ESPN to broadcast live at game

Joyce Center doors will open at 9 p.m, allowing students to camp out for basketball seats

By CHRIS HINE
News Writer

Some Notre Dame students got a special treat as they sat down to dinner Wednesday night in South Dining Hall — former Notre Dame basketball coach Digger Phelps visited their tables, encouraging them to show up for the ESPN College Gameday’s live broadcast from the Joyce Center Saturday from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m and then to No. 19 Notre Dame’s basketball game against No. 3 Connecticut at 7 p.m.

“They couldn’t believe I was there,” Phelps said. “I stood up on a couple chairs and give a big loud speech and then I went around from table to table to say ‘hey, get your dorm there. I want everybody there.’

Phelps, who’s a co-host of the show, was passing out flyers featuring a picture of well-known ESPN reporter Erin Andrews that said ‘She’ll be there Saturday! Will you?’

Phelps even popped his head in one dorm where University President Fr. Jenkins was giving a talk. Phelps said Jenkins spotted him in the back of the room, and called on him to give his basketball spiel.

see ESPN/page 6

Law School addition complete

Renovations now underway on old Law School building

By SARAH MEROVSH
News Writer

Walking across Notre Dame’s campus, one will most likely run into unfinished buildings closed off paths and hear the sounds of large trucks or bulldozers echoing across the quad.

Several major construction projects are taking place on campus, including a nearly $58 million project on the Law School addition, said Craig Tiller, Senior Project Manager at the University Architect Office.

The new Law School build-

see LAW/page 6

220 ND students attend protest

More than 200,000 participants marched against abortion on the National Mall

By TESS CIVANTOS
News Writer

WASHINGTON — The 220 Notre Dame students who attended the 36th annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. Thursday sensed new energy and purpose in the wake of the recent inaugura-

see PORN/page 4

New Career Center site launched

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

In the current less-than-stellar economic situation, finding a job is a difficult task to under-

see CAREER/page 4

Panelists examine porn culture

GRC held talk to help unite faith and sexuality

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

Pornography has become ubiqui-

see MARCH/page 4

Activists protest abortion laws at the March for Life rally in Washington D.C. Thursday.
When I arrived at the Cannon House Office Building Monday morning to help my father, who was recently elected to represent New York’s 13th District, a long line of people waiting to receive tickets to Obama’s was already stretching down the street.

By mid-afternoon, the wait was three hours.

Luckily, I was able to use the ID card issued to Congressional family members to bypass the security check.

The inauguration presented a challenge to my father’s new team, since immediately after his 4th floor office was flooded by thousands of ticket requests from constituents.

But the line outside of the Cannon building was dwarfed by the crowds I awoke to early the next morning.

It seemed that the entire city of Washington was packed with people in town to witness the inauguration of America’s first black president. My parents were invited to a breakfast in the West Wing, followed by music from Aretha Franklin. The opening by my aunt, who serves as one of his deputy mayors, was available.

We waited for two and a half hours and went through the airport-esque security check before we were finally arrived at our section. The view was much better than I imagined. It took us 20 minutes just to walk to the back of the line, and we were afraid we wouldn’t get inside.

As the line progressed, we passed a number of vendors attempting to sell Obama merchandise. Before Tuesday, I had never realized how much useless stuff could be sold at ridiculous prices simply by putting a man’s face on it. Everything one could imagine, from Obama t-shirts and hats to buttons and calendars to Obama pretzels and condoms, was available.

For those and many Americans, Obama has become more than simply a leader. The inauguration marked the turning around to see the one million plus Americans standing behind me on the National Mall waving flags.

Obama pretzels and condoms, was available.

The tickets were color-coded, and my aunt and I were lucky enough to have yellow tickets which would allow us an excellent view of the event. But when we arrived at the yellow gate at 9 a.m., we soon realized the yellow section was not as exclusive as we had imagined. It took us 20 minutes just to walk to the back of the line, and we were afraid we wouldn’t get inside.

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Thornton, former law prof, dies at 90

Special to The Observer

Peter W. Thornton, professor emeritus of law in the University of Notre Dame Law School, died Jan. 19 in Santa Barbara, Calif. He was 90 years old.

Thornton taught law at Notre Dame from 1966 to 1993, inter­rupting his tenure from 1973 to 1976 to serve as founding dean of the Nova Southeastern University Law Center in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He served as director of Notre Dame’s London Law Programme from 1976 to 1978 and also was an associate dean of the Notre Dame Law School.

"I was fortunate to be Peter’s student in civil procedure in the early 1970s, as well as his colleague on the faculty in the ‘80s and ‘90s," said Patricia O’Hara, Joseph A. Maisonnard Dean of the Notre Dame Law School. "I know many alumni who would drop by Pete’s office on visits back to campus to ask him to reprise his theatrical delivery of the holding on personal juris­diction in the famous 1945 Supreme Court case of International Shoe Co. v. Washington. He and his beloved wife, Kit, wore warm boots on behalf of the Law School on many occasions over the years."

A New York City native, Thornton was a 1939 graduate of Brooklyn College and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He earned law degrees from Brooklyn Law School and taught there for 21 years before joining the Notre Dame faculty. Along with his long career as a teacher of law, Thornton was a member of the New York State Bar from 1941 to 2006. Thornton is survived by four sons, Peter, Thomas, James, and John, all of them attorneys and law teachers.

A funeral Mass will be cele­brated today at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Carpinteria, Calif.

ND celebrates Moreau feast day

Profs Cavadini, O’Connell discuss Christian views of suffering

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

The month of January contains a very special day for the Notre Dame community, as Blessed Moreau, founder of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, celebrated his feast day on the 20th of January.

Last year, Pope Benedict XVI beatified Moreau, bringing him one step closer to being recognized as a saint in the Catholic Church.

In honor of his feast day, the inaugural Blessed Basil Moreau Lecture took place in the Jordan Auditorium at the Mendoza School of Business Thursday. The lecture, titled “The Cross, Our Only Hope: Two Christian Views of Suffering” was given by John Cavadini, chair of the Notre Dame Theology Department, and the response was given by Professor Mary Ellen O’Connell of the Notre Dame Law School.

The views expressed by both professors focused on the views of suffering in the Christian tradition and then made connections between these views and the motto of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, “Crua Spes Unica” or “The Cross is Our Only Hope.”

The fundamental question the lecture tried to answer was that given the suffering of Jesus, is suf­fering in any way good?

Cavadini opened the lecture by outlining two traditional views of suffering within the Christian belief system, the Irenaeus theological and the Augustine theological.

Irenaeus believed that God cre­ated humans as imperfect, Cavadini said, so that as they grow into the moral image of God, they would grow to love God as well. Irenaeus believed that the best way to become more moral was to undergo suffering.

In this belief system, God allows us to define ourselves by our own choices, Cavadini said. God punishes only to purge and to bring repentance.

In a sense, God is acting as a good parent by issuing punish­ments that educate the wrong­doer, he said.

Cavadini explained that Augustine believed that God could not or would not abolish evil. That suffering was common for both the good and the wicked human beings.

Suffering and struggle bring us into contact with our situation, he said, so that as they grow, we will love God as our only hope.

This leads us back to the motto of the Congregation of the Holy Cross; in this sense, the cross really is our only hope.

Overall, Cavadini said that one good can always be taken from suffering.

The experience of suffering brings about signs of God’s love which creates hope, he said. Humans build not on suffering, but on hope, hope is what allows us to put our suffering to good use.

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@hcc-nd.edu

The Observer is now accepting applications for the position of EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Position is for the 2009-2010 term.

Applicants for Editor-in-Chief should demonstrate strong journalistic and management skills. Also, experience with aspects of newspaper production is essential, including skills in Microsoft Word, Quark XPress and Photoshop.

Applications should include a 15-page paper detailing the applicant’s qualifications and goals and should be submitted to Chris Hine before the end of next week in The Observer offices in the basement of South Dining Hall. Please direct questions about the applications to Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu.
Porn continued from page 1

said. Since adults are allowed to view or use erotic material in their own home, any law that might be passed might tread on those rights. Another problem arises in the area of moral value, because the Supreme Court could be accused of imposing its beliefs on others. This makes regulation of sexually explicit material very difficult.

"Another problem arises in the market soon is Katie O’Connell, a second-year Master of Divinity Student at Notre Dame, has facilitated the group Men of Faith, a group for men who are trying to integrate their faith and sexuality through support and prayer.

The reason for the Catholic Church’s opposition to pornography is varied. Pornography distorts a person’s worldview, hijacks relationships and causes a cycle of addiction and isolation, Wills said. People think the images will bring fulfillment into their lives, but the opposite happens and the human is reduced to an "object of flesh," as Wills called it.

Brian Vassel, a third-year Master of Divinity Student at Notre Dame, has facilitated the group Men of Faith, a group for men who are trying to integrate their faith and sexuality through support and prayer.

The job market is difficult to stay up, but she does try to keep looking. "It’s really frustrating, especially in this market, O’Connell said. "The hardest part, for me, is staying positive when a company doesn’t have anything open or you don’t get the job." But she does try to keep looking.

"It’s difficult to stay up, but keep e-mailing and speaking to people in the field you want to work in," O’Connell said.

Monahan said the current economy has noticeably affected the job search. "Instead of firms having, say, 10 jobs available, now they might only have four," he said. "I want to encourage seniors to ‘hit the pavement.’ Networking is paramount, and the key to networking is building relationships and trust." When it comes to job interviews, Monahan urges students to "do your homework." "Know the company. Know your achievements. Also, review practice questions." Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

March continued from page 1

"Seeing that, I consider myself a huge Notre Dame fan," he said. The march began with a rally on the National Mall. A series of pro-life politicians and religious leaders, including bishops, Catholic cookies have provided me with contact information that is so powerful that it takes away from the things they love," Wills said.

"Objectification, the making of a person into a thing, is the prerequisite for all kinds of violent acts," Traina said.

Contact Irena Zajickova at izajicko@nd.edu

Pornography distorts a person’s worldview, hijacks relationships and causes a cycle of addiction and isolation, Wills said. People think the images will bring fulfillment into their lives, but the opposite happens and the human is reduced to an "object of flesh," as Wills called it.

"Objectification, the making of a person into a thing, is the prerequisite for all kinds of violent acts," Traina said.

Contact Irena Zajickova at izajicko@nd.edu

When it comes to advice for graduating seniors, Monahan has one definite rule. "Start now. Don’t wait," he said.

One senior entering the job market soon is Katie O’Connell.

"The Career Center has been really helpful with networking," O’Connell said. "They have provided me with contact information of Notre Dame graduates in the field that I would like to work in."

Sometimes the search can be frustrating, especially in this market, O’Connell said. "The hardest part for me, is staying positive when a company doesn’t have anything open or you don’t get the job." But she does try to keep looking.

"It’s difficult to stay up, but keep e-mailing and speaking to people in the field you want to work in," O’Connell said.

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This Sunday January 25, 2009 • 7:30 pm
The State Theatre
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Tickets on sale NOW at the State Theatre Box Office, all Ticketmaster locations, charge by phone 269/335-7000 or online at www.ticketmaster.com

This is a truly unique dining and drinking experience featuring a creative blend of culinary delights with a delicate touch of Asian flavors in an exciting yet intimate setting. Come and enjoy our stylish and contemporary fusion martini bar.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Barnas faction was not among the groups that entered the Gaza Strip, a ban that had been imposed by the Foreign Ministry to declare the restrictions illegal. The court hearing will probably not take place if the government lifts the ban. Israel imposed restrictions on entry to Gaza on November 27, 2008, and Hamas’s Hamás rulers began to fight. It tightened the rules after launching a military offensive in November and ignored a Supreme Court order six days later to allow limited access to humanitarian needs. Only when a cease-fire was declared Sunday did Israel open the border to a trickle of journalists.

Hamas calls for reconciliation

DAMASCUS, Syria — Hamas called Thursday for reconciliation with supporters of President Mahmoud Abbas but insisted on pursuing “resistance” against Israel. Hamas leaders said this was not a move to break with Abbas, who seeks a peace accord with Israel, but to focus more on domestic issues. Hamas has been charged in a string of shootings in Israel and attempted murder; and Victorio Belcher, a pistols said Mark Murphy, Anthony Brown and are native to layoffs. They’re imposing pay freezes and cuts to save their own job but also take a freeze to save their co-workers’ jobs, Connelly said. The federal Reserve has taken notice. In a recent survey of economic conditions, it observed that in some parts of the country, companies were resorting to “pay freezes or reductions in compensation.”

A wide range of employers have followed suit. In some cases, they’re imposing pay freezes or cuts to avoid immediate layoffs, though economists say such steps tend to lead to layoffs anyway. In other cases, employers are cutting or freezing pay and laying off workers. “It’s a real teething shift,” Terry Connolly, dean of Golden Gate University’s Ageno School of Business, said of pay freezes and cuts. Such steps, which once affected mainly union workers, are spreading to white-collar industries, he said. The extraordinary pace of layoffs has shifted people’s internal calculations to the point where they are not only willing to take a pay cut to save their own job but also take a freeze to save their co-workers’ jobs, Connnelly said. The unemployment rate was revised higher this year, as the U.S. Labor Department reported. The number of people continuing to draw benefits climbed to 4.6 million, and both figures were worse than economists expected. Yahoos said Thursday that employees will forgo pay raises this year as the slumping Internet company struggles amid the recession. Nearly 100,000 employees were laid off this year.

Local News

Six charged in South Bend shootings

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Six police officers were charged in the shooting of six people in South Bend last fall.

Iraq

Gov’t budget plunges as oil prices rise

BAGHDAD — Iraq’s government will have dramatically less money to spend this year than expected because of plummeting oil prices — a dire economic situation that’s already led the country to slash rebuilding plans by 40 percent. The Associated Press has learned. As the U.S. military prepares to withdraw, cutsbacks on spending and jobs could trigger heightened violence. U.S. commanders have repeatedly warned that without speedy economic development and reconstruction, the sharp improvements in security since the U.S. troop surge of 2007 could be at risk in a country where about 30 percent of the work force is estimated to have no job or just part-time employment. But rebuilding requires money. And with oil prices plummeting, the government has been forced to cut planned spending — by one-third overall and 40 percent for rebuilding. Iraqis officials called the AP — and to consider even deeper reductions. It’s an ironic turnaround from just months ago when U.S. lawmakersons complained that Iraq was swimming in cash from high oil revenues and should do more to help itself, rather than spend U.S. taxpayer money to rebuild Iraq. The government has been forced to cut planned spending — by one-third overall and 40 percent for rebuilding. Iraq’s officials said the AP — and to consider even deeper reductions. It’s an ironic turnaround from just months ago when U.S. lawmakers complained that Iraq was swimming in cash from high oil revenues and should do more to help itself, rather than spend U.S. taxpayer money to rebuild Iraq. Iraq is almost entirely dependent on oil sales. More than 90 percent of the government’s revenues come from oil sales. The government says it earned about $60 billion from oil sales in 2008 but hasn’t said publicly how much it expects to take in this year.

Iraq’s government has in the past often used money to create jobs and projects as a way to keep different political groups happy, such as the money it threw into Baghdad’s Sadr City district last summer to ease Shiite tensions there. That will become harder now that revenue expectations have fallen sharply.

National News

Two children die, a third injured

Two children died and a third was injured after a foot chase just six miles from the prison is Maryland. The incident, which occurred in Manassas; Chino, Calif., and Baltimore, was native to layoffs. They’re imposing pay freezes and cuts to avoid immediate layoffs, though economists say such steps tend to lead to layoffs anyway. In other cases, employers are cutting or freezing pay and laying off workers. “It’s a real teething shift,” Terry Connolly, dean of Golden Gate University’s Ageno School of Business, said of pay freezes and cuts. Such steps, which once affected mainly union workers, are spreading to white-collar industries, he said. The extraordinary pace of layoffs has shifted people’s internal calculations to the point where they are not only willing to take a pay cut to save their own job but also take a freeze to save their co-workers’ jobs, Connnelly said. The unemployment rate was revised higher this year, as the U.S. Labor Department reported. The number of people continuing to draw benefits climbed to 4.6 million, and both figures were worse than economists expected. Yahoos said Thursday that employees will forgo pay raises this year as the slumping Internet company struggles amid the recession. Nearly 100,000 employees were laid off this year.

Local News

Six charged in South Bend shootings

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Six police officers were charged in the shooting of six people in South Bend last fall.

At a news conference Thursday, prosecutors said Mark Murphy, Anthony Brown and Andre Payne have been charged with murder and attempted murder; and Victorio Belcher and Quinlin Ferguson with battery and attempted murder.

Iraq

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On Saturday, Notre Dame will be putting its nation-best 42-game home winning streak on the line. Saturday will also mark the first time Gameday will come to Notre Dame for a basketball game. To mark the occasion, the University, in cooperation with the Leprechaun Legion has planned a camp out and other events beginning tonight.

At 9 p.m. tonight, Gate 3 of the Joyce Center will be open for students who wish to camp out for the night inside the Joyce Center. Lines can form at 8:45. Wristbands will be handed out at 9 p.m. for line placement for seats at Saturday's game.

Senior Tony Ceravolo, the president of the Leprechaun Legion, encouraged students to bring pillows, blankets and extrabru­shes so they might have. The Legion will also provide poster boards and Sharpies to make signs for Gameday. "Anti-UConn sentiment is also encouraged," Ceravolo said. Students will close at midnight and inside there will be bas­ketball games, showing of movies, such as "The Breakfast Club for the nation that this is Notre Dame," Phelps said.

"I've seen Gamedays all over for five years and this team has earned the right to have Gameday here and I just want to show the nation that this is Notre Dame," Phelps said. Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu.

Law

continued from page 1

"The new building has 205 seat classrooms, 270 seat classrooms, five seminar rooms and a whole host of teaching spaces."

Craig Tiller
Senior Project Manager

"Part of the reason the con­struction projects are taking place across campus, includ­ing a new engineering build­ing, named Stinson-Re­mick Hall, a new women's resi­dence hall, Ryan Hall, and Geddes Hall, which will house the Institute for Church Life and Social Concerns."

Jim Lybought, vice president for Business Operations, said there is still interior construc­tion to be done on all of these projects, "while Ryan, Simon­Remick and Geddes Hall still have remaining exterior work to com­plete."

Lybought expects Ryan Hall and Geddes Hall will be com­pleted by Aug. 1 while Simon-Remick will be com­pleted in December of this year.

Construction also started on the Joyce Center in September, with the foun­dations of the Purcell Pavilion, Lybought said. The Purcell Pavilion will be a "47,000 gross square foot addition to the south dome of the IAAC, according to the University Architect Web site."

The Web site also says that the project will include a new major entry for the arena, a new vatsry shop, new ticket­ing operations, new conces­sionaires and a new third floor club for hospitality. Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu.

Law

continued from page 1

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Microsoft feels the burn of recession
5,000 lose their jobs as the company makes the first mass layoff in its history

Associated Press

SEATTLE - Microsoft Corp. will make the first mass layoff in its 16-year history, cutting 5,000 jobs as demand for personal computers wanes and even once-top the world's richest company restructures from a dramatic downturn.

The company announced the plan Thursday, but it reported an 11 percent drop in second-quarter profit, which fell short of Wall Street's expectations. Microsoft shares plunged more than 11 percent.

"We're certainly in the midst of a once-in-a-decade set of economic conditions," Chief Executive Steve Ballmer said during a conference call. With less access to the online Web and less spending on personal computers, consumers are spending less and struggling through the life of their existing computers.

The biggest names in the technology sector have shed no stranger to layoffs lately. Google Inc. privately told the government that Merrill was losing so much money that the deal might fall through. But the brokerage lost $15 billion in the fourth quarter and more than $27 billion for the year.

Recovery plan advanced in Congress

WASHINGTON — Amid grim news about economic weakness, legislators around the nation’s capital are reaching out to President Barack Obama, seeking help for the country’s lagging economy. Both parties are offering financial plans to create jobs and provide financial assistance to struggling families.

Lawmakers are under pressure to act as quickly as possible, with the first mass layoff in a company’s history hitting Microsoft, analysts said, this week.

Business

Bank of America president resigns

NEW YORK — John Thain resigned under pressure from Bank of America on Thursday after reports he rushed out billions of dollars in bonuses to Merrill Lynch employees in his final days as CEO there, while the brokerage was suffering huge losses and just before Bank of America took it over.

The bonuses were paid before Bank of America’s acquisition of Merrill became final on Jan. 1. Thain and while Bank of America was privately telling the government that Merrill was losing so much money that the deal might fall through unless it could get more federal bailout money.

Bank of America later received an additional $20 billion from the government, in part to offset the bonuses Thain had paid. The brokerage lost $15 billion in the fourth quarter and more than $27 billion for the year.

Wage discrimination bill clears Senate

WASHINGTON — A wage discrimination bill that would herald the pro-labor policies of the Obama administration passed the Senate Thursday and could be on President Barack Obama’s desk within days.

The legislation reverses a Justice Department ruling that narrowly defines the time period during which a worker can file a claim of wage discrimination, even if the worker was unaware of it for months or years that he or she is getting less money than others.

The bill was supported by the National Women’s Political Caucus, an organization of women that has burned by the recession.

Democrats closed ranks to preserve the measure, which they view as a vote of confidence in President Barack Obama’s ability to protect workers from corporate downsizing.

Democrats are expected to target virtually every division and include the computer programmers who write code for existing and future applications.

Employees reached by The Associated Press declined to comment on the news, saying it was against company policy to speak to reporters.

Microsoft displays Windows 7 at a booth in the International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. The company announced 5,000 job cuts Thursday.
On Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009, one of the biggest milestones in U.S. history was reached. For the first time ever, a black man will occupy the White House. Greeted with voluminous applause and worldwide vigor, Barack H. Obama became the 44th president of the United States. More than one billion people around the world tuned in to hear his inaugural address. Offices set up televisions and organized breaks to watch. High school classes gathered around the TV screens. But at Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s, students were forced to skip classes to watch this historic event. Or if they were lucky, their professors turned it on for them in class.

Why should students have to take an excused absence from class to experience the most celebrated event in recent history? Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s were also in classes Monday, Martin Luther King Jr. Day — a national day of service. Other schools across the nation cancelled classes, leaving their students free to volunteer at grocery stores or soup kitchens. Meanwhile, Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students were in the classroom, unable to participate and give back to their community — which was an essential part of King’s legacy. Notre Dame, like thousands of other schools across the country, should cancel classes for the day in honor of the memory and contribution of Dr. King.

Four years ago, when Father John Jenkins was inaugurated as University President, Notre Dame was given the day off. Does Fr. Jenkins outrank the president of the United States? Martin Luther King Jr.? Obviously, the answer is no, however, Barack Obama — the president of the United States — was not even given a few hours of attention by the University.

In anticipation of such a momentous week, the University should have prepared to usher in a new era. The simple action of watching the inaugural address (which, mind you, was less than 15 minutes long) as a community in the Joyce Center or other venues on campus would have avoided the penalty of skipping classes and would have allowed students and faculty alike to witness history.

Watching the first black president take the White House ought to trump the extra 15 minutes of class time students would miss. As such, both Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s need to put this into perspective that forgoing 15 minutes of class is well worth the tradeoff of witnessing history as it happens, instead of watching it on YouTube a few hours later.

"Action is eloquence."
William Shakespeare
English playwright

"You can observe a lot just by watching."
Yogi Berra
U.S. baseball player

Submit a Letter to the Editor
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Letters to the Editor

Lebrechaun Legion

Coach Digger Phelps here, trying to give you a little perspective on the upcoming game this week between your Fighting Irish men’s basketball team and the third-ranked Connecticut Huskies. ESPN College Basketball GameDay has been around for 20 years and this is the first visit to Notre Dame. The nation has not yet seen what Notre Dame students are capable of. I know you are the best students in the nation and this Saturday is time to prove it. We are rid of the Notre Dame game being home weak and it is time to show America why we are so tough to play at this location. Coach Krezy, we are going to open the field house on Friday night at 9 pm. I want as many students as possible there ready to cheer on the Irish.

If you cannot camp out Friday night, be in the building Saturday morning so we can start the madness at the Joyce Center. Students who arrive early will book their priority seats for the game. Don’t let me down. It’s time to show the nation what every ND fan already knows. Go Irish!

Digger Phelps
former Notre Dame basketball coach
Jan. 21

Objectivity, please

I was extremely disappointed yesterday, upon reading Enka Driel’s article concerning President Obama’s shut down of the Guantanamo Bay detention facility. The nation was shocked by this announcement. Reports continue about ongoing criminal cases. While president Obama appointees serve as the attorneys of the president — as this writer was appointed by President Clinton — impediments to criminal procedural issues are less when political appointees without the trepidation of legal representation choose to stand up for their beliefs. In this case, it is unknown why he was the perfect choice to be the vice president of the United States. In fact, Burr’s actions have been juxtaposed in history with those of Thomas Jefferson — another man who may have been as insane as Aaron Burr, they have still added a voice of reason to our political discourse.

After Joe and Jill Biden appeared on Oprah earlier this week, it was reported that Burr was talking about how duplicitous our government is. Our comment that our vice president has been known for his strong stance to be the secretary of state. In the ensuing shibboleth of his wife, Biden started off the week with a bang and delivered another politician explanation for why he was the perfect choice to be our nation’s second-in-command. The world has been transfixed on the open早早ly of the Obama’s presidency. Joe Biden has been slightly left of center and has been considered a 47th vice president. By taking the oath of office, he must have had the ability to work with esteemed men asSpiro Agnew, Walter Mondale, and Dick Cheney. The House of Stix

Joe Biden: First Goofball

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

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Joe Biden: First Goofball
Capades

Obi Best

Released by: Social Science Records

Best Tracks: "Green and White Stripes," "It's Because of People Like You"

By STEPHANIE DEPREZ

This week Scene got a chance to sit down with Alex Lilly, the main brain behind Obi Best. Between had cell con­nections and last minute answer changes (what music would you want on a deserted­

Island?) Lilly revealed her complex down-to-earth interest in sound effects, quirky lyrics, and the joys of being just plain silly.

What was it like working with The Bird and the Bee?

I had been working on my thing before I came to LA, and the backing vocals kind of came out of the blue. I'd never done singing vocals for a band, but I was pretty excited when it happened. Sort of a lucky accident. I think they did influence me a lit­tle bit. I was inspired by performing with both bands and Greg and I actually wrote the song "It's Because of People Like You" right after playing with them, so I'm sure some of Greg's asignature­

madness got into my writing a little bit. I was already writing stuff that felt sympa­thetic to stuff they were doing. That was part of the reason I was so excited to play with them.

Your music is very spacey and outside of the box. How do you create a song?

What do you write first, music or lyrics? How do you decide where to layer voice and instruments?

The music comes first. Usually what will happen is that I start writing a piece of music and then some words come to me of some­thing that happened in my life or remind me of a concept, maybe something that I've seen. The music does come first.

Sometimes the melody line that I have in my head directs me to a new key or to find another chord, but usually I tinker with something a lot until I find some­thing that feels right. I sometimes even reread the words and when they don't fit I'll think about them some­

times. Sometimes I've been in the same key for while and want to write a bridge. I'd think, oh, it would be cool to go to the parallel minor, so little music theory stuff will pop up just to kind of shake me up. Usually I just do it with my ear and it will send me into other keys and other territories. I experiment with dif­

ferent sounds until I have an idea of a mood that I want. I'd record a bunch of stuff and it becomes a process of elimina­tion.

What's it like to have that kind of control over your music?

I've never had it any other way. I've always had to take control. Music has always been my idea. My grandmother plays piano but I had to ask for piano lessons. I asked for a guitar. I asked for Pro Tools. I felt like I always asked for what I wanted or saved up money to buy me'm's.

"It's Because of People Like You" is about an angry not-reconciled left­

over. That's because of your voice and how you put it out together.

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Point guard Tory Jackson is used to battling people who are bigger and stronger than he is. He did it growing up as the second-youngest in a family of fourteen children.
**COMMENTARY**

**Irish need boost from home fans**

Don’t underestimate a crowd’s ability to electrify. To embolden. To inspire. To take a group of athletes and help them reach a higher plane.

Digger Phelps doesn’t. How could he?

On January 19, 1974, Phelps and his No. 7 Irish stood ready when UCLA strode into South Bend with a videogame-esque 88-game win streak. They had been ranked No. 1 since 1971. With 3:30 left in the game, it was business as usual for UCLA who led 70-59, but then John Shumate scored four straight points. And then the noise turned up. And then came UCLA’s next four possessions: turnover, travel, missed shot, and an offensive foul.

The Bruins, renowned for their flawless execution, were so rattled by delirious students. For students who want to turn out like your life when they dropped their traditional anti-flu game-winning free throw, the crowd was engulfed in a sea of noise and cheers.

**So come early. Be creative. And when the first Huskey sets foot on that court, shake down the thunder like your life depends on it.**

This Saturday night, the Irish need that kind of boost from the crowd.

What started as the most highly anticipated Irish season in decades is suddenly swirling dangerously close to spiraling out of control. Losses at Notre Dame and Syracuse have given the Irish their first back-to-back Big East losses since 2007. Now, No. 3 Connecticut comes to town followed by No. 11 Marquette and then a game at No. 4 Pittsburgh.

Two losses could turn into three losses which become five defeats in a row, and Notre Dame’s No. 9 preseason ranking is a distant memory.

That can’t happen. Rarely does a moment of need coincide so ideally with one of opportunity, but the Irish have been blessed by the scheduling gods in the form of a certain college basketball show led by our own Phelps.

Digger knows the effect Gameday has. He described the energy during the morning broadcast as a force that carries over to the moment when the prime-time lights come on.

Maybe that’s why he’s campaigning door-to-door in an effort to pack the JACC with 11,000 fans for the 11 A.M. broadcast.

Even the administration seems to sense the opportunity to seize the moment. The doors to the JACC will be opened at 9:00 a.m. Friday for students who want to “campout” prior to Saturday’s festivities. Notre Dame’s also dropping their traditional anti-sign stance, offering a subtle encouragement to the student body.

So come early. Be creative. And when the first Huskey sets foot on that court, shake down the thunder like your life depends on it.

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

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogast@nd.edu

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**2009 Big East Standings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last game</th>
<th>Next game</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(5-0) W, 78-59, RU</td>
<td>at Syracuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5-0) W, 91-82, PROV</td>
<td>vs DePaul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6-1) W, 89-83, ‘Nova</td>
<td>at Notre Dame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5-1) W, 78-60, ‘Cuse</td>
<td>at West Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5-2) L, 78-60, Pitt</td>
<td>vs Louisville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5-2) W, 98-93, S. Hall</td>
<td>vs Syracuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3-2) W, 75-58, G’Town</td>
<td>vs Pittsburgh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3-3) L, 58-75, WVU</td>
<td>at Seton Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3-3) L, 74-93, ‘Cuse</td>
<td>vs Connecticut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3-4) W, 71-60, St. John’s</td>
<td>at USF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2-3) L, 83-89, UConn</td>
<td>vs Georgetown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2-4) W, 70-61, DePaul</td>
<td>vs Villanova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1-5) L, 60-71, Cinci</td>
<td>vs Rutgers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0-6) L, 93-98, Prov.</td>
<td>vs Georgetown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0-6) L, 59-78, Louisville</td>
<td>at St. John’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(0-6) L, 61-70, USF</td>
<td>at Marquette</td>
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observersportsblog.wordpress.com.

If you are interested in writing for Sports, e-mail Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu or Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu
Tory’s story

Tory Jackson’s childhood was a warmup for the tall players he’d face in the Big East

By CHRIS HINE
Editor-in-Chief

Growing up, Tory Jackson didn’t possess a height advantage. As the 13th of 14 children growing up in Saginaw, Mich., Jackson constantly had to fight his bigger, older siblings for everything from toys to the extra food on the dinner table, to who would do the chores around the house. It was rare when he came away victorious.

“IT was probably one of the toughest challenges I faced so far, fighting for everything and me being so little,” said Jackson, who’s listed at 5-foot-11. “The older kids, they got everything. They beat me to it or they were just too big and I couldn’t take it from them.”

On the court, the results weren’t much different. For the first 13-plus years of his life, Jackson’s frequent foe, his brother Cory, one year his senior always had the upper hand. When Tory was in eighth grade, finally beat his brother.

“We had a rivalry in the house,” Jackson said. “Like the Pistons and the Bulls and every rivalry you can think of. Michigan vs. Ohio State,” Jackson said. “I feel like our rivalry was tougher than all of theirs because we had to do everything, we had to fight for food, we had to fight each other growing up. It was always a competition.”

That competition served Jackson well. To beat Cory and his other siblings, Jackson learned how to be a scrapper. He fought for every loose ball, fought for every rebound and used his quickness to offset his siblings’ height and strength. Something he does to opponents every night in the Big East. While beating any member of his family in a game of one-on-one is no longer a problem, those early defeats helped form him into one of the best guards in the Big East and continue to inspire him to get better.

“All the talent I have come from God and it came from my family beating me up all the time back in the day,” Jackson said.

One man’s suspension is another’s opportunity

Once he got to Notre Dame, Jackson wasn’t playing as much as he’d like. Kyle McAlarney was Notre Dame’s starting point guard and the Irish also had scorers in backcourt in Colin Falls and Russell Carter. Jackson got his minutes coming off the bench, something he never did in his playing career.

“When I first got here, I was like, ‘I want to play right away.’ But that’s not the case all the time.” Jackson said. “This was the first time I was coming off the bench, through high school I was always starting, always played big minutes. Coming in, beginning of my freshman year had to play behind K-Mac, and it was one of those learning things.”

Then McAlarney was arrested for marijuana possession just before Big East play started in the 2006-07 season and subsequently suspended from the University for the rest of the season. Jackson was now Notre Dame’s starting point guard. A situation Jackson was ready to take over, thanks in part to his childhood.

Saginaw was one of those things, it kind of reminded me of my past.” Jackson said. “When I was growing up, it was a tough challenge, but I was raised to take [a challenge] and go with it. I didn’t let it phase me.”

Jackson got off to a rocky start in his new role. He had three points and five turnovers in his first start against Stony Brook.

“The first five minutes of the Stony Brook game, Falls and I kind of looked at each other because he had two turnovers and we were like, ‘Oh no, is this going to work?’” Jackson said.

But those doubts about Jackson went away as second game as a starter when Notre Dame played Louisville.

“Jackson had 14 points, five rebounds and four assists in a 78-62 win on Jan. 3. Jackson grew up fast his freshman year.

“As the 13th of 14 children growing up in Saginaw, Mich.” Jackson said. “I didn’t let it phase me.”

Jackson had 14 points, five rebounds and four assists in a 78-62 win on Jan. 3. Jackson grew up fast his freshman year.

“When Falls and Carter weren’t getting the ball as much as they might have, Jackson would take the blame and played possibly the best game of his life,” Jackson said. “I was growing up fast my freshman year. I was thankful for my brother.”

Jackson helped lead Notre Dame to a 20-8 record in the regular season.

The culmination of his season came against Georgetown in the semifinals of the Big East tournament. The team decided to open up his older sibling taller siblings seemed to culminate that night, when Jackson made a dizzying array of plays around the rim. The game, including multiple reverse layups going into the paint, something he said reminded him of Roy Hibbert that Roy Hibbert leads everyone on the court.

Jackson helped lead Notre Dame to a 20-8 record in the regular season. It felt like it was one of those things where I was a successful season by most standards, except his own.

“I felt like it was one of those years where it was a down year from me,” Jackson said. “I expected a lot more, especially coming off that freshman year. I expected myself to be a lot better and I never really adjusted to teams’ defenses.”

“They finally got me,” Jackson said. “I’m a pretty good shot, and I’m a consistency.”

Jackson knew he had to get his jump shot to be a 3-3 record in the Big East this season and Jackson is averaging 11.4 points per game.

“I expected a lot more, especially coming off that freshman year. I expected myself to be a lot better and I never really adjusted to teams’ defenses.”

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“Tory Jackson is averaging a career high 11.4 points per game this season for Notre Dame.”

“As a result, Jackson’s touch has become noticeably softer this season. His arc has improved, and his shooting percentage has gone up. Jackson is shooting 43.3 percent from the field, up from 38.4 a year ago and is 37.5 percent from 3-point range, up from 30.2 percent last season. He’s averaging 11.4 points per game, Notre Dame’s third-leading scorer this season. He’s third in the league in assists, averaging just under six per game. And he’s still averaging 4.6 rebounds per game.

“But this season, Notre Dame has struggled defensively as on way to a 3-3 record in the Big East this season and Jackson is taking it upon himself to remedy that.”

“Feel like defensively I should set a spark. Offensively not much should change, maybe shot selection. Defensively, I should set a spark. I think everybody else will feed off that.”

“But regardless of his statistics and regardless of winning or losing, there’s always one phone call that Jackson always gets.

“Tory Jackson is averaging a career high 11.4 points per game this season for Notre Dame.”

“Tory Jackson is averaging a career high 11.4 points per game this season for Notre Dame.”

"I’ll call my mom, [Sarah], because I know she’ll say something good, something that’ll really pick me up and even if I don’t smile, I have to fight it sometimes,” Jackson said. “I’ll want to be so tough, but she’ll say something to make me smile.”

Jackson recognizes that his size is going to be an obstacle he’ll have to overcome to play in the NBA. It’s hard to predict where he’ll end up when graduates next May, but without his family, Jackson probably wouldn’t n’t have any shot at all of making the league.

Contact Chris Hine at
chine@nd.edu
By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sports Editor

There is a palpable buzz in the air for the No. 19 Irish. Who said Notre Dame is a football school?"

No. 3 Connecticut is coming to town and brings with it ESPN's College Gameday, trash talk and many other factors that should motivate the Irish, who are looking to break a two-game losing streak.

Much of the student body plans to flood the Joyce Center Saturday morning to catch a glimpse of Rece Davis, Bobby Knight, Hubert Davis, Jay Bilas and — of course — Digger Phelps.

"With College Gameday being here, it's a great honor to be part of that," Irish co-captain Ryan Ayers said. "It'll be exciting and it is a big game ... We kind of relish these opportunities to show people what we can do, especially on a big national stage."

After a week off since they lost to Syracuse last Saturday, the Huskies at 7-3, and Irish coach Mike Brey said the Leprechuan Legion will be going wild.

"I think this crowd will be the best I've seen since I've been here and that's saying something," said Brey, who has guided the Irish for nine years. "I can feel it building. I can feel the crescendo. And I think we will feel an intensity and an energy in the building Saturday night that maybe has never been in this building, and I really believe that."

The Irish are currently riding a 43-game home winning streak and, with a win Saturday, would set a record for consecutive Big East home wins with 20.

"It's awesome. I'm very, very proud of the (streak) and I think it says how consistent the group has been to put us in position to actually break it," Brey said.

"I'm very proud of the group. Which brings us to Jeff Adrien. After a win over Seton Hall Sunday, the Connecticut forward uttered some trash talk about Notre Dame's Joyce Center dominance.

"It's going to be good to break [Notre Dame's] home winning streak," Adrien told the Associated Press. "It's a tough place to play, but we can do it. We almost did it last year."

The Irish players had measured responses to Adrien's comments.

"We kind of just laugh at it, use it as motivation," Ayers said. "We're not going to say anything back to him obviously, we're just going to let our play do the talking."

Nonetheless, Adrien's quote was the second insult of Notre Dame by a Connecticut player.

In November, Huskies center Hasheem Thabeet appeared on the cover of ESPN the Magazine and took a jab at Irish forward Luke Harangody. Alongside a picture of Thabeet ran this quote: "Nobody's better than me, only more experienced. I look forward to returning to the Joyce Center. It will be Notre Dame's first Big East home game of the year while school is in session.

"I've missed our students because they haven't been at a home game since the [Boston University] game and they pulled us through that one," Brey said. "Our players, more importantly, have missed having the student body there because that drives the energy in the building. They've certainly been rested up so they can let it rip Saturday."

Ayers added: "It's probably going to be one of the greatest games I've ever played in. We're playing against a great team, a top-five team, so it's just going to be awesome. The crowd's going to be buzzing."

Yes, there is certainly considerable excitement about Saturday's matchup with the Huskies. So don't be surprised to see tailgates and rabid fans all over campus this weekend. It may be mid-January but there is football-sized hype surrounding this game.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Notre Dame welcomes trash-talking Huskies
By ANALISE LIPARI

Tonight, Fortnight productions, an event series sponsored by the Student Activities Office, returns with its latest production, “Now Playing: Songs from the 2009 Broadway Season.” The performance, a revue featuring well-known songs from contemporary Broadway shows, is free for students.

Kyle Chamberlain, a student at the Notre Dame Law School and graduate of the University, is one of the people behind Fortnight Productions, an initiative of Student Activities that first came into being last year. According to Chamberlain, the project began as an effort to reach out to students whose academic or personal schedules kept them from getting involved with other, larger productions on campus.

“With a cast of an undergrad,” Chamberlain told Scene in a recent interview, “I never did any theater work, which was a big departure from high school, where I performed all year round. I was too busy to commit back then.”

Chamberlain said that the philosophy of Fortnight Productions is threefold: One, that their shows are always free for students; and therefore the cost to bring the production to the LaFortune Ballroom will take no more than two weeks. This approach then allows students who aren’t necessarily free to join—larger campus groups such as the资产重组 East Musical Company (PEMCO) or the Farley Hall Players, to participate in similar activities.

The short time span of each production also encourages students who haven’t worked in the field before to try their hand at theatrical production. Chamberlain noted, range from the very experienced to those who’ve never set foot on a stage before.

“We have some people whose first time on stage is now,” he said. “We draw from a lot of different groups.”

Chamberlain first came up with the idea of Fortnight Productions while working for Student Activities last year. “I tried to think of what I would enjoy as an undergrad. The mantra behind Fortnight is that it’s an opportunity for talented performers who are involved in other things—those whose schedules keep them too busy—have a chance to act.”

This year, the event series moves to Washington Hall—their previous production, a similar musical revue, was held in the LaFortune Ballroom.

Chamberlain promised that the current revue is both varied and fun, drawing from a wide range of Broadway shows that students should recognize.

“The current revue has songs from shows that are playing or have played on Broadway sometime this year. It includes some newer stuff, like ‘Wicked,’ which is a big blockbuster, and also older things, including revivals of ‘South Pacific’ and ‘Guys and Dolls.’

The revue format, Chamberlain noted, is well-suited to the range of talent and strengths of the students involved in the show.

The revue has 14 acts, and each act is a number, such as a musical number, a dance number, or a scene. Each number is a different performance, including numbers from ‘Spamalot,’ and a perfor­mance of ‘Under the Sea’ complete with a steel drum band. Ultimately, Chamberlain said he hoped to draw a wide variety of students to the revue for a fun night of musical theater.

“This show has a little bit of something for everybody,” he said. “Musical theater fans will love it, but people who aren’t normally interested in that art will also find something entertaining. It’s a short time commitment, and it’s free. You don’t have anything to lose.”

“Now Playing” begins tonight at 9:00 p.m. in Washington Hall, and is free to students with a Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s or Holy Cross ID.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

By ADRIA PRATT

Thomas Aquinas once said, “Doubt is the beginning of wisdom.” When it is brought to Sister Aloysius’ (Meryl Streep) attention that the new priest at her 1964 Catholic church and school in the Bronx might have made homosexual advances to a student, doubt is not a word she most recently heard.

Another twist to the plot comes when, in Sister Aloysius’ attempt to uncover more evidence of Fr. Flynn’s corruption of his youthful student, Mrs. Miller (Viola Davis) reveals to Sister Aloysius that Donald is “that way” and that she will allow any attention he receives from Fr. Flynn to continue.

The issue further complicates itself when Mrs. Miller begs Sister Aloysius not to make anything of it, both because Donald’s father would most likely beat her son to death if he found out what was possibly taking place and also because African Americans did not have much of a chance to succeed academically during that time period and it would only be a few more months until Donald could graduate and they could put all of this behind them.

With a rosary in her hand and her black bonnet severely strapped tight to her head, Sister Aloysius leaves behind Mrs. Miller’s request and speaks her mind. From this point forward, the performances were beautifully done and the words were beautifully spoken, but the storyline made for an overall unexciting plot, a key component to any movie that deserves true accolades and acclaim for its adaptation of the 2004 play to the screen.

Though this film received many accolades and acclaim for its adaptation of the 2004 play to the screen, it was overly praised. The performance of Meryl Streep brought the many dimensions of her character full circle. The audience leaves wondering which aspect Sister Aloysius doubted—her accusation of Fr. Flynn, or even more consequential, a doubt of her very own faith.

This though film received many accolades and acclaim for its adaptation of the 2004 play to the screen, it was overly praised. The fact that it was about a controversial topic (in particular one that deals with homosexual Catholic priests—a media favorite) brought it enormous attention.

The performances were beautifully done and the words were beautifully spoken, but the storyline made for an overall unexciting plot, a key component to any movie that deserves true praise. See this film if you are in the mood for something thought-provoking, but it is not worth skipping your homework to do because, as Sister Aloysius says, “Every easy choice today will have its consequence tomorrow.”

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

Sister James (Amy Adams), the naive and innocent young sister who brought the suspicions of the miscreant behav­ior to Sister Aloysius’ attention when she smelled alcohol on young Donald Miller’s breath after a visit to Fr. Flynn’s rectory, plays the gullible go-between, changing her opinion on Fortnight’s new priest at the beginning of the show.

In this climactic scene Sister Aloysius reveals to Sister Aloysius that Donald is ‘that way’ and that she will allow any attention he receives from Fr. Flynn to continue. A conversation between the two sisters who brought this case to light reveals the complexities of each of their characters and the soft core that lies beneath Sister Aloysius’ tough exterior. A fantastic performance by Meryl Streep brings the many dimensions of her character full circle. The audience leaves wondering which aspect Sister Aloysius doubted—her accusation of Fr. Flynn, or even more consequential, a doubt of her very own faith.

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For more information call 631-3344 or visit www.nd.edu/~edcnd.

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WANTED FOR RENT of Leahy and www.nd.edu/-edcndpus on - and steals were sometimes opportunity to support the ECDC-ND is please chance points on West Virginia's points, and Alex Ruoff had nine 1/29 or Friday 1/30 from Butler stood out by every basket was hard-earned The Mountaineers shot 58 percent night with a 75-58 win over No. 14 offensive rebounds. Madison Big East limited the Hoyas to 33 points, a relentless defense March. DaJuan Monroe added 11 for the Hoyas (12-5, 3-3). Greg Monroe added 11 points, a field goal percentage possible to signal the start of the toughest in the country. Five of the Hoyas' previous six opponents were Top 20 teams, but even an unranked school is a handful in the Big East this season. Getting an open shot was hard work from the start. The Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 2-0 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt. The Hoyos shot relatively well at first — when they could get shot off. Georgetown turned the ball over 11 times in the first half and went more than five minutes without a field goal near the end of the first half. The Mountaineers used that opportunity to grab a 4-0 lead That put the lead in double digits for the first time. West Virginia (14-4, 3-2) has won eight of 10, with only two losses coming to ranked Big East foes Connecticut and Marquette. Chris Knight scored 13 points, DaJuan Summers had 12 and Greg Monroe added 11 for the Hoyas (12-5, 3-3). The Mountaineers were supposed to signal the start of the softer part of a Georgetown schedule that so far has been the toughest in the country. Five of the Hoyas' previous six opponents were Top 20 teams, but even an unranked school is a handful in the Big East this season. Getting an open shot was hard work from the start. The Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 2-0 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt. The Hoyos shot relatively well at first — when they could get shot off. Georgetown turned the ball over 11 times in the first half and went more than five minutes without a field goal near the end of the first half. The Mountaineers used that opportunity to grab a 4-0 lead That put the lead in double digits for the first time. West Virginia (14-4, 3-2) has won eight of 10, with only two losses coming to ranked Big East foes Connecticut and Marquette. Chris Knight scored 13 points, DaJuan Summers had 12 and Greg Monroe added 11 for the Hoyas (12-5, 3-3). The Mountaineers were supposed to signal the start of the softer part of a Georgetown schedule that so far has been the toughest in the country. Five of the Hoyas' previous six opponents were Top 20 teams, but even an unranked school is a handful in the Big East this season. Getting an open shot was hard work from the start. The Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 2-0 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt. The Hoyos shot relatively well at first — when they could get

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CLASSIFIEDS

West Virginia guard Da'Sean Butler drives to the basket during the Mountaineers' 75-58 upset of No. 12 Georgetown on Thursday. The Mountaineers built the lead to two points again early in the second half, but three-point plays from Wright and Monroe and a nice backdoor pass from Monroe to Omar Wattad helped close the gap before West Virginia began to pull away for good. No. 18 Purdue 70, No. 21 Minnesota 62 Behind relentless defensive pressure, and 15 points and five blocks from Julian Johnson, Purdue hurled its way to a victory over Minnesota on Thursday night. E'Twan Moore added 16 points and four rebounds, including 3 for 3 from 3-point range, to lose its second in a row. The Gophers (12-5, 3-3) are now 17-1 (8-0 Horizon League) for the first time in school history. Bamander Fletcher scored 22 points for Green Bay (14-6, 2-2), which lost for only the second time in 10 games. Butler won 19 straight Horizon League games and lost 9-0 to at home this season with the victory. For two of the conference's best teams, it was anything but a typical night. Howard and Willie Veasley spent most of the first half on Butler's bench because of foul trouble, and Green Bay got itself back in a粘性 advantage. Instead, Green Bay was 10-27 and led only 25-22 at the half.
NFC

Cardinals receiver Anquan Boldin, right, catches a pass in the NFC Championship game against Philadelphia on January 18. Boldin and the Cardinals will play the Pittsburgh Steelers in Super Bowl XLIII.

Receiver Boldin laughs off run-in

Associated Press

TEMPE, Ariz. — Arizona wide receiver Anquan Boldin laughed off the negative reaction to his nationally televised run-in with offensive coordinator Todd Haley, calling it “hilarious.”

Boldin’s shouting match with the coach on the sideline came as Arizona drove for the winning touchdown in Sunday’s 32-25 victory over Philadelphia in the NFC championship game.

Boldin didn’t stay on the field in the postgame celebration, making a quick exit through the locker room. He said that he did congratulate his teammates and left quickly only to avoid questions about the Haley incident.

Indeed, he acknowledged after Thursday’s practice, his abrupt departure “made it worse.”

“As me it’s hilarious,” Boldin said of the criticism he’s received. “I don’t want to sit here and dwell on it because for me it’s in the past, but that’s something that goes on every week in the NFL, whether people know it or not.

“Every week, somebody on the sidelines gets into an argument, but it’s in the heat of the moment, it’s part of football and once it’s done, it’s dead on all sides.”

Team leaders Adrian Wilson and Kurt Warner strongly defended Boldin.

“I think people are making a lot out of nothing,” Wilson said. “That stuff happens all the time. It’s very dedicated to this team, very dedicated to the players. I think it’s a non-issue.”

Warner said it was “crazy” for people to define Boldin’s personality by this one incident after “everything that guy’s done all year and the character he’s displayed all year long.”

Boldin acknowledged it was a lesson in how things are magnified when a team reaches this point.

“Don’t have to be careful? I guess so, but at the same time you can’t alter who you are. You can only be you and let the rest take care of itself.”

He added: “Guys in the locker room know what kind of guy I am and they know exactly what went on.”

Boldin said he was upset that Haley had gone to a personal group that didn’t include him.

“I was mad because they took me out of the game,” Boldin said. “I mean, I think any competitor would have had the same reaction. A game of that magnitude, how close the game was, potentially driving to score a touchdown, I wanted to be in there. That’s just the type of guy I am.”

IN BRIEF

McGwire accused of steroid use by brother

McGwire, the youngest brother says in a book proposal that he injected the former baseball star with steroids, according to Deadspin.com.

Jay McGwire is circulating a manuscript titled "The McGwire Family Secret: The Truth About Steroids, a Slugger and Ultimate Redemption," according to the Web site. "My bringing the truth to surface about McGwire's brother started using steroids in 1994 and that he injected McGwire with Deca-Durabolin.""McGwire is a man I think most would like to forgive because his reason wasn’t nefarious — it was for survival," the proposal says, according to the Web site. "My bringing the truth to surface about Mark is out of love. I want Mark to live in truth to see the light, to come to repentance so he can live in freedom — which is the only way to live."

First baseman Fielder signs two-year deal with Brewers

MILWAUKEE — First baseman Prince Fielder and the Milwaukee Brewers reached a preliminary agreement Thursday on an $18 million, two-year contract.

The agreement is subject to a physical after the sides reached this point.

"The attention has grown," Boldin said. "Do you have to be careful? I guess no, but at the same time you can’t alter who you are. You can only be you and let the rest take care of itself.""Guys in the locker room know what kind of guy I am and they know exactly what went on.”

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former All-Star Mourning to retire due to leg injury

MIAMI — Alonzo Mourning has decided to retire rather than mount another NBA comeback at age 38.

The seven-time All-Star center said Thursday he won’t return from a devastating leg injury Dec. 19, 2007 — the fourth anniversary of his lifesaving kidney transplant. He had been working out at the Miami Heat complex and said he’s running and jumping again, but he feared another leg injury if he returned. "My health is more important than anything," Mourning said at a news conference. "God willing I’ll be able to live another 40 or 50 years, and I want to do it in a comfortable state. Right now I’m there.”

Mourning, who turns 39 next month, played at Georgetown and was the second pick in the 1992 draft by the Charlotte Hornets. He also played for New Jersey but spent the majority of his career with the Heat, helping them reach the playoffs six consecutive years.
**MEN'S SWIMMING**

**Irish host tough competition**

By MIKE GOTIMER  
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's swimming and diving team returns to action this weekend when it hosts the Shamrock Invitational for the fourth time at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

The meet will consist of three sessions that span a two-day period and it will be run in a championship style format. The Irish hope the championship style will prepare for the upcoming Big East conference championships.

"This is an important competition for us," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "It is our last major tune-up before the Big East conference championships.

"The Irish will welcome a strong field to Rolfs, as Denver, Michigan State and West Virginia will be making the trip to Notre Dame.

"The field this year is excellent," Welsh said. "West Virginia was the Big East conference champion two years ago. Michigan State is enjoying their best year in quite a while and Denver beat us in the Ohio State Invitational in December. So the field is very strong and that is exactly what we want."

The Irish are looking for strong swims this weekend and hope to stop their current four meet losing streak that dates back to a 172.5-86.5 loss to Ohio State on Nov. 23. That loss came before Notre Dame's fourth place finish in the Ohio State Invitational, which was also the Irish's last championship style meet.

Despite two dual meet losses last weekend, the Irish still had impressive individual accomplishments, led by junior John Lytle.

Lytle's four individual wins last weekend earned him Big East Swimmer of the Week honors in swimming and diving. This weekend, the Irish look to get a sense of where they stand as a team heading into the Big East conference championships.

"We would like to see where we are in our primary events," Welsh said. "This is a weekend we certainly want to measure improvement."

Prior to the Saturday evening session, Notre Dame will honor seniors Bill Bauman, Michael Bultin, Jace Hopper, Danny Lutkus, Daniel Rave, Mitchell Sherman, Jeff Wood and manager Mike Mashura as they wrap up their home careers.

The Shamrock Invitational will begin with the first session at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, resume with the second session on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and conclude with the third session on Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. All events will take place at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

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**SMC SWIMMING**

**Belles travel to final away meet**

By ERIC PRISTER  
Sports Writer

The Belles will look to carry over momentum from their dominant performance over Albion College last weekend as they take on Hillsdale Saturday.

Saint Mary's won all but one event against Albion, and were led by season-best performances from senior Melissa Gerbeth in the 1000 and 200 yard freestyle events, and from freshman Audrey Dalrymple, who set personal records in the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke, the latter being a school record as well.

Dalrymple has been a valuable addition to the team this season, leading the team in victories along with freshman Ava Cavvay and sophomore Maggie Williams.

Hillsdale comes into the meet with a 9-2 record in dual meets, and last faced the Belles in the TYR Invitational. Saint Mary's finished fourth in that meet, one place behind Hillsdale.

After Saturday's meet, the Belles have two home meets against Kalamazoo and Olivet before competing in the MIAA Championships February 19-21 at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

The Belles take the pool at 1 p.m. at the John "Jack" McAvoy Natatorium in Hillsdale, Mich.

Contact Eric Prister at eprister@nd.edu
ND WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Irish hope for success at home

BY ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

The Irish will line up against some of their toughest competition of the season this weekend when they host the Notre Dame Invitational tonight at the Loftus Sports Center. It will be the third of five meets scheduled to be hosted by the Irish this season.

The level of competition will be very good," associate head coach Jen Henley said. "We are running a scoring meet with Wisconsin, Michigan, Michigan State and Marquette. These schools have a number of outstanding individuals and solid overall teams. This means our meet will offer the Irish a great chance to gain experience under the conditions of an actual meet. "This will meet will be an opportunity for the whole team to come together to compete in a scored team meet, which is one of the few that we compete in annually," he said. "It should be a very competitive meet in all events and I know our athletes are looking forward to it."

So far this season, the Irish have had a very strong start. In last week's Notre Dame Opener held at Louis, the Irish had 12 women qualify for the Big East championship, including senior pole vaulter Mary Saxer whose jump of 4.06meters also qualified her for the NCAA regional meet and set a Louis record.

At Friday's Invitational, Henley hopes his team will be able to maintain the momentum it has built up over the last few weeks. "Our goal is to win the meet," he said. "Individually, our athletes are looking to improve on their performances and hopefully establish some Big East and NCAA qualification performances."

Looking ahead past Friday, Henley said, "A big priority for the Irish as they move into the winter meets is to thrive under the pressure."

So far, the indoor season has been very good," said Henley. "We have had some individual NCAA qualifiers, a number of athletes performing at a higher level than this last year. That's an indication that our season schedule to continue improving as the major meets of the year approach."

Friday's Invitational will kick off with field events and weight throw events at 5:30 p.m., followed by the start of the running events at 6:30 p.m.

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SMC BASKETBALL

First-place Belles take on Thunder

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

For the second time in a little over a month, the Saint Mary's basketball team will take on MIAA rival Trine University, with tip-off set for Saturday at 3 p.m. in the McCann Gymnasium, the Belles took down Trine 80-72.

"At Trine, you can't overlook anyone," head coach Jen Henley said. "Records and standings truly indicate the strength of a team."

Trine is currently fifth in the conference standings with a 4-4 record, while Saint Mary's is tied with Hope for the conference lead, with both teams only one loss.

One of the biggest wins for the Belles this season came over No. 1 Hope. "We never gave up in the Hope game," Henley said. "We were down 10 points with 6:15 left to go. We did a nice job with the boards down the stretch and not giving an ounce of offense down the stretch."

The Belles will need to continue that intensity and determination to earn another win over Trine this time around.

Senior Erin Newsom has been a key player for Saint Mary's this season, leading the team in scoring with 26 points against the Bearcats.

"I think we all think of the conference teams as big rivals," Jen Henley, Belles coach said.

"I think our freshmen have adapted well to their first season of college basketball," Henley said. "I believe they understand what it takes to compete in this league as well as finding their way between academics and athletics."

The Belles face the tough challenge of remaining their interconference dominance in this game against Trine, Henley said. "Trine's team is 10-1 and has a .905 win percentage."

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabarek@smcm.edu

NBA

Howard leads East All-star team

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — He was the first player to win a dunk contest. So he was the first to dress as Superman to win a dunk contest. He's now the first player to get elected to the All-Star Game twice. Yes, the All-Star Game is fast becoming a little too serious for Howard's personal showcase.

The Orlando Magic center — who leads the NBA in rebounds, blocked shots and double-doubles — got a record number of votes for the third time as fans voted for the East's All-Star team, released Thursday. The Feb. 15 game in Phoenix will mark the third All-Star start for Howard, who'll be starting for the second time and easily topped the previous record of 2,558,278 votes collected by Houston's Yao Ming four years ago.

"Wow, what a blessing," said Howard, 6-foot-11 center for the Orland Magic. "It's an honor, people look at that kind of thing, when you have a good year and they doubt the seriousness of a game. That's not the case here."

He's very serious about winning and very serious about being a better player.

Vao Gunski Ikned Howard's East-Star antics to what the NBA has come to see from another giant jokester — Shaquille O'Neal.

Howard still might be best-known for his exploits in last year's All-Star dunk contest in Las Vegas, where he sashed down a one-jump and capping his night by using teammate Jameer Nelson as a prop in another slam.

"That's his element there. He's an entertainer. He loves it," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "I think sometimes people look at that kind of thing, where Dwight's out there having a good time and they doubt the seriousness of a game. That's not the case here."

Howard is very serious about winning and very serious about being a better player.

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MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Three teams travel to invitational at Loftus

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

With the Big East Indoor Track & Field Championships less than a month away, the Irish will look to earn another win over Trine with tip-off set for 3 p.m. on Saturday. The Irish hosted two indoor meets earlier this season, but this is the first meet in which team scores will be kept.

"Since it's a scored meet, kids will be doing multiple events," Irish coach Joe Lane said. "There's a premium on not just running well, jumping well, or throwing well, but also on placing well."

The list of athletes competing in multiple events is highlighted by junior Eric Quick, who will be long and triple jump.

This meet will be a pressure-cooker with competition. Many athletes have their eyes on qualifying for the NCAA Indoor Championships, and the three visiting teams all present stiff challenges to the Fighting Irish.

"Marquette usually has some individuals who are pretty talented," Paue said. "Michigan State is probably the most improved team in the Big Ten, and Wisconsin is very good annually. In 2007 they did win the NCAA Indoor Championships as a team."

The opponents notwithstanding, multiple Notre Dame competitors aim to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships. Senior distance runner Dan Clark will be attempting to do so in the mile. According to Paue, in most years a time of 4:04 would qualify Clark for the NCAA's, and a time of 4:01 would assure him an entry.

'That has a legitimate shot on Friday," Paue said.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

Discussion: 0
**Fencers**

continued from page 20

Newcomers Meinhardt and Courtney Hurley have already made a splash in the world of fencing. Hurley was ranked No. 65 in singles, and seven youth fencers entered the U.S. Olympic trials. Meinhardt was the youngest fencer to compete for the U.S. in Beijing.

"Experience in the Olympic games shows two things," Bednarski said. "First, it shows that you can get nervous, but help in getting used to pressure situations." Hurley, who will begin her team season Saturday at the St. John's Duals in Queens, N.Y., and Sunday's NYU Invitational in New York, N.Y.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblassco@nd.edu

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**Cubs find winning bidder**

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The billionaire Ricketts family has been selected by Tribune Co., as the winning bidder for the hard-pressed Chicago Cubs.

"We share the goal of fans everywhere to win a World Series and build the consistent championship tradition the fans deserve," said Tom Ricketts, Potential Cubs owner.

For the first time, the Chicago Cubs, the only Major League Baseball team to miss out on the World Series since 1908 and hasn't even made it to the playoffs both times, have a new owner in place by opening day, April 6, but many steps still have to be taken before the sale can be completed.

"Obviously, these final negotiations are key, but my client is, as the statement indicates, pretty optimistic," Culloton said.

Ricketts must reach an agreement with Tribune Co., which filed for bankruptcy protection last month. While the Cubs and Wrigley Field were not included in the bankruptcy filing, a sale likely will have to be approved by the creditors' committee and possibly a bankruptcy judge.

In addition, a sale must be approved by baseball owners.

Major League Baseball will close the transaction promptly.

Tribune Co. spokesman Gary Weitman did not immediately return a telephone call from The Associated Press after Ricketts family members perused the statement.

The All-Star Game was the statement that its look forward to working with the team and Major League Baseball will close the transaction promptly.

Tribune Co. spokesmen Gary Weitman did not immediately return a telephone call from The Associated Press after Ricketts family members perused the statement. He declined comment earlier Thursday.

The selection of Tom Ricketts, a member of the founding family of TD Ameritrade Holding Corp., and the rest of the group has not been informed by Tribune Co. of the winning bidder as of Thursday evening, a baseball official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because discussions between the team and Tribune Co. have not been made public.

Until the structure that had been discussed with baseball officials, Tribune Co. would keep a small percentage of the team for tax reasons, probably around 5 percent, the baseball official said.

Another finalists in the bidding included Hersch Kaft, who owns a furniture and commercial real estate firm, and a partnership between two New York investment banks. Tribune Co. is not required to disclose the exact nature of injuries.

Crosby received a record 1.7 million votes in fan balloting. A high ankle sprain kept him out of last year's game.

St. Louis will be making its fifth straight All-Star game appearance.

The seven goals and 29 assists this season.
Nova

continued from page 20

think we can go into a game thinking about how to stop her. Kurz, former Irish forward Rob Kurz’ sister, averages 18 points and 7.8 rebounds per game.

Kurz also made 3-of-7 3-pointers she attempted against George Washington, which poses a challenge to Notre Dame’s 3-point defense. The Irish defense sometimes lost shooters on the perimeter and allowed them open shots against St. John’s. McGraw didn’t mention specifics, but she said the team has worked on keeping track of the shooters.

“We put a lot of emphasis on that,” she said. “We’re doing some different things, moving some people around, and trying some different looks, and I think it’s going to be pretty effective for us.”

Junior guards Ti Grant and Maria Getty will test the Irish perimeter defense. Grant makes 41.5 percent of her threes and Getty hits 33.8 percent of hers. The team as a whole, however, is shooting only 29.5 percent from 3-point range.

“We’re doing some different things, moving some people around, and trying some different looks, and I think it’s going to be pretty effective for us.”

Muffet McGraw

Irish coach

Bayliss said, “He really put a lot of pressure on Jensen Turner. Not many guys can match his ability from the back of the court. On top of that he passed well, leaving Turner feeling like he had to hang back with Keeton. In the second set Sam loosened a bit and was able to turn up the heat for an easier win. Turner feeling like he had to hang back with Keeton.”

“We lost to William and Mary a year ago. It clearly was not one of our best matches.”

Bobby Bayliss

Irish coach

noted they boast another strong team this season.

Senior Dominic Inglet will prove to be a force for the Cavaliers again this season. Inglet was ranked as high as No. 3 in the nation last season.

“Sophomores Michael Shabaz and Sanam Sing hit as clean a ball as you will see anywhere,” Bayliss said. “Throw in Houston Barrick and you have a core nucleus that are hard to contend with.”

The Irish will square off again against William and Mary at 10 a.m. on Saturday, with the Virginia match beginning at noon on Sunday.

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UVA

continued from page 20

what might have been is certainly not going to make anything positive happen.”

The young Irish squad has a tough schedule to open up the season. The Irish face top-20 teams in all but one of their first six matches.

Notre Dame travels first to Virginia to take on William and Mary — a team they have already seen this season when the Irish traveled to the William and Mary Invitational in November.

“We lost to William and Mary a year ago,” Bayliss said. “It clearly was not one of our best matches.”

After meeting William and Mary, the Irish will take on No. 5 Virginia on Sunday. Virginia was ranked No. 1 in the majority of last year, and despite losing two seniors to graduation, the Irish have received the girls to their play. They are making positive contributions, she said, and also receiving good experience for the future.

“Not only are they learning a lot; they’re getting better every game,” she said.

McGraw said she’s also pleased with the play of sophomore forward Becca Bruszkowski, especially with her versatility.

“I think that teams are worried about (guard Lindsay) Schrader, (guard) Ashley Barlow and (guard) Melissa Lechlitner, and she’s the one that they forget about,” McGraw said. “I’ve just been really happy with the way she’s been able to just play her game. She takes what comes her way.”

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Inside: check out the Observer's Basketball Insider which features Tory Jackson and previews Notre Dame's game against Connecticut