Campus Life Council examines du Lac

This year’s Notre Dame Forum has been canceled because of a scheduling conflict with a major speaker, the University announced Monday.

University President Fr. John Jenkins started the Forum in 2005 when he took office to assemble “world leaders on campus in discussion of the leading issues of the day,” according to a 2008 press release.

University spokesman Dennis Brown said the administration will not release the identity of the scheduled speaker or the planned topic at this time.

We are going to revisit the topic and speaker so we would prefer to keep that private at this point,” he said.

The Forum, usually held in the fall, was delayed to the spring semester is a better fit at this time.

Brown told The Observer in September that the forum was pushed back because “the spring semester is a better fit for the schedules of key panelists.”

The University plans to host the Forum next fall, but Brown said it will not necessarily be the same topic and speaker planned for this year’s discussion.

But that topic will be examined on campus in some form, he said.

“it won’t necessarily be next year’s Forum but at some point in the future at a forum we will take up that topic so we’re going to hold on to that idea for now and get back to it in the future,” Brown said.

This spring’s Forum would have been the University’s fifth. Last fall, General Electric CEO Jeff Immelt, Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter, environmental activist Majora Carter and MIT Professor Ernest Moniz discussed sustainability issues.

Other issues examined in past Forums have included global health care, the role of religion in a plural world and immigration.

Brown said the University will not try to find a replacement for this spring’s forum.

“We think the Notre Dame Forum is such an important event so we didn’t want to scramble at the last minute to put together something not of the quality as the last have been,” he said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s

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INSIDE COLUMN

A small world

Last weekend I took a walk down memory lane. No, I did not try to garner a comprehensive study of college escapades, but then again, I get to do those still constantly comically trip over myself in the world of internships and academia. And I realized that not much has changed. My formative years came rushing back.

In revisiting distant memories of mini-cousin's basketball tournaments, I was 10 years ago, except that they were biter cousins' basketball tournaments, which I certainly fell out of plays, rolling off the court after falling and flailing. In a word, it was brilliant. And the tournament snack bar, sweet 3-pointers and layups were all the thing.

I revisited days of my childhood. I hadn’t remembered in a long time. And, better yet, got to see little kids in the same place where I used to spend my school hours) got to see me progress through my adorable, no athletic ability and generally a saucy bunch of kids, and at worst a huge (maybe lovable) looser.

Needless to say, my subconscious has diligently worked to suppress many a childhood memory. Orthodontia, contacts, acne and general disregard for my body. If estimated, about 75 percent of my childhood memory lane. No, I did not try to garner a good sense of humor and just growing up took care of the rest. But last weekend – when I chewed on my adenoid cousins’ basketball tournaments, my formative years came rushing back.

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The Campus Life Council (CLC) hosted Jeff Shoup, director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing and William Kirk, associate vice president for Residence Life at their meeting Monday, and heard possible revisions to policies and procedures in the student handbook du Lac.

Suggestions for revisions pertained to sexual assault, off-campus behavior and disciplinary sanctions.

“Do not have texts of the language to be reviewed,” Kirk said. “My purpose is to give some sense of the direction that the drafting and revision will take in this process.”

While University Vice President for Student Affairs Fr. Mark Poorman has the final say on revisions, Kirk said CLC’s Mark Poorman has the final say on how to get into the real world.

Pulte said the officers multiple benefits for students, including contact information from business leaders and recommendations beyond the academic community to real-world settings.

“Some of the disciplinary policies about off-campus behavior are not explicitly outlined,” Hall President’s Council co-chair Brendan McQuerry said. “Students are not always sure what to expect.”

Shoup also cited the need to clarify the handbook’s descriptions of discipline and the appropriateness of certain sanctions such as community service.

In order to make these rules more clear, the Office of Residence Life aims to realign the du Lac policies with actual University practice, citing partial violations as an example.

“We need to make sure that what we do and what we say in du Lac match,” Kirk said.

Shoup reminded the Council that the Office of Residence Life and Housing does not function like a criminal court. “Our goal is for students to learn about how their behavior impacts themselves, others and the reputation of the University,” Shoup said. “In the disciplinary conference, we want to have a good conversation with the student about their behavior.”

CLC will meet in smaller task forces to collect feedback after Monday’s meeting, and these ideas will be presented to Kirk at the Council’s Feb. 8 meeting.

“We are not the ones to approve these policies, and we are not an advisory board,” student body president Grant Schmidt said. “But this is a great opportunity to provide our input.”

Kirk said the administration established a completion deadline for early June in order to be able to give hardcopies of the new edition to freshmen arriving in August.

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle@nd.edu

Class council series hosts housing CEO

By KATLYN SMITH

CEO of housing company Pulte Homes Richard Dugas will deliver a presentation Tuesday evening, the second in a lecture series sponsored by the Junior Class Council. Junior Class President Caitlin Pulte said she envisioned the series as an academic component of her ticket’s platform.

Originally intended for CEOs, the series now features professionals from a variety of fields. Tom Cole, a Chicago lawyer, was featured in the series last semester.

Pulte said the series offers multiple benefits for students, including contact information from business leaders and recommendations beyond the academic community to real-world settings. “We are all looking for internships,” Pulte said. “These people are willing to help us with advice on how to get into the real world.”

Pulte also said she has seen positive reactions from students. “The questions that are asked are intelligent,” Pulte said. “They show that the students are really interested and really care.”

Currently, Pulte and her committee are contacting Fred Smith, the CEO of FedEx. Approval by the Student Activities Office (SAO) and the scheduling limitation posed by the April 1 student government turnover date have challenged the progress of the CEO lecture series, she said.

Nevertheless, CEOs have the opportunity to detail their experiences in a more relaxed environment. “When I talked to Mr. Dugas, he hadn’t really been to many schools,” Pulte said. “The CEOs can freely talk about whatever they want and not have to do it in such a professional manner.”

Dugas’ lecture, titled “Managing through the Financial Crisis,” will detail his experience as CEO of Pulte Homes, a major U.S. home building company.

Pulte said this lecture is relevant for students in future management positions dealing with economic downturns, a situation that has especially impacted the housing industry.

Contact Katlyn Smith at ksmit13@nd.edu

In a world with so much wealth, why is there still so much poverty?

The End of Poverty

By KATLYN SMITH

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Contact Katlyn Smith at ksmit13@nd.edu

The End of Poverty is a daring, thought-provoking and very timely documentary by award-winning filmmaker Philippe Diaz, revealing that poverty is not an accident. Renowned actor and activist Martin Sheen narrates The End of Poverty, which explains how today’s financial crisis is a direct consequence of unchallenged policies that have lasted centuries.

Executive producer Clifford Cobb will discuss the film following the first screening.

6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 30, 2010
Browning Cinema, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

TICKETS: $5 FACULTY/STAFF AND $3 ALL STUDENTS • TICKET OFFICE: 631.2800 • PERFORMINGARTS.ND.EDU

Upcoming World View Events:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event Name</th>
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<tr>
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Winter Break

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March 1–30, 2010: Spring Break

March 31, 2010: Orientation

April 1–30, 2010: Spring Classes

May 1–9, 2010: Final Exams

May 11–15, 2010: Graduation

May 16–31, 2010: Summer Break

June 1–30, 2010: Summer Classes

July 1–31, 2010: Summer Break

August 1–31, 2010: Fall Classes

September 1–30, 2010: Fall Break

October 1–31, 2010: Fall Classes

November 1–30, 2010: Fall Break

December 1–31, 2010: Winter Break

January 1–31, 2011: Winter Classes

February 1–28, 2011: Spring Classes

March 1–31, 2011: Spring Break

April 1–30, 2011: Spring Classes

May 1–9, 2011: Final Exams

May 11–15, 2011: Graduation
Priests discuss vocations with students at SMC

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

Saint Mary’s Campus Ministry invited students to participate in casual discussion with several priests Monday about the call to vocation.

Students listened to the stories of local priests’ trail to religious life. Fr. John Pearson of St. Joseph Parish in South Bend and Deacon Kevin Grove also of St. Joseph visited the College to discuss their paths to the priesthood.

“I think what happened to me is once I started it I just gradually graduated become family and I began to understand something about how God is calling me to a life where I would take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and I would live with this community and I would help this community and they would help me to find our way to God,” Pearson said.

Called “The Religious Life Roundtable,” the discussion offered students the perspective of local religious as they reflected on their call to vocation. The Roundtable was created by students in collaboration with Campus Ministry. The meeting allowed students to participate in casual conversations with religious about their calling to join the religious family.

“In the seventh grade I came down to Notre Dame for Holy Cross Seminary which no longer stands and spent a week learning about the community,” Pearson said.

Pearson said he determined he wanted to become religious at a young age and said he was inspired by the sisters that lived in his community.

“I remember that I just was inspired by this notion which the sisters gave which I still believe very much, sometimes, you’re called to live the gospel in a very specific way,” Pearson said.

Riley also gave an account of his calling to the priesthood. He said he did not think of joining religious life until after college. Riley graduated from Notre Dame and found his passion for service while a student.

“One day in [St. Edward’s Hall], my roommates were going to do a service project through the dorms at the Center for the Homeless. They were like ‘John, you should come along,’” Riley said.

“So we go to the Center for the Homeless and it was one of the greatest days of my life. I couldn’t believe it.”

Riley also discussed his service work in Phoenix, Ariz., with the group. Grove said that his first calling occurred in the third grade, though he did not agree to his calling until much later.

“In that instance in third grade we were going around and talking about what we wanted to do and I mentioned becoming a priest,” Grove said.

Grove said that though he thought about the prospect of becoming a priest in the third grade, he was surprised with the thought from his mind. It was not until he visited the Holy Cross Seminary that he decided.

“Finally I went on a graduate school tour … and the last place I stopped on my tour was Notre Dame and I was heard a talk homily about Holy Cross. I picked up a vocation brochure,” Grove said. “The more I read the more something about it seemed to fit.”

The discussion Monday night ended with a song and collective prayer. The next discussion will be held on Feb. 22.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith10@stmarys.edu

Student Leasing Agent: Part Time

Clover Ridge Apartments seeks part time student leasing agents. Deluxe Walk to Campus Student Housing adjacent to Campus.

Hourly pay, plus lease signing bonuses. Utilize your people skills, build your resume and gain job market experience. Lease awesome apartments with tons of amenities.

Send resume to info@primepropertyinvestors.com

Innsbruck continued from page 1

The numbers then rose in the following years to around 15, the minimum threshold to keep the program going. But for the 2010-11 school year, only two students applied for the year, and none applied for the spring semester, he said.

“We noticed that the numbers were so low. We said my goodness, not only have we had a problem with the program for quite a substantial number of years, but now its reached the point where it is almost impossible to keep it going,” Buttigieg said.

Students in Innsbruck usually take classes exclusively with Notre Dame students and taught by Notre Dame hired faculty. This design creates a need for a certain number of students each year to make the program financially feasible, associate provost Dennis Jacobs said.

“We would have needed to hire five faculty to teach two programs,” Jacobs said. Buttigieg said low enrollment numbers reflected a shift towards the semester, instead of a year, abroad and Notre Dame’s growing number of study abroad locations.

“Since the program started, the landscape of international study has changed dramatically. We have 36 programs. Students are going to find more and more programs that address directly what they’re interested in,” he said. “It’s not as if we have in any way privileged the program in Timbuktoo over the program in Innsbruck.”

Jacobs said the Innsbruck program’s problem with enrollment was also partly due to the way its curriculum was modeled.

“ ‘Innsbruck has an on-site director and it has faculty teach Notre Dame students in an exclusive environment,’” Jacobs said. “On the opposite end of the spectrum, students would take their classes at a university, like Oxford or something like that.”

The disadvantage of the Innsbruck program was that it could not absorb the fluctuation in enrollment, because it did not exist as a part of a large group, he said.

Technow said in an ideal world the Innsbruck program would like to see the Innsbruck program be reinstated. For now, they simply asked the Innsbruck program not to be ruled out in the future, and that the cancellation of the Innsbruck program be used as a learning experience.

Buttigieg said he has already begun evaluating what went wrong with the Innsbruck program so he can avoid it in the future.

“We should have insisted much, much, much earlier on that a much higher percentage of the students’ courses being taken at the University because that was the soft underbelly of this whole thing,” he said.

Buttigieg also asked the students to think about qualities of the Innsbruck program that were most important to them, and said he would be receptive to their suggestions.

“What is really fruitful is to distill in simple, straightforward articulation, what is the ideal program for German language? What is it that, in your experience, mattered most?”, he said.

Both parties said they were pleased with how the meeting went.

“ ‘I think that was a great discussion,’ Jacobs said. ‘I think it was very helpful and constructive.”

Though the Innsbruck program remains discontinued, Technow said she felt the students succeeded in opening up the lines of communication with the University, she said.

“God was definitely very pleasantly surprised with the reception that we received. We felt that they definitely listened to, respected what we had to say and gave us a voice,” she said. “I think that we’re moving in the right direction. No one is really happy with the decision and what happened, but I think that we’re more optimistic about having some sort of input in the future.”

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Haiti in need of more tent cities

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The collapse of much of the capital city has a large part of the nation struggling just to find a place to sleep.

As many as 1 million people — one person in nine across the entire country — need to find new shelter, the United Nations estimates, and there are too few tents, let alone simple buildings, to put them in.

That leaves about 700,000 other people living on the streets around Port-au-Prince under whatever they can salvage. In the case of Jean Anthony’s family, that's a blue plastic tarpaulin for a ceiling and a faded jink sheet with a floral print border for two walls.

“Isn’t it strange that we call it, but it’s much more than terrible,” said Anthony, the 60-year-old owner of a collapsed restaurant.

Jet crashes in sea near Lebanon

PRUSSIES — The first sign of trouble was a flash of light on the horizon Monday — and then witnesses said the Boeing 737 tumbled like “fire falling down from the sky” into the stormy Mediterranean Sea.

All 90 aboard were feared dead in the predawn crash. Lebanon’s leaders ruled out terrorism while investigators collected witness accounts in hopes they could piece together the cause.

Aviation experts cautioned it was too early to know what brought down the Ethiopian Airlines jet — particularly without the black boxes.

Many people were giving DNA samples to help identify the remains of their loved ones; one man identified his 3-year-old nephew by the boy’s overall.

NATIONAL NEWS

Video game banned from inmate

EXOCRINE — A man serving life in prison for first-degree intentional homicide lost his legal battle Monday to play Dungeons & Dragons behind bars.

Kevin T. Singer filed a federal lawsuit against Waukon prison officials arguing that a policy banning all Dungeons & Dragons material violated his free speech and due process rights.

Prison officials instigated the Dungeons & Dragons ban among concerns that playing the game promoted gang-related activity and was a threat to security. Singer challenged the ban but lost in the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Monday uphold it as a reasonable policy.

Dungeons & Dragons players create fictional characters and embark on adventures that often working together as a group, with the help of complicated rules.

Damaged Picasso painting restored

NEW YORK — A Picasso painting damaged when a woman lost her balance and fell on the canvas last week will be repaired in time for an exhibition in February.

“The Actor,” a painting from Picasso’s rose period, was restored at the museum’s conservation lab, said the museum’s spokeswoman.

“Had this oil escaped the ship channel, it could have been a catastrophe,” said Texas General Land Office spokesman Jim Suydam.

The largest spill in Texas since 1990, when a Norwegian tanker spilled 4.3 million gallons about 60 miles off Galveston, the state typically has about 2,000 spills a year, but nearly all involve less than one barrel, according to the Texas General Land Office.

Two sensitive wildlife areas near the spill remain unaffected by it. The spill is mostly contained in a 25-mile stretch of the Sabine Neches Waterway near Port Arthur, about 90 miles east of Houston. The estuaries and other delicate environments are crucial for fish, shrimp and “everything that lives in the Gulf,” Suydam said.

Environmental watchdogs were concerned about what air pollutants people nearby were exposed to.

“Chemical Ali” and gave rise to speculation about possible links to the attacks.

The first explosion struck near the Sheraton Hotel, along the Abu Nawas esplanade across the Tigris River from the Green Zone. The force of the blast toppled a row of 10-foot, 7-ton concrete blast walls protecting the site, tore cars apart and damaged a number of other buildings.

Twisted metal and shards of glass littered the lawns and courtyards of the popular fish restaurants along the river.

Although known in Baghdad as the Sheraton Ishtar, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc. — owners of the Sheraton brand — pulled out of the hotel years ago.

Two other blasts followed minutes later, striking near the Babylon Hotel and Almana Hotel, which is popular with Western journalists and foreign security guards.

Militants in business suits walking alongside a suicide car bomb opened fire on a private security checkpoint at the Hamra, police and guards said. The hotel and the compound in which it is located is home to the Baghdad offices of several Western news organizations, including The Washington Post, McClatchy Newspapers, NBC and The Los Angeles Times.

Western journalists killed by suicide bomber

Associated Press

IRAQ

Baghdad — Suicide bombers struck in quick succession Monday at three Baghdad hotels favored by Western journalists in well-planned attacks that killed at least 37 people and wounded more than 100.

The attacks were another blow to an Iraqi government already struggling to answer for security flaws that have allowed bombers to carry out massive attacks in the heart of the Iraqi capital since August, raising serious questions about the country’s stability ahead of the March 7 parliamentary elections.

The blasts were launched over a span of 15 minutes, shortly before Iraq announced it had hanged Saddam Hussein’s notorious henchman “Chemical Ali” and gave rise to speculation about possible links to the attacks.

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Boats collide causing oil spill

Quick response from authorities helps divert environmental disaster in Texas

Associated Press

DALLAS — The worst Texas oil spill in more than 15 years was contained Monday, and authorities credit a massive emergency response with averting a major environmental disaster.

About 462,000 gallons of oil spilled when an Exxon Valdez tanker collided in Beaumont collided Saturday with a vessel pushing two barges. As of Monday, roughly 220,000 gallons of oil had evaporated, dispersed or been recovered, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

No injuries have been reported. Port Arthur residents were evacuated after the spill while officials tested the air quality. So far only two oil-covered birds have been reported, one of them was captured and cleaned up, and the other flew away.

More than 60 vessels and 550 people from the Coast Guard, the state, the shipping company and other responders responded to the spill. More than 11 miles worth of the plastic walls known as booms were Floating around the spill, and 27 skimmer boats were removing the oil floating on the water.

“This response has helped contain this threat and keep it from becoming a catastrophe,” said Texas General Land Office spokesman Jim Suydam.

The museum described the damage as an “act of God,” said Tom “Smitty” Suydam.

“The fumes were just overwhelming,” said Tom “Smitty” Smith of the activist group Public Citizen. “The downsides, of course, are the long-term impacts of the people who are exposed to the emissions.”

The shipping channel was closed Monday, and it was unclear when it would reopen, the Coast Guard said. Coast Guard Petty Officer Larry Chambers said there are currently 13 vessels waiting offshore to get into the waterway and 11 waiting to get out. He said about a dozen tankers move through the waterway each day.

Major refineries have been in this small area of the Gulf Coast since 1901, shortly after the discovery in nearby Beaumont of Spindletop, which at the time was the world's most productive oil field, said Joe Peltz, an oil industry historian at the University of Houston.
basically a DJ. Don’t get me rather than someone who is proposed artists, Wicht said. 
expressed excitement about the survey. Many students have artists that would appeal to the one to agree on a single artist or difficulties of planning the con- ing agents and working to deter-
many possible groups that will stay within SUB’s allocated bud- 
Wecht said one of the biggest difficulties of planning the con-
test. Now basing our responses to this survey, we are trying to find the best acts at the SUB’s budget has remained stat-
prices have been on the rise $15, but we’re going to shoot for the $15 that tickets cost in previous years. 
if they would be willing to pay $20 for a ticket to this year’s SUB concert, as opposed to the $15 which was 
forecast. 
biggest artists like Taylor Swift, Jay-
there isn’t nearly enough money in our budget to make that hap-
we have.” Hagerty said. “While it would be wonderful to be able to book huge acts like Taylor Swift, Jay-Z or Dave Matthews Band, there isn’t nearly enough money in our budget to make that happen. So we have to try to find the best acts at the right prices who will appeal to the most amount of students.” The concert will be held in Stepan Center, most likely towards the end of the semester, Davidson said. “We aren’t sure of who’s coming yet because of artist avail-
bility and budget constraints,” she said. “We’re trying to get things coming along here, and from there it just depends on how long the contracts take to get approved by the agents. … We’re hoping to get the student body know really soon.” Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsen@nd.edu

Contact Lauren Knauft at lknauf@nd.edu

Lupe Fiasco performs at Notre Dame in 2007. The Student Union Board is in the process of selecting a band for the spring concert.

Bands

on student preferences, contact-
ing agent and working to deter-
mine possible groups that will stay within SUB’s allocated budget.

“We are really trying to find the best act available for the money we have.” Hagerty said.

“The best show,” he said. “They are well known with Notre Dame students. In second place I would vote for Dropkick Murphys. A rowdy Irish band will draw a crowd at Notre Dame.” The survey also asks students if they would be willing to pay $20 for a ticket to this year’s SUB concert, as opposed to the $15 that tickets cost in previous years.

“Traditionally [tickets have] been $15 and haven’t been higher,” Davidson said. “We’re trying to figure out if students would pay the five extra dollars, but we’re going to shoot for the 15.” Davidson said the artists’ prices have been on the rise over the last few years, but SUB’s budget has remained stat-
ic, which is why ticket prices may need to be adjusted.

“If it is because of that which we released the recent SUB concert survey requesting that students rank their preferences … based on genre and an artist,” Wecht said. “Thanks to the many responses to this survey, we are now basing our final decisions on these student preferences.”

Kid Cudi, Girl Talk, MGMT, D r o p k i c k Murphys, Zac Brown Band, V a m p i r e Weekend and Brett Dennen are the artists included in the survey. Many students have expressed excitement about the proposed artists, Wecht said.

“I’d love to see Kid Cudi or Dropkick Murphys,” junior Colleen Coleman said. “Girl Talk would be awesome as well, but I would enjoy seeing an individual or a group actually perform rather than someone who is basically a DJ. Don’t get me wrong, I love Girl Talk, but experiencing an act performing live is such a great experience.”

Junior Casey Cockerham said he thinks MGMT is most popular on campus out of the seven sug-
gested acts.

“I think MGMT would be the best show,” he said. “They are

Although the internships are generally unpaid, SIBC covers the cost of travel, documentation and vaccinations. “In some instances, the employer will provide a stipend or some form of payment as well as expenses,” Goedert said. Summer internships are often fiercely competitive, and sophomore John Goedert, vice president of internships for SIBC, said the 2010 programs will be no different. “This summer will probably be above the norm in terms of com-petitiveness because of the positions we’re offering and the state of the economy,” Goedert said.

He predicted SIBC’s new opportunities, including a sports marketing position in Germany and non-profit management in Washington D.C., will garner much attention this year. “These are experiences that are difficult to find elsewhere,” Goedert said. “What the intern gets out of a position depends completely on where they are.”

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Brian Hagerty co-programmer of concerts SUB

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Apple Inc. sees best quarter ever

iPhone replacing iPod sales as Apple continues to see growth in revenue

Associated Press

Controversy surrounds planned refinery

PIERRE, S.D. — Three groups opposed to a $10 billion oil refinery planned for southeastern South Dakota have asked a judge to overturn a state board's decision to grant the project an air quality permit.

The Board of Minerals and Environment granted the permit in August after finding Hyperion Resources, based in Dallas, had met the requirements set by the Clean Air Act and the state's rules and rules. Board members endorsed the state Environment Department's recommendation to issue the permit for what would be the first new U.S. oil refinery built since 1976.

Hyperion filed its own court appeal, which asks that the board's decision on a carbon monoxide limit be overturned. Circuit Judge Mark Barnett of Pierre has consolidated the two appeals to be heard as one case. After further written arguments are filed, a hearing is scheduled for June 23 in Pierre.

Ed Cable of Save Union County said Monday that opponents believe the state board has not complied with the Clean Air Act. Both the process and the information used by the board were flawed, he said.

The Sierra Club and local groups Save Union County and Citizens Opposed to Oil Pollution have filed a lawsuit in state court arguing that the permit should be thrown out because it does not address some environmental issues.

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Cable said the Board of Minerals and Environment also should have required a full environmental study before approving a permit for the refinery.

"If this doesn't require an environmental impact statement, what project ever would?" Cable said.

A spokesman for Hyperion did not return a phone call seeking comment Monday.

The refinery would be located north of Elk Point. It would process 400,000 barrels of Canadian tar sands crude oil each day into low-sulfur gasoline, diesel, jet fuel and liquid petroleum gas.

The project would include a power plant that produces electricity for the refinery. It would use a byproduct of the refining process, solid petroleum coke, which would be turned into gas and burned to produce electrical power.

The company says the gasification process would allow the removal of more pollutants.
A year ago, our newly-inaugurated President gave his address to a nation eager for change. Then just a week ago, the people of Massachusetts voted for change, albeit one the Democrats did not anticipate. The seat held by Sen. Ted Kennedy for nearly half a century in a state that has not elected a Republican senator since 1972 will now be filled by a Republican by the name of Scott Brown.

Yes, the same Scott Brown whom Keith Olbermann called an “irresponsible, homophobic, racist, reactionary, ex-nude model, tea-bagging supporter of violence against women and against politicians with whom he disagrees.” He did apologize later though … for leaving out “sexist.” As my friend Wally Forman observed, “If Olbermann is right, people must really hate Obama.” Or at least his policies.

To be sure, Brown is no conservative, at least on social issues. Yet he campaigned on a straightforward platform that included conservative positions on economic policy and national security. Most significantly, he has vowed to be the 41st vote against Democratic health care legislation that until last Tuesday was steamrolling its way through Congress.

Like their fellow voters in New Jersey and Virginia late last November, Massachusetts residents are not pleased with the way Democrats are handling the country. Obama may have successfully kept his post-partisan pragmatist mask in place during the campaign, but lately that mask is slipping from his face to reveal the liberal ideology underneath. And Americans are not happy with what they see.

Some may take issue with the claim that Obama is no fair-minded pragmatist, declaring that Democratic leaders in Congress are the ones refusing to act in a bipartisan manner. Between the closed-door meetings to craft legislation and the labeling of conservative Americans as redneck, gun-toting, racist, sexist, Bible-thumping, Nazi-sympathizing tea-baggers, it becomes difficult for anyone, even The Messiah, to reach out to Republicans.

This assertion, however, leaves the president open to charges of am- tisanship and incompetent leadership for allowing members of his party to hijack his agenda. Obama the candidate promised to rid Washington of “the same part- tisanship and pettiness and immaturity that has poisoned our politics for so long.” As president, he appears to be enabling it. He stood by idly as Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid handed out kickbacks like candy to senators in exchange for votes in favor of health care legislation. He twisted his thumbs when Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi accused townhall protestors of carrying swastikas. He even allowed his own administration to pick petty fights with Rush Limbaugh and Fox News. That’s not to say that Obama has managed to stay completely above the fray. Recently, the president himself vowed to special interest pressure by giving union members a five-year exemption from the tax on health insurance that Democrats were planning to impose on over 90 percent of the labor force in order to pay for improved, is still in a fragile state. Americans are fearful that more taxing policies in health care legislation. He twiddled his thumbs out “sexist.”

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I have delivered The Observer for more than a decade. The Observer is going on 50 years old. Students have worked hard to put out one of the finest daily newspapers. Many people, not all in the Notre Dame community, have told me this. I am an independent contractor, I don’t work for Notre Dame or The Observer, but have worked with the students long enough to know the cartoon is not what The Observer is about.

The Observer is about putting out a paper that all of its loyal staff can be proud of. The students work from 8 p.m. until 4 a.m. five nights a week and continue with their class work with a smile. The Observer consists of 10,000 copies per day and on football Fridays, 15,000. They keep all students posted on all sports and news on and off campus day and in day out. The students have the finest work ethics I have ever seen. I am truly proud to be of service to such a fine group of students. The have implemented many new tools to better your newspaper.

Last month, a Business Today was to be inserted in the paper. The Observer staff found some things that were not representative of The Observer’s policy so it was not run. This is one of many. Every insert is sent to the printer, and then I bring them back so they can be edited before they are inserted. I have made mistakes in my life and I only hope none of them have hurt anyone. I am quite sure none of The Observer staff meant to hurt anyone. Having gone to class all day and then having to edit 26 plus pages of newspaper at night, anyone could easily miss something. Give these students credit for the wonderful job they do. My prayers go out to the staff of The Observer for all the hate calls and e-mails they have been receiving. It would be much nicer to compliment them for all their hard work and dedication. I want to thank and compliment you for the very fine job you do.

Jack Radican
Mishawaka, Ind.
Jan. 19

We lost in Massachusetts because President Obama and Democrats in Congress have not been tough enough in pursuing their goals. Yes, Martha Coakley was a terrible candidate and deserved to lose (just anywhere but Mass.), but the lesson must be learned that this country has moved to the center. It is a reputation of politics without integrity. It is a statement against politicians who govern to please the polls. The Democrats have been so paranoid of losing their majorities that they have forgotten what got them there. I am not advocating for Democrats to be extremely ideologically rigid. I am pleading that they do not back down in debates of what is morally just. When we are confronted with “death panels,” and the “government takeover of medicine,” we need to treat the American people like responsible adults and tell them the truth, rather than caving from fear over anti-big-government vigilantes, tree-huggers or anti-war hippies. We need to pick our battles, not over catch phrases like public option, but on what the best results will be for our country. 2010 needs to be the year when this happen. We need to have a debate with the American people and put what is best for them in the long term, ahead of what cable news and lobbyists are shouting about in the short term.

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The Star Power Behind the Haiti Relief Effort

• Sandra Bullock donated $1 million dollars to Doctors Without Borders
• Madonna gave $250,000 to Partners in Health
• Not on Our Watch, a group funded by George Clooney, Brad Pitt and others donated $1 million
• Lance Armstrong LIVESTRONG organization donated $250,000
• Media mogul Ted Turner donated $1 million
• Brad and Angelina donated $1 million to Doctors Without Borders
• Gisele Bündchen donated $1.5 million
• The New York Yankees donated $500,000
• Actress Olivia Wilde promised to send a personalized thank you video to anyone who donates more than $200
• Jennifer Aniston donated $500,000
• Tiger Woods, Natalie Portman and Oprah Winfrey are just some of the other stars that have donated

Contact Katherine Greenspon at kgreen01@smcmail.saintmarys.edu

If you want to contribute to the Haiti relief effort, contact Student Government or visit http://haitidisaster.nd.edu/ for ways to help.
By NICK ANDERSON
Scene Writer

Damon Dash in one of the many men in the entertainment industry whose profile doesn’t match his influence. (In that sense, he’s like Diddy, but the exact opposite).

He’s one of the co-founders of Roc-A-Fella Records as well as the respective clothing line and film studio. He’s worth more than $50 million to make a movie and expects about $60 million in return.

It’s actually rather surprising this happens time and time again. Gilliam makes sprawling, dark, moody movies that are more often than not confusing, sloppy and overloaded with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entirely unlike our own. Regarding the plot, he finds over-stuffed with ideas. In place of a well-executed movie, he delivers a film that is a glimpse into the world that he lives in, one almost entire...
CBS urged to pull pro-life Tebow ad

NEW YORK — A coalition of women’s groups called on the CBS network on Monday to scrap its plan to broadcast an ad during the Super Bowl featuring college football star Tim Tebow and his mother, who criticizes his decision to play without wearing a condom.

The groups, which included the National Organization for Women, the Feminist Majority and others, asked CBS to pull the ad because it was “inappropriate for air.”

“If you’re a sports fan, and I am, that’s the holiest day of the year,” he wrote. “It’s not a day to have that discussion.”

CBS was criticized for rejecting that ad — and perhaps might have worried about more conservative religious groups informing viewers about the choices they thought were available.

CBS said it had approved the script for the 30-second ad and had not been told that the commercial would promote an impact. The network had not been involved in any religious advertising.

“As for the Tebow ad, it was not approved,” a network spokesman said. The spokesman declined to say whether the network would ensure that any issue-oriented religious ads that were approved would not be made accessible to the public.

The controversy over the ad was raised Sunday when Tebow met with reporters.

“It’s important when you’re playing a game like this, to let the fans get too involved or else they’ll kill you,” Williams said.

The main evening news broadcast broke into the Williams story on Monday.

Williams, ranked No. 1 and the defending champion, defeated No. 3 seed Novak Djokovic 6-2, 6-2, 6-1 in the 65-minute match.

It’s also important when you’re performing a game like this, to let the fans get too involved or else they’ll kill you,” Williams said.

The day’s play brought a host of stories and a theme of “Celebrate Family,” after getting a soft drink — we’re not trying to sell you a soft drink, we’re not selling anything. We’re trying to connect with families.

Williams said he and his mother met with reporters.

“I’m here, because my mom was up for what I believe,” Tebow said. “I know some people won’t respect that, but I stand for what I believe.”

And so the marquee matches and finals were set.

One-third of employees across the country have taken sick during a mission trip to the Philippines, she suggested. It is a reasonable request by doctors to abort its fifth child and gave birth to a daughter in 1998.

Gary Schneeberger said he had been turned off by the ad because it was not only the focus of criticism for not being done.

“By offering one of the most coveted advertising spots of the year to an anti-equity, anti-family, homophobia organization, CBS is aligning itself with a political stance that will damage its reputation, alienate viewers, and discourage consumers from supporting and advertising with the company,” the letter said.

CBS officials carefully examined Focus on the Family’s track record and found no basis for rejecting the ad.

“We understand that some people don’t think very highly of what we do,” Schneeberger said. “I’m here, because my mom was up for what I believe.”

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**Men’s NCAA Basketball**

### NCAA Men’s Basketball Division I AP Poll

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### NCAA Men’s Basketball Division I Coaches Poll

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### Men’s College Basketball

#### Big East Standings

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**NFL**

Vikings quarterback Brett Favre, pictured here in Sunday’s NFC Championship loss to the Saints, is pondering retirement. Favre led the Vikings to a 2-4 record this season in the only year of his contract.

Vikings unsure about Favre, future

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — One after another, the Minnesota Vikings mentioned how much they enjoyed playing with Brett Favre.

Will the fun be one season and done?

The devastated Vikings gathered Monday at their practice facility for exit physicals and meetings with coaches, two weeks sooner than they hoped thanks to that epic overtime loss in New Orleans for the NFC championship.

Despite all the other intriguing in-game developments and off-season story lines, the day-after focus fell on the 40-year-old Favre’s future. He didn’t appear in the locker room at Winter Park while it was open to reporters, but his demeanor after the game and responses from teammates suggested he’s leaning toward quitting.

“For me personally, it’s hard to imagine not being a part of this team or this organization,” Favre said Sunday night at the Superdome. “I really enjoyed it, to be honest. Just if I can hold up, especially after a day like today.”

He took a beating at the Saints, and the ankle injury he suffered in the third quarter of the NFC Championship Game was another reminder of how draining the game has been for him mentally and physically down the stretch of his 19-year career.

“From a physical standpoint I feel for him, but definitely mentally and emotionally as he always does he lays it on the line and gave it everything he had,” linebacker Ben Leber said. “I truly wish we could have him back next year, but that will be his decision.”

Leber sounded resigned to losing Favre to retirement, though the Vikings’ all-time leading passer is so famously indecisive how draining the game has been for him mentally and physically down the stretch of his 19-year career.

“The Vikings are still wondering if I can hold up, especially after a day like today.”

The Vikings are unsure about Favre’s future.

Rick Ankiel to become Royals center fielder

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Royals are reshaping their entire outfield and making Jose Guillen their full-time designated hitter.

While introducing newcomer Rick Ankiel on Monday, general manager Dayton Moore said the injury-prone Guillen would be replaced in right field by David DeJesus, last year’s left fielder. Ankiel will play center and Scott Podsednik, another newcomer, will be in left.

The Royals opened last year with Coco Crisp in center field but he got hurt and the position mostly belonged to Mitch Maier after that.

“We feel that right now, going into spring training, this is the best way to position our outfield defense,” Moore said. “These three guys are all capable of playing center field. We felt Rick’s best use is to put him in center field at this time.”

Glen ‘Big Baby’ Davis wants to drop nickname

BOSTON — Boston Celtics forward Glen “Big Baby” Davis is looking to change his image. Step One: Drop the nickname.

Davis, who missed the start of the season following surgery for a broken thumb he sustained in a fight with a childhood friend, was recently fined $25,000 for directing inappropriate language at a fan during a game against Detroit last Wednesday.

“I’m in the public eye. Kids look up to me. You just can’t make those kinds of statements,” he said before Monday’s game against the Los Angeles Clippers. “It (stinks) that you have to learn this way, how to keep your emotions intact. I know who I am as a person, and hopefully my fans know who I am as a person, that I am a good guy. I’m not a troublemaker or a fight-er.”

**IN BRIEF**

Bill Haas notches first victory at Hope Classic

LA QUINTA, Calif. — Bill Haas followed his father’s advice to be patient through six long days at the Bob Hope Classic until his final hole, when a highly impatient shot clinched his first PGA Tour victory.

Haas made a short birdie putt after an aggressive approach shot on the 18th hole to win the Hope Classic on Monday, beating Matt Kuchar, Tim Clark and Bubba Watson by one stroke with an 8-under 64.

“I was wanting to win from the first tournament I played, but it’s a process, and there’s a lot to it,” said Haas, a rookie in 2006. “It’s special, but I don’t know if it’s a monkey off my back. I know how hard it was to win, and I’m grateful.”

The 27-year-old son of 1988 Hope Classic champion Jay Haas was the last of three co-leaders to play the par-5 18th.

Dayton Moore said the injury-prone Ankiel to become Royals center fielder.

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Rick Ankiel to become Royals center fielder.
INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts started this season with one goal: winning another Super Bowl.

Now they are a victory away from a championship and head back to the site of their previous one.

No, the plans haven’t changed much from Indy’s last postseason trip to Miami, this work will be spent putting in a game plan, and next week, first-year coach Jim Caldwell is taking a page right out of Tony Dungy’s playbook. The Colts will stay at the same hotel, practice at the same facility and follow almost the same routine that they did before beating Chicago in the rainiest Super Bowl on record.

“We’ll change some things. We’ll tweak them and adjust a little bit, according to how we envision some things, and it depends on what happens to us this week,” Caldwell said Monday. “We’ll make some adjustments, it’s not an iron-clad sort of routine. But, overall, we’ll probably be fairly close to what we’ve done previously.”

Some of the changes are not by choice.

Four-time MVP Peyton Manning and his Pro Bowl teammates, who include Dallas Clark, Dwight Freeney and Reggie Wayne, are expected to be in town Sunday afternoon for a full day before the rest of the town Sunday afternoon for a full day before the rest of the town.

Moving to South Beach on Saturday night. Another possible problem: the Colts (16-2) in unfamiliar surroundings or hotel rooms. New Orleans is in the Super Bowl for the first time in franchise history.

Another possible problem: the Colts don’t want anything derailing their plans.

“I guess it is kind of a relief that we’ve made it, but we’re not satisfied just being here,” left guard Ryan Lilja said. “We want to win, we want a ring, and that means you shouldn’t be hanging out on South Beach Saturday night.”

Indy’s leaders will make sure that does not happen.

Among those singled out by Caldwell were Freeney, Manning, Saturday and Wayne — all of whom are likely to treat the hotel like they would their ways down, because it can become a madhouse, he said. “Truthfully, it falls a lot to our wives and family members who help us out. It can get anybody thing derailing their plans.

Preferably, the Colts (16-2) would like everything resolved right out of Tony Dungy’s playbook. The reason? Once Indy reachings or hotel rooms. New Orleans is in the Super Bowl for the first time in franchise history.

The ultimate goal is to win it all,” he said. “Nobody is going to be satisfied until we do that.”

When it comes to the game plan, Indy’s team plane also is expected to arrive a little earlier than it did three years ago because of new rules implemented in 2008.

But with nearly half of Indy’s roster having Super Bowl experience, Caldwell will rely on his veterans to help younger players cope with the countless distractions of the next two weeks. Players, like fans, are scrambling to make travel plans, fill countless ticket requests and answer all kinds of e-mail and text messages. Caldwell said he had about 250 e-mail and more than 150 text messages after Sunday’s 30-17 victory over the New York Jets.

Caldwell believes will make a difference on game day.

“Make a list of how many ticket- ing agents,” Minaya said. “They have to win, we want a ring, and that means you shouldn’t be hanging out on South Beach. New Orleans is in the Super Bowl for the first time in franchise history.

Another possible problem: the Colts have a job — completing a mission deemed so essential they threw away a chance at perfection to win a title.

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INDIANAPOLIS — Who dat say dey gonna beat dem Saints? Well, Archie’s boy might have something to say about that.

In a stunning turn of events, the team led through its formative years by a strong-armed quarterback named Archie Manning has finally made it to the Super Bowl. And look who’s standing in the way of the first NFL championship in New Orleans’ largely forgettable 43-year history as a pro football city.

None other than Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts.

Archie’s son guided the Colts into the Super Bowl with a 30-17 victory over the upstart New York Jets in Sunday’s AFC championship game. About four hours later, the Saints stamped their ticket for South Beach by beating Brett Favre and the Minnesota Vikings 31-28 in an overtime thriller that decided the NFC title.

The winners will face off for the ultimate prize Feb. 7 in Miami.

Ever the doting father, Archie Manning attended the NFC championship game along with another son, New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning, and made it clear he’ll be rooting for the Colts in the Super Bowl, though he knows a Super Bowl title would mean so much to his adopted hometown.

The elder Manning still lives in New Orleans, hanging in there even as the city struggles more than four years later to overcome the hellishness of Hurricane Katrina.

“I’m pulling for the Colts 100 percent,” Archie Manning said. “It’s not even close.”

Still, the family subplot hovering over this game will give everyone plenty to talk about during the next two weeks.
Ryan expresses pride after run at AFC crown

Associated Press

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Rex Ryan was so pleased with his team’s surprising playoff run this season, he’s clearing out his wardrobe.

Only green and white from now on for the New York Jets coach.

“You won’t see me in nothing but Jets gear because I believe,” Ryan said Monday before taking yet another shot at his king-sized build. “And the fact that there are 4X.”

All kidding aside, the Jets proved they were no joke after coming within a win of going to the Super Bowl. Any disappointment from their 30-17 loss to Indianapolis in the AFC championship was overshadowed by pride as the Jets began thinking about next season.

“I told our players to wear their Jets stuff and be proud of it,” Ryan said. “There’s no reason we shouldn’t be proud to be a New York Jet. This isn’t the ‘Same Old Jets’ and any negative connotation that way is crazy. Like I said, punch somebody in the face if it’s that way, not me.”

“That’s the way we feel about it. That’s how I feel about it and that’s how we’ve been in our stadium. This is our stadium and we are not the visitors in this spot again next season. But it’s no given they’ll be back in the playoffs.

“We had a great run,” Revis said. “When people didn’t believe we could do it, we made a way.”

Ryan called it a “yo-yo season,” one in which the Jets started 3-0, lost six of their next seven and then closed out the regular season with five wins in their last six games to make the playoffs.

“We started great and then we about hit rock bottom, came right back up again,” Ryan said, “and then unfortunately, (Sunday) night, we hit rock bottom again, because there’s no tomorrow.”

There was also an incredible lucky streak in which the Colts pulled their starters in Week 16, giving up a chance at a perfect season, and the Jets took advantage. New York benefited the following week when Cincinnati came to town with little to gain, and the Jets beat the Bengals, too. Meanwhile, all the teams ahead of them in the playoff race kept losing.

“There was a point where we could’ve just tanked,” Sanchez said. “But the way these guys are in this locker room, how excited we are to play for each other, and how Rex got us going, we just want to play for each other and win some games.”

While the top-ranked running game thrived behind Thomas Jones’ career-high 1,402 yards rushing, Sanchez struggled mightily with turnovers. Then, as the games became more important, the rookie began playing like a seasoned veteran.

“I think we saw our future, I really do,” Ryan said of Sanchez. “I want to be, and I know all our fans want me to be, more multiple I’m sure on offense, instead of just the run first, run second, run third-type mentality.”

Ryan established a brash, confident mentality the moment he was hired as the coach a year ago, making it clear he’s never afraid to say what’s on his mind. For a franchise sorely lacking an identity, Ryan took care of all that by himself.

“We believed in him as the season went on,” safety Kerry Rhodes said. “A lot of the things he said came to fruition, even though we didn’t meet the President. We got pretty close.”

Ryan warned his players that it’s no given they’ll be back in this spot again next season. But they all believe there’s much more to come, starting next season — and maybe with a home AFC championship game.

“We started great and then there’s much more to come, starting next season — and maybe with a home AFC championship game.”

“The way this game in front of our fans and our stadium, the New Jets Stadium,” Ryan said with a smile. “That’s going to be (the name of it) when we play in it. I can’t wait. We get our stadium and we are not the visitors in our stadium. This is our stadium. We are the biggest show in town and that’s what it’s going to be.”

Jets head coach Rex Ryan fields questions from the media after New York’s 17-30 loss to Indianapolis in the AFC Championship Sunday.
Abromaitis continued from page 20

practise where he would own the likes of Zach Hillesland and Ryan Ayers.

The operative words there are "some days." Now he's doing it consistently — he averages 16.7 points per game and makes 49.6 percent of his 3-pointers. He's a 6-7 wingman who can do a little bit of everything," senior guard Ben Hansbrough said of Abromaitis. "He's got a great body, great hops, he's a very good player for us."

Abromaitis' transformation this season, however, is more complicated than just his own improvement. Brey said he started playing alongside the "perfect storm" of players senior forward Luke Harangody to attract help to the "perimeter" of DePaul and Ryan Ayers.

"He's a 6-7 wingman who can do a little bit of everything," senior guard Ben Hansbrough said of Abromaitis. "He's got a great scorer but that might not be better for me." Tim Abromaitis Irish forward

Abromaitis is ranked second and third in the country in assist-turnover ratio behind Duke's John Scheyer. But it's not all on them. "To [Abromaitis] credit, he has delivered," Brey continued. "He's made the shots." Abromaitis isn't just a shooter — several times he took advantage of a gap and took a pass under the basket against DePaul and threw down a dunk or two in the process.

"One of my strengths is really my versatility," Abromaitis said. "I'm able to score on the inside and outside and it makes it hard for some teams to match up with me." He also understands how important Jackson and Hansbrough are to his success. He credits their drive-and-kick passes to helping him get open looks. "I don't know how they see me half the time when they give me the ball," he said. Hansbrough has improved his rank from the 3-point line, you have in the back of your mind, 'Where's he at?'" Hansbrough said.

"I do a great job of finding open areas," Abromaitis has also taken advantage of the transition offense. He can take a pass on the fast break in the lane or sit on the perimeter while the defense rushes past, then wait for a pass and an open shot.

"At the beginning a couple transition buckets got me a couple easy looks," he said.

The penetration of Ben and Tory, they did a great job getting in the lane and knowing where people are up and down on them and kicking it out to the open shooter. That just happened to be me a lot of the time today,

That phenomenon burnt the Demon Deacons, DePaul interim head coach Tracy Webster said. "He was wide-side and his guy had to help, he was going to get an open look," Webster said.

"We can set him up guys." You time to potentially heal from those struggles and weekend struggles. That's what you need to do to play with right now."

Jeff Jackson Irish coach

Indeed, the first-round bye and subsequent home ice advantage have proven to be vital to Notre Dame's success during Jackson's tenure. In 2006, the Irish finished eighth in the CCHA, and hosted a first-round series, but without a bye fell to Alaska Fairbanks, 1-3, 0-1. The following year, Notre Dame won the CCHA regular season title and used its first-round bye and home ice advantage to reach the CCHA championship in Detroit, where the Irish won their first CCHA tournament. The team followed the same road in 2009.

The value of winning the CCHA tournament cannot be overlooked, as it brings with it an automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament, and a shot at the ultimate goal, the NCAA Championship.

"[The CCHA Tournament] dictates the [NCAA Tournament]," Jackson said. "I have said since I got here that what you need to is put yourself in position to get a bye in Detroit and there put yourself in position to make the NCAA Tournament.

Thanks to the recent surge, the Irish are closing in on that desired fourth-place position, and once the postseason is over, you have the advantage of playing in front of your home crowd," Jackson said. "Plus you don't have to play that first-round series which gives you time to potentially heal up guys."

Contact Doug Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

Figure skaters tie for fifth at Mid-America

Special to The Observer

This weekend the Notre Dame Figure Skating Team tied for fifth at the Mid-America championships in Fraser, Mich.

In an increasingly competitive division of 13 well-established open collegiate programs, the Irish skaters improved their rank from the Porter Classic in spite of a minor fall during the program. The team was proud of its performance, having had just three practices prior to competition due to winter break. The group has a goal of peaking with a top-three finish at their most important competition of the year, the Midwestern Sectionals, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in two weeks.
Peters
continued from page 20

tired I'm fouling, I only have five fouls in 10 minutes!" The thought of being out of the game had already made an impact on both sides. Peters was money and fired for Notre Dame. In the second game back, a 74-69 win over Vanderbilt on Dec. 30, she recorded eight points, seven rebounds and four blocks in 14 minutes of play.

After that game, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said she thought Peters was the player of the game and joked that they would "expect her to do that every game."

And while Peters has continued to play at a high standard — she averages 5.1 points, 3.3 rebounds and 2.4 blocks per game, and put up a team-high 11-12 points in Notre Dame’s loss to Connecticut — she said she feels no demands from her coach or her teammates.

"Obviously I want to [improve], but there’s not any added pressure," Peters said. "You can see how well the team does out there without me. I obviously want to do really well every game, but if I don’t it’s not like the team’s on my shoulders. They’re perfectly fine on their own."

Nor does Peters feel she is close to being fully recovered. In 23 games before her first knee injury as a freshman, she averaged nine points, 5.6 rebounds and 1.96 blocks, good enough to be named to the Big East All-Freshman team. However, her injuries have stopped her from adding to that potential.

"Obviously you’re not going to come back all the way, 100 percent from where you were," Peters said. "I’m trying to take it slow, trying to be easy on myself a little bit. It’s kind of difficult, I don’t see myself getting back fully until probably next season, so I’m just trying to give it everything I have and see where that takes me."

Peters tore her ACL the first time on Feb. 10, 2008, in the second half of a game against then-No. 15 Pittsburgh. After corrective surgery in April 2008, she was able to play at the beginning of the 2008-09 season, even earning a start against Evansville on Nov. 19, 2008.

In the third game of the season against Boston College on Nov. 23, Peters played just four minutes before re-injuring her knee and played almost 12 minutes in the game with just a little discomfort, but later found out she had re-torn the ACL. The first one was pretty tough," Peters said. "It hurt me the time I did the second one it was really frustrating, but then having the second time, that was just old news. You kind of get used to it. It wasn’t as frustrating this time around because I guess the second time because it’s kind of like been there, done that. I was used to it."

"A lot of my friends were mad at me because I didn’t even tell them I had to have another surgery because it was just second nature for me then. It was just like “Oh, yeah, I’m having surgery in the morning what.”"

This time Peters had to have a two-part corrective surgery, one in February 2009 and another in May.

"You don’t even have your knee strong enough, and on top of that I had to have a bone graft done, which took three more months to heal," she said. "So I had added time on top of the fact that I had to have ACL surgery, so it was recovering, and building up your muscle just to lose it again."

Peters said she has not resorted to good luck charms as she continues her recovery, but rather has worked hard and will continue to do so in order to strengthen her knee and get back to full form.

"It was a lot of work," she said. "You really have to be mentally tough to get through something like that. I really respect people who have torn their ACL because it’s tough."

Devereaux Peters
Irish forward

"I’m just trying to give it everything I have and see where that takes me."

Depth
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While the Irish opened the season ranked No. 30 in the nation, Bayliss doesn’t worry about the polls early in the year.

"I don’t put a lot of stock in rankings, especially pre-season ones," Bayliss said. "Ours is based primarily on our last year’s finish. I think we are better than that."

The Irish also have four players with singles preseason rankings including freshman Blas Moros (No. 74), sophomore Casey Watt (No. 18), and juniors Stephen Havens (No. 93) and Dan Stahl (No. 95).

Bayliss said the Irish will need to rely on their doubles teams to pull out the doubles points and start the matches off strong.

"We have been working hard on our doubles this year, as well as trying to concentrate on the areas of individual weakness that each of our players has," Bayliss said. "I can honestly say that critical decisions still need to be made regarding both who and what combinations will step out on the court. Watt and [Tyler] Davis have played together the last fall and had some good results, but they need to buy into a system that gives them a better chance to win, playing higher percentages and being more consistent, or perhaps find other partners."

"Havens and Fitzgerald have been a pleasant surprise so far. After that it will be our challenge to find a solid No. 3 team."

After losing seven matches last season by a score of 4-3, the Irish come their experience in close matches will result in more wins in the spring.

The Irish are 2-1 after opening the season with wins over William & Mary and IUPUI but falling 7-4 to No. 2 Virginia. They will return to the court Saturday to face Tulsa in Columbus, Ohio.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

Espinoza
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extremely encouraging to her teammates and always takes time to help them with their throwing."

Espinoza’s progression as athlete and as a person has not been one without adversity or challenges. Regardless, she has achieved success at every level and continues to improve.

"During her time here, I have seen Jaclyn become a very confident person as well as an athlete," Beltran said. "During my first year here at Notre Dame, she hardly spoke and could get a little rattled at major meets. Since then, she has learned to use her voice which has allowed her to become an effective team leader and rise to the occasion of competition."

As a senior, Espinoza will get her last crack at a national championship in the discus, her pre-miere event. One aspect that bodes well for her is that the NCAA Championships, should she qualify, would be a homecoming event. One aspect that Espinoza has not added pressure."

Contact Laura Myers at lmeyers@nd.edu

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“Between Barack and a Hard Place: Race and Whiteness in the Age of Obama”

Tuesday, January 26, 2010
7:30 PM
Carey Auditorium - Hesburgh Library
A Question and Answer session will follow.

Event is free and open to the public.

Tim Wise is among the most prominent anti-racist writers and activists in the U.S., and has been called, "One of the most brilliant, articulate and courageous critics of white privilege in the nation." Wise has spoken in 48 states, and on over 400 college campuses, including Harvard, Stanford, and the Law Schools at Yale and Columbia, and has spoken to community groups around the nation.

Wise has a B.A. in Political Science from Tulane University, where his anti-apartheid work received global attention and the thanks of Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. He received training in methods for dismantling racism from the People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond, in New Orleans.

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**ND Track & Field**

**Thrower Espinoza brings leadership to Irish squad**

**By MATT ROBISON**

Jaclyn Espinoza has become a standout on the Irish squad this year in more ways than one. Not only is she the All-American thrower starting the season with notable results, she’s also becoming a leader among her teammates. Her sophomore year featured more of the same outstanding performances. Espinoza earned All-Big East honors again with appearances in the Big East Indoor and Outdoor Championships and a spot in the NCAA Outdoor Championships.

In 2009, things got even better for Espinoza. With a Big East outdoor title in the discus and a third place finish at the NCAA outdoor championships, she became the first Irish athlete to earn All-American honors in the discus. “She is a student of her trade, and has a real understanding of her sport that helps her win even though she is always the smallest person out there,” throwing coach Adam Beltran said. “She simply refuses to lose.”

“Whether it requires a 6 a.m. lift or a 9 p.m. throwing session, Jaclyn will do it without complaint and get the job done,” Beltran said.

In terms of her leadership, her positive attitude has rubbed off on her teammates and has created a sense of oneness on the squad. “Jaclyn has been an amazing leader,” Beltran said. “She has really stepped up to help and cultivate the new freshmen throwers. Even though she is one of the best in the country, she is...”

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**Men’s Basketball**

**Abromaitis evolves into deadly offensive weapon**

**By BILL BRINK**

As Tim Abromaitis lined up a free throw near the end of Notre Dame’s 87-77 win over DePaul Saturday, a desperate Blue Demon fan screamed, “Who are you?”

Thanks to his performance, not just against DePaul but this whole season, now we know.

Abromaitis scored 30 points and hit five 3-pointers in the game Saturday, one point off his season high of 31 against Central Florida, the first game he started. He’s started every game since.

For someone who didn’t play a single minute last season, that’s quite a transformation. But not if you ask those who saw him last season — Irish coach Mike Brey said they had some days in.

Junior forward Tim Abromaitis was one of only two throwers in her class of only two throwers in her class of the discus and the shot put, one of 13.71 meters, and at the Blue and Gold Meet in December she finished second.

Espinoza hurst onto the throwing scene when she qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships as a Freshman in the discus and the shot put, one of only two throwers in her class to accomplish that feat. She also earned All-Big East honors that year with a second-place finish at the Big East outdoor championships in the discus.

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**Hockey**

**ND moves up CCHA standings**

**By DOUGLAS FARMER**

Two weeks ago Notre Dame was in a three-way tie for seventh place in the CCHA after being swept at home by No. 11 Ferris State.

After gaining four points against No. 18 Lake Superior State this past weekend, the Irish have come into sole possession of sixth place, and are a mere three points behind fourth-place Lake Superior.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson said the team realized the dire position it was in after the Ferris State sweep, and set to playing its way back into contention.

“They are playing like they have their backs against the wall,” he said. “I give them a lot of credit to play with that sense of urgency that we do...”

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**Men’s Tennis**

**Experience, depth give Bayliss lineup options**

**By KATELYN GRABAREK**

If this year’s Irish team doesn’t meet expectations, experience and depth certainly won’t be to blame.

Notre Dame returns all but one player from last year’s squad and adds three freshmen, resulting in a team that gives Irish coach Bobby Bayliss some unique challenges.

“The biggest challenges facing us this year involve two things: dealing with one of the country’s most difficult schedules and keeping a very deep team happy with ample playing opportunities,” Bayliss said. “I feel we are good enough to take on this schedule, but we need to be sufficiently resilient to handle some losses and rebound well to take advantage of the large number of opportunities that we will have.”

“As for playing time, I believe that this might be the deepest team we have ever had in my 23-year Notre Dame tenure. We have 10 players who have done well as starters, or are impact freshmen. Bayliss understands that with only graduating one starter from last season, he’s set a roster and adding three solid freshmen this season it will be difficult to get everyone ample playing time consistently.”

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**Peters undeterred by injuries**

**By LAURA MYERS**

Two years is a long time for a scholarship athlete to go without running.

Junior forward Devereaux Peters faced that very problem when she took the floor on Dec. 29 against Central Florida. It was Peters’ first time in a game in more than a year after tearing the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in her right knee two straight times.

“I was kind of nervous, just because it’d been like two years since I’d really run,” Peters said. “I was kind of nervous, just because it’d been like two years since I’d really run.”

Peters said, “I would joke around with the team, they were telling me I only had 10 minutes so I told them ‘If I get...”

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**ND Women’s Basketball**

**Experience, depth give Bayliss lineup options**

**By KATELYN GRABAREK**

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