University makes diversity a priority

Notre Dame makes small strides in hiring women, faculty of color, but more progress is required

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

The University has made small strides in hiring and retaining women and faculty of color in recent years, but two committee reports issued at the behest of University President Fr. John Jenkins indicate Notre Dame is falling behind other universities in maintaining a diverse faculty.

Jenkins and University Provost Tom Burish released a letter to faculty on March 2 that pledged to make faculty diversity a priority.

"The University has made progress increasing the number of women faculty and faculty of color in recent years, but the reports demonstrate that more progress is required," the letter said. "In particular, Notre Dame must do better in recruiting and retaining senior women faculty, and in recruiting and retaining faculty of color at all levels."

The University Committee on Cultural Diversity and the University Committee on Women Faculty recently began examining the issue of recruiting and retaining women faculty members and alumnas.

The Board visits the College twice a year to conduct business. "As a group they meet on campus each fall and spring. Many also return to campus to assist with events sponsored by the Alumnae Association and to participate in reunion." said O'Leary.

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SMC to elect members to Alumnae Board

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

The Saint Mary's Alumnae Board will be choosing four new members during their annual spring meeting Thursday as four former alumnae will be retiring, Karen O'Leary, director of Alumnae Relations said.

They will be electing two new alumnae, as well as two current student members.

"At this meeting the Board will also be interviewing and selecting one member each from the classes of 2010 and 2011 to serve on the Board. The student member is a newly created position with the senior having full voting privileges and the junior being mentored by the senior to assume the student member position her senior year," O'Leary said.

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"As a group they meet on campus each fall and spring. Many also return to campus to assist with events sponsored by the Alumnae Association and to participate in reunion." said O'Leary.

While visiting, the Board will have committee meetings, attend special sessions, hear presentations from College administrators, and meet with student groups, O'Leary said.

"Several members will also be participating in an Alumnae Panel that is part of the Diverse Student Leadership Conference."

Faculty of color Fall 2007

82% White
13% Minority
5% Non-resident alien

University of Chicago:
20% Faculty of color*

*Feed the AAU schools

Group sponsors toiletry drive

Undergraduate Women in Business Club gives goods to YWCA

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

The Undergraduate Women in Business Club is conducting a toiletry drive for the fall semester and the collected goods will be donated to the South Bend Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), vice president Elizabeth Slawin said.

"This is the first year that we've really done any kind of service project," Slawin said. "We thought that doing something with the women's shelter was very appropriate for our club just because our club is about giving women the skills to enter the business world."

Slawin said the club called the YWCA to see what sort of supplies they need. The drive is collecting basic toiletry items such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and towels, Slawin said.

She said they decided to do the drive after spring break because many people will have just been home and could possibly bring items back from home to donate.

Although the club has only been active for five years, they have wanted to do a service project for a while, Slawin said.

"We want to make service part of our club because our club is all about helping girls gain the skills they need to have successful careers," Slawin said. It is important for them to implement service into their club, she said, because a lot of women at Notre Dame, and especially for the girls in the club, maintaining a relationship with the community is important.

Because this is the first year that the drive is being conducted, Slawin said they do not expect any certain number of goods to be collected.

"The more the better. We didn't really set a goal because this is our first year," she said. Slawin isn't as concerned with the number of donations.

Bookstore Basketball to benefit Jamaican youth

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

The annual Bookstore Basketball tournament is more than a popular activity for students; it also works to help the less fortunate.

Established in 1995, the Jumblatt Basketball Program is run through the Notre Dame Club of Jamaica that raises money to help the youth of Kingston, Jamaica. A considerable portion of the team registration fees for Bookstore Basketball goes towards the Jumblatt Program.

"What makes Jumblatt unique is the ability to impact children's lives and teach them the ability to contribute to a better community through one person at a time," said Chad Sutcliffe, the director of the Jumblatt Program and a 1995 Notre Dame graduate.

Sutcliffe was one of the initiators of this influential program that organizes basketball clinics for the kids living in Kingston. It is an effort to help keep the disadvantaged youth from the drugs and violence that are extensive in their neighborhoods.

"With the high poverty rate, we felt that by running a free clinic during the weekend, we can give kids an opportunity to get off the streets for a day," Sutcliffe said.

The program has been running every weekend since it began in 1995 and has provided valuable training for the kids from a young age and has been able to give kids a healthy outlet for their energy.

"In 13 years, the numbers have grown from 6 kids to 200 kids every week," Sutcliffe said.

The students who participate in the program are also given opportunities to travel abroad to compete in basketball tournaments where they get the chance to compete with players from all over the world.

"We also invite college teams to come and play with our kids which is a great experience for them," Sutcliffe said.

The program has produced a successful basketball team with fame in Jamaica that has brought the community together.

"We've had about 300 kids in that program and out of those 300 kids, we've had more than a dozen kids who have gone on to play basketball at the collegiate level," Sutcliffe said.

The club is comprised of current and former students and is run through the ALUMNAE Club of Jamaica.

"The idea was to give the students of the Dunham School an opportunity to expand their basketball and their opportunity to play," Sutcliffe said.

The club has been very successful in raising money for the program and has invested a large amount of money into the community.

"The community we're serving here in Jamaica is very grateful and they think it's great that we're preserving the culture in our country," Sutcliffe said.

"We would love to see the program continue to grow and I feel that with the support of the Bookstore, we can continue to support the program," Sutcliffe said.

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INSIDE COLUMN

NCAA

bracket tips

I first remember filling out an NCAA tournament bracket in fifth grade English class. I haven't stopped filling my soul with optimism since. Is there a better feeling than finishing the bracket you are sure is "the one," that will predict 63 games correctly? I haven't stopped watching Bucknell or Davidson break my heart since. Is there a worse feeling than watching your Elite Eight dark horse fall in the first round, bracket busted?

With two midterms and a paper this week, I swore, no brackets this year. Then Sunday night came and I was at the LaFortune computer cluster printing out 10 copies.

So for the bracket novices out there, from Kansas or Connecticut, Canada or Colombia, here are some tips:

Alabama State will not beat Louisville; Morehead State eliminated them tonight.
• Morehead State will not beat Louisville; Wake Forest will.
• Notre Dame will not win the NCAA tournament; the Irish are in the NIT tournament.
• A twelve-seed will beat a five-seed; if a team beat Notre Dame, that does not justify them as exceptional good; no one will respect you.

Making picks based on mascots is not only allowed, but often effective. VCU does not justify them as exceptional; no one will respect you.

• If a team beat Notre Dame, that does not matter, just pick UCA, which stands for UCA, which stands for UCA.

When forced to pick between Boston College and USC, a Notre Dame football fan picks the bullet. A Notre Dame basketball fan doesn't care, so trust the Trojans.

This is the first year North Dakota State was even eligible for the tournament. That does not mean they won't a game or two while in it. Temple's point guard is named Christmas. Unfortunately for him, the grass is green and Christmas is nine months away.

Stephen F. Austin is a long name, so don't waste ink advancing the Lumberjacks.

BYU is not allowed to play on Sundays, but Notre Dame football can play on Christmas Eve.

A nine-seed over an eight-seed is not an upset. A 10-seed over a seven-seed barely qualifies.

Missouri will not make the Sweet Sixteen, but Portland State will.

No Big East teams will advance to the Final Four, but three ACC teams will.

Memphis will choke in the final, again, and Roy Williams will finally win a title with his own players. Actually, the safest bet is probably Alabama State. The Hornet's best player is named Chief Kickingtailfinsomnias.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error in the March 17 edition of The Observer, it was said that voting for the Saint Mary's Student Government Association President was open. They are scheduled to be arranged Tuesday. State police said arrangements have been made to care for the dog.

71-year-old man fends off a 20-year-old would-be robber and the 20-year-old pulled out a knife and demanded money.

The police said the man was scaring ice off his car Friday when the 20-year-old pulled out a knife and demanded money.

Police Sgt. Pete Ragnone said the man used his ice scraper to fend off the attacker — who then ran to his girlfriend's home nearby.

That's when a fight broke out between the 20-year-old and his girlfriend. The would-be attacker surrendered to police and faces charges of attempted first-degree robbery and aggravated assault-domestic violence.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

OFFBEAT

Officer finds crack inside sack of dog food

AUBURN, Mass. — Finding a bag of dog food in a car carrying a dog is not unusual, but a sharp-eyed Massachusetts state trooper knew something was awry when he noticed a plastic bag inside the sack of food in the back seat of a car he pulled over on the ramp from the Massachusetts Turnpike to Interstate 290 in Auburn on Monday night.

Police said there were about 20 grams of crack cocaine in the plastic bag.

Two brothers were charged with drug trafficking.

One man was also charged with possession of a dangerous weapon, a double-sided knife. They are scheduled to be arraigned Tuesday.

State police said arrangements have been made to care for the dog.

71-year-old man fends off robber with ice scraper

Rapid City, S.D. — Police said a 71-year-old man, armed only with an ice scraper, frustrated a 20-year-old would-be robber who approached him with a knife. Police said the man was scaring ice off his car Friday when he put the 20-year-old pulled out a knife and demanded money.

Police Sgt. Pete Ragnone said the man used his ice scraper to fend off the attacker — who then ran to his girlfriend's home nearby.

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Information compiled from the Associated Press.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT BASEBALL?

The Oblates of Blues play during the Michael Signer Graduate Research Scholarship Fund benefit Monday March 16th at Legends.

GRACE KENESEY/The Observer

In Brief

Finance professor Carl Ackerman will lead a Senior Transition Seminar on personal finance today at 6 p.m. The seminar will be held at Legends.

Brittany Maier and the Notre Dame Hand Bell Choir will perform tonight at Washington Hall in a concert to support Disability Awareness Month. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. and is open to faculty, staff, and students. Parking and shuttle service will be available at Stepain Center.

Efrén Rivera Ramos, professor of law at the University of Puerto Rico, will deliver a lecture titled "Territory, Citizenship, and Rights: The Challenges of Overcoming American Colonialism in Puerto Rico" Thursday at 4 p.m. The lecture will be given in 200 McKenna Hall and is open to the public. It is part of the Institute for Latino Studies' lecture series titled "Caribbean Flights: From the First Colonial Clash in America to Metropolitan U.S.A."

A lecture entitled "The USA and the EU: Two Modern Forms of Empire?" will take place in the C-103 Hesburgh Center for International Studies at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday. Lunch will be available after the lecture.

Gaelic Storm will be performing a concert at 2 p.m. on Saturday in the DeBartalo Performing Arts Center. 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 obsnews@nd.edu
New challenges arise for minorities in 2010 census

Associated Press

What seems like a simple question — How many Hispanics are living in the United States? — has become surprisingly complex as the 2010 census approaches.

Hispanics and other minority groups have historically been undercounted in the once-a-decade survey. Advocacy groups are now launching their traditional efforts to ensure an accurate count, but a variety of factors have created new problems for the painting of America's official portrait.

Activists and government officials say fears over immigration enforcement and government snooping are making people more reluctant to share their information. The economic meltdown and Bush administration budget cuts have slowed funding for the census. Millions of laid-off renters and foreclosed homeowners are on the move.

There are more immigrants here, speaking more languages, than ever before. Some of those immigrants may not know what a census is, or may come from countries where such information is used against rather than for the people.

"This country is just much more complex now, on many different levels," said Terry Ao, director of census and voting programs for the Asian American Justice Center.

The 2000 census counted 35,305,818 Hispanics in the United States. Hispanic groups estimate that several million more were missed. In 2007, the most recent year available, the Hispanic population had grown to an estimated 44,852,816.

The Constitution mandates that every ten years, each person living in the country — regardless of citizenship or immigration status — must be counted.

The census results are used to draw congressional districts and allocate hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding for schools, roads and other services. The data also trickles down to state and local governments for determining everything from the size of hospitals to the placement of bus stops.

On a more emotional level, the census is the measure of our nation, a literal definition of what we are. That can touch nerves left raw by the simmering immigration debate.

Anti-immigration groups don't object to an accurate count, which may provide fuel for their arguments. But they are opposed to the past practice of suspending immigration raids while the census is being conducted. And they have major objections to counting non-citizens when drawing congressional districts.

Steven Camarota, director of research at the Center for Immigration Studies, called the practice "an assault on the 'one man, one vote' idea.

"It transfers political power to the citizens who live in districts with high numbers of illegal aliens," he said. "If you live in Southern California, your vote counts a great deal more than if you live in Montana or somewhere with lower immigration.

Ensuring that the maximum number of minorities are counted "seems to be a much bigger issue for the ethnic interest groups and advocacy groups, because that's how they build their interests and political power," said Ira Mehlman, a spokesman for the Federation for American Immigration Reform.

Those interest groups point out that everyone suffers if undercounting leads to less funding for schools, roads or hospitals.

"If you go back to your district, regardless of how many people there are citizens or others, when you're counting one person there are citizens or voters, when you're counting one person there are citizens or voters, when you're counting one person there are citizens or voters, when you're counting one person there are citizens or voters," said Ira Mehlman, a spokesman for the Federation for American Immigration Reform.

Hispanic groups are now at the forefront of a coalition spanning politics, social services and Spanish-language media that is planning a broad census effort. They are hoping to partner with the Census Bureau on community-based programs, public service announcements and paid advertising. They also want minorities hired to plan the outreach and conduct door-to-door surveys in areas with high percentages of immigrants and other hard-to-count populations, such as black men.

"We're prepared to mount our own national campaign to count ourselves," Escobedo said. "We are going to motivate every ounce of people power that we have ... to let people know it's so critical for your child's education, and for your services in the community." The Census Bureau seems receptive to these efforts.

For the first time, it will mail bilingual forms to 13 million homes this year. This has a more accurate database of addresses and demographic information thanks to the annual American Community Survey, which began in 2001. It is soliciting ideas from groups who speak languages other than English.

Stephen Buckner, a Census Bureau spokesman, said it will be working with minority groups to "be helpfully included.

"When somebody knocks on your door and you answer it, you're almost going to see a reflection of yourself," he said.
the summer we could have a positive impact," Sutcliffe said. "We are trying to teach the children life skills through the sport of basketball.

Using the money that is raised through Bookstore Basketball and donations, Jumpball organizes a week of free basketball clinics for the inner-city youth. In addition to providing basketball training, it also awards the children based on their ability, attitude and sportsmanship, and provides them with a T-shirt and a free lunch.

"There are a number of kids that end up coming to Jumpball simply because it is a free event and lunch is provided," Sutcliffe said. "These are some of the kids we hope to influence the most as they do not normally have this kind of opportunity."

Sutcliffe said that before Jumpball came to Kingston in 1995, there were little activities for the children of the city to participate in.

"There was a tremendous interest in basketball from all around the city. With this, the poverty level and the lack of activities for children, we really felt like we were filling a need," he said.

Looking at the level of participation, it appears Jumpball has filled this need since the program's inception in 1992.

"Jumpball has grown gradually from 75 participants to over 600 today," Sutcliffe said. "We believe we have had a huge impact on many of the children. They are offered a free opportunity to be a part of a highly organized event where they are exposed to a high quality of coaching.

Sutcliffe says that the program also focuses on the Jamaican coaches that participate. Members of Jumpball have two or three formal ways in which the program can help these adults as well.

"We provide training for the coaches specifically in terms of running and operating a Jumpball clinic but also as part of a nationally recognized training program which can assist them in obtaining jobs as teachers or coaches," he said. "Finally, this coming year we are offering two scholarships to our volunteer coaches to assist them financially in attending a secondary school.

Involving members of the Kingston community has made the youth participants able to see the impact of Jumpball as a whole.

"The kids are able to see not only the U.S. volunteers but also the Jamaican coaches giving back to the community," Sutcliffe said. "In many cases the volunteers are former campers that have grown up through Jumpball. There is a high level of enthusiasm that is contagious."

To date, Jumpball has raised around $20,000 for the Kingston community.

Sutcliffe says that none of it would have been possible without the continuous support from the University and the proceeds from the Bookstore Basketball tournament.

"In recent years due to the help of Bookstore we have been able to expand the program. Some of this growth is directly attributable to Bookstore's donations. Without a doubt, Bookstore Basketball has had a tremendous impact on the number of boys and girls that Jumpball has been able to reach," Sutcliffe said.

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@hcc-nd.edu

Stem Cell

Fraser said due to Obama's decision, "there will be public debate and public scrutiny, and hopefully we as a society will come to an understanding about what we can or cannot allow." He said although he personally would prefer to find alternatives to human embryonic stem cell research, he thinks that lifting the ban was the appropriate approach because it does not limit scientific investigation or force one point of view.

"I value the contributions of science to humankind too much to want any one person or group telling scientists what they can or cannot explore," Fraser said.

Snead disagrees with the argument that no avenues of research should be closed off. "I don't find that compelling. Obviously there are and should be ethical limits to science," Snead said.

"What we owe to human embryos is a moral question, not a scientific question," Snead said. "Snead does not support Obama's decision to lift the ban on federal funding for stem cell research. "I think it's regrettable that tax players are being compelled to support this kind of research, especially in light of all the alternative sources of stem cells that don't require the destruction of embryos," Snead said.

"Talk is cheap. We need action at the scientific forefront of this endeavor, and we need it at this University," Malcolm Fraser Jr., professor of biological sciences.

Both Snead and Fraser are in favor of exploring alternative methods to embryonic stem cell research.

"I think we should seize this opportunity to be truly reflective of our convictions and initiate a research program expansion in stem cell research so that we not only espouse non-embryonic stem cell research from an ideological perspective, but we also participate in, if not pioneer, the development of real scientific advancements that provide alternatives," Fraser said. "Talk is cheap. We need action at the scientific forefront of this endeavor, and we need it at this University."

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu
Irish pride celebrated across the nation

People take a break from their economic worries to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day

Associated Press

NEW YORK — St. Patrick’s Day revelers took a break from worries about the global economy to enjoy a day of shamrocks, festivities, dyeing city fountains green, taking icy plunges and parades along parade routes to see and be seen.

Organizers predicted 250,000 participants at the New York City St. Patrick’s Day Parade Tuesday. People also celebrated the holiday by dyeing city fountains green and taking icy plunges in the Atlantic Ocean.

NEW YORK — The Associated Press, by Thomas Walkom, was signed by the health officials of Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu. Kilinochchi was the head-quarters of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam until it was overrun by government troops in early January.

The last remaining remnants of the rebels are fighting in Mullaitivu to hold on to a shrinking swath of land — estimated at 13.5 square miles (35 square kilometers) — on the north-east coast.

The letter said more than 500 patients died since January after arriving at hospitals and that thousands of others may have died outside of hospitals.

Most of the hospital deaths could have been prevented if basic infrastructure and essential medicines were made available, said the head of Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu.

The U.N. says 150,000 to 180,000 civilians, displaced from Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu, are trapped in the war zone.
Women continued from page 1

but the impact the drive will have on the connection the club can build with the YWCA.

"Even though this might end up being the final call start, it could help our club build a relationship with them," Slavon said.

The club will also be hosting a bake sale in conjunction with the toiletry drive at the end of the week, said senior Dana Gantes, a member of the Undergraduate Women in STEM (UW-STEM). "We thought cookies would get people's attention and promote what we are doing a little better," Gantes said in an e-mail.

Slavon said the members of the club will bring the collected items to the YWCA next week.

"Ultimately it is about empowering women," Slavon said.

Contact Sarah Merovsh at smerovsh@nd.edu

Diversity continued from page 1

faculty of color in the fall of 2007 and released reports to Fr. Jenkins with suggestions on how to create a more diverse faculty at Notre Dame. Fr. Jenkins hired Professor Susan Ohmer, chair of the committee on women faculty and students at Notre Dame University recruits female faculty, but is hiring more slowly than other universities, but lags in retaining them in the long term. In the fall of 2006, 23 percent of Notre Dame's faculty members were female, compared to a total of 28 percent at private universities that are members of the Association of American Universities (AAU), according to the committee's report. The report said that for every 100 female faculty members at AAU private schools in 2006, 102 were female, and 98 were male, a ratio that has dropped 10 percent in the last 10 years. But at the recruiting level, for every 100 assistant professors at AAU private schools, Notre Dame hires 105. "In recruiting women, we do better than other schools. But we can't keep them," Susan Ohmer chair of the committee on women faculty and students said. "When it comes to faculty of color, we do enough at the recruiting stage, but we need to get them here so that they can succeed," Ohmer said.

The report released by the Committee on Faculty Recruitment and Retention — a subcommittee of the Committee on Cultural Diversity — said that in the fall of 2007, 82 percent of Notre Dame faculty were white, 13 percent were Latino and 5 percent nonresident alien.

According to the report, Notre Dame ranks lower than many AAU private universities. The University of Chicago led AAU schools in 2007 in 85 percent of faculty of color, compared to Notre Dame's 13 percent. Ohmer, who was also the first female chair of the report on faculty of color, said location is a large part of the issue.

"University of Chicago is incredibly diverse, very cosmopolitan," Ohmer said. "We are working on that. We are becoming more global, but it's not happening as quickly as we'd like." Ohmer said the committee wants to help Notre Dame "make faculty of color more comfortable and Indiana is that we are getting real results," she said.

In the letter circulated to faculty, Fr. Jenkins said, "I truly believe education and maintaining a diverse faculty is essential to the Catholic character of the University."

Many top universities already have programs like those proposed by the committee, Ohmer said. Ohmer said she is delighted with Fr. Jenkins' response to both committees' reports. "We have the University's commitment to make faculty of color more comfortable with the progress the University is making in creating a more diverse faculty and she said she hopes the efforts will help Notre Dame emerge as a more globally aware and enriched university.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Women

China Achebe to give lecture series

Special to The Observer

Nigerian novelist and poet China Achebe, winner of the 2007 MacArthur International Prize, will deliver the third annual Highest Blessings Pope John XXIII Lecture Series in Theology and Culture at the University of Notre Dame on Thursday, March 26 (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday).

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China Achebe to give lecture series

Special to The Observer

Nigerian novelist and poet China Achebe, winner of the 2007 MacArthur International Prize, will deliver the third annual Highest Blessings Pope John XXIII Lecture Series in Theology and Culture at the University of Notre Dame on Thursday, March 26 (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday).

"We thought cookies would get people's attention and promote what we are doing a little better," Gantes said in an e-mail.

Slavon said the members of the club will bring the collected items to the YWCA next week.

"Ultimately it is about empowering women," Slavon said.

Contact Sarah Merovsh at smerovsh@nd.edu
Wholesale housing prices edge up
Critics view increase in housing construction as only a "temporary gain"

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Housing construction posted a surprisingly large jump in February, bolstered by strength in all parts of the country except the West.

While the surge in construction was far better than the continued decline economists had expected, experts warned that any increase will give the world's largest maker of mining and construction equipment, has seen its wide, said it had imposed a global hiring freeze. The Commerce Department reported that construction of new homes and apartments jumped 22.2 percent in February compared with January, pushing total activity to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,269,900, the most in nearly six years.

Meanwhile, the Labor Department said consumer prices edged up a slight 0.1 percent in February as a big drop in food costs offset a second monthly increase in energy prices.

After the news, investors reigned Wall Street's rally, snapping up financial and homebuilder stocks among others. The Dow Jones industrial average and other major indexes all finished with gains of more than 2 percent, with the tech-laden Nasdaq composite index jumping more than 4 percent.

The housing rebound, however, is likely to be short-lived, said Grassley's comments were out of line to point out that you will use a bailout just to balance their checkbooks and make it through the winter. The company had expanded dramatically in recent years, helped by a building boom in developing countries. In response to the worsening conditions, Caterpillar in January announced job cuts that will affect up to 20 percent of its employees. Caterpillar, which employs about 112,000 people worldwide, said it had imposed a global hiring freeze.

In the latest cuts, the Peoria, Ill.-based company said 2,365 support and management workers had been notified of layoffs expected to last at least six months — including 245 announced previously — and 89 workers will be let go permanently.

Government aids small businesses

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Internal Revenue Service issued guidelines Tuesday that allow small businesses to use for some Bernard Madoff victims who were left for investment earnings that turned out to be nonexistent.

IRS Commissioner Douglas Shulman told Congress new guidelines are for taxpayers who have suffered losses from Ponzi investment schemes such as the massive Madoff fraud.

He said the guidelines will apply to victims of all Ponzi schemes and financial scams in which early investors are paid returns from money put in by later investors. But given the scope of the Madoff scandal, the IRS wanted to establish an easy system for investors to recover taxes they paid on "fictitious income," Shulman said. "We are not trying to drive or survive."

A new home is under construction in Iowa. The Department of Commerce reported that housing construction increased by 22 percent in February.

Taxpayers unhappy about AIG bonuses

For many Americans who could use a bailout just to balance their checkbooks and make it through the month, the thought of their tax dollars going to million-dollar bonuses for AIG executives is enough to make them furious.

"How do you comprehend how screwing up gets you rewards," said George Padilla, a teacher in El Paso, Texas. "It's amazing to think that if they don't put in the effort and get passing grades, I will not pass them." He added that in the real world '... line to point out that you would never think if you didn't do well in your job. Well, I guess 'the real world' proved me wrong.'

Workers, bascily, are another issue. Taxpayers interviewed across the country found, tuned over the $156 million payout, with some question-
Bush refuses to criticize Obama, 'deserves my silence'

Former president plans to write book, wants "people to understand what it was like to sit in the Oval Office"

Associated Press

CALGARY, Alberta — Former President George W. Bush said on Tuesday that he would not criticize Barak Obama because the new U.S. president "deserves my silence," and said he plans to write a book about the 12 toughest decisions he made in office.

Bush declined to critique the Obama administration in his first speech since leaving office in January. In his last White House address, President Dick Cheney has said that Obama's decisions threatened America's safety.

"I'm not going to spend my time criticizing him. There are plenty of critics in the arena," Bush said. "He deserves my silence."

Bush said he wants Obama to succeed and said it's important that he has that support. Talk-show host Rush Limbaugh has said he hoped Obama would fail.

"I love my country a lot more than I love politics," Bush said. "I think it is essential that he be helped in office."

The invitation-only event titled a "Conversation with George W. Bush" attracted close to 2,000 guests who paid $3,100 per table. Bush received the largest silent auction of the evening, which raised $1.5 million for a curative, non-profit organization in Texas.

"I'm going to put people in my place, so when the history of this administration is written at least there's an authoritative voice saying exactly what happened," Bush said.

"I want people to understand what it was like to sit in the Oval Office and have them come in and say we have captured Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks, the alleged killer of a guy named Danny Pearl because he was simply Jewish, and we think we have information on further attacks on the United States," Bush said.

Bush didn't specify what the two statements were, but said Iraq is better off without Saddam Hussein in power.

Bush was also full of jokes during his appearance. He joked that he would do more speeches to pay for his new house in Dallas.

"I actually paid for a house last fall. I think I'm the only American to have bought a house in the fall of 2008," he quipped.

He also said his mother is doing well. Barbara Bush was released from a Houston hospital Friday, nine days after undergoing heart surgery. "Clearly he can't live without her," Bush said of his father and former President George H.W. Bush.

Bush seemed to enjoy himself even though the event started a half later than expected because of tight security. "I'll sit here all day," Bush said during a question-and-answer session. "I'm flattered people even want to hear me in the first place."

CANADA

Bush refuses to criticize Obama, 'deserves my silence'

Former president plans to write book, wants "people to understand what it was like to sit in the Oval Office"

Associated Press

Mexico

11 dead in Mexico tour bus accident

Associated Press

SALTILLO — A drunken driver lost control of his tractor-trailer and slammed into a bus carrying Canadians and Americans touring northern Mexico, killing 11, officials said Tuesday.

Seven Americans, three Canadians and the Mexican bus driver were killed, said Jose Angel Herrera, a federal homicide detective in northern Coahuila state.

They included two Texas middle school teachers on a spring break, a retiree from Iowa and a Quebec business consultant easing into retirement with a tour of the U.S. and Mexico. Many were snowbirds from colder climes who spent their winters in Texas' Rio Grande Valley.

Todd Hulings, a spokesman for the U.S. consulate in the nearby city of Monterrey, said nine Americans were injured and that most were in stable condition.

Herrera said the tractor-trailer driver lost control, swerved onto the shoulder to his left, then overcompensated to the right and crashed into the bus, coming from the opposite direction on Monday. State civil defense officials said 16 people were injured, many seriously.

Photos showed much of the side of the bus torn off.

"I can't believe anybody got out of that," said Reverend Kinnammon after speaking by phone with her sister, Barbara Jewell Dalke, of Mission, Texas, one of the survivors.

"She said it was really bad," Kinnammon said by telephone after speaking with her sister earlier with her daughter, Barb. "She said it was really bad that Barbara seems to be OK."

Herrera said the truck driver, who was among those hurt, had been intoxicated and would be charged with involuntary homicide.

Two of those killed were middle-school reading teachers at Cummings Middle School in Brownsville, Texas: Ana Maria Bujanos of Brownsville and Rebecca Femenola of Harlingen.

"Tomorrow would have been our 33rd wedding anniversary, that's why I'm taking it so hard," said Bujanos' husband, Chris. Bujanos, 56, had taken similar trips for years, her husband said.

The Canadian Press news agency identified the Canadians who died as Robert Lacoe, 56, of Quebec City, and Kristiak Kowaleski, 68, of Caledonia, Ontario, and Marilyn Jackson, 67, of Vancouver.

Lacoe was "a man who worked hard all his life and was finally, slowly going into semiretirement and he was really excited about taking this trip," said Jean-Luc Morin, who worked with Lacoe for 14 years. Lacoe's wife, Line Carrier, 55, was among the four injured Canadians.

The couple had been touring the southern United States in a recreational vehicle. They left it at a campground in McAllen and boarded the bus for a whirlwind trip in northeastern Mexico, Carrier's son Christian Poulin said.

"They raised their family, worked hard, raised a family, thinking about themselves — and it was time to do that — and suddenly misfortune has befallen them," Poulin said.

Ron Christy, 73, of West Liberty, Iowa, was an avid bocce ball and shuffleboard player who operated the sound system for dances and church services at an RV park in Donna, Texas, where he wintered with his wife Margaret Christy, 69.

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Former 1970s radical released from prison

Associated Press

CHOWCHILLA, Calif. — A for­mer 1970s radical associated
with the group that kidnapped
newspaper heiress Patty Hearst
fleeing from her California prison
sentence Tuesday, ending a
legal drama that harkened back
to a violent era of social unrest.

Sara Jane Olson, 62, was freed
from the Central California
Women's Facility in Chowchilla shortly after mid­
night and was allowed to serve
her yearlong parole in Minnesota, the state she adopt­
ed during her 24 years as a
fugitive.

Olson served seven years —
half her sentence — after plead­
ing guilty to helping place pipe
bombs under Los Angeles Police
Department patrol cars and
participating in the deadly 1975
robbery of a bank in a
Sacramento suburb.

The crimes took place while she
was a member of the Symbionese Liberation Army, a
relatively short-lived but violent
group that sought to overthrow
the government while engage­
ing in killings, robberies and gun
battles with police. Then she
was Kathleen Soliah; she
changed her name after fleeing
to Minnesota.

Among the group's victims
was 42-year-old Myrna
Opalsh, a mother of four who
was gunned down during the bank
robbery.

"I'm just glad that the former
SLA members were finally held
accountable for the murder of
my mom," Jon Opahl, who
is now living in Southern
California, said Tuesday after
hearing of Olson's release.

"It does finish out this chap­
ter, and I hope it's the last chap­
ter," he said. "I'm glad she's
leaving the state."

Olson was released by mis­
take a year ago after California
corrections officials miscalculat­
ed her parole date; she was re­
arrested after spending five
days with her family.

Authorities now say she has
served the proper seven-year
sentence, she had been sen­
tenced to 14 years but got time
off for good behavior and prison
work.

"She was definitely relieved that it all went smoothly," said
David Nickerson, one of Olson's
attorneys.

He said Olson and her hus­
band, Dr. Gerald "Fred"
Peterson, were trying to make
travel arrangements to return
to their home in St. Paul, Minn.,
and their three daughters. A
bouquet of flowers was left at
the couple's home Tuesday
morning, but no one was there
to receive it.

Not everyone in Minnesota
will be happy to see Olson
return.

Minnesota Gov. Tim
Pawlenty, and police protec­tive
leagues in Los Angeles and St. Paul wrote Gov.
Arnold Schwarzenegger, urg­ing him to have Olson solve
her parole in the state where
she committed her crimes.

Some Minnesota lawmakers
also called for Olson to remain
in California.

"I think today is a slap in the face of California law enforce­
ment and (other) law enforce­
ment," Los Angeles Police
Protective League President
Paul Weber said in an interview.

Schwarzenegger said he
defferred the decision to the cor­
rections department.

Department spokeswoman
Terry Thornton said parole
decisions are intended to give
former prisoners the best
chance of reintegrating into society and avoiding re-arrest.

"Being with their family increases the chances that they
will succeed on parole," she
said.

More than 1,000 California
parolees are being supervised
in other states. They typically
have a week to report to the state
in which they will serve
their parole.

Several hours after her
release from the prison, which
sits among orchards and vine­
yards about 150 miles southeast
of San Francisco, Olson and her
husband returned to a Madera
County parole office to finish
parole work.

Neither her lawyers nor cor­
rections officials would say
where they went afterward,
other than to say they were
making arrangements to leave
the state.

Olson's mother and younger
sister declined to speak to
reporters when they returned
Tuesday afternoon to the family
home in Palmdale, a working­
class suburb in the high desert
north of Los Angeles.

In a brief telephone conversa­
tion with the younger woman
identified herself only as Martha. She
said she had not spoken in her
older sister since her release
from prison but had heard
heard from the group's fugitive
leader, Kathleen Soliah, the younger
woman said. "She's just glad not
having anything to do with them.

The Symbionese Liberation
Army was a band of mostly
white, middle-class young peo­
ples. In addition to the 1974
Hearst kidnapping, it claimed
responsibility for assassinating
Oakland's schools Superintendent
Morty Foster and the 1975 murder
of Alameda police officers
that killed five SLA members.

In a sign of those turbulent
times, the group adopted a seven­headed snake as its sym­
bol and the slogan, "Death to the fascist insect that preys
upon the life of the people."

We were young and foolish.
We felt we were committing an
idealized, ideological action to
obtain government-insured
money and that we were not
stealing from ordinary people.

Olson wrote in an apology
before her sentencing for the
bank robbery. "In the end, we
stole someone's life."

In Minnesota, Olson devel­
oped an identity that was
worlds apart from her
California past. She volunteered
in social causes and acted in
community theater while rais­ing
the couple's daughters. The
Olson home was a frequent site
dinner parties.

Her past resurfaced in 1999,
when she was driving a minivan
after she was paroled in February
2007 and was profiled on the television show
"America's Most Wanted."

All former, SLA members but
one have been released from
prison.

Emily Montague-Harris was
paroled in February 2007 after
serving half her eight-year sen­tence. She says she accidentally
killed Myrna Opalsh.
We would like to applaud Christie Pesavento ("A nation of cowards," March 31) for her willingness to confront issues of race that face this country. However, we feel that this particular line of dialogue may serve to undermine our collective efforts and stunt an honest and thorough conversation on race.

Firstly, one need not be the literal author of a particular piece of legislation to be a figurative one. Even if we grant Pesavento’s point, it would seem that we cannot demand accountability or moral responsibility from a President based on a particular bill passed through Congress. Is this the kind of slope we want to travel on?

Secondly, we do agree that it is unlikely that the New York Post cartoonist set out with an intent to create a racist cartoon. However, we cannot logically infer that a particular cartoon is not racist from a belief that intentions that caused this particular cartoon were decidedly non-racist. Simply put, it is possible for a cartoon to be racially offensive without its author intending racism, and since many black people believed it was racist, it was.

As a matter of course, media outlets and readers must be more sensitive to publishing potentially offensive material in a way that some of us may not be in everyday discourse. Consciously reflecting on, considering and publishing a reasonable and offensive (whether non-audience people regard it as offensive) is irrelevant if the cartoon were decidedly non-racist. Simply constructing arguments along the lines of “But my best Friend/President is black!” undermines the discussion on race.

Lastly, we wish to make two interrelated points. First of all, eye-witness accounts that people have historically been victims in this nation. This does not mean black people should continue to be victims, but to ignore acts (however seemingly innocuous) that may serve to perpetuate the racial divide is irresponsible.

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Lastly, we wish to make two interrelated points. First of all, eye-witness accounts that people have historically been victims in this nation. This does not mean black people should continue to be victims, but to ignore acts (however seemingly innocuous) that may serve to perpetuate the racial divide is irresponsible. Some blacks feel victimized in some situations, some don’t. Some tend to feel victimized more often than others. In any case, this judgement should be reserved solely for members of the black community.

We’re all for the part pari trying to contribute to dialogue on race, not fuel the fire.

On a different side of the coin, it is inherently difficult for a non-racial minority who has not had to cope with the lingering effects of racism (or the institutional), not the individual sort to empathize with those who have felt historically victimized just because of the color of their skin. But their experiences are a reality. Though race is, by most accounts, a socially constructed concept, it is still real insofar as we recognize it and have historically recognized it as a crucial factor in how we interact and have interacted with our fellow countrymen.

Pesavento calls on us to see each other as fellow humans, but we must not forget that race plays a significant part in our socio-cultural identities. We will always have a history of strained race relations, no matter how far they run in the distant past. The sentiment, however, that race does not sufficiently define us as humans is crucial. And our most important task is to balance these two notions in our construction of a truly diverse society.

We would like to thank Pesavento again for opening an opportunity for dialogue, and we sincerely hope that the dialogue does not die a tragic death at the end of the week.

This letter is written on behalf of the executive board of the Black Student Association. Its contributors include: Aaron Quarter, Megan Black, Danielle Keller, Chrisandrea Donauer, Courtney Hayes, Khat Thomas and Marquines Camp. They can be contacted at BSA@nd.edu.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Submit a Letter to the Editor at www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Ninety percent of the politicians give the other ten percent a bad reputation.

Henry Kissinger
U.S. diplomat and scholar

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The opportunity for brotherhood presents itself every time you meet a new person."

Jane Wyman
U.S. Actress

THE OBSERVER

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Eve充分了,每日新闻摄影,对话者和兄弟会。我们在这里聚集,为了反对种族歧视,为了保护黑人社区的利益。我们所有人都为这个目标努力,不是因为我们在种族问题上拥有相同的信念,而是因为我们都希望确保我们的声音被听见,我们的故事被讲述。种族平等是我们共同的使命,不仅要反对具体的种族歧视事件,还要反对通过媒体和对话的种族主义文化。我们希望通过这种对话,推动一个更加包容和和谐的社会,在这个社会中,每个人都能实现自己的潜力。
The blacker the berry the bigger the fool

For the first 15 years of my life, I wandered aimlessly through an analog wasteland, living almost entirely off of good intentions. After graduation, my studies focused upon generation of mobile phones. I was enthralled, but the wasteland was only getting worse. I dropped into quixotic hope, hoping that the mobile phone would work. When I dropped in to check my e-mail, I soon realized that it represented nothing. I had to log on to a computer in order to get in touch with someone when I wasn't home.

Nonetheless, every text message I texted out in 1999 caused a feeling of hollowness to grow around this wondrous device. At long last, I found a way to connect with people. The BlackBerry arrived in 2002. I soon realized that it represented the end of the line for the human and the Divine. It was the end of Michelangelo's painting, but also the beginning of the end of the world. I found a way to connect with people.

Furthermore, my Facebooking has improved exponentially since I got my BlackBerry. I give status updates in real-time now. Currently, "The Daft Punk is venting his disdain for inferior people with inferior phones". I've cut my average wall-to-wall response time down to 3.7 minutes, and I now adhere to a strict R.S.V.P. policy for all event and group invitations. Side note — you're welcome, "Need Numbers: Text My Phone While Drunk". Without me, you'd have zero responses. Maybe next time you'll think about getting a real phone instead.

Thank God I have my BlackBerry. Otherworldly, I'd be forced into second class citizenship and would be excluded from the conversations of Notre Dame's power elite. To offer you a concrete example from my semester abroad in London, take a conversation I had with a girl at the time and two other people (N.B. The Daft Punk has made up a lot of stories in his day, but this one is pretty much the truth). Three of the four people in the room had BlackBerries, I, unfortunately, had left mine in the States because I didn't think the BlackBerry culture had taken over London yet. In less than five minutes the three cool people in the room were BBM-ing (BlackBerry Messaging, for the ignorant layperson), instead of talking, while I just sat there and contemplated my miserable existence. I knew I was outclassed, and I cried myself to sleep for the rest of my time on that horrible island.

To be honest, the best part about my BlackBerry is that it has made me a better man. It's taught me how to communicate in ways I'd never dreamed possible, and has taught me which people to eliminate from my social circles. In a moment of weakness, I started dating a girl who didn't have a BlackBerry. Although we got along well and she was a wonderful person in many respects, after a few weeks it became obvious that things just weren't working out. She kept asking stupid questions like, "What is BrickBreaker?" and "How do you even use that keyboard?" I didn't say anything about it at the time, (The Daft Punk has some class, mind you), but I wanted to stream at her: "I have a BlackBerry, which means my time is valuable! Do you think I really have the luxury of wasting precious seconds and oxygen answering inane questions like those? Go call your mom with your Buzz and check your e-mail using America Online." You better believe that relationship didn't last. Social Darwinism got a bad rap in the 1800s but it really came through in the clutch for me there.

I'd love to stay and chat, but ... wait, who am I kidding? You could tell I was done with this conversation two minutes ago when I quit listening to you and started scrolling through the message boards on my favorite Web site, CrackBerry.com. For a glimpse of my awesomeness, search the website to see how I was willing to be hit with 100 paintballs on my bare chest in order to get a BlackBerry Storm. Shoot me a BBM sometime and maybe we'll discuss it. Until then, enjoy the SMS world. Loser.

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T.

Brad Blomstrom is a senior majoring in Finance & Economics. He is currently wandering the analog wasteland but is excited to join the BlackBerry generation this summer. He can be contacted at bblomstr@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
A history of the ‘Watchmen’

By NICK ANDERSON
Scene Writer

Twenty-four years ago, Alan Moore introduced a different world: Nixon was in his third term as president and the American dream was the government’s greatest asset. The subjects were all-but-Nixon in his third term as president and the subject of super hero comics. Nixon was the American dream, replaced with more flaws than the criminals they were outlawed. Dr. Moore’s epic 12-chapter graphic novel changed the way people looked at both the medium and the subject of super hero comics. Nixon was the American dream, replaced with more flaws than the criminals they were outlawed. Dr. Moore, with a sour taste in his mouth however, still thought he would choose a modern context to turn it into a full-length film. Jackie Earle Haley gives an outstanding performance, even though he is also excellent. He may be blue, but his voice is as thick with detail, its stories as dense as a piece of classic literature, it requires amazing special effects and it has a loyal fan base with high expectations. Director Zack Snyder is clearly a fan of the comic book and he struggles to keep his as close as possible to the original material. Some necessary changes were made, including a major twist in the ending, but the film stays mostly true to the comic. Jack Snyder, a golden figure after the release of “300.”

Snyder captures the spirit of ‘Watchmen’

By MAJJA GUSTIN
Scene Writer

“Watchmen” is based on a revolutionary 80s comic book many have never heard of, but “Watchmen” isn’t a tale of a superhero man from Krypton or a noble-hearted billionaire-vigilante. The subjects are all-too-human costumed superheroes, often with more flaws than the criminals they fight. It begins in America, with Nixon in his third term as president and nuclear war hovering over its head. The heroes of “Watchmen” were once society’s greatest protection and powerful tools of the government in the Vietnam War, but they have since been outlawed. Dr. Manhattan (Billy Crudup), however, still remains the government’s greatest asset. Once a nuclear scientist, Jon Osterman became Dr. Manhattan after a terrible lab accident. He can change matter at his will as dose as possible to the original set. It is not for the squeamish or the faint of heart. The violence is necessary. Unlike traditional comics, “Watchmen” strives to be brutally realistic. The costumed heroes don’t disarm their opponents and turn them in to the police. They kill them with bloody brutality. The violence, while gruesome, is necessary to the integrity of the film.

Snyder also succeeds in beautifully transitioning his film between the present story and important flashbacks. Many of the nuances of the plot are told through flashbacks, and they are necessary for character development. Snyder makes the scenes flow naturally, adding to the beauty of “Watchmen.”

Director: Zack Snyder
Starring: Billy Crudup, Jackie Earle Haley, Malin Akerman, Patrick Wilson

Drives the film. Jackie Earl Haley gives an outstanding performance, even though he is also excellent. He may be blue, but his voice is as thick with detail, its stories as dense as a piece of classic literature, it requires amazing special effects and it has a loyal fan base with high expectations. Director Zack Snyder is clearly a fan of the comic book and he struggles to keep his as close as possible to the original material. Some necessary changes were made, including a major twist in the ending, but the film stays mostly true to the comic. Jack Snyder, a golden figure after the release of “300.”

Contact Nick Anderson at nanders5@nd.edu

Contact Majja Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu
Wednesday, March 18, 2009

**Watchmen' fails to meet source material**

By SYMONY RYZNER
Scene Writer

Originally released in 1986, the "Watchmen" comic was almost instantaneously greeted with unanimous praise. Covering topics from warmongering to the deification of human scientists, it quickly gained popularity and ultimately achieved a spot on The Times 100 greatest novels. The film is a justification of the novel's relevance, yet it fails as an influence within current media.

For a movie that attempts to Xerox its source material, "Watchmen" introduces flaws that detract from its quality—instead of creating and establishing the uneasiness of a terrorist-like attack on one of America's heroes, the film chooses to mimic Nixon and commercials from the 80s. Despite consistent copying of the time period and characters from the comic for the film, "Watchmen" chooses to pursue topics that were insignificant to the viewers and destructive to the building tension. Important dialogues and soliloquies present in the comic were often rushed or avoided, most likely due to the philosophical subject matter that would not appeal to general audiences. An overlong sex scene detracts from the film by breaking momentum only to satisfy the director's apparent longing for R-rated material. The film often loses sight of its goal, its philosophy and its attempt to appeal to the masses.

Despite the lack of blockbuster actors, all of the characters are well received. Jackie Earle Haley takes on the role of Rorschach with perfect execution, providing both an image and a voice for a character that has fascinated fans for years. He plays the part as though he has lived the character and steals every scene in which he partakes. Billy Crudup as Dr. Manhattan is also memorable as he provides a foil to the mortal heroes. For the most part, "Watchmen" manages to surround itself with a high quality soundtrack to provide a sort of back-story into the very different world of Watchmen, starting with Bob Dylan's "The Times They Are A-Changin'". Other tracks, such as "All Along The Watchtower" by Hendrix, and "99 Luftballons" by Teutonen help solidify the films meaning through musical and imagery-oriented allusions and tracks by Tyler Bates contribute and create a feel for the film. Unfortunately these high quality moments are intermittent and often tracks, seemingly provided by the director, distract from the overall soundtrack.

The film has moments of brilliance, but succumbs to mediocrity with extreme frequency and this becomes frustrating for the audience. It reneges the viewers with strong characters but fails to deliver a strong conclusion. The development of the heroes seems wasted on the ending, which fails to dignify any characters other than Dr. Manhattan and Rorschach.

A common failure of many adaptations, "Watchmen" fails to establish itself as a film of significance by relying too heavily on the source material. It never quite becomes its own work, riding on the coat tails of its predecessor. Through Blake it builds characters but never quite establishes a soul of its own. The film endlessly relies on the graphic novel for guidance, sacrificing its own identity. As pleasant as it is to witness a cinematic treatment of the source material, "Watchmen" never comes to life on its own.

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"Watchmen' reminds audience of comic

By JACK THORNTON
Scene Writer

"Watchmen" is the only graphic novel included in Time Magazine's list of the 100 greatest novels of all time. Unfortunately, the film version of "Watchmen" will probably never be on anyone's list of the greatest movies.

On the surface, Alan Moore's novel is about masked vigilantes trying to solve a murder and prevent a possible nuclear war, a very common plot for any superhero movie or comic. What separates it from the rest of the pack are the complex characters and the depths that Moore goes to get inside their heads. The answers to these questions unfold in the gritty, intense and depressing world of "Watchmen." Almost all the heroes have major psychological problems, and their opinions of humanity are so negative that they allow themselves to operate almost completely free of conscience. The paranoid, crazy Rorschach tortures random people to get information from them and inflicts punishment on the criminals he captures without any real authority. The brutal Comedian tries to rape one woman, and murders a former love. The god-like Dr. Manhattan almost completely loses touch with humanity and feels little motivation to help prevent nuclear holocaust. The development and revelation of the vigilantes' characters through flashbacks are both gripping and repulsive, making "Watchmen" a thought-provoking book.

Sadly, the movie almost completely fails to go past the surface of the "Watchmen" story. Occasionally glimmers of the novel's themes come through, but on the whole it is merely another entertaining superhero movie, albeit a very dark, harsh and violent one. Although almost every frame in the movie directly corresponds to a panel of the book, the movie fails to capture the intricate philosophical depth that made the book riveting. Director Zack Snyder uses deep philosophical moments from the book as mere excuses to throw stomach turning violence. Snyder is very good at filming action sequences, but in matters of heart or head he fails to capture the book's brilliance. The philosophical insights into human nature illustrated by the characters are lost in a whirlwind of graphic violence and sexuality (the latter peaks in one awkward, unnecessary and painfully long love scene between Silk Spectre and Nite Owl). The only character in the movie who comes close to the emotion and intensity of the book's version is Rorschach (Jackie Earle Haley). A few other actors convey glimpses into their characters' true psyche, namely Patrick Wilson (Nite Owl), Jeffrey Dean Morgan (The Comedian), and Billy Crudup (Dr. Manhattan), but these moments are few and far between.

The other actors are average except for Malin Akerman (Silk Spectre II), who might be the worst actress on the planet.

The best part of this movie is how it reminds the audience of the comic book's brilliance. The film is not brilliant in itself. It seems that Alan Moore was correct when he insisted that his story simply could not be adequately portrayed on film.

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At best, 'Watchmen' reminds audience of comic
NBA

James scores Cavaliers’ last five points to seal victory

Spurs victorious over Timberwolves without Duncan; Horford, Smith lead Hawks to win over Kings

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James drooped a 3-pointer with 2.7 seconds left and added two free throws in the last 0.3 seconds to go as the Cleveland Cavaliers improved to 30-1 at home with a 97-93 win over the Orlando Magic on Tuesday night.

With Cleveland trailing 93-92 in a game soaked in playoff intensity, James, wearing green and gold, knocked down his 3. Magic center Dwight Howard was called for a 3-second violation on Orlando’s next trip, giving the ball back to Cleveland.

James was then fouled while shooting and made his two free throws as the crowd thundered him with chants of “MVP.”

Rashard Lewis missed a 3-pointer with 2.2 seconds left for the Magic, who came in with the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference’s road record, but couldn’t send the Cavs to their second home loss.

James added 12 rebounds and eight assists. Mo Williams added 21 points for Cleveland, which held the Magic to 18 points in the fourth quarter.

Howard had 13 points, 15 rebounds and six blocks for the Magic. But Orlando’s big man attempted just eight shots, none in the fourth quarter as the Magic chose to attack from outside.

Orlando took its last lead when Courtney Lee drove for a layup with 1:15 left in the fourth quarter. Howard had 13 points, 15 rebounds and eight assists. Mo Williams added 21 points for Cleveland, which held the Magic to 18 points in the fourth quarter.

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NCAA Men's Baseball USA TODAY/ESPN Top 25
team | record | points
--- | --- | ---
1 | North Carolina (16) | 14-2 | 755
2 | Texas (8) | 14-2 | 728
3 | Georgia (3) | 15-2 | 649
4 | Arizona State (1) | 14-2 | 638
5 | LSU (1) | 13-4 | 621
6 | CS Fullerton (2) | 13-3 | 618
7 | Miami FL (1) | 14-3 | 609
8 | Texas A&M (13) | 13-3 | 596
9. | Georgia Tech | 15-1 | 586
10 | Coastal Carolina | 15-1 | 580
11 | Oklahoma State | 14-2 | 527
12 | Rice | 14-5 | 516
13 | UC Irvine | 14-5 | 517
14 | Virginia | 15-6 | 529
15 | Arkansas | 15-6 | 528
16 | Oklahoma | 17-4 | 521
17 | Baylor | 19-4 | 508
18 | TCU | 19-4 | 518
19 | Clemson | 11-4 | 502
20 | Duquesne | 11-4 | 471
21 | Pepperdine | 11-5 | 450
22 | UC Riverside | 10-3 | 477
23 | Cal Poly | 11-4 | 505
24 | New Mexico State | 6-6 | 490
25 | Florida | 7-5 | 492

NCAA ESPN.com/USA Softball Collegiate Top 25
team | record | points
--- | --- | ---
1 | Florida (19) | 27-2 | 497
2 | Alabama | 29-2 | 472
3 | Washington (1) | 24-3 | 452
4 | Stanford | 24-1 | 436
5 | UCLA | 24-0 | 432
6 | Tennessee | 23-3 | 392
7 | Texas | 21-4 | 395
8 | Michigan | 25-7 | 350
9 | Georgia | 16-4 | 326
10 | Oklahoma | 23-8 | 319
11 | Arizona State | 25-6 | 310
12 | Northwestern | 17-9 | 306
13 | Missouri | 22-3 | 295
14 | Ohio State | 23-8 | 244
15 | Arizona State | 27-6 | 298
16 | Louisville | 23-2 | 191
17 | Marquette | 17-4 | 187
18 | North Carolina | 21-7 | 180
19 | St. Louis | 19-5 | 155
20 | LSU | 16-5 | 150
21 | Depauw | 11-7 | 94
22 | South Dakota State | 9-8 | 80
23 | Texas A&M | 21-10 | 64
24 | South Carolina | 14-7 | 72
25 | Fresno State | 14-12 | 60

NCAA Men's Lacrosse Nike/Inside Lacrosse Poll
team | record
--- | ---
1 | Virginia (13) | 8-0
2 | Syracuse | 8-1
3 | Notre Dame | 8-0
4 | Penn | 9-1
5 | Princeton | 6-1
6 | UMass | 6-2
7 | Maryland Hoyas | 10-5
8 | Duke | 6-2
9 | Harvard | 3-1
10 | Maryland | 5-2
11 | North Carolina | 7-2
12 | Brown | 1-1

Tuesday, March 18, around the dial 
**NBA**

**Houston Rockets forward Carl Landry, above, was shot in the leg early Tuesday morning. The former Purdue star is expected to miss one to three weeks with minor injuries stemming from the incident.**

Associated Press

**HOUSTON — Houston Rockets forward Carl Landry is expected to miss one to three weeks after he was shot in the leg early Tuesday while driving near his home. The injury was minor, and the team said the former Purdue star was treated at a hospital and released. Landry, who also dislocated a finger on his left hand, also was examined by team doctor Tom Clanton.**

**The shooting occurred about 2:30 a.m., a few hours after the Rockets returned from a game at New Orleans. Landry drove home after the team arrived about 12:30 a.m. Houston police said Landry was driving his sport utility vehicle southbound on a city street, when a northbound car swerved into his path and collided with his vehicle. Landry and the driver of the other vehicle made U-turns and the vehicles collided again and Landry's SUV hit a utility pole. Smith said Landry got out of his SUV to inspect the damage, and was shot by one of the two occupants of the car.**

**Smith said Landry went to the hospital and released. Landry, who also dislocated a finger on his left hand, also was examined by team doctor Tom Clanton. Smith originally said the incident occurred about 4 a.m., but said later that was the time authorities were notified. Smith did not know if Landry was the person who called police. Landry had a female passenger in his SUV, and she was not injured, police said. General manager Daryl Morey visited Landry at the hospital and said he sustained a surface wound that was no worse than a calf strain.**

**"We're just happy Carl is OK," Morey said. "By what we can understand, he was very lucky — obviously unlucky to have this situation happen to him, but very lucky that he came out without anything major." The 6-foot-9 Landry has become a valuable player off the bench for the Rockets, averaging 9.3 points and five rebounds in his second NBA season. He had 12 points and six rebounds in Monday's 96-84 win that kept Houston in third place in the Western Conference standings.**

Houston coach Rick Adelman said he had not talked to Landry since the shooting, but several players had checked in with his teammates.

**"He just sounded happy, blessed," said point guard Aaron Brooks. "It was a situation that pretty much anyone could've been in. He's just blessed to be OK, that he's alive and that he'll be back and be Carl again.**
**Associated Press**

**DALLAS** — For three quarters, the Dallas Mavericks showed they'd finally learned how to handle an injury-depleted team. Then, they nearly blew it.

Richard Hamilton and Allen Iverson (back) also out of the picture, the Pistons were missing a combined average of 48.5 points per game, and were out of whack from the start.

Dallas made its first six shots, while Detroit missed six of its first seven shots.

Dampier put Dallas back up by 10 with 2:10 left, but Detroit never went away. In the final 18 seconds, Paul Pierce missed a thunderous dunk.

It was a fitting end to a frustrating night for the Celtics, who were trying to clinch at home with points allowed in another disappointing loss for a team that's struggling and misfiring again.

Boston coach Doc Rivers said, "This is the most unprofessional team I've ever been on." It was a feeling end to a frustrating night for the Celtics, who were trying to clinch at home with 29:28 left. That led to an automatic ejection for the 2009.

The victory against a short-handed team was quite a switch for the Mavericks. In the last month, they were drubbed by San Antonio when the Spurs were without Tim Duncan and Manu Ginobili, and lost to Oklahoma City when it was without its top two scorers; the loss to the Thunder was the third straight game in which Dallas was outrebounded 43-33. The victory against a short-handed team was quite a switch for the Mavericks. In the last month, they were drubbed by San Antonio when the Spurs were without Tim Duncan and Manu Ginobili, and lost to Oklahoma City when it was without its top two scorers; the loss to the Thunder was the third straight game in which Dallas was outrebounded 43-33.

**NEW ORLEANS** — The New Orleans Hornets continued their roll, and the Pistons scooping up rebound after rebound and converting them into points, they wound up scoring on their first nine possessions of the second quarter and were within 90-85.

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Theodore blanks Capitals in win

Drury scores final goal in shootout to give Rangers the victory over Canadians

Associated Press

SUNRICE, Fla. — Jose Theodore shut out Florida through two periods, and then his Washington Capitals teammates took care of the Panthers all by themselves in the third.

Theodore made 19 saves Tuesday night, in earning his second shutout of the season, and lifted the Capitals to a win over the slumping Panthers, who once again manage a shot in the third period.

"No shots in the third period," Theodore said, "that's a first for me."

Brooks Laich and Viktor Kozlov scored for Washington, which earned its fourth win in five games. Mike Green added an empty-net goal with 1:27 left, and John Erskine had two assists.

"I thought the defense as a whole played as good as I've seen them play all year," Washington coach Bruce Boudreau said. "In hold them to zero shots in the third period and 13 in their building, I believe that they had to win was quite a testament."

Florida dropped a fourth straight game for the first time since late December. The Panthers hadn't lost two consecutive home games since January.

"Tonight was the first night I've been really disappointed with how we've played," Florida coach Pete DeBoer said. "To this been very few nights this year when I've questioned our effort level. They haven't always been pretty and we haven't always won but usually we've brought a good desperation level, and the effort's always been there. Tonight, it was questionable."

Washington remained in third place in the Eastern Conference behind New Jersey, which beat Chicago 3-2. The Capitals had an opportunity to move into second place on Monday, but lost 5-1 to the Atlanta Thrashers in Washington's second lopsided defeat since a 6-2 loss to Florida on March 1.

Tommas Vokoun stopped 22 shots for Florida, which is in the midst of a five-game homestand.

Kozlov had lost two previous starts against Washington this season and is 1-6 in his last seven games against the Capitals.

"They played their third game in four nights. We didn't take advantage of that," Kozlov said. "It's tough. We need to get our players going and get some kind of spark and it's crucial time of year."

The Panthers went 8-5 in February but the team, coming off a 4-3 shootout loss to Tampa Bay on Saturday, has been struggling of late. Florida, which has not been to the playoffs since 2000, entered Tuesday's game in ninth place in the East. The Panthers are one point behind eighth-place Carolina.

"If you can't look at the standings and create that desperation now, I don't know how you create it," DeBoer said. "We know where we're sitting and the fight we're in. That should be self-manufactured this time of year. You're not going to create that if they can't create it themselves."

Kozlov's goal made it 2-0 at 2:36 of the third period, beating Vokoun with a wrist shot from the top of the left circle. The Capitals took a 1-0 lead with Laich's short-handed goal at 5:46 in the second period.

Lanigan's shot from a sharp angle found the back of the net for his 18th goal.

"I threw the puck at the net," Laich said. "I watched the rebound and he decided to sit the crease, maybe he played the angle a little bit too much. It's a lucky goal, but you throw the puck at the net, you never know what happens."

Alex Ovechkin, held without a point for the first time in 11 games entering Tuesday night, did get an assist on Green's goal, but it was the first time in a month that he has had back-to-back games without netting a goal.

Rangers 4, Canadiens 3

MONTREAL — Chris Drury put the New York Rangers ahead for good with their final shot, and the Montreal Canadiens ultimately ran out of comebacks.

Drury scored the deciding goal in the shootout to give New York a win over Montreal on Tuesday night.

Markus Naslund and Nik Antropov beat Carey Price on the Rangers' first two attempts before Drury scored to seal the win for New York, which brokethree one-goal leads in regulation.

Henrik Lundqvist, who made his 60th start of the season, stopped Andrei Kostitsyn on the Canadiens' first attempt after making 26 traditional saves. He also made big stops by Alexei Kovalev and Andrei Markov as the Canadiens drew even twice in the shootout by converting each of their next two attempts.

It was very disappointing to let in two out of three, but they're pretty skilled. You have to give them that," Lundqvist said. "When I came in here I thanked Drury right away. It was a big goal. We didn't have to come back for another round, and that's a huge point for us."

New York moved one point ahead of Montreal into sole possession of sixth place in a tightly contested Eastern Conference playoff race.

"We found a way," Rangers coach John Tortorella said. "Both teams I thought played hard and it could have gone either way, but we found a way to win it."

Antropov, Nikolai Zherdev and Ryan Callahan all scored to stake the Rangers to leads.

"We just played 65 minutes of playoff hockey," Antropov said. "It was up and down, it was great feeling. The fans were the same as we played when we was in Toronto because these are both Original Six teams, so it's always a rivalry and a nice atmosphere."
United States stays alive with 9th-inning win

America overcomes a two-run deficit in the 9th to defeat Puerto Rico in the second round of the World Baseball Classic
Detroit rallies in final minutes to beat Philly

Penguins’ Malkin reaches 100 points in win

Associated Press

DETROIT — The Detroit Red Wings’ patience and hard work paid off.

Johan Franzen and Henrik Zetterberg scored 1:32 apart in the third period to wipe out a one-goal deficit and rally Detroit to a 3-2 win over the Philadelphia Flyers on Tuesday night.

Pavel Datsyuk had a goal and an assist, and Franzen also had an assist for Detroit, which hasn’t lost to Philadelphia at home since Nov. 4, 1988 (14-0-2). Chris Osgood made 24 saves.

"It’s the end, we found a way," Zetterberg said. "We made their defense tired because we stayed in their end a long time. Eventually with patience and shooting the puck, the puck went in.”

Scott Hartnell had a goal and an assist, and Joffrey Lupul also scored for Philadelphia. Marc-Andre Fleury added a 2-0 shutout.

"We’ve got some work to do to catch up with them," Flyers coach John Stevens said. "The Red Wings are the defending Stanley Cup champions and have the most points in the NHL this season. Philadelphia is tied for second in the Atlantic Division.

Franzen made it 2-2 at 9:47 of the third period with his 29th goal. It was set up by Datsyuk, who got to a puck along the left wing boards and avoided defenseman Ryan Parent at the same time. Datsyuk then sent a cross-ice pass to Franzen, who put a shot on Fleury, but Fleury touched it with his glove to make the save.

"It was Fleury all over the ice," Osgood said. "Making good plays, backchecking, stealing pucks. Zetterberg broke the tie with 8:41 left when he scored from the left circle, his 29th goal. "This game’s fair. If you do things right and do them right longer, you tend to win more often," Detroit coach Mike Babcock said. "We made a mistake a couple times and they scored on their chances, but I thought it was fair. I thought that puck with the longest got a win tonight."

Philadelphia held a 2-1 lead after two periods.

Lupul’s 21st goal gave the Flyers a 2-0 lead 4:25 into the second period. He beat Osgood from the right circle with a shot.

Datsyuk put the Red Wings on the board with 2:33 left in the second with his 28th goal, beating Brian Boucher high on the short side with a wrist shot from the outside of the left circle.

"It was just a great shot," Boucher said. "I didn’t give him much, I didn’t think I gave him much. It was just a great shot. It’s a different game if it’s 2-0 after two.”

Philadelphia led 1-0 after the first period despite being outshot 19-8.

Hartnell opened the scoring with 3:26 left when he took a long pass from Brayden Coburn for a partial breakaway and, while holding off Marian Hossa, beat Osgood.

It was Hartnell’s 26th goal. The Flyers had trailed after the first period in their previous 11 games.

Pittsburgh 6, Atlanta 2

Evgeni Malkin was held scoreless in three of his previous five games, and he missed practice Monday because he was ill.

It seemed the Penguins’ star was losing his grip on the NHL scoring title. One stellar performance was all Malkin needed.

The Russian All-Star tied a career-high with five points to surpass 100 for the second consecutive season and the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Atlanta Thrashers Tuesday night.

He played great tonight, and it’s fun to see that," captain Sidney Crosby said. "He’s playing well, everything he touches, he makes something happen. That’s a good sign for us when he’s going like that, and that’s a good sign for us when he’s going like that.

Malkin had two goals and three assists to give him 102 points in 67 games. He extended his lead in the scoring race over Crosby to 10 points.

“I’m happy because we won,” Malkin said. “We played the whole team played great. I did not feel great on the day off, but I was better today. Sergei Gonchar had a goal and three assists and Kris Letang and Crosby had two assists each for Pittsburgh in a game matching the two hottest streaks in the Eastern Conference.

Atlanta entered with a franchise-record six-game winning streak, and the Penguins improved to 11-1-3 under interim coach Dan Bylsma.

Bryan Little and Eric Boulton scored for Atlanta, which was playing without star wing Ilya Kovalchuk for the third straight game due to an unspecified upper body injury.

The Thrashers were miffed that rookie Zach Bogosian was knocked out of the game on a hit by Matt Cooke. Cooke was given a two-minute penalty for kneeing.

"It’s a different game if it’s 2-0 after two,” Thrashers coach John Anderson said. "The referee said (Bogosian) was injured, (Cooke) would have gotten five minutes. He was injured— he just didn’t lay on the ice."

That second-period incident stewed and likely led to a melee with 4:16 to play in which 44 penalty minutes were assessed and Boris Valabik sustained an unspecified injury in a fight with Eric Golick.

"To me (Bogosian) is an 18-year-old future superstar, and if people are going to protect superstars in this league then that was a knee in my book and in anyone’s book," Valabik said. "I think you can’t hurt anybody with a trip, and that (hit) you could hurt somebody with."

Chris Kunitz, Jordan Staal and Mark Eaton also scored for the Penguins, who are on a 9-0-2 run and are 9-1-1 in their past 11 at home.
Jazz end three-game losing streak with win

76ers triumph with Iguodala’s 3 at buzzer

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Deron Williams admitted that the Utah Jazz put an unwinnable end to a three-game losing streak.

The Jazz played well enough to beat the Washington Wizards 103-88 on Tuesday night, but they were always too little, too late. In the second half they finished 6-for-10 and had five assists. In the first half they were 27-for-41 on投手. They said, "for us, we'll take a win after a three-game slide."

Utah used a 7-0 run to pull away early, then really got going after a brief confrontation between Williams and Dixon in front of the Utah bench. Dixon caught Williams up high with a foul during a drive toward the basket with 8.07 left in the period. Williams had a few words for Dixon as he was on his way away by teammates, including Boozer, who charged Dixon and cleared out some room for his star point guard.

Williams made both free throws to give Utah an 11 lead, then a few minutes later bounced a backward pass between his legs to Okur, who drove for a layup to put Utah up 62-43. The Jazz was pretty, but Williams tipped it on his next assist when he threw the alley-oop before he was even at the midcourt line for a reverse dunk by C.J. Miles that put the Jazz up 64-43 with 5:51 left.

"I just looked up and was kind of surprised to see him do that open," Williams said. "I sneaking in a job at his teammate. "That means he wasn't rebounding."

Philadelphia 94, Los Angeles 93

Andre Iguodala scored 25 points, including a buzzer-beating 3-pointer, and the Philadelphia 76ers overcame a 14-point fourth-quarter deficit to stun the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

The Sixers were trailing 78-67 with 8:03 left in the fourth when Andre Iguodala scored 25 points, including a buzzer-beating 3-pointer, and the Philadelphia 76ers overcame a 14-point fourth-quarter deficit to stun the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

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The 14-year veteran drained a 3-pointer 19 seconds later, igniting a 20-2 blitz that turned Philadelphia’s 12-point deficit into an 86-80 lead with 5:24 to play. Marshall capped the rally with another 3-pointer, then hit his third 3 of the game to put the Sixers back in front 91-89 with 2:22 left.

Put Gasol hit two free throws for the Lakers with 1:39 to go, and Kobe Bryant—who scored 11 points during a foul-plagued 22-minute stretch—hit a 3-pointer with 93-91 lead after missing his previous five shots.

Then Andre Miller inbounded to Iguodala, who was covered loosely by Trevor Ariza before connecting from the top of the key.

The Lakers were ahead 59-58 when Bryant tried to set a screen for Ariza and was called for an offensive foul with 6:32 left in the third quarter. That was Bryant's fourth of the game, and the reigning MVP didn't report back in until the start of the fourth period.

In the meantime, the Lakers outscored Philadelphia 10-0 over the final 5:00 of the quarter to pull ahead 73-62, and Jordan Farmar's 3-pointer gave Los Angeles its biggest lead, 76-62, 16 seconds into the final period.
President Virginia over the weekend Wednesday, March was canceled due to rain and snow. Gumpf said she does not consider a team's record when preparing the team. "Let me tell you, anyone can beat you," she said. "We try to practice for every single team we play exactly the same. We just need to focus on what we do right, not what our opponent does right or wrong."

Senior pitcher Brittany Bargar (6-5) and sophomore pitcher Judy Valdivia (2-5) will each start a game for the Irish. Bargar holds a 1.47 ERA in 76 innings pitched, and Valdivia has a 4.12 ERA in 37 1-3 innings pitched. The Sophomore Sadie Pitzenberger leads the Irish offensively with a .322 batting average. Junior Heather Johnson and Christine Lux share the lead with 10 runs batted in apiece.

Lux, the team's first baseman, also leads the team on the defensive end. She has 92 put-outs and has yet to commit an error.

Gumpf said she would not be making any big changes to her lineup or field. "I think every time we're out there we're making little adjustments to get a little bit better," she said.

Pitchers rocket Brooke Gates was named Mid-American Conference player of the week on March 11. At the Bazz Classic, she batted .357 and had a 3.09 ERA with six strikeouts on the mound. This will be Notre Dame's last game before it begins Big East play Sunday against St. John's.

The first game of the doubleheader will begin today at 3:30 p.m. and the second will follow at 5:30 p.m.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyes2@nd.edu

NCAA Tournament Barack Obama is picking Louisville, North Carolina, Memphis and Pittsburgh for the Final Four in the NCAA men's basketball tournament. The First Hoops Fan indulged in one of the week's most popular pastimes, filling out his NCAA bracket Tuesday for ESPN. The network, which is posting Obama's bracket online Wednesday, and showing Andy Katz's report on "Sportscenter" at noon EDT, will use it to provide a preseason pick for NCAA championship favorite.

The president stuck primarily with No. 1 seeds. The sole exception was Memphis, seeded No. 2 behind Connecticut in the West regional. "It was an educated bracket," Katz said. "He knew what he was doing. It wasn't some random kind of pick. It was on some rational basis, some political favors or anything like that.

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Even with a lot on his mind, Obama seemed up on the most popular pastime, and he had picked teams which had won conference tournaments and what players were injured, he said.

He even had some good-natured arguing. Katz is picking Wake Forest and Connecticut to reach the Final Four, along with North Carolina and Pitt. The two men also disagreed on the eventual national champion.

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Curry scores 34 as Davidson defeats South Carolina

Battle scores eight in overtime to help Penn State escape George Mason

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Stephen Curry scored 19 points as Davidson started its latest postseason run with a 70-63 victory over South Carolina on Tuesday night in the NIT. The stage may not have been as large as the Wildcats' NCAA tournament opener a year ago, but Curry was just as spectacular.

The game was tied 51-all going into the second half. But Davidson fans feared the worst when Curry left with a knee injury.

"You lose, you're done," said Gamecocks coach Frank Martin. "And that thought definitely crosses my mind right there, but our huddles were very strong and we did it on the defensive end."

However, his spinning, twisting drive to turn the ball over with 6 seconds left on the clock, it resembled a game to me tonight," said Brey. "I think the second half was a better game for us tonight."

"This group has always been ready to compete and get back on the horse and try it again." Mike Brey

North Carolina State advances to semifinal as they take on Duke in the NCAA Tournament.

"The Blazers didn't help their own cause either, shooting just 5-for-13 from the field. With most of those misses coming in the second half, we were expecting that, but as the game went on, it felt more and more like a Big East game.

On the court, it resembled some of Notre Dame's Big East games as well. In wins over Rutgers and South Florida, the Fighting Irish needed to clamp down defensively to compensate for a struggling offense. The story was the same against UAB.

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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Laxers beat Rutgers in first Big East game of season

By MEGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

No. 11 Notre Dame celebrated St. Patrick's Day with an 18-9 victory over Rutgers in the first Big East game of the season on Tuesday. The Irish (7-1, 1-0) increased their winning streak to six games.

Leading Notre Dame were senior midfielder Mary Cryan, who scored four goals on five shots while Keena netted two of her five shots on goal in the third inning of Notre Dame's 5-4 win over Ball State.

Men's Basketball

One down, four to go

Irish beat Birmingham in first round of NIT

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Just because it was St. Patrick's Day Tuesday didn't mean the good Irish karma on campus would make things easy for Notre Dame. After all, Notre Dame was founded by a French priest and has a French name, and it was Alabama-Birmingham (UAB) who came dressed for the occasion in its road-green uniforms.

Nevertheless, No. 2-seed Notre Dame (19-14) was able to gut out a 70-64 win over the No. 7-seed Blazers (22-12) in the opening round of the National Invitational Tournament in front of an official crowd of 2,039 at the Joyce Center.

ND SOFTBALL

Squad set to kick off home play

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The weather got better at just the right time for the Irish. Notre Dame (8-10) will host a doubleheader against Toledo (1-10) today at Melissa Cook Stadium.

The games mark the home opener for the team, which spent the first part of the season playing in warmer locales.

Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said being at home should help her team.

"I think our advantage is that it's our first home game and that we're a good ball club," she said. "We're prepared to play."

The Rockets have not

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish beat Bingham in first career victory

By DEANNA GUMPF
Sports Writer

Dave Byers led the Irish slip by Cards in opener

By BILL BRINK

A close game came down to an infield single, but the ball rolled Notre Dame's way.

Sophomore catcher Cameron McConnnell's dribbler gave Notre Dame a 5-4 win over Ball State Tuesday at Eck Stadium.

Plenty of fans came out for Notre Dame's (11-5) home opener and enjoyed the 71-degree weather.

"We played on St. Patrick's Day and the luck of the Irish came through," Irish coach Dave Schrage said. "We couldn't get a sacrifice bunt down so we got a swinging bunt down and it ended up winning for us."

Women's Lacrosse

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Baseball

Irish slip by Cards in opener

Freshman pitcher Hudgens records first career victory

By BILL BRINK

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