scoreless, Kohan started at second for the Irish in the bottom of the inning, and moved over to third on a wild pitch. Ellis then hit a grounder to shortstop Haley Ambrosch, but Ambrosch fell while trying to make the throw to the plate, and Kohan slid home to give Notre Dame the win in extras.

Bargar pitched all eight innings for the Irish, allowing no earned runs and striking out three. With 115 pitches, he turned the tables on the Orlando Magic.

T.J. Ford scored 21 points, Jose Calderon had 18 points and 13 assists, and the Raptors beat the Magic 108-94 on Thursday night, cutting Orlando’s lead to 2-1 in their first-round playoff series.

"That was the most important game of the season so far and we played like it," Chris Bosh said. "We stepped up to the challenge."

Ford shot 2-for-17 in the first two games of the series, but looked confident and comfortable in this one, splitting time almost equally with Calderon.

"The way those guys played reminded me of just how good those two can be when they’re both on their game," Raptors coach Sam Mitchell said.

Dwight Howard had 19 points and 17 rebounds for the Magic, while Hedo Turkoglu added 26 points and Rashard Lewis scored 19.

"Right from the get-go, the Raptors were outstanding," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "Their point guard play was phenomenal and probably the key to the game for them."

Tim Duncan had 11 points and 10 rebounds in his return to the starting lineup for Toronto, while Bosh and Jason Kapono each scored 15 points and Antonio Parker 10.

The Raptors finished 12-for-34 from 3-point range and set playoff highs for points in a game and a half (61). Game 4 is Saturday afternoon in Toronto.

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**NBA**

Raptors make it a new series against Magic

Associated Press

TORONTO — With a quick start and quality point guard play, the Toronto Raptors turned the tables on the Orlando Magic.

T.J. Ford scored 21 points, Jose Calderon had 18 points and 13 assists, and the Raptors beat the Magic 108-94 on Thursday night, cutting Orlando’s lead to 2-1 in their first-round playoff series.

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Runners go to Hillsdale for relays

Meet is last chance for Irish to qualify for Big East tournament

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

The final opportunity for Irish athletes to qualify for the Big East outdoor championships next weekend is the Hillsdale Relays, beginning today in Hillsdale, Mich.

Distance coach Tim Connelly is looking forward to this weekend's opportunity, but is satisfied with the number of runners that have already qualified for the Irish.

"We have several athletes whom I believe are capable of still qualifying for the Big East meet," he said. "But overall I would say that the number of Big East/NCAA qualifiers that we have to date is about what we expected."

Last week's meets produced a number of new qualifiers for the Irish. Freshmen Kelly Langhans and Natalie Johnson both qualified to compete in the NCAA regional meet with their times last week in the 800-meter run.

Sophomore Lindsey Ferguson also met the NCAA regional mark in the 3000-meter steeplechase event. Junior Alyssa Hasan had the best meet for the Irish last week, setting school and personal records in the pentathlon with a total score of 5,509 points. Her Notre Dame record also gave her an automatic qualification for the NCAA Regionals in May.

The Irish will also send two throwers, junior Anna Weber and sophomore Jaclyn Ergebnick, to the Drake Relays this weekend in Des Moines, Iowa. Both of these women have already qualified for the NCAA Regional meet in their respective events and travel to Iowa with the goal of improving their marks facing off against tougher competition.

The Irish will also use this weekend to get some of their athletes some much needed rest after competing at meets in each of the past two weekends.

"This is a really tough time of year for most students with finals approaching, and our athletes are no exception," Connelly said. "Sometimes just a weekend of not traveling pays big dividends."

Many of our kids have traveled and competed a lot in recent weeks.

Looking ahead to the Big East meet next week, Connelly has a simple goal for his team: improvement.

"We hope to improve on our indoor finish at the conference meet, with a top three finish our ultimate goal," Connelly said.

"With such a young group, that would be a nice improvement."

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu

Irish travel to two big national races

By EUGENIA ALFONZO
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame Men's Track team is headed to two of the biggest track meets in the country. The Drake Relays, held in Des Moines, Iowa, hosts many competitive athletes all the way from high school to Olympic competitors. There have been 14 world records, 45 American records and 59 collegiate records set at this meet. Similarly, the Hillsdale Gina Relays boasts multiple ranked collegiate teams.

The Drake Relays will prove to be a great environment for tough competition for the Irish. Sophomore Balasz Molnar and senior Austin Wechter will start things off in the 400-meter hurdles, seeded in the top heat.

Along with his teammates, senior Adam Carrie will look to improve his time for the men's 800-meter open. Several high-seeded Notre Dame relay teams will participate in the meet as well.

For the Hillsdale Relays, the Irish look for one more chance to qualify for the Big East tournament.

Notre Dame throwers will compete against some of the best in the country. Freshmen Greg Davis and John Belcher and junior Jeff Mensch are seeded high in the hammer throw preliminary.

In the high jump, junior Blair Magness is seeded third. Sophomore Matt Schipper and junior Brian Mahan will look to qualify in the men's pole vault. Running events will start with senior Mike Poppej and freshmen Ryan Jacobs and Paul Springer in the Men's 5000-meter open.

Senior Bob Kuey and junior Billy Buzaid will compete in men's 400-meter dash.

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at callfonzo@nd.edu

rowing

Team heads off to Big East regatta

Observer Staff Report

The Irish rowing team will travel to the Big East championships this weekend in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Notre Dame enters the competition after a strong performance in last week's Charles River Challenge. The team won four of five races on the weekend against Dartmouth and Boston University.

Notre Dame enters the conference championships as the favorite, with the team's varsity eight team ranked No. 6 in the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association/US Rowing poll.

The only other ranked team competing is No. 18 Louisville. The Irish will face off with seven other Big East opponents Sunday in Oak Ridge.

Write sports

E-mail Chris at chine@nd.edu.
WASHINGTON — LeBron James was serenaded with chants of “over-rated” as he stood at the free throw line late in the third quarter, the latest humorous twist in an ongoing saga that had somehow snared — you believe it or not — one of his son’s favorite rappers into a front-row seat next to the basket.

James couldn’t help but laugh. He was so distracted he missed the free throw. Didn’t really matter. By then, the Cleveland Cavaliers were trailing by 28 points, a single point from Game 2 to Game 3 in their first-round series against the Washington Wizards.

Maybe it was the new haircuts sported by four Wizards players. Maybe it was the presence of Soulja Boy. Maybe it was sight of Colin Powell in a “White that T” shirt. Or just the comfort of home. He had the inspiration of having Gilbert Arenas in the starting lineup, even though he limped out of the game in the first half.

Actually, there were plenty of reasons the Wizards routed their playoff nemesis, 108-72 on a Thursday night party at the Verizon Center. DeShawn Stevenson, who started the “over-rated” talk and invited Soulja Boy to the game, had a “can’t-feel-my-face” 19 points. Caron Butler (17 points) and Antawn Jamison (11) also found their games. James didn’t have his. And, yes, those 15 first-half Cleveland turnovers had a lot to do with it, too.

“If I was disrespected as an artist, I would have came, too,” Stevenson said. “I felt like Soulja Boy felt disrespected, and he came to support the Washington Wizards.

“Will the rapper, whose music was played on the sound system during the game, be back for Game 4?”

“We got to get him here,” Stevenson said. “We won with him. Me and Gil are superstitions, so we have to get him back.”

What was James’ response to all this? First, he said the Wizards’ crowd wasn’t nearly as intimidating as the Detroit fans in last year’s playoffs.

And as for Soulja Boy?

“My son knows every last dance Soulja Boy does and every last song he ever made,” James said. “So if my son was watching, he enjoyed it.

When it was suggested that this might be part of a budding DeShawn-LeBron rivalry, James had a good laugh.

“There’s no DeShawn-LeBron rivalry,” he said, laughing again.

The Wizards tried to force James, who scored 32 and 30 points in Games 1 and 2, to shoot more from outside, and it worked. Roosed heavily every time he touched the ball, the Cavaliers All-Star couldn’t get into a flow.

The Wizards took control with a pair of 9-0 runs in the first half. They led 49-33 at halftime, and the Cavaliers never threatened to make a game of it in the second half.

But, oh, the subplot!

The crowd’s big chant was a reference to Stevenson’s claim that James was “over-rated” following a Wizards’ victory over the Cavaliers last month. He said responding to that remark would be like Jay-Z responding to Soulja Boy — a hip-hop mogul answering a one-hit wonder.

Stevenson had to cut his words after Games 1 and 2, but he had Soulja Boy dancing in the aisle Thursday night while going 5-of-7 on 3-pointers. After making his shots, Stevenson ran down the court waving his hand in front of his face, the “can’t-feel-my-face” gesture that Cleveland’s Damon Jones mocked in Game 2.
Red Storm continued from page 24
ful at keeping his pitches in the strike zone, not allowing many free passes and interchanging between his fastball, changeup and breaking ball. Maust will likely take the mound for a series finale on Sunday.

Phelps will probably lead off the three-game set Friday, looking to improve on his 5-3 career-record against the Red Storm. He also takes his 3.38 ERA to the mound to go with his team-high 57 strikeouts this season.

The junior has only allowed one homerun all season, and three in the second in the pitching average at .250.

Korpi comes into the second contest with five wins as well, to go with a pair of losses. His 4.29 ERA has steadily declined after a pair of shaky starts earlier in the season. One area Korpi has to improve in is his control. The senior has allowed 27 walks this year — 15 more than the next closest pitcher.

For Notre Dame to pick up some key victories this weekend, the Irish bats will have to keep doing what they’ve been up to in the past month — manufacturing runs on hits and small ball. Sophomore centerfielder A.J. Pollock leads the team with his .397 batting average, 60 hits, 33 RBIs and 18 stolen bases on 19 attempts. Hitting from the three-hole, Pollock has benefited from base runners in the lineup before him setting him up with chances to drive in runs. One of these players has been sophomore designated hitter David Mills, who has found his groove from the two spot, picking up Big East Player of the Week honors last week. Mills is second on the squad with a .376 average, and sports an on-base percentage of .408. The sophomore also has been a team player this season, picking up 15 sacrifice bunts thus far, allowing runners to advance and score runs.

The power in the lineup comes from junior first baseman Evan Sharpley, Ryan’s brother. The junior has a team-high nine homeruns and is third on the club with 30 RBIs, to go with his .351 average.

After the St. John’s series, the Irish will return to action against Mississippi Valley State on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyo@nd.edu

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FSU continued from page 24

title. Junior Brett Helgeson earned tournament Most Valuable Player honors. Helgeson is the second straight Irish player to win the MVP award — 2007 graduate Stephen Bazz earned MVP honors last year.

Senior captain Sheeva Parbhoo and freshman Dan Stahl made the all-tournament singles team along with Helgeson. Parbhoo and Helgeson, and senior Andrew Roth, and junior Santiago Montoya made the all-tournament doubles team also.

"Stahl had a great tournament," Bayliss said. "He has really made a lot of improvements overall in his game. I was impressed by the way he served for the match against University of Southern Florida [in the championship match]."

The Irish will have an uphill battle against the Seminoles this weekend.

"Florida State has been in the top 10 this season," Bayliss said. "We know that we have a chance to be in the match, but we will have to play a great match up and down the lineup."

Florida State features three ranked single players in their singles lineup, the first being No. 15 Jean-Yves Aubone. Aubone has twelve wins over ranked opponents this season.

"They had a rough match against Miami," Bayliss said. "That hurt their ranking and they fell in the rankings this week."

This weekend will mark the seventh time the teams have met. The Irish have won the last four meetings between the two teams.

With Parbhoo’s combined five wins this past weekend, he is one win away from 200 wins for his career. His next win will make Parbhoo not only the fourth player in Notre Dame history to reach that milestone. The list includes current assistant coach Ryan Sachire, David Dilucia and Andy Zurcher. Parbhoo is in fifth in singles wins with 121, and second for doubles wins with 80 doubles wins for his career.

"Parbhoo is a great student," Bayliss said. "It will proba­bly go pro after this season, and I hope he gets his degree in the future. He has a high GPA as well.

Bayliss noted the amount of 4-3 wins the Irish earned early in the season, and how Notre Dame’s luck has changed in recent weeks. "We earned a lot of 4-3 wins early in the season and rose to No. 9 in the rank­ings," Bayliss said. "We have lost a lot of the close matches lately, but we have picked up a little bit since."

The Irish will play the Seminoles on Saturday with matches beginning at 1 p.m.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabar@stmarys.edu

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FR. APRIL 25TH AT 7PM VS. MEXICO NATIONAL U-20 MEN'S TEAM

• EARLY ARRIVING FANS WILL RECEIVE A SOCCER RALLY TOWEL

FREE ADMISSION TO ALL ND, HCC & SMC STUDENTS!
Big East continued from page 24

games, including a 10-8 win at Georgetown (10-5, 3-2 Big East) on April 12. "It's a huge conference rivalry, so I'm expecting it to be a tough game," Coyne said. "We think we..."
BLACK DOG

FAMOUS QUOTATIONS, FIRST DRAFTS

ASK NOT WHAT YOUR COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY.

I ONLY REGRET THAT I HAVE NOT ONE LIFE TO LAUNCH HER IN MY COUNTRY, AND BY 19.

THE ONLY TRIBUTES OF THE DEITY ARE SIMPLE AND THE LASH--AND THAT'S JUST WEIGHTS.

Does that comic ever make sense?

LOLLERSKATES

22 Plays intensely.

24 Doesn't toss.

26 Alaska's.

28 Bricks.

THE SINGLE LIFE

1 Choose not to pick.

5 Like some similarities.

13 Bond girl player.

30 Like baseball.

46 Like the Julian calendar.

12 Raise, as a bet.

16 Mom's partner?

18 Earth personified.

20 Modern greeting.

23 Bond girl player.

LINA PAEK

CROSSWORD

Across

1 Los Angeles's Tower
7 They've seen around some cakes
15 Alaska's
22 Plays intensely
24 Doesn't toss
28 Bricks
34 Dungeons & Dragons race
36 "The White House," for "the presidency," e.g.
38 Atoll's style
42 Hollywood star
44 Lombardo's capital
49 Game with sticks
49 Get on
50 Dog
51 It's mild and a bit nutty
53 Racket string material
56 Formal greeting
58 "The nutty presidency," e.g.
62 Relaying a message
66 Held
69 Ready to receive
67 Beguiles
64 Where to find Nancy

Down

1 Down
2 Down
3 Kids can become
40 Direct
42 Rootless sort
43 Small, round sponge cake topped with fruit and whipped cream
44 Interstellar matter
45 Interstellar matter
46 Some spuds
47 Lassalaida and others
48 It may be received by free subscription
49 Like some
50 "How thin he now said?"
51 John G. 8/19
52 Twins' name at the 1984 Olympics
53 T-shirt
54 "Love"
56 Bygone crown
59 Brain component
60 M.I.T.'s ring, familiarly
61 "It's visitors, say"
62 Serenade, as a refrain
63 Fort Worth sch.
65 Ready to receive
66 Held
67 Beguiles
68 It's issue to
69 Formal greeting
70 Bees' nest
71 It can't be fixed
72 "I love great notices."
75 It was
77 Beguiles

WILL SHORTZ

65 Ready to receive
66 Relaying a message
67 Interstellar matter
68 Some spuds
69 It may be received by free subscription
70 Like some
71 It's mild and a bit nutty
72 Racket string material
73 Kids can become
74 Formal greeting
75 It can't be fixed
76 "I love great notices."
78 "I love great notices."
80 It can't be fixed

JUMBLE

THESE BIG JUMBLE words are made from the letters in the surrounding text. They are scrambled in a jumbled order. Can you arrange them to make sense? No clues are needed for this puzzle. For more details, visit www.jumble.com.

One answer: What a boxer

60 Noted
61 "How thin he now said?"
62 Serenade, as a refrain
63 Fort Worth sch.
64 Where to find Nancy

Horoscope

Celebrities born on this day: Kelly Clarkson, 26; Erin Ballou, 51; Barbra Streisand, 65, Shirley MacLaine, 74; Kevin G. Der, 49.

Happy Birthday: Focus on health and wealth this year. Relationships may need some adjustments. Your dedication and practical nature will be a winning combination. Take a look at an old creation and you'll find the discovery in today's horoscope. You could make a great discovery.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Don't leave any stone unturned. Your focus is on reaching a goal. A new adventure will spark enthusiasm regarding an idea you once wanted to pursue. More progress could be made by clarifying your professional dealings with partners and clients and without big 3 stars.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Kids, elders and others who feel responsible for you will help you out in a big way. Money is heading your way but not through circumstances that you expect. Don't let uncertainty hold you back. 3 stars.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): If you have a good idea, talk to someone in a position to help. Money and work success should be your focus, although love is likely to suffer. However, a brief encounter could result in a lasting friendship. 3 stars.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Speak of your plans, invite people to join you or push for a passionate craving with someone you love. It doesn't matter what you do — go about it bravely and with determination and you will succeed. Don't let someone pickle your day. 2 stars.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Sure, there are opportunities you have to embrace something you once chose. Finding for someone who can influence your future professionally is a good idea. However, now is a high in cost, good things will happen. 5 stars.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Running for office or election is easier now. Give yourself a break. You're working on a mission and you will grab the chance of someone you've been trying to spend more time with. Pull out of your zone. 4 stars.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Doing something creative will give you peace. If you have a good idea, talk to someone in a position to help. Money, investments, fixing up your home or getting a loan or grant are 3 stars.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your birthday tomorrow can be expected. As long as you aren't caught off guard, you can handle whatever comes your way. Just because someone else doesn't want to do what you do — go about it bravely and with determination and you will succeed. Don't let someone pickle your day. 2 stars.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A last-minute change can be expected. As long as you aren't caught off guard, you can handle whatever comes your way. Just because someone else doesn't want to do what you do — go about it bravely and with determination and you will succeed. Don't let someone pickle your day. 2 stars.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): The more exotic or out of the ordinary you are, the more difficult it will be to get things going. With those around you, it's a good idea to stick to your guns and to the memories and events you have shared together. Don't get angry with someone you work with. 3 stars.

Birthday Baby: You are magnetic and will handle whatever comes your way for good or for bad. You are a matchmaker and the go-getters, the one everyone looks up to.外键约束31 32

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Weathering the storm

Irish try to stay atop Big East vs. St. John's

By LORENZO REYES

Now that No. 24 Notre Dame has backed up its first week as a ranked team with a pair of non-conference wins, it's time for the squad to take its recent consistent play to the Big East.

But things aren't going to get any easier for the Irish.

In the path lies St. John's, whose recent win in league play, trailing the Irish by a game.

The Irish have a chance to get No. 1 seed in GWLL this weekend.

Notre Dame enters the weekend 5-0, 12-3 in league play, trailing the Irish by a game.

This weekend, the Irish turn to their league pitching rotation composed of junior David Phelps, senior Wade Kerpi and sophomore Eric Must to try to maintain their momentum and remain atop the conference standings.

Mauz enters the weekend with the team-high in wins and the lowest ERA of the starting pitchers. He boasts a 4-1 record to go with his 2.66 ERA, just 0.20 points better than Sharpley's mark. The sophomore has been success-

MEN'S SOCCER

Notre Dame hosts friendly with Mexican Under-20 team

By FRAN TOLAN

Our Dame versus Mexico?

The Irish will play the Mexican Under-20 national team today at 7 p.m. at Alumni Field.

This marks the fourth straight year Notre Dame has faced off against a team from across the United States souther border. In 2005 and 2006, the Irish notched wins against the Mexico Under-17 team before defeating the Under-20 squad last year.

Irish coach Bobby Clark said the series with Mexico began after Notre Dame women's coach Randy Waldrum began setting up games with the Mexico women's national team.

"Randy Waldrum actually had the connection with their team and we thought this was something the men should do, too," Clark said. "It's a big game for us that we actually get them to come play us." Clark said he expects the friendly match to fill up the bleachers at Alumni Field.

But, believe it or not, that might hurt the Irish more than it helps them.

"It's always a big crowd. We usually get about 3,000 people in our little stadium," Clark said. "The trouble is, it's always mostly a Hispanic crowd. It always feels like we're playing in Mexico City."

But the Irish coach said he hopes the crowd is somewhat more evenly distributed this year.

"We're hoping to get a lot of students in the stands. We'd like to see more of a home-spun crowd to give the United States team — Notre Dame — a chance," Clark said.

Even through the Irish have played well against the Mexican teams in the past, Clark said the match will be anything but a cakewalk for Notre Dame. Mexico picked up a 2-0 win at Indiana Tuesday in the first game of the team's two-match tour.

"It's a tremendous honor for us to have the opportunity to play in Notre Dame Stadium," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "It's amazing. I think the players definitely appreciate and understand what it means to have this opportunity to compete in the stadium."

Notre Dame (11-5, 4-1 Big East) enters the four-team conference tournament as the No. 2 seed. After losing their Big East opener to top-seeded Syracuse (13-2-5) on Friday, the Irish won their remaining four conference games.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Laxers battle Ohio St. for No. 1 seed in GWLL

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI

In their final home game of the season, Notre Dame has one last shot at a No. 1 in next week's Great Western Lacrosse League tournament.

That shot comes Sunday at noon, when the No. 7 Irish (10-2, 3-1 GWLL) take on No. 13 Ohio State (11-4, 2-1 GWLL).

"We need to win this game," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "If we win this game, we'll be the No. 1 seed going into the GWLL tournament this weekend. If we lose this game we're going have to beat Ohio State and Denver."

The Irish, who are coming of three wins in five days over Quinnipiac, Lehigh and Air Force, should be extremely tired after having to travel across three different time zones. But, according to Corrigan, his team is far from jet-lagged.

"It was a challenging weekend but we did what we needed to do and we got into the games and didn't allow our-selves to get worn down athletically. In terms of managing everything it was interesting, but we got back, got a little time off and they're fresh and ready to go," he said.

Team travels to No. 13 FSU

After Big East title, squad faces Seminoles in regular season finale

By KATE GRABAREK

After capturing their second straight Big East title in Tallahassee, Fla., last week, the Irish will return to the Sunshine State looking for similar success against No. 13 Florida State.

"The win was great," head coach Bobby Bayliss. "We have won the title for the fourth time in the last five years."

For the second straight year, Bayliss obtained the Big East Coach of the Year.

Irish freshman Matt Johnson scored a forhead in Notre Dame's 7-0 win over Ball State on April 4.