McGurn: Abortion not a political issue

Center for Ethics and Culture sponsors lecture by former Bush speechwriter in spirit of discussion

By JOHN TIERNEY
Assistant News Editor

Abortion is an "intrinsic evil" and not a "political difference," said William McGurn, the former chief speechwriter for President George W. Bush in a lecture entitled "Notre Dame: A Witness for Life" Thursday.

"Abortion as a legal right is less a single issue than an entire ethic that serves as the foundation stone for the culture of death," McGurn, a 1980 graduate of the University and former staff writer for The Observer, said.

While many people view abortion as a divisive issue, McGurn argued that it is an issue on which people should be able to agree.

"This is where people can come together, without compromising their other differences," McGurn said.

He said he proposed that Notre Dame hold a "summit of pro-life Democrats ... to come here to make the Notre Dame statement for life." "There are a lot of Democrats I disagree with, but our country's richer when we're standing together on life," McGurn said.

Abortion is not, according to McGurn, about pro-life or pro-choice, but instead is a question of "intrinsic evil" and right and wrong.


Students seek spoon train world record

145 participants lie on South Quad Thursday, break Guinness record of 93 spooners to benefit charity

By LIZ O'DONNELL
News Writer

Lying side by side along South Quad, 145 students gathered Thursday afternoon to attempt to break the world record for the longest human spoon train.

"We did this last year just for fun," junior Charlie Mahoney, a co-captain of the event, said. "This year we wanted to break the world record." The 145 spooners participating in this year's "Spooning for Solutions" spoon train will be entered into the Guinness Book of World Records after shattering the old record of 93.

While the record was technically broken last year with a train of 127 spooners, the organizers of the event did not fill out the required paperwork to submit the attempt to the Guinness Book of World Records.

Co-captain Deirdre Murphy said members of the ski team came up with the idea last year to encourage other members on campus to participate.

"We are doing some charity for the program's biggest event of the year, will take place on South Quad today from 3 to 8 p.m."

The festival will be VPI's final event of the year. "We are doing some charity for the program's biggest event of the year, will take place on South Quad today from 3 to 8 p.m."

VPI to hold final event of the year

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

The Gender Relations Center (GRC) will host its first annual "Now is the Time: Festival on the Quad" today to celebrate the commitment to overcoming sexual violence on campus, GRC director Heather Rakozy Russell said.

The festival, which is a part of the GRC's Violence Prevention Initiative (VPI), is the program's biggest event of the year, will take place on South Quad today from 3 to 8 p.m.

"We have accomplished some of its goals, but still has room to grow. "Where we have succeeded this year so far is raising awareness about violence in the local community and healing of survivors," Rakozy Russell said. "And the fact that we are doing some charity

Ebadi examines human rights

Nobel Peace Prize recipient says Islam is compatible with democracy

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

In Iran, 65 percent of stu­dents attending universities are women, but the law states a man's life is worth twice that of a woman's, said Shirin Ebadi, recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003. "Gender discrimination exists," Ebadi said through a translator. "The testimony of two women in court equals the testimony of one man."


Along with gender inequality, she said religious discrimina­tion is a pressing issue in Islamic countries.

"A number of Baha'i's live in Iran, but are deprived of social and civil rights," Ebadi said. Legally, if a Muslim commits a crime, they can be punished with 100 lashes, but if a non-Muslim commits a crime, they can be punished with execution.

Some Western theorists and radical Islamic governments contend that the Islamic religion is incompatible with human rights and democracy, but Ebadi said she rejects that idea.

Many moderate Islamic intellectuals believe human rights are compatible with Islam, she said. They main-

see EBADI/page 5

see VPI/page 8

see ABORTION PAGE 6
INSIDE

You didn’t know?

In all of my time at Notre Dame, I have never been champion of anything. Until now.

Last night, my bookstore team, the Miner Street Shooters, challenged the recently coronated Bookstore Basketball champions and we prevailed. We ran an effective fast break, had great dribble penetration, and if I may indulge my own ego, had a block party in the defensive paint.

That’s right. We took down Four Girls and a Guy 21-3, making me and my friend the new Women’s Bookstore Basketball Champions.

My team and I had to draw up a gameplan for the matchup, and it was pretty simple.

Step one: Find their shooters. Girls teams are generally role players with one great girl (equivalent to your average male player). We quickly learned that person was junior Sierra Smith, the recently named Women’s MVP.

Step two: Defend outside shots. The first thing I learned from covering Notre Dame women’s basketball for three years was that most girls can easily shoot from distance. Throw in a competitive for a while. They made their only option. Fortunately for us, the girl who we thought would be able to make it rain (in looking at you point guard Molly McCarthy) built a house with all her bricks.

Step three: Be dudes. That’s right. I said it. Between incredible speed out and incredible speed in, it went over the falls and landed in a seemingly unreachable position atop a rock pile about 100 feet below the top of the river bank.

Officials capture three-legged alligator from beach

SEACREST BEACH, Fla. — It sounds more like something out of a freak show: a one-eyed, 3-legged alligator. The gator was captured Thursday morning in Seacrest Beach by Walton County officials. The animal was less than five feet long and had somehow found its way to the beach.

A family visiting from Chicago called it the perfectly peaceful day at the beach. They learned how to tell apart an alligator from a crocodile. The rare gator was taken to a safe location and returned without harm to the wild.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: BIG SPOON OR LITTLE SPOON?

Erlin Bryne
freshman
Welsh Family

“Either I don’t discriminate based on size.”

Katie Doellman
freshman
Welsh Family

“Middle spoon. I like to be in the middle.”

Mike Quigley
freshman
Welsh Family

“Both because then I can spoon with both of my friends’ girlfriends.”

Natalie Badasare
freshman
Welsh Family

“All spoons are created equal.”

Alex Hath
freshman
Sortin

“Little spoon because Sam is a big spoon.”

Sam Shanley
freshman
Sortin

“Big spoon because Alex is a little spoon.”

Kelly Fallon (right) smiles as a South Quad carnival worker shows off her newly painted Frisbee while Breanna Sammons (center) continues to work on her own. The event was part of this year’s week-long AnTostal.

IN BRIEF

A panel discussion entitled “The History and Future of Gender Studies” will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium on Friday. A reception will be held before the event at 9:00 a.m. in the Great Hall in the Hesburgh Center.

The “BFA/MFA Candidates’ Thesis” will be held in the O’Shaughnessy Galleries in the Snite Museum of Art on Friday. The exhibit will be held at 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Admission free.

A Chicken Dinner Fundraiser will be held for Relay for Life in the Stephans Center. A half of a chicken is $6. The dinner will be held on Friday.

Last night, my bookstore team, the Miner Street Shooters, challenged the recently coronated Bookstore Basketball Champions and we prevailed. We ran an effective fast break, had great dribble penetration, and if I may indulge my own ego, had a block party in the defensive paint.

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Step two: Defend outside shots. The first thing I learned from covering Notre Dame women’s basketball for three years was that most girls can easily shoot from distance. Throw in a competitive for a while. They made some shots, we made a lot more. But in the end, brains and brawn triumphed simultaneously and the title was ours.

They tried to pass. We intercepted it every time. They tried to shoot. We blocked it almost every time. They tried to defend. We made it rain. They got tired.

We got hungry.

I don’t think it would be easy. I thought playing them would be like playing an average (at best) men’s team. Quite frankly, we aren’t even good. We had one win and (surprise!) it was against boys.

I’ll be honest with you, 0-0 dead­er. It feels good to be a champion. It feels good to know that we can take on any challenger and prevail.

I just feel good to be alive.

And now I throw down the gauntlet.

Boys rule. Girls drool.
Students set to sail across lake in Fisher Regatta

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

Tomorrow, 35 boats will set sail in hopes of claiming the glory of victory in the Fisher Regatta.

Some teams will proudly row all the way across St. Mary's lake while others will sink seconds after the race begins, but only two teams will emerge victorious — one each from the men's and women's brackets.

Pat Hogan, the event's commissioner, said this year marks the 23rd year of the Regatta, and the number of entrants has grown up from last year's race, which will begin at 1 p.m.

Hogan said planning the Regatta was slightly more difficult this year because of the economic downturn. "Getting a sponsorship was challenging because so many companies have cutbacks, and the first thing to go is charitable donations," he said. "So getting responses from people was hard."

But he was successful in securing sponsorships from some campus favorites — Papa John's Pizza, Coca-Cola and Krispy Kreme doughnuts.

Hogan said another challenge was setting a date for the Regatta, given that the weather could be anything from sunny skies to a blizzard.

"There is always the prevalent challenge of whether the weather will comply," he said. "The glorious weather of South Bend doesn't always align with the wishes of the Regatta."

The event costs $40 to enter and the proceeds will go to the Phoenix-based charity Andre House, which serves the poor and the homeless in the area.

Hogan said the winning teams will receive a handful of exciting prizes. "There are trophies for the winners, free pizza coupons from Papa John's and the ultimate pride of winning the Fisher Regatta," he said. "It's something to tell your grandkids about."

The Regatta attracts many spectators each year because of the large number of unusual boats in which students proudly attempt to stay afloat.

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The Regatta attracts many spectators each year because of the large number of unusual boats in which students proudly attempt to stay afloat.

"I know the exact best strategy. It's not only about getting yours, it's about preventing the other guy from getting theirs," he said. "My old basketball coach told me that."

Contact Irena Zajickova at izajicko@nd.edu

THE OBSERVER

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Ian Gavlick (igavlick@nd.edu)

Sports

Scene

Photo

Please recycle The Observer.
Fifth graders visit campus

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

Younger kids are a rare site on campus, but two education classes hosted fifth graders from a local public school Thursday to give them a glimpse of college life.

The classes, “Education, Schooling and Society” and “Coloring Outside the Lines,” both taught by Professor Joyce Long, have been exchanging letters with students from Brown Intermediate Center all semester.

The two classes visited their pen pals at Brown earlier in the semester, but Thursday was the first time the fifth graders came to Notre Dame. Long said the visit benefited both groups of students. The elementary school students got a taste of what college life is like, something that many of them had never experienced before.

“We know from their letters that the only thing they know about Notre Dame is football. Coming onto campus, they’re actually going to see what Notre Dame is like,” Long said. “One of the things we hope they’ll get out of it is that this could be the end product of them engaging themselves in their studies.”

Another key purpose of this visit was to show the pen pals that attending college is possible for anyone, Long said.

“Mainly, the visit was for motivational purposes and a glimpse of what is possible,” Long said.

During their visit, the students went to the digital movie theater in Jordan Hall for an interactive science lesson. They also spent time with their individual pen pals and ate a meal at South Dining Hall.

Melissa Cowell, a sophomore who plans to pursue a career in education, said she enjoyed spending time with her pen pal Ariel.

“It was a lot of fun,” Cowell said. “It was cool to see the kids’ reactions to the campus.”

During her visit with Ariel, Cowell took her on a campus tour.

Cowell said the fifth graders gained a sense of what college will entail from what they saw today.

“I think the project emphasizes the need to reach out to these kids in the community. We live so close to them and they live so close to this great University, so we need to take advantage of that.”

Melissa Cowell sophomore

Joyce Long professor

Cowell said a key part of the pen pal project was making an impact in the community, which is sometimes difficult to do while living in the “Notre Dame bubble.”

“I think the project emphasizes the need to reach out to these kids in our community,” she said. “We live so close to them and they live so close to this great University, so we need to take advantage of that.”

Long said the education classes hope that the fifth graders will remember the visit and emerge from the experience with a more comprehensive picture of what college entails.

“For many of them, they have no idea what college means,” Long said. “When they get back to their own school, they can compare what they saw and have a more enlarged view of what campus is like.”

Contact Irena Zajickova at Iza@nd.edu

SMC welcomes vice president for Mission

By MEGAN LONEY
News Writer

Saint Mary’s President Carol Ann Mooney and Sr. Joy O’Grady, president of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, jointly appointed Sr. Mary Louise Gude to join the Saint Mary’s community as the new vice president for Mission.

The position for vice president for Mission became available after Sr. Rose Anne Schultz, the first vice president of the Division for Mission, announced her retirement this spring, according to a press release.

Gude was encouraged to apply for the position based on her experience with both the Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame communities.

“Among other things, I spent eight months in Le Mans, France preparing to celebrate the beatification of Basil Moreau and help organize the summer C.S.C. history session in Le Mans,” Gude said.

Gude said she is positive about her new position.

“My position is one of service to the college community. Saint Mary’s has a rich heritage, and one facet of my job will be to nurture that heritage,” Gude said. “This happens in many and varied ways, and I look forward to the challenge.”

Gude said her responsibilities fall into three categories: to make the history and the mission of the Sisters of the Holy Cross known to the College community and to interpret its relevance today, to supervise those college departments explicitly charged with implementing that mission and to act as a liaison between the College’s various constituencies in order to ensure mission effectiveness.

Gude graduated from Saint Mary’s College in 1963. After earning a licentiate from the University of Montreal and a Ph.D. in French literature from the University of Pennsylvania, Gude returned to South Bend. She has served as an assistant vice president for Student Affairs and taught in the Department of Romance Languages at Notre Dame.

Gude has also served at Saint Mary’s as an assistant professor of French and department chair.

Contact Megan Loney at mloney01@stmarys.edu

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Want to write news? E-mail Melissa at mbuckley@nd.edu
NATIONAL NEWS
Six years in prison for airing Hezbollah NEW YORK — A Pakistani immigrant whom a prosecutor described as "the man in New York City" has been sentenced to nearly six years in prison for airing the Lebanese militant group's television station.

Iqbal lawyer Josh Dratel says his client didn't promote the broadcasts of Hezbollah because they were not yet American targets.

Kans. gov. vetoes abortion bill TOPEKA — Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius has vetoed a bill that would rewrite a state law restricting late-term abortions.

The measure vetoed Thursday would have required doctors performing late-term abortions to report additional medical information to the state. The law also would have allowed women or girls who later believed their abortions were performed illegally to sue.

Iraq
Suicide bombers kill 78 in Baghdad

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana lawmakers appeared to move a bit closer to a compromise on legislation that would crack down on so-called puppy mills.

The Senate plan would require breeders to record on so-called puppy mills.

Suicide bombers kill 78 in Baghdad

Baghdad — Suicide bomb blasts tore through crowds waiting for food aid in central Baghdad and inside a roadside restaurant filled with Iranian pilgrims killing at least 78 people in Iraq's deadliest day in more than a year.

The toll — at least 31 dead in Baghdad and 47 to the north in Diyala province — follows a wave of high-profile attacks this month blamed on Sunni insurgents. The violence highlights potential security gaps as Iraqi forces increasingly take the lead role from U.S. forces in protecting Baghdad and key areas around the capital.

The insurgent push is still nowhere near the scale of violence in past years, but it has undermined confidence that Iraq's security gains were solid footing if attacks to try to intensify attacks after a relative lull.

In the past, however, Iraqi officials have reported Baghdad's arrest or killing, only to acknowledge later that they were wrong. The U.S. military has said it could not confirm the reports.

The reported capture of Abu Omar al-Badri, the head of the Islamic State of Iraq, could mark a setback to insurgents as they try to intensify attacks after a relative lull.

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Abortion continued from page 1
to McGurn, "one issue on a political order that the unborn belong to no political party; no human right is safe when the right to life is denied; and we will accept no calculus of justice that seeks to trade that right to life for any other," McGurn said.

He agreed that other human rights, including war and capital punishment, "deserve serious treatment." But he argued that "all pleas for other important human rights are 'false and illusory' if we do not defend with 'maximum determination' the fundamental right to life upon which all other rights rest. 'Other rights are contingent on the protection of the right to life, according to McGurn.

"The unborn child's right to life represents the defining civil rights issue of our day," McGurn said.

As a civil rights issue, abortion is an issue of morality, not of politics, he said. "I don't think we have to share our politics to share our principles," he said.

Catholics are called to be "witnesses to life," McGurn said.

"To be a witness, an institution must order itself so that all who look upon it see a consonance between its most profound truths and its most public actions," he said.

This witness to life is the essence of the Catholic character of the University, according to McGurn.

"This witness is the only real reason for a University of Notre Dame," he said. "The witness is derived from the belief that 'self-evident truths about the dignity of each human life' truly exist, McGurn said.

Leg alized ab or tions threaten these truths and the dignity of the human existence.

"A civilization which sanctions abortion as a human right is in some essential way writing its death warrant," McGurn said.

McGurn said that he is not worried about what Obama will say at Commencement.

"I don't think 'people should have their graduation disrupted,'" McGurn said. "I think you can have a protest, but I don't think you should be rude."" He also encouraged those who disagree with the invitation to allow the seniors to have their graduation.

"I don't think 'people should have their graduation disrupted,'" McGurn said. "I think you can have a protest, but I don't think you should be rude."" He also encouraged those who disagree with the invitation to allow the seniors to have their graduation.

He expressed his disappointment with the "unwise" decision to invite Obama. "I am very disappointed with [University President] Fr. John Jenkins right now," he said.

However, he did not call for Jenkins' resignation.

"Even if he resigned, my issue that Notre Dame be a university that violence is not here," McGurn said.

"I would just like Notre Dame to be as consistent in advancing her positions as President Obama is with his," he said.

McGurn's lecture was sponsored by the Center for Ethics and Culture, "in the spirit of Fr. Jenkins's call to dialogue," Center for Ethics and Culture director David Solomon said.

Contact John Tierney at jtierney@nd.edu.

There are human rights violations in Iraq," said. "But Iranian citizens should have the job of implementing human rights — not foreign soldiers.

"We not only oppose an attack on Iran, but we also oppose a threat of attack on Iran because the government will oppress people based on national, religious, or ethnic grounds," she said.

Rahim, a University of Notre Dame student and Iranian, expressing the hope that the new administration "shows better practices of foreign policy."

"America attacked Iraq on the excuse that Saddam Hussein is a dictator with weapons of mass destruction," she said. "However, when American soldiers didn't find weapons, they said bringing democracy was the goal. Was Saddam Hussein the only dictator in the world? The difference was there's a lot of oil in Iraq that doesn't exist in other countries."

Ebadi said the theory of human rights is an idea not confined to a specific culture, religion or nation.

"These are international principles," she said. "It has nothing to do with East or West."

In order to resolve the problem of human rights violations, the world leaders need to cooperate.

"Let's plant the tree of cooperation like the earth," she said. "Let's be kind to each other."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu.

Obama at Notre Dame: Will He Honor a Pro-Church President?

A Student Panel Discussion and Forum

Tuesday, April 28th 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Hesburgh Auditorium (1st Floor Library)

Submit questions for the panelists to Andrew Nesi at anesi@nd.edu.

Sponsored by the College of Arts and Letters

Ebadi continued from page 1

tain that it is actually the Islamic government's interpretation of Islamic law that is incompatible.

"Non-democratic Islamic governments get power from religion and not votes from people, and they believe they have to guard Islam," she said. "If the government relies on its own interpretation of Islam, any political criticism of the government is deemed a criticism of Islam."

"If Islam is interpreted this way, the government loses ground and the people will be able to take over," she said.

Ebadi said Western theologians write about a "clash of civilizations" between Islamic and Western societies also contribute to the idea that Islam is not compatible with democracy.

"Some who believe Islam is incompatible with democracy believe democracy will protect Islam and not protect the society," she said.

"Islam is interpreted this way, the government loses ground and the people will be able to take over," she said.

Shafiq Elmara, who is consistent with the idea of a culture clash between Western and Eastern civilizations.

"If there is a clash, how do you justify the relationship between Saudi Arabia and the United States?" she asked.

Contact John Tierney at jtierney@nd.edu.

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Microsoft sales drop for first time

**FTSE 100 (London)**

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2009

**The Observer**

**Business**

**MARKET RECAP**

**Stocks**

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**NASDAQ**

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**NYSE**

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**S&P 500**

851.92 | +8.17 |

**NIKKEI (Tokyo)**

8,847.01 | 0.00 |

**FTSE 100 (London)**

4,018.23 | -12.43 |

**COMMODITIES**

**Commodities**

**TREASURIES**

10-YEAR NOTE | 2.05 | -0.037 | 2.92 |

13-WEEK BILL | -29.63 | -0.040 | 0.09 |

30-YEAR BOND | -0.97 | -0.037 | 3.80 |

5-YEAR NOTE | -1.20 | -0.023 | 1.89 |

**Exchange Rates**

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**IN BRIEF**

**IF WORLD BANK WANT MORE ACTION**

**Wisc. to require cochlear implants**

**IMF, World Bank want more action**

**Associated Press**

**In this April 21 photo, General Motors world headquarters is shown in Detroit. GM recently reported that it will close most of its U.S. factories for up to nine weeks.**
Students participate in a spoon train Thursday to raise money for Alpine Children's Charity.

The Observer (ND) April 24, 2009

Eucharistic procession to be held on campus

Special to The Observer

A Eucharistic Procession will be held on the University of Notre Dame campus Sunday following the 11:45 a.m. Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

The procession, led by Fr. Kevin Russeau, director of Notre Dame’s Old College undergraduate seminary, will make its way through Notre Dame, South Bend, stopping at altars placed in front of the buildings of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Our Lady of the University and Notre Dame’s founder, Fr. Edward Sorin, and the steps of the Main Building.

During the procession public prayers will be offered for a deepened respect and protection of all human life from conception to natural death, as well as an increase in vocations to the religious life and buildings on the students of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross Colleges.

Once a yearly event at the University, Eucharistic processions through campus fell out of practice in the years following World War II, but for various reasons we can sometimes compartmentalize our faith in the world. The procession is a way to address that, that what we do at worship should have effect on our daily lives and words in the world. I’ve noticed in the past several years that people who encounter the procession have mixed reactions, wondering if they should kneel or at least stop what they are doing as a sign of reverence, or if they should continue as if we were not processing.”

Write News. E-mail obsnews.nd@gmail.com
Thursday in an attempt to
Investigators hope to find other women victimized by Markoff

Associated Press

BOSTON — Boston police
placed an ad on Craigslist
Thursday in an attempt to
find other women who may
have been victimized by
Philip Markoff.

Suffolk County District
Attorney’s Office
spokesman Jake Wark said
that Boston investigators
hope the ad, posted in the
“erotic services” section of
the Web site, will persuade
other possible victims to
come forth.

“We were attacked or
robbed at a Boston-area
hotel after placing an ad on
Craigslist,” the ad asked.

“If so, you may have infor-
mation that could aid the
investigation into the April
10 armed robbery of a
woman at the Westin
Copley Place Hotel and the
April 14 murder of a
woman at the Marriott
Copley Place Hotel. Both
victims were attacked by a
prospective client who had
contacted them through
ads placed on Craigslist.”

The posting does not
mention Markoff by name,
and Wark says investiga-
tors aren’t sure there are
other victims.

Markoff, a Boston
University medical student,
is charged in the April 14
killing of Julissa Briansan, a
23-year-old masseuse he
met through Craigslist. He
is also charged in a rob-
bery of another masseuse
that police say he met
trough Craigslist.

Also Thursday, a
law enforcement official, speak-
ing to The Associated Press
on the condition of
anonymity because he was
not authorized to discuss the
case, said Markoff had
been placed on suicide
watch at the Boston jail
where he is being held.

ABC News and The Boston
Globe, citing unidentified
law enforcement sources,
reported that what
appeared to be shoelace
marks were found on his
neck.

Defense attorney John
Salsberg told reporters he
was concerned about
Markoff’s well-being but
otherwise declined to com-
ment on the reports.

Jail officials declined to
comment to The Associated
Press, citing privacy rules.

Investigators were not
certain the Craigslist ad
would produce new leads.

“There may not be any
other victims out there, but
if there are and they have
not seen or are not com-
fortable responding to our
requests in the mainstream
media, this may be a way
to make contact with them,”
Wark said.

Markoff has pleaded not
guilty to charges of murder,
armed robbery and kidnap-
ning.

Meanwhile, supporters of
Markoff have launched a
new Facebook group to
raid around him.

The new Facebook group
called “Phil Markoff is
Innocent Until Proven
Guilty” describes itself as a
forum to rally against the
media and a culture “that
has forgotten that people
like Phil are suspects, not
killers.”

Markoff was arrested
Monday in Waltham, less
than 20 miles southwest of
Boston, as he drove with
his fiancee, Megan
McAllister, to Foxwoods
Resort Casino in
Connecticut.

McAllister, who earlier
this week said Markoff
would not hurt anyone, is
standing beside him, her
father, James McAllister,
told reporters Thursday.

“She’s still confident in
Phil. Other than that, we’re
going a lot of prayers,” he
said outside his home in
Little Silver, N.J.

Police put ad on Craigslist
Investigators hope to find other women victimized by Markoff

Associated Press

FLINT, Mich. — A prosecutor
said Thursday that investiga-
tors would be "working all night"
to develop a criminal case in
the death of a 9-year-old quadriple-
gic girl whose body was found in
a storage unit after her adoptive
mother repeatedly insisted she
was out of state.

Charges could range from
felony murder to lesser
charges such as misdemeanor
moving a corpse.

The woman was arrested
Wednesday after police found
Shylea Myra Thomas’ body in
a black trash bag, stuffed into a
plastic bin with mothballs and
locked in a storage unit near
Flint.

Shylea had been taken out
of school in January, and
relatives told state officials they
had not seen her in six weeks. At
least one neighbor said she hadn’t
seen the little girl live there.

"This is a very sad and tragic
case that hurts all of us involved
in the ongoing investigation,"
Genesee County Prosecutor
David Leyton said in a statement.

"It appears that Shylea had a
rough go in life.”

A court document filed in
the family division of the
Genesee County Circuit Court
seizes custody of seven other
children who were living in
the home identified the
woman as 39-year-old Lorrie
Thomas of Flint. Leyton said he
did not know whether Thomas
had a lawyer.

Officials said the woman was
a blood relative of Shylea’s who
adopted her through the state.

Authorities were reviewing evi-
dence and results from an autops-
ny before deciding on charges,
Leyton said at a late-afternoon
news conference.

"I’ve asked the investigators
to do more witness interviews. ...
We’re going to draft a couple
more search warrants. The
police are going to be working all
night,” he said.

"Before I charge somebody
with a crime of this magnitude, I
want to be sure. There’s more
information I would like to have
to help me make a decision,”
by Friday, the prosecutor said.

The case unfolded this week
when other relatives of the girl
told the state Department of
Human Services about possible
neglect and said they hadn’t seen
the child in six weeks.

A case worker, Aaron Clum,
visited the home Monday and
was unable to confirm Shylea’s
dwellings. Clum said in the
court document that Thomas told
him the family was moving to
Virginia and the girl was on
her way with a friend.

On Tuesday, the department
asked Flint police to investigate.
Thomas again insisted Shylea
was bound for Virginia, Clum
wrote, but that could not be con-
formed.
Operatives not to be prosecuted yet

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Eric Holder left open the possibility Thursday to prosecuting former Bush administration officials but ruled out filing charges merely by evidence of wrongdoing I will pursue it to the full extent of the law," he said.

"I will not permit the criminalization of policy differences," Holder testified before a House Appropriations subcommittee. "However, it is my responsibility as attorney general to enforce the law. It is my duty to enforce the law. If I see evidence of wrongdoing I will pursue it to the full extent of the law," he said.

Holder has made similar statements in the past, but he and other senior Obama administration officials are being scrutinized on the matter since the government released four legal memos detailing harsh treatment of terror suspects authorized by the Bush administration.

Obama said last week that CIA operatives who followed the memos' instructions would not face prosecution. The president did not rule out charges against those who authorized and approved the methods — nor did Holder in his most recent testimony — Rep. David Obey, D-Wis., who chairs the Appropriations Committee, criticized what he called the lies of the Bush administration, yet he urged Holder to be careful in whatever course he took.

"It seems to me the important question isn't whether or not there is widespread prosecution of people," Obey said. "The important question is whether or not we're going to strike the right balance between pursuing personal wrongdoing and making sure the country has the correct narrative about what did happen."

Congressional Democrats have expressed a strong desire to conduct their own investigation of those officials. Officials are still awaiting the results of an internal Justice Department investigation into the actions of the memo-writers.

Besides the question of prosecutions, the release of the four memos has also sparked debate over how many more classified details of the interrogation program should be released.

"It is certainly the intention of this administration not to play hide and seek, or not to release certain things," said Holder. "It is not our intention to try to advance a political agenda or to try to hide things from the American people."

Republicans — including former Vice President Dick Cheney — have urged the Obama administration to release other, still-secret documents detailing what intelligence was gained from the controversial interrogation techniques.

"I think you have an obligation to release the rest of the memos," said Rep. Frank Wolf, R-Va. "Holder said he wasn't sure exactly which memos Cheney was referring to, because he hasn't seen them. The attorney general suggested such classification of documents may exist at other agencies."

"I'm the attorney general and I don't control many of the memos you might be talking about," said Holder.

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Suit filed against fertilizer company

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A company whose factory in northwest Missouri gave farmers fertilizer that critics say contained a cancer-causing chemical disputed the claims Thursday and defended its environmental record.

Prime Tanning Corp., of Hartland, Maine, issued a statement in response to a lawsuit filed Wednesday accusing it of knowingly distributing sludge containing hexavalent chromium as free fertilizer to farmers in four counties. The metal, also known as chromium 6, is a known carcinogen.

The company's St. Joseph plant was purchased this year by National Beef Leathers, a subsidiary of Kansas City-based National Beef Packing Co. that also was named in the lawsuit.

On Thursday, National Beef Leathers said it would stop distributing the sludge while it conducts its own investigation.

Environmental activist Erin Brockovich told a crowd in Cameron on Wednesday night that hexavalent chromium may be linked to what some area residents believe is a high number of brain tumors in the region.

State and federal agencies have tested several areas in and around Cameron in the last year in response to concerns about brain tumors, but not for chromium 6. The lawsuit and Brockovich's meeting sparked debate over how many more classified details of the interrogation program should be released.

"It is not our intention to try to advance a political agenda or to try to hide things from the American people."

The lawsuit, filed by two northwest Missouri residents, accuses Prime Tanning of not telling the state that the sludge left over from tanning processes at the plant contained hexavalent chromium.
It has now been five weeks since President Barack Obama was announced as Notre Dame’s May 17 Commencement speaker, and the controversy that this decision has generated has now unquestionably touched every member of the Notre Dame community, and so many others around the nation and the world.

Many of those contributing to the controversy exist completely outside of the Notre Dame bubble, and they continue to fuel the fire that the president’s Commencement Invitation has started. Yet the University’s students should be proud for avoiding being engulfed by the presidential flames.

Our campus has been placed under a microscope in the past few weeks, but they — the outside groups with national media — have over-politicized a non-political issue — ultimately because we care.

The outside groups with militant attitudes who see the Golden Dome as little more than a golden opportunity for their causes aren’t here because they love the University or hope to defend its Catholic tradition. The Notre Dame name is a high-profile one that attracts significant media attention; it’s the reason why so many have flocked to South Bend to use our campus as a platform for their political agendas.

Yet under this microscope, our students have thrived. As alumna group tally up the donations they’re withholding for the University or hope to defend its Catholic tradition. The Obama administration as heralding a new era of accountability, and awesome, and we shouldn’t question the things our wise government does. However, Christie Pesavento (“Torture is in the eye of the beholder,” April 21) recently decried the release of the torture memos, because torture is something that? President Obama may have only indirect power over America’s abortion rates — the past eight years have seen relatively little change in abortion, in spite of Bush being president and pro-life yet it is only Obama’s stance on abortion that seems to matter to many on this campus. Michele Sagala (“The real issue”), argues that the President contradicts “some of our most fundamental beliefs on life as Catholics.” Some? Over the past few weeks, I’ve counted a single one — abortion. Now, I haven’t been a Catholic for a very long time, but I remember there being a couple of other values that were important to your average Catholic. In fact, every Sundays would pass without a single mention of abortion!

Considering that such evils as torture are being, or at least have been, practiced by government leaders, we should be proud that to those who have pledged to “make this a circus,” our reply has been loud and clear: We won’t let you.

Some might applaud the recent release of the torture memos by the Obama administration as heralding a new era of accountability, and hopefully leading to an end of the heinous, dehumanizing practice of torture. However, Christie Pesavento (“Torture is in the eye of the beholder,” April 21) recently decried the release of the torture memos, because torture is awesome, and we shouldn’t question the things our wise government does. However, Christie Pesavento (“Torture is in the eye of the beholder,” April 21) recently decried the release of the torture memos, because torture is something that? President Obama may have only indirect power over America’s abortion rates — the past eight years have seen relatively little change in abortion, in spite of Bush being president and pro-life yet it is only Obama’s stance on abortion that seems to matter to many on this campus. Michele Sagala (“The real issue”), argues that the President contradicts “some of our most fundamental beliefs on life as Catholics.” Some? Over the past few weeks, I’ve counted a single one — abortion. Now, I haven’t been a Catholic for a very long time, but I remember there being a couple of other values that were important to your average Catholic. In fact, every Sundays would pass without a single mention of abortion!

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Considering that such evils as torture are being, or at least have been, practiced by government leaders, we should be proud that to those who have pledged to “make this a circus,” our reply has been loud and clear: We won’t let you.
What a year to be a senior. With less than a month remaining before the conclusion of their beloved undergraduate education, chaos still looms on the Commencement horizon. One thing is certain, this senior class will be remembered more for rabid political reaction rather than for the honor of hosting the President of the United States. 

It has been said that some places are made sacred by the people and events that graced them. Nearly two decades ago, Catholic Democratic New York Governor Mario Cuomo laid out his pro-choice position at Notre Dame. Both the governor’s scholarly courage and the University’s scholarly opposition made sacred Our Lady’s campus at that time. Unfortunately, many frust­trated and some racist protesters are bent on a noisy public repudiation of the presi­dent rather than civil discourse that would grace our campus.

On campus, this year began with another disappointing football season replete of the men’s basketball program. Both can be squarely blamed on the coaching staffs. Yet, during the seniors’ tenure on campus, deserving teams like the men’s hockey and women’s soccer have fallen to the fickle­ness of sporting gods whose mission it is to thrill as well as disappoint. So seniors have learned that life is full of fickle disappoint­ments. But how we react is the meas­ure of our character.

Obviously, the senior class helped elect a most historic candidate to the presidency. As a former political student activist at Notre Dame, I can attest to the fact that decades of disappointment because President Obama is the first to build a suc­cessful majority coalition of students, pro­gressives and liberals. While I attended Notre Dame, our nation elected Richard Nixon — arguably the worst president of modern day until George W. Bush with his ideological zealot who disregarded the rule of law at every turn.

Forty years ago, I too was a senior, albeit in high school. My four decades since have breezed by with a sprinkling of slow­motion, memorable moments that I still savor today. Yet, those decades slipped through my fingers quite quickly, as the last four have years for the senior class. Take it from one who knows, remember to clasp onto every minute possible, for the best of time will sustain you like a hearty breakfast.

Some day, your parents, friends, pets and lovers will pass at the most unexpect­med moment. Their images glaring back at you through your Ipad will barely allow you the comfort you feel with them today. Simon and Garfunkel best describe that moment with the lyrics, “Long ago it must be, I have a photograph. Preserve your memories, they’re all that’s left you.”

Most importantly, never lose your digni­t y, honor or tolerance of others, especially those farthest from your comfort level. This column’s recent tongue-in-cheek counter to the Cardinal Newman Society is the classic example of how destructive certainty in religion can become. A group acts irrationally — and especially Catholics who should be held to a higher standard — when they publicly chastise and condemn without dignity, humor and tolerance during a debate.

Speaking of debate, early in this school year the debate over the definition of “hooking up” seemed to be a defining moment for the year, especially after “The Vagina Monologues” went on hiatus. In my day on campus, a hook-up was a sexual home run, period. The meaning was clear­ly a black and white meaning — either you hooked up or you did not. Forget first, sec­ond or third base. It was a home run or strikeout. We had no friends with benefits or BF/F or BMF designations. The 1970s was a slow-motion time well remembered. But now in the Twittering era, every­thing takes on nuances which make this year’s senior class one of great hope and ability. By and large, most seniors are not closed-minded zealots. In fact, they are the future face of our society. Seniors are beyond frowning upon inter racial dating, gay persa­us and funny looking religious apparel. Those are the scars of older gen­erations.

Seniors are at their best when they give a dollar to the drunk who uncomfortably begs while standing close to the win­ dow at the traffic light. They are best when they smile at the stranger standing in line with them waiting to board a plane or when they crack a humorous observa­tion to lighten both their own and other travelers’ anxieties. Seniors are always at their absolute best when they treat a pet with love rather than as a thing.

Despite a sluggish economy, similar to when I graduated, the future is bright for this year’s seniors. Those days will undoubtedly hook up with fate to make places sacred by gracing them. Let’s hook up sometime soon too.

Remember Kevin

Men and women of Notre Dame, you are saddened to say that University is close to losing one of its most loyal sons.

In December 2006, Kevin Healey, a high school senior, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma. This rare and especially dangerous cancer, initially discovered in his right tibia, would spread throughout his body over the next few years. Since his diagnosis, Kevin has fought an inspiring battle and lived life to its fullest in the face of profound adversity. He enrolled at the University with the class of 2011 and made the Dean’s List in his first semester here, despite missing a third of his classes because he had to travel home to Cleveland for chemotherapy.

Two and a half years and countless visits to the doctor after his diagnosis, Kevin’s time is running short. He is bedridden, exhausted and “rarely coherent.” His time is measured in days and hours.

We, who attended St. Ignatius High School with Kevin, ask that you keep him and his family in your prayers. This University holds a special place in Kevin’s heart. We are confident that your prayers can help ease his pain and bring comfort to his family, who feel all of 2012.

“Seek the Lord and his strength” (1 Chronicles 16:11). Seek strength for a fellow student who has not allowed himself to stop fighting. Seek strength for a mother, father and sister in great need.

For updates, visit kevinhealey.com

A.M.D.G.,

Marc Fanous Pat George
Jim McNulty Nick Ward
Jeff Wadain
Class of 2009

Chris Carfari
Tom DiScha
John Gallagher
Jared Jelic
Andrew Kovach
Barry Main
Corey McNealy
Justin Morrow
Rob Parrish
John Ryan
Adam Sima
Darcy Sitz
Class of 2010

Piechowski
Peter Hulbe
Luke Starelo
Mark Tupa
Class of 2011

Chris Chang
Kevin Eller
Michael Fedynsky
Ray Flores
Andrew Mironovitch
Sean Stefancin
Class of 2012

April 23
This year the Notre Dame community has witnessed many things.

There have been the joyful: the Hawaii Bowl, the feeling after I
finished my final final exam of all time,
which has witnessed many things.
Our Quad and racism, and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning
and justice, we look forward to hosting our President and contin­
uing our University's Mission to
create a sense of human solidarity
and concern for the other aspects of President Obama's work
that continues to uphold the principles of justice and solidarity.

There have been the joyous: the
Syracuse game, the Pittsburgh game,
where Notre Dame students were
witness to another miraculous
turn of events as a month's worth of 40
and 50 degree rainy days paved
the way for the glorious three day stretch
of sun that pannedal with an immacu­
late high of 72 on PigPothole Saturday.
The Kirk, Jenkins and Swarbrick tri­
umvirate might have (or might not)
have done everything in their power
to cancel this great event, but it is clear
that the student body had the big guy
on our side as PigPothostal not only
happened, but it happened on another
beautiful day.

What does all of this prove? Is it a
coincidence that the only days of 2009
that have brought South Bend temper­
atures above the 70 degree mark fea­
tured the two best day drinking parties
of the year?

Or are there greater forces at work?

As a sometimes practicing
Catholic, I have to believe in God, the
Almighty; and as a Notre Dame stu­
dent, I must also believe in Our Mother. I
believe that things happen for a rea­
son; that the miraculous meteor­
ological mysteries can only have one
explanation: God wants us to party.

So in the name of God; party I will.

Bob Kasessler is a senior majoring in
political science and economics. Read
more of his work at
www.thingsnotredamestudentslike.com
You can contact him at
rkesslerimd.edu

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

In support of Fr. Jenkins

Dear Notre Dame students, faculty, staff and family members,

We are writing you all in regards to the ongoing criticism of the University's decision to host President Obama.

As Notre Dame students concerned with the many dimensions of social justice, we look to the words of our University's Mission Statement, which reads:

"The University seeks to cultivate in its students not only an awareness of the achievements of human beings, but also a disciplined sensibility to the poverty, injustice, and oppression that burden the lives of so many. The aim is to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice."

Every day we work to do what the common good inspires us as it has inspired generations of Notre Dame students before us.

As we continue to address the issues of social justice and the dignity of all people in our own campus, in our country and around the world, we are encouraged by the passion of debate that surrounds President Obama's visit to our University. We recognize that all issues of life are important matters that people of good conscience are called to take seriously. This point must not be down­
played and we think it is important to have an honest and open conversation.

As Notre Dame students, we strive to be a concerned community that recognizes the complexity of the many issues that face our nation and our world. We respect diverse viewpoints on issues and we also believe in concerned and genuine dialogue. We think, how­
ever, that the debate is being neglected by those who would rather divide than work together for common ground and for the common good. We are concerned that in narrowing the focus to one aspect

of life that has often proven polarizing and divisive many have lost the ability to recognize the other aspects of President Obama's work that continues to uphold the principles of justice and solidarity.

Furthermore we welcome a president to our University that has in many ways helped redefine the history of our nation. We should
admire the work of those in the civil rights movement that made it possible for the person of color to come to our campus as our coun­
try's first African-American president. Once a dream held by so
many in our nation, we rightly celebrate at our University this
momentous occasion for the legacy of social justice and civil rights.

We are proud to welcome President Obama to speak at

Class of 1955

Progressive Leadership Council

April 22

Other recipients unworthy

I was alerted yesterday to the news that Notre Dame is to award honorary degrees to seven "distinguished" people in addition to President Barack Obama. I was shocked to see the name Myles Brand in this group. This man has been president of the NCAA and has been for about six years. I implore everyone — those for Barack and those against — to protest this man receiving an honorary degree.

Why you ask? Well, let's be serious here. This man had the chance to change the scheme of college football as we know it and create what we all know is the right system for the post-sea­
son — a well-thought out playoff system. When taking over the job, he said he would "listen and learn" and "work it out." He's done neither, done nothing for NCAA Football and we are stuck with a system determined by our National Championship team.

While I wish Mr. Brand the best with his current health problems, I implore you to protest this man being given an honorary degree. He is obviously at odds with every one of the most impor­
tant things here — football.

Kevin Kimberly

supplement

O'Neill Hall

April 22

About the graduates

I would like to thank Jeff Immelt ("A few thoughts on a special day," April 22) for taking the time to offer his thoughtful perspective on the controversy surrounding President Obama's commencement.

As an engineering student who spent two summers interning with GE Aviation, I feel that GE is one of the best companies in the world.

As a senior who has grown weary of reading all of the emotionally-charged letters surrounding President Obama's invitation, I found it refreshing to have someone like Mr. Immelt recognize
that one speech won't change what Notre Dame stands for and that graduation should be about the graduates.

Joe Jersey

junior

Syracuse College

April 22

Core values root of problem

In his recent guest column in The Observer ("A few thoughts on a special day," April 22), Greg Chaiton ("Mr. President, we must adhere to core values — core values that ground each institution at all times"), correctly, exactly, Mr. Immelt, and therein lies the rub: By honoring the person who represents the complete antithesis of Notre Dame's core values (until now, Fr. Jenkins has done a grave disservice to the Catholic Church and to all have labored these 167 years to uphold the mission of the University) the University's not surprisingly, "must adhere to core values," which come from the company that owns NBC, the most biased and least objective of all TV networks.

Peter Connolly

alumnus

Class of 1955

April 22
Chill Out, Amp Up, Welcome to Exams

by Jess Shaffer

1. Someday – Slightly Stoopid
2. Perfect Day – Hoku
3. Boyz – MIA
4. Birds and Bees – Ben Lee and Mandy Moore
5. Spotlight – Mutemath
6. Bottle It Up – Sara Bareilles
7. I'm Like a Bird – Nelly Furtado
8. My Name is Jonas – Weezer
10. I Love College – Asher Roth
11. Crazy Rap – Afroman
12. Hardcore Days & Softcore Nights – Aqueduct
13. Hey Girl – Dashboard Confessional
14. 1, 2, 3, 4 – Plain White T's
15. Time to Pretend – MGMT
16. Sound of Settling – Death Cab for Cutie

While spring is a time that ushers in a terrain of sunshine, flowers, bounding furry friends (i.e. squirrels) and awesome campus activities like AnTostal, it is also that time of year when the Library starts calling your name.

This is my playlist to embody the wide variety of emotions that compose the final days of the year: the depression, the frenzy, the stress and the blissful joy of spring.

Please enjoy this varied, albeit random, compilation of music.

By SARA FELSENSTEIN
Scene Writer

This Friday night, Legends will be hosting the popular reggae/punk band Slightly Stoopid. Slightly Stoopid is a fusion of acoustic rock and blues with reggae, hip-hop and punk, and was originally inspired by well-known artists like the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Sublime.

Co-frontmen Miles Doughty and Kyle McDonald are lifelong friends and have been playing together since they were in their teens. Like many artists, the pair had humble beginnings at backyard parties and local clubs. Their chance of a lifetime came when they were in high school in the mid-90s and met the leader of Sublime, the late Brad Nowell, at a club in San Diego.

It was Doughty's mother who persuaded Nowell to come back to the house to hear what the two boys had to offer. Surprisingly, Nowell went along with the offer. It was not long before Nowell signed the duo to his Skunk Records label and they released their first full-length album, "Slightly Stoopid," in 1996.

Currently the band is composed of Doughty, guitar, bass and vocals; McDonald, guitar, bass and vocals; Ryan Moran, drums; Ogier Ocon, congas, percussion, harp and vocals; DeLa, saxophone; and C-money, trumpet and keyboard.

Slightly Stoopid released one more album with Skunk Records in 1999 — "The Longest Barrel Ride." They continued performing gigs and released a few more albums, but it was not until 2002 that the band achieved a headlining status, selling out shows from California to Colorado. In 2005 they released "Closer to the Sun," which includes some of their most popular songs, "Closer to the Sun," "This Joint" and "Open Road." Their most recent album, "Slightly Not Stoned Enough to Eat Breakfast," was released in August of 2008. The band calls this album "a collection of odds and ends."

Most people fall into one of two categories regarding Stoopid — they either love them or abhor and say, "Never heard of 'em." Although it is difficult to categorize, Slightly Stoopid's sound has been compared to that of Dispatch, Long Beach Dub All Stars, Pepper and 311.

A few words to describe the band would be: California, go-with-the-flow, feel-good, laid-back, acoustic and eclectic. There are hints of classic rock, reggae, hip-hop and punk throughout but the music is not overwhelmed by one genre in particular. Their sound is "a little bit of rhythm and a little of soul," to quote from the lyrics of their song "Mind On Your Music."

The work of Slightly Stoopid is as much about the music as it is about a lifestyle. They bring a little bit of the California surfer life everywhere they tour.

Slightly Stoopid is not concerned with the whole world living their music, but they are very concerned with being true to themselves and their roots — a philosophy that naturally comes out in their songs. Clearly, this philosophy has been successful and over the past 10 years they have gained them a wide and diverse fan base of "Stoopidheads," as the band affectionately calls them.

Slightly Stoopid consciously protects its unique identity and averts becoming too mainstream by not signing with a major record label. They want to maintain creative control over what they produce. That being said, Slightly Stoopid has supported big-name music acts like Sublime, Blink-182, LB-Dub, G. Love & Special Sauce and Pennywise.

Self-proclaimed "road dogs," Slightly Stoopid is almost constantly on tour, and performs nearly 200 concerts a year. They greatly emphasize improvisation and interaction with the audience during their shows. They will kick off their "Blazed and Confused" summer tour on July 10 with Snoop Dogg and Stephen Marley.

Slightly Stoopid will be making a stop in South Bend at Notre Dame's very own Legends this tonight at 10 p.m. So when "the clock says it's time to roll ya," be sure to head over to Legends and check out this unique band live at Legends and enjoy the music.

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsen@nd.edu

The California band Slightly Stoopid takes the stage in Houston. They will play at Legends tonight at 10 p.m.

By MARY JESSE / Observer Graphics

Photo courtesy of http://www.stoopid.com
By NICHOLAS ANDERSON
Scene Writer

Social security is hemorrhaging money. Over the past couple of years, it has become clear that solid financial planning is necessary for an easy retirement. Job stories about retirees going back to work evoke sympathy from even the coldest of hearts. Fortunately, one of these stories has turned into an enormous success.

Twelve years ago, Leonard Cohen was doing well: Moderate mainstream fame, a legion of religiously devoted fans and the most impressive catalogue of songs this side of Bob Dylan. Cohen, best known for writing the ubiquitous "Hallelujah," decided it was about time to take a break. For him, this meant with T-shirt tie-dying, some­thing that definitely throws the kid in each per­son. When else could someone wear a shirt that incorporates so many colors and this concert is his best attempt at finding that music that is enjoyable and found music that matters.

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Antostal: The Chance to be a Kid Again

By ERIC PRISTER
Scene Writer

The Notre Dame campus is wrapping up one of the tradi­tional weeks of the year - AnTostal week. And while it may not be the most exciting week for some, there is one thing that everyone should love about the week, and the fact that it brings out the kid in each per­son on campus.

The week started on Monday with T-shirt tie-dying, some­thing that definitely throws the kid in each per­son on campus.

While Thursday was a bit slow for a fourth grader. Wednesday was a big show with the children's activities, but a large group of people Hula-Hooping on North Quad definitely made up for that. The Hula-Hoops, along with the Irish Quarterback contest and the Knot Wiffle Ball tourna­ment created a nearly perfect re­cess-like atmosphere.

With Thursday came the king of all childhood events — the AnTostal Spring carnival. Not only were they offering free popcorn and snow cones, but South Quad was filled with enough inflatables to make the rich kid from "Blank Check" jealous. The AnTostal carnival offered a moon bounce, an inflatable figure-8 race, an inflatable boxing ring and other games, which could keep a college student, not to mention a pre­teen, occupied for hours.

Antostal offers something rare for college students, or anyone over the age of twelve for that matter. It allows every­one to stop worrying about school, stop worrying about relationship problems, stop worrying about finding a job and to just be a kid again. That is about the greatest gift that could be given to the over­worked, sleep deprived and stressed Notre Dame communi­ty.

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Kids box against each other on a giant inflatable ring. Notre Dame students let loose on South Quad Thursday afternoon.
Cardinals sweep Mets for seventh straight at home

Bush takes no-hitter into the seventh inning as Brewers beat Phillies in a rematch of the 2008 NLDS

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Albert Pujols stroked line drives to all three fields. It was a bad omen for the New York Mets.

Pujols homered twice and Kyle Lohse lasted just long enough for another win after jamming his right knee as the St. Louis Cardinals completed a three-game sweep with a 12-8 victory over the Mets on Thursday.

"If my swing is good, I'm going to hit the ball hard everywhere," Pujoels said. "My job is to try to see a pitch I can hit and drive it."

Rick Ankiel homered and doubled twice and Skip Schumaker hit a pair of RBI doubles as the Cardinals punished Livian Hernandez and won their seventh in a row at home. The Mets lost their fourth straight overall.

"I think we might have caught them on a little bit of a down slide, but that's the way it goes," Ankiel said. "Good for us."

St. Louis led 11-3 after six innings en route to sweeping the Mets in a three-game series at home for the first time since Aug. 6-8, 2004.

Carlos Beltran had three hits, including a three-run homer, after moving up two spots in the Mets' batting order to the third slot. Ryan Church hit a two-run homer and David Wright, who switched places with Beltran in the lineup, had two hits.

Mets starters allowed 16 earned in 14 2/3 innings in the series, a 9.82 ERA, and only retired one batter past the fifth inning. Hernandez (1-3) gave up all three homers and allowed seven runs and nine hits in 4 3/4 innings.

Before the Mets start a six-game homestand on Friday with the first of three against the Nationals, manager Jerry Manuel anticipated a front-office meeting about the pitching woes. Manuel said he may add another arm, going with 13 pitchers this weekend, but would go through the rotation another time before considering any starting changes.

"They're just going to have to pitch better," Manuel said. "If it doesn't get any better, then you have to make some adjustments. It's that simple."

Pujols hit a solo homer to right in the first inning, lined an infield hit off Wright's glove at third in the fourth and hit a two-run shot to center in the fifth. For the first six homers this year and 25th career multi-homer games, including two this season.

Pujols also scored four times. He increased his NL-leading RBI total to 21, leaving him two shy of 1,000 lifetime.

"Perfect player, in my opinion," manager Tony La Russa said. "We're lucky to have him, believe me."

Ankiel hit his first homer later in the fifth, making it 7-2 and chasing Hernandez.

Lohse (3-0) is 11-2 in 21 starts at home this last two sea­

son, although he barely qualified for this win. He escaped a bases-loaded, one-out jam in the fifth when Gary Sanchez and two seconds later.

Lohse was hurt when he reached back to try to cut the angle by Jose Reyes that Pujols homered at first for an error to start the fifth. Lohse didn't believe it was anything serious, although he underwent an MRI exam.

"I was trying to stop and grab the ball and the brakes weren't working very well," Lohse said. "They worked too good because I stopped too quick."

Bullpen singered and double in his first two at-bats and is 20­

for-37 (.441) against Lohse lifetime with four homers and 12 RBIs.

Lohse's first start since July 29, 2006, and only the fourth of his career, allowed a run in the first.

Brewers 5, Phillies 1

After spending a few days relaxing at his parents' subur­

ban house, Dave Bush dominated the Phillies.

Bush held Philadelphia hitters for 7 1/3 innings before pinch-hitter Matt Stairs homered off the foul pole, and the Brewers beat a reeling Philadelphia 5-1, Wednesday.

One batter after third base­

man Bill Hall made a tremendous play to preserve Bush's no-hit bid, Stairs bunted for reliever Chad Durbin and launched a high fly that hit the pole in right field.

"I figured it was going to be way fair at first, so I saw the ball bending a little," Bush said.

The big story on the mound early in the game was Cole Hamels. The World Series MVP was forced to leave after get­

ting hit in the left shoulder by Prince Fielder's line drive. The team said Hamels had a bruise.

"I have a temporary tattoo of a baseball that will be going away," Hamels said. "I'll be fine. I've been hit in much worse spots, spots where you really don't come back as fast. I'll be able to go out there and pitch in five days."

After he was gone, Bush (1-0) drew all the attention. He graduated from high school in Cososesga, Pa., and the first few days of the Brewers’ visit with his folks in nearby Devon.

Bush's parents, wife, sister and several friends were in attendance.

"It was fun," he said. "I always like coming back here and pitching in my hometown."

It was fun to have them all here, and good to see him. Bush became the sixth pitch­

er to lose a no-hit bid in the late innings this season. Bush and Boston's Tim Wakefield each had no-bids this year that went 7 1/3 innings. Randy Johnson, Ted Lilly, A.J. Burnett and Trevor Cahill had their bids broken up in the seventh.

This was the third time Bush faced Philadelphia, the team he hit in 2004 for Toronto in his third major league start, going 7 1/3 innings against Oakland, and lost another bid last June 19 when Toronto's Lyle Overbay hit a leadoff triple in the eighth. Bush gave up two hits in 7 2/3 innings and drew a stand­

ing ovation when he left after Shane Victorino's single. The right-hander walked three, struck out four and hit two batters, including Jimmy Rollins lining out off the third.

Bush left after 113 pitches, a high amount for this early in the season.

"You're trying to watch guys' games when you're pitching a no-hitter," Brewers manager Ken Macha said. "He had good command of his off­

speed stuff and was able to throw his fastball by them at times. He did a great job of pitching.

Would Macha have left him in with a no-hitter?"

"Yeah," Macha said. "He would have sprinted out there for the ninth. As the day went on, he just kept making his pitches."

Bush just added to a list of records.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Daily News office, 550 South Driving Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all content for accuracy without noticing.
**NCAA Baseball**

ESPN.com/USA Top 25

team | points | record
--- | --- | ---
1. Georgia | 718 | 31-8
2. Arizona State | 700 | 28-8
3. North Carolina | 655 | 31-10
4. Texas | 630 | 29-8
5. Rice | 633 | 27-10
6. UC-Irvine | 622 | 26-18
7. Georgia Tech | 620 | 26-21
8. LSU | 600 | 28-12
9. Arkansas | 586 | 26-11
10. Cal St. Fullerton | 441 | 24-11
11. Miami (Fla.) | 402 | 26-13
12. Baylor | 400 | 25-12
13. Oklahoma | 373 | 29-11
14. Virginia | 372 | 36-8-1
15. Mississippi St. | 369 | 26-11
16. Brown | 286 | 25-12
17. Texas A&M | 271 | 25-14
18. Cal Poly | 215 | 27-9
19. Coastal Carolina | 184 | 29-9
20. Clemson | 181 | 26-14
22. TCU | 151 | 23-11
23. Florida | 98 | 26-14
24. East Carolina | 96 | 28-12
25. Ohio State | 72 | 26-8

**NCAA Men's Lacrosse**

Division I Top 20

team | points | record
--- | --- | ---
1. Virginia | 158 | 13-1
2. Cornell | 145 | 9-2
3. Pennsylvania | 135 | 10-2
4. Notre Dame | 139 | 12-2
5. Princeton | 139 | 10-2
6. Illinois | 124 | 10-3
7. Johns Hopkins | 119 | 6-4
8. North Carolina | 102 | 10-4
9. Ohio State | 101 | 9-2
10. UNBC | 94 | 8-3
11. Virginia | 76 | 9-4
12. Maryland | 76 | 8-5
13. Brown | 64 | 11-12
14. Loyola (Md.) | 58 | 8-4
15. Bucknell | 42 | 6-9
16. Massachusetts | 32 | 7-4
17. Colgate | 24 | 9-4
18. Georgia Southern | 24 | 6-6
19. Harvard | 23 | 7-4
20. Albany (N.Y.) | 14 | 7-4

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

team | points
--- | ---
1. Northwestern | 84
2. Duke | 76
3. Georgia | 76
4. Notre Dame | 69
5. Stanford | 69
6. Miami (Fla.) | 67
7. Southern California | 63
8. Texas | 58
9. Georgia Tech | 56
10. Tennessee | 52
11. UCLA | 51
12. Clemson | 50
13. Stanford | 48
14. Arkansas | 47
15. Florida | 45

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**NFL**

Don Welsh, left, CEO of Indianapolis Convention & Visitors Association, speaks at the Statehouse in Indianapolis on April 2. The committee was proposing a bill to help fund the agency that operates major Indianapolis sports stadiums.

City asks Colts, Pacers for money

**Associated Press**

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts believe they've already done their part to help the city's cash-strapped stadium agency.

And they're taking their argument outside the legislative halls and straight to the fans.

On Thursday, the team e-mailed a letter to season-ticket holders defending its position that the $100 million contribution owner Jim Irsay made to building Lucas Oil Stadium should suffice.

But the Indianapolis Capital Improvement Board, which is expected to have a $433 million deficit because of operating costs at the Colts' new stadium and Conseco Fieldhouse, home of the Indiana Pacers, needs more money and city and state leaders are asking Indianapolis' two major sports franchises to chip in.

The letter went out one day before a panel of lawmakers was set to meet to try to reach a compromise on a bill to fund the board before the Legislature adjourns Wednesday.

"The Colts made a 30-year commitment to the community," the letter reads. "Those written agreements, signed nearly four years ago, committed the team to this community for the next 30 years with no option to renegotiate, regardless of any financial downturn that might arise."

Colts officials contend some of the statements made during the continuing debate have been misleading or simply untrue, though the letter did not cite any specific remarks.

A team spokesman said the Colts would not elaborate on anything contained in the letter.

"I'm glad to see them get out and start explaining their situation. When I met with Jim Irsay and (Colts president) Bill Polian, I told them they were getting blistered and I told them they needed to get their story out," said Sen. Luke Kenley, R-Noblesville, the Senate Appropriations Committee chairman.

He said it was important for the Colts to be involved in the solution to the CIB's troubles.

The Associated Press also left a message with an assistant to Rep. William Crawford, R-Indianapolis, the House Ways and Means Committee chairman.

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**IN BRIEF**

Obama hosts Florida Gators at White House

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama has welcomed the Florida Gators to the White House and congratulated them on a second national championship in football in three years.

Obama on Thursday welcomed the Gators to the East Room and says their excellence on and off the football field is worthy of praise. Obama says being a champion doesn't end when the clock strikes midnight.

On Thursday, the team could've defeated any team in the country, says he still supports a national championship for Florida State.

Players frequently restructure contracts by accepting bonuses after agreeing to lower their annual salaries. The bonuses are then prorated over the remaining length of the deal, in Wayne's case three years, to lower the team's salary cap number in the first year.

Wayne has been the Colts' primary receiver the past two seasons and is expected to play a more prominent role this year after Marvin Harrison, the franchise's career receiving leader, was released in February.

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**Purdue will stay strong at quarterback position**

INDIANAPOLIS — Purdue coach Danny Hope says Purdue will be strong as usual at quarterback, despite losing Curtis Painter to eligibility and Justin Siller to a suspension.

The first-year coach said the spread offense is in good hands with fifth-year senior Joey Elliott and redshirt freshman Caleb TerBush.

Both have earned respect. Elliott, the No. 1 quarterback, has been voted a captain by his teammates. TerBush, the backup, was given the offensive's Newcomer Award, which is given to the player who shows the most progress during spring practice.

"I think we're in better shape at the quarterback spot than a lot of people thought we would be," Hope said after Purdue's spring game.

Whoever quarterback takes over will face high expectations. Painter passed for 11,763 yards and 67 touchdowns in four years as a starter.

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**around the dial**

**NBA Playoffs**

Cleveland at Detroit (CLE leads 2-0)

7 p.m., ESPN

Orlando at Philadelphia (series tied 1-1)

8 p.m., ESPN2
Curry declares for NBA draft, plans to hire agent

Associated Press

DAVIDSON, N.C. — The big schools didn’t want Stephen Curry, then were helpless in stopping his sweet-shooting stroke as he put tiny Davidson into the national spotlight.

Now after three seasons and plenty of records, Curry is taking his game to the NBA, preparing more intrigue in how the skinny, baby-faced guard with the great genes will fare at the next level.

The nation’s leading scorer announced at an on-campus news conference Thursday that he’s skipping his senior season to enter the NBA draft. His father, former NBA sharpshooter Dell Curry, attended the announcement, along with his mother, Sonya, and Davidson coach Bob McKillop.

Curry said he will hire an agent, ending any chance that he’ll return to campus and perhaps break Pete Maravich’s NCAA Division I career scoring record.

“I think I’m mentally and physically ready to make that jump,” said Curry, who believes he’ll be selected somewhere between seventh and 15th overall. “This is a dream of mine since I was a little kid.”

The lightly recruited Curry burst onto the national scene a year ago in helping Davidson of the unheralded Southern Conference get within a missed 3-pointer of the Final Four.

The uncertainty captivated the region, with four Charlotte-area television stations broadcasting the news conference live. Curry said he finally made up his mind 90 minutes earlier while “eating an omelet” in the school cafeteria.

“It took me that long to figure it out,” Curry said. “I decided to sleep on it last night. I was at peace this morning and that’s what I was looking for.”

Despite a weaker supporting cast than a season ago, Curry shot 45 percent from the field in 2008-09, including 39 percent from 3-point range. He was a 3-pointer away from winning the college basketball national championship.

But the younger Curry wavered because of his desire to get his college degree. He’s become a dream of mine to coach him these three years,’ McKillop said, tears in his eyes.

Curry will declare for the NBA draft this week. He has until Tuesday to hire an agent and sign with a team or an agent before entering the draft.

McKillop said he’ll likely be a lottery pick and will make up his mind after the NBA draft, which is June 25.

He’s become the face of college basketball, there are questions on how successful he’ll be in the NBA. Curry will have to beef up his slight frame to withstand the rigors of an 82-game schedule.

He’ll also adjust to the mental side, a position he’ll likely have to play a bigger role in the NBA.

Curry struggled at times when facing taller defenders with long arms, a likely nightly occurrence at the next level. But his lightning-quick release, surprising quickness, high basketball IQ and late growth spurt will make lottery teams take notice.

“He’s shown that he can play and he’s ready,” Dell Curry said. Curry has plenty of high-profile fans, too. Cleveland Cavaliers star LeBron James attended a Davidson NCAA tournament game last year and sat courtside in December when Curry scored 44 points in a win over North Carolina State.

“He’s like a [Richard] Hamilton in our league. He never stops moving.” James said after that game. “He’s the type of player who can guard no matter how big you are. Guys in the NBA don’t want to continue to chase guys like that.”

The major schools ignored Curry in high school because he was just 5-foot-9 in his junior year. He reached 6-feet as a freshman at Davidson and grew three inches.

For the Observer ◆ SPORTS Friday, April 24, 2009

NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Friday April 24 Legends Night Club

Doors Open at 8:30 PM

Show Starts at 9PM

Saturday April 25

Legends Night Club

Doors Open at 9PM

Show Starts at 9PM

Slightly Stoopid

Robert Harby

Howe & Comma

Samurai Jim

The Space Cowboys

Chad Jackson

The McKeehan Band

BOS ON Harby

Bob Jackson

The McKeehan Band

Slightly Stoopid

Bos on Harby

Howe & Comma

Samurai Jim

The Space Cowboys

Chad Jackson

The McKeehan Band

Saturday April 25 Legends Night Club

Doors Open at 8:30 PM

Show Starts at 9PM
Irish set to defend title streak

By BRENDAN CORSONES

The Irish will try for a sixth straight Big East title Saturday in New Jersey.

Irish coach Martin Stone said he does not want to be surprised this year and pointed to several teams such as Georgetown, No. 19 Louisville and Syracuse that could upset the Irish this weekend.

"All of the Big East has been showing speed," he said. "I would not count anybody out." Stone demands excellence in practice, which may be why the Irish have been constantly improving all season.

Louisville enters the tournament with the No. 1 varsity eight seed, while Notre Dame and Syracuse that could upset the Irish this weekend.

Louisville is seeded second.

Irish coach Martin Stone said he has confidence that this year's team has the stuff it takes to add another trophy to the mantle.

"I think we should win this," he said, "but it will take a great performance from everybody."

The first preliminary races begin at 7:00 a.m. Saturday at Cooper River Park in Pennsauken, N.J. The day's first grand final will begin at 9:40 a.m.

Contact Brendan Corsones at bcorsones@nd.edu

Kings fire coach Natt after dismal season

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—The Sacramento Kings fired interim coach Kenny Natt and his four assistants Thursday, a week after the club finished with the NBA's worst record.

The Kings, once a model of stability during eight consecutive winning seasons and playoff appearances under coach Rick Adelman, will be looking for their fourth coach since Adelman was fired in 2006 by owners Joe and Gavin Maloof.

Natt, a longtime NBA assistant for Jerry Sloan and Mike Brown, was promoted after Sacramento fired Reggie Theus on Dec. 15. Natt went 11-47 in charge of the Kings, who finished 17-65.

Natt wasn't thought to be in the Kings' long-term plans, which was confirmed when the club formally announced it wouldn't pick up his contract option for next year.

Sacramento also fired assistant coaches Box Kalamian, Jason Hamm, Randy Brown and Bubba Burrage. The Kings didn't disclose the status of Shareef Abdur-Rahim, the former Kings forward who became an assistant on a one-year contract this season. The Kings' next coach will inherit a stripped-down roster after several salary-shedding moves by president of basketball operations Geoff Petrie during the season. Sacramento also has the best shot at the No. 1 pick in the upcoming draft in the lottery next month.

Sacramento is close to rock-bottom after its unimpressive season opener. The Kings had the lowest average attendance in the league this season heading up to the final week, and the club doesn't appear to be making much progress on its effort to build a new arena.

The Kings' coaching chaos has been a prime factor in their downfall. Eric Musselman, the former Golden State coach chosen by the Maloofs to replace Adelman, made it through just one contentious 33-49 season before being fired with two years left on his contract.

The Kings waited two months between firing Musselman and hiring Theus, the former Sacramento guard with scant head coaching experience. He was fired after a 6-18 start to his second season.

FRIDAY APRIL 24 2009
6:00-7:30 PM
SOUTH QUAD UNDER TENT

Location: Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business

VIOLENCE PREVENTION INITIATIVE
NOW IS THE TIME
FESTIVAL ON THE QUAD

Because there is a time for everything — a time for music, a time for dancing, and most of all, a time to gather and celebrate our commitment to overcome sexual violence.

YOU THROW LIKE A GILL

A KEYNOTE BY DONALD MCPHERSON

For more than 20 years, Donald McPherson has used the power and appeal of sports to address complex social issues. He has created innovative programs, supported community service providers and has facilitated educational seminars and lectures throughout North America. He is a national leader and advocate for the prevention of sexual and domestic violence.

FRIDAY APRIL 24 2009
6:00-7:30 PM
SOUTH QUAD UNDER TENT

Location: Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business
Graduate Male Athlete of the Year:
1. Carl Anderson
   - Senior Carl Anderson, one of the top basketball players on campus, led Morrissey Manor to their second straight Interhall Basketball title and undefeated season with 17 points in the championship game. Carl's athleticism and ability to shoot it from anywhere make him a tough opponent and an impressive player to watch. In addition to playing basketball, broomball, and volleyball, Carl also plays Interhall and ColleC football where he is one of the league leading wide receivers for both his Interhall and ColleC football teams.
2. Alex Klupchak
   - Alex Klupchak, a senior from O'Neill Hall, can be found most afternoons playing several hours of pick-up basketball at Rolfs. Alex has a confidence and intensity that can be matched by few other players and his quickness and ability to both drive the lane and shoot it from deep make him a constant threat. As captain and leading scorer of his Interhall and Interhall basketball teams, he led them both to appearances in the championship games, putting up 23 points in the Interhall Final. When not on the hardwood, Alex plays wide receiver on O'Neill's Interhall Football team and referees co-ed basketball and football games.
3. Casey McGushin
   - Casey "Pistol" McGushin is the captain and leading scorer for Soror's Interhall Basketball team where his driving ability and accuracy from deep behind the arc make him the Otter's number one threat. In addition, Pistol plays quarterback on the Otters' Interhall Football team and is the captain of the Little Giants flag football team who had an undefeated regular season, beating opponents by an average of 52 points.

Graduate Female Athlete of the Year:
1. Kathleen Stanley
   - Kathleen Stanley helped McGlinn Hall capture the Interhall Women's Basketball & Flag Football championships. McGlinn upset the top seeded Purple Weasels of PW in a 41-33 victory to win the Interhall Women's Basketball title. In addition, Stanley plays in multiple soccer leagues, Interhall Lacrosse, and was a member of DVD Late Night who made an appearance in the ColleC basketball final.
2. Mary Forr
   - Mary Forr was a leader of the Back to Back Interhall Basketball tournament where they fell to McGlinn in the championship game. Mary was a key contributor on several ColleC teams including Flag Football, Basketball, and Broomball.
3. Jenni Gargula
   - Jenni Gargula plays quarterback for Welsh Family's Interhall Flag Football team that lost the championship game in the final minutes. Over the past three years, she has a perfect record in the regular season as the Whirlwinds' quarterback. Jenni also brings an unmatched intensity to the point guard position on the Whirlwinds' Interhall Basketball team.

Undergraduate Male Athlete of the Year:
1. Matt Hamel
   - After losing on penalty kicks in the GFS Soccer championship game, Matt Hamel helped the Insurance Waivers capture the Interhall Basketball title en route to an undefeated season. Hamel brings an unmatched intensity and determination to all sports as the leading scorer of the GFS basketball team, Flannel, and a strong defender on his Interhall Soccer teams. In addition to playing basketball, soccer, broomball and volleyball, Hamel is one of the top officials for both soccer and basketball.
2. Braden Turner
   - Braden Turner represents MSA in a variety of sports including basketball, flag football, and volleyball. He was captain of the MSA flag football team and a member of the MSA soccer team that lost in the finals on penalty kicks.
3. David Standa
   - As captain of his self-titled team, Dave Standa led his team to the GFS baseball title with a victory over CEGBOS. David played GFS basketball on Team Flannel who made it to the semifinals before losing to the eventual champions. He is also a key contributor to his league leading Floor Hockey team, Throat Level Midnight, who has beaten opponents by an average of 10 goals.

Undergraduate Female Athlete of the Year:
1. Susan Pinnock
   - Susan Pinnock represented the MSA program well, playing as many sports as she could. She was a member of MSA soccer team that lost the championship game on penalty kicks and a key component of her undefeated ColleC soccer team. In addition, Susan played basketball, flag football, and volleyball.
2. Chrissy Vaughna
   - Chrissy Vaughn was the captain of The Mighty Mendota GFS soccer team that won their league. She always brought enthusiasm and leadership to her team as a key contributor to their successful season.
3. Brittany Baron
   - Brittany Baron is the leader of MSA athletics as the captain of both their soccer and basketball teams. She was a member of the ColleC championship basketball team, Insurance Waivers, and the GFS soccer runner-up as well as flag football and volleyball.

Team of the Year:
1. Interhall Men's Basketball Champions: Morrissey Manor Basketball
   - By averaging 65 points a game, Morrissey Manor completed an undefeated season and claimed the number one seed in the MNSA Interhall Basketball Championship. Led by senior captain Carl Anderson's 17 points, they were able to defend their Interhall basketball title with a 69-42 victory over O'Neill Hall.
2. ColleC Flag Football Champions: Weapons of Mass Destruction
   - Weapons of Mass Destruction struggled in the regular season, but a 2-2 record was just enough to get them into the playoffs where their season took off. They upset both the number one and number two seeds en route to the ColleC Flag Football Championship.
3. ColleC Basketball Champions: Insurance Waivers
   - Joe Marnell, Matt Hamel, & Joe DeMori led the Insurance Waivers to an undefeated season. Averaging 71 points a game to their opponents' 38, they captured the ColleC Basketball Championship over DVD Late Night with a 71-30 victory.

Game of the Year:
1. Men's Interhall Hockey Championship: Siegfried vs. Stanford
   - The #1 seed Siegfried met the #1 seed Stanford Griffins in the Interhall Men's Hockey championship after both teams had to go into OT to win their semifinal games. The Siegfried Ramblers pulled off the 3-1 upset over the heavily favored Stanford Griffins to take home the championship trophy.
2. Men's Interhall Football Championship: Siegfried vs. Keenan
   - The top-seeded Siegfried Ramblers defeated the seventh-seeded Knights of Keenan Hall 14-13 to capture the Men's Interhall Football Championship trophy and complete an undefeated season. Despite the inspired play of the Knight's wide receiver, James Zenker, Siegfried was able to seal the victory when they stopped Keenan's attempt at a two-point conversion with just over two minutes to play.
3. GFS Soccer Championship: Team MSA vs. Pick Up United
   - Forty minutes wasn't enough to settle the GFS Soccer Championship as the game went into overtime tied 2-2. Top seeded Pick Up United pulled out the victory over third seeded Team MSA in Penalty Kicks 5-3.

Fan of the Year:
1. Zahn Hockey
   - Defending Interhall Hockey Champion, Zahn House, could always be found with a large contingent of fans including fans in costumes of all sorts. Even as the team started to struggle, their fan base stayed strong during the early morning hours at the JACC Ice Rink.
2. Welsh Flag Football
   - Welsh Fan was never short of fans, especially for Flag Football. Even Father Greg never missed a game. It's hard not to play well when you have the fan support that the Whirlwinds do, cheering them on to an undefeated regular season and an appearance in the Interhall Championship game.
3. Purple Rain
   - GFS Flag Football team, Purple Rain, always had a ton of support from their fans, even bringing a mascot. The fans for Purple Rain stayed strong even as the weather turned cold and rainy for the playoffs where the team lost in a hard fought semifinal game to Pal's Spawn.

Voting is open until midnight, Sunday, April 26th
Check out
http://web.recsports.nd.edu/recspy/index.php
The "Showdown" is played immediately before the Ohio State spring football game, the Scarlet and Gray Game. The Horseshoe's maximum capacity is 102,000, and typically the spring football game fetches nearly half of that. We'll start with less than that, but by the end be close to that," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "It will be quite the environment. I'm excited, and our guys are excited.

Such an atmosphere will be a brand new experience to the Irish. "We had over 7,000 for a couple different games, but nothing truly comparable to this," Corrigan said. "We did play at Invesco Field out at Denver, so we have played in a venue of this nature, but nothing of this magnitude." Even the NCAA tournament will not compare to Saturday's atmosphere as the Irish bid for a perfect regular season. Having opened the season with 12 wins, the Irish could feel pressure to keep the streak alive. Rather, the team does not even think of the streak. "You can only win the game that you are playing," Corrigan said. "We are not discounting (the streak), but it is just not something we can focus on because it does not contribute to us winning the game this weekend."

Indeed, this weekend the Irish face a formidable foe in the Buckeyes. Last year Ohio State scored 12 goals against Notre Dame's defense. "They are extremely good in transition opportunities," Corrigan said. "That is something we know we have to make sure to watch."

The last line of defense against such transition opportunities will be senior goalie Scott Rodgers, recently nominated for the national player of the year award, the Tewarathon Trophy. "That is a wonderful honor for Scott," Corrigan said. "I hope he gets it, and it will happen if we are successful." Rodgers and Notre Dame face Ohio State at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

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Orange

continued from page 28

Big East.

Junior attack Gina Scioscia, the conference's third highest goal-scorer, was named to the second team.

"The league's really competitive, with three teams in the top ten nationally and this is a pretty competitive week, so any recognition that the players receive is awesome," Coyne said.

Overall, the Irish offense has averaged 15.81 points per game to put them at the top for the Big East and fifth in the nation.

On the defensive end, this year's team has one of the best all-around defenders Notre Dame has seen in Burke and Notre Dame's all-time winningest goalkeeper in senior Erin Goodman. Burke leads the team with 45 ground balls and 28 caused turnovers and is fifth with 26 draw controls.

Goodman has started in 52 consecutive games for the Irish with a .673 winning percentage off her record of 35-17. "Everyone here [at the tournament] wants to win, and is playing to win," Coyne said. "We're confident in our game plan."

Hoping to put their leading talents to use tonight, the Irish start their tournament run for their first Big East title tonight against the Orange at 5:30 p.m. in Georgetown's Multi-Sport Facility.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@stmarys.edu
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Relays
continued from page 28
the 4x1,600 and finished sec-
don in the 4x800 relays."

The Irish have won the
4x1,600 relay the last three
years and in five of the last
seven years.

Both teams will be facing
steep competition,
including No. 11
Minnesota.

Piane said he
wants his team
to stay focused.
"Our
focus right now if for
the Big East
Championship," Piane
said. "After that we can worry about
the NCAA's."

However, the Irish have a sig-
nificant number of athletes
already qualified for the NCAA
Regional on May 29.

"I don't have the numbers
in front of me, but I think there
are around a dozen who have
already qualified on the men's
team," Piane said. "Ask on the
women's team I think we have
eight who have already quali-
ﬁed."

Several members of the team
are posting times that are
among the best in the nation. In
the men's 10,000-meter race,
senior Patrick Smyth has
recorded the second best
time in the country. Smyth also holds
the fourth-best time in the
country in the 5,000-meter
race.

On the women's team, junior
Lindsay Ferguson posted the
nation's 11th
best time in the
3,000-meter
steeples.

Sullivan
said, "We're just looking to be
really competitive."

Joe Piane
Irish coach

"We're just looking to be
really competitive."

"We’re just looking to be
really competitive." "We’re just looking to be
really competitive." "We’re just looking to be
really competitive."

Still drop the Thunder's No. 1
of postseason play, they can
never played a season finale
that we can be spoiler on
our last game was, so this is a
ally eliminated from playoff
contention.

"We’ve never known when
our last game was, so this is a
bit of an odd year for us," Sullivan
said. "But we’re
adjusted well and we know
that we can be spoiler on
Saturday. They always play
well against Trine.

Although the playoff-exiled
Belles cannot knock top-
ranked Trine (26-8, 10-21) out
of postseason play, they can
still drop the Thunder's No. 1
seed to as low as No. 2. Trine
is coming off a doubleheader
split against Adrian on Thursday,
dropping the first
game by a score of 2-0 and
holding on a 7-5 victory in
the second.

Freshman standouts Monica
Palicki and Angela Gillis are
slated to start on the bump for
the Belles, as they look to com-
plete their sensational colle-
ge debuts on a high note.

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s will be playing in
unfamiliar territory on
Saturday when they travel to
Trine University to close out
the 2009 MIAA regular season.

Under fourth-year head coach
Erin Sullivan, the Belles have
never played a season finale
free of playoff implications.

Saint Mary's (22-10, 6-6
MIAA) went on a tear to start
the regular season, sweeping
its first two opponents in back-
to-back double-headers
and winning 6 of its
first 8 games.

But after a
lackluster week
that saw the
Belles drop four straight against perennial pow-
erhouses Hope
and Adrian, they were virtu-
ally eliminated from playoff
contention.

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our last game was, so this is a
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Freshman standouts Monica
Palicki and Angela Gillis are
slated to start on the bump for
the Belles, as they look to com-
plete their sensational colle-
ge debuts on a high note.

Paliecki will bring a 2.98 ERA
and an opponent's batting
average of .259 into the first
game, while Gillis seeks to add
to her team-leading 12 wins,
29 strikeouts and 2.08 ERA.

"We have a really good rival-
ry going on with them for the
last couple of years and I know
they’re really excited," Sullivan
said. "The seniors want to end
their year on a good note, and as
high men haven’t seen Trine yet, so
they want to see what’s so
great about them and come out
strong.

The Belles will need strong
performances at the
game plate and down the lineup
to upset the
MIAA's best team
on paper. Junior
All-American
Ashley Peterson
looks to improve
upon her 480
batting average,
.810 slugging
percentage and
5 home runs, each of which is
good enough for second
overall in the league.

But Saint Mary’s will have to
counter with a stingy Thunder
pitching staff that has slashed
its opponent’s batting average
2.53 against right-handers
and its ERA to 2.56.

Nevertheless, Sullivan said she
is conﬁdent in her squad’s abil-
ity to adjust from one at bat to
the next.

"We’re not going to change
anything speciﬁc," Sullivan
said. "We know their pitchers.
They move the ball a lot, throw
a lot of dropped balls. We’ll
move up in the box, catch it
early, and hit the ball before it
breaks.

Saint Mary’s will take the
ﬁeld for the last time this year
Saturday at 1 p.m. at Trine
University Softball Field.

Contact Chris Masoud at
masou@nd.edu

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Big East continued from page 28

to produce runs, stranding a total of 12 runners, eight in scoring position, through four innings of game two Wednesday. In the fifth inning, the Irish finally broke through after senior Jeremy Barnes’ single with the bases loaded drove in two runs. Before that, the Irish were two for their last 13 at-bats with the bases loaded.

Pitching has not been an issue as of late. Senior Sam Elam went six innings in game one against the Wolverines, allowing just two earned runs and recording nine strikeouts, but couldn’t get enough offense behind him to avoid the loss. In game two, junior Ryan Richter was able to stymie the Michigan offense again, allowing just three earned runs in five innings to get the win.

The Irish are going to need to pull it all together if they are to have any chance of taking down Louisville in hostile territory.

The Cardinals are nearly unbeatable at home, having lost there just four times all season, each of which came by one run. They have also won eight of their last nine games against Big East opponents.

Schrage knows that with such a difficult task at hand, his team is going to need to dig deep this weekend to come out with the victory.

"[Louisville] hits up and down the lineup," he said. "They have really good pitching and plenty of depth. We’re going to have to be at the top of our game to beat them."

Game one of this weekend’s Big East matchup is slated to begin today at 6:30 p.m.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker@nd.edu

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**Men's Lacrosse**

**Filling the ‘Shoe’**

Laxers to face Bucks at ‘Horseshoe’ with 30,000 in attendance

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

A typical college lacrosse game played in front of a large crowd would have one to two thousand fans. Saturday at Ohio State, Notre Dame will play in front of upwards of 30,000 fans at Ohio Stadium.

No. 3 Notre Dame (12-2, 4-0) will face No. 2 Ohio State (7-6, 3-1) on Saturday at "The Horseshoe," the Buckeyes' football stadium, in the "Showdown in the Shoe," Ohio State hosted in the inaugural MIAA tournament. In 2008, and close to 30,000 fans were in attendance.

Irish senior goalie Scott Rodgers defends the goal during Notre Dame’s 19-7 win over Dartmouth on Feb. 26. Rodgers has been named as a nominee for the Tewaaraton Trophy.

**Women's Lacrosse**

Talented group hopes to nab school's first Big East title

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

They may have some of the most successful players Notre Dame has ever seen, but the No. 11 Irish have yet to make it past the first round of the Big East tournament. They hope to do that before the quickly approaching MIAA tournament.

"This is a very potent team, but defensively we know their tendencies," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "We're confident we can be in the game from the beginning, if we play relaxed and get through the first few minutes."

This weekend marks Notre Dame's third consecutive appearance in the Big East tournament since its inception in 2007, when the team lost 12-10 to the Hoyas after trailing 11-6 with 14 minutes to play. Last season's tournament, held in Notre Dame Stadium, saw history repeat itself as the Hoyas defeated the Irish in sudden death 15-14 after three overtimes.

Not only is Notre Dame looking to improve its tournament record, but also its record against Syracuse. The Irish (12-4, 5-2 Big East) last faced the Orange (12-3, 6-1) April 11 at the Carrier Dome, where they lost 14-13. Overall, they are 3-9 versus the Orange, losing their last three contests against them.

If they advance to the second round, Notre Dame will take on the winner of the second semi-final contest between Georgetown and Louisville on Sunday at 1 p.m.

What the Irish do have going into this tournament are some of the top players in the conference and in Notre Dame history. Senior attack Jillian Byers is the all-time Big East goal leader and a Tewaaraton Trophy nominee. She was named All-Big East co-attack of the year, along with Syracuse's Katie Roan.

By ALEX BARKER
Assistant Sports Editor

Notre Dame begins the second half of its Big East schedule today as it travels to Louisville to face the Cardinals in a three-game set. The Irish (23-15, 8-7 Big East) are entering a significant stretch of the schedule where all four conference opponents they will face are currently ahead of them in the standings. After the Cardinals (24-11, 11-4), they host two home series against Connecticut and South Florida before ending the season at St. John's.

"I expect all of them to do well," Campbell said. "Now is a time to get prepared for the conference tournament." The Belles are coming off of a harsh loss from Hope College, where junior team captain Camille Gebert was the only member of the team able to pull out a win, but sophomores Jessica Kovinski and Franca Peluso came through.

"We had a tough match against Hope," Campbell said. "The biggest challenge is to not let down after a tough loss." The Belles' schedule has been intensely packed with matches in the past few weeks.

**Baseball**

Irish begin tough stretch at Cards

By ALEX BARKER
Assistant Sports Editor

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**ND Track & Field**

Teams turn attention to relay races

By ALEX WEST
Sports Writer

With several individuals already qualified on both the men's and women's teams for the NCAA Regionals in late May, the Irish focus this weekend is on the Drake and Hillside Relays.

Although the men's and women's 4x800-meter and 4x1,600 relay teams cannot qualify for the NCAAs this weekend, Irish coach Joe Plane said he is confident that the relay teams will repeat past recent success in the events.

"It's a lot of what both teams will be competitive," Plane said.

"Last year the men's team won the 4x4,

irish senior shortstop Jeremy Barnes fields a grounder during Notre Dame's 19-3 loss against West Virginia on April 17.

IRISH SENIOR SHORTSTOP Jeremy Barnes fields a grounder during Notre Dame’s 19-3 loss against West Virginia on April 17.

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