Annual Holy Half Marathon raises thousands for charity as runners wind through grounds

Congressman Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., spoke Saturday in DeBartolo Hall to College Democrats from across Indiana.

By ROBERT SINGER
Assistant News Editor

Five months after helping to turn Indiana "blue" for the first time in 44 years and with their sights set on further change, College Democrats from across the state met Saturday in DeBartolo Hall for the 2009 Annual College Democrats of Indiana Convention to elect statewide officers and instruct members on fundraising tactics.

Congressman Joe Donnelly, a Democrat who represents Indiana's 2nd District, opened the convention by crediting campaign volunteers from last fall's election for helping to shift national electoral trends — and his own margin in the state was approximately 25,000 votes, he said. "This district is a Republican-leaning district. All of you worked hard across the state and here in our district in particular."

"I'm incredibly grateful to you," Donnelly added.

The conference attendees looked ahead to strategy, as local party leaders kept an eye on the future, emphasizing the importance of revitalizing the economy and the consequences of the 2010 midterm elections.
INSIDE COLUMN

War on Walsh begins

It has been over a year since the victory celebrated across campus on VW Day. Those hellish Amazons were stopped, their encroachment upon the rights of Otters and those who call Otters friends halted. Our war was just, our fighting superior, our valor unsurpassable, and our tum­mies furry and full of shellfish.

But since that victory, we free Domers have been guilty of a grave error. We have been content to rest on our laurels; frolicking, swimming and grooming, without a care in the world. We Sorinites, the vanguard of liberty and fashion sense, have had the wool pulled over our eyes.

Darkness has descended over the land. And for which we cannot stand! For too long, no respect. A darkness that treads upon Walsh begins.

The sleeping Otter has been awoken. The sleeping Otter has been awoken. It is upon us once again. Though the path is not necessarily those of The Observer.

D.D.D.WC.S.

Prime Minister

the actions of their own tyrannical and morally neutral dorm) to facilitate a game of intramural court and assigned responsibility in certain places. Victor McCarthy, we will continue our campaign, code named Operation D.D.O.W.C.S. Without cooperation, Quad War II will begin, not on the bases, but by the actions of their own tyrannical and greedy regime.

Our victory will be absolute. Signed,

The Men of Soriti College

The views expressed in the Ins­side Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

A self-editorial in the Friday, Mar. 20 edition of The Observer incorrectly stated the percentage of alumni donated funds that supported the University's ini­tiative to invite President Obama to Commencement. Of the $37.33 million donated by alumni of the university, 30 percent were in support of the decision and 70 percent were against. The Observer regrets this error.

OFFBEAT

Company to launch kosher Mexican tequila

NEW YORK — A New York businessman is launching a new kosher tequila in time for Cinco de Mayo. Martin Silver says Agave 99 will be on the market in time for the holiday that celebrates Mexico's defeat of French forces on May 5, 1862. Silver, president of Long Island-based Star Industries, says he wants to satisfy the crave for high-end tequila with one that observant Jews can drink.

Silver says a half million cases of the 99-proof kosher tequila are being produced at a Mexican plant using methods certified by a rabbi. It will retail for $41.95 a bottle. The product launch includes Mexican songs sung in both Yiddish and Spanish is set for May 5, but it will also be sold earlier for Passover, which starts at sundown on April 8 this year.

Man gets index finger caught in gas tank

SAGINAW, Michigan — A Michigan man has learned not to stick his fingers in certain places. Victor Harris, of Saginaw, Michigan, was pouring a fuel additive into his Lincoln Navigator sport utility vehicle Thursday when a piece of paper fell into the gas tank. Harris tried to fish the paper out, but his index finger became stuck in the gas tank.

WJRT-TV reported Harris tried to extract his digit for two hours before friends called the fire department. It took another two hours before emergency respon­sers cut the gas tank tube out of the vehicle. Doctors later removed Harris' finger from the tube. He received two stitches.

Information compiled from Associated Press.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WOULD YOU RATHER PLAY BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL IN RAIN OR SNOW?

Anna Nanigian sophmore Lyons

"Hail, preferably."

Chelsea Clark sophmore Walsh

"Snow. It's more fun."

Natalie Dehnen junior McGlinn

"Snow."

Neve Lundy sophmore McCall

"Wintry mix."

Steve Kubiak sophmore O'Neill

"Rolfs."

Steve Santay sophmore Alumni

"Definitely snow."

Sophomore James Sollitto carries senior Bill Columbus, both of Keough Hall, during the 'Storming of the Castle' event of the first annual Highlander Games Saturday.

IN BRIEF

A lecture hosted by the Higgins Labor Studies Program called ‘Working for Social Justice: From the Fields of Immokalee, Florida to the Fields of Silanos, Mexico’ will take place today at 7:30 p.m. in 131 DeBartolo Hall. Fair Food Across Borders national camp­aign coordinator Melody Gonzalez, ND '05, will give the lecture.

A lecture titled “To Cry or Not to Cry: Heritage, Genetic Identity, and the Ambivalence of Belonging in Argentina” will be given Tuesday by Dr. Graciela Cabana of University of Tennessee at 3 p.m. in 117 DeBartolo Hall.

The Center for Asian Studies will host a symposium called “The Church in Asia, Part 1: East Asia” Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium and Great Hall. The symposium aims to explore the past, present, and future of Catholicism in Asia, and will feature three speakers focusing on the Church in Japan, China and South Korea.

The play “Our Town,” by Thornton Wilder will be shown Tuesday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in Decio Mainstage Theatre of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The play was first published and produced in 1938, and depicts life in Grover’s Corners, New Hampshire, transforming the simple events of everyday exist­ence into universal truths.

Regular ticket prices: $15 gen­eral public; $12 senior/ND fac­ulty/staff; $10 students.

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

TODAY:

LOCAL WEATHER

HIGH 49
LOW 34

TONIGHT:

HIGH 49
LOW 34

TUESDAY:

HIGH 56
LOW 36

WEDNESDAY:

HIGH 50
LOW 32

THURSDAY:

HIGH 54
LOW 38

FRIDAY:

HIGH 55
LOW 35


The Observer • PAGE 2

Monday, March 30, 2009
GE to receive Hesburgh award

Special to The Observer

The General Electric Co., a multinational technology and services conglomerate, is the 2009 recipient of the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., Award for Exemplary Ethical, Environmental, Social and Governance Practices given by the University of Notre Dame.

Keith Sherrin, chief financial officer for GE, will accept the award on behalf of the company during a ceremony at 5:15 p.m. on April 1 in the Jordan Auditorium of Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business.

Chosen from a list of 20 companies, GE was nominated by Notre Dame MBA students for its record of ethics and corporate responsibility, said Patrick E. Murphy, marketing professor and co-director of the Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide.

"GE has a long-standing reputation for its strong code of ethics and for maintaining training programs in ethics," Murphy said. "The company also established its well-regarded ecocamera toward sustainability initiatives and recently became a signatory of the United Nations Global Compact."

Launched in 2000, the compact is an initiative intended to encourage businesses worldwide to adopt sustainable and socially responsible policies, and to report on their implementation.

This is the first year that a company rather than an individual has received the award, which formerly was known as the Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., Award for Ethics in Business.

Previous winners include Starbucks Chairman Howard Schultz, and Ronald Grzywinski and Mary Houghout of ShoreBank Corp. The award is sponsored by the Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide, the Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business, and the Notre Dame chapter of Net Impact.

Preceding the Hesburgh Award ceremony, the Frank Cahill Lecture will take place at 4:15 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium. The lecture will feature a panel of four current MBA candidates — representing finance, marketing, accounting and management — speaking on the topic of "Ethical Issues Faced by Young Managers."

The candidates will discuss an instance of facing an ethical dilemma earlier in their careers and how they solved it. The panel includes Terry Doyle, Shanin Dorflue, Chris Owens and Nicole Phillips.

Volcano spews, ash falls on city

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Alaska's Mount Redoubt continued to spew on Tuesday, sending plumes of ash tens of thousands of feet into the air that raised down on at least one Alaska town.

Also, for the first time, the volcano spewed a thin layer of ash on Anchorage — enough to force the shutdown of the state's largest airport.

The volcano got started early Saturday by sending an ash plume 50,000 feet into the air.

A second eruption occurred shortly after 2 p.m. and sent ash 45,000 feet. Another occurred about an hour and a half later and sent ash 35,000 feet into the air.

Some of it came down on Nikiski, a community near Cook Inlet about 50 miles from the volcano. A thinner layer fell on Anchorage, Alaska's largest city about 100 miles northeast of the volcano.

"The volcano is very mad at us for something. It is kind of grumpy," said Chris Waythomas, a geologist at the Alaska Volcano Observatory in Anchorage.

Linda Superman, owner of the Hunger Hut Bar in Nikiski, said the town received about one-eighth of an inch of ash. She said workers had to clear the ash from the water and throw it on the sidewalks of customers' cars so that the ash wouldn't scratch the glass when they turned their wipers on.

"It is all over," she said. "You can actually see the ash blowing through the air."

Another large explosion occurred at 7:23 p.m. Radar showed an ash plume 45,000 feet high.

After the first eruption, the observatory detected strong seismic activity lasting 20 minutes or more followed by an hours-long low-level tremor.

Alaska Airlines, the state's largest carrier, canceled all flights in and out of Anchorage on Saturday afternoon after Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport was shut down because of the ash.

As the volcano began erupting last Sunday, Alaska Airlines canceled about 185 flights.

Ash can cause engines to stall.

Ash can cause engines to stall.

The "Best Sports Column" category for his article titled "Irish look like horror flick," in which he sustains a horror movie metaphor throughout his post-game analysis after Notre Dame's loss to Pittsburgh.

Former University publications editor Kaitlynn Riely won first place in the "Best News Feature Story" category for her article profiling identical twins Donna and Diana Bevins who supported, and worked for, two opposing presidential candidates on Capital Hill.

Photo Editor Ian Gallivick took home two individual ICPA awards: first place in the "Best Feature Photography" category for his photo of Irish guard Eric Olsen, used on the Sept. 3 Irish Insider cover, and second place in the "Best Sports Photo" category for an action shot from the Oct. 27-28 game between Notre Dame's women's soccer National Championship final.

Senior Editor Pete McKee and current AD Designer Mary Jesse won first place in the "Best Overall Graphic" category for the two-page spread containing electoral votes map and graphs she designed for The Observer's presidential insider section.

Former Sports Editor Dan Murphy won second place in the "Best Sports Column" category for his article titled "Irish look like horror flick," in which he sustains a horror movie metaphor throughout his post-game analysis after Notre Dame's loss to Pittsburgh.

Former Scene writer and 2006 graduate Cassie Belek took home third place in the "Best Single Issue" category for its Nov. 5 edition and post-election coverage.

Book published on gender and faith

Special to The Observer

Kathleen Spross Cummings, assistant professor of American studies and associate director of the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism at the University of Notre Dame, is the author of "New Women of the Old Faith," an examination of how the role of the Catholic church in the Progressive Era, released by the University of North Carolina Press.

In the book, Cummings places Catholic women at the forefront of two defining developments of the Progressive Era: the emergence of the "New Woman" and Catholicism's shift to a territory of women's lives and building their character.

Cummings highlights four women: Chicago-based journalist Margaret Buchanan; Sister Julia Mcgroarty, S.N.D., Professor of Trinity College; Philadelphia educator Sister Assumption McEvoy, S.N.J.; and Katherine Eleanor Conwy, a Boston editor, public figure and anti-suffragist. Each story emphasizes that women who were faithful members of a patriarchal church were capable of trailblazing work on behalf of women, but regarded themselves as marginalized Catholics.

Although many opportunities were presented to women in the 20th century as a result of these changes, Cummings' subjects said they pursued goals not as "New Women" but within the boundaries of the "Old Faith." Cummings presents a strong argument for the need to devote more attention to religious identity as a factor in interpreting women's lives and building their character.

Cummings' research and teaching interests center on the study of American religion with a particular focus in the history of gender and Catholicism. She is a regular contributor to Commonweal, America and American Catholic Studies.
Dems

continued from page 1

election.

Incoming Notre Dame College Democrats co-presi­dent Chris Rhodenbaugh said improvements were made in coordination between local politicians and campus groups to help ensure the 2010 elections will be set up for the first time in Indiana. Rhodenbaugh said. Democrats currently control the Indiana House of Representatives with a 52-48 majority. But if that changes, Republicans will like­ly be able to control legisla­tion.

"A big deal with health care is that state legislators can control how much money is spent," he said. "If Republicans gain control, they would set income levels for the [State Children's Health Insurance Program]."

Lowering the minimum income for eligibility in this program would deprive chil­dren of needed health services, Rhodenbaugh said.

Congressman Ryan Dvorak, who represents Indiana's 8th District, talked about the challenges of putting federal stimu­lation dollars are going to help every school in Indiana. We are getting it through the budget in Indiana where money and that's unheard of. We are getting it through the research way by partnering with other universities."

Congressman Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, taped a mes­sage for the convention, urging members of the College Democrats to consider running for office. "We have to be ready in our youth to challenge the underly­ing assumption about what our capabilities and possibilities are," he said.

Contact Robert Singer at rsinger1@nd.edu

Marathon

continued from page 1

1:30:06.

Junior Catherine Casey, president of the Women's Running Club, finished sec­ond for women, and senior Megan Flynn was third.

Senior Richard Chapman was behind O'Connor, fol­lowed by junior Matthew Bartindale.

Bartindale, who had been training for the race since Christmas break, said he was expecting to be in the top 10 but was surprised to finish third place and to set a personal record, despite the harsh racing conditions.

"It was a great feeling fin­ishing the race ... " he said. "I was definitely freezing." The sophomore coordina­tors also reported that the Holy Half received sponsor­ships from Pangborn Hall, Cavanaugh Hall, NDTV, the Women's Running Club, Circle K, the Council of Representatives, the Morris Inn and the class of 2011.

Tate and Kickham were responsible for contacting these sponsors, as well as, designing the course, advertising the race and organizing food and music. They were extremely grate­ful to their committee who helped them.

"Sarah and I did do a lot, but we couldn't have done it without our committee," Tate said.

"I don't think I could explain to you just how amazing it felt," Tate said.

The energetic atmosphere continued as the runners ran around the stadium, past the library, along the perimeter of campus adjacent to Edison Road, to the Main Building, and around the lakes to South Quad — and then repeated the entire course.

Contact Nora Kenney at bkkenney@nd.edu

Moms

continued from page 1

lot of fun. It was especially fun and exciting for me because I'm from Dallas and I only see my immediate family during the summer and at Christmas. It was special to be able to see my mom during the semester. We had fun hanging out, and introducing them to my friends and their moms." Beckman said her mom attended as well.

"It was a great chance for my friends and their moms to meet and have a good time," she said. "My mom really enjoyed the opportunity to just spend some time with me and to be able to meet all my friends."

Overall, Beckman said she believed that students enjoyed the event.

"I think that overall most enjoyed the event," she said. "With this type of event there are always a few glitches, but overall it was a fun time."

Juniors and their moms were offered a variety of activities to participate in throughout the weekend. Moms were able to take a tour of campus, as well as many other planned events. On Friday, mothers and daugh­ters were invited to a wine and cheese tasting event. Later Friday night, students and their moms could go bowling. Saturday's events included yoga and pilates, so mothers could experience a class in Angela Athletic Facility. They also had the opportunity to experience the College's histo­ry by taking a tour of the Heritage Rooms.

After the daytime events, Moms was held at the Church of Our Lady of Loretto. Then a special dinner was held for the mothers and daughters at the Windsor Park Conference Center.

"Like that Saint Mary's has a weekend for just moms and dads because the dynamic is a little different when you're with just one parent, as opposed to both at the same time," Beich said.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith0@ndmmail.edu

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Eight dead in nursing home shootings

Gunnman opened fire on residents and nurses Sunday in North Carolina

Associated Press

CARTHAGE, N.C. — A lone gunman burst into a North Carolina nursing home Sunday morning and started shooting "randomly," barging into the rooms of terrified, sparsely populated residents without explanation while killing seven residents and one of his own.

Authorities said Robert Stewart shot himself and three others, including the Carthage police officer who confronted him in a hallway of Pinelake Health and Rehab and stopped the brutal attack.

"He acted in nothing short of a heroic way today, but for his actions, we certainly could have had a worse tragedy," said Ms. County District Attorney Maureen Griffin, describing Stewart, an officer, who performed his job the way he was supposed to and prevented this from getting even worse than it is now. By late Sunday afternoon, Krueger had charged Stewart, 45, of Moore County, with eight counts of first-degree murder and a single charge of felony assault of a law enforcement officer. Authorities offered few other details, allowing only that Stewart was not a patient or an employee at the nursing home and isn't believed to be related to any of the victims.

"I don't know if the emotion entirely has passed," said Police Chief Chris McKenzie, a Carthage native who said nothing of the nearly 20-year law enforcement career compared to Sunday's shooting. "It's a small community built on faith, and faith will get us through." While authorities declined to comment on a possible motive, Stewart's ex-wife said he had been reaching out recently to family members, telling them he had cancer and was preparing for a long trip and to "go away." Sue Griffin said she was married to Stewart for 15 years, and while they hadn't spoken since divorcing in 2001, he had been trying to call her during the past week through her son, mother, sister and grandmother. "He did have some violent tendencies from time to time," Griffin said. "I wouldn't put it past him. I hate to say it, but it is true." Authorities said Stewart began his rampage around 10 a.m. at Pinelake Health and Rehab in the North Carolina Sandhills about 60 miles southwest of Raleigh, firing shots inside and outside the home. It ended when 23-year-old Officer Justin Garner traded gunfire with Stewart in a hallway, wounding the suspect.

"He just comes in and just starts shooting everything around," said Sen. Harris Blake, of Moore County, relating the story told by sheriff's officials.

Garner was wounded in his leg, and police said Stewart wounded two others. One person remained hospitalized Sunday night at FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital in nearby Pinehurst, and police would only say Stewart was in the custody of the Moore County Sheriff.

Krueger said the victims were Pinelake residents Tessie Garner, 88; Lillian Dunn, 88; Josie Musser, 88; Bessie Hendrick, 78; John Goldston, 78; Margaret Johnson, 59; Louise Decker, 59; and nurse Jerry Avent, whose age wasn't immediately available.

An investigator carries a weapon outside the nursing home where a gunman killed eight people and injured several others Sunday morning in Carthage, N.C.

The state's jobless rate grew slightly in February to 9.4 percent, though nearly 800 homeowners in the North Dakota and Minnesota communities most threatened by the swollen river hold insurance, extracting sensitive documents from the private office of the Dalai Lama, investigator Greg Walton said.

"We uncovered real-time evidence of malware that had penetrated Tibetan computer systems, extracting sensitive documents from the private office of the Dalai Lama," Walton said.

Two of the nation's three major credit agencies have dropped their forecast for home prices to about 5 percent, far below last year's 7 percent pace. Home prices have gained over 13 percent in the past year, but the increase is not enough to keep up with inflation. The median price of a home for sale in the country is $274,400, according to the National Association of Realtors. The median price of a home for sale in the country is $274,400, according to the National Association of Realtors.

"We're seeing a slowing in the pace of home price gains," saidNAARelator Association of Realtors President John Foreman. "This is a sign of the difficult market conditions we're currently facing." NAAR's president-elect, John Foreman, said the association is "very concerned" about the housing market and the nation's economy. "We're seeing a slowing in the pace of home price gains," Foreman said. "This is a sign of the difficult market conditions we're currently facing." NAAR's president-elect, John Foreman, said the association is "very concerned" about the housing market and the nation's economy.
continued from page 1

were encouraged to turn off their lights for the hour: "Some students watched movies in the dark or only used the light of the television to do homework," Bunn said.

This is the third year of the event, and Notre Dame's second year of participation. Membership in the event is growing at a rapid pace, with the number of cities participating in the hour increasing almost tenfold this year. In 2007, the first year of the event, Sydney, Australia was the only city to switch the lights off. Last year, over 50 million participated in about 400 cities including Notre Dame. "This year a whooping 3,900 cities participated," said Bunn. "I am proud to say that Notre Dame is one of them."

The University was highly focused on the task of unifying the world in the fight against climate change, Bunn said. She said she hoped the University's participation will show Notre Dame's concern over the issue. "Notre Dame's participation in this event reflects the University's mission to have a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good," Bunn said.

"Notre Dame united the world to show that we care about the state of the climate and that we want solutions to address climate change issues," she said.

The event was sponsored on campus by the Notre Dame Energy Center and GreenND, which had the task of seeing that certain actions were taken on campus to ensure its success.

"Our job was to No.1, turn off the lights in the movements of Notre Dame, the things that symbolize our school and would declare our participation," Bunn said. "Also, No. 2, to spread publicity to get the word out to students and staff that no matter where they were at 8:30 Saturday night to turn off the lights."

Bunn said the movement to turn off the lights was inspiring and empowering. "Yes, sometimes I wonder if it really makes a difference if I switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs, recycle or ride my bike instead of driving," Bunn said. "Every person can make a difference because this is something we can only do together."

With the data collected from this year's Earth Hour, the WWF will go to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Copenhagen in December to push for legislation on dealing with the climate change situation. "I think it already has made a statement to local and global leaders," Bunn said. "The WWF is going to share the stats from Earth Hour 2009 in December at the Copenhagen convention. When world leaders are meeting to figure out the next policy to take the place of the Kyoto Protocol, which hopefully will accurately and effectively deal with the causes and effects and find global support especially from the United States."

Contact Lisa Bunn at lnzbunn1@nd.edu

Lisa Bunn
junior

Games
continued from page 1

Other dorm teams participated in events and were awarded points for their accomplishments. "As a dorm, we really wanted to choose an event that involved the Scottish heritage of the Hall's sponsor, the Duncan family," Duncan Hall president Tom Bacek said. "The event was chosen to raise money for the St. Baldrick's Foundation, a charitable organization devoted to childhood cancer research. My dorm wanted to show our support for a fellow resident of Duncan Hall who was diagnosed with cancer this past fall semester, and this was his charity of choice."

Duncan Hall raised $400 for St. Baldrick's, and the dorms who competed in the games raised over $300 in donations, Bacsik said.

"These donations were all collected in the last month and really show the great support that has been generated for this event and for the St. Baldrick's Foundation," he said.

Despite the cold weather, Bacsik said the event had a good turnout.

As a result of the positive response and success of the Highlander Games in this inaugural year, he said, the residents of Duncan Hall look forward to making the Games their annual signature event, and to expanding next year's participation across campus and increasing the charitable contributions.

Contact Casey Kenny at ckenney@nd.edu

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Getting Acquainted with Catholic Charities

Fr. Larry Snyder, President of Catholic Charities USA will discuss:

- The mission of Catholic Charities
- Getting involved in Catholic Charities
- Professional and entry-level positions

Monday, March 30, 2009
5:30-6:30 p.m.
Pizza Provided

Giovanni Commons, Lower Level
Mendoza College of Business

For information contact (574) 631-3277 • Jean.Meade@nd.edu

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Recycle The Observer.
Chevrolet, crisis in this country and that everyone must focus on the big picture—reviving the economy and getting credit flowing again so everyone wants his long-term focus threatened by what his administration always intended to do more to receive additional financial aid from the government.

They're not there yet, said Obama.

The president was set to announce Monday that the government to provide more money in exchange for tough concessions from unions, bondholders and others.

"We think we can have a successful restructuring. But it's got to be one that's realistically designed to weather the storm and to emerge—at the other end—much more lean, much mean, and competitive than it currently is," Obama said.

GM and Chrysler are suffering on $17.4 billion in government loans. They have been hard hit by the economic downturn and the worldwide shift away from auto sales.

GM has $135 billion left and might need more.

IN BRIEF

WASHINGTON— Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner defended his approach to make sacrifices. But it's got to be one that's realistically designed to weather the storm and to emerge—at the other end—much more lean, much mean, and competitive than it currently is," Obama said.

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Special election seen as first test to Obama

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — Two months ago, it would have been hard for the most ardent political junkies to find the state's 20th Congressional District on a map. On Tuesday, it will be the center of the American political landscape, with Republicans hoping desperately a win there will knock President Barack Obama off stride and Democrats looking to build on the momentum of the past two years.

Republican Jim Tedisco, a state legislator for 27 years, faces Democrat Scott Murphy, a businessman who has the backing of the president and influential unions. The special election is to replace Kirsten Gillibrand, who was named to the U.S. Senate in January after former Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton became secretary of state.

The contest quickly became about issues far beyond the sprawling, mostly rural district, which stretches along the Hudson Valley river from just north of the New York City suburbs to just below the Canadian border. Voters will flip levers for a president, his plan to save the economy and any other president.

Obama, 58, said he was campaigning 24 hours a day, with a goal of hitting every diner in the district by Tuesday. On Saturday and Sunday he knocked on 400 doors to talk to voters, and he planned to hit all 10 counties in the district in the final three days of the campaign. By Sunday, he'd been in six.

Tedisco, 58, said he was campaigning 24 hours a day, with a goal of hitting every diner in the district by Tuesday. On Saturday and Sunday he knocked on 400 doors to talk to voters, and he planned to hit all 10 counties in the district in the final three days of the campaign. By Sunday, he'd been in six.

Tedisco lives outside the district, in Glenville, an issue Democrats brought up often, so he can't vote for himself.

Murphy, a Columbia, Mo., native, also was traversing the district over the weekend and got help Sunday from Gillibrand and the state's powerful senior Sen. Charles Schumer, No. 3 in the Senate Democrats' command structure and the architect of Democratic election victories in 2006 and 2008. A win for Tedisco, the Assembly's minority leader, would show his popularity even if he can't vote for himself.

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Republican Jim Tedisco, a state legislator for 27 years, faces Democrat Scott Murphy, a businessman who has the backing of the president and influential unions. The special election is to replace Kirsten Gillibrand, who was named to the U.S. Senate in January after former Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton became secretary of state.

The contest quickly became about issues far beyond the sprawling, mostly rural district, which stretches along the Hudson Valley river from just north of the New York City suburbs to just below the Canadian border. Voters will flip levers for a president, his plan to save the economy and any other president.

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**Malawi**

**Madonna adopts, refuses to comment**

Associated Press

**LILONGWE** — Madonna toured an impoverished village and discussed plans Sunday for building a new school in Malawi, the central African nation where officials said she would begin proceedings this week to adopt a young girl.

Madonna, casually dressed with a white fedora, walked through the village of Chikholo, holding the hand of her 12-year-old daughter, Lourdes. Dozens of reporters looked on.

The 50-year-old pop star refused to answer questions about reports that she was in Malawi to adopt a four-year-old girl. She said it was "amazing" to be back in the country where she runs a charity organization and from where she adopted her son David, 3, last year.

Then she rushed away in a convoy of at least three sport utility vehicles, as crowds of shouting, waving children ran after her.

A security guard with the convoy said Madonna was speaking to villagers about building a school there, and she was seen looking at an artist's impression of the proposed building. Hours earlier, Madonna landed at the airport in Lilongwe.

Madonna was expected to appear Monday in court in Lilongwe to sign adoption papers.

A Malawian welfare official and another person involved in the adoption proceedings have said the girl Madonna is hoping to adopt is about 4 years old and her unmarried mother died soon after she was born. The girl's father is believed to be alive but no other details were available. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the case is considered sensitive.

A U.S. government official has also confirmed that an adoption bid by Madonna, an American, was under way. Madonna has faced harsh criticism for years over David's adoption. Children's advocacy groups accused her of wielding her immense wealth and influence to circumvent Malawian law requiring an 18- to 24-month assessment period before adoption.

But locals were not so condemning.

Wilson Kalibwanji, a resident of Chikholo, said he would willingly place his own son in her care to ensure the boy a better life.

"We are poor people," he said Sunday. "If a child's mother dies, it is hard for the man to bring the child up.

"We are very glad to be back. We want to make up for lost time, and we are seized with the urgency of the time to interact with the man," Stern said to loud applause from the 2,600 delegates to the Kyoto U.N. talks.

They clapped again when Stern said the U.S. represented "our unique responsibility ... as the largest historic emitter of greenhouse gases," and that it was up to the U.S. to help lead the negotiations.

"Ultimately, this is a political process," he said. "The way forward is steered by science and pragmatism."

Stern said no one on his team doubted that climate change is real. "The science is clear, the threat is real, the facts on the ground are outright. The worst-case scenarios. The cost of inaction or inadequate action are unacceptable," he said. "A total change of tone from his predecessors."

Scientists warned recently that climate change is happening more rapidly that previously calculated and said the Earth could be in danger of a major climate change that would trigger widespread social disruption. U.N. scientists say rising sea levels caused by global warming threaten to swamp coastlines and entire island nations, and predicted increasing drought for arid countries, especially in Africa.

Obama has set aside $80 billion in his economic stimulus package for green energy, promised $150 billion for research over 10 years, and was tightening regulations on auto emissions, Stern said.

"America itself cannot provide the solution, but there is no solution without America," he said.

"It sent chills up my spine seeing the U.S. applauded," Keys Chatterjee of the Worldwide Fund for Nature said after Stern's speech.

It was only 15 months ago at Bali, Indonesia, that U.S. negotiators were booted when they threatened to veto an accord laying down a two-year negotiating process to replace Kyoto. They backed down when the delegate from Papua New Guinea, Kevin Conrad, told them if you are not willing to lead ... please get out of the way."
Today, student members of the Notre Dame Barrett Fund, an endowed fund for scholarships, met with Fr. Jenkins to discuss the treatment of, and official policy toward, Notre Dame's gay and lesbian students and employees.

Whenever the topic comes up, the Notre Dame administration invariably plays its trump card: 'The Spirit of Inclusion.' This, according to the Observer, is the Universität's official policy toward employees. Since 1997, nearly 90 percent of Fortune 500 companies protect employees from discrimination based on sexual orientation, as does the State of Illinois, as a matter of public policy. Other colleges and universities now have a legally-binding statement in some form or another, including several of Notre Dame's peer institutions (Duke, Vanderbilt, Northwestern, Stanford, Brown) and athletic rivals (Michigan, Penn State, etc.).

Even other Catholic institutions have followed suit. Duquesne University added sexual orientation to its clause last year and Boston College released a Notice of Non-Discrimination in 2005 that prohibits 'discrimination on the basis of a person's sexual orientation.' After acknowledging that its previous policy was 'not welcoming enough,' Notre Dame, meanwhile, remains obstinate.

Equally indefensible is the platitudinous, put-yourself-on-the-back-language of the Statement and Letter. We are invited to 'prize, value and welcome all people,' to 'condemn harassment and create a welcoming environment,' not of 'the spirit of inclusion' but from another. We are urged, implicitly, to be a community ' founded on justice and love' and to include 'all persons of good will.' In other words, we are supposed to think and feel very strongly and sincerely about the issue, but to never act on those warm fuzzy thoughts.

Underneath all this talk of principles is the University's severe longing for lawsuits. Although the Spirit of Inclusion does not mention it once, the open letter raises the specter of governmental and judicial overreach. This litigious high-ground is why the University encourages us to see homosexual students for more than just their sexual orientation, which is just one particular aspect of their character, but does the opposite in its official stance. It is also why the University administration is afraid to affirm the dignity of some of its students and staff in its official policy. The real issue is not principles; if Notre Dame adds "sexual orientation" to its clause, and has to take its case to court, it would cost a lot of money even if the University won. So Notre Dame gives us what is essentially a non-response to the issue, leaving the treatment of homosexuals as a perenni­al, non-"Vagina Monologue" political hot potato that always seems to get passed off. In other words, gay and lesbian students are, literally, not worth the trouble.

And so the University continues to rely on this flawless piece of bureaucratic rhetoric. It appeals to our collective con­science on the one hand while commit­ting to continued inaction on the other. It is designed to give the reader a sense of complacent well-being and to discour­age critical thought about what it actual­ly says and does. It insists that homosex­uals are equally valued members in the community but refuses to give them the same legal protection that everyone else gets. It is, to quote George Orwell, a doc­ument designed "to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind." By continuing to fail back on the statement, Notre Dame is not saying that it has done all it can, only that it has done all it cares to do. Such is Notre Dame's 'Spirit of Inclusion.'

Darryl Campbell is a second-year graduate student in history. He can be reached at dcampbell6@nd.edu.
Emulation not an insult

Dear Shavonka Giger ("Flip-Hop Night," March 27),

Over the course of my time at Notre Dame, I have been hard-pressed to find a race taboo for non-blacks.

That said, we differ on the particular issue you spoke of in your "Flip-Hop Night." I do not think these particular white Irish-Catholics' motives for dressing up certain black images is clear to me that racism is not dead in America, or even at Notre Dame. In a country where black people are incarcerated at rates multiple multiples of those for whites, where poverty levels are much higher for blacks than for whites and where discrimination in the workplace and the culture at large is still a problem, how do we still speak of a color issue as if a color could save us the solution of the problem of racism. I think this is a political leader. He is my Commander in Chief for the next four years. I respect his views.

Brooks Smith

Uphold Catholic pillars

Tonight, I signed a petition. I put my name down on a virtual piece of paper underneath 130,000 others wanting Notre Dame to make minor changes. I think it would make at least an impact and fear that it would mean nothing in the end. Every day for the past seven years, I have stood up in front of every student and called myself a student and class with a prayer. It is a familiar prayer to all of us and after seven years of saying it every day, the words have almost become mechanical. No matter what, however, one line has always stuck out to me and it consistently wakes me from the repetition and causes me to look around my room at my students standing there: "Blessed is the fruit of thy womb."

In response to your Letter to the Editor that was published a few days ago entitled "Where do you draw the line?" (March 25), I would just have to say that your argument doesn’t follow a certain logic. Is it acceptable for us to silence discussion because an issue or person is controversial? Should we just choose to live in a "golden bubble," pretending that views alternative to the Catholic Church do not exist? Should we just abandon our responsibilities to the Church and render it to a place that is no longer our place of worship? Notre Dame is not what it was when you were a student, but we do have to understand and be able to apply laws, regulations and standards into everything we do. Notre Dame is not what it was when you were a student, but we do have to understand and be able to apply laws, regulations and standards into everything we do.

Amanda Goyer

Respect for all majors

Am I not in the habit of regularly reading the Classifieds in The Observer, but reading the newly online PDF makes it impossible for me to wander over the frequently forgotten section as the page scroll up. Curiosity got the better of me and I decided to see what could possibly fill the Personal section.

Now I am sorry I did. As a major, I imagine my surprise and disdain over reading the following: "To those yourselves, un-science/engineering majors ... your life is not hard. I am well aware that this sentiment is widespread amongst those in other colleges; in fact, I have bad science majors tell me (quite seriously) that because I am in the business of engineering majors, they feel a need to rationalize their choice of major by making it seem superior to others, or maybe they just are insecure about their own abilities. The University has changed and maybe one could be that insecure that they would go to the time and expense of running a classified in The Observer to make themselves feel better. By the very fact that we are all enrolled at one of the most well-respected universities in the country, it is clear that we all are intelligent, hard-working students. I respect science and engineering majors and the work they put in. I am glad that my fellow students want to be doctors, research chemists or civil engineers: someday, I will likely need their services. I will trust that they have been well-trained in their fields. However, I wish they would realize that hospitals and companies hire law students because they will trust that they have been well-trained in their fields and companies hire law students because the very misunderstanding, stereotyping and discrimination in our culture is made "off-limits" to other groups, it creates a separation between your culture so desperately needs right now. The ability to be even a sort of segregation between our cultures. Segregation forons ignorance, which in turn breeds the very misunderstanding, stereotyping and discriminati that your letter targets.

In the long run, taking minor incidents such as these less seriously — even being able to laugh at Whitey's jokes now and then — is integral to our future Catholic leaders. And then, I get an e-mail announcing a Team Stanford Hall (March 25), I would just have to say that your argument doesn’t follow a certain logic. Is it acceptable for us to silence discussion because an issue or person is controversial? Should we just choose to live in a "golden bubble," pretending that views alternative to the Catholic Church do not exist? Should we just abandon our responsibilities to the Church and render it to a place that is no longer our place of worship? Notre Dame is not what it was when you were a student, but we do have to understand and be able to apply laws, regulations and standards into everything we do. Notre Dame is not what it was when you were a student, but we do have to understand and be able to apply laws, regulations and standards into everything we do.

Ellen Roloff

Notre Dame not a static institution

Dear Dad,

In response to your Letter to the Editor that was published a few days ago entitled "Where do you draw the line?" (March 25), I would just have to say that your argument doesn't follow a certain logic. Is it acceptable for us to silence discussion because an issue or person is controversial? Should we just choose to live in a "golden bubble," pretending that views alternative to the Catholic Church do not exist? Should we just abandon our responsibilities to the Church and render it to a place that is no longer our place of worship? Notre Dame is not what it was when you were a student, but we do have to understand and be able to apply laws, regulations and standards into everything we do. Notre Dame is not what it was when you were a student, but we do have to understand and be able to apply laws, regulations and standards into everything we do.

As a Catholic student, I take my faith seriously and I believe that there are certain things that I should do to live up to my faith and the legacy of Notre Dame. I do not think that Notre Dame should be just any other college. Notre Dame is a place where we can learn about our own beliefs and about the beliefs of others. We can learn about the differences between our cultures and about our similarities. We can also learn about the things that unite us and the things that divide us. Notre Dame is a place where we can learn about our own beliefs and about the beliefs of others. We can learn about the differences between our cultures and about our similarities. We can also learn about the things that unite us and the things that divide us.

Amanda Goyer

Letters to the Editor

Bookstore censorship unequally applied

The Bookstore Basketball tournament is about to begin, and I, for one, cannot wait. It's my favorite game of the year and I can't wait for the excitement to be over.

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Many young people's experience with classical music is limited to Disney's "Fantasia" and the opening bar of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. The Kronos Quartet shows that college students can enjoy contemporary composers' music just as much as they enjoy rock or rap.

The Quartet consists of violinsts David Harrington and John Chester, violist Hank Dutt and cellist Jeffrey Zeigler. On Friday night the group performed a number of classical pieces from various contemporary composers.

They opened with J. G. Thirwell's "Nomatophobies," or "The Fear of Naming Things." "Nomatophobies" begins very fast-paced yet ominous, like the soundtrack for a horror film where delusional strains interweave with deeper motifs. The piece gradually sinks into a faster, scarier sound fortified by a steady cello beat. Tremendous violins hover just above the beat slowly and steadily, but soon as though they are on a brink, ready to come crashing down. Instead of keeping the piece moving quickly, the Quartet take their time with each movement, bringing some of the space and feeling of the village life in the Balkans. It opened with a fast pace, adding shouted vocal rhythms to their showmanship by dramatically turning their usual ones throughout the song. It illustrates the Kronos Quartet's dynamic musicianship and ability to create a dynamic atmosphere. Crimson Thunder sounded—the piece gained momentum—and finally finished in a spectacular crescendo. Listeners felt that they have traveled far through the song's moving ethereal influences.

In the second half of the concert, the Kronos Quartet debuted a new piece that was commissioned by the University's DelArt Performing Arts Center. Written by Terry Riley, it is inspired by an old VHS home movie of the 1920s that captures the landscape different ethnic groups. These are visions with mental horns attached. The Kronos Quartet showed their versatility in the next piece by performing Raga Mitrav Bhairavi", an Indian piece of haunting beauty. Using authentic Indian instruments including the sarangi, the Quartet played a haunting, yet warm, work that evokes images of the hot Indian countryside. "Raga" features a solo voice by Bhati that conjures up mysterious, exotic images that accompany a sense of familiarity as one imagines a simple rural Indian village going about its daily work in the hot, foreign countryside. It is difficult to explain the melodic power of this evocative number.

The next piece was particularly striking. It was written specifically for the Kronos Quartet by Yugoslavian composer Aleksandra Vrebalov. Called "Hold me, neighbor, in this storm..." it is a depiction of a village that the tiệnсent of the war of the Balkans. It was recorded in a fast-paced, adding shouted vocal rhythms to their showmanship by dramatically turning their usual ones throughout the song. It illustrates the Kronos Quartet's dynamic musicianship and ability to create a dynamic atmosphere.

The group made innovative use of their instruments throughout this piece, as well as the entire piece. They plucked the strings of bow instruments, drummed on the instruments' surfaces, stamped their feet, and incorporated recorded voices into the music. The piece ended with a much-deserved standing ovation at the end. A sweet moment occurred when the composition "Transylvanian Horn Courtship." They deftly switched these horned instruments for their usual ones throughout the song. As the moved back and forth between the classic and amplified instruments, the group created a contrasting melody of sound. An almost conversational interaction of the dialogue between the two sets of instruments.

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By EMILY LeSTRANGE
Scene Writer

Starting on Tuesday, the Department of Film, Television and Theatre (FTT) will begin the six-performance series of Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" at the Declo Mainstage Theatre. Jay Paul Skelton, an FTT assistant professor for the University and the producing artistic director for the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival, directs the play.

"Our Town" was written by American playwright Thornton Wilder. Set in the early 20th century, "Our Town" tells the story of the fictional community of Grover's Corner in the rural area of New Hampshire. Primarily, the dialogue consists of exchanges between two families, the Webbs and the Gibbs. The story specifically puts focus on the marriage between the children of the two families, George Gibbs and Emily Webb.

Wilder isn't afraid to use his characters to interact with audience, as seen in the role of the Stage Manager. The Stage Manager frequently takes questions from the audience, gives further detail about the setting, and makes key observations that connect the seemingly simple storyline with greater human emotions. The Stage Manager also appears throughout the play in various small roles, including as an old woman and as a preacher.

Wilder was very specific in describing how "Our Town" must be performed, using methods that were quite revolutionary during his time. The play contains very little scenery, no set and only chairs. Says Wilder, "Our Town" uses its characters to show that everyday events can reveal universal truths about our human existence. Through charting the lives, loves and heartbreaks of the characters, "Our Town" celebrates the humanity in us all.

In 1938, "Our Town" received the Pulitzer Prize in the drama category. Since then, the play has earned awards for big-time showdowns, including two awards in 1989 — The Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Revival, and a Tony Award for Best Revival.

In addition to using student actors, Skelton has cast members from the South Bend community for the production. As quoted in the South Bend Tribune, Skelton said, "My philosophy since I got here has always been to bring different groups together toward a common goal ... "Our Town" lends itself to community. I thought, 'What a great opportunity to bring more folks into the process.'"

Skelton introduces his own take on the production of "Our Town" by doing away with shoes for the actors and using lighting typically used for dance performances. "We are doing it in bare feet," he said. "We are using light that is considered more appropriate to the dance world. ... My hope is that this will create a more dynamic sense of movement in space, more presence on the part of the actors and an overall sense of being grounded."

"Our Town" begins Tuesday, March 31 at 7 p.m. and runs through Sunday, April 5. Tickets are $15 for general admission and $10 for students.

Contact Emily LeStrange at elestran@nd.edu

"Our Town" is known for the simplicity of its set. Entire scenes can be performed with no more than ladders and chairs. A sample sketch of stage designs, above, shows the play's set.
Cleveland victorious in 12th straight game

James scores 24, takes out referee on way to victory; Bibby's 21 leads Hawks over unhealthy Bryant, Lakers

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James ran over an unspectacular referee. The Cleveland Cavaliers flattened another opponent.

James scored 24 points with 12 assists while orchestrating Cleveland's 109-96 win over the floor as the Cavs made moves — including a 10-game winning streak into the Western Conference record 12 straight.

The Cavs, who earlier this season surpassed the club mark for wins in a season, trudged 30-20 after the first quarter and 49-47 at halftime.

But Cleveland, flexing its defensive muscle, then outscored Dallas 30-20 in the third quarter, 55-25 in the second half and by an astounding 82-60 in the third to put the mark of the second quarter on to improve to a league-best 35-1 at home.

"We just take care of business," said James.

On the way to Cleveland's largest margin of victory in 56 games over Dallas, James plowed over official Derek Richardson. He popped right up, but the collision knocked the wind out of the 6-foot-8, 260-pound superstar.

"Flagrant-2," James said with a quizzical look. "They should have kicked him out."

Dallas is the 61st team to win 60 games in the regular season.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 24, took out referee on way to victory; Bibby's 21 leads Hawks over unhealthy Bryant, Lakers

Lebron James goes after a loose ball in Cleveland's March 29 game against Dallas. James scored 24 in the Cavaliers' 102-74 victory, their 12th straight.

"I don't know exactly why we're so out of whack and why we were missing so much," Gasol said. "It was just a weird game, not recognizing how to attack them when we were switching."

With Atlanta mired in an offensive malden, the Lakers path of 76-69 approaching the midway point of the final period. But Bibby locked it up for the Hawks with two huge 3-pointers.

His second took the last bit of life out of the Lakers, dropping through the hoop after two high bounces to make it 82-70 with 5 1/2 minutes remaining.

"I thought it was going over the backboard," Bibby said. "I was like, 'Oh yeah, it went in.' I'll take that."

The Lakers suffered a set-back in their bid for the best overall record — and guaranteed home-court advantage should they make it all the way to the finals. Cleveland extended its lead for the best record to two games with a 102-74 win over Dallas.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 208 South Davis Hall. Deadline for next classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring fees.
**NCAA Men's Baseball**

**Division I Top 25**

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**NCAA Women's Rowing**

**Division I Top 20**

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**ITA Men's Tennis Division I Top 15**

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<td>15 Florida St.</td>
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**Michigan State basketball tournament on Saturday in Indianapolis.**

**Spartans beat No. 1 seed Cardinals**

INDIANAPOLIS — Even before Michigan State's first game of the season, coach Tom Izzo gathered his players and spelled out their goal. "Ford Field," he wrote on a dry-erase board. That part of the Motown mission is now complete.

The Spartans gave the Final Four a hometown feel, stepping over all No. 1 seed Louisville 64-52 Sunday to win the Midwest Regional. Goran Suton had 19 points and 10 rebounds as the second-seeded Spartans (20-6) played the pace game to perfection and reached their fifth Final Four in 11 years — the most trips of any team in the nation during that span. Only 90 miles from their campus in East Lansing, the Spartans will play Connecticut on Saturday at Ford Field in Detroit. A crowd of 72,000, the largest ever for college basketball's signature event, is expected for each game. "Detroit, here we come," said Izzo, a Michigan native. "I can't tell you how much I'm looking forward to that." The Spartans made it 30 years after Magic Johnson led them to a national title over Larry Bird and Indiana State.

"Detroit needs something. Michigan needs something to feel good about," said Johnson, who was at the game. "And right now, the whole state is feeling good about this Michigan State team."

Along with advancing, the Spartans prevented a Big East blitz in the Final Four — coach Rick Pitino and Louisville (31-6) were trying to become the third school from the power-packed conference to make it. "They were the better team," Louisville's Terrence Williams said. "They were quicker than us, their defense was more physical and we couldn't turn them over like we wanted to."

Next week's short trip will be a special treat for many Spartans — eight Michigan residents are on the roster. Durrell Summers, who delivered 10 second-half points, grew up in Detroit. Kain Lucas, the Big Ten player of the year, was raised 10 minutes from the giant stadium. Michigan has one of the nation's highest unemployment rates and Detroit's economy, which is heavily reliant on the faltering auto-making industry, has been reeling. The team is certainly aware of the state's plight.

**In Brief**

Canucks goalie Luongo gets shutout in win

Ottawa — Roberto Luongo made 26 saves to match his career high with seven shutouts, and Daniel Sedin had two goals and an assist in the Vancouver Canucks' 4-0 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks on Sunday night.

Alex Burrows had a goal and two assists, and Henrik Sedin had three assists to help the Canucks end Chicago's three-game winning streak and move into a fourth-place tie with the Blackhawks in the Western Conference.

Vancouver also closed within a point of first-place Calgary in the Northwest Division. The Canucks are 7-2-0 in their last nine and 11-3-1 in their last 15.

Luongo, who also had seven shutouts with Florida in 2003-04, made only a couple of tough saves en route to his 45th career shutout as the Canucks checked closed, neutralized the Blackhawks' speed and limited their chances.

**Arenas sits game to let injured knee rest**

WASHINGTON — As expected, Wizards guard Gilbert Arenas was held out of Sunday night's game at Indiana to allow his surgically repaired left knee more time to rest.

Arenas had 13 points against Orlando on Saturday night in his first game in 11 months, but coach Ed Tapscott says Arenas will not play back-to-back games and his playing time will be limited to about 25 minutes when he does appear.

Tapscott says Arenas was "feeling fine" after playing against the Pistons. "No knee soreness at all, just the muscle soreness that comes with playing your first high-level game in a while."

The 98-96 loss to the Pistons was Arenas' first game since April 27, 2008. The three-time All-Star had missed 156 of his Wizards' previous 173 games and had three surgeries over an 18-month span amid two premature comeback attempts.

Retired NFL coach Lou Saban dies at age 87

He was a star football player in college, a champion pro football coach, a baseball president, a man with a short temper and very long resume, never averse to tackling something new.

Nobody has ever done it quite like Lou Saban, who died early Sunday at his home in North Myrtle Beach, S.C., at age 87. He had heart problems for years and recently suffered a fall that required hospitalization, his wife, Joyce, said.

"He was an original," she said. "He was one of a kind."

There was a reason Saban was dubbed "Much Traveled Lou." In the first 33 years of a career that spanned five decades, Saban held 18 jobs, an average of 1.83 years per stop. Among those jobs was president of the New York Yankees from 1981-82 for his longtime friend, team owner George Steinbrenner.

**Around the Dial**

**NCAA Women's Basketball**

Louisville vs. Maryland

7:00 p.m., ESPN

Iowa State vs. Stanford

9:00 p.m., ESPN
PGA

Woods birdies 18th at Bay Hill for win

Last-hole heroics propel Tiger over Sean O’Hair for first victory since 2008 U.S. Open

Associated Press

ORLANDO — The clutch shots and the late charge. An electric birdie putt on the 18th hole at Bay Hill. Another Woods is back.

With those familiar back-nine heroics and a putt most everyone knew he was going to make, Woods holed a 15-footer for birdie to win the Arnold Palmer Invitational for his first victory since returning from knee surgery.

Woods closed with a 3-under 67 for a one-shot victory over hard-luck Sean O’Hair, matching his largest comeback on the PGA Tour.

“It feels good to be back in contention for the end of the rush,” Woods said. “It’s been awhile, but God, it felt good.”

Just like last year, when Woods made a 25-foot birdie on the final hole at Bay Hill for a one-shot victory, he delivered a high-charged celebration. Instead of slamming his cap to the ground, he turned and ran into the arms of his caddie, who led him off his feet.

“Then came the meeting with the tournament host. "What was it I told you last year?" Palmer said with a wide smile.

Palmer has seen enough of Woods to know what to expect. Woods won at Bay Hill for the sixth time, the third PGA Tour event he has won at least that often.

This one was special.

One goal had not been atop the leaderboard since he won the U.S. Open in a 19-hole playoff last June. He had reconstructive surgery on his left knee a week later, and missed the next eight months.

With two indifferent results at the Masters and the Players Championship, he found himself out of the mix in a two-man race into the middle of the ice, but Woods said he was able to cut down the buildup.

“Sully made a great play coming off the wall,” Suter said. “I thought he was going to go to the other point. But he passed it back to me. I moved in and was looking for someone to pass to.”

Suter said he took a pass from the top of the left circle for his seventh goal of the season, just 29 seconds after Chris Colton took a cross-checking penalty.

Sullivan made the play as he took the puck off the left boards inside the blue line and headed into the middle of the ice, but he then passed it back to Suter at the left point, who moved in and blasted a shot high on the far side.

“I was Smithson’s fourth goal,” Colton said. “And I was able to chip the rebound in.”

Associated Press

MCCOMB — Tyler Hansbrough deferred to his teammates — just as he’d hinted he might. This was no one-on-one matchup down low. Instead, North Carolina rolled past Blake Griffin and Oklahoma with a total team effort.

Ty Lawson scored 19 points and top-seeded North Carolina overcame a quiet game from Griffin to beat the Sooners 72-60 Sunday in the South Regional final.

North Carolina (32-4) advanced to the Final Four for the second straight year and will play Villanova in the national semifinals.

“This is what we work for,” the Tar Heels’ Wayne Ellington said. "We put so much work in and sweated off the offseason to get to this point, but past this point, it means a lot to be able to get to this point and have an opportunity to win the whole thing.”

Danny Green scored 18 points for the Tar Heels and Deon Thompson added 10. Hansbrough was in foul trouble early and finished with only eight points, but he said the previous day he wasn’t going to be caught up in a head-to-head battle with Griffin.

Griffin scored 23 points with 16 rebounds for second-seeded Oklahoma, but the Sooners (30-6) went 2-for-19 from 3-point range.

“One thing about Blake is I think he’s tough enough to box out,” Hansbrough said. “I think one thing about him is he’s one of the best rebounders I’ve played against and so that was very tough. I think he got a lot of stuff off offensive rebounds and his rebounding ability was something I think I’m not really used to seeing.”

Still, it was Hansbrough who was standing on the court after the game, posing for pictures while the Tar Heels cut down the nets. That’s a routine this program has done put.

North Carolina reached a record 19th Final Four Tuesday has been to 18, but the Bruins’ 1980 appearance was later vacated by the NCAA because of rules violations.

This will be the Tar Heels’ second Final Four in a row and ninth in 19 seasons — and it will be played at Detroit’s Ford Field, where they routed Michigan State 96-63 in December. Earlier Sunday, the Spartans also reached the Final Four.

North Carolina lost in the semifinals last season.

NHL

Suter’s late goal pushes Predators past Red Wings

Defenseman’s seventh goal on the year, Rinne’s 33 saves contribute to victory over Stanley Cup champs

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The Nashville Predators capped a big week with a confidence-building victory. The Sully’s Corner Champion Detroit Red Wings.

Ryan Suter broke a tie on a penalty shot, 4:36 left, and Pekka Rinne made 33 saves to help the Predators win their third straight, 4-3 over Detroit on Sunday night.

It was only the Predators defeat the defending Stanley Cup champs, who are also second in the Western Conference, they also beat the conference’s top team, the San Jose Sharks, on Thursday night, and Los Angeles on Saturday night in overtime.

“This crew deserves a lot of credit for this week,” coach Barry Trotz said. It also was Nashville’s fourth game in six days.

Steve Sullivan had a goal and an assist and Joel Ward, Jerred Smithson also scored for the Predators, seventh in the Western Conference. The Predators have a six-game winning streak, with eight games remaining.

“We’re in the fight of our lives for the playoffs,” Sullivan said. “We’ve still got a lot of work to do.”

Henrik Zetterberg, Mikael Samuelsson and Johan Franzen scored for Detroit, which lost its second straight and third in four games. Pavel Datsyuk and Nicklas Lidstrom each had two assists, and Chris Osgood stopped 22 shots.

“The bottom line is we got to find ways to win games and we’re in it together,” Osgood said.

IRISH GUARD

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NBA

Pierce's 24, Davis' 19 lead Celtics over Thunder

Rush contributes double-double in Pacers' victory; Bosh, Bargnani instrumental in Raptors overtime win

Associated Press

BOSTON — Boston Celtics spokesman Jeff Chemaac said as the first, unofficial triple-double in Glen "Big Baby" Davis' career: 19 points, 10 rebounds — and 10 staches.

The Celtics power forward left in the third quarter after being allowed in the head and returned after getting stitched up to score 15 points in the final 10 minutes and lead Boston to a 108-84 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Sunday night.

"I'm going to have somebody knock some sense into him, like they did," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "Clearly, once they hit him he was a different person. So, either someone else on the other team, or I'm going to carry a hammer around."

Davis, who has been starting since Kevin Garnett went out with a strained right knee, had just two points in the first half and two more before Kevin Durant's elbow came down on his forehead with 5:47 left in the third quarter and Boston took the lead for good. Reserve Mikki Moore scored 12 with 11 boards and Rajon Rondo had 12 assists to help the Celtics win their sixth out of seven despite missing Garnett for the 15th time in 19 games.

Davis didn't have any real triple-doubles, but during the last five games he has had three of the top-scoring performances of his career and two of his three career double-doubles.

You don't want Kevin to be hurt," Pierce said, "but the experience these guys are getting is going to be huge for us in the playoffs."

Russell Westbrook scored 23 points and Kevin Durant added 13 for the Thunder, which lost their third straight and fifth of six.

Pacers 124, Wizards 115

Brandon Rush is finally giving Indiana more than one consistent scoring option.

Starting his third straight game, the Pacers rookie continued his late-season tear with 29 points and 10 rebounds Sunday night in a victory over the Washington Wizards.

"It's being comfortable and just taking shots," Rush said. "I guess that's coming from the extra work I've been putting in. Me being in the starting role now makes me more comfortable out there and the guys are looking for me all the time. The idea is to keep it going."

His 29 points matched the career-high he set just one day earlier at Chicago. Against the Wizards, he had 15 points in the first half and another 10 during the first seven minutes of the third quarter, when Indiana widened a 59-52 lead to 84-66. The Pacers led by 16 after the third quarter, built it to as many as 22 early in the final period and never led by fewer than nine the rest of the way. Danny Granger finished with 31 points for the Pacers.

"It definitely gives me more room because all the defenses zone in on Danny all the time," Rush said. "Somebody else is going to have to step up."

Rush has averaged 19 points and 6.5 rebounds over the past five games. In just the past two, his 36 points have come on 26-of-44 shooting with no turnovers over 72 minutes.

"That's two good games for him," said Granger, who wants to see more from his rookie teammate. "That's what you have to expect from rookies — they are going to be up and down. But I think he's coming along very nicely."

Jarrett Jack added 19 points for the Pacers. Washington was led by Caron Butler with 31 points and 13 rebounds and Antawn Jamison with 29 points. Javaris Crittenton added a season-high 19 points for the Wizards.

"It's amazing what confidence will do," Pacers coach Jim O'Brien said of Rush's development. "He's playing pretty good basketball. He's our best athlete and ... can have an impact on the game."

Raptors 134, Bulls 129

Chicagoland didn't panic after watching the Chicago Bulls erase Toronto's 17-point lead and send the game to overtime. He just helped the Raptors win in the extra period.

Bosh had 31 points and 15 rebounds, Andrea Bargnani scored 28 points and the Raptors beat the Bulls Sunday.

Chicago's Ben Gordon had 37 points, including a buzzer-beating jumper over Bosh that sent it to overtime.

"Sometimes you can be like 'Oh my God, we're in it, we went in,'" Bosh said. "You can't panic. We're going to overtime whether we like it or not so we might as well regroup and get it right."

Bosh made sure Toronto got it right, putting the Raptors ahead for good by converting a three-point play with 15 seconds left to play in overtime.

"They came back from an unlikely situation," Bosh said. "They had all the momentum in the world but we withstand it. I'm proud of our guys for showing composure."

Jose Calderon had 22 points and a career-high 19 assists, Steve Novak scored 16 points and Pops Mensah-Bonsu added 13 as the Raptors set a franchise-high for points and extended their winning streak to a season-high four games. Toronto last won four straight between Dec. 9-14, 2007.

"We'd been playing like this earlier [in the season] but you can't change the past," Bosh said. "All we can do is dictate what we do now. We've just got to keep it going."

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Alfredsson assisted on the season on a late power play and Ottawa will help those efforts. Phillips said, "It's nice to be a part of that, but we need to keep fighting right to the end and then we'll see what happens."

Blues 5, Blue Jackets 2

The prize is just around the corner and the Blues won't permit themselves to take a peak. Patrick Berglund had a goal and two assists and the Blues moved a step closer to a playoff spot with a victory over the Columbus Blue Jackets on Sunday.

"We got another two points and we're getting closer and closer," Berglund said. "We want to be in the playoffs so bad. So we really haven't thought about how much we've been climbing, but obviously it's good. But we still have six games left."

T.J. Oshie and David Perron each had a goal and an assist, Brad Boyes and David Brodux also scored, and Chris Mason gave up two shaky goals but stopped the other 26 shots he faced.

Columbus is sixth in the West with 8 points, two points ahead of Nashville and three in front of St. Louis, which began the day in a virtual tie with the Blues for the last of the eight playoff spots, in ninth — nine points behind St. Louis.

The Blues have won five in a row and earned points in seven of eight, rising from the dregs of the West to a tenacious grip on one of those eight precious postseason spots.

"If we're there at the end of the year, then we'll be happy because every night we change," Mason said. "We're going to win some games and lose some (one game) at a time. We were focused on today. We're enjoying this one for a bit. It's nice to have a day off and worry about our next game."

The Blues, who beat Columbus in a shootout at home on Saturday night, picked up four important points against one of the teams ahead of them in the standings.

"I didn't have too many nerves in the moment, because I don't know what it is," coach Barry Murray said. "I just know that every game and every sporting event stands on its own. You've got to go in and establish your own credibility and you've got to keep yourself against them is gratifying because they're a really good team."

Nick Nash had a goal and an assist, and Feder Tyutin added a goal for Columbus, which had taken points in its last five games and nine of 10. Rookie goalie Steve Mason, no relation to his counterpart, made 35 saves when the game was still in doubt.

The Blue Jackets looked listless and uninspired for much of the game, something that coach Ken Hitchcock said could not and would not persist.

"We're going to have to earn our way in. Nobody's going to give us anything," said Hitchcock, whose club is the only one in the NHL never to have played in the postseason.

"The disturbing part for us (the last two nights) is we've had people pushed out of the comers, we've had to address in the next 24 hours."

Ohse, vilified by the crowd for a running head start he took on a hit on Nash the night before, quieted the boo-birds with an early goal.

He said the Blues aren't taking time to savor how far they've come with saves in route to his 45th career shutout as the Canucks moved closer, neutralized the Blackhaws' speed and limited their chances. Chicago's Patrick Sharp fanned on a penalty shot with 5:41 left in the third period.

"It feels good to be where we are, at considering where we were, to be in the playoffs now. We're not done yet. We've got games left. It's definitely not settled," says Mason.

After each goalie gave up soft goals, each added new insurance when he skated in unimpeded from the right wing, with an opponent (Marc-Andre Fleury in the slot and then Henrik Luongo) and Steve Mason's right shoulder to make it 3-1 midway through the third period.

Sloppy defense led to three goals — two by the Blues — in a span of 2:24 that put the game out of reach.

Much of the crowd of 17,095 was long gone by then.

"You've got to give St. Louis credit," Hitchcock said. "They pushed us hard — they pushed us right into the second there weren't comfortable. They're relentless and they work. We have too many people who did not respond."

Canucks 4, Blackhawks 0

Robert Luongo and the Vancouver Canucks sent the Chicago Blackhawks a loud playoff message Sunday night.

Luongo made 26 saves to match his career high with seven shutouts, and Daniel Sedin had two goals and an assist in Vancouver's victory over Chicago.

Alex Burrows had a goal and two assists, Ryan Kesler also scored, and Henrik Sedin had three assists to help the Canucks end Chicago's three-game winning streak and move into a fourth-place tie with the Blackhawks in the Western Conference.

If the Canucks and Blackhawks finish fourth and fifth in the West, they'll meet in the opening playoff round. The fourth-place team would have home-ice advantage.

The Canucks hit the ice on Sunday with that in mind. Luongo, who also had seven shutouts with Florida in 2003-04, made only a couple of tough saves en route to his 45th career shutout as the Canucks checked closely, neutralized the Blackhaws' speed and limited their chances. Chicago's Patrick Sharp fanned on a penalty shot with 5:41 left in the third period.

"We came in as possible match-up in the playoffs and we wanted to show we could win in this building," Daniel Sedin said. "Our defensive sense did a tremendous job.

"They have a bunch of really skilled guys. You're never going to shut them down, but you can limit their chances. I think we did a good job of that."

Vancouver also closed within a point of first-place Calgary in the Northwest Division. The Canucks are 7-2-0 in their last nine and 11-5-1 in their last 15.

"We needed to make sure we came out here with a goal in mind, and that was to get the win," Luongo said. "We didn't give them a list of room to make plays. That was key, especially with the speed their forwards have."

Meanwhile, the Blackhawks couldn't contain the line of the Sedins and Burrows. Daniel Sedin has four goals and four assists in his last four games, and twin brother Henrik has three goals and six assists in the same span.

That line was unbelilevable on the ice," Vancouver coach Alain Vigneault said. "Obviously they were our best players and Roberto was on top of his game tonight.

"That said, it was a pretty solid team effort around. When we did make a mistake, Roberto bailed us out. When they made a mistake, we were able to capitalize.

Chicago's Nikolai Khabibulin made 19 saves in his fifth straight start and seventh in the last eight games.

A series of eight shots broke out at 5:50 of the third. In one skirmish, the Canucks' Shane O'Brien reached over referee Paul Devorski as he grabbed at Vancouver's Adam Burish. O'Brien received a misconduct in additition to a fighting major.

Chicago forward Troy Brouwer left the game at 8:19 of the first period and didn't return. A Brouwer answer to shoot from the left circle, he fell awkwardly on the Toronto's Darcy Hordichuk slid into him. He's out day-to-day.

"We couldn't have been more happy with how we played," coach Alain Vigneault said. "It was check, check, and we didn't fight through it enough to generate anything."
**SMC SOFTBALL**

Belles to face struggling MIAA opponent Calvin

Win over Grizzlies would help Belles’ chances at earning an MIAA playoff birth

By CHRISTOPHER MASOUD

Over a weekend as much as any other, the Belles will travel to Grand Rapids, Mich., to open league play against a struggling Calvin team today.

Saint Mary’s 1-4-2 is coming off a convincing sweep of Franklin last week, where the Belles trounced the Grizzlies 13-0 and 3-0 in the doubleheader. Fourth-year head coach Erin Sullivan believes it was her team’s outstanding team chemistry that led to such a dominating performance.

“It wasn’t just one standout player,” Sullivan said. “Our pitchers did a great job, but if you look at the stats for the hitters, it wasn’t the same person dominating all the time. It’s not one person who wins the game for us.”

Calvin (1-4-1) will try to begin the MIAA season with a win after losing eight consecutive games to start the 2009 campaign. The Knights have some momentum heading into today’s game having picked up their first victory of the year by defeating St. Catherine of Minn. 7-4 their last out.

But Coach Sullivan and the Belles couldn’t care less about their opponent’s record. Each game is an opportunity to get one step closer to the playoffs and an MIAA title.

“We’re playing them like they’re the best team in the conference, like we’ll play every other team,” Erin Sullivan Belles coach

**Men’s Tennis**

ND sweeps final two home matches

By CHRIS MACHIALSKI

Sports Writer

No. 27 Notre Dame earned two important victories this weekend, defeating South Florida 7-0, and upsetting No. 9 Illinois, 4-3, at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. The win put the Irish above the .500 mark at 11-9 on the season.

Against South Florida, the Irish claimed the doubles point, followed by victories in singles play as both defeated their opponent in straight sets. With the Irish 0-2, sophomore Stephen Havens battled against his opponent, falling 5-7, 6-0.

Notre Dame claimed the decisive fourth point when Davis took down his opponent 6-0, 6-4 giving the Irish a convincing victory over their conference foe.

Sunday, the Irish moved onto a face a tough opponent in the Fighting Illini. In that match, the Irish got off to a tough start claiming the doubles point and the early 1-0 lead.

The Irish then got singles wins from Helgeson and Stahl, before dropping the next three matches to fall into a 3-1 tie heading into the final match.

Anderson clinched the win with a 3-2 victory in singles play, scoring 68 points in the process before losing 6-4 in the tie-breaker.

The win marks the conclusion of the home season for the Irish, which they achieved a 7-2 record. They will have a two-week break to prepare for their next Big East opponent, Louisville, followed by a match with Ball State.

“Louisville and Ball State are going to be two more tough matches and the next week of practice will be real important for us to work out any kinks in our games,” Havens said.

The Notre Dame match is scheduled for April 11 at 1 p.m.

Contact Chris Michelak at cmachialski@nd.edu

**NBA**

 Nets fall to shorthanded T-Wolves

 Miller, Gomes add to Love’s double-duty in victory over New Jersey

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The New Jersey Nets certainly didn’t look like a team fighting for its playoff life.

Roaming one of the worst teams in the league that was missing its two best players, the Nets started fast on offense and appeared wholly uninterested on the defensive side of the ball in a loss that may have sunk them into too big a hole.

Playing more aggressively than he has in months, Mike Miller added 16 points and 11 boards for the Indiana Pacers.

It’s just unacceptable,” said Nets guard Vince Carter, whose 36 points and eight rebounds weren’t enough to offset New Jersey’s general malaise. “We feel like we’re very capable of being in the playoffs and this was an opportunity to jump start us into accomplishing that, and, you know, we took a step back.”

The Nets had 19 points and five assists in his second game back from a shoulder injury for the Nets who have lost four in a row. They fell to 11-8 in the Eastern Conference, 5-172 games behind Detroit and Chicago for the eighth and final playoff spot with just nine games to play.

Carter’s three-point play off a dunk cut Minnesota’s lead to 101-94 with just over a minute to play, but it was too late. The Nets allowed the worst shooting team in the league to shoot 51 percent from the field and 16-20 from 3-point range.

“You know, we took a step back,” said Miller, who has been playing with a hip injury since April 7, 2009. “But that’s definitely what we need,” coach Kevin McHale said. “When Mike does that, it just opens up everything else.”

Miller was unavailable for comment after the game.

The Timberwolves have been without leading scorer and rebounder Al Jefferson since he went down with a knee injury just before the All-Star break. Randy Foye emerged as the de facto leader, claiming the game on Sunday with a 37-point effort, putting the Timberwolves over on Sunday with a hip injury that has nagged him for more than a week.

So Miller, who has been almost stubborn in his refusal to return to play in his first season in Minnesota, essentially had to do it all by himself. He scored nine points on 3-for-4 shooting in the first quarter to set an aggressive tone and kept shooting all game.

With the Timberwolves leading by 11 points with 9:22 left in the fourth quarter, the start of the fourth quarter gave them 13 attempts for the first time since Dec. 1 at Charlotte. He finished 8-for-14 from the field, giving him his most shot attempts in 22 games. The Timberwolves were a distant fourth in offensive basketball in recent memory to jump out to an 18-point lead.

The Timberwolves entered the game shooting a league-worst 44 percent from the field. But they put together one of their best shooting performances in recent memory of offensive basketball in recent memory to jump out to an 18-point lead.

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Irish drop two of three vs. Pitt

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

Not again.

For the second straight weekend, Notre Dame used a quality outing from sophomore Cole Kupinski to secure a Friday victory over dropping-high-scoring Pennsylvania on Saturday and Sunday to lose two of three, this time to Pittsburgh.

The Irish (15-10, 4-1 BIG EAST) fell to the Quakers (9-19, 2-1 SPEC) 10-7 Saturday but tied the Quakers 1-1 Sunday in the final game of the three-game series. Kupinski was named the BIG EAST Member of the Week.

"My career has been a rollercoaster," said Kupinski. "I left the team after my sophomore season, and now I'm back. Not only was I chosen this week, but I also got a shoutout from the coach. That's really exciting."

After dropping the first two games of the season, the Irish adjusted to playing their first two games against the Quakers. The Irish won both games to improve to 2-0 in BIG EAST play.

In Saturday's game, the Quakers scored seven runs in the first inning before the Irish scored twice in the bottom of the inning to tie the game at 9-9. The Irish then took the lead with a fourth-inning three-run shot. The Quakers scored twice in the fifth inning and batted the Irish out of the game for the second straight weekend.

Sunday's game was a different story, however. The Irish scored twice in the first inning, led 5-1 after two innings and 7-2 after three innings. The Quakers scored three runs in the fourth inning to bring the game within 7-5.

Notre Dame led 8-5 when the Quakers scored three runs in the sixth inning to tie the game 8-8 and force extra innings. The Irish scored in the seventh and eighth innings to secure the win.

"The Irish were able to execute against a strong Quaker pitching staff," said head coach Kevin Byers. "We scored early and often, and that gave us the opportunity to bring in our bullpen and get a few innings out of them."

"It was a great team victory," said Byers. "Everyone played their role, and we got some great playing from our young players."
Bookstore continued from page 24

points and a number of blocks and rebounds in the victory. Sorry We Party will advance to the second round to play Glee Club on Thursday at 8 p.m.

"We're excited about moving in the next round," Holler added. "It feels good to finally get a Bookstore win under our belts."

Cleric in the Frontcourt 21, Biohazard 1

Religion trumped science on the Sabbath as Cleric in the Front Court defeated Biohazard. The five men of Cleric used their considerable size advantage to take a quick lead over Biohazard, which consisted of one freshman and four sophomore girls, all biology-related majors. "The snowy conditions made it a rough game," Biohazard sophomore Katie Pietrucha said. "But at the end of the day there were certain biological differences between the teams." At halftime, Cleric led 11-0. Sophomore Grace Loppnow was chosen to put a point up for Biohazard in the second half, but the team never mounted a serious comeback.

"I think faith is very important, but science is good too," Gallagher said. His teammate, freshman captain Daniel "The Dalminal" Duffy, was less reserved. "This win conclusively proves that God created the earth in six days," he said. Cleric in the Front Court will move on to the next round of the Father John Jenkins Sectional and will play Thursday at 5:00 p.m. "I hope it's colder," freshman Matt "I own ya" Madonia said. Not to be outdone, freshman Brendan "Big Dawg" Corsones also voiced a complaint about the weather. "We couldn't wear our ice skates today," he said.

Benedict's Army 21, Scott Milkenson has Diabetes 12

Benedict's Army defeated Scott Milkenson's Army in a highly offensive game, allowing them to advance to the second round.

"Our opponents were pretty good at taking the outside shots," Army team member Luke Kippenbrock said. "Their defense was also played well, making it diffic-

tult to dribble to the basket."

The center on Benedict's Army had a major advantage over the rest of the men and women on the court, which drastically helped out the team's offensive abilities.

"John Garro always stayed near the basket, collecting a lot of the loose balls that bounced out," Kippenbrock said. The most challenging aspect of the game for both teams was dealing with the temperature and weather conditions that hindered effective offensive and defensive movements.

"The weather was horrid," Kippenbrock said. "It snowed and the wind numbed my hands, and the standing on the court made the ball difficult to dribble."

Able to rise above the weather conditions, Benedict's Army will be making an appearance in the round beginning Tuesday.

Snow Bank 21, Bad News Bears 18

Snow Bank of Keenan Hall defeated the Bad News Bears who hail from Saint Mary's College, 21-18 in what initially seemed like a blowout, but ended up closer than Snow Bank had assumed.

"We got out to a commanding lead but the girls tied it up 15-15 in the second half that seemed like an instant," junior Snow Bank captain in Timothy Treat said. "We held them off thanks to a remarkable defensive effort from Frank DiBacco down the stretch for a 21-18 victory."

Their comeback was likely due to the offensive success of Grace Sadowski. Grace "Da Ace" Sadowski made it rain from behind the arc. Bears teammate, Kristin Rhoa said, "Da Ace s move the pace early by dropping three-pointers like LeBron James."

Towards the end of the game, Snow Bank proceeded to adopt a new team strategy where they let each of the girls score a basket, but were still able to win in the end and move on to round two of the tournament.

Team chemistry was comparatively high for both teams Snow Bank and the Bears. Maria Chipman of the Bears credited the chemistry to a single theme developed throughout their short-lived time as a team.

"The common goal of dominating was said. "It's just what we do."

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NCAA
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Benemid State?" Jackson said. "I think people know now." The Beavers got on the board early and took their first goal just 1 4 2 into the game. Notre Dame senior goalie Jordan Pearce was attempting to steer the puck behind the net, but it took an awkward jump and hit his pads and fell down trying to get back in position. Meanwhile, the puck ended up in the net and just caught an edge and fell down.

Jackson said he thought the first goal might have had a lasting effect on Pearce who made 1 4 saves on the night. "That first goal threw him off," Jackson said. "It took a funny carom of the boards and it got caught between his stick and his pads."

The Beavers doubled their lead less than 1 0 minutes later, at 1 1 : 03 of the first period. On the powerplay, Benemid State's Ralp Hunt broke his stick on an approach shot at the point, but the puck bounced off Beaver forward Tyler Scofield's skate and past Jordan Pearce.

The 2-0 deficit was a familiar place for the Irish, as they called Michigan by the same score in last Saturday's CCHA Championship weekend game. Last week, Notre Dame rallied to a 5-2 win.

Jackson said he thought that there was still a chance in the game when they were down 2-0. "I think last week when we were down 2-0, I didn't feel like we were down 2-0," he said. "I thought we fell down 2-0."
The Irish were able to threaten late in the game by nearly getting pressure on Beavers goalie Matt Dalton, but couldn't put the puck in the net, and went into the first intermission down 2-0.

Despite losing some Irish chances, the Beavers extended their lead to 3-0 and 13:19 into the second stanza, when a wrist shot from Benemid State's Ben Kinne found the back of Jordan Pearce's net.

Jackson thought the third one was a back-breaker," Jackson said. "That kid (Pearce) has been unbelievable for us this year. It's no different than these last few games because he's had one first thing in the morning. It's kind of your day.

Down 3-0 after the first intermission, things were already looking bleak for the Irish, and Benemid's Matt Read almost sealed the deal when, short-handed, he took a feed from Scofield, skated up the ice, and fired a shot past Pearce from the right circle.

Notre Dame appeared to generate some momentum when junior Tom Kneel beat Dalton with a feed from Ryan Guentzel. Any Irish momentum, however, was put to rest when the Beavers killed off a subsequent Irish powerplay. Benemid State held Notre Dame's top-ranked man-advantage unit scoreless on the night.

"They had a great penalty kill and we just never got it going," senior captain Eric Semb said. "Our best players weren't our best players tonight, and that's what you need to win in NCAA.

From that point, it was just a matter of Scofield's empty-netter at 16:33 of the final period that made the score 4-0. I thought the Beavers a spot in last night's regional final where they knocked off Cornell 5-1 to advance to the Frozen Four.

"I couldn't be more proud of my players, our alumni and the people of Benemid," Beavers coach Tom Serratore said. "It was a great win for our program ... A win like this was extremely gratifying."

In the other locker room, Notre Dame's seniors were forced to reflect on careers that ended with a 13-19-4 campaign four years ago, but included two Mason Cups and a trip to the national championship game last year.

"We did some special things here at Notre Dame, and you've got to be proud of that," Condrf said. "Obviously we'll like to go a little bit farther, but it didn't happen this year."

Senior Christian Hanson said it took a while for him to realize that the season was actually over.

"To be honest, it didn't sink in for me until I was sitting in the locker room, looking around and realized I was never going to put on this jersey again and never play with these guys again," he said.

Hanson and the other seniors, though, were confident that the steps they took over the past four years would ensure that hockey would have a bright future at Notre Dame.

"We've made some great strides for this program and I'm confident that the guys next year and the years to follow will definitely keep going and get that trophy that we couldn't get," Hanson said.

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Spring
continued from page 24
You should never be dissatisfied with a walk-through period because a walk-through period is an off day. It's a time for rest and recovery," said Benemid State coach Matt Dalton. "The bounces one night can determine the game, and I think tonight is a good example of that."

The Irish dominated in last year, Notre Dame advanced to the national title game. But the Irish's four best teams didn't hand a "Get out of the first round free card" with their top seeds for a few games of the game — a few fortunate house calls in a hurry — or the structure of the tournament — with only 16 teams, the entire field has a chance. No. 1 seeds are anything but invisible.

"It's hard to imagine a Jackson team being outcoached in an elimination game, but the Irish boss took the blame in the postgame news conference. "I knew that they were going to take it personally, and I obviously didn't prepare our team well enough for them," Scofield said.

It appeared to be less an issue of Notre Dame overlooking Benemid State and more one of the Beavers not wanting to roll over for the nation's No. 2 team. "It can be a little bit intimidating sometimes," Scofield said of playing a team like Notre Dame. "But we looked at it as a game we could go out and win.

And why not? If this weekend proved anything, it's that in college hockey, there are no ups - just winners and losers, and on Saturday, Notre Dame was the latter.

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

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

White's whole point of emphasis is focused on mental growth, and how they come out and have that many mistakes, that means we have a ways to go.

All of the more negative side were the absences of two of Notre Dame's wide receivers from the scrimmages. Migeal Floyd missed practice due to a strained quadriceps, and Duval Kamara was sidelined with a strained hamstring — both minor injuries, White said.

"They both went through individual periods, but it was one of those ones where I wasn't going to have the half-hour (of) Saturday practice and all of next week," White said.

And would a press conference be complete without a "big picture question," as Weiss so often called them last season?

"I don't think they are ever going to be in that role," Weiss said.

"Weiss said that task isn't, and won't soon be, complete.

"I'm not going to take this team away from people in the crowd," Weiss said.

"I think they are every going to be in that role." Weiss said.

"Weiss said we do wear an awful lot of hats here, and it's a continuing process to be perfectly honest with you. Some of the children that I have been able to do better as the years go on is to continue to evolve along with the job."

For more on spring football practice, check out The Observer's sportsblog at observer-sportsblog.com

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Hope During Hard Times
Barbara Quinn, RSCJ, D.Min.
Director of Spirituality
University of San Diego
Tuesday, March 31, 2009
7:30 a.m. Stapleton Lounge
Le Mans Hall
CENTRE FOR SPIRITUALITY
SANT MATTHEW COLLEGE
For more on spring football practice, check out The Observer's sportsblog at observer-sportsblog.com

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

The Hidden Face of Hope
THE DOME PIECE

DAVID Cavadini


WILL SHORTZ

CROSSWORD

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27. Stats in hockey and basketball
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57. Tux go-with
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Irish suffer stunning upset in first round of NCAA tournament

By SAM WERNER
Associate Sports Editor

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — If Notre Dame and Bemidji State played 10 times, it wouldn’t be unreasonable to think that the Irish would win nine of the 10. Saturday night, though, was that one time when the Beavers came out on top.

"If this was a best-of-seven, I’d take it," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said after the game. Bemidji State, the No. 16 overall seed in the NCAA tournament, scored the first four goals on route to a dominating 5-1 win over the No. 2 Irish.

"I don’t know how many times I got asked this week. Who is going to return to quarterback Jimmy Clausen? Who is going to start the offensive line? Who is going to start the defensive line?" Jackson said. "The Irish have been one of the more pleasant people for me to look at so far in the week. Every time when the Beavers came out on top, you think about this guy or that guy. You know you’re going to see him next year. What this team has done was truly remarkable."

Bemidji State senior Shaylyn Blayley scored Notre Dame’s lone goal against Bemidji State in the third period of their NCAA tournament first-round game. Right: Senior captain Erik Condra skates past a Bemidji defender Saturday night.

Hockey

One and done

Tough postseason format possible culprit behind upsets

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — If President Barack Obama had filled out a bracket for this NCAA Tournament, it’d be ugly. In a year when chalk has prevailed on the hardwood, there was plenty of Madness on the ice during the opening weekend of the NCAA Tournament.

Three of the four No. 1 seeds — see NCAA/page 22

Defensive unit impressing Weis in spring practice

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

In accordance with NCAA regulations that prohibit him from discussing fifth-year seniors by name at this point in the spring, Charlie Weis’ lips are sealed about a certain player likely to return next fall — kind of.

"On the offensive side of the ball, there is a left tackle that has been one of the more pleasant people for me to look at so far in camp," the Irish coach said at his Saturday post-practice press conference. That left tackle would be Paul Duncan, who is likely to return to quarterback Jimmy Clausen’s blind side, where he started the 2007 season, after missing all of last year with a hip injury.

Duncan was one of many players with whom Weis was impressed after Saturday’s practice, which was open to the public. The defense performed particularly well during a 17-play, near-full-speed scrimmage at the end of practice. Weis mentioned, among others, defensive backs Darrin Walls and Harrison Smith, linebackers Brian Smith and Toryan Smith and defensive linemen Ethan Johnson and Kapron Lewis-Moore, all of whom are at or near the top of the current depth chart.

Rising sophomore defensive lineman Hafis Williams, however, stole the show — at least for a while, Weis said.

"Hafis isn’t a big name around here, but he has been one of the guys in practice for the last week that just keeps on showing up," Weis said. "Now all of a sudden you have a bigger guy out there — an athletic, big guy out there — that can really help us in base defenses."

It wasn’t all positive for the Irish on Saturday, though.

"I was dissatisfied today with a walk-through period."

see SPRING/page 22

Women’s Lacrosse

Team splits two at home

Hoyas prove too tough, but Irish bounce back with win over Loyola

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Opening up their string of five conference games, No. 9 Notre Dame fell 14-12 to Georgetown Friday, ending their seven game winning streak, but bounced back with a 5-0 scoring run to beat Loyola (Md.) 16-13 Sunday.

Junior Gina Scioscia paced the Irish with three goals and an assist against the Hoyas, and a career-high six goals versus Loyola. Senior captain Jillian Byers, Notre Dame’s all-time points leader, scored four times with one assist in Friday’s match and added three goals and an assist Sunday.

Sophomore Shaylyn Blaney had five goals over the weekend.

Irish sophomore Shaylyn Blayley sprints down the field in Notre Dame’s 16-13 victory over Loyola (Md.).

Snowy conditions play big role on second day

Sorry We Party grabs win vs. Chris Brown Beatdown

By ALEX BARKER, LAURA MYERS, and MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writers

Bad weather? Big problem.

The contest that featured the brave souls of Sorry We Party and Chris Brown Beatdown was far from pretty. When all was said and done and the snow had settled, Sorry We Party came away with a sloppy 21-15 victory over Beatdown, advancing to the next round in the Daniel Kish sectional.

With puddles covering much of the blacktop surface, neither team ever got into much of a rhythm. The puddles were terrible to dribble in," sophomore Dan Carter of Sorry We Party said. "It was nearly impossible to control the ball out there."

Long-range baskets were hard to come by in the windy conditions and each team struggled mightily on the offensive end.

"It was very tough to score," sophomore Austin Heller of Sorry We Party said. "The game was probably three times as long as it should have been."

Heller’s size advantage was a clear factor in the game, which came down to who could get more inside looks in the paint. The 6-foot-5 center accounted for 12