Ramblers brave cold to raise money
Siegfried Hall's 'Day of Man' benefits homeless
By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

Even though the temperature in South Bend stood below freezing yesterday, approximately 150 Siegfried residents braved the frigid weather to spend the day wearing nothing but shorts and T-shirts. They were participating in Siegfried's third annual "Day of Man" fundraiser, where Ramblers stand outside in inadequate clothing for the weather to raise money for South Bend's Center for the Homeless.

A group of students stood near the LaFortune Student Center, holding plastic cups and imploring passersby to donate money to the homeless shelter. Participants could also be seen in diners and coffee shops from buildings, carrying their plastic cups around and wearing shirts that said "Man Up" to explain that they were participating in the dorm event.

The Revue draws mixed reviews
Popular comedy show pushes limits with raunchy material
By SARAH MERVOISH
News Writer

The annual Keenan Revue opened last night with the theme of "It's a bird, it's a plane... It's the Keenan Revue." But one might call the show super-sexual, or super-funny, rather than super-heroic.

Keenan Hall rector Fr. Daniel Nolan prefaced the show by asking those in attendance to behave themselves, but then said: "It might be hard to do when the strippers come on."

see REVUE/page 6

Welsh Fam presents 'DanceFest'
Eight Notre Dame, Saint Mary's dance groups will perform at Washington Hall
By LIZ LEEFYRE
News Writer

This weekend, Washington Hall will be filled with variety of dancers performing every-thing from hip hop to ballet, as well as Welsh Family Hall puts on one of its signature events, the Welsh Family Dancefest, this weekend.

The two evenings of performances feature different types of dance and eight groups from across Notre Dame and Saint Mary's. The groups performing include Dance Company of Notre Dame, Ballroom Dance Team, Swing Dance Club, NDSMC Irish Dance, Team Ballet Folklorico Azul y Oro, Troop ND, and First Base Steppears.

"One of the goals of the event is to showcase all the different types of dance. This year we have pieces from tap, jazz, modern, lyrical, Irish step dance, swing, ballroom, and traditional Hispanic dance," steppears co-director Kaitlyn Maloney said.

In addition to the established campus dance groups, Dancefest also features six numbers that were choreographed by professors such as Dr. James and Tommy, and the site of the event, Washington Hall.

Candidates campaign with sites
By TESS CIVANTOS
News Writer

This year's student body president and vice president tickets are stretching their campaign budgets of $200 per ticket as far as possible, with posters, inexpensive Web sites and visits to dorms. Three of the tickets, juniors Laura Burdick and Derek Sanchez, junior Grant Schmidt and sophomore Cynthia Weber, and junior James McLaughan and sophomore Tom Gorski, have Web sites devoted to their campaign, burdick sanchez.com, giveaschmidt.com, and schmidtandweber.com, respectively.

Presidential candidate Grant Schmidt and running mate Cynthia Weber used the domain name 'GiveSchmidt.com' to show they don't take themselves too seriously.

"Give a Schmidt is kind of a funny pun, but it's a serious message too because we don't take ourselves too seriously, but we take the issues seriously," Weber said. "We take student safety seriously, we take philanthropy seriously, we take sexual assault seriously."

The Web site only cost $10, but it is a major campaigning tool. Schmidt and Weber said.

"It's a complete invest-

see SITES/page 4

Students act out a skit In the Keenan Revue at Thursday's show.

see TRUSTEES/page 6

We need to address the unawarness factor and make sure people know where to find this information, who to call and how to acquire the services available to them through the off campus program," Koski said.

The results of the study showed students were unaware of services available to them through the off campus program.

"We need to address the unawarness factor and make sure people know where to find this information, who to call and how to acquire the services available to them through the off campus program," Koski said.

Another member of the Board asked about the Community Campus Action Coalition (CCAC) and student government's involvement with South Bend. Siegfried and Koski described the events that took place on campus over the weekend.

see TRUSTEES/page 6

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The clocks of ND

I love Notre Dame's campus. It's beautiful and rich with history of many generations of scholars. Nothing could be more gorgeous than an early autumn sun setting its beautiful rays down on Notre Dame's old buildings, students frolicking on the quads, playing Frisbee or football.

However, I have a complaint to register with the community of Notre Dame. I know I'm not the only one with this complaint — it was actually a friend of mine that brought this situation up. It all started with a mention of "Would you look at that?" Now it irritates me beyond belief, and I'm on a rampage.

All of the public clocks on Notre Dame campus are running slow by at least two to three minutes.

When I say public clocks, I mean the ones on the outside of O'Shaughnessy Hall, Jordan Hall of Science, and the Basile Hall. Why are they running slow? Why? Who knows?

They've been that way as long as anyone can remember, according to the people that I've asked. Maybe this is something little and petty to be irritated by, but honestly, it makes life difficult.

What irritates me so much is that I will be walking into O'Shaughnessy, and I will look up to see the time thinking, "Oh, look! I still have five minutes until class." Then I walk into class late, because that clock is running five minutes slow. Do you see how inconvenient that is? I'm sure I'm not the only one that has come across this problem. People have got to dislike walking into class, like, five minutes into the lecture, and all because of a clock that he or she assumed was on time. I'm also sure that the professors don't like it. Or, maybe I just need to relax. But I don't think I'm the only one who's annoyed by this. So, if everyone agrees with me on this, why don't we change it?

I just wonder one thing though, the time keeper, who do I ask to fix those gosh-darn clocks? The building managers? The building staff? Some mythical Notre Dame time keeper? Is it even possible to change them?

So, I'm sending out a plea here: please, pretty please, just fix the clocks so that they're on time. I'm also sure that the professors don't like it. Or, maybe I just need to relax. But I don't think I'm the only one who's annoyed by this. So, if everyone agrees with me on this, why don't we change it?

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

Due to a printing error in the Feb. 5 edition, an article titled "Renee to showcase Keenan Heroes," Melissa Baikie's name was misspelled. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ON-CAMPUS ACTIVITY?

Morgan Flaherty
Senior
Le Mans
"Visiting my nun. She is quite the little lady!"

Caitlin Asher
Freshman
Le Mans
"Trivia night at Legends."

Meghan Curless
Sophomore
Le Mans
"Notre Dame marching band!"

Colleen Trausch
Sophomore
Le Mans
"Hip-hop night at Legends."

Krista Kolwicki
Sophomore
Le Mans
"Notre Dame basketball games for sure!"

Two Saint Mary's students sell tickets to the annual Dance Marathon, which will take place April 3-4. The Dance Marathon will last 12 hours, beginning at 8 p.m. and ending at 8 a.m. the next morning.

OFFBEAT

Man poses as police officer to stop people littering

GARDINER, Maine — Whatever he is, this litter-bug vigilante doesn't like to see people flicking cigarette butts from their car windows. Police are looking for a man who posed as a state trooper and stopped a woman in Gardiner who allegedly tossed a spent cigarette butt out the window.

Police said the man was driving a red pickup truck with a dash-mounted flashing blue light when he stopped the woman and told her he was an off-duty state trooper.

Police said the impersonator never threatened the woman. He told the woman he had stopped her because she threw a cigarette butt out the window in Augusta. He neither asked for nor showed any identification.

More than 40 firefighters rescue horse from icy pond

NEWPORT, Ky. — Pencil the walking horse is back home after being rescued from an icy pond in northern Kentucky where he was stuck for more than an hour. The Kentucky Enquirer reported that it took nearly 40 firefighters, including members of the Northern Kentucky Large Animal Rescue Team, to get the horse out Wednesday.

Pencil's owner, Doug Oddiges, said the horse might have gone to the pond looking for water to drink because the heater on his water trough had stopped working.

Oddiges said a veterinarian will monitor Pencil to make sure the horse has no continuing effects from the incident.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

There will be a lecture titled "Did Catholic Social Teaching incite a racial Revolution? The Rwandan Genocide Incite a Racial Revolution? The Rwandan Genocide Incite a Racial Revolution? The Rwandan Genocide Incite a Racial Revolution? The Rwandan Genocide 1956-1959" at 12 p.m. today in 104 Heusner Center. Jay Carney, a Phil candidate in Church History at Catholic University, will deliver the lecture. The event, sponsored by the Africa Working Group, is free and open to the public.

Keenan Hall's annual comedy show "The Keenan Revue" will take place tonight and Saturday at 7 p.m. in the O'Laughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's College.

The Browning Cinema will present the film "Children of Men," directed by Alfonso Cuaron, at 6:30 p.m. tonight in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets can be purchased at performingarts.nd.edu or by calling 574-631-2800.

L.A. Theatre Works presents "The Greatest Tennessee Monkey Trial" Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Declo Mainstage Theatre of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The play is based on original transcripts of the famous 1925 Tennessee v. John Scopes "Monkey Trial," which challenged the newly passed Tennessee legislature's "Butler Act" banning the teaching of evolution in the state's public schools. Purchase tickets online, visit or call the Ticket Office at 574-631-2800.

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

By AARON STEINER
Assistant News Editor

Nationally recognized diversity experts will meet with Notre Dame students and faculty, as well as alumni and local business leaders, this weekend to discuss issues related to diversity in the workplace in the second annual MBA Diversity Conference.

The conference, beginning today and running throughout the day Saturday, is organized by MBA students and is titled "Balancing Diversity: Celebrating Our Differences and Achieving a Common Goal."

Pat Perrella, senior associate director for Career Development in the MBA program, said the program began last year, spurred by several MBA students.

Perrella, who said Diversity Conferences are common at businesses around the country, said the conferences serve as a means to "learn about what’s going on [in diversity], and to network."

The conference is also an opportunity "to ensure that our students at all levels are exposed to this," he said.

"If they’re going to be a good business leader, they will understand the importance of diversity," Perrella said.

Ashley Clark, a second-year MBA student and co-coordinator of the conference, said recent events have made the conference even more relevant.

"I think it’s a really interesting time with out new president, and all that’s happening — everything that we’re learning about diversity and the global marketplace," she said.

The conferences will allow participants, especially students, to discuss diversity "more than we do on a daily basis in our classes," she said.

Perrella said the conference kicks off with a reception in the Notre Dame Stadium Press Box Friday evening.

Saturday’s events include three keynote speakers, networking opportunities and several panel discussions, he added.

Clark said she is especially looking forward to hearing from Wendy Lewis, senior vice president of diversity for Major League Baseball.

"I’m really interested to hear her perspective as a black female athlete and national sports organization," Clark said.

Other speakers include John Cruzat Jr., the national diversity specialist for US Swimming, and Lisa Garces, executive director of global diversity at Cummins Inc. a Columbus, Ind., company that is serving as the primary sponsor of the conference.

University administrators Frances Shavers, chief of staff and special assistant to the University president, and Dr. Don Pope-Davis, diversity important in academe associate provost, will also participate in the events, along with a number of local business leaders and Notre Dame faculty.

Clark said registration for the event is closed and 140 attendees are expected, including MBA students and a number of undergraduates from all areas of study.

"When we’re dealing with the event gives participants a different perspective" and gives students, especially, an opportunity "to not be afraid to ask questions", about diversity.

"I just hope that people leave the event and stand something a little better," she said.

Contact Aaron Steiner at astein1@nd.edu

SMC to confer with Indiana colleges

By MEGAN LONEY
News Writer

About 115 students from 10 Indiana colleges will come to Saint Mary’s this week to share ideas about what works and what doesn’t in diversity efforts.

Saint Mary’s last hosted the annual Indiana Residence Hall Association (IRHA) conference in 1995.

Senior Maura Clougherty, president of Saint Mary’s Residence Hall Association (RHA), said the timing of this year’s conference is unique.

"We have been wanting to get more involved in IRHA the past few years, and it is a great chance to show off our beautiful campus," Clougherty said.

"With the addition of Spes Unica Hall and the Hilton Garden Inn here on campus, it is a perfect place to have a conference."

The conference, entitled, "Will You Be My Neighbor?" includes an opening ceremony on Friday night with the keynote speaker, Patrick Daniel, then a panel discussion of Student Involvement, and a roll call in which the participants present themselves through art, ski, song or dance.

"Later that night, there will be a performance by Bell-angel-a, a movie showing and an opportunity to play Nintendo Wii," Clougherty said.

On Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., the delegates will attend several programs that are meant for schools to share ideas about improving life on campus. Some of these programs that the programs that Saint Mary’s will be presenting are "How to Manage Time as a Student"

"The conference is also the first time the conference has housed delegates in a hotel," McNerney said.

"Typically, the students sleep on a floor somewhere on campus, but we are able to house all the students attending the conference and the fact that Saint Mary’s College is an all-women’s college, we are able to house them in the Hilton Garden Inn."

McNerney said this conference presents an opportunity for the students to interact with students from other schools.

"I am looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new people," McNerney said. "These conferences are so meaningful, and you meet such fun great people at them and then you have to see them again."

Contact Megan Loney
mloney01@saintmarys.edu

Paper offers insights into new species

ND researchers explore importance of creation of organisms

This year marks both the bicentennial of Charles Darwin’s birth and the 150th anniversary of the publication of his seminal work, "On the Origin of Species." Just in time for the Darwin observances, a new paper appearing today in the journal Science by a team led by Notre Dame researchers Andrew Forbes, Thomas Powell and Jeffrey Feder offers a significant perspective into how new species come to be.

"This study is important because it shows how biodiversity itself can be a major generator of biodiversity," Feder said. "An unimagined form, they can create new opportunities for others to take advantage, and in turn, can lead to a chain reaction of ever more new species." In the paper, Forbes, Powell and Feder and colleagues demonstrate that the parasitic wasp Dicraeosoma albomarginatum is evolving into a new incipient species, a tale of specializing on the Rhagoletis fruit flies that they attack. These Rhagoletis flies are themselves actively diversifying and forming new species.

For the flies, the process begins with a shift to a new host plant, Rhagoletis pomonella flies originally attacked hawthorn trees. But about 150 years ago, a portion of the hawthorn fly population was shifted and began to feed on apples. In ecologically adapting to enjoy a new, now a new host plant, apple flies are becoming genetically distinct and reproductively isolated from hawthorn flies. The apple race of the hawthorn fly population is now a major pest of apples in the United States and is the proverbial "worm in the apple."

Every new opportunity opens a world for others, however. The Notre Dame researchers show that the Dicraeosoma wasp that parasitizes Rhagoletis has also shifted to use the fly larvae that feed within the apple as new food. Indeed, the wasp has evolved polyploid forms in the same species of ecological adaptations to live in the flies in apples that the apple fly evolved before it.

And so it goes, with the formation of one new species planting the seed that germinates in the beginning of another. But in a plot twist, the apple wasp ancestors appear to have come from a Rhagoletis fly infesting Blueberries, not a California fruit fly ancestor as researchers once thought. And so it goes, with the apple wasp moving to a new host plant, hawthorns — one turn does not lead directly to another.

"The idea that there are opportunities for the creation of species occurring in nature has important applications not only for understanding the processes of speciation, but also for theories concerning how biodiversity reforms following mass extinction events," one of the findings of the research.

"Thus the creation of new species occurring in nature may be more diverse than others, and for what certain areas of biotic regions may have more life forms than others," Feder said.

Where Darwin once traveled to the Galapagos Islands to study evolution in other far-flung places in pursuit of the origins of the natural resources, the apple fly and the apple wasp are meeting scientists to solve their ultimate "mystery of mysteries" can be expected to find us. When we are peering right before our eyes to see what the world is like.

Other researchers participating in the study are Lukas L. Nielsen from the University of Florida and Andrew W. Powell from Michigan State University.
Trustees continued from page 1

the last year where members of the community and students interacted, like the Fall Festival, which brought children to local elementary schools and their families to Notre Quad around Halloween.

A trustee commented on the difference between living in the community and for the community. "It's a little self-serving to say we do so much for the community," the trustee said.

Another trustee said it shouldn't sound like the student leaders in the community are just a service project, which sounds "self-serving to say we do so much for the community," the trustee said.

The three student government leaders also elaborated on their accomplishments in terms of campus technology, the University's sexual assault prevention intercollegiate networking.

"Sounds like the collaborative effort behind the change from WebMail to Google, an easy mail, the beginning of this academic year. Switching to Google's services have allowed students access to many applications, like Google Documents and Calendar, he said. A site can be used to share information and coordinate schedules.

Many of the Reis-Schmidt initiatives this year have been results of the student survey conducted this fall, Koski told the board.

One of these initiatives, she said, is the Gender Issues Committee's work on the sexual assault policy, which resulted in a resolution recommending its creation. "We have a lot of students committed to partnering in this," Koski said.

"It sounds a little self-serving to say we do so much for the community." 

Trustee Student Initiatives Committee

Revue continued from page 1

And the audience didn't have to wait long for that to happen.

In the opening act, entitled "Oh, The Noise Of The Noise!" a group of males came on stage, stripped down to their boxers, dancing to the song "Cum On Feel The Noize." They did a routine, wiggling, rubbing and thrusting their way around the stage, the dancers set the tone for the rest of the show, in which there was minimal pants wearing, sexual references and more guy-on-guy grinding than will ever be seen again at Notre Dame.

The acts focused on poking fun at a variety of aspects of Notre Dame life, including Hip Hop Night, Legends, Melissa A. Birdie, the growing loses of Notre Dame Men's Basketball team and the nonexistent Jillian Perl Rally.

Keenan Revue director Danny Wheland, said this year, they tried to give the audience something different, an act that they wouldn't expect.

"I'd say we've rested some of the older stereotypes like the greasepenny, the jock, the Saint Mary's joke and we're branching out into some newer directions because... some of those jokes have kind of gotten stale," Wheland said.

One alternative direction included poking fun at the hook-up culture at Notre Dame, and especially Christian Galiano, Tanner Ryan and Logan Switz.

"A lot of the jokes were sexual, but obviously you're not going to say about stuff. I thought it was really funny," senior Kelsey Drahos said.

"I have a whole new respect, and I'm out of this mess. It's not a hook-up story. Baby, just say yes," they sang, later in the song they sang, "He put his beer down and pulled out a ring and said, 'Marry me, Pangborn girl. I don't even know your name. But I went to Jared's and picked out a ring.'"

"I very much enjoyed the hook-up story. I liked the musical aspect of it and the chemistry really played out on stage. There were definitely sparks," Patrick Braga-Henegue senior.

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FBI finds new leads in Tylenol case

Man linked to deadly 1982 poisonings may be convicted 26 years after the crime

Associated Press

BOSTON — James W. Lewis has a habit of getting into trouble. And a knack for getting out of it, too.

He was charged with killing and dismembering a man in Kansas City, Mo., in 1978, but the case was thrown out. He was jailed on murder charges decades later in Massachusetts, but went free when the victim refused to testify.

And while authorities in Chicago have long suspected Lewis was responsible for the deadly 1982 Tylenol poisonings, the only thing they ever pinned on him was an extortion attempt against the maker of the pain reliever. No one was ever charged in the seven cyanide deaths.

Now the FBI says there are new leads in the Tylenol case and on Wednesday seized a computer and boxes of files from Lewis' Boston-area home. The mysterious and sudden flurry of activity has raised hopes of a long-awaited break in the sensational 26-year-old case.

"Up until yesterday, I thought this would never be solved in my lifetime or ever," said Jack Eliason, whose sister, Mary Ellen, was killed in 1982. "I've got a 31-year-old niece who was named after my mother, died after swallowing poisoned Tylenol.

Exactly why investigators have suddenly taken so much interest in the self-proclaimed "Tylenol Man" is unclear, but the FBI cites new advances in forensic technology, along with publicity and public interest.

In 1982, critics said the major issue is not exclusivity, but mistreatment of inmates and poor traveling conditions.

Authorities searched for the suspect who escaped late Wednesday or early Thursday from the Calumet County Jail in South Bend, Indiana. The body of Lewis, who is in his early 60s, was found dead in a nearby field.

In a space of three days beginning Wednesday, the FBI searched seven people who took cyanide-laced Tylenol in Chicago and four suburbs.

That triggered a national scare and a huge police and poison-snowdown effort to recall and eventually led to the widespread adoption of tamper-proof packaging for over-the-counter drugs.

Caught after a nationwide manhunt in late 1982, Lewis gave investigators a detailed account of how the killer might have done it, and eventually admitted sending a letter demanding $1 million from the manufacturer of Tylenol to "stop the killing.

But he said he was only trying to exploit the crisis, and denied he had anything to do with the deaths.

He was convicted of extortion in 1993 and spent 12 years in prison, getting out in 1995.

Police Commander Kenneth Gallinski of the Chicago suburb of Arlington Heights, where three of the victims swallowed the lethal Tylenol capsules, said Thursday he is "cautiously optimistic." Investigators have made a breakthrough, but would not elaborate.

Lewis' life both before and after his prison sentences is full of struggle and disturbing twists.

Police said that he was arrested in 1973 and 1974 for fighting with his stepfather and spent time in mental institutions.

In 1975 he was accused of dismembering a 72-year-old man who had hired him as an accountant. The charges were eventually dismissed because the cause of death was not determined and some evidence had been illegally obtained. Lewis denied killing the man.

He and his wife, Leann, moved to the Chicago area in the early 1980s, their activities shrouded in secrecy.

 Authorities said Lewis was chameleonic-like in his ability to change his identity, using at least 18 names and posing as a freelance writer, real estate salesman, computer assistant and importer of Indian tapestries.

He was apparently haunted by the death of his daughter, who had Down syndrome and died at age 5 during heart surgery, and sometimes carried a recording of her voice, according to the FBI.

Iraq

Support shown for al-Maliki in election

Associated Press

BAGHDAD - Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's allies swept to victory over Shiite religious parties during last weekend's provincial elections in Iraq — a rousing endorsement of his crackdown on extremists, according to official results released Thursday.

The impressive showing, which must be certified by independent Iraqi observers, places al-Maliki in a strong position before parliamentary elections late this year that could bolster Sadr's confidence that he can begin withdrawing more of its 140,000 troops.

The results were a major blow to Iraq's biggest Shiite religious party — the Supreme Islamic Council — which trailed in every Shiite province including its base in the holy city of Najaf.

Still, the margin of victory in a number of Shiite provinces was narrow, but indicating the prime minister's supporters have the ability to cut deals with their rivals in order to govern.

And al-Maliki's Coalition of the State of Law gained little traction in Sunni areas, suggesting that sectarian divisions still play a major role in Iraqi politics. Al-Maliki is himself a Shiite from a religious party but his bloc ran on a platform against sectarianism.

Some Western diplomats believe al-Maliki's biggest problem now will be finding enough challenges from fellow Shiites as well as Sunnis and Kurds whose charges were eventually dismissed because the cause of death was not determined and some evidence had been illegally obtained. Lewis denied killing the man.

He and his wife, Leann, moved to the Chicago area in the early 1980s, their activities shrouded in secrecy.

 Authorities said Lewis was chameleonic-like in his ability to change his identity, using at least 18 names and posing as a freelance writer, real estate salesman, computer assistant and importer of Indian tapestries.

He was apparently haunted by the death of his daughter, who had Down syndrome and died at age 5 during heart surgery, and sometimes carried a recording of her voice, according to the FBI.
Dance

continued from page 1

specifically for this show. The
DanceFest dancers auditioned in September and have been practicing once a week since then for this event.

The numbers highlight a wide variety of dance types, as
some dancers have almost 20 years of experience, while
many of the campus groups welcome beginners.

"DanceFest provides a great
opportunity for people who have never danced before to
continue dancing at college," said senior Lauren Nolan, one
of the DanceFest choreographers.

Providing this chance for
dancers on campus was one of
the main reasons why
DanceFest was created. "The
idea for the show was initi­
alized by a Walsh Family resident six years ago who realized
there was no single outlet for all these groups on cam­
pus to come together and perform," Nolan said.

Nolan noted the importance of
promoting different cultural
dances through DanceFest.

"This is an event for stu­
dents that explores different
types of dance. Students can
increase their cultural aware­
ness about dance by seeing
styles they may not have
experienced in their community," she said.

Maloney is excited to see
the result of the hard work and
dedication of all the
DanceFest members this
weekend. "Planning and
directing a show is so much
more work than I had ever
imagined," Maloney said. "But it's been so worth it. I've
met a lot of talented people and
learned so much about both
event planning and the techni­
cal aspects of theater. I can't
wait to see the finished prod­
ut," she said.

The performances will take
place Friday and Saturday at
7 p.m. Tickets can be pur­
chased for $4 at the door.

This year, all the proceeds from
DanceFest will benefit La Casa De Amistad, a youth and
adult center located on the
west side of South Bend,
which addresses the needs of
South Bend area Hispanics through organized activities and
support.

Contact Liz LeFevre at
lefevre@sf.edu

SRI LANKA

As war ends, ethnic tensions remain

Associated Press

COLOMBO — The Sri
Lankan government is
poised to crush the Tamil Tigers, the leftist qua­
ter-century civil war that
has killed millions of people.
But the Tamil Tigers face a
major challenge beyond the
battlefield, resolving the ethnic
conflict that fueled the war.

In the ensuing years, suc­
cessive governments domi­
nated by the Sinhalese
community have pushed policies favoring their language and commu­
nity and marginalizing

Tamil. By the 1970s, a
patchwork of rival Tamil political groups began calling for a separate
state in the historic Tamil heartland in the north and east, which they called
Eelam.

War broke out in 1983 when Tamil Tiger guerrillas killed 13 soldiers in an
ambush and Sinhalese mobs retaliated with anti-Tamil riots that
killed many Tamils, she said.

Thousands of Tamils joined the rebels, known formally as the Liberation
Tigers of Tamil Eelam. Tens of thousands of others fled abroad, creating a
Tamil diaspora that has been a
rich source of funding for
the rebels.

The Tamil community
accounts for about 18 per­
cent of Sri Lanka's 20 mil­
lion people, and Sinhalese
comprise about 74 percent.
Most of the rest are Muslims.

The government says
that once its forces push
off the rebels it will be
able to devolve some power to the
provinces, giving Tamils, with large populations in the north and east, a significant
say in local affairs.

It also promises a big
influx of economic aid for
development in the north.

With increasing prosperi­
ty the temptation to take up
arms and to go to the jungle
might be less," Foreign
Secretary Palitha Kokula
said. "We also feel that once
the back of the LTTE is bro­
ken completely, the violence
that we see in the country
will gradually fade away.

But many Tamils retain
depth suspicions of the
government's intentions, exacer­
bated by reported statements from politicians and military lead­
ers that the sinhalaization the
Market Recap

**Stocks**

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### Treasuries

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<td>5-Year Note</td>
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### Enterprises

**WASHINGTON**— More people sought unemployment benefits than expected last week and laid-off workers found it harder to land new jobs as the economy struggled to show signs of life.

Sour economic indicators Thursday also plagued the retail industry: Weak factory orders were reported for December and sales declines last month for many major stores raised concerns about the industry's health.

This, in turn, sharply in the final months of the year, the government said—but only because the number of hours worked more than output fell.

"Business owners have gone into lockdown mode and are only looking for the smallest economic environment since the early 1980s," said Tim Quinlan, economic analyst at Wachovia.

Some stores switch to digital Feb. 17

NEW YORK—Television viewers who use antennas and were expecting a few more months to prepare for digital TV may not have much time left before their sets go dark.

Many stations still plan to drop analog broadcasts in less than two weeks.

When Congress postponed the mandatory transition to digital TV until June, it also gave stations the option to stick to the originally scheduled date of Feb. 17.

That means the shutdown of analog signals, which broadcasters had hoped would happen at the same time nationwide, could now unfold in a confusing patchwork of different schedules.

Retailers wanted to address concerns that many households that receive TV signals through an antenna are not prepared for the many households that receive TV signals through an antenna are not prepared for the

Some key lawmakers are weighing alternatives to the current rules on marking down bank assets as a possible way to address the banking crisis.

The Federal Reserve has been buying up mortgage-backed securities guaranteed by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae for a month. Before raising a bit in recent weeks, mortgage rates had plunged since the Fed announced the creation of the $500 billion

The administration's over­haul of the controversial $700 billion bailout plan is expected to provide support to banks to deal with some of the toxic assets and keep banks from resuming more normal lending.

Geithner said the over­haul of the rescue program was aimed at improving the effort to get credit flowing again and to support the Obama stimulus plan being debated in Congress.

The working group also will devote time to dis­cussing the reforms needed to ensure that the current financial crisis, the worst to hit the country in seven decades, is not repeated.

"We also want to use this opportunity to begin the process of shaping a con­sen­sus reform of our finan­cial system so that neither the U.S. economy or the global financial system ever ... again faces a crisis of this magnitude," Geithner said.

Bailout plan to be unveiled Monday

Treasury secretary Timothy Geithner said Thursday that the government will deliver a speech on Monday outlining the new plan.

But Treasury officials would not comment on reports Thursday that changes were being consid­ered to the current accounting standard that requires banks to carry assets such as mortgage-backed securities on their books at fair value, a process known as "mark to market.

Critics of this process con­tend that it has made the current financial crisis worse by forcing banks to slash the value of assets that are currently depressed because of mar­ket conditions. Treasury officials said the admin­istration's plan was not yet complete and would be revealed in Geithner's speech in Washington next week.

Some key lawmakers are weighing alternatives to the current rules on marking down bank assets as a possible way to address the banking crisis.

Senate Banking Committee Chairman Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., said Thursday in an inter­view that he wanted to con­sider the possibility of doing something other than mark­ to-market during times when "you get into a pro­cyclical environment and the credit product is collapsing down ... but I haven't considered anything yet.

Meanwhile, some estate agents are planning to bide the best of the world's temporary subsidies for the rich.

They were looking to Geithner's announcement in November that in some cases of the financial rescue money would be used to reduce mortgage rates and prevent foreclosures.

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January sales report a 4.8 percent fall

NEW YORK—Shoppers passed by the jewelry counter in January, delayed buying their favorite perfume and even skimped on buying clothes for their growing kids. If they looked at status hunters, they just put them back on the shelf and walked away.

The dismal January sales that retail­ers reported Thursday foreshadow a cold spring as consumers worry about mass­ive layoffs and their dwindling retirement funds. Bigger-than-expect­ed sales drops were reported from Gap Inc. to luxury retailer Saks and the Children's Place. Others, like Macy's and the Limited Brands, did better than expected, but still were lower than sales dips.

Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, was among the outliers, reporting sales gains that beat Wall Street's forecast.

The discount has benefited from con­sumers' focus on necessities like gro­ceries and on finding cheaper options for other items.

"Consumers have only one focus today and that is survival," said C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group. "They only want to buy the things they have to have.

What's clear, he says, is that nothing these days is recession proof — even makeup. Estee Lauder Cos. reported a 30 percent drop in fisc­al-second-quarter pro­fits as shoppers cut their spend­ing on makeup, skincare and perfume.

Chief Operating Officer Fabrizio Fredo said he noticed consumers are delaying purchases, especially in Fran­ces.

January sales at established stores fell 1.6 percent, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers-Goldman Sachs tally — not as bad as expected but still the fourth con­secutive monthly decline. The index was helped by the better-than-expected results from Wal-Mart, which accounts for just over half the index. Excluding Wal-Mart, sales fell 4.8 percent. The tally is based on same-store sales, or sales at stores open at least a year.

While January is the least important month of a retailer's sales calendar, the figures confirm how weak consumer spending is. Merchants couldn't even count on the usual post-holiday lift from shoppers redeeming holiday gift cards. Sales of gift card sales were down because shoppers were focusing on deals, or just not buying. And with the economy deteriorating, the BSC's chief economist Michael P. Niemann expects sales to keep falling through at least spring.
ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY

GUIDO LENZI
AMBASSADOR

SPRING 2009 EUROPEAN UNION LECTURE
The Role of Trans-Atlantic Relations in World Governance
Monday, February 9th
138 DeBartolo Hall
4:30 P.M.

DIPLOMACY AS AN INTERNATIONAL CAREER
Tuesday, February 10th
Montgomery Theatre
LaFortune Student Center
4:30 P.M.

ITALY TODAY
Wednesday, February 11th
The Gallery at Bond Hall
5:00 P.M.

VATICAN CITY

Church demands Bishop recant views

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY The Vatican, bowing to the growing furor over Pope Benedict XVI's decision to accept a return to the church of a prelate who denied the Holocaust, made a dramatic turnaround Wednesday and demanded the bishop recant.

The Vatican sought to distance the pope from the controversy by saying he did not know about British Bishop Richard Williamson's views when he agreed to lift his excommunication last month.

In the surprisingly public spat, some leading cardinals in Germany and at the Vatican blamed unidentified aides for not fully briefing the pope.

The controversy provided a rare look at the cracks in the Vatican's facade of unity and raised questions about the advice the pope receives and his access to information. Papal aides say Benedict, a former university professor and theologian, receives a daily news summary and occasionally watches television.

The statement was issued by the Vatican's Secretariat of State a day after German Chancellor Angela Merkel rejected the pope's offer to make a clear-cut rejection of Holocaust denials. Top German church officials, Jewish groups and the head of the U.S. bishops' conference also condemned Williamson.

In a sign of just how much the Vatican had misread the public mood, the secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, was quoted Tuesday as saying he considered the matter "closed" after Benedict issued a lengthy denunciation of Holocaust deniers last week.

Rabbi Marvin Hier, founder of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, said Benedict issued a lengthy denunciation of Holocaust deniers last week. "This was absolutely a matter that was bungled at the highest levels of the Vatican," Hier said. "If they Googled the name Bishop Williamson, they'd find out he was a Holocaust denier. This did not require advanced research at the Vatican Library or Oxford."

"Everybody knows he's an anti-Semite," since Williamson has been vocal about his views, making speeches and publishing a blog, Hier said. "The other Holocaust deniers are rabid, anti-Semites who can't claim any legitimacy. But when a person calls himself bishop and he was invited back into the Catholic Church by none other than the pope, he brings with him an aura of legitimacy. And that legitimacy stains the pope. So the pope today finally made the right decision, that (Williamson) must recant." Williamson was shown on Swedish state television just days before the lifting of his excommunication was announced on Jan. 24, acknowledging his view that "there was not one Jew killed by the gas chambers" during World War II. He said historical evidence is "hugely against 6 million Jews having been deliberately gassed in gas chambers as a deliberate policy of Adolf Hitler."

Williamson subsequently apologized to the pope for having stirred controversy, but he did not repudiate his comments, in which he also said only 200,000 to 300,000 Jews were killed by the Nazis and none were gassed.

"Germany has paid out billions and billions of deutschmarks and now euros because the Germans have a guilt complex about their having gassed 6 million Jews. Well, I don't think 6 million Jews were gassed," he said.

The controversy threatened to mar Benedict's strong record in building Catholic-Jewish relations, which included visits to the Nazi Auschwitz death camp in Poland and synagogues in Germany and the United States.

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The controversy threatened to mar Benedict's strong record in building Catholic-Jewish relations, which included visits to the Nazi Auschwitz death camp in Poland and synagogues in Germany and the United States.

Jewish leaders welcomed the Vatican's move Wednesday. "Had all this been expressed at the outset, we could have avoided the unnecessary damage and distress," Rabbi David Rosen, international director of interreligious affairs of the American Jewish Committee, said in an e-mail following Wednesday's statement.

Williamson and three other bishops were excommunicated in 1988 after they were consecrated by the late ultraconservative Bishop Marcel Lefebvre without papal consent. Lefebvre founded the traditionalist Society of St. Pius X in 1969, which opposes the liberalizing reforms of the Second Vatican Council, including its outreach to Jews.

The Holy See said when it announced the rehabilitation of the bishops that removing the excommunication did not mean the Vatican shared Williamson's views.

In a statement Wednesday, the Vatican said that while Williamson's excommunication had been lifted, he still had no canonical function in the church because he was consecrated illegitimately by Lefebvre.

"Bishop Williamson, in order to be admitted to episcopal functions within the church, will have to take his distance, in an absolutely unequivocal and public fashion, from his position on the Shoah, which the Holy Father was not aware of when the excommunication was lifted," the statement said. Shoah is the Hebrew word for the Holocaust.

In addition to its demand of Williamson, the Vatican said the society as a whole must fully recognize the teachings of Pope II and all the popes who came during and after it in order to have a legitimate canonical function in the church.

Jewish groups praised the Vatican statement, saying it satisfied their key demand. "This was the sign the Jewish world has been waiting for," said Ronald Lauder, president of the World Jewish Congress.

Elan Steinberg, vice president of the American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors and their Descendants, thanked Merkel for her "righteous comments" and said the process of healing the "deep wound that this crisis caused to the Catholic-Jewish dialogue" could now begin.
FEMA recalls kits with peanut butter

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE — Nearly 168,000 emergency meal kits sent out to military workers after an ice storm had been recalled Monday because some contained peanut butter that could have made some of them sick.

About 530,000 troopers, were assembled in Gauci, spokesman for the Defense, could not say when recall entrees, cookies, chips and after learned of recall until Wednesday night.

"I'm glad that my kids don't eat peanut butter, that's for sure," she said.

"We had 168,000 kits that contained peanut butter for our soldiers and a lot of folks thought it was a great idea," said Bob Cloud, a spokesman for Defense that supplies meals to FEMA, that it was recalling about 230,000 meals. Dennis Gueli, spokesman for the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, which oversees the supply center, said not to eat the peanut butter packets. No illnesses have been reported and recalls were ongoing.

The kits, which contained entrees, cookies, chips and peanut butter, were sent to Kentucky to help feed hundreds of thousands of people left without power at the height of last week's storm. The storm also swept through Arkansas, but federal officials don't believe people there got the meals.

People were warned Thursday not to eat the peanut butter packets. No illnesses have been reported and recalls were ongoing.

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People were warned Thursday not to eat the peanut butter packets. No illnesses have been reported and recalls were ongoing.
This week has been a hectic one. First, the Pittsburgh Steelers mastered the art of winning the ultimate football game in the Super Bowl. Then, Punxsutawney Phil cursed us once more with another six weeks of winter weather. Later we steamrolled through college football’s national signing day which blessed Notre Dame with at least one impact player from the nation’s top five recruits. Tragically, the third and sixth ranked college basketball teams gapped through 27-point losses. Tomorrow, the week culminates when “Equus” closes off Broadway signaling the departure of Daniel Radcliffe, a.k.a. Harry Potter, back across the Atlantic. What on the surface appears to be a chaotic week, is in fact, the norm in the IP world. Interestingly, the events of this week intertwine to explain the nuances college coaches must master to successfully recruit and instruct players so that they perform as winners during competition. Why does a lowly Syracuse football team beat Notre Dame on its home field? How can the mighty Duke basketball team suffer its worst loss in 15 years and second worst loss ever by 27 points? How can Notre Dame’s basketball team fall completely out of the top 25 teams from a perch among the top ten?

Radio personality Anita Marks of sports radio suggests or are they spoiled. During many scenes in “Equus,” the teenage Radcliffe sits atop a box with his back to the main audience representing his confinement in a hospital room. Only the two dozen seat occupants see his boredom as he picks off the box’s paint with his fingernails. As the play concludes its run this weekend, the box exhibits gaping scars where Radcliffe has removed paint over the past few months. If only the author could have written an iPod into the script.

Whether it is Duke basketball players, Notre Dame football players or the Pittsburgh Steelers, defensive players who committed several personal foul penalties during the Super Bowl, successful coaches need to recognize the consequences of our IP world. The lesson to recall is one best dramatized two decades ago in the Tom Cruise film, “All the Right Moves.” The small town Pennsylvania football star is instructed on how to defend a particular pass in practice drill after drill. However, during the big rivalry game, Cruise decides to attempt an interception rather than make the tackle according to the coaching plan in practice. Of course he misses, and his team loses because of his mental collapse.

College football’s signing day this week demonstrated more of a courship than a recruitment. Winning in the college ranks today requires a coach to be half game tactician and half psychologist to focus and mentally prepare players for each opponent. Last season, Alabama’s football team only collapsed in their bowl game with 16 freshmen and 9 seniors as regular starters. Having scored atop Wednesday’s football recruitment class, their proven mental toughness and focus will keep Alabama among the elite programs nationally.

Steelers wide receiver Hines Ward sums up the element he attributes for a successful athlete by saying, “Hats off to our scouts. They do a lot of diligence as far as looking over the draft picks, making sure they’re great character guys. That’s the one thing about Pittsburgh, you won’t find too many character issues about the guys they draft.”

Whether the key is character or concentration, coaches may eventually decide to convey game plans through podcasts to assure themselves that their players are focused on game day.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame ’73, is a communications strategist who served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton’s administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at Gary.Caruso@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
THE TASTE OF DISAPPOINTMENT

Last Sunday, millions of Americans tuned in to NBC for the biggest television event of the year: the Super Bowl. While the game was certainly exciting (at least during the final quarter), many people were more excited about the commercials that aired during the game. For me, the most exciting advertisement was for the Super Bowl Sunday edition of "The Office," which featured Larry Fitzgerald or Santonio Holmes, depending on the audience. The ad was a send-up of the Wichuahua, a fictional pueblo that on Tuesday Denny's would be serving free Grand Slam breakfasts.

This advertisement made me more excited than I had been in weeks. My life was getting really repetitive as I had made the critical error of going to Finnegans for three nights in a row that weekend. (Note: no one else at the bar did this. I was standing right at the bar and people kept walking by. I didn't notice.)

I was waverin. the norm if we don't elect this ticket of Freshmen Luke Lennon and Charlie Harig. The Notre Dame student government election is actually getting really repetitive as I had made the critical error of going to Finnegan's for three nights in a row that weekend. (Note: no one else at the bar did this. I was standing right at the bar and people kept walking by. I didn't notice.)

Whether or not you vote for Luke and Charlie in this student government election, which, in the scheme of things is almost totally inconsequential, sooner or later the joke is on you. The important things in life you canprobably count on one hand: health, family, friends, a sense of worth... not Notre Dame student government. So let's come together as a student body and replace the peons of the Red-Bishop-Schilling era with a pair of clown shoes so big it will be difficult for any ticket in the future to handle a very tricky situation.

Frankly, the only thing I was excited about the entire event was hilarious, and at some points, Freshmen are exactly what the student government should be doing. It was getting really repetitive as I had made the critical error of going to Finnegan's for three nights in a row that weekend. (Note: no one else at the bar did this. I was standing right at the bar and people kept walking by. I didn't notice.)

As a matter of fact, I have recently convinced me that we could not drive to the nearest Denny's in Michigan City before our early class on Tuesday. I was ready to leave, but I had a Denny's Grand Slam. On Tuesday morning, I would have been getting this satisfaction - for free!

So or I thought...

Woke up on Tuesday morning, I was caught with the news that the Denny's on 31 was nowhere to be found. Apparently, they had run out of eggs. So, I was forced to eat breakfast at McDonald's in December. This news was like finding out in the pantheon of bad news that I have received in the past couple months, this was worse than finding out Zach Hildreth was returning to the starting lineup this week, but not as horrifying as my discovery that the UPS whiteboard commercials are actually unannounced and never on a whiteboard.

At first, I was in disbelief. How could such a perfectly situated Denny's close its doors? This was a prime location. It was less than a mile from a Payway stop and not too far from several colleges where students would want to eat great late even.

Although I doubt many Sayen or Mary's girls frequent Denny's as I can't picture a side salad being very good if it is smothered in grease like all Denny's food has to be (kill because I love ladies).

As my roommate quickly convinced me that we could not drive to the nearest Denny's in Michigan City before our early class on Tuesday. I was ready to leave, but I had a Denny's Grand Slam any time soon. Instead, as a consolation, we decided to go to Denny's on Tuesday morning for some Deluxe Big Breakfasts. However, this was disastrous as I soon realized how inferior the Denny's Big Breakfast is to the Grand Slams in the long line of incredibly great breakfasts. In case you are not familiar with them, the Deluxe Big Breakfast is inferior because it has no choice of eggs, no bacon, a vastly mediocre sausage patty, and a biscuit. I can sort of understand biscuits and gravy for breakfast as being a southern thing, but I wanted just a plain biscuit with my breakfast, I would have gone to KFC. The biscuit is as out of place in the Deluxe Big Breakfast as the Marvin Harrison READ poster is on the main floor of the library.

So or I thought...
By PATRICK GRIFFIN

How does watching a musical group from the small-scale music scene of Los Angeles with students at County Court Schools, after-school programs, and public schools to give at-risk children a creative, productive outlet.

The play's historical background is accurate and succinct. The eight-day trial in a swirling courtroom has its most enthralling moments of the entire case condensed into a single play.

The final ensemble includes the previously mentioned Pressnall (then Jamie Pressnall), her future husband, guitarist, and vocalist Derek Pressnall, vocalist and bassist Nesty Jenkins, keyboardist Nick White, and lead vocalist Kianna Alarid. Tennessee legislature, which stated it shall be unlawful for any teacher in the public schools of the state to teach any theory that denies the story of the Divine Creation of man taught in the Bible, and to teach instead that man has descended from a lower order of animals.

The play is not just about a court case, it is about the loosening of morals of youth in the 1920s and the resistance of the previous generation to adapt new ideas after the First World War. The creation of a Rube Goldberg-like machine, the band stumped in time while wearing colorful clothing.

Though the band is still on the rise, Tilly and the Wall will surprise you with a toy box full of simple and memorable songs as a monotonous, yet driving, and an idea for a Saturday night activity?

Before entirely writing off Legends of the Divine Creation of man taught in the Bible, and to teach instead that man has descended from a lower order of animals.

After the passage of this, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) persuaded a local General Science teacher, John Scopes, to teach instruction based on Charles Darwin's "On the Origin of Species." Ultimately, Scopes was found guilty and ordered to pay a fine of $100.

"Time Magazine" depicted the trial as "the fantastic cross between a circus and a holy war." Though the buzz of controversy about evolution is almost extinct in our generation. "The Great Tennessee Monkey Trial" suggests topics that were new to America in the 1920s but are still applicable to our generation.

The play is not just about a court case, it is about the loosening of morals of youth in the 1920s and the resistance of the previous generation to adapt new ideas after the First World War. The creation of a Rube Goldberg-like machine, the band stumped in time while wearing colorful clothing.

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THE OBSERVER
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2009

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTION
Laura Burdick president
vice president Derek Sanchez

Who They Are
Burdick, a junior who lives in Cavanaugh, is a biology major. Sanchez is a political science and Spanish double major with a minor in Latino studies. He currently lives in Dunwoody Hall, but lived for two years in Carroll Hall. Burdick and Sanchez served as Hall Presidents Council athletic co-chairs.

In Their Words
- Top Priority: Loan forgiveness for students pursuing careers in public service.
- First Priority: "Safety First" campaign.

In Our Words
- Best Idea: The Burdick-Sanchez idea for a loan forgiveness program for students who commit to public service after graduation.
- Worst Idea: "Safety First" covers a broad range of topics that haven't really been explained in detail.
- Most Feasible Idea: Expanding the Gold Rush program.
- Least Feasible Idea: "Safety First" is an umbrella for topics dealing with many facets of student life and is too broad to be practical.
- Fun Facts: When Burdick was a little girl, her family sang her the Notre Dame Fight Song at bedtime. Burdick and Sanchez met by being randomly seated near each other freshman year at football games. Sanchez's band, "Vote For Us," won second place at Notre Dame's Battle of the Bands.

LuKe Lennon president
vice president Charlie Harig

Who They Are
Lennon and Harig are freshman roommates in Zahm. Lennon is pursuing a pre-med degree and Harig is an engineering major.

In Their Words
- Top Priority: Increasing the population of beautiful women on campus.
- First Priority: A parade.

In Our Words
- Best Idea: None
- Worst Idea: Naming one of their initiatives after a policy enacted during a regrettable part of American history.
- Most Feasible Idea: None
- Least Feasible Idea: Expanding the idea of buying out Charlie Weis' contract to apply to any member of the University community that you think should leave, such as that professor you don't like, the rector who is on your case, or that kid in the front of class who always raises his hand.
- Fun Facts: According to Lennon and Harig, they were drafted by the Green Bay Packers and Minnesota Vikings, respectively, out of high school, but turned the NFL teams down. "We could never be rivals," Lennon said. Lennon is the grandson of Alumni Association executive director Chuck Lennon, who stopped by LaFortune Wednesday evening to witness his progeny strip to a skintight suit and dance to the hit Beyoncé song, "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)."

Bottom Line
This pair of freshman is probably the best ticket Zahm has run in the past couple of years — they are wonderful public speakers and know how to captivate an audience. However, their ideas range from the completely absurd to the slightly offensive. Lennon and Harig have no real plans for student government, though if they win, they promise an inaugural parade. Though you might be entertained by their dancing and costumes, the possibility of having Lennon and Harig in office for their choice term limit — infinity — is frightening.
James McCaughan
president
vice president Tom Gorski

Who They Are
McCaughan is a junior history and economics double major who lives in Siegfried with his running mate, Gorski, an IT management major.

In Their Words

Top and First Priority: McCaughan and Gorski list creating an environment for students and alumni to enjoy the "advantages and pleasures of the University without worrying about tickets or flexpasses."

In Our Words

Best Idea: Bringing Interhall laser tag to campus.

Worst Idea: A complete overhaul of the police and University disciplinary policy toward students.

Most Feasible Idea: The pair's smaller ideas - like switching the plain toothpicks in the dining halls to mint toothpicks - are their most practical.

Least Feasible Idea: McCaughan and Gorski plan to ask for a University commitment to eliminating the use of evidence that is illegally obtained in cases against students. The student government is one voice among many discussing the issue of rights and it would be hard for one administration to get the University to revamp its policies.

Fun Facts: Both McCaughan and Gorski were interviewed by WNDU at Notre Dame football games. Gorski is the younger brother of a former Notre Dame quarterback, Dan Gorski.

Notable Quote: "The University was fixing something that wasn't broken." - McCaughan, about the University's behavior related to tailgating arrests and citations.

Bottom Line

While McCaughan and Gorski seem to have a good idea of what the student body is concerned about - particularly their safety and rights on home football weekends. Their ideas are very lofty but haven't been researched enough to be feasible. They wish to move the student government offices down to the first floor of LaFortune to make the institution more accessible to students. Their smaller initiatives have borderline joke status, or are so minor that they would not better the state of student life on campus. Their lack of experience in student government could be a hindrance in the follow-through on some of their grander ideas.

Grant Schmidt
president
vice president Cynthia Weber

Who They Are
Schmidt, the current student body vice president, is a junior from Knott Hall with a double major in political science and economics. Weber, the current sophomore class council president, is a sophomore from Pasquerilla West majoring in theology and possibly pursuing a second major in political science.

In Their Words

Top Priority: Schmidt and Weber plan to direct their efforts toward the creation of a textbook ISBN database that will allow students to find their books at cheaper prices. The pair believes students seek alternative locations to purchase their books because of the requisite Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore markup on textbooks and the limited availability of used materials.

First Priority: "Hot Grab 'n Go options," Schmidt and Weber have already made the appropriate contacts to add hot items — like soups or Easy Mac — to the Grab 'n Go menu, as well as placing microwaves and toasters for students to use. The initiative is "already set to go," Schmidt said.

In Our Words

Best Idea: The creation and sale of taxi ticket booklets, where one ticket will be worth the flat rate of $2 with the participating companies.

Worst Idea: Schmidt and Weber list diversifying the Notre Dame applicant pool as one of their platform initiatives, which seems to overstep the limits of student government.

Most Feasible Idea: The creation of a textbook ISBN database with the assistance of professors.

Least Feasible Idea: Working with Notre Dame Security Police to change the security gate policy.

Fun Facts: Schmidt boasts being able to de-shell 20 sunflower seeds with his mouth in one minute. He also went to high school with Derek Sanchez, one of his opponents. Weber is an avid guitar player and is very knowledgeable of various name brands of the instrument.

Notable Quote: "Our biggest flaw is that people think that we take (student government) way too seriously." - Schmidt

Bottom Line

Schmidt and Weber's experience in student government speaks for itself. They have already demonstrated significant research into their long list of platform initiatives and have already established the appropriate contacts within the University administration necessary to begin to realize their promises immediately upon taking office. Though some of their ideas are very ambitious, if they are able to accomplish three or four of their long list of goals, Schmidt and Weber will have contributed a great deal to student life at Notre Dame.
The Observer endorses Schmidt-Weber ticket

After reviewing the platforms of the four tickets running for Notre Dame's student body president and vice president, the Editorial Board of The Observer feels that Grant Schmidt and Cynthia Weber, with their institutional knowledge and years of involvement with student government, are best equipped for the positions.

Their experience, ideas, and established relationship with University officials make Schmidt-Weber the ideal choice for student body president and vice president. They have demonstrated extensive research into their platform initiatives and are prepared to make an impact immediately upon taking office.

Schmidt and Weber have outlined several worthwhile plans to improve student life, including a two-tier taxi reform campaign, geared at making transportation to and from campus safer and more convenient for students and continuing the current administration's efforts to increase positive interaction between Notre Dame students and the members of the South Bend community.

Other issues the Schmidt-Weber ticket are prepared to tackle are "subverting the monopoly" the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore has on textbooks and the implementation of a Good Samaritan policy. Schmidt and Weber are in tune with the greater student body's wishes from the overarching issue of off-campus safety to the long-awaited arrival of Easy Mac to Grab 'n Go.

The ticket's slogan — "Founding the Bend" — implies continuity with the body of work accomplished by the Reish-Schmidt administration. And that's a good thing.

If Bob Reish's presidency has done anything, it has increased student interest in its governing body. The current administration has given students a voice in discussions of hot-button issues. Notre Dame has seen a jump in attendance at student government-sponsored events, like the Last Lecture series, which Schmidt and Weber plan to continue.

Their closest competition, Laura Burdick and Derek Sanchez, have demonstrated a clear understanding of student wants and have left a portion of their platform open to student input.

Burdick and Sanchez are sincere in their promises, but perhaps haven't put enough research into all of their proposals to ensure their feasibility. They have already made contributions to student government and are two people that will represent the students well, regardless of their title next year.

James McCaughan and Tom Gorski are straddling the joke fence. Their campaign is focused heavily on changing University disciplinary policies and alerting students of their rights off campus. They also want to reevaluate football gaming procedures.

Many of their initiatives aim to increase student safety, both on and off campus, like establishing a taxi driver identification system and providing students with information about their rights.

Though the Reish-Schmidt administration has opened up the student government offices to their constituents, Schmidt and Weber might seem less approachable than the other candidates.

### Issues at a Glance

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>THE OBSERVER'S TAKE ON THE ISSUES OF THE 2009 ELECTION</th>
<th>COMMUNITY RELATIONS</th>
<th>STUDENT LIFE</th>
<th>STUDENT SAFETY</th>
<th>RELATABILITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burdick &amp; Sanchez</td>
<td>Their campaign features an off-campus blog that will inform students about their neighborhoods.</td>
<td>They want to revamp the Gold Rush program to increase student attendance at non-major sporting events.</td>
<td>One of their major platform initiatives is titled &quot;Safety First,&quot; a broad campaign that involves many aspects of student life, including security off campus and safe tailgating at home football games.</td>
<td>Burdick and Sanchez run on their image as the everyday Notre Dame students. Though they have experience in student government, they also are involved in other groups and clubs and interact with many different members of the student body.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lennon &amp; Harig</td>
<td>They don't address this issue in their platform.</td>
<td>They want to start affirmative action for beautiful women, offering scholarships for those who receive a perfect '10' on an NFToday-like Web site. They also want to reduce sticking of salad bowls in North Dining Hall.</td>
<td>Their initiatives, including a program of indentured servitude, may make campus less safe for certain students.</td>
<td>Lennon and Harig are two Zahm freshmen who have ambitions of ruling student government for infinity. They know how to entertain a crowd and based their campaign on individual conversations with fellow students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McCaughan &amp; Gorski</td>
<td>They include reaching out to the community and bettering students' reputation off campus by working to publicize the good students do, like volunteering or fundraising.</td>
<td>They want to move the student government offices to the first floor of LaFortune to make them more accessible. They want to add laser tag as an interhall sport.</td>
<td>Their campaign is focused heavily on changing University disciplinary policies and alerting students of their rights off campus. They also want to reevaluate football gaming procedures.</td>
<td>McCaughan and Gorski seem like typical Notre Dame guys who want less restrictions and more fun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schmidt &amp; Weber</td>
<td>Their campaign seeks to emphasize the efforts made by the Reish-Schmidt administration to work with members of the South Bend community and give Notre Dame a better name.</td>
<td>They want to collaborate with professors to compile a list of ISBN numbers so students can find their books at lower prices. They also have prepared a list of initiatives that are ready to go, like hot options in Grab 'n Go.</td>
<td>Many of their initiatives aim to increase student safety, both on and off campus, like establishing a taxi driver identification system and providing students with information about their rights.</td>
<td>Though the Reish-Schmidt administration has opened up the student government offices to their constituents, Schmidt and Weber might seem less approachable than the other candidates.</td>
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<tr>
<th>OBSERVER PICK:</th>
<th>SCHMIDT- WEBER</th>
<th>SCHMIDT- WEBER</th>
<th>SCHMIDT- WEBER</th>
<th>BURDICK- SANchez</th>
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One of the ballrooms of scholarship at Notre Dame is the task of finding crossroads between faith and wider culture. The University’s Center for the Arts is showcasing one such conversation: The Films and Faith Weekend of 2009.

Co-sponsored by the Film, Television and Theatre Department, the Department of Theology and the Institute for Latino Studies, the Films and Faith Weekend will focus on a series of films that feature varying religious components and themes. The event is also unique in its focus on Mexican cinema.

Directed as "Contemporary Catholic Filmmakers from Mexico," the weekend’s featured directors include Guillermo del Toro ("The Orphanage"), Alfonso Cuaron ("Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban"), Carlos Reygadas and Alejandro Gonzalez Iñarritu.

Tickets for the films are $6 for the general public, $5 for faculty and staff, $4 for seniors and $3 for students. All films will be shown in the Browning Cinema.

**Children of Men**
(2006) dir. Alfonso Cuaron

Friday, Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. Rated R, 103 minutes

A futuristic saga with a post-apocalyptic, anti-war theme. The film also delves into complex questions about technology, nature and the fate of mankind. The film explores the consequences of both human and technological decisions.

**The Fever,**
Directed by Carlos Reygadas

Friday, Feb. 6 at 9:30 p.m. Rated R, 112 minutes

"Pan’s Labyrinth" tells the story of a young girl caught between the brutality of the Spanish Civil War and the fantastical world of her imagination. Where the film becomes complex, violent and arguably most beautiful is when the two worlds begin to intersect, and eventually collide.

**Silent Night,**
Directed by Alejandro Gonzalez Iñarritu

Saturday, Feb. 7 at 9:30 p.m. Rated R, 143 minutes

"Silent Light" is an unconventional story of love, respect and culture can intersect. Films in Cuanalhuaco, Chihuahua (unless you are not Mexican), "Silent Night" tells the story of a married Mennonite man who falls in love with another woman. Much of the dialogue in the film is in English, because of Russian Mennonites.

Reygadas is well-known for his frequent use of nonprofessional actors in his films, and "Silent Light" proves no exception. Most of the film’s actors are members of Mennonite communities in Canada, Mexico and the United States.

**Pan’s Labyrinth**
(2006), dir. Guillermo del Toro

Pan’s Labyrinth is a fantastical, yet jarring tale set during the Spanish Civil War. The film follows young Ofelia (Ivana Baquero), who discovers an ancient labyrinth on the grounds of a country estate. Soon, a mysterious faun (Doug Jones) begins to appear to her, one who grows increasingly violent and more authoritarian.

How del Toro resolves these two storylines is a profound tragedy, well deserving of the critical acclaim the film received.

**Babel**
(2006), dir. Alejandro Gonzalez Iñarritu

Saturday, Feb. 7 at 9:30 p.m. Rated R, 143 minutes

"Babel," starring Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett, is a multi-narrative film whose interwoven storylines jump from Morocco, to Japan, the U.S., to Mexico and finally to Mexico. Its complex portrayal of international relations and cultural conflict originally garnered the film seven Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture and Best Director.
Associated Press

CINCINNATI — B.J. Raymond scored 24 points and led a 4-point barrage that swept No. 9 Xavier to its 11th straight victory Thursday night, an 83-74 victory over Temple that kept the Musketeers perfect atop the Atlantic 10.

Facing a defense geared to take away the inside, Xavier (20-2, 13-0) made most of its big shots from way outside. Raymond went 5-of-7 from behind the arc during the game's fourth straight 20-point game, and freshman Brad Redford made four 3s as Xavier went 11-of-18 overall.

Raymond was looking for a bookend Top 20 win after his 24-point effort in 15-point win over Temple Saturday at the Cintas Center.

Temple that kept the take away the inside, Xavier that swept No. 9 Xavier to its Atlantic fourth straight 20-point game, and freshman Brad Redford made four 3s as Xavier went 11-of-18 overall.

Raymond went 5-of-7 from behind the arc during his game's fourth straight 20-point game, and freshman Brad Redford made four 3s as Xavier went 11-of-18 overall.

The observation accepted classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 1024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classified is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $5 per item per day including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without inquiring.

For more information, visit ND Student Affairs website at cos.nd.edu/health-safety/services-for-pregnant-students.

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit Support Services for Victims of Rape & Assault at http://osa.nd.edu/health-safety/assault.
NCAA Men's Baseball
USA Today Preseason Poll

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<tr>
<td>North Carolina (12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notre Dame (17)</td>
<td>707</td>
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<td>Northeastern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
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NCAA Men's Hockey
USHOC.com/CBS Poll

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<td>Arizona State</td>
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NCAA Swimming
CSCAA Rankings

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<thead>
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<tbody>
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<td>Stanford</td>
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<td>Arizona</td>
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<tr>
<td>California</td>
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<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>California</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
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**NCAA BASKETBALL**

Tennessee coach Pat Summit gestures to an official during the second half of a game against Oklahoma in Oklahoma City on Monday. Summit’s win against Georgia on Thursday was her 1,000th career victory.

**Vols’ Summit reaches 1,000 wins**

Associated Press
KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — In this season of lowered expectations for Tennessee, Pat Summit still reached unprecedented heights: 1,000 victories.

Summitt became the first Division I basketball coach — man or woman — to win 1,000 career games Thursday night as her 12th-ranked Lady Vols beat Georgia 73-43. It was their second chance in four days at giving their coach her latest and one of her greatest milestones.

These baby Lady Vols (17-4), with seven freshmen on the roster, are nothing like the squads that brought Summit her seventh and eighth national championships in the previous two seasons. This is an inexperienced group that had Summit jok­ ing about whether they would even be up to the task of win­ ning 17 games she needed to reach 1,000 this season. “It’s a hard number to even comprehend,” Summit said.

“It’s a time to reflect on a number of things, the administra­tion saying yes to women’s basketball and giv­ ing us a chance to play on the biggest stage in the women’s game. I appreciate that.

The landmark win came on the court named for Summit, who just keeps racking up achievements for others to chase. All the fans in the arena began standing with about a minute left, and they chanted to “Rocky Top” as orange and white streamers fell from the ceiling.

Summit gave Georgia coach Andy Landers a bag on the sideline.

The Lady Vols were given T-shirts with the number 1,000 on the front, which they pulled on before a celebration on court with Summit.

Tennessee fans raised the celebration Jan. 29, 2006, when Summit won her 900th game in Nashville. She won her first game at home, and Nov. 30, 1990 and 996 — the one that pushed her past Dean Smith for most wins by a Division I coach — came at home. The night she passed Smith, Tennessee removed the court for Summit.

One fan confi­ dent of the win flashed 1,000 on a sign behind the bench as photos of Summit over her 35 seasons flashed on the videoboards during timeouts.

Summit had former Tennessee football coach Phillip Fulmer cheering her from a luxury suite with men’s basketball coach Bruce Pearl also on hand, even though he kept his shirt on with no body paint this time.

Billy Moore, who coached Summit in the 1976 Olympics, and Southeastern Conference commissioner Mike Slive also were in the stands.

**In Brief**

Former Cowboy Glenn picked up on drug charges

IRVING, Tex. — Former Dallas Cowboys receiver Terry Glenn was arrested on public intoxication and marijuana possession charges after appearing disoriented at a hotel, police said Thursday.

The Jan. 25 arrest came after a call of a suspicious person who was wandering the hallways checking door handles, said Irving police officer David Tull.

After determining Glenn was “intoxicated or disoriented,” officers arrested him on a public intoxication charge, Tull said. A subsequent search turned up a small amount of marijuana, lead­ ing to a misdemeanor charge of possessing less than 2 ounces of the drug.

Tull said Glenn was released on bond the morning after the arrest.

Glenn also had outstanding warrants in the Dallas-Fort Worth suburb of Frisco.

Shoulder surgery ends Sixers’ Brand’s season

PHILADELPHIA, Penn. — Elton Brand has four more years as prove to Philadelphia he was no $80 million bust.

Brand’s comeback from a separated right shoulder is over and the player they expected to help win the 2005-06 season of lowered expectations for others to win flashed on the videoboards during timeouts.

Summitt had former Tennessee football coach Phillip Fulmer cheering her from a luxury suite with men’s basketball coach Bruce Pearl also on hand, even though he kept his shirt on with no body paint this time.

Billy Moore, who coached Summit in the 1976 Olympics, and Southeastern Conference commissioner Mike Slive also were in the stands.

**around the dial**

**NBA Basketball**

Golden State at Phoenix
10:30 p.m., ESPN
Judge to throw out key evidence in Bonds steroid probe

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Prosecutors trying to prove Barry Bonds lied when he denied knowingly using performance-enhancing drugs suffered a setback Thursday, with a federal judge saying she might toss some of the strongest evidence against the home-run king.

U.S. District Judge Susan Illston said her "preliminary thoughts" were to exclude from trial three 2000-2001 positive drug tests that prosecutors say belong to Bonds unless there is a direct link that the urine samples came from the former San Francisco Giants slugger.

"If there's no testimony to establish that, I don't think any of them work," Illston said. The only person who can do that seems to be Bonds' personal trainer, Greg Anderson, who spent more than a year behind bars for refusing to speak to a federal grand jury investigating Bonds. And Anderson's attorney, Mark Geragos, has said his client will not testify against Bonds at the trial, scheduled to start March 2.

Without someone to authenticate that the test results were from Bonds' urine, Illston said claims that the tests were Bonds' were "classic hearsay."

Based on the same logic, Illston said she likely also would exclude a doping calendar and other papers seized by federal investigators at Anderson's home.

She was inclined, however, to allow a recorded conversation between Anderson and Bonds' former personal assistant, Steve Hoskins in which they discuss injecting steroids. Hoskins recorded the conversation without Anderson's knowledge.

Illston will review a formal decision on the evidence discussed Thursday at a later date. She also will hold a separate hearing on whether to allow testimony from expert doctors the government hopes would persuade a jury that changes in Bonds' body were due to steroid use.

According to court documents, Bonds tested positive on three separate occasions in 2000 and 2001 for the drug methandienone in urine samples; he also tested positive two of those three times for the steroid nandrolone.

The judge said the positive drug tests — seized during a 2003 raid of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-operative, the headquarters of a large-scale sports doping ring — are a key part of the government's effort to prove Bonds lied when he told a grand jury that he had never knowingly taken performance-enhancing drugs.

The judge and the lawyers didn't discuss a fourth positive steroid test, which occurred in 2004 from a lab used by Major League Baseball to test its players.

The difference between that test and the three positive tests from 2000-2001 is there's no need to authenticate them.

Prosecutors said former BALCO executive James Valente is prepared to testify that Anderson handed him the three biological samples and told him they belonged to Bonds. But the judge said Valente's testimony was not enough to link the samples and Bonds.

Victor Conte, BALCO's founder, has always maintained that Bonds' biological samples were "down and dirty" and unreliable.

These alleged Bonds test results and records not only lack a chain of custody and contain inaccuracies, but they also involve people with no formal training," Conte said in an e-mail Wednesday. "This causes uncertainty and creates doubt regarding the validity of this testing and record keeping evidence."

Without those three positive tests, the government's "next-best evidence is Hoskins' recording, which does not establish the use of undetectable steroids. Hoskins said he made the secret clubhouse recording in front of Bonds' locker in March 2003. Hoskins said he was trying to obtain evidence to show Bonds' skeptical father Bobbie Bonds, a former Major League Batter who died of cancer in August 2003, that his son was using steroids.

Bonds' attorneys offered the judge a more sinister motivation for Hoskins to make the recordings without Anderson's knowledge: blackmail. Hoskins told the FBI shortly after the recording was made that Hoskins was stealing from him by forging his autograph on Bonds' memorabilia.

He wanted to get some protection from the investigation that he knew was coming," Bonds' attorney, Dennis Riordan, said. The FBI dropped its brief investigation of Hoskins soon after without charging him with any crimes.

First indicted in November 2007, Bonds pleaded not guilty for a third time Thursday after the government revised the charges to fix legal technicalities. He now faces 10 counts of making false statements to a grand jury, plus an obstruction of justice charge. Convicted, Bonds faces a sentence between probation and two years in prison.

If her preliminary thoughts stand, the government's case against Bonds will suffer a significant blow — but not a fatal one, legal analysts said.

"It hurts, but the government still has quite a bit of other evidence," Golden Gate University law professor Peter Keane said.

The judge plans to hold a separate court hearing to determine whether the prosecution can introduce the Hoskins recording, said Larry Bowers, the medical director for the United States Anti-Doping Agency. Bonds' attorneys argue that the science of voice identification is inconclusive.

Prosecutors said in court papers that Flowers "will testify that steroid users develop such symptoms as increased muscle mass, extraordinary strength, acne, thinning skin, sudden head growth — is still part of his defense case."

The main evidence against Barry is his "body," Keane said. "That's the whole ballgame."
New England tags Cassel as franchise quarterback

Associated Press

BOSTON — The New England Patriots placed the franchise tag on Matt Cassel on Thursday, making it tougher for other teams to sign the free agent quarterback.

The Patriots might keep him if they have doubts that Tom Brady will be ready for the start of next season after sustaining a serious knee injury in the 2008 opener. If they are confident Brady will be ready, they could trade Cassel rather than pay the $14.65 million offer for 2009 in the franchise designation.

Cassel had a breakout season in 2008, starting 15 games after starting none the seven previous seasons—four with Southern California as backup to Heisman Trophy winners Carson Palmer and Matt Leinart, and three after New England drafted him in the seventh round in 2005.

For now, he remains a free agent, but the Patriots can match any offer made by another team or allow him to sign with another team in exchange for a first-round draft pick. The franchise tag value is the average of the top five paid NFL players at a particular position.

If and when Cassel signs the one-year designation, he will be under contract to the Patriots for one season, at least, because his years of service and commitment resulted in a most impressive performance,” Patriots coach Bill Belichick said in a statement. “We look forward to working with Matt again in 2009.”

David Dunn, Cassel's agent, did not return a phone call seeking comment.

Cassel's stock soared after he took over for Brady and helped the Patriots to an 11-5 record, but New England missed the playoffs.

Brady, who led the Patriots to an unbeaten regular season in 2007 and their fourth Super Bowl in eight years, went to the turf midway through the first quarter on Sept. 7 after taking a hit in the backfield by Kansas City safety Bernard Pollard. The two-time Super Bowl MVP had started 128 games and was replaced by Cassel, who helped the Patriots to a 17-0 win.

Brady underwent surgery for torn ligaments on Oct. 6, then had follow-up surgery to treat a postoperative infection.

On Jan. 21, he said in an interview that his rehabilitation was “going really well,” but he did not offer a timetable for a return to the field. He made his comments on Toronto sports radio station The Fan 590. Brady was not asked during the interview if he expected to be ready for training camp or the start of the regular season.

Teams are allowed to place the franchise tag on one player per season. Without it, Cassel would have become an unrestricted free agent Feb. 27 and best be available to a team with no compensation to the Patriots. The period in which a team can designate a franchise player is Feb. 5-19.

Last season, Cassell finished with 327 completions in 516 attempts (63.4 percent) for 3,493 yards, 21 touchdowns and 11 interceptions. The yardage was the fourth most in the AFC, and the completion percentage was the third best in team history.

If the Patriots keep Brady and Cassel, they would have two quarterbacks taking up nearly 25 percent of the team's salary cap of $123 million for 2009. Brady's cap charge will be $14.62 million, although his actual salary for the year is $5 million with a $3 million bonus for making the roster. Cassel is the 60th player in Patriots history to be designated a franchise player. The others were kicker Adam Vinatieri in 2002 and 2005, defensive back DeNAME SAMUEL in 2007. The Patriots waited until the last day to place the tag on all but Samuel, doing it six days earlier.

In 2002, the Patriots lifted the tag after they reached a multiyear agreement with Vinatieri. But he played under the tag in 2003, then left as a free agent for Indianapolis. In 2003, the Patriots traded Jones to New Orleans for three draft picks.

In 2007, Samuel held out of training camp until the Patriots agreed not to apply the tag to him again in 2008 if he played in 60 percent of the defensive snaps or they won 12 games. Both conditions were met and he left after that season for Philadelphia as a free agent.

NCAA FOOTBALL

SEC reprimands Tenn. coach for Florida comments

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Lane Kiffin’s first game against Florida last fall must have got much more interesting.

The new Tennessee coach was reprimanded by the Southeastern Conference and issued an apology on Thursday for falsely accusing Florida’s Urban Meyer of a recruiting violation.

Earlier in the day, Kiffin told fans at a breakfast celebrating UT’s recruiting class that Meyer violated rules by phoning an unsigned top recruit and saying the wide receiver prospect was on an official visit at Tennessee.

“I love the fact that Urban had to check and will not get him,” Kiffin said, according to WVLT-TV.

NCAA and Southeastern Conference officials said it is not against recruiting rules to contact a recruit while they are on an official visit to another school.

Florida athletic director Jeremy Foley rushed to his team's defense, delivering a quick and harsh response to Kiffin's statement and called for him to apologize.

It is obvious that coach Kiffin doesn’t know that there is not a rule precluding phone contact with a prospect during an official visit on another campus during a contact period,” Foley said in a statement. “His allegations are inappropriate, out of line and, most importantly, totally false. It is completely unfair to Urban Meyer, our coaching staff, our football program and our institution,” he said.

SEC commissioner Mike Slive then reprimanded Kiffin for publicly criticizing Meyer, which is against the league’s code of ethics.

That led to Kiffin's apology.

"In my enthusiasm for our recruiting class, I made some statements that were meant solely to excite those at the breakfast,” Kiffin said. "I apologize to commissioner Mike Slive and the SEC, including Florida, its athletic director, Jeremy Foley and coach Urban Meyer. My comments were not intended to offend anyone at the University of Florida.”

Kiffin’s first game against Meyer’s defending national champion Gators is Sept. 19 in Gainesville, Fla. The Florida-Tennessee rivalry, dominated by the Gator’s since Meyer’s arrival four years ago, is always heated. But Kiffin’s comments will undoubtedly be remembered by Florida and its fans when Tennessee comes to town next season, and become a storyline in the lead up to the game.

Florida is 4-0 against Tennessee under Meyer. Richardson, a Pahokee, Fla., native, signed with the Volunteers on Tuesday, despite having committed in May to the Gators. Another prospect committed to Florida, athlete Marsalis Teague, also signed with the Vols.

Kiffin was hired by Tennessee in November to replace Phillip Fulmer, after being fired four weeks into the NFL season by the Oakland Raiders. It is his first job as head coach of a college team.


**ND TRACK & FIELD**

**Squad sets to host Meyo Invitational**

By JAMES MICHALSKI  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will host the 22nd annual Meyo Invitational this Friday and Saturday in its last home meet before the Big East championships.

Known as one of the premier winter meets in the country, this year's Meyo Invitational will include ranked squads like No. 11 Louisville and No. 15 Michigan. The meet will feature the Meyo Mile, and for the second year, the Ryan Shay 3000-meter run, in honor of the former Irish standout who died suddenly during the Olympics Trials in New York City on Nov. 3, 2007.

Freshmen Kelly Lynch and Joe Miller, and sophomore Paul Springer will represent the Meyo Mile and, for the 22nd annual Meyo Invitational, Senior Dan Clark will run the Michigan... 

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**ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING**

Irish to end season against UM

By MOLLY SAMMON  
Sports Writer

No. 25 Notre Dame will host Michigan Saturday in its final tuneup before the Big East championships in Indianapolis on Feb. 18-21.

"Michigan has a really great program and they are really competitive," senior Claire Hutchinson said. "We're going to have to go into the meet with a really aggressive approach."

Hutchinson, who swims the 500-yard freestyle, 400-individual medley and 200-fly events, will be approaching the meet against Michigan a little differently than previous meets.

"The format of this meet is more favorable for sprinters and we're not competing in two of my main events," Hutchinson said. "So, I'll have to swim some events that I don't normally swim during the season, which is always a challenge."

Though the Wolverines (3-6) are unranked, they just recently dropped from the top 25 rankings and should provide a stiff test for the Irish 26-21.

The last time Notre Dame competed was almost two weeks ago at the Shamrock Invitational, when the Irish hosted Michigan State, Denver and West Virginia. In that meet, sophomore Samantha Maxwell took first in the 200-breaststroke and fellow sophomore Katie Casey took first in the 200-butterfly. The 400- and 200-freestyle relay team, consisting of Megan Farrell, Zeina Shanata, Amy Prestitario and Amywren Miller, also won both of their events.

Though these freestyle relays have been Notre Dame's stronghold for the duration of the season, Michigan also boasts a strong relay lineup. Four more Shamrock Invitational events were first places awarded to the Irish.

With the Big East championships quickly approaching, the Irish have already begun to change their practice routine.

"We're started resting for Big East," Hutchinson said. "Our yartage has gone down, and we've started to focus more on our speed and technique in practice."

Saturday's meet concludes the regular season for both the Irish and the Wolverines.

"It is a great last chance to race before the end of the season," Hutchinson said.

Contact Molly Sammon at mmsammon@nd.edu

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**NCAA WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

Tar Heels defeat Virginia Tech, look ahead to Duke

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Rashanda McCants and eighth-ranked North Carolina have little to worry about offensively as they prepare to face their fiercest rival next week.

McCants scored 23 points to help the Tar Heels beat Virginia Tech 93-77 on Thursday night, sending them into Monday's matchup with fourth-ranked Duke on a three-game winning streak.

Jessica Breland added 20 points for the Tar Heels (20-3, 2-2 Atlantic Coast Conference), who earned a 20-win season for the eighth straight year.

North Carolina seems to have bounced back from a three-game losing streak that began with a 30-point loss against top-ranked Connecticut in a No. 1 vs. No. 2 matchup last month. North Carolina shot 57 percent, led by 16 points at halftime and never let the margin slip below double digits from there.

That's not to say the Tar Heels were at their sharpest. They didn't protect the basketball particularly well and had several defensive lapses to frustrate Hatchell, allowing the struggling Hokies (11-12, 1-5) to hang around much of the way.

"We just weren't communicating and we just had the wrong people on players," Hatchell said. "But also in some of our rotations in our traps, we were getting really rusty out of sync. We didn't have people rotating and covering like we were supposed to."

Ultimately, it didn't matter when the Hokies came to face a Tar Heels team that appears to be finally finding its way.

McCants led the defense by hitting her first nine shots, starting with a 6-for-6 effort in the first half.

"My teammates contributed by getting me easy shots and I just went with it," McCants said. "I felt I was hot, I was just trying to keep myself from thinking (about staying perfect) and just stay in the zone."

McCants finally missed a shot, courtesy of a defender near the top of the key with about 5 minutes left, then missed a turnaround a few minutes later before leaving with her third 20-point game of the season.

"She's big enough to be a post and agile enough to be a guard," Hokies coach Beth Dunkenberger said. "She had pretty clean looks at it, but she certainly was on. Her jumper looked pretty smooth and we didn't have anybody who could stop her."

Breland finished with 11 rebounds, while Italee Lucas backed them by continuing her recent scoring surge. After scoring a career-high 27, followed by 19 in the past two games, Lucas went 7-for-16 from the field to go with eight assists and four steals.

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www.observersportsblog.wordpress.com
**NHL**

**Kings end Capitals’ three-game win streak**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Alex Ovechkin had no mood to celebrate his 200th NHL goal and first against the Los Angeles Kings.

A baseball cap pulled down over his eyes after his 200th goal was in no mood to celebrate his 200th NHL goal and first against the Los Angeles Kings.

But even then we had a little more energy in our legs and a little more confidence in our game — wondering how my personal stats after allowing Washington's winning streak. 15 seconds in. Los Angeles went on to win the game, ending Washington's three-game winning streak.

The Capitals took a 5-3 lead. Ovechkin said the game was in no mood to celebrate.

But Kevin Garnett hung his hat on his head, after missing the previous two games with the flu, scored 16 before ending out with 4:22 left in the fourth quarter.

Bryant, who scored 61 and 36 in his previous two games, hit three 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, the last with 1:30 left in regulation and Pierce in his face to make it 101-100! — the Lakers' first lead of the half. But after Pierce made one of two free throws with 30 seconds left, Bryant tried to shoot over Pierce again and banged it off the rim.

After a timeout with 7.7 seconds left, Pierce dribbled the clock down before Bryant sucked up the buzzer, Edgar House got it and put up a sideovers, one-handed 3-point attempt at the buzzer that was missed.

Bryant missed his last five shots of the game.

**76ers 99, Pacers 94**

Now that Elton Brand is out for the season, Andre Miller and Andre Agassi are ready to take charge of Philadelphia's playoff push.

Securing a victory with defensive stops down the stretch instead of enduring a massive fourth-quarter meltdown is a new first step.

Samuel Dalembert had 18 points and 20 rebounds, and Miller and Igoudala also doubled-doubles to lead the Philadelphia 76ers to a win over the Indiana Pacers on Thursday night.

"We really needed that game," coach Tony Bledsoe said.

The Sixers needed any kind of lift after a disastrous week that included losing in two of the most agonizing ways any team can lose. The big blow came hours before the game.

Brand — their five-year, $30 million power forward — had season-ending surgery on his right shoulder Monday.

"We have to rally around each other and get out there and pick it up. We have to play on both ends of the floor," said guard Jon Green, who had 23 points.

More games like this one will help. All five starters reached double-digits in scoring by the fourth quarter and Philadelphia held off the pesky Pacers to avoid a third straight fourth-quarter collapse.

Miller had 13 points and 12 assists, while Igoudala had 20 points and 11 assists to help the Sixers snap a two-game losing streak.

"We can make it work, we just have to make it work," Igoudala said. "It's as simple as that.

The Sixers wanted a strong showing on their seven-game homestand to thrust them in the thick of the Eastern Conference playoff race. They opened with a win, then lost in two of the most agonizing ways any team can lose. They changed that with their final 18 shots from the floor and coughed up a fourth-quarter lead in a loss against New Jersey. Then they led the entire fourth against the NBA's best Celtics until Ray Allen went it with a 3-pointer with five-tenths of a second left.

Philadelphia nearly blew it against Indiana.

The Sixers opened the fourth with an 11-point lead and watched it quickly whittle away. Troy Murphy scored on a driving layup and Mike Dunleavy followed with a 3-pointer to pull Indiana within two.

Dalembert, though, went up strong under the basket for a basket and Miller added a layup to make it a six-point game and give the Sixers some breathing room down the stretch. The often-erratic Dalembert abused Indiana down low and was only two rebounds shy of his career high.


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**Men's Swimming**

SMC, O'Lei Jen ND for exhibition

By Michael Bryan

The Irish will have their final meet of the regular season Saturday when they take on Pitt and Virginia at the University of Pittsburgh Aquatic Center before heading to the ACC Championship next week.

The meet will be the final tuneup for Notre Dame, which traveled to Indianapolis Feb. 18-21 for the Big East championships.

The meet will also be the second consecutive at home for the Irish after sweeping three teams at the Aquatic Center Invitational. Notre Dame picked up victories over West Virginia, Denver and Michigan State after winning four events in the final two meets.

"In terms of preparation, we told the team I didn't imagine a better preparation for the conference championships than to have a three-session meet every event in the conference championship. We're really excited to go into the last event," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "Everybody stepped up big time, which made it a giant step for our team.

Notre Dame junior freestyler John Lytle said the Irish have been steadily preparing for the conference championships in practice.

"We have started to taper a little, and go into rest for the biggest meet of the year," Lytle said.

The friendly meet and final preparation for Notre Dame will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

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**Lakers edge Celtics in overtime**

Trios of Sixers each post-double-doubles in win

Associated Press

Boston — Ray Allen was still on the floor, knocked on his back, when the Los Angeles Lakers began hugging and chest-bumping the 2008 NBA Championship banner that was presented to them for their expense.

"We would have come here last year with this kind of attitude," said Paul Gasol, who scored 24 points with 14 rebounds Thursday night to lead the Lakers to a 110-109 overtime victory over Boston.

"Nobody backed down," he added. "We were as physical as anybody.

In a fashion of an NBA finals in which the Celtics outmuscle the Lakers to the title, Lamar Odom made a pair of free throws with 16 seconds left in overtime and Los Angeles held on with physical defense against Paul Pierce and Allen that prevented either All-Star from getting off a clean shot.

The loss snapped the Celtics' 12-game winning streak and dropped them to 0-2 against the Western Conference. Boston trails the Lakers by percentage points for the best overall record, 13-14, and a tiebreaker for home advantage to a deciding factor — if both make it back.

"It would be great," Pierce said.

Kevin Garnett hung his hat on his head, after missing the previous two games with the flu, scored 16 before ending out with 4:22 left in the fourth quarter.

Bryant, who scored 61 and 36 in his previous two games, hit three 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, the last with 1:30 left in regulation and Pierce in his face to make it 101-100! — the Lakers' first lead of the half. But after Pierce made one of two free throws with 30 seconds left, Bryant tried to shoot over Pierce again and banged it off the rim.

After a timeout with 7.7 seconds left, Pierce dribbled the clock down before Bryant sucked up the buzzer, Edgar House got it and put up a sideovers, one-handed 3-point attempt at the buzzer that was missed.

Bryant missed his last five shots of the game.
Bayliss continued from page 24

were against top-20 teams and we beat a really good Texas Tech team in Tulsa on Saturday.

Freshmen Casey Watt and Sam Keeton have come up big for the Irish in their two victories, as Keeton is unbeaten (5-0) in singles play.

"It has been great so far, but this was not unexpected," Bayliss said. "He has the ability to take the ball early and take away his opponent's time, so that has made him difficult for teams to prepare for. Being a lefty is always an advantage and he learning how to maximize that with each match."

In Sunday's opener, the Irish will try for a repeat of last year's matchup with Duke in Durham, N.C., when Notre Dame snuck by the Blue Devils 4-3.

Sophomore David Anderson won the clinching match for the Irish last season, earning a victory at No. 3 singles.

Bayliss said that if any of his players are extended in matches, the Irish will travel to Michigan or a future "underdog." Notre Dame could not get defensive stops down the stretch as Bearcats guards Deontrae Virginia and Larry Davis torched them for 34 and 21 points respectively. The UCLA backcourt of seniors Darren Collison and fresh- men Jeff Mullin figures to present just as much of a challenge to Notre Dame's defense.

"We've got to be able to play defense, get rebounds and stop teams from putting up 90-100 points," Bayliss said. "We've got a highly-skilled team and we just got to play them like we should.

Buckeyes continued from page 24

Saturday. They scored four times in the first 10 minutes of the game.

"We're going to have to be patient. We're going to have to defend well because they're a very good offensive team," Jackson said. "They've got the most goals scored in the conference. From a statistical standpoint, this team is of the same caliber as a Michigan or a Miami."

"From a statistical standpoint, [Ohio State] is of the same caliber as a Michigan or a Miami."

Jeff Jackson Irish coach

The Buckeyes have been tough in their own rink this year with only two losses in Value City Arena. Ohio State, however, have had no trouble dealing with life on the road. Notre Dame lost an away game since its season opener against Denver — a 1-0-1 series.

"We've just got to play our game," Condra said. "This year they've got a highly-skilled team and we just got to play them like we should."

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Pink continued from page 24

nobody can find a bad word about her and that's really something to be said in the coaching fraternity."

And in her memory, the Irish are looking to sell-out against DePaul McGraw said.

And a sell out home crowd could be just what the Irish need to break out of their current rut, having lost three of their last four games.

The match against the Blue Demons marks the beginning of the final stretch in the regular season.

"...I'll be last seven games of the season are really important for everybody and we're not playing as well as I would like right now, but we've got a lot of freshmen who are starting to hit the wall this time of the year."

"We'll be able to get together and have a strong finish."

Notre Dame last faced DePaul on Jan. 6 on the road. The Irish won 86-62. But even with that win under their belt, Notre Dame isn't counting on a win. Not even past injuries to stars Natasha Williams and Deirdre Naughton has McGraw feeling certain.

"They're back to full strength now and I think they're playing great basketball," McGraw said. "I think they're one of the hottest teams in the conference, along with Pittsburgh. I think those two teams are really coming on strong right now."

Naughton and DePaul step onto the court Sunday coming off a five-game conference winning streak. A large part of their success has come from the 3-point line. And with Notre Dame not exactly on their defensive game as of late, that could mean trouble for the Irish.

"I think rebounding is always going to be a problem for us, we always have to work on that," McGraw said. "Defensively, we've been a little more off than I would like. We have to play better defensively, we've got to guard the 3-point line a little better, and certainly DePaul is going to challenge that. They're a great 3-point shooting team."

McGraw and the Irish hope that guarding the 3-point line will help secure another win against DePaul. Notre Dame and DePaul square off at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Contact Deirdre Kranula at dkranula@nd.edu

UCLA continued from page 24

as the Irish. In just over a week, the Bruins have beaten California, Stanford and USC by at least 15 points each.

Meanwhile, the Irish have not won since a Jan. 10 matchup against Seton Hall. The Irish landed in Los Angeles Thursday and might be better-suited than the Bruins for Saturday's 10 a.m. Pacific time start, 1 p.m. Eastern.

Still, the Irish will need to play much better than they have in order to topple UCLA. This game was widely-hyped at the beginning of the season but now Notre Dame appears to be an obvious underdog.

The Irish scoring was more balanced Wednesday against Cincinnati as Ryan Ayers came off the bench to drop 14 points and Zach Hillesland chipped in 11. But Notre Dame could not get defensive stops down the stretch as Bearcats guards Jeantae Virginia and Larry Davis torched them for 34 and 21 points respectively.

The UCLA backcourt of seniors Darren Collison and freshman Jeff Mullin figures to present just as much of a challenge to Notre Dame's defense.

"We've got to be able to play defense, get rebounds and stop teams from putting up 90 on us."

Zach Hillesland senior forward

The matchup against UCLA will be Notre Dame's final non-conference game of the regular season. After returning home, the Irish will play eight more Big East opponents.

Contact Fran Tulan at ftulan@nd.edu

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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS
ND finally makes home debut

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

The Irish have already managed to quality for the ITA National Team Indoor Championships and they haven't yet played at home.

Notre Dame (3-0) will take on No. 18 Michigan in its home opener at 4 p.m. today at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

Notre Dame earned its slot in next weekend's Indoor Championships in Madison, Wis., by upsetting No. 14 Arkansas 4-1, last Sunday. The Razorbacks' sole point was won by the No. 2 singles player for the country. With this upset, Notre Dame moved up to No. 14 in the rankings.

Some of the Irish are indeed used to high rankings, as the doubles team of senior Kelly Tefft and freshmen Kristy Frilling are currently ranked as the nation's top doubles team. The duo only appears to be getting stronger, as it won twice last weekend, including an 8-1 victory over the eighth-ranked Arkansas doubles team.

Following that performance, Frilling won the Big East women's tennis player of the week award.

Today, Notre Dame will try to avenge the upset loss Michigan handed the Irish when the two squads met last year.

"Michigan is a really good team," the Irish singles player Katie Potts said. "They are very comparable to the team we'll see at the Indoor Championships. It should be a pretty tough match to watch."

Having leaped into the top five of the rankings with the win over Arkansas, the Irish know next weekend will be filled with stiff competition.

"We are one of the bigger underdogs to get to the tournament," Potts said. "A decisive win would be nice to add into the tournament with."

Before the team goes to meet the freshmen at Palm Beach State, they will dispatch Michigan — a team that has struggled all season.

Senior Kelly Tefft returns a shot during a match against Marquette last April 3.

Junior Angela Berman returns a shot during a match against Notre Dame last March 18.

"We are just excited to see how we match-up, not only with Michigan, but also with the teams in Madison," Potts said.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmeri@nd.edu

BANQUET
Banquet continued from page 24

middle of it," said Scioscia. "It's going to be a lot of fun to watch them. It's a lot easier to be asked to come here."

Samarzija entertained the crowd with stories from his Notre Dame baseball and football career, and also discussed his past season with the Chicago Cubs. When asked about the Cubs World Series drought, Samarzija denied any belief in the superstitions surrounding the club.

"I don't think any of the players think about curse. Do you believe in curses? I don't." Samarzija said. "I'm sure everyone would rather be talking about X's and O's than fairytails."

The former dual-sport star has also recently given back to Notre Dame, establishing a scholarship in the name of his mother, who passed away when Samarzija was in high school.

The DuBora Samarzija Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a student who has suffered through the loss of a loved one, while continuing to strive towards academic excellence.

Samarzija concluded his speech by making some predictions for the coming year, which included a college World Series berth for the Irish baseball team. He backed this prediction with a World Series title for the Cubs and a national championship for the Notre Dame football team.

He also parted with some final words for another two-sport Irish star following in his footsteps — sophomore wide receiver and outfielder Golden Tate.

"Golden, you might break all my receiving records, and that's cool. I wish you all the best. But you don't look as good doing it," Samarzija said.

Scioscia added advice he learned from his mother before embarking on his professional baseball career.

"She said, 'Michael, if you want to be a leader, the first person you have to lead is yourself,'" Scioscia said. "You have to remember to carry yourself and lead yourself first."

Athletic director Jack Swarbick was also in attendance and made a short speech before introducing Irish coach Duggie Schrage.

"I've been to a lot of sporting events all over the world — Super Bowls and Olympics," Swarbick said. "But my favorite event of all time is the College World Series. And this year I plan on going back on my way back."

Attendees listened to the speakers while enjoying a "ballpark" style dinner, and received team tickets, paraphraphed photos of the speakers and a media guide.

The Irish will start their season on Feb. 20, traveling to Tampa, Fla., to play in the first annual Big East-Big Ten Challenge. Notre Dame's first opponent will be Michigan State.

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SMC BASKETBALL
Belles hit road again to face Alma

By ALEX WEST
Sports Writer

After just one home game followed a four-game road trip to the highway again this weekend to visit conference foe Alma (7-12, 5-6 MIAA), a team that has won six of its last seven games on the road.

The Belles (12-8, 10-2 MIAA) have an 86-54 victory over Saint Mary's in both points (14 per game). But Henley said Alma will have the height and will be able to run with the Belles.

"It

"Anytime you play four games on the road, it's going to take a toll on you," said Henley, whose team trails first-place Hope by just half a game in the conference standings. "It was great being at home in front of our fans with Owls. We certainly feed off of that.

The Belles, winners of four of five, will look to avoid an upset against Alma (7-12, 5-6 MIAA), a team that has won three of four.

We are still focusing on taking one game at a time as we approach the tournament," Henley said. "With Alma, I feel we have the height advantage with our inside game."

But Henley said Alma will present trouble because of its team speed.

"They have speed and will be able to run with us," she said. "Alma does a great job of playing a lot of different defenses to throw you off."

The Scots will have to try and stop Belles senior forward Erin Newsom, who leads Saint Mary's in both points (14 per game) and rebounds (eight per game).

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FENCING
New No. 1 to host competition

By CHRIS MASOU
Sports Writer

For the first time this season, the Irish fencers will have a taste of what it be to be No. 1. A top-ranked men (17-0) and women (17-2) will host the Notre Dame Duals this weekend in the ITA National Team Indoor Championships and they are currently off an unprecedented perfection with the ITA National Team Indoor Championships and they are currently off an unprecedented performance.

The Northwestern Duals last weekend, where both the men's and women's teams knocked off top-ranked Penn State.

"Teams are coming after fall work, and they are showing their cards," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "I told the fencers to keep their focus. We are in the midst of the season, not just because we have a lead doesn't mean we are sure we are going to win.

This weekend's 14-team field will include No. 7 Stanford and the men's competitors from No. 3 Ohio State.

We have to keep focus. Everyone is talking about 'Oh, you beat the No. 1 team, you beat the No. 2 team, but that was just a preseason coaches' poll,' Bednarski said. "Who knows how strong Stanford is? Now on the strip we will see who is really stronger."

But the biggest surprise of the season may be the rapid adjustment of the talented freshmen and sophomore fencers to the collec-

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**ND BASKETBALL**

**Big East blues**

Irish head west trying to stop six-game streak

By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sport Editor

Hopefully for the Irish, a respite from the cold Midwest weather is just what they need. Because really, as Notre Dame travels west to take on No. 12 UCLA Saturday, it seems like that’s the only thing the team has going for it.

The Irish have lost six straight games for the first time since the 1993-94 season and could be all but out of NCAA Tournament contention with a few more losses.

And a win will not come easily this weekend as Notre Dame heads into storied Pauley Pavilion to face the Bruins, who are 18-4 overall and 12-1 at home.

Airing winning four of its last five contests, UCLA looks to be headed in the opposite direction.

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**HOCKEY**

Squad looks to clinch CCHA tourney bye with win

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

Notre Dame winds down one of the toughest stretches of its season this weekend in Columbus, Ohio, as the Irish take on the high-flying Buckeyes.

No. 15 Ohio State (17-8-3, 10-7-3 CCHA) currently sits tied for the all important fourth place spot in the CCHA standings with 26 points.

The top four teams in the league receive an opening round bye in the playoffs.

With a win this weekend, the No. 2 Irish (20-4-3, 14-3-3 CCHA) can clinch one of those top four spots. Two wins would give the Irish 38 points in the league, putting them out of reach of all but three teams.

“We have to recognize the situation where we are for the playoffs,” Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. “We want to claim home ice in the second round of the playoffs, and we’ve got to win some games before we do that. At this point, every game is essential, and we can’t let down until we achieve our objective.”

The Buckeyes are eight points behind first-place Notre Dame with eight games left on the schedule. Ohio State needs to pull off a few upsets with No. 4 Michigan and No. 8 Miami still looming ahead.

“The Irish are coming off their own showdown with Michigan last weekend. The Buckeyes like to move the puck quickly and have scored 100 goals so far this season with their fast-paced offense. Notre Dame has slowed down its offensive production in the past few weeks. The team hasn’t scored more than three goals in a game since Dec. 13 against Bowling Green. Ohio State put six past one of the CCHA’s top goal-tenders, Chad Johnson, in a win over Alaska last month.”

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**MEN’S TENNIS**

ND to host a pair Sunday

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will host a pair of matches Sunday, taking on Duke at noon and Toledo at 6 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

No. 32 Notre Dame is coming off a weekend that saw it fall early at the ITA Nationals in Oklahoma to No. 12 Tulsa, and then rebounded for a 4-0 victory over No. 20 Texas Tech.

“We have played pretty well thus far in our season,” coach Bobby Bayliss said. “Nobody is happy with a 2-4 record, but we certainly played the strongest six matches of the season nationally. Five of our matches.

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**BASEBALL**

Samardzija, Scioscia speak at annual dinner

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

Just two weeks before the start of the season, appearances by former Irish star Jeff Samardzija and Los Angeles Angels manager Mike Scioscia helped build excitement for the coming year at Notre Dame’s eighth annual Opening Night Dinner Thursday.

The major leaguers addressed a packed crowd in the Joyce Fieldhouse, sharing stories and advice from their playing and coaching careers. Samardzija and Scioscia also addressed the Irish team.