University remembers Rabbi Signer

Theology prof., who died Jan. 10, studied relationship between Judaism and Catholicism

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
Assistant News Editor

Friends, students and colleagues commemorated the life of Rabbi Michael Signer, the Abrams Professor of Jewish Thought and Culture at Notre Dame who died Saturday Jan. 10, at a memorial service Monday.

Many speakers remembered Signer’s spiritual personality and lauded his work studying the Christian and Jewish faiths and its impact on the University and the wider community.

“You acquired an empathy for all things Catholic, even though you were not Catholic,” Theology Department Chair John Cavadini said in an eulogy for Signer.

Although the two disagreed on the fundamental beliefs of their religions, Cavadini said he always felt comfortable engaging in theological discussions with Signer. Signer considered other beliefs with respect, even if he did not agree, he said.

“Even though you did not believe in it, you gave affectionate statements of disagreement,” he said. “That was the greatness of your soul.”

Cavadini joked that Signer spoke many languages, and one of them was Catholic.

“You knew the difference between Jesuits and Dominicans,” he said.

Signer studied the complicated relationship between Catholicism and Judaism and inspired positive dialogue about the differences, Cavadini said. He said when Signer was hired, he knew Notre Dame was not only getting a scholar, but also a teacher.

University President Fr. John Jenkins said the University was lucky to have Signer as a faculty member.

“He allowed us to build bridges both spiritually and intellectually between the great Jewish religion and this Catholic University,” he said.

Jenkins said Signer made the school a richer and better place and participated fully in Notre Dame life.

“It’s not a statistic,” she said. “It is not an amount of money you have to make over the line or under the line. It’s people.”

Students and staff spent part of their lunch hour listening to a discussion sponsored by the Saint Mary’s College Justice Education Program and the Office for Civic and Social Engagement in Stapleton Lounge Monday from 12 to 1 p.m.

As the second part of a spring lecture series commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the panel focused on the right to live free from the hardship of poverty.

The discussion featured panelists who have experience living in poverty, four of whom were guests from Hope Ministries and the Center for the Homeless in South Bend. For privacy reasons, the panelists requested that The Observer not use their names.

“A guest from Hope Ministries who identified herself as Rose described how she turned to first light on the actual issue at hand,” she said. Rose also said her task force would protect students who have been drinking from getting into trouble while helping an intoxicated friend who is hurt or sick, he said.

The Mendoza College of Business moved up one spot in BusinessWeek’s annual survey of undergraduate business programs, according to the rankings in the latest edition of the magazine available on newsstands yesterday.

Now second only to the University of Virginia, Notre Dame’s program was ranked third last year, seventh in 2007 and third in 2006.

Since being ranked third, the College of Business adopted...
**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Don't Panic**

I’m dedicating this column to all the seniors who don’t quite have their schedules settled after May 17. For those who have jobs or graduate school already figured out, I am truly happy and excited for you. However, you don’t need any help, so I’ll see you at Fever on Thursday.

For the rest of you (the majority), things are starting to get a little awesomely busy, and you need to know what you have a chance to prove yourself or herself. It isn’t just Arts & Letters students having a hard time either. The big financial services outfits can’t afford to pay those big signing bonuses like they used to, and even some engineers have been left scratching their heads wondering where to go next. The Career Center does a great job, but they can’t fix the job market for you (though I am sure they would if they could). At this point sitting in a corner and sobbing might seem like a sensible option, but it won’t make you feel better or help you get that awesome first job you want. So what are seniors in limbo supposed to do?

First, don’t panic. There is still time to look and weigh options. Did you apply to grad school as a “backup” finding a job? Well, graduate school is hardly a “backup.” It’s a way to improve your skill set, get some more real-world experience, and continue hitting the bars every night during the week (come on, Master of Divinity students, don’t think I don’t notice you sobbing every night).

But, if you feel that you have gotten yourself in a corner and need to take a really undesirable job not necessarily those of The Observer.

**CORRECTIONS**

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Jim McGuire at jimcguir@nd.edu

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**IN BRIEF**

A lecture titled "Environmeni and Revolution in 19th-Century Mexico: A Historical Case Study of Agrarian Reform and its Implications for the New Left of Latin America Today" will take place today at 6:30 p.m. in Room C103 of the Hesburgh Center.

The film "Slumdog Millionaire" will be shown at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center today at 8 p.m., Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Friday at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., and Saturday at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Xabier Agirre Aranburu, senior analyst, Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in the Netherlands, is being honored with the Krue Institute’s 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award in the Hesburgh Auditorium today at 4:15 p.m during a lecture called “Make Law, Not War: On the Power of Truth, Law, and Justice.”

The Notre Dame Chamber Players are holding a concert to benefit the South Bend Community School Corporation. All proceeds will go to the purchase of musical instruments for various schools in the district. Sponsored by the Department of Music, the concert will take place Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $10 for adults and $5 for students.

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

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**OFFBEAT**

**Andrian Dancy, center, former Notre Dame basketball standout and member of Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame, was honored for his service to the program Monday night.**

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**Fever**

**A sasquatch and a chinchilla.**

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**Maggie Kendzicky**

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**Don Whiteley**

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**Sam Tuftsak**

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**Lizzy Malloy**

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**A ferret and a duck.**

---

**A chipmunk and a nighttime.**

---

**A hippo and platypus.**

---

**A shitzu and a bulldog.**

---

**Jim McGuire**

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**Scene Writer**

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**Oxycin pill from an undercover officer.**

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**A feline_with fake drugs.**

---

**Police: Man used fake money to buy fake drugs.**

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**A woman who tried to cool out his hyper cat by stuffing her into a box with fake plastic glass box in which the cat had been stuffed.**

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**Coryn Kendzicky**

---

**A spraycat inside bong.**

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**Maggie Kendzicky**

---

**Jim McGuire**

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**A stuffed cat inside a duct-taped, plastic glass box in which the cat had been stuffed.**

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**Sgt. Andy Stebbing said.**

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**Sheriff's deputies.**

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**Carroll**

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**Freshman Le Mans**

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**Junior Stanford**

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**Freshman Le Mans**

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**Freshman Holy Cross**

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**Le Mans**

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**Aferret and a duck.**

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**A chipmunk and a nighttime.**

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**A hippo and platypus.**

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**Oregon**

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**San Francisco**

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**Boston**

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**New York**

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**Philadelphia**

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**Phoenix**

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**Atlanta**

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**The Observer**

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**PAGE 2**

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**Tuesday, March 3, 2009**
Graduate School dean passes away

Special to The Observer

Terrence J. Akai, senior associate dean of the Graduate School, died Saturday in his home. He was 59 years old.

A native of Guyana, South America, Akai joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1976 as a research associate in aerospace and mechanical engineering. Holding concurrent appointments in that department, computer science and engineering, and mathematics, Akai taught some 15 courses during his career, including a popular mathematics course based on a seminal and widely adopted textbook of which he was the author, "Applied Numerical Methods for Engineers." He had received every possible teaching award at Notre Dame by the time he was appointed assistant dean of the Graduate School in 1994. As senior associate dean, Akai was principally responsible for graduate admissions, administering thousands of applications each year.

"Terry Akai was both colleague and friend to countless people at Notre Dame," said Gregory Sterling, dean of the Graduate School. "His death is as much a personal as a professional loss for the graduate school and the University as a whole. We will miss his wise counsel, his grace under pressure, and his ability to find a solution to every problem. Our thoughts and prayers are with Terry's family and friends during this difficult time."

Akai was both collegial and droll and gregarious. Along with a remarkable administrative efficiency, he always had time for an anecdote or a joke.

A memorial Mass for the Notre Dame community will be held on March 16, at 3:30 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

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Student Affairs is now accepting nominations for the Denny Moore Award For Excellence in Journalism

Candidates must be seniors who exemplify the qualities for which Denny Moore was known, including personal integrity and character, commitment to Notre Dame, and writing ability.

Candidates may be nominated by faculty, staff, or fellow students.

For a nomination form, please visit our website at: http://osa.nd.edu/get-involved/student-activities-and-awards/denny-moore-award/

Nominations are due by Thursday, March 5, 2009.

Please recycle The Observer.
Circle K serves Holy Cross Sisters
40 students dedicate time to organize events at Saint Mary's Convent

By MOLLY MADDEN
New Word

A group of Notre Dame students have been making a difference in the community by sponsoring Circle K, a group of retired Sisters of the Holy Cross.

"These kids are just phenome - nal," Lee Ann Moore, director of activities and volunteer services at the Saint Mary's Convent, said. "They are just so much a part of us.

Circle K, a service club at Notre Dame, dedicates a few hours a week to assisting the sisters at the convent.

"The sisters enjoy talking to them and look forward to their visits immensely," Lee Ann Moore, director of activities and volunteer services at Saint Mary's Convent said. "They are just so much a part of us.

The group became involved with the Convent six years ago when former Notre Dame student and Circle K President Jake Teigen approached the sisters about working with the sisters.

Teigen performed community service at the convent for a semester.

Signer continued from page 1

Signer to Notre Dame was one his "finest and fairest" achievements when he was head of the theology department. Signer was a professor, director of the Notre Dame Holocaust project and a fellow in the University's Medieval Institute, he said.

But McBrien also remember - ed casual conversations with Signer in addition to his intellectual legacy.

"Michael and I had a common interest in film," he said. "We would give our personal reviews and recommendations to each other." Signer will be missed by both the wider community and Notre Dame in a letter that was read at the service.

"The presence of such a dis - tinguished Jesuit at Notre Dame...is among the highest significance," D'Arcy said.

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@nd.edu

ResNet offers tips for virus protection

By ASHLEY CHARNEY
New Word

A functioning computer is prized possession on a college campus. Kathy Hausmann, Coordinator of Student Computing at Saint Mary's College, explained ways to pro - tect them from malicious soft - ware at the Computer Security Awareness workshop in Vanden Venne Monday evening.

Hausmann discussed threats such as viruses, trojans, spyware and malware, phishing and spam as well as topics like file sharing, passwords, physical security, backing up data and recipients.

Trojans, a type of malware that masquerades as a desirable function but in reality perfor - mals malicious functions, are especially dangerous because they are difficult to detect and both PCs and Macs are susceptible to them, Hausmann said.

"If you have trojan, whoever designed that trojan has complete access to your machine, including your passwords and credit card information," Hausmann said.

"If you have a trojan, whoever designed that trojan has complete access to your machine, including your passwords and credit card information," Hausmann said.

She gave tips on how pro - tecting your computer from trojans and viruses, such as securing your anti-virus soft - ware is up-to-date. This software is available to faculty, students and staff free of charge on the ResNet Web site.

"If you receive an e-mail, if it's not personalized, don't click on the links. Don't click on the attachments. They are probably viral," Hausmann said.

She addressed Facebook and the privacy issues involved with the popular networking Web site. She recommended that users remove their Facebook pages from Google, protect their wall posts and do not connect with strangers and choose their friends carefully.

"Schedule weekly backups, use your calendar if you have one," Hausmann said.

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Hausmann emphasized the importance of backing up data - bases that contains the e - mails that out - line personal information. Le - gal down - loadings is grounds for being removed from the network, Hausmann said.

If Meadows comes into the office with file sharing soft - ware, the systems will be removed, he will do anything else, she said.

"If you have trojan, whoever designed that trojan has complete access to your machine, including your passwords and credit card information," Hausmann said.

Contact Ashley Charney at acharn@101.saintmarys.edu
On year-old smuggler Abu Mahmoud, leaning foot stretch of tunnel that had collapsed from Gaza's blockaded borders say they'd over a shaft as workers tried to clear a lapses.

the second tion.

rather import legally through open crossings rather have open borders than handouts.

sacked and burned the imperial Summer Palace relics called the fake bids

jail cells than it has into programs for ex­

pledged billions of dollars for war-ravaged auctioned at

Anthony reacting to news that release of a jailhouse video of

ever $1 it spends on incarceration, a

attorneys' opening statements set for Tuesday.

To the government in the biggest shakeup in

the most sweeping leadership change in the U.S. and built his

homecoming of elderly Robert Fidel Castro a year ago. The changes replaced some key Fidel loyalists, including the longtime Florida mother, who will go on trial in October on a charge of

Cuba's Personal Secretary before

the most sweeping leadership

Perez was replaced by his

Lugo said.

The most sweeping leadership shakeup in years was dropped on

Cuba's recently named foreign minister, with men closer to Fidel, and built his

Fidel's personal secretary before

At the annual Philadelphia Flower

erode serious harm or death.

called off classes

He didn't have enough notice. Mayor Michael Bloomberg brushed off the criticism and praised the
city's storm response, which included dispatching thousands of workers and 1,400 plows to work around the
clock to clean New York's 6,000 miles of streets.

"It's like camping from here to Los Angeles and back," Bloomberg said at a news conference, standing in front

of an orange snow plow at a garage.

Washington. Perez Roque was replaced by his own deputy, Bruno Rodriguez, who previously served as Cuba's ambassador to the United Nations. Officials announced no new post for Perez Roque.

The surprise shake-up did not sit well with some Cubans, including Carmen Elizondo, 45, a housewife with three children who said she heard the announcement on the news.

"If it left me feeling cold," Elizondo said. "I don't understand. Why make these changes, more than anything, in Felipe? I had a lot of confidence in Felipe. I don't know any of those they put in place."

Castro shakes up Cuban government

Havana — President Raúl Castro abruptly named some of Cuba's most powerful officials Monday, remaking the government in the biggest shakeup since he took over his ailing brother Fidel Castro a year ago.

The changes replaced some key Fidel loyalists, including the longtime foreign minister, with men closer to Raúl. They also reduced the enormous powers of a vice president credited

with saving Cuba's economy after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

But analysts saw no immediate indication

that the changes were related to hopes for closer U.S.-Cuban ties now that both countries have new presi­

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Several ministries were consolidated in response to President Raúl Castro's calls for a "more compact and func­
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Panel
continued from page 1
how the Center has helped her escape a life on the streets.
"I had hit rock bottom," she said. "I lost my kids, everything. They took them away. I had to get them back slowly but surely.
"With the help of Hope Ministries, Rose said she had been able to prove her worth to society. She graduated close to the top of her class, completed a month-long college education, and now lives in her own apartment with her daughter, who also resides at Hope Ministries.
"It's my home," she said, of Hope Ministries. "It's my family. They made me feel welcome and accepted me as I made my way from the moment we arrived.
Another guest from Hope Ministries who identified herself as May shared her story. "It's the thing that holds you up.
Faith allows public servants to return to the Center for the Homeless because it gives direction to your life," she said. "That's why I'm here.
Bill Purcell said that according to Hope Ministries and Rose said she has been able to improve her life and her job in public service.
"It's important to remember it's always been hard," he said. "You know, it's always been hard."
Dow Jones 6,763.29 -299.64
Up 327 Down 59 Composite Volume: 1,344,805,962

AMEX 1,260.73 -71.67
NASDAQ 1,322.85 -54.99
NYSE 3,466.58 -256.05
S&P 500 700.82 -34.27
NIKKEI (Tokyo) 7,204.89 -75.26
FTSE 100 (London) 5,625.83 -204.26

COMPANY %CHANGE AGAIN PRICE
CTGTRXGROUP INC (C) -20.00 -0.30 1.20
BK OF AMERICA (BAC) -8.10 -0.32 3.63
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY) -4.50 -0.33 70.60
GEN ELECTRIC CO (GE) 10.69 0.91 17.60

Treasury
10-YEAR NOTE -4.61 -0.12 2.91
13-WEEK BILL -8.00 -0.02 0.20
30-YEAR BOND -1.96 -0.07 3.49
5-YEAR NOTE 7.92 0.10 1.80

Light crude ($/bbl.) 5.93 401.15
Gold ($/oz.) 1450.44 -31.92
Pork bellies (cents/lb.) 75.73 79.10

Exchange Rates
Yen 97.3300
Euro 1.2594
Canadian dollar 1.2867
British pound 1.4054

In Brief
Insurance giant reveals large losses
WASHINGTON—A new definition of desperate times: Even as the government threw a stunning new $30 billion lifeline to American International Group on Monday, the beleaguered insurance giant confirmed it had lost more than $34 billion in August, $62 billion in a single three-month period.
And more and more billions of federal dollars are being spent to be shoved into the pockets of AIG, which alone is worth $160 billion. Its market capitalization.

The source of trouble for AIG, which has 74 million customers worldwide and operations in more than 130 countries, is its business insuring mortgage-backed securities and other debt against default. That business imploded once the credit crisis struck with force.

Analytic: Rebound still months away
WASHINGTON—Consumer spending and incomes rose more than expected at the start of the year, but the gains were seen as fleeting in light of the recession and the waves of layoffs battering Americans.

Two other reports Monday on manufacturing and construction also showed little reason for optimism. Analysts said any start to an economic rebound is at best months away, with the most pessimistic predicting a sustained recovery won't begin until next year.

Wall Street plunged anew after a sobering earnings report from American International Group on Monday, the beleaguered insurance giant lost $61.7 billion in the fourth quarter, the biggest quarterly loss in its history.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell below 7,000 for the first time in 11 years. The credit crisis and recession have stretched more than half of the Dow's value since it hit a record-high over 14,000 in October 2007. The Dow lost nearly 300 points to 7,643.29.

A frustrated investor hangs his head at the New York Stock Exchange after the Dow Jones closed at 6,763 points, its lowest posting in almost 12 years.

Madoff looks to keep millions in assets
NEW YORK— Bernard Madoff is seeking to keep a $7 million Manhattan penthouse and an additional $62 million in assets, saying they are unrelated to the fraud that authorities say cost victims more than $50 billion.

In court papers filed Monday in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, Madoff and his lawyer claim the apartment, $45 million in municipal bonds and another $15 million in assets belong to Madoff's wife, Ruth. They also say the bonds are in an account held by Ruth Madoff at CHOMAD Securities Corp. and about $17 million held in her in a Wachovia Bank account "are unrelated to the alleged Madoff fraud and only Ruth Madoff has a beneficial interest in these assets," Bernard Madoff and lawyer Ira Sohn said, according to the papers.

Burkin declined to comment Monday. A court-appointed trustee overseeing the liquidation of Madoff's assets has said the apartment and other property used to secure bail was off limits for now. But if there's a conviction, those assets and possibly property of Madoff's "insiders" could be seized to help pay claims by alleged victims, which so far total about $1 billion.

"We are looking at every member of the Madoff family," David Sohn, an attorney representing the trustees, said recently regarding the personal property.

The information was contained in an order of consent asking a judge to grant the federal government authority to seek forfeiture of assets involved in any fraud. It was filed in a case brought by the SEC against Madoff.

Trustee Irving H. Picard has said that nearly $150 million in cash and securities has been recovered for investors so far.

The 78-year-old former Nasdaq chairman has been confined to the Manhattan apartment, purchased in 1984, under house arrest since early December.

He was arrested and charged with securities fraud after authorities said in court papers that he confessed to his role in the fraud scheme.

"They're going to have to cut their budgets significantly," said Mark Vitner, senior economist and managing director at Wachovia.

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"They're going to have to cut their budgets significantly," said Mark Vitner, senior economist and managing director at Wachovia.
"Though this nation has proudly thought of itself as an ethnic melting pot, in things racial we have always been and continue to be, in too many ways, essentially a nation of cowards... if we are to make progress in this area we must feel comfortable enough with one another, and tolerant enough of each other, to have frank conversations about the racial matters that continue to divide us."

These words were spoken by our first black attorney general, Eric Holder, who was nominated for the position by our first black president, Barack Obama.

That same day, a cartoon was published in the New York Post in reference to the recent mauling of a Connecticut woman by her friend’s pet chimpanzee, which was shot and killed by the police. The cartoon depicts two police officers, one of whom is holding a smoking gun over a dead chimpanzee while the other states, "They’ll have to find someone else to write the next stimulus bill." Immediately, Al Sharpton, flanked by his Political Correctness Task Force in the guise of a swarm of outraged protesters, demanded an apology from the Post for publishing the inflammatory cartoon. Why? Because according to Sharpton’s warped logic, the artist had leveled a racist attack on Obama by comparing him to a crazed chimpanzee. Sharpton alluded to the historic practice of using references to chimpanzees as racial epithets against blacks, as well as the assertion that the stimulus bill represents Obama’s first legislative victory and has thus become "synonymous" with him, in order to draw this connection.

First of all, as anyone who is familiar with our government’s legislative process (the number of which I’m beginning to believe is infinitely small) knows, congressmen are the only ones who have the authority to write legislation. Secondly, former President George W. Bush was compared to achimp countless times during and after his tenure in office, and Sharpton didn’t bother to come to his defense. Of course this was because Rush is not black, but clearly there is a double standard at work here.

Now I recognize insults toward black Americans involving monkeys and apes are particularly degrading and hurtful given their historical connotations. If Sean Belonias the cartoonist had meant to characterize blacks or Obama as chimpanzees, I could sympathize with those who might take offense even though I might also be tempted to tell them to chill out, since I have personally found that taking offense to insulting accusations only adds credit to them. But given the lack of racist intent, in addition to the fact the president cannot author legislation, I believe that Sharpton’s rhetoric is patently absurd. Furthermore, I believe his hypersensitivity to alleged racism and the emotional foibles it fosters among black Americans in this country lie at the heart of our attorney general’s accusations.

As a citizen of this great “Cowardly Nation,” I would like to say I agree with Holder’s claim: We are a nation of cowards. But not for the same reasons he would support. Since the end of the Civil War, our nation has freed thousands of black slaves, recognized a person’s right to vote regardless of color and abolished racial segregation. We have embraced black culture in countless ways. We have recognized the vital contributions of black musicians, black scientists, black athletes, black authors and black religious leaders. We have elected black congressmen, black senators and black governors; we have nominated black cabinet members and a black Supreme Court justice, and this past year, we have elected a black man to lead our country as president. In light of these actions, we have not been a nation of cowards.

Yet since the dawn of the era of political correctness in the 1990s, America has been forced to become a nation of cowards. We are afraid to speak frankly about our views on race in fear of being labeled a racist. We are afraid to associate with those of the other race because we don’t want to be called a race-traitor especially people on the political right. Think of Condoleezza Rice and Michael Steele. We cannot be comfortable around one another because people like Sharpton may come knocking down our doors, demanding an apology for something we never meant to be offensive.

If we are to return to the days before cowardice became king, Sharpton and his followers must be willing to move beyond the temptation to use the victim card whenever the conversation turns to race. More importantly, we must view one another, not simply as members of a certain group or race, but as individual human beings.

Attorney General Holder, in spite of my alleged cowardice, I am publishing these views regardless of what accusations of racism and bigotry may be hurled my way. I hope this insulifies you with faith in the capacity of Americans to break through the boundaries of political correctness that have stifled conversation in the past and that may come knocking down our doors, and hurtful given their historical connotations. If Sean Belonias the cartoonist had meant to characterize blacks or Obama as chimpanzees, I could sympathize with those who might take offense even though I might also be tempted to tell them to chill out, since I have personally found that taking offense to insulting accusations only adds credit to them. But given the lack of racist intent, in addition to the fact the president cannot author legislation, I believe that Sharpton’s rhetoric is patently absurd. Furthermore, I believe his hypersensitivity to alleged racism and the emotional foibles it fosters among black Americans in this country lie at the heart of our attorney general’s accusations.

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Christie Peasc Roe is spending this semester in Washington, D.C. She can be reached at peasc@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
**Viewpoint Festival not dead**

In 2004, I was among a small group of faculty, students and alumni who founded the first Notre Dame Queer Film Festival. Personally, I pitched the Festival to five academic departments and had one-on-one meetings with then-University President Fr. Edward “Monk” Malloy, then-provost Dr. Nathan Hatch and Fr. Mark Poorman. By the end of the Festival, Fr. Theodore Hesburgh gave us his blessing. For the following two years, I continued to be one of the Festival organizers and helped program the films and guests. Currently, I am the secretary of the Gay and Lesbian Alumni of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s College (GALA NDSMC).

Tom O’Neill’s Feb. 16th letter titled “How Notre Dame sneakily killed off the Queer Film Festival” gave an apt description of University President Fr. John Jenkins’ efforts to “contain” and limit the Queer Film Festival. Mainly, the Jenkins team sought to improve the University’s public relations by not shutting down the Film Festival, just putting a lot of red tape around it. In turn, this would satisfy disgruntled alumni (and bishops) while at the same time not making the front page of The New York Times for being discriminatory. Ironically, his first move — to make us remove the word “queer” from the title — stripped the Festival of its academic merit. This is because “queer” is what Academia calls gay and lesbian studies. Colleges that provide degrees in this discipline include Yale University, the University of Maryland, University of California, Berkeley, UCLA, California State University Northridge and DePaul University, to name a few.

Throughout all this, however, it is important to note that several key people continued to try to make the Film Festival continue. The department of Film, Television, and Theater, for instance, remained supportive and helpful despite intense pressure from the administration to do otherwise. And, while there is red tape around the Queer Film Festival, its coffin is far from being nailed shut. The Festival was not shut down. That kind of thinking was the Festival was not shut down.

Because of this, the real power remains in all of you — the student body. And you can do it, because Father Jenkins gave you permission in his 2006 ruling, saying that he was “very determined that we not suppress speech on this campus.” How can such an endeavor be accomplished again? We put together the first Queer Film Festival by working within the parameters of the University. The first step is to work with the departments to construct mission statements that are both pragmatic and inspirational. Use that as your springboard to move forward. GALA NDSMC is here to help along the way. Just remember: the Festival can happen again, but only by your initiative. Back in 1978, Harvey Milk said: “I hope that every professional gay will say ‘enough,’ come forward and tell everybody, wear a sign, let the world know. Maybe that will help.” If the Notre Dame community took Milk’s advice to heart, just imagine how many signs there would be inside and surrounding the Golden Dome.

Liam Dacey

**Don’t starve Grandma**

I disagree with Mr. Hagan’s interpretation of the 2007 CDF statement on artificial nutrition and hydration. In his Feb. 16. article titled “Health care purpose” that the denial of nutrition and hydration is permissible if a patient has reached the terminal stage of an illness where treatment is ineffective. “Treatment” in these cases refers to extraordinary care (such as chemotherapy), which any patient may refuse, terminal or otherwise. The CDF document asserts that people in persistent vegetative states must receive nutrition and hydration (ordinary care) precisely because they are people of the human kind. Unless the terminal stage is a transition to human dignity (they don’t), this implies that they, too, must receive nutrition and hydration, and denial thereof is euthanasia. The only exception stated or implied in this document is the case in the case where care does not “accomplish its proper finality,” or in other words, the body cannot absorb the nourishment. In this case (as Professor Rice notes), the removal of artificial nourishment is not the cause of death. This is a condition that a patient who has received a terminal diagnosis and who continue to live for months or years with nutrition and hydration.

Philip Little

**A misunderstanding, indeed**

In response to Tommy Maranges’ not-so-recent Viewpoint “A Clear Mistaken.” I must offer some words of advice to Mr. Maranges. One of the greatest strengths of the American fashion language (superfluous though it may be) into logical arguments — as Mr. Maranges appears to be — should know that an argument’s closing remark is supposed to be the proverbial “nail in the coffin,” a verbal stab that erases all doubt. It is any coincidence, then, that Planned Parenthood’s founder, Margaret Sanger, once stated, “A Clear Mistaken.” Maranges appears to be — should know that an argument’s closing remark is supposed to be the proverbial “nail in the coffin,” a verbal stab that erases all doubt.

Nathan Lloyd

**I write something of interest down here…**

You write something of interest up there.

**Got it?**
By SZYMON RYZNER
Scene Writer

After two strenuous semesters of devoted contribution to The Observer’s Scene section, I have been tasked with providing some short advice on things related to pop culture and nostalgic college experiences. This edition of Scene and Heard is going to be about how not to ruin Notre Dame for yourself. Without further ado, I present an arbitrary list in no particular order.

1. Never become a senior. This is very important, which is why I’ve put it first. If you never become a senior, then you can’t graduate and you will have successfully avoided all the responsibilities associated with living a productive life in society. Equally important, don’t stay longer than four years. South Bend slowly drains your soul away.

2. Go to the DPAC. It’s a rather classy building brimming with art of every variety. The tickets are always cheap for students and the shows that go on there are of the highest caliber. Word among students, student productions and world famous orchestras all come to the DPAC. Get cultured!

3. Travel abroad. It very well could actually manifest as the life-changing event some make it out to be, but more importantly it will be easy. You will travel, make new friendships and sample all sorts of fantastic food—most notably spicy lamb Shawarma.

4. We are all children of the 90’s (especially those that weren’t even alive in the 80’s) so know the pop culture that shaped you. X-Files, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, D.J. Simpson— all essential parts of the experience—know it, love it, buy a white Ford Bronco.

5. Know your Internet humor. The Internet seems to be a greater source of comedy than most films have been in recent memory. This is what makes our generation unique to the ones that came before us; it’s not a trap.

6. For the record:

7. Watch “Arrested Development.” It launched the careers of Michael Cera and Will Arnett and its episodes provide more jokes per minute than any other show I have encountered. “30 Rock” is also quickly developing into a humor powerhouse, so don’t you dare miss another episode. You get bonus points for making it a social event, or a party, with chocolate covered bananas so it doesn’t feel like “watching TV.”

8. Pick a major you actually like, not one you think you should have. Except for incredibly rare scenarios, the major you have after freshman year should not be the one you graduate with.

9. Be socially worthy or socially meek. People should know how many Cylon models there are. The previous statement perhaps dooms me to an overly worthy existence.

10. Engage in a Viewpoint war. Please. They’re generally fantastical and a highlight of The Observer. I have been waiting all year for the annual Saint Mary’s/Notre Dame Viewpoint, yet here we are without any substantial animosity on either side. Let me be the first to say: Saint Mary’s sucks.

11. Don’t pick it at, or it will never heal.

Perhaps I could go on, but I have to go do work for the major that I wonder about selecting quite frequently. My time at Notre Dame has been excellent, and I hope you do whatever you can to live interestingly. I wish you all many mistakes from which to learn, I remember that you will never be around as many different, unique and interesting people as you will have been in college. Take advantage of that.

Contact Szymon Ryzer at srzyner@nd.edu

By MICHELLE FORDICE
Assistant Scene Editor

I walked into The Observer office as a freshman on a whim. I hadn’t worked for the paper at my high school and was simply trying it on for size. Four years later, working for Scene definitely numbers among some of the best parts of my Notre Dame experience—chiefly when it comes to writing my beloved Dining Hall Dish column.

Still, I am going to surmise that most of you out there are at best vaguely interested in my good-byes. So I will combine my adieus and reminiscences with something more proactive. Recorded below are the best parts about being part of The Observer—and especially the Scene—staff. Hopefully all of you out there who aren’t graduating along with me will consider joining the team.

Anyone who works at The Observer gains certain benefits. First, there is the knowledge that a lot of the campus is actually reading what you write. That Observer lying on a dining hall table or stacked in LaFortune is going out with a little bit of you in it. Every weekday you get the chance to let everyone at the University know what is going on, or at least entertain them for awhile. There is even that feeling that the audience out there might actually care. Trust me: However trivial it might seem there is nothing like the first time you make it onto the top live most-popular articles on The Observer Web site or get your first e-mail—negative or positive—in response to something you wrote. (Even sweeter? A Viewpoint letter or, dare I say it, a Viewpoint controversy.)

Beyond that, then there is that special Observer family you come to know. The only people who understand what it means to write an article at the last minute, or be up to far too early finishing the layout for the next morning. You’re among the few that associate South Dining Hall with something other than food and are all more than a bit proud to see that freshly printed Observer as you walk to class.

Now, why is Scene so special? Well first, it’s all about what you get to cover. How would you like it to have an official, procreative excuse to sit in a movie theater or watch T.V.? Or get that special VIP feeling when you show up at the DPAC to pick up your complimentary tickets? Nowhere else on campus can you wax poetic about pop culture with such legitimacy.

Above all, Scene gives you the most opportunities to be creative. I’ve had to come up with articles about everything from politics, to the Wil, to Russian ballet companies, to how to survive a South Bend winter. Or best yet, how to survive the dining hall. I’ve reviewed plays in a language I don’t know a word of and gotten to peruse the best of the promotional material the entertainment industry decides to send us. Working for Scene gives you a glimpse into the way creativity and art influence our culture.

So I hope this has inspired you to think about joining The Observer. Come polish up your writing. Find the best excuse in the world to do something other than homework and, above all, have fun.

Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu
THE OBSERVER

SCENE

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

and Staff Sarcasm

By MARK WITTE
Assistant Scene Editor

I have learned a number of important life lessons and reaped many rewards from my short tenure as a writer and assistant editor in the Scene department of The Observer. My first night flying solo on the job was nearly eight hours in the basement of South Dining Hall, and it was only to discover that I was being paid by the hour, but by the page. For my work that evening, in reality, I netted less than $3 an hour. Thus I learned the importance of asking about little details, such as pay, before accepting a job from a smiling Tae Andrews. I worked much faster the next week.

I have also learned that the only way to get out of the office at a decent hour is to treat the managing editors as the Editor-in-Chief with the utmost respect. If they're in a bad mood, you're in a bad mood because your pages sure aren't getting checked. Thus, I have learned the importance of deadlines, because sometimes such deadlines involve kiting up or spastically telling the Managing Editor that you are his or her Maryland or in fact an important state.

Writing for The Observer helped nurture my desire and passion for movies. Posing as a film critic gave me a convenient excuse to skip off during the middle of the week to watch movies for free. Better yet, the job afforded me the opportunity to share with campus what I love about film, whether it was my awe at the breathtakingly haunting cinematography of "There Will Be Blood" or merely my obsession with the "The Big Lebowski." Even more rewarding were the invitations to do play reviews. I will never forget the dress rehearsal of "The Pillowman," which I watched, naively, experienced. Along with the actors on the intimate third floor of Washington Hall I remember being overwhelmed by the intensity of the dark theatrical tour de force carrying on before my eyes. Thank you Stephen, you were masterful.

Writing for The Observer also allowed me to portray myself as a writer. Last year I was convinced by the Scene Editor to do a piece about Bengal Bouts training. I took the opportunity to cry like a baby about the rigorous training endured by the boxers while shamelessly plugging the program's altruistic purpose.

Finally, I have learned that no one in the world is as patient as the Scene Editor. This I most certainly learned from experience as this year's "proven" newbies. I would like to say thank you. Thank you for all your hard work and most importantly for your never-ending patience. Thank you for not firing me when I misspelled your name. Thank you for not firing me after I missed a semester's worth of meetings and thank you for not firing me despite my avoidance of the weekly budget like it was South Dining Hall's pizza.

Thank you to the Graphics girls for adjusting to my odd hours.

Thank you to the Assistant Scene Editors for weathering my tawdry articles and lack thereof. Thank you to Chris Himel and all the Ed Board members whose dedication to the paper is surpassed by none. And finally, thank you to Jay Fitzpatrick for inspiring me to join The Observer staff in the fall of 2007. You introduced and welcomed me to a whole new world and I am indebted (unfortunately) to you.

I will soon say goodbye to the basement of South Dining Hall, its wondrous memories, profusion of expletives and late night pizza. Bob's job is a hit, and an essential one, that I will walk away, but for those actually dedicated to the Scene department, my departure will be echoed by a good measure of "Good Riddance!"

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu

By JESS SHAFER
Assistant Scene Editor

I would like to start out by saying that I'm just doing this because I want to be a completely unoriginal blogger. I love conformity. In fact, I ownUGG boots, NO sweats and a black Northface as I write. Just to remind myself that I am completely not unique, I would like to announce this on a campus-wide scale. This is the best use of the exposure I get as the rising Scene Editor and a Scene writer, because who doesn't want to know 25 facts all about me? My Facebook friends just weren't enough.

I'm Jess Shaffer. My whole name is Jessica Shaffer. Shocking, I know. Unfortunately, Jess is not my alter-ego, it is merely my preferred name.

I'm a Scene writer. Also surprising. I'm sure you never would have guessed that by looking at the top of the page.

I have no qualms bragging about Scene; it's fun, colorful, picturesque glory lights up The Observer, clearly solidifying it as the best section. Sure lots of people are interested in that thing called ND football and therefore turn to the sportier pages. And I guess some people are attracted to "real news." But really You tube picks, movies and music are about as real as it gets (unless you are on a boat, like Andy Samberg). We're the section everyone likes or at least checks out for pretty pictures.

After a lovely Spring Break in the sun, I will be spending hours upon hours in the basement of South Dining Hall. Not in Grab-a-Go, but in the journalism cave. But I will be blessed by a new, shiny nameplate and an updated byline.

I love the smell of newspaper in the morning. Crack an Observer, Crack a smile.

6) pick up Animal Lipar's sloppy seconds; refer the bellesos breakup she had with Scene in yesterday's paper. I get to be the new peanut butter to Scene's jelly. That's right, after Spring Break, I'm the new editor. I'll be spending time consoling the section's broken heart.

I have a feeling that about now, you are questioning my sanity and leadership capability.

At this point, however, you will have detected my poor sense of sarcasm.

I have a mental list of bad ideas for inside columns.

10. Bad idea number one is a 25 things column. Number 2 is a proclamation that B is for Blood. Number 3 is an epic all about the Boxers. Number 4 is a piece about Bengal Bouts training. I took the opportunity to cry like a baby about the rigorous training endured by the boxers while shamelessly plugging the program's altruistic purpose.

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Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffer@nd.edu
A-Rod meets with MLB officials, moves forward

Discusses 2001-03 post drug tests in meeting, focuses on the World Baseball Classic with Dominican Republic

Associated Press

JUPITER, Fla. — Alex Rodriguez says he's happy to put behind him the controversy with Major League Baseball officials about his use of steroids more than five years ago.

The New York Yankees slugger reported to spring training with the Dominican Republic team Monday and took part in its first workout in preparation for the World Baseball Classic. The practice came a day after Rodriguez met for two hours with MLB officials.

"For me, now the focus is the WBC," Rodriguez said. "I believe that there are a lot of positive things that you can look at in the context of baseball. You're focusing on the wrong thing. Let's go of the other stuff. Come on. Let's play baseball. That's what we're here for." Rodriguez, 38, is a 14-time All-Star and has won three World Series championships in the past four seasons. He has been penalized in lawsuits brought by MLB, the union and the players' association.

"You guys focus on the bad stuff," he said. "I believe that there are a lot of positive things that you can look at in the context of baseball. You're focusing on the wrong thing. Let's go of the other stuff. Come on. Let's play baseball. That's what we're here for." Rodriguez had been banned from baseball for the 2014 season by then Commissioner Rob Manfred for violating the league's drug policy for the third time. Rodriguez had challenged the penalty in federal court, but Manfred's decision was upheld by a federal appeals court. Rodriguez has continued to appeal the ban to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

"I've put myself behind the eight ball, that's for sure," he said. "I've made mistakes. I feel bad about them. But I'm also looking at doing good things not only playing good baseball, but perhaps being a messenger of the right message. A lot kids in the future to make the same mistake I made.

Rodriguez was accompanied at the Tampa meeting by lawyers Jay Reisinger and James E. Sharp. Also present were union general counsel Michael Weiner, MLB vice president of investigations Dan Mullins, MLB executive vice president for labor relations Rob Manfred and senior vice president and general counsel for labor Dan Halem, according to a person familiar with the meeting.

"The person spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press because he wasn't authorized to discuss details.

MLB wanted to learn about security issues involving a trainer from the Dominican Republic and the cousin the three-time MVP said injected him with banned substance called "boli."

Rodriguez and the Dominican Republic will play three exhibition games against major league teams this week.
Tuesday, March 3, 2009

AROUND THE NATION

Compiled from The Observer's Wire Services

NCAA Men's Basketball
AP Top 25

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NCAA Women's Basketball
AP Top 25

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Nike/Inside Lacrosse
Men's Media Poll

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AROUND THE NATION

NFL

Still searching for NFL players

Associated Press

CLEARWATER, Fla. — The Coast Guard on Monday narrowed the search area for two NFL players and a third man missing since a weekend fishing trip off the Florida Gulf Coast as law enforcement agencies resumed a fourth man clinging to their capsized boat.

Survive Nick Schuyler, a former University of South Florida player, told rescuers that the boat the four friends were aboard was anchored when it flipped Saturday evening in rough seas, said Coast Guard Capt. Timothy M. Close, center, answers questions during a news conference Monday. Current NFL players Marquis Cooper and Corey Smith are missing after their finishing boat capsized off the Florida coast Sunday.

Schuyler was conscious but appeared weak as he was taken off a helicopter at Tampa General Hospital and placed on a stretcher. His father said his son was in serious but stable condition and that he "looks OK." "He's got some cuts and bruises. He's dehydrated," said Stuart Schuyler, Schuyler's mother, Marsha Schuyler, said her son told her that he survived by thinking about how he didn't want her to go to his funeral. The family's joy at being found alive was tempered by the search for his friends.

"We still have three men missing, and we're not going to talk too much until we find these guys," said his father, Stuart Schuyler. "We're all praying for them. These guys are all very close friends." Coast Guard photos showed Schuyler wearing a yellow jacket and orange life vest and sitting on the hull of the capsized boat as a rescue cutter approached. A helicopter lowered a basket to haul him aboard. The search area is now "substantially smaller," based on where they found the boat and Schuyler, Close said. Searchers had previously covered 16,000 square miles of ocean.

Smith's family planned to drive to Florida from Richmond, Va., Tuesday, after the snowier weather in the East made getting a flight impossible.

IN BRIEF

Redskins release former 'Dancing' star Taylor

WASHINGTON — Jason Taylor will have plenty of time to dance on TV this year.

The former NFL defensive player of the year's disappointing turn in the nation's capital came to an end Monday when he was cut by the Washington Redskins for refusing to commit to the team's offseason workout program.

The Redskins wanted to add a workout clause to Taylor's hefty contract, but the 34-year-old defensive end declined. The clause would have required Taylor to take part in 25 days of offseason workouts.

The flap is reminiscent of last year, when Taylor clashed with the Miami Dolphins for competing in "Dancing With the Stars" rather than working out with the team in the offseason. Taylor finished second to Kristi Yamaguchi on the reality television show.

Lawyer appeal delays Bonds perjury trial until July

SACRAMENTO — The perjury trial of Barry Bonds has been delayed at least through July and likely beyond, as an appeal filed by prosecutors over key evidence for the trial winds through the legal system.

Federal court officials on Monday set a schedule for prosecutors and Bonds' lawyers to submit legal written arguments to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals debating the admissibility of three positive drug tests, so-called dop­ ing calendars and other evidence allegedly linking Bonds to steroids use.

Jury selection for Bonds' trial had been scheduled to start Monday, but was delayed last week after federal prosecutors announced they would appeal U.S. District Court Judge Susan Illston's ruling barring them from showing that evidence to a jury.

Denver receiver Marshall faces possible suspension

DENVER — Denver Broncos star receiver Brandon Marshall faces a possible suspension even though a disorderly conduct charge stemming from a fight with his fiancée was dismissed in an Atlanta court Monday.

Marshall, 24, was charged with disorderly conduct, refused to testify against each other. Despite being in the clear from a legal standpoint, the Pro Bowl receiver might still be disciplined for repeated violations of the league's personal conduct code, which gives commissioner Roger Goodell the authority to punish players.

"We will (still) look into it," league spokesman Greg Aiello told The Associated Press on Monday after the case against Marshall was dropped.
Cavaliers’ late comeback leads to win over Heat
Thunder take down Mavericks without team leaders Durant and Green, Westbrook gets first triple-double

Associated Press

MIAMI — This time, the Miami Heat didn't win, but they diddefeat the Cleveland Cavaliers, 111-107 on Monday night. Dwyane Wade had 41 points, nine assists and seven rebounds for Miami, strongly following up his point effort two nights earlier against the New York Knicks, when the Heat rallied from 15 points down in the last nine minutes. That was enough to win. This effort wasn't.

Williams got the comeback going with two big baskets to spark a 12-0 run that erased what seemed like a comfortable lead built midway through the final period. And James sealed it with 42.7 seconds left, blowing his 46-point effort two nights earlier against the New York Knicks, with a crowd that spent most of the night chanting "M-V-P" at Wade actually booing for the first time.

They didn't have much to cheer the rest of the way, either.

Notes: Wade and James — close friends — inadvertently hugged each other to end the third quarter. Wade fired a pass down the left side for the two MVP candidates got entangled, with Wade wrapping his arms around each other to keep themselves from falling into the front row of seats. Wade was chosen the Eastern Conference's coach of the month, crediting his team. "I haven't played a second all season," he said. James was fouled twice on 3-pointers in the first half, making all six free throws.

The Dallas Mavericks might have been upset the Mavericks were on the outside looking in after missing the playoffs last season, but this year they're on the inside looking out.

The Thunder had a good win for me but for everybody else, Durant said. "We needed a win. It was a good win for us."

Jerry Sloan is known as a defensive specialist, and he's had his team ranked in the top five in the league in defense every year. The Heat have finished in the top five in defense every year since 2004-05. Sloan has had his team ranked in the top five in defense every year. The Heat have finished in the top five in defense every year since 2004-05.

Terrible weather kept the Thunder from visiting the Court in Atlanta for the first time. It was a good night for me but for everybody else, Durant said. "It was a good win for us."

Terry finished the third quarter with a 3-pointer, and that started Dallas' comeback. Nowitzki, who had two of his four 40-point games this season against the Thunder, scored 16 points in the fourth quarter to make it close. He missed a 3-pointer that would have again closed the deficit to four after Weaver's 3-pointer, and then committed two fouls in transition in the final 3 minutes.

Playing against Kidd - the NBA's modern triple-double master - Westbrook needed a strong final flurry to get his 10th rebound and assist.

Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) shoots the first quarter Monday while being defended by Heat forward Undric Haslem.
West leads Hornets to 98-91 win over 76ers

Hawks take down Wizards as Jamison scores 23 points; Pistons take down Celtics, Pierce scores 26 points
NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

UConn women have 30-0 season

Top-ranked Huskies looking ahead to the Big East tournament

Associated Press

PICTACAWAY, N.J. Unbeaten and still unim­pressed.

Even after beating Rutgers for their first undefeated reg­ular season in 30 years, the top-ranked Huskies were all business and thinking about the next step, the Big East tournament.

"Being 30-0 is fantastic if you’re able to fit it off down the road," Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma said. "For better or worse, I’ve created an environment no matter how great we are or how wonderful we are that the reality is if we don’t win the national championship.

Renee Montgomery scored 33 points and top-ranked Connecticut lost to No. 59 on Monday night to finish off the fifth undefeated regu­lar season in school history to have at least 30 wins and 10 so­phomores.

"In our league to win every game that’s pretty good," Auriemma said. "I’m proud of the fact that for the most part our guys show up every night and do their best." Connecticut was 30-0, 16-0 Big East.

The Huskies finished the year with their second straight national champi­onship after losing to Villanova in the Big East tournament. Monday’s win also marked the seventh time UConn would be the conference unbeaten.

"It’s not a lot. I’ve never been able to do it the whole time I’ve been here," Montgomery said. "It would be so much more fun if we did it all the way, but I’m glad that we did it all the way since we wanted to do it. It was one of our goals. It gives you more motivation.

Tina Charles added 14 points and 15 rebounds for UConn, who will next play in the quarter­finals of the Big East tourna­ment. The Huskies will play against the second seed Saturday at the suburban home for a replacement, Mike Mike Rizzo, an assistant general man­ager and vice president for baseball operations for the NL’s Atlanta Braves, the NBL’s Atlanta Hawks and the NHL’s Atlanta Thrashers.

At 27, Kasten became the youngest GM in NBA history

When Bowden stepped down Sunday after four years at the Nationals’ helm, Kasten prom­ised that the team wouldn’t miss a beat. After regrouping Monday morning, he reiterated that it would be "later this week" before any replacement — inter­im or otherwise — would be named.

The primary issue facing the Nationals since last summer because of an FBI investigation into bonuses skimmed from Latin American prospects, and the scandal that had Hiring assistant general manager Stan Kasten in charge

Associated Press

Washington Nationals search for GM

Jim Bowden resigns, team president Stan Kasten in charge

PARIS, Fla. — Five weeks before the start of the regular season, Jim Bowden resigned as the president of baseball operations for the Washington Nationals, a team that was already working to keep the franchise moving forward.

Bowden was recently named the Senior Advisor to General Manager Stan Kasten, who in 1999 substantially expanded the baseball operation. Stan Kasten, the NBA’s Atlanta Hawks and the NHL’s Atlanta Thrashers.

At 27, Kasten became the youngest GM in NBA history with the Hawks, holding the position from 1979-1990 while concurrently serving as Hawks president from 1986-1990.

When Bowden stepped down Sunday after four years at the Nationals’ helm, Kasten prom­ised that the team wouldn’t miss a beat. After regrouping Monday morning, he reiterated that it would be "later this week" before any replacement — inter­im or otherwise — would be named.

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MLB

Cabrera working out deal with A's

PHOENIX — The Oakland Athletics are close to signing free agent Orlando Cabrera to a $4 million, one-year con­tract, likely ending former AL Rookie of the Year Bobby Crosby’s disappointing tenure as the team’s starting short­stop.

The Athletics said there would not be an announce­ment Monday. The deal is contingent on the 34-year-old Cabrera’s passing a physical.

Crosby, who has a lifetime batting average of .239 and has missed considerable time to injury, spent six weeks during the offseason working with former major league manager Mark McGwire.

"I want to get better," Crosby said recently. "I know I haven’t played as well as I can. I’m changing my approach, my stance. For the most part I think there’s always something I can improve upon. I know I have the support of the guys. I take the attitude I’ll go out and play.

Crosby finished with an on­base percentage under .300 in each of the past three years. He has cut down on his strikeouts but has also cut down on his walks, and he has hit into too many double plays.

As manager Bob Geren told the media earlier in the spring that Crosby “is going to be in the lineup and he’s going to play.”

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Wagner visits with 49ers, enters talks with team

Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Kurt Warner is being courted by an eager division rival of the Arizona Cardinals.

The San Francisco 49ers spent Monday night in the two-time MVP quarter­back, who traveled from Philadelphia to interview for a job of coming out and playing as a team," said Westbrook. The franchise’s first player with a triple-double since it moved from Seattle in the offseason. There were 13 others who had triple-doubles when the team was known as the SuperSonics, most recently Earl Watson (23 points, 10 rebounds, 10 assists) on Feb. 6, 2008, at Sacramento.

NHL

Parker, Spurs storm past Clips

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Tony Parker had 34 points and the San Antonio Spurs pulled away in the third quarter with four 3-pointers from Michael Finley to beat the Los Angeles Clippers 106-78 on Monday night.

Tim Duncan, playing his second game after missing the previous three with a sore right knee, had 18 points, 12 rebounds and six assists before sitting out the fourth quarter. The 11-time All-Star needs 18 points to overtake Scottie Pippen for 44th place on the career scoring list.

Finley and Matt Bonner each had 14 points for the Southwest Division leaders, who avoided the pick-and-pop system that Newsom, Beier, and Fina­bo needed to prove they were ready for prime time. They needed to show they could score and rebound in the post and that they could keep out of foul trouble she’d be a great complement to Becca Solomon’s athleticism allows her to finish at the rim and get fouled. This is why she’s a threat toX

Associated Press

McGraw continued from page 20

alleviate the scoring drought; we find allows, so I sub in both a veteran and a freshman. Freshman Natalie Novosel will replace freshman Kellie Watson, but senior Lindsay Schruder will replace freshman Kellie Watson. Against West Virginia, junior Erica Novosel would exchange spots with freshman Erica Solomon until Solomon got into foul trouble.

November has five points and had three rebounds and Watson had three points, two rebounds and a 3-pointer, and three assists. Novosel finished with one point.

First, the frosh have to sum­mon their talents. Come con­ference time this weekend, the team will need their contributions. Watson has to take three of her free throws and Novosel has to drive the lane, or fake it, pull up and shoot. Most importantly, she needs to box out and attempt layups in the paint.

Second, the veterans need to realize the bench production likely won’t reach its previous level in the final five games. They need to make some changes.

The team threw the ball away because of miscommunication Monday. That can’t happen. Players messed up switching off screens and lost players while driving to the hoop, it’s not fair to criti­cize the girls too heavily. They have their talents. Watson can shoot and Kellie has a few open looks Monday but chose to pump fake and dish instead. Solomon’s athleticism allows her to keep out of foul trouble she’ll be a great complement to Becca Brzeszczuk and Williamson down low.

Novosel has great ability to draw contact in the paint and make off-balance layups, and her midrange jump shot, while not as good as Lindsay Schruder’s or Melissa Leichtlins, forces defenses to respect it and can hurt them when they don’t.

So this conundrum involves two things.

“Today we had the most bench points we have had in a long time. Our bench has not scored much lately,” McGraw said in a press conference after Monday’s game. “Erica Solomon made a three. That has to make her feel good. And Erica was going to have a good game before she got in foul trouble. I thought the bench played better today than they have all year.”

It’s understandable a freshman group of this nature would have ups and downs and it’s not fair to criti­cize them.

Some veterans took basty shots rather than setting up an offense while the freshmen were on the court. Won’t work.

“I was disappointed,” McGraw said. “I wanted to look good today. I wanted to win the game and look good doing it,” McGraw said.

So this team just needs to realize they aren’t as good as they thought they were lately,” McGraw said.

Players need to make some changes.

Consider the contributions they made in the past four seasons, for the Fiesta Bowl last season, with a much lower base salary than the $9 million in his current contract.

Henley said. “There are a few more with injuries, Russell Westbrook might persuade longtime 49ers fan Mark Gonsalves to join a run-based offense with no proven pass-catchers — although Warner’s arrival might persuade long-time Rams teammate Isaac Bruce to put off retirement for another season.

San Francisco’s biggest signing Monday also pointed to another reason Warner might not be perfectly suited for the Niners. Fullback Moran Norris signed a three-year contract to return to the 49ers, who have repeatedly said they plan to build a run­first offense around running back Frank Gore and new coordinator Jimmy Raye.

Contact Alex West at awest@hcc-nd.edu

NFC

West rival San Francisco finished just two games behind the Cardinals in second place last season, and the club has enough cap room to spread the $12.3 million a year Warner’s salary. With no established starting quarterback on the 49ers’ roster, the club rolled out its red­and-gold carpet to entice Warner.

After flying into Silicon Valley, Warner arrived at the 49ers’ training camp to talk with the 49ers, who’d release him if they can’t reach a deal with a much lower base salary than the $9 million in his current contract. The 49ers might not be the ideal fit for Warner, who would leave a lineup with Peach receiver Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin to join a run-based offense with no proven pass-catchers — although Warner’s arrival might persuade long-time Rams teammate Isaac Bruce to put off retirement for another season.

San Francisco’s biggest signing Monday also pointed to another reason Warner might not be perfectly suited for the Niners. Fullback Moran Norris signed a three-year contract to return to the 49ers, who have repeatedly said they plan to build a run-first offense around running back Frank Gore and new coordinator Jimmy Raye.
Tory Jackson, coming off two of his best games, could have been more frustrating for Brey and his team in the second half. But that was on the Irish. Notre Dame was on the verge of pulling the game out of reach.

During that stretch, Notre Dame turned the ball over 15 times in the final 18 minutes. Those miscues were part of a larger problem throughout the game.

"That was our defense," Notre Dame guard Kyle McAlarney said. "They were really key. That was really important. When she made those, I thought that made a real difference in the game."

The game against the Mountaineers posed two strange circumstances for the Irish. The first was the tip-off, which was at 3:30 p.m., the only weekday matinee for the squad this game. The game was the Mountaineers second-straight clash with the Irish, forcing some to miss the end of classes to see the Irish team match and shut down.

"It's definitely a different set of circumstances," McGraw said of the start-time. "I was hoping to play in the afternoon because turf was the only weekday matinee for the squad this game." McGraw said of the start-time. "I was hoping to play in the afternoon because turf was the only weekday matinee for the squad this game.

Notes
- Notre Dame forward Zach Hillesland dressed for Monday's game but didn't enter the contest due to a bruised sternum suffered Saturday at Connecticut. Brey said that he hopes to have Hillesland available for Senior Night on Friday when the Irish take on St. John's.
- The game pits the Irish at 10:6 in the Big East, tied with DePaul and Villanova for fourth.

Notes:
- Schrader's 14 points and 11 rebounds gives her three double-doubles in her last five games and six on the season. That ties the Notre Dame record for double-doubles in a season by a guard, set by Davi and Jean-Charles in 2008.

"That is really a difficult accomplishment. She's been really consistent over the last couple of years. She's been a huge part of that," coach Jay Wright said. "She's been a huge part of that.

"I think that's what free throws are mostly, focus and repetition," Ashley Barlow, a great free throw shooter, said. "I missed a few — front ends of 1-and-1's," McGraw said.

Forward Becca Brunswik finall sy made the shots the Irish needed when she stepped up and nailed two free throws late in the game to help the Irish get back in the game.

"We've been working the offensive boards pretty well, and I thought she did another good job of that today."

"Monday's game was senior night for the Irish, who don't have any graduating seniors on the roster. Schrader, who leads the ACC during the 2008-09 season, will petition for a fifth-year of eligibility. The team did recognize senior managers Brad Lenoir and Caitlin Madden before the game.

"There was a moment of silence before the game to honor longtime South Bend resident and basketball beat writer Forrest "Woody" Miller, who passed away on Saturday.

Contact Scott Sinacola at sjf2@nd.edu

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21 High-voltage
weapon
23 Had a hit in
25 Word with
double or free
26 Turner John
Jacob
28 Classic Isaac
Armory short-
story collection

Answer to Previous Puzzle

- DENIK
- RIVOS
- ZAMONA

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, cross them out, and mail to form four ordinary words.

TOXICE

[Answer here: NITHO]

PAT GARTLAND

THE FORBIDDEN DOUGHNUT

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PAT GARTLAND

THE FORBIDDEN DOUGHNUT

THE OBSERVER

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Crossword

Across
1 U.S. Airman creator
Al
5 China shop
purse
11 Sammelbild
15 Play starter
16 "... only
money!
17 Game with "Du
of Gas" cards
20 Sports for spa,
21 High-voltage
weapon
23 Had a hit in
25 Word with
double or free
26 Turner John
Jacob
28 Classic Isaac
Armory short-
story collection

Answer to Previous Puzzle

- DENIK
- RIVOS
- ZAMONA

JUMBLE

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Men’s Basketball

The bubble bursts

Irish devastated at home by Villanova

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

With 1:41 remaining in Monday’s game, Villanova’s Dougie Anderson picked up a loose ball and threw down a thunderous dunk sending Irish fans streaming for the exits. The play was an exclamation point on the fact that the Irish let Monday’s game, and most likely their NCAA Tournament hopes, slip from their grasp.

After nearly pulling off a season-defining upset Saturday against Connecticut, Notre Dame was humbled 77-60 by Villanova leaving the Irish wondering what postseason plans await them.

“I would say it is frustrating because you had two opportunities here Saturday and Monday to get a real quality win, and we couldn’t get it,” Irish coach Mike Brey said.

The disappointing thing we’ve played really well on Saturday. We didn’t play as well tonight. I know our guys see NOVA/page 18

SMC Basketball

Senior-laden Belles team enjoys record-setting season

By ALEX WEST
Sports Writer

The final chapter in Saint Mary’s basketball season came to an abrupt end at the MIAA Championship on Saturday. Although the story didn’t have the pristine ending they had hoped for, the Belles’ journey to the Championship is something they can be proud of.

“It means a lot to reach the MIAA championship game,” Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. “Every team in this conference strives to get there.”

With a 17-10 record overall, 13-3 in the conference, Saint Mary’s eclipsed the school’s previous record for wins in each category. The Belles also reached the championship game of the MIAA conference tournament for the first time in the team’s start­ing point guard out during No. 23 Notre Dame’s 77-66 win Monday.

“We just gotta suck it up,” West Virginia senior guard Takisha Granberry said in a press conference after Monday’s game.

Notre Dame hasn’t experienced this problem much this season, but Monday and in the past few games, it could probably sympathize with West Virginia’s predicament.

In a 10-game stretch from Jan. 10 to Feb. 17, the Irish bench chipped in 16.5 points per game. In the last four, the bench has scored 7.5 points per game.

Where did the points go?

Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw has said in recent weeks that the freshmen are burnt out. Unfortunately for the Irish, the freshmen are all they have off the bench because sophomore guard Brittany Mallory and sophomore forward Devereaux Peters tore their s and are out for the remainder of the season.

McGraw tries to keep veterans on the floor with the freshman to candidate vying for that award.

senior guard Tory Jackson walks off the court disgusted during Notre Dame’s 77-60 loss against Villanova Monday night at the Joyce Center.

Irish hopes dwindle with crushing defeat

If Notre Dame’s season is doomed to end in the N.I.T this year, which is the likely scenario after its loss to Villanova, Monday night was an appropriate swan song.

Notre Dame had one final chance against No. 16 Villanova in the regi­lar season to show it’s worthy of being in the NCAA Tournament.

But the Irish lost. And they lost in a way that encapsulated everything that has gone wrong in a frustrating season. Some players said it was the most disappointing loss in a season that had no shortage of candidates vying for that award.

see N.I.T/page 18

ND Women’s Basketball

Irish outlast late WVU rally

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame had five players in double figures and managed to hold off West Virginia 72-66 in the teams’ regular season finale Monday afternoon at the Joyce Center.

Despite the win, Irish coach Muffet McGraw was slightly disappointed with her team’s overall performance in their final game before heading into the conference tournament this weekend.

“I think we’re a lot better. We want to go in on a high to the Big East tournament,” she said.

The Irish led the entire way, but pulled ahead in midway through the second half and expanded their lead to 14 points with 12:07 to play. After that, West Virginia knownkey to success lies in bench contributions