ND grad joins pro boxing ranks

Former Bengal Bouts champion Lee signs with Top Rank, strives to be a ‘world champion’

It wasn’t long ago that gaining admission to Notre Dame was Mike Lee’s top goal.

Less than four years later, with a degree in finance and three Bengal Bouts titles to his name, the recent Notre Dame graduate returned to campus to announce his intention to become a professional boxer.

Lee has signed a professional contract with Bob Arum’s Top Rank, the boxing promotional giant that represents current world champions Manny Pacquiao and previously promoted legends like Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier, Sugar Ray Leonard and Oscar De La Hoya. Lee is also teamed up with respected veteran trainer Ronnie Shields, who trained former world champions Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield.

Lee has made it clear that he once again has one goal in mind. “Now my goal is to become the world champion, and as crazy as that may sound, getting into Notre Dame sounded crazy to me.” Lee said. “It’s going to be a long process, but I don’t want anything else. Four years ago, all I wanted was to get into Notre Dame. I succeeded, and I fully plan on succeeding with this goal.”

Lee, Arum and Shields all said they were excited about the team they have assembled.

“In order to be successful in this sport, you have to have a good team,” Shields said. “Top Rank is the best promoter in the world … I told Mike, they’re going to take care of you. They know how to match you, they know how to build you. All you have to do is get in the ring.”

Parents to visit juniors this weekend

Junior Parents Weekend may be dubbed “that quiet weekend” by freshmen and sophomores, but for juniors and their parents it is a weekend packed with distinguished speakers, workshops, dinners, socializing with friends and family, and this year, a speech by Irish football coach Brian Kelly.

Junior Zach Reuvers, Chair of the JPW Committee, said about 1,200 juniors are expected to participate in the activities this weekend.
INSIDE COLUMN

Spring Slump

I noticed a trend lately — a sleepy, tired and sad trend. We’re growing, slowly but surely, more impatient and grumpy as the year progresses. I’m calling this phenomenon the ‘Spring Semester Slump.’

It’s common sense, really. We start out the school year relatively excited to be back on campus. With friends, possibly even excited to be in class. Fall break comes, and while it’s well-appreciated, we can come back to school without much coaxing. School has yet to get truly difficult — our professors appear to still retain their humane capabilities.

This goes out the proverbial window, however, after Fall Break. Professors, all seemingly wandering in tandem, decide to assign every possible assignment at once. Yes, they might all give three weeks of work before or after, but that one “Hell Week” will set the mood for the remainder of the semester.

This may be repeated once or twice, creating “Hell Week” or even “Hell Month.” Winter Break cannot come fast enough.

Those three beautiful weeks are the shortest three weeks of my life. Einstein’s theory of relativity is proven correct — those three weeks feel like a minute, but a minute in a final feels like three weeks.

After that brief respite, spring semester begins. However, this beginning doesn’t go as smoothly as fall — nowhere near close. There are several reasons:

One — there’s no sunshine. Yes, I may be a townie, but the perma-cloud brings me down.

Two — I’m just not rested enough. Fall semester finals are fresh wounds that have not been healed by three weeks of forced family fun and horrendous sweaters. The three weeks of Christmas break are no match to wondrous summer, filled with warmth, bonfires and long days.

Three — applications for jobs and internships start to take over any time you thought you had for movies, friends or even your homework. All the rejection you thought you had for movies, friends or even your homework. All the rejection you thought you had for movies, friends or even your homework.

“The University Band Concert: Junior Parents Weekend will take place Saturday at 2:30 p.m. at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center in the Leighton Concert Hall. Tickets are $3 for students and $5 for general admission and can be purchased by calling 574-631-2800.

Film and Faith presents “Cool Hand Luke” Saturday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. in the Browning Cinema at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $3 for students and $6 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased by calling 574-631-2800.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to observer.news@nd.edu.
Students visit health, wellness fair at ND

By SAM STRYKER
News Writer

Living up to their reputation as health-conscious individuals, Notre Dame students turned up in droves at Thursday’s Student Health and Wellness Fair, hosted at the Rolfs Sports Recreation Center.

Josephine Dickinson of the University Counseling Center said this year’s event tried to live up to its slogan, “How Healthy Are You?” by involving all aspects of campus life.

“The concept of the event is that we invite all departments on campus to help us with all aspects of healthy living,” she said.

Dickinson said this included the Gender Relations Committee, RecSports and even businesses outside of Notre Dame that focus on self-care and wellness, who all set up tables on the gym floor.

Dickinson said the event should seem familiar to anyone who attended last year’s Health and Wellness Fair, which was the first time it was held.

“We invited the same people from last year. It should look very similar,” she said.

Dickinson said one of the most important features of the event is student interaction with the departments, complemented with incentives for participation.

Popular tables included a free massage center and a Dance Dance Revolution competition.

“Students come and for every round they participate in they get a raffle slip. That’s the buy-in for students,” she said.

“Tables have to be interactive. They can’t be boring, where you just pick up a flyer.”

The raffle tickets were then entered into a giveaway for prizes including one roundtrip plane ticket, salon baskets and spring break gift bags.

Senior Jennie Heil was impressed with the variety of tables at the event.

“I really liked the McDonald Physical Therapy table,” she said.

“I also think it’s a good idea they’re giving out flu shots.”

Dickinson said the event organizers were expecting a sizeable turnout after last year’s event drew larger than expected crowds, with 761 students attending.

“It was shocking,” she said.

Dickinson said the concept of the event is that we invite all departments on campus to help us with all aspects of healthy living.”

Josephine Dickinson
University Counseling Center

Club marks Chinese New Year

Chinese Association to perform in their annual Spring Festival Celebration.

Members of the Notre Dame Chinese Friendship Association practice their routine on Thursday for the Spring Festival Celebration.

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

The Notre Dame community will experience a taste of true Chinese culture Sunday as the Notre Dame Chinese Friendship Association (NDCEA) puts on its annual Spring Festival Celebration in honor of the Chinese New Year.

“Chinese New Year is the best opportunity for students to see our cultural presentation on campus,” NDCEA vice president Yi Fang said.

“It is hard for internationals and students to always explain our cultural presence on campus,” NDCEA president Ke Chen described the “united, active, and vibrant group, proud to contribute to the Notre Dame community.”

Along with various small performances, the Spring Festival Celebration will feature a stage drama in Chinese and various traditional folk dances. The show will also feature remarks from University President Fr. John Jenkins.

“We are very proud and grateful to have Fr. Jenkins at our celebration,” Fang said.

Dinner from a Chinese restaurant in South Bend will precede the performance in the LaFortune Ballroom at 5:30 p.m., and the show will begin at 7 p.m. in Washington Hall. Admission for both the dinner and the performance is free.

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

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Lenten luncheons promote reflection

By ALICIA SMITH

Lent is a time to improve one’s life through fasting, almsgiving and prayer. Regina Wilson, assistant director of Campus Ministry at Saint Mary’s College, said in order to assist students with these tasks, Campus Ministry will be hosting Lenten Luncheons each Friday from noon to 1 p.m. in the west wing of the Noble Family Dining Hall.

“Every Friday during Lent that campus is open we’ve got an opportunity for students to gather and to have conversation that connects them to their Lenten fasting, prayer, their almsgiving with a specifically social justice theme,” Wilson said.

The lunch will provide students a chance to come together and talk about a variety of issues relevant to Catholic Social Thought. Each week a different theme will be presented for students to converse about.

“We did it last year and found out that people liked the opportunity to kind of talk about the various topics, and the fact that they find it enlightening and an opportunity for personal growth to share with one another,” she said.

The first lunch will be held today at noon. According to Wilson, students can arrive at any time before the lunch to participate. Wilson also said students did not have to eat every week, but to come when they could. The first lunch will host a dialogue about fair trade. Junior Laurel Javors will lead the discussion.

“The first one is led by students, and then every other week after that we will have students from various groups on campus who will be leading,” Wilson said. “We have the group that has the Invisible Children, Africa Faith and Justice Club and the Sisters of Neferititi. The topics they are leading are topics that are of interest to that group.”

Other topics of conversation include solidarity, presented on Feb. 26, hunger, presented on March 5, Peace Building, discussed on March 19 and HIV/AIDS, presented on March 26.

Wilson said about six to eight students are expected to attend, though she hopes that more will show interest. Wilson also said a variety of people attend the events.

“It’s fun because people come every week so it’s a different mix of people to come,” Wilson said. Wilson said students enjoy the luncheons.

“People find it enriching for their Lenten journey to share with one another,” she said. “We all think of Lent as an opportunity to improve our lives and to become closer to God. I hope students will take the opportunity to realize that our journey of conversion is what Lent is about.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

SMC students participate in local benefit walk for women

By ALISON MEAGHER

Members of the Saint Mary’s community will be participating in a walk to raise money and awareness for Saint Margaret’s House, a women’s day house in downtown South Bend, Sunday at 2 p.m.

“This walk isn’t only to raise money but also solidarity,” Kathy Schneider, executive director of Saint Margaret’s House, said.

Saint Margaret’s house offers services to impoverished women and children. The organization serves breakfast and hot lunch to women and offers shower facilities, employment help, parenting seminars and health services.

Schneider said the walk will raise money for the operating budget. The money will go towards buying food for meals and clothes to go out to visiters.

The walk is in front of the Stahedral of St. James in downtown South Bend. Registration is free and can be completed online at www.smmargarethouse.org.

Carrie Call, director of the Office of Civic and Social Engagement, said transportation to and from the event can be arranged as long as the office is notified beforehand.

The House’s goal is to raise $50,000 this year through the walk. Major sponsors include the Bank of America, McDonald Physical Therapy and Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center.

Schneider said the majority of funds raised are from individual donations. Another goal of the walk is to promote fellowship.

“The walk is one of the best ways to show solidarity with other women in our community,” Call said. “So many women have to rely on walking in their day-to-day lives.”

In addition to corporate and individual donations, the event teams have formed, including some from the College.

Kelsey FitzGerald, a senior at Saint Mary’s, helped organize a team for the walk. She does clinical work at the House and thought it would be good to support them in more than one way.

“Being an all women’s institution, we need to support all women, but particularly in our community who need help,” FitzGerald said. “Saint Mary’s has taught us about faith in action in our community and women’s rights, and Saint Margaret’s House is a place where we can put not only our faith but our education to practice.”

According to FitzGerald, the team has started twenty members that are all nursing majors. The sociology and psychology departments also have teams participating in the walk.

Hot Chocolate and cookies will be served at the house following the one-mile walk in the cold.

“We encourage everyone to come out and walk a mile in her shoes,” Schneider said. “It’s a fun and important day.”

Saint Margaret’s House and the College will partner in future events, such as offering summer internships to students, having nursing majors assist with health services and participating in future walks.

Contact Alison Meagher at ameagher01@saintmarys.edu

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ILS studies immigrant retirement savings

Special to the Observer

The Center for Migration and Border Studies in the University of Notre Dame’s Institute for Latino Studies has received a $125,000 grant from the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) to investigate how social and cultural factors impact Mexican immigrants’ savings for retirement.

Titled “Understanding and Increasing Mexican Immigrants’ Financial and Retirement Security,” the study will examine how Mexican immigrants prepare for, or do not prepare, for retirement. The research applies a novel, interdisciplinary approach to the study of retirement, combining anthropological and economic theories and methods.

Mexican immigrant workers arrive, rather than other groups to be living in poverty in retirement. Mexican immigrant workers, who comprise one-third of the immigrant workforce, are less likely to be participating in formal retirement savings programs. Even those in the $100,000 to $200,000 income bracket hold an average of $61,293 in retirement accounts compared with $160,626 for all households. Therefore, understanding the dynamic nature of Mexican immigrants’ family structure is crucial in figuring out how to devise communication programs and policies that will help increase the immigrants’ financial literacy and retirement security.

Center director Karen Richman will lead the study along with Teresa Ghiarducci, an economist at the New School for Social Research. Notre Dame’s Center for Migration and Border Studies further understanding of the increasingly significant phenomenon of transnational migration between Latin America and the United States by investigating the political, social, economic and cultural forces that are shaping lives in both sending and receiving communities throughout the continent.

Please recycle The Observer.
NATIONAL NEWS

Cuba immigration talks create mistrust
HAVANA — The last time U.S. diplomats traveled to Havana, they held secret talks with their Cuban counterparts that were hailed as the most significant in decades. Almost nothing has gone right for U.S.-Cuban relations in the five long months since.

U.S. and Cuban department officials sat down with Cuban leaders for immigration talks Friday, the encounter will take place under a cloud of mistrust and dashed hopes. Last year’s hopes that the election of President Barack Obama could mean quicker progress toward ending half-century of U.S.-Cuban enmity now seem a pipe dream.

Mayor of New Orleans turned over to U.S. authorities at the international bridge connecting Matamoros to Brownsville, Texas, Mexico’s attorney general’s office announced.

Zambrada’s father, Ismael “El Mayo” Zambrada, controls the cartel along with Mexico’s most wanted drug lord, Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman, according to law enforcement officials.

Mexican drug suspect’s son sent to U.S.

MEXICO CITY — A man accused of being an influential second-generation member of the Sinaloa drug cartel was extradited from Mexico to the United States on Thursday on charges he helped move tons of cocaine from California to New York and Chicago.

When presented with the decision, Hurd said he didn’t mean to annoy or alarm the Grammy Award-winning R&B singer and her family. He had planned to transfer her after she complained of harassment.

Lee claimed her superiors yelled and made demeaning comments about her and put her through grueling drills without proper safety precautions. She also claimed someone put urine on her desk.

Ashanti fan jailed for text-talking

NEW YORK — A delusional fan who unleashed his crude fantasies about Ashanti in a letter race on Thursday was sentenced Thursday to two years in jail after his initial arrogant defense of his actions. The timing — though in 2007, he broke into the Dalai Lama’s other meetings.

There, he offered Chien for what he called his “children” and “limited” approach to Tibetan efforts for greater rights. He said he expected a negative Chinese reaction to his meeting with Obama.

George H.W. Bush allowed only release after the monk met later with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. This from a president who promised — and in some other ways has delivered — unprecedented transparency in his White House.

The Dalai Lama did meet with reporters outside the White House, playfully toss- ing a bit of snow at them and declaring himself “very happy” with the visit, and had a short news conference at the State Department.

There, he chided China for what he called its “children” and “limited” approach to Tibetan efforts for greater rights. He said he expected a negative Chinese reaction to his meeting with Obama.


Everything about Obama’s meeting with the Dalai Lama was muted.

“The optics of this thing are incredibly important to the Chinese,” said Michael Green, George W. Bush’s senior Asia adviser.

So Obama sat down with his fellow Nobel laureate in the Map Room instead of the Oval Office — a decidedly lower status in the White House venue pecking order. Even the White House description of the talks was done on paper. The timing was a concession, too, as Obama declined to see the Dalai Lama during his Washington stay in October because it would have come before the president’s November China visit.

The president stated his strong support for the preservation of Tibet’s unique religious, cultural and linguistic identity and the protection of human rights for Tibetans in the People’s Republic of China,” White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said after the private meeting that lasted for more than an hour.

LOCAL NEWS

City to start receiving casino revenues

EAST CHICAGO, Ind. — Casino revenues that have been paid directly to East Chicago since 1997 will be paid directly to the city under a proposed settlement, East Chicago Mayor George Pabey announced Thursday.

The Indiana attorney general’s office and the city sued Second Century in 2005, claiming its owners pocketed more than $16 million in casino receipts they had agreed to use for development projects within the city.

Within the Greens, the junior party in Prime Minister Brian Cowen’s coalition government, changed their mind and said O’Dea must go because of the questionable ethics of his conduct, compounded by his initial arrogant defense of his actions.

O’Dea — long renowned as one of the country’s most verbally combative politicians — survived a parliamen- tary vote of no confidence Wednesday on strictly partisan lines.

But within the Greens, the junior party in Prime Minister Brian Cowen’s coalition government, changed their mind and said O’Dea must go because of the questionable ethics of his conduct, compounded by his initial arrogant defense of his actions.

O’Dea made a last plainly bid to stay in office, going live on national radio Thursday to apologize for what he called “a stupid, silly mistake.”

But within the Greens, the junior party in Prime Minister Brian Cowen’s coalition government, changed their mind and said O’Dea must go because of the questionable ethics of his conduct, compounded by his initial arrogant defense of his actions.

Coven had sternly defended his friend hours earlier, but accepted his resignation after meeting Green Party leader John Gormley — and deter- mining that O’Dea’s continued place in Cabinet could destroy Ireland’s 2 1/2-year-old coalition and trigger early elections.

O’Dea told a journalist in March 2009 that Quinlivan was operating a brothel in an apartment he owned in O’Dea’s power base of Limerick, west- ern Ireland.

MINISTER RESIGNS OVER BROTHEL COMMENTS

IRLAND

Minister resigns over brothel comments

DUBLIN — Ireland’s defense minis- ter resigned from his post Thursday after falsely accusing a political rival of running a brothel and then denying in court that he made the slanderous comments.

Defense Minister Willie O’Dea insist- ed his sworn statement did not amount to perjury and insisted it after a journalist produced an audio recording of his brothel claims.

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有助执行相关任务的助手。
Amnesty
continued from page 1

Housing.

“The reality of the situation is that there are people out who have disciplinary records because they have made the choice to help people,” he said.

The resolution will accom-
pand the concerns of recommen-
dations student government makes to the Office of Student Affairs in the case of con-
sidering revisions of du Lac.

Cynthia Weber during the issue is complex, few people discuss the philosophy behind the policy.

“The ideal policy is to make a decision for the person who needs the help,” she said. “(The student) isn’t only thinking about the policy for himself or herself but whether or not the person who needs help is going to get in trouble.”

The medical amnesty policy, as written in the current handbook, would not extend to the student who was in need of assistance if that student broke rules. Senators debated full coverage, but ultimately decided against it.

“The reason why we didn’t add full coverage is that we’re worried the policy would be abused,” Weber said. “We believe that if it is gradually implemented it lessens the possibility for that to happen.”

Schmidt said the policy would ideally be implemented in time for the start of the 2010-11 academic school year.

“We will send this to Fr. Psyche. I believe the Office of Student Affairs and Jeff Shoup at the Office of Residence Life have started in the newly renovated Joyce Student Center. The Gala will feature a cash bar, portrait photogra-
phy, a DJ and dancing.

“It’s a big event,” Reuvers said. “You walk in and it’s kind of like a big cocktail party, with some of the things that parents really like.”

Reuvers gave an intimate view of what their son or daughter is up to [in his or her] college.

Reuvers said one of the most important events of the weekend is Saturday’s President’s Dinner.

“Fr. John Jenkins gives a speech at the dinner, and a lot of other University nota-
bles attending the dinner, including Fr. Bill Lies, Director of the Center for Social Concerns, and Athletic Director Jack Swarbrick,” he said.

Students and their parents have some down time on Saturday evening. Some will head to Rudy’s campus favorites like Rocco’s Ristorante, Fiddler’s Hearth and Corby’s Irish Pub. Others will stick close to campus at Legends of Notre Dame. Aaron Perri, General Manager of Legends of Notre Dame, said that the restaurant and alehouse pub are expect-
ded to experience a surge in business during JPW.

“Most of this [business] comes on Saturday night as Friday night everyone is fairly busy with the Gala,” he said.

Perri also mentioned that Legends has a chocolate-
dessers dinner on the menu called “Junior Parents Weakness.”

The weekend’s festivities will end on Sunday with the Closing Brunch at the Joyce Center. Reuvers said juniors are especially looking for-
ward to Kelly’s speech at the brunch.

“I’m excited to hear [Coach Kelly],” Reuvers said. “He had a trip planned for this weekend and he rearranged his schedule to come to JPW... We didn’t even find out until last Monday that he would be able to attend.”

Junior Ryan Calkin is also looking forward to Kelly as a guest speaker.

“We’ve got a new coach finally and I haven’t actually heard him say anything, so it would be nice to get to know him a little as a person,” he said.

Reuvers said friends have expressed concern that after all the JPW Committee’s hard work, they will be too swamped with tasks this weekend to actually enjoy time with family and friends. Reuvers said as of today, however, the committee’s work is done. The rest of the work will be passed on to a group of about forty sopho-

mores who will help out at each event and make sure that everything runs smoothly.

“I’m really excited for the weekend after all of our efforts we’ve gone through for almost a year... I’m already looking forward to next year,” Reuvers said.

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsen@nd.edu

Contact Liz O’Donnell at eodonnel@nd.edu

Continued from page 1

Staff
continued from page 1

Dressed for the Gala is the Joyce Pavilion, an in-depth piece. Cynthia Weber said while the issue is complex, few people discuss the philosophy behind the policy.

“This policy says we should care about other people before we care about ourselves, and that we will care.”

Cynthia Weber student body vice president

College Cup. A sophomore, Farmer is a Program of Liberal Studies major and a member of the women’s soccer team that won a national championship this year. She also said that her team mates are “very dedicated players.”

“I feel that we’re just having fun doing what we love,” she said.

Another is a French major with a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. He is originally from Enfield, Calif., and is majoring in American Studies with minors in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy and Catholic Social Tradition.

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On Saturday morning the Collegiate Workshops will take place. Each college hosts their own workshop to give parents a taste of their son or daughter’s academic life at Notre Dame. The dean of each respective college wel-
comes parents at the begin-
ning of the workshop, and then the group breaks down into different sections depending on the students’ majors or concentrations.

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mores who will help out at each event and make sure that everything runs smoothly.

“I’m really excited for the weekend after all of our efforts we’ve gone through for almost a year... I’m already looking forward to next year,” Reuvers said.

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsen@nd.edu

Continued from page 1

Farley Hall from Surrey, England.

McClaran, a resident of Bailey Hall, will serve as News editor. When McClaran returned to campus in the fall, the two will serve as co-

news editors. A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Mervosh has written for The Observer and Student government for two years and has covered a vari-
estories including the building of the Iveson study abroad program, a protest against the University’s invitation to President Barack Obama last spring and student govern-
ment policy. She is a Psychology and Arabic double major with a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy.

McClellan is an American Studies major with a French major with a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. He is originally from La Crosse, Wis.

Gambrel will join the Editorial Board as the Scene editor. Gambrel, currently residing in Stillwater, Minn., interviewed Knute Rockne’s grandson for a story about the 1930s film “The Spirit of Notre Dame” for the section. She is from Gulfport, Fla., and is majoring in American Studies with minors in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy and Catholic Social Tradition.

Jacob’s spending the semester participating in New College’s Nicholas Program, but will assume the role of photo editor in the fall. An Industrial Design major from O’Neill Hall, Jacob’s covered a variety of campus events, including the First-Year Events dur-
ning Barack Obama’s 2009 Campaign at the Purcell Pavilion in the spring. He is from Granger, Ind.

Chemical will serve as Graphics editor. She has worked for the department since her freshman year and covered Bengal Bouts, track and field, women’s tennis and this year’s women’s soccer
the company said it lost $4.4 million, or 5
maker for wireless network providers
said Thursday that its second-quarter loss
patient's own immune cells.
other uses, including treating non-Hodgkin's
responded to other cancer drugs.
Each year, about 16,000 people are diagnosed
marrow makes faulty white blood cells that
approved for that condition in Europe.
leukemia in adults, Rituxan is already
CLL for short. The second-most common
blood cancer drug Rituxan was approved

For the three months that ended Jan. 31,
plant's manager. "Now we're here
were wondering whether we were
since GM was in bankruptcy. We
bankruptcy restructuring.
last year as part of the automaker's
million investment, company offi-
"It's only been about eight months
for, "essentially rewriting
the settlement to give it
might violate antitrust laws.
Department was continuing
saying the Justice
Cavanaugh took his swings,
General William F.
Deputy Assistant Attorney
rounds."
**Boxing**

continued from page 1

when he asks prospective fighters when they could make the trip to workout at his gym in Houston, they typically offer non-committal responses of “next week” or “next month.”

"He said, ‘I can come tomorrow. I’m ready to go,’" Shields said. "I told him this is my job. I love the sport of boxing and I take it very seriously, so I want you to do the same ... I’m going to make you work hard, and he said I’m willing, I’m able and I’m ready to do it.”

Shields said Lee followed through on that promise from Day 1, when "he was there for the whole time" through a tough opening workout on Monday.

"Normally when I get a guy the first time, he can’t hang with me on the hand pads because I push them real hard," Shields said.

Lee said his typical day now begins at 5 a.m. and includes 6 a.m. cardio workouts, a few hours of sparring in the early afternoon and, on some days, strength and conditioning work at night.

"It’s a full day," Lee said. Those who know Lee know he can withstand those physical tests — it’s what boxers have to do, said former Irish football captain and current Baltimore Ravens safety Tom Zbikowski.

"It’s a big day for this University to have a kid going into professional boxing because you can’t be forced to fight no matter where you come from," said Zbikowski, who scored a first-round knockout in his only professional fight with Top Rank. "Mama can’t tell you to do it, brother can’t tell you to do it, sister can’t tell you to do it. It’s something that you’ve got inside, and Mike’s got that, regardless of his background."

"There’s no doubt Lee is a unique figure in the boxing world, and he said his Notre Dame background, and especially his relationship with the Bengal Bouts, is going to continue. “I knew that although I left Notre Dame and I had just graduated, Notre Dame is one of those schools that will never leave me,” Lee said. “So I’m very proud and excited to say that I plan on donating and giving back percentage of my fight proceeds and sponsorship proceeds to the Holy Cross Missions of Bangladesh.”

His January trip to Bangladesh “opened my eyes,” Lee said, and it made it apparent that he needed to use his professional career “as a platform to give back.”

Current Bengal Bouts co-champion Chris Cugliari said Lee’s presence in professional boxing will hold value for the future of the Notre Dame program and, more importantly, for the future of the Holy Cross Missions.

“You or he’s never seen somebody from the Bengal Bouts really take the boxing world by storm like this, so it’s great to see one of our own make it big,” Cugliari said. “I think Mike can have a huge impact in generating awareness of the Holy Cross Missions and the impact we can have.”

If one thing becomes clear from hearing Lee speak, or from hearing others speak about him, it is that his passion for the sport gives him more than just a fighting chance. And while he has a lot of work before his professional debut, scheduled for May 29 at the UIC Pavilion in Chicago, those close to him are excited about what lies ahead.

“If you have the opportunity to come out and support Mike, because I really have a feeling that his career is going to really take off, Arum said. “And there’s nothing like seeing a career right from the beginning. So what can those tuning in to see a professional debut expect?“I know by May 29th I’m going to be a machine.” Lee said. “I have one goal, and that’s win that fight.”

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

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**Professor selected for Fulbright**

Gurulé, member of Law faculty, will spend Spring 2011 semester in Chile

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame Professor of Law Jimmy Gurulé will spend the Spring 2011 semester in Chile as a Fulbright scholar. Gurulé will conduct field research on Chile’s legal system and human rights abuses committed during the Pinochet regime. He will work from the University of Chile Law School in Santiago.

Several years ago, I visited Chile and was impressed. It’s one of the most economically developed countries in South America, yet it has been scarred by many years of human rights abuses committed during the military rule of the late Pinochet regime. President Aylwin has taken steps to hold persons accountable for serious international crimes and has asked for international support and assistance in bringing those responsible to justice. "Chile is one of the most economically developed countries in South America, but it has a chequered past." Jimmy Gurulé, Professor of Law

Notre Dame has strong ties to Latin America and the courses have been able to avoid the application of Amnesty Law No. 2,191, which was enacted by Pinochet to grant amnesty to all those responsible for criminal acts committed from September 11, 1973 to March 10, 1978 — a period of brutal violence by Pinochet's military. "It was intended to be a stay out of jail free card for Pinochet and members of his administration," says Gurulé. "But the courts and courts of Justice have found creative ways to hold people accountable for the crimes during that period of time.”

Gurulé plans to write a book about what he learns from his Fulbright research, focusing on Chile’s approach to avoiding impunity and ensuring accountability for serious international crimes. Gurulé is an internationally known expert in the field of international criminal law, terrorism law, anti-money laundering, and anti-terror financing law. He is the author of "Unfunding Terror: The Legal Response to the Financing of Global Terrorism." He is currently working on "Principles of Terrorism Law," which is scheduled to be published by Thomson West. As Under Secretary for Terrorism Enforcement in the U.S. Department of the Treasury (2001-2003), Gurulé had oversight responsibilities for the U.S. Secret Service, the Bureau of Engraving Service, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (BATF), the Financial Analysis and Terrorist Enforcement Network (FinCEN), Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC). He also served as Assistant Attorney General in the U.S. Department of Justice (1983-1989) and as Assistant U.S. Attorney, and as Deputy Chief of the Major Narcotics Section of the Los Angeles U.S. Attorney’s Office (1985-1989).
Cavanaugh ping-pong tournament supports Haiti relief

By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Writer

The women of Cavanaugh Hall held a unique event last Saturday when they hosted a ping-pong tournament to raise funds for the relief efforts in Haiti.

The idea of a ping-pong tournament surfaced when Liz Young and Lindsey McAlarnen, juniors and Cavanaugh service commissioners, were brainstorming ideas for a hall fundraiser for Haiti.

“Our rector came up with the idea of a ping-pong tournament awhile ago as a fundraiser for Cuba, which is where her family is from,” Young said. “She let us use the idea to support Haiti, but from now on the tournament will be our signature event supporting Haiti.”

The event raised $650 overall, a figure that includes the sale of T-shirts, baked goods and raffle tickets. Prizes included Chipotle and Starbucks gift cards and a soccer ball signed by the men’s soccer team.

Most of the funds raised at the tournament will go to a group of 16 South Bend physicians who journeyed to Haiti for ten days to provide sterile supplies, tools and equipment to a hospital in the recovering nation. Four of the group members are physicians for the Notre Dame athletic teams, and their involvement in the trip provided a way for funds raised to go directly to Haiti.

“Lindsey [McAlarnen] is a student athletic trainer, so she found out about the physician group from the team doctors,” Young said. “The group was very appreciative of our donation because the Notre Dame community hadn’t reached out to them yet.”

The remainder of the funds raised will support an Haitian orphanage.

Taking the top prize in women’s singles was senior Colleen Walter, while Lindsey Zimmerman and Erinne Ndukwe, a duo of senior resident assistants, beat out the competition in women’s doubles. Cavanaugh junior Mo Mathias and her partner Ross Goetz, a junior from Zahm, prevailed in mixed doubles.

“It was the first time we had the tournament and we were unsure about the turnout, so we wanted to keep it contained to Cavanaugh,” Young said.

Mathias said the tournament was comprised of three separate brackets: women’s singles, women’s doubles and mixed doubles. In addition, the prize for bracket winners was a ping-pong paddle signed by former University President Fr. Hesburgh.

However, each participating team was required to include at least one Cavanaugh resident.

“It was a really fun and creative way to raise money for Haiti,” Walter said. “I was impressed by the number of good ping-pong players in Cavanaugh, but it was also exciting to win such a great prize.”

Although the event attracted several competitive players, a few participants took the tournament a little less seriously.

“There were some intense people who brought their own paddles,” Young said. “Other people dressed up in neon outfits with crazy makeup.”

However, the overall consensus was that the event was a great success.

“The tournament was really fun. The games were fun, the music was great, and the baked goods were delicious,” Mathias said. “It should definitely happen again next year.”

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Lisa Everett and family life

In 2005, the World Health Organization classified contrac-
tceptive as a Group 1 carcinogen (“sus-
ficient evidence of carcinogenicity in humans”). In April 2009, a study found by the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center found a 270 percent increase in the risk of triple negative breast cancer among those who used oral contraceptives while under age 18, and a 220 per-
cent increase among recent users of oral contraceptives (within one to five years). “Then there is the biochemistry. Part of sexual chemistry is based on pheromones, chemical scent signals that are also an external manifestation of the immune system. A study in Psychology Today found that women were attracted by smell to the T-shirts worn by men whose pheromones indicated a comple-
ture of immune system, with a significa-
t difference among women on the pill. “Then there is the biochemistry. Part of sexual chemistry is based on pheromones, chemical scent signals that are also an external manifestation of the immune system. A study in Psychology Today found that women were attracted by smell to the T-shirts worn by men whose pheromones indicated a comple-
ture of immune system, with a significa-
t difference among women on the pill.

“At another level, the scent of the husband smells.

“Then there is the biochemistry. Part of sexual chemistry is based on pheromones, chemical scent signals that are also an external manifestation of the immune system. A study in Psychology Today found that women were attracted by smell to the T-shirts worn by men whose pheromones indicated a comple-
ture of immune system, with a significa-
t difference among women on the pill.

“The Past is to be respected and acknowledged, but not to be worshipped. It is our future in which we will find our greatness.

Pierre Trudeau
Canadian politician
I would like to applaud the efforts of the Irish Men’s Basketball team in Wednesday night’s heartbreaking loss to Louisville. I admit that my first reaction to the final buzzer sounding was anger and doubt. I won- dered if the team was truly world class, if they could ever find a way to win a championship. As I write this, I want the reader to see the game for what it was (other than an inconsistent display of refereeing).

The four years I have been here have been a roller coaster of hard-court emotions. In 2004, we had high expectations. Our team was composed of the nation’s longest winning streak. Men’s basketball slowly became wor- thy of a massive jump in student ticket prices because it was a fun sport to watch. The team’s success was based on the hard work of many players who used to hate sports with a passion. In my opinions, the team manages to earn the “decent living” that Catholics believe in, as a testimony to the players’ resilience and hard work. We lost, but even the announcers could not help rooting for us.

I was worried that our team would be horri- ble next year without Jackson and Harangody (in that order). But tonight proved to me that we will be competitive, if not pretty good. The players who kept us in the game tonight were not the ones who got to play in the court next year and for the next few seasons. Thank you for making Notre Dame basketball exciting to watch. I’d rather be disappointed in a team that lost on the road to a perennial powerhouse than win in the face to workers’ dignity, Mr. Easley, as is your rights to “decent living” that Catholics believe in, as a chance in the first place. Go out and win the rest of our regular season games — starting with Pitt! Win two or three games in the Big East tournament. Make it difficult for the selection committee to leave us out.

Mr. Easley’s letter (“Words of wisdom,” Feb. 18) was one of my four favorite letters to the editor this year. It does, however, taken more ideas than you might expect. A call to the American ideal of working hard to a lead a decent life is admirable and inspiring, but does not truly work! I use this definitively say yes or no, but based on the opportunities and intelligence I see in those around me, including the students who attend this university, in comparison with the rest of the population, I can imagine the percentage of people who work hard, without benefit of opportunity and intelligence, to end up in a position that is less than one of my equals.

The question is then raised, what is decent liv- ing? When, if at all, do we have a right to decent living? For all of those who agree with the individual selfishness and disregard for those who are not only less fortunate than many students here, but for those who continue to be taken advantage of in a system that does not fairly compensate all of its employees for their lives of hard work is purely astounding.

Call me socialist or whatever other biting leftist epithet you can think of, but the fact contradicts the notion that this university is a place where every employee earns a chance in the first place. Go out and win the rest of our regular season games — starting with Pitt! Win two or three games in the Big East tournament. Make it difficult for the selection committee to leave us out.

Mr. Easley does an admirable job of recognizing that work has dignity in the closing words of his letter, but less so in recognizing the rights and dignity, a dignity that includes wages satisfying the basic needs for food, clothing, shelter, education, security and rest; not all of which are met at the poverty wage, even if a person is not working alone, or working more than one job. Regarding to a wage increase, to a paycheck that is more in line with the “decent living” that Catholics believe in, as a chance in the first place. Go out and win the rest of our regular season games — starting with Pitt! Win two or three games in the Big East tournament. Make it difficult for the selection committee to leave us out.

I was worried that our team would be horri- ble next year without Jackson and Harangody (in that order). But tonight proved to me that we will be competitive, if not pretty good. The players who kept us in the game tonight were not the ones who got to play in the court next year and for the next few seasons. Thank you for making Notre Dame basketball exciting to watch. I’d rather be disappointed in a team that lost on the road to a perennial powerhouse than win in the face to workers’ dignity, Mr. Easley, as is your questioning of the right to live at a certain level. This is a discussion of people “getting ahead.” One shouldn’t have to sacrifice anything in order to live a self-sufficient life.

As students who organized the poetry reading in the lounge of McKenna Hall on Saturday, we would like to clarify what took place. When we saw the Edith Stein Conference schedule, we became con- cerned that the panel on “Homosexuality and Identity” was assert- ing a one-dimensional view of the relationship between Catholicism and homosexuality, and that it did not give space to other voices which are trying to enter this debate.

We decided to read queer poetry by established and emerging poets, such as Akilah Oliver, Allen Ginsberg, Anne Waldman, Carol Ann Duffy, John Wieners, Shane Allison and Walt Whitman — all of whom take very different aesthetic approaches. We also asked people to bring poems and to read them aloud. This was our way to affirm LGBT identities and desires.

In the e-mail which we had circulated just the previous day invit- ing people to join the reading, we had made it clear that we would read for half an hour before the panel, that we wanted a dialogue with Molena Solms and the other two panelists, and that we would be attending the lecture/panel to listen to their views. Our intention was not to disrupt the panel but to make ourselves heard, to expand the boundaries of the conversation around homosexuality. Thus, when we were informed that the lecture was about to begin, we once again invited everybody present to attend the panel with us.

Any “young children” we saw at the protest were pre-verbal, we certainly had not expected children to be present at a frank, intel- lectual discussion.

We would like to thank all the organizers of the Edith Stein Conference for enabling this much needed conversation, and hope that this dialogue will continue on the Notre Dame campus in a rig- orous, thoughtful, inclusive manner.

As loyal members of the Leprechaun Legion, we have decided that the mediocrity of Notre Dame Men’s Basketball must be uncovered. For too long now, Notre Dame Basketball has been anything but impressive. The Irish basketball squad has made one Final Four appearance in its entire history. The team has not made it past the Sweet 16 in 29 years. Fourteen of those years, they did not even get invited to the tournament. We are one of the largest programs in the Big East. Our facilities are improving, but still not state-of-the-art.

Fundamentals have taken a backseat to offensive showboating. Neither heart nor defense exists, as seen from our recent losses to Rutgers, Seton Hall, St. John’s and Louisville. The only players that show any amount of well-rounded talent are Troy Jackson, as alum- nam Joe Scherril aptly stated in his opinion “Celebrate Troy Jackson,” and the freshmen, who show more heart than some of our senior captains. To those that actually care about Notre Dame basket- ball, like we do, shouldn’t we find it odd that only the football pro- gram changes direction after three to five years of mediocrity? Would it not make sense for the basketball program to do the same?

Granted, Mike Brey has done a remarkable job attempting to build the program. He has the second best winning percentage of current Big East coaches and has been named Big East Coach of the Year twice. These are three very impressive statistics for Coach Brey. However, if he would like to continue his one-man offense, the New Jersey Nets are calling. There, he can draft Luke Harangody and continue to pursue his dreams of winning. It is time for the Irish Men’s Basketball Team to host the NCAA Championship Trophy, or at least make it back into the “Madness.”

For all of those who agree with the individu- alistic, personally advantageous, and money grubbing opinions of Mark Easley (“Words of wisdom,” Feb. 18), I encourage you to remem- ber the Catholic values you hold so dearly and do not find it odd that only the football pro- gram changes direction after three to five years of mediocrity? Would it not make sense for the basketball program to do the same? Granted, Mike Brey has done a remarkable job attempting to build the program. He has the second best winning percentage of current Big East coaches and has been named Big East Coach of the Year twice. These are three very impressive statistics for Coach Brey. However, if he would like to continue his one-man offense, the New Jersey Nets are calling. There, he can draft Luke Harangody and continue to pursue his dreams of winning. It is time for the Irish Men’s Basketball Team to host the NCAA Championship Trophy, or at least make it back into the “Madness.”
Since U Been Gone/Maps — Ted Leo and the Pharmacists

We already mentioned a cover of one of these songs, but I guess that Clarkson’s original was just so sweet it merits two! The Yeah Yeah Yeahs recorded the second half of this acoustic two-fer by Ted Leo, who has been touring with The Pharmacists since 1999. The mash-up works well, as Leo has the skill to seamlessly transition from one song to another, and the pure acoustic take on each brings out whole new feelings for each song. If that doesn’t do it for you, Leo is also a Notre Dame grad, so double bonus points that.

Love Rollercoaster — Red Hot Chili Peppers

What happens when you cross a classic disco song, one of the most successful bands of the last two decades, and the Beavis and Butt-head movie? An awesome funk/rock cover song, duh. This cover was recorded by the Chili Peppers for the movie soundtrack to “Beavis and Butt-head Do America,” so it does not appear on any of their studio albums. The original was recorded by the Ohio Players, and it is most definitely an awesome disco song in its own right, but the Chili Peppers’ version takes the classic and somehow manages to elevate it to epic-ness.

Fluorescent Adolescent — Kate Nash

The British speak-songstress, often compared (perhaps unnecessarily) to Lily Allen, covers fellow Brits Arctic Monkeys’ “Fluorescent Adolescent” in a live recording from 2007. Nash’s version is just a little bit lighter, faster and more upbeat than the original, and her unique voice and musical style give it a little extra oomph that makes it hold itself up well against the Arctic Monkeys’ classic.

Yellow — Jem

Jem’s cover of “Yellow,” originally done by Coldplay, provides a completely different sound for the pop hit. Even though Coldplay’s original is seemingly very down-tempo, Jem sets it with light piano accompaniment, making the lyrics far more intimate and giving it a very vulnerable tone. Turning the lyrics around and having them come from a woman instead of a man also makes this song appropriately separate from the original, and its own piece.

Womanizer — Lily Allen

While Britney Spears’ “Womanizer” is fun, catchy and dance-party friendly, Lily Allen’s slowed-down version has a heavier weight to it. Her superior vocals and stripped-down quality lend the song more authenticity than Spears’ mass-produced pop. Allen’s trademark cheekiness present in all of her songs is also more suitable to “Womanizer’s” scolding message.

Use Somebody — Paramore

Kings of Leon’s “Someone Like You” had barely hit the airwaves before Paramore’s acoustic cover took over YouTube. The raw recording of Hayley William’s voice above an acoustic guitar in the Live Lounge spurred many a negative comment, mostly for covering a song so recent. It manages, though, to be different enough to garner its own sort of respect, and brings a new tenderness to the song.

Under Pressure — My Chemical Romance and The Used

When David Bowie and Queen did this the first time, it was epic. When My Chemical Romance and The Used joined up to cover “Under Pressure,” it was suitably emo but still entertaining. Freddie Mercury would probably approve of Gerard Way’s wailing chorus, even if this version doesn’t do much to put a new spin on the song.

This Week’s Mix

1. “Since U Been Gone/Maps” — Ted Leo and the Pharmacists
2. “Love Rollercoaster” — Red Hot Chili Peppers
3. “Fluorescent Adolescent” — Kate Nash
4. “Yellow” — Jem
5. “Womanizer” — Lily Allen
6. “Use Somebody” — Paramore
7. “Under Pressure” — My Chemical Romance and The Used
8. “Since U Been Gone/Maps” — Ted Leo and the Pharmacists
9. “Whatever You Want” — DJ Quicksilver
10. “Let the Beat Build” — The Jazz Girls
11. “Naïve” — Lily Allen
12. “You Belong With Me” — Taylor Swift
13. “Satisfaction” — The Rolling Stones
14. “Hounds of Love” — Kate Bush

If this week had your number, make sure to check this page out at www.ndsmobserver.com for more music and go see The Observer next Friday.
Since U Been Gone — Mark Ronson and Florence Welch  
*Originally by Kelly Clarkson*

Brits Mark Ronson and Florence Welch take on American Idol Kelly Clarkson’s biggest hit as an acoustic number featuring Welch on vocals and Ronson on guitar. Welch’s unconventional and imperfect vocals may initially shock those used to Ms. Clarkson’s careening pop voice, but she seems oddly at home on this mid-2000s standard. Beloved as the original is, this cover deserves a listen, as it not only pays homage to Clarkson, but also creates something entirely new out of it as well.

Whatever You Like — Anya Marina  
*Originally by T.I.*

This cover of the T.I. song starts off with Marina’s little-girl voice, and it sure sounds like some self-consciously precious background music for “Gossip Girl” (which it was, for an episode last fall). With unmistakable lines like “stacks on deck, Patron on ice,” it’s difficult not to sing along with this deliciously ironic remake.

Let the Beat Build — Nyle  
*Originally by Lil Wayne*

New York University college rapper Nyle took the hook from Lil Wayne’s song and repurposed it with the help of about 40 of his classmates, recording the audio track and video together in one take. While the song itself veers away from Lil Wayne’s lyrics (such as when Nyle raps “we don’t need no samples, got a girl with a banjo”), the humane does serve as a great basic for a frankly amazing clip, which has racked up thousands of hits on YouTube.

Naive — Lily Allen  
*Originally by The Kooks*

Lilly Allen tackles Brit-import The Kooks’ “Naive,” turning the indie hit into a fluffier tune, done in Allen’s typical nonchalant, light pop style. It sounds almost nothing like the original, but does it justice just the same. It relies almost solely on Allen’s vocals and a little guitar, very unlike the rock tune, but is a great testament to the versatility of the kooks’ lyrics and harmonies.

You Belong With Me — Butch Walker and the Black Widows  
*Originally by Taylor Swift*

We have all tried to resist singing along with Taylor Swift’s “You Belong With Me,” but it is pretty much impossible. Butch Walker’s folkier version captures this catchiness but makes the song actually enjoyable and fun to listen to. Switching out a few lyrics and adding a mandolin, Walker’s cover is endlessly listenable. Be ready to sing along without feeling any guilt.

Satisfaction — Cat Power  
*Originally by The Rolling Stones*

It takes a certain amount of guts to cover a song when you know for certain that there is no possible way to outperform the original. Instead, most bands just play the best tribute they can. Cat Power took the opposite route when covering The Rolling Stones’s iconic “Satisfaction.” Dropping the universally known opening riff as well as the well-worn chorus, Chan Marshall makes the song near unrecognizable. Marshall reverses the tone but creates a reflection on the meaning that can only be understood in light of the 35-year difference between the recordings.

Hounds of Love — The Futureheads  
*Originally by Kate Bush*

Covers have become the stomping grounds of ironic hipsters. Take a song that’s not cool, play it, and at worst you can all laugh about how uncool the song is. The correct way to do it is to take a song you love and try to make it better. The Futureheads, a young, punkish foursome from Sutherland, did just that with Kate Bush’s “Hounds of Love,” the guitar driven, semi-a cappella rendition of Bush’s 1986 minor hit. It tops the original not only in style but also on the charts.

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OLYMPICS

Lindsey Vonn crashes. German rival benefits

Associated Press

WHISTLER, British Columbia — For all the worry about her famously injured shin, it was a common skiing mistake that ended Lindsey Vonn’s bid for a second Olympic medal in two days.

Though Vonn’s bruised right leg felt a bit “slippery,” she suffered a global sprain in her left, and she simply failed to get her ski around a right-hand gate and fell at the finish, finishing 0.33 behind Riesch in the combined downhill, run on a shortened course with the final jum ped down shorted after a series of ugly crashes Wednesday. She got too much air in a small jump before the halfway point and veered momentarily off course before correcting her race line.

Mancuso moved up a place in the super-combined after finishing her slalom run and then fell back on the snow, her shin badly bruised. She simply failed to get her ski around a right-hand gate and fell at the finish, finishing 0.33 behind Riesch in the combined downhill, run on a shortened course with the final jum ped down shorted after a series of ugly crashes Wednesday. She got too much air in a small jump before the halfway point and veered momentarily off course before correcting her race line.

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NBA

McGrady deal to Knicks

Associated Press

The Cleveland Cavaliers hope they took another step toward keeping LeBron James. The New York Knicks are in better position for a run at him—and a second superstar, too.

And they aren’t the only team lining up to try and become a summer spender.

They acquired forward Antawn Jamison on Wednesday in a deal that could make the Eastern Conference leaders even stronger.

“We’re trying to build a franchise that all players want to be part of, that can have sustainable success and do things at a high level,” general manager Danny Ferry said. “Clearly Lebron’s an important player for us to remain competitive in the East, for the Cavaliers. It’s all around winning, too. Antawn can help us win. We’re excited what he can bring us over the next few years —.

The Knicks can afford a run at James, and they have a deal one in the class that could include Eddy Curry and Chris Bosh. By including Jared Jeffries in the deal for McGrady, whose $22.5 million contract for next season may mean the Rockets will have to pay to gain flexibility and in nothing that compares to it. And they aren’t the only team lining up to try and become a summer spender.

Chicago also couple deal John Salmons to Milwaukee for Hakim Warrick and Joe Alexander, whose contracts also are expiring.

“Once the price has been paid to gain flexibility and in a lot of cases, it was very, very high. You’ve got to do something to compete. “Bulls GM Gar Forman says. “That’s why I think we feel so good today that we kept the nucleus intact, our starting lineup intact, and yet gained the type of flexibility that we wanted to gain to make that next step, then the team that was really I can do. We just have to try to stay healthy and try to touch it out today, and then tomorrow will be a good day off,” she said.

Vonn said her downhill run in the morning was solid but she struggled in the slalom, energy, less than 24 hours after an emotionally exhausting victory in her signature event.

“It was a long, long day yesterday, and I didn’t get as much rest as I was hoping for,” she said. “Especially with my shin, I need a little bit more time and therapy to try it to get it feel better.

We’re excited what he can bring us over the next few years —.

The Knicks can afford a run at James, and they have a deal one in the class that could include Eddy Curry and Chris Bosh. By including Jared Jeffries in the deal for McGrady, whose $22.5 million contract for next season may mean the Rockets will have to pay to gain flexibility and in nothing that compares to it. And they aren’t the only team lining up to try and become a summer spender.

Chicago also couple deal John Salmons to Milwaukee for Hakim Warrick and Joe

Alexander, whose contracts also are expiring.

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Tiger Woods will speak at 11 a.m. today about his recent affair. The appearance, which will take place at the TPC Sawgrass clubhouse, will be his first public appearance in three months and will air on several networks.

Associated Press

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Tiger Woods’ first public appearance in three months already is shaping up as a national event.

Tight security restricted access on the road that leads to the TPC Sawgrass clubhouse, where Woods is to speak at 11 a.m. EST Friday for the first time since his Nov. 27 accident that set off sordid revelations of infidelity.

Newrooms reworked their programming and, by Thursday afternoon, seven satellite trucks had already parked outside the Sawgrass Marriott. The parking lot last saw this kind of activity five years ago — for media day at the Super Bowl between the New England Patriots and Philadelphia Eagles.

All because Woods — surely one of the world’s most-recognized athletes — is about to re-emerge surely one of the world’s most-recognized athletes — is about to re-emerge and say something in person regarding his future and his past.

The public hasn’t had a clean look at Woods’ face since photos Wednesday of him jogging in his neighborhood outside Orlando.

Far more compelling will be the sound of his voice. Woods has not been heard in the 78 days since a magazine released a voice-mail he allegedly left one of the women to whom he has been romantically linked, warning that Woods’ wife might be calling.

Instead of going on “Oprah” or another national television show to break the ice, Woods essentially will be speaking to the lone camera allowed in the room. It will be televised via satellite.

Three networks — ABC, CBS and NBC — will carry the statement live. ESPN will have it live on all its platforms, including Internet streaming, radio and mobile. The Golf Channel will start coverage at 10:30 a.m. — call it a 30-minute pregame show.

Almost as intriguing is which “friends, colleagues and close associates” will be in the Sunset Room on the second floor of the Mediterranean-style clubhouse at the TPC Sawgrass.

PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem, who made the clubhouse available and is offering logistical help, has said he would attend, and as many as four other members of his executive staff will be in the room.

Everyone else will congregate at the Sawgrass Marriott to watch on short circuit. The adjacent ballrooms looked ready to hold a Super Bowl party, with flat-screen TVs along the walls and a large video screen in the center of the room.

IN BRIEF

Angels, Erick Aybar agree to one-year deal

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Infielder Erick Aybar and the Los Angeles Angels agreed Thursday to a $2.05 million, one-year contract that avoided a salary arbitration hearing.

Aybar batted .321 with five homers and 58 RBIs last season. He can earn an additional $100,000 in performance bonuses: $50,000 each for 575 and 625 plate appearances.

Aybar was seeking a $2.75 million deal after making $460,000 last year. The Angels countered with an offer of $1.8 million.

His agreement came Thursday as Angels pitchers and catchers reported to spring training in Arizona.

Angels catcher Jeff Mathis had his hearing, asking for a raise from $450,000 to $1.3 million. Los Angeles argued that he should be paid $780,000.

A decision by arbitrators Eliott Shifman, Steven Wolf and Margaret Brogan is expected by Friday.

NHL hires Vincent as VP of player development

NEW YORK — The NHL named former All-Pro cornerback Troy Vincent vice president of player development for active players on Thursday.

Vincent, who will join the league office on February 22, was a five-time Pro Bowler who played for Miami, Philadelphia, Buffalo and Washington and was president of the NFL Players Association for four years until March 2008.

He will oversee a broad array of support programs for players and their families, including the Rookie Symposium, Conduct Management Program and LifeSkills, and will work on new programs that will address the needs and concerns of incoming and current NFL players.

“I appreciate this opportunity to continue to be involved in the NFL with active players and tomorrow’s NFL athletes,” Vincent said in a statement from the NFL.

Bills shocked by RT Butler’s retirement

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Buffalo Bills starting right tackle Brad Butler announced his retirement on Thursday. The news comes as a surprise to the Bills after the 26-year-old Butler just completed only his fourth NFL season.

Bills head coach in government studies at Virginia, and spent the 2008 off-season interning at Kemp Partners in Washington DC with former and late Bills greats quarterback and congressman Jack Kemp.

“Monday is our education, community and something that I am ready to devote my full attention to,” he said in a statement released by the team. “I believe the best way to pursue these spheres of interest is to step away from the game of football at this point in my life.”

Butler started all but two of the 33 career games he played in after being drafted in the fifth round of the 2006 draft.

on the dial

NBA

Mavericks at Magic

8 p.m., ESPN

NHL

Devils at Sharks

10:30 p.m., Versus
U.S. defeats Norway by comfortable margin

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — The U.S. hockey team took nearly all 60 minutes for the U.S. hockey team to get the blowout it wanted.

Nurturing a two-goal lead for much of the final two periods, the Americans broke it open against Norway on Thursday when it took only three minutes for Norway's Marius Holtet scored twice in the final three minutes of a 6-1 victory.

The Americans had first-period goals, Patrick Kane stretched the lead to 3-0 at 5:52. But Miller was beaten instead of shooting, he tried to pass to Zach Parise at the left point and charged to the net as Andersen. The second was a prime scoring chances for Jonas Anderson. The second was a one-timer from the right circle that eluded goalie, who U.S. coach Ron Hextall had Miller darting across the crease.

Rafalski finished the late outburst in the last minute. After winning only once in six games (1-4-1) four years ago in Turin, the United States will have a chance to capture Group A with a victory over heavily seeded 11th in the 12-team tournament to back seldom-seen-u

The Americans' top line consisting of Patrick Kane, Phil Kessel and Chris Drury have leg cramps. Their team will try to get its legs back in sync. Kane made a nifty move deep in the zone to get around a defender, drawing ooohs from the crowd. But instead of shooting, he tried to pass to captain Jamie Langenbrunner on his left wing. The puck missed its target, and Holtet led 2-0-1 rush the other way. Holtet zipped a drive from the right circle that eluded Miller's blocker and found its way in off the post at 8:57 to bring Norway within 3-1.

Miller made four saves, and a few minutes remaining came shortly after Olympic swimming great Michael Phelps left his ringside seat. Rafalski finished the late outburst in the last minute. After winning only once in six games (1-4-1) four years ago in Turin, the United States will have a chance to capture Group A with a victory over heavily favored Canada on Sunday.

With only a 3-1 victory Tuesday over Switzerland, the U.S. was in danger of tiebreaker problems should it fall to Canada. Four teams clinch spots in the quarterfinals, while the other four countries will play for the other four spots. Goal differential is a key tiebreaker, so lopsided wins are beneficial.

The Americans held a 15-2 shots advantage through the first period and 23-9 after 40 minutes. But Miller was beaten for a short-handed goal by Marius Holtet in the second. That gave the Norwegians, seeded 11th in the 12-team tournament, something to celebrate after an 8-0 loss in their opener to Canada on Tuesday night.

Chants of "USA USA" broke out less than 20 seconds in and before the Americans recorded their first shot. Unlike Wednesday, when ABBA music was played during stoppages of Sweden's game against Germany, U.S. players got Bruce Springsteen, John Denver, Bon Jovi—were on the playlist.

Not to be outdone, many fans decked out in red—Norway and Canada varieties—stood and supported for the decided underdogs.

The Americans' top line connected in the second period for its first goal. Kane slipped a pass to Zach Parise at the left point and charged to the net as the New Jersey Devils' forward fired a shot. Pal Grotne, who despite allowing four goals called the loss to Canada the best game he ever played, left a big rebound off his pad that Kane steered into the open side, making it 3-0.

Grotne didn't finish the game against Canada and was said to have leg cramps. The U.S. had numerous chances to put the game away, but never got it in sync. Kane made a nifty move deep in the zone to get around a defender, drawing ooohs from the crowd. But instead of shooting, he tried to pass to captain Jamie Langenbrunner on his left wing. The puck missed its target, and Holtet led 2-0-1 rush the other way. Holtet zipped a drive from the right circle that eluded Miller's blocker and found its way in off the post at 8:57 to bring Norway within 3-1.

Miller was better with 4-22 remaining in the period when he did the splits to stop a redirected shot off the stick of Anders Bastiansen that barely caught his pad before it could find its way into the net. The Buffalo Sabres star goalie, who U.S. coach Ron Wilson said will start every game barring something drastic, faced only two shots in the game barring something drastic.

The Americans improved to 2-0 in the tournament, something to celebrate after an 8-0 loss in their opener to Canada on Tuesday night.

Phil Kessel scored twice, and John Tavares had a goal and an assist. The U.S. was in danger of tiebreaker problems should it fall to Norway, which has been outscored 14-1 in two games.

"We are still investigating," he said. "We won't make any assumptions until we finish our investigation." McEakhirn hockey coach Kyle Heckman said while Bennett excelled on the football field—he rushed for more than 1,800 yards and 28 touchdowns last season—he also led an exemplary life outside of sports.

"He was an All-State football player, but he was a better person," he said. "He touched the lives of thousands." Bennett picked Vanderbilt over other schools because he felt it would help better prepare him for life after football.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with his mother Narjakehta and family members," he said. "I know he meant so much to them."

Bennett, a native of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., had an outsized reputation at McEachern, a sprawling school on the outskirts of west Atlanta that sports a football field in the middle of campus.

"We have a population of 2,200 kids, and when you're Rajaan Bennett, you touch the lives of all 2,000," said principal Regina Montgomery, who added that counselors will be on hand to help students.

More than 100 hundred students gathered at a somber candleight vigil in the pavement surrounding a park near the school, singing songs and sharing stories about Bennett. A poster sat near the middle of the vigil that read: "God only takes the best."
The NBA

**Nets to move to Newark**

Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — The New Jersey Nets are going to play in Newark, at least for the next two seasons.

The NBA team reached a deal with the state to move their regular-season games to Newark's Prudential Center until their new arena is built in Brooklyn.

Under the deal, the Nets will pay a $4 million penalty over two years to get out of their lease at the Izod Center in East Rutherford, their home since 1981.

The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority voted to approve the deal Thursday morning. Details of the arrangement were announced Thursday afternoon by Gov. Chris Christie's office.

"This is a good agreement for the Nets and a good agreement for New Jersey," said Jon Hanson, who chairs a governor's gaming, sports, and entertainment commission and who worked on the deal.

The Nets plan to finish the current season at the Izod Center and move to "The Rock" in downtown Newark for the 2010-11 and the 2011-12 seasons.

The agreement reached Thursday includes a non-disparagement between Izod and Prudential, with the Newark arena focusing on sports and the Izod Center concentrating on concerts and family shows.

As part of the agreement, the $4 million penalty can be offset by various credits, including up to $250,000 each year for the guarantee of proceeds to benefit the New York Symphony Hall; and up to $100,000 each year for the leasing of two Prudential Center suites to the Sports and Exposition Authority, one during Nets games and one during general events; and, up to $250,000 each year in advertising credits.

Under the deal, the Nets will

- pay a $4 million penalty over two years to get out of their lease at the Izod Center in East Rutherford, their home since 1981.
- move into an East Rutherford facility in Newark for the 2010-11 and the 2011-12 seasons.
- continue to practice and be headquartered in New York City when it was called that and it wasn't a problem, said Nets owner Jeff Vanderbeek, referring to the previous name of the Izod Center. "I am confident if they came here it would work out fine."

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Belles close season with trip to Albion

By TIMOTHY SINGLER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s concludes its regular season in an important conference battle at Albion Saturday.

The game could have a major impact upon the season. Their record does not speak of the damage that they could inflict upon the Belles. Albion holds a minor lead in the conference battle at Saint Mary’s as they travel to Albion for tip-off at 3 p.m. Saturday.

“A lot is at stake,” Belles coaches said. "Every single game matters." In addition to the four losses, one bad inning or one bad play changed Notre Dame finds itself looking to end a four-game losing streak when it plays another four games over the weekend at the Southern Miss Miruno Classic.

The Irish (1-4) will play Louisiana Tech and Southern Miss Saturday followed by Alcorn State and Stephen F. Austin State University Sunday.

"Our goal for this upcoming weekend is to put out the best Notre Dame product out on the field," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "I don’t believe we have done this yet."

Last weekend, the Irish lost to the defending national champion and top ranked Washington Huskies, Oregon State, Oregon and Auburn after opening the season successfully against Creighton. "Every team we play will give us challenges," Gumpf said. "We are facing good opponents. Our main focus is on us, making sure we are playing consistent, hard, tough softball."

For each of last weekend’s losses, one bad inning or one bad play changed Notre Dame’s confidence on the field and at the plate. The Irish have been working on changing different aspects of the game to make sure to eliminate the small mistakes this coming weekend. "Primarily we focused on our defense being more aggressive on the short game and working with on field communication during situations," assistant coach Kris Ganell said. "Defensively we have been working on attacking first pitch strikes and executing situations in order to score more runs."

After working on different areas of their defense and offense, Gumpf said she feels confident about the talent of this year’s team. "I believe we have what we need to be successful in all three facets of the game. We have strong pitching, solid defense and great hitters," Gumpf said. "We are a very good team that hasn’t put our best product on the field yet."

In addition to the four losses at Arizona State last weekend, the Irish also lost sophomore infielder and power hitter Dani Miller due to a back injury. Miller’s status for this weekend is still not determined, but Gumpf claims that this setback will not determine the Irish’s chances of pulling out a few wins this weekend. "[Miller] is a great competitor who brings a lot to the field, but we know that we have depth on the bench ready to fill in if anyone of our starters go out with an injury," Ganell said. The Irish consistently play difficult teams during the beginning of their season with the intention of getting good field experience in before their Big East games. The preparation necessary to be ready for in-conference games makes each of the early games important as the Irish hope for a repeat Big East Championship win and another ring this season. "Every game we play is important," Gumpf said. "We need to start gaining some momentum and consistency." Tournament play begins for the Irish Saturday at 3 p.m. at Hattiesburg, Miss.

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

ND looks to end losing streak

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

ND looks to end losing streak with trip to Albion

The Irish opened the season with an 11-3 victory over Creighton, but now Notre Dame finds itself looking to end a four-game losing streak when it plays another four games over the weekend at the Southern Miss Miruno Classic.

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"Our goal for this upcoming weekend is to put out the best Notre Dame product out on the field," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "I don’t believe we have done this yet."

"Every game we play is important," Gumpf said. "We need to start gaining some momentum and consistency." Tournament play begins for the Irish Saturday at 3 p.m. at Hattiesburg, Miss. The Irish have been working on changing different aspects of the game to make sure to eliminate the small mistakes this coming weekend. "Primarily we focused on our defense being more aggressive on the short game and working with on field communication during situations," assistant coach Kris Ganell said. "Defensively we have been working on attacking first pitch strikes and executing situations in order to score more runs."

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Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu
NBA
Anthony’s shot tops James

CLEVELAND — Carmelo Anthony scored 40 points, includ-
ing the winning basket, and the Denver Nuggets overcame LeBron James’ triple-double and ended the Cleveland Cavaliers’ 13-game streak with a 118-116 victory in overtime Thursday night.

James had his triple-double by the end of regulation, finishing with 43 points, 13 rebounds and 15 assists, but Anthony matched him shot for shot, hitting the win-
er on a deep jumper over an out-

Nuggets' Carmelo Anthony tries to drive past LeBron James during Denver's 118-116 overtime victory Thursday night.

uter stretched James with 1.9 seconds left.

Denver’s Kenyon Martin had 18 points and a season-high 17 rebounds, but the night belonged to two of the three top scorers in the league, who put on quite a dis-
play. Anthony played 48 minutes, adding seven assists and six rebounds for the Nuggets.

Denver had plenty of motivation to begin the second half of its sea-
son with a win.

Nuggets coach George Karl was on the bench despite battling nau-
sea and headaches in recent days as a result of chemotherapy. Karl had visited Denver for the first time since dis-

headaches in recent days as a result of chemotherapy. Karl coached his first game since dis-

Discussion Tuesday he has neck and
throat cancer.

James and Anthony entered first and third in the league in scoring, respectively, and didn’t disappoint. The two combined to make just 4 of 20 shots in the first quarter, then spent the rest of the night hitting huge shots in each other’s face.

The Cavaliers had a chance to win it at the buzzer, but James slipped while receiving the inbound pass and his 3-pointer rattled off the rim. An exhausted James, who played 47 minutes, missed his final four shots in over-
time. His triple-double was the third of the season and 27th of his career. His 15 assists tied a career high.

Karl was the first to skate, held up both index fingers when he finished, as if to say, “Was there ever any question?” As it turned out, yes. And it wasn’t really that close.

When Pluschenko’s scores were posted, someone in the arena screamed out, “Evan Lysacek has won the gold!”

Backstage, surrounded by longtime coach Frank Carroll and pairs gold medalists Shen Xue and Zhao Hongbo, Lysacek threw back his head in disbelief. An exhausted Carroll and pairs gold medalists Shen Xue and Zhao Hongbo, Lysacek threw his hands out wide and skated to center ice, throwing his arms out wide and skated to center ice, waving his arms out wide and skated to center ice, waving to the crowd and blowing kisses.

Lysacek became the first U.S. man to win the Olympic gold medal since Brian Boitano in 1988, shocking everyone — maybe even himself — by upsetting defending champion Evgeni Plushenko on Thursday night.

Plushenko came out of retirement with the sole pur-
pose of making a little histo-
ry of his own with a second straight gold medal.

Plushenko, the last to skate, held up both index fingers when he finished, as if to say, “Was there ever any question?” As it turned out, yes. And it wasn’t really that close.

When Pluschenko’s scores were posted, someone in the arena screamed out, “Evan Lysacek has won the gold!”

Backstage, surrounded by longtime coach Frank Carroll and pairs gold medalists Shen Xue and Zhao Hongbo, Lysacek threw back his head in disbelief and utter elation.

Lysacek, the reigning world champion, finished with a career-best 257.67, 1.31 ahead of the Russian. Daisuke Takahashi won the bronze, the first Japanese man to win a figure skating medal at the Olympic Games.

Lysacek was the first of the big guns to skate in the last group, and he played it safe for the first three minutes of his 4 1/2-minute program. He had long decided against doing a quad, not wanting to risk further damage to the left foot he’d broken last spring. But everything he did was technically perfect. His jumps were done with the control and dependability of a fine Swiss timepiece, and his spins were so well-cen-
tered you could see the tight little circle of his tracings clear across the ice.

He didn’t skate with all his usual flair and charisma. But when he landed his last jump, a double axel, Lysacek let loose. His face was so expressive budding actors should take note, and he fixed the judges with a king-
lv glare during his circular steps. Fans were roaring their approval as he finished his final spin.

The last note of his music was still fading when Lysacek pumped his fists and screamed, “Yes! Yes! Yes! Yes!” He clapped his hands together, tossed his head back, let loose. His face was so expressive budding actors should take note, and he fixed the judges with a king-
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lv glare during his circular steps. Fans were roaring their approval as he finished his final spin.
**SMC TENNIS**

**Belles look for first win of season**

**By LUKE MANSOUR**

Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s will continue their string of tune-ups for conference play when they take on Olivet Nazarene today at the Eck Pavilion. The Belles (0-1, 0-0) are looking to record their first win of the season after falling to non-conference opponent Case Western to open up conference play when they take on their string of tune-ups for conference play.

Olivet Nazarene will be another opportunity for the Belles to shake off the early season rust before opening up conference play in a little over a month. The Tigers will provide a tough test for the Belles, sporting an NAIA Regional Championship just three years ago. They have also qualified for the NAIA National Tournament in each of the last four seasons. Their overall record in the 2009 season was 17-7.

The Belles will follow up their match against Olivet Nazarene with a tilt against North Central College. That will complete the Belles’ set of matches before taking their annual preseason training trip to Orlando over the mid-semester break.

During the trip, the Belles will compete against six separate colleges, mostly from the Midwest, in a prelude to their conference season. The Belles take on Olivet Nazarene tonight at 6 p.m. at Eck Pavilion.

Contact Luke Mansour at lmansour@nd.edu

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**MEN’S TENNIS**

**Irish travel to face Huskies**

**Observer Staff Report**

The Irish head to Washington this weekend to close out their five-match road series as they take on the Huskies.

No. 35 Notre Dame (3-4) first met the No. 25 Huskies on the court in 2000 with Washington (7-1) holding a 2-1 advantage. The Irish first defeated the Huskies 6-1 on March 5, 2007 at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

The Huskies recently had a weekend sweep of Mississippi State and East Tennessee State to close out their five-match road series as they take on the Tigers will provide a tough test for the Belles, sporting an NAIA Regional Championship just three years ago. They have also qualified for the NAIA National Tournament in each of the last four seasons. Their overall record in the 2009 season was 17-7.

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Contact Luke Mansour at lmansour@nd.edu

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**MEN’S SWIMMING**

**Notre Dame retains lead at Big East meet**

**Observers Staff Report**

The Irish men retained their lead in the overall standings at the Big East Championships in Pittsburgh Thursday.

When the final event of the day finished, the Irish held a 30-point lead over Louisville and a 60-point lead over host Pittsburgh.

Freshman Bill Bass posted the biggest swim of the night for the Irish, as he broke the Notre Dame record in the 200-meter individual medley preliminaries in the morning and then proceeded to top that mark during the championship round with a time of 1:46.44, good enough for second in the event.

“Notre Dame will take on the Huskies in Seattle at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20.

We’re ready for the challenge the next few days.”

Tim Welsh

Irish coach

Ultimately, the Irish needed a strong finish in their final event in order to stay on top of the rankings at the end of the Championship’s sixth day of action. The 200-meter freestyle relay team composed of seniors Lytle and Andrew Hoffman, junior Joshua Nosal and freshman Kevin Overholt delivered. The squad, which came out of the preliminaries seeded sixth out of 10 teams, posted a time of 1:39.49, good enough for third in the event and staking the Irish to the lead in the overall standings at the end of the weekend.
pollock and barnes combined for 25 home runs and 122 RBIs, but senior captain and designated hitter Ryan Connolly is confident the team’s balance will be enough to fill the void.

“We just need to be more consistent. I think we have the potential this year, instead of having two guys hit 12 to 15 home runs and drive in 60 runs, we can have six or seven guys hit five to seven home runs and still drive in runs. We have a different dynamic, and I think it will make us a different team to play against.”

Led by Connolly and junior captain Mick Doyle, Schrage believes the Irish are more than capable of handling the best the Big East has to offer.

“No question about it, you have to play to your personnel,” Schrage said. “I think we’re going to be a bit more balanced, we’re coming in with a lot of confidence with four starting pitchers right now, and at the end of games we’re really going to need our bullpen. They can take a little bit of pressure off of our starting staff.”

The Irish hope the biggest improvement from 2009 will be the ability to win consistently on the road. Notre Dame finished 6-7 away from Eck Stadium, a trend Schrage says he would like to reverse when the Irish open the season Friday with a three-game series against the Delta Devils.

“We want to be fundamentally sound, athletic, be aggressive and play with a high IQ of the game,” Corrigan said of his team. “Those are what we pride ourselves on, what we’ve built our program off of, and what we’re going to look for coming out of this game.”

Notre Dame and Duke will open the season Saturday at 1 p.m.

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IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish goaltender Scott Rodgers makes a save in the 2009 NCAA Tournament. Notre Dame opens the season Saturday at Duke.
Road continued from page 24

Schrader, who injured her left ankle Sunday against DePaul, is an uncertainty to play against the Hoyas, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. Though Schrader did well in Wednesday’s practice, McGraw said, the final decision will be made at gametime.

“That will affect us a lot,” Schrader is a big part of our offense, and with her defense and rebounding,” Barlow said. “It makes us a much smaller team with her out of the lineup, we have to play four guards most of the time. I mean, we can do it. We’ve just got to get back to playing the way we know how.

Junior guard Brittany Mallory replaced Schrader in the starting lineup Tuesday and took full advantage, tallying 17 points and five rebounds. Junior forward Devereaux Peters also stepped in to fill the void and added 9 points and a career-high 14 rebounds.

“They step up in big moments,” Barlow said. “When they’re needed, they rise to the occasion. I would expect nothing less from them. They know that when they’re called upon, they produce for us.

The game at Georgetown (21-4, 10-2) is Notre Dame’s second straight road game against a ranked team. McGraw said the schedule’s toughness could work in her players’ favor as they prepare for the tourna-

ment season.

“The Big East is going to be tough all the time,” she said. “You’ve got to be ready for it. We’re at the time of year when we have to start peaking.”

The Irish need to do so against a Georgetown squad that resembles their own — the Hoyas specialize in forcing turnovers (25.8 per game to Notre Dame’s 23.9) and even have a standout freshman in guard Sugar Rodgers. She leads the team with 17.9 points per game and has garnered Big East Freshman of the Week honors four times, the same number as Irish freshman guard Skylar Diggins.

Georgetown is coming off a 54-50 win over South Florida Wednesday. Saturday’s game will be the Hoyas’ senior game, as well as their Pink Zone game for breast cancer awareness. Notre Dame’s Pink Zone game was Sunday.

The game will have important implications for Notre Dame in the Big East — if the Irish win, they will secure a two-round bye in the conference tournament. Additionally, the Irish and Hoyas are currently tied with West Virginia for second place in the league and a win could give either team sole possession of the second slot.

“Every game is important from here on out,” McGraw said. “We’ve got four games left. We’ve got to finish strong.”

Tip-off is at 3 p.m. Saturday at McDonough Arena.

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CCHA continued from page 24

Illini continued from page 24

Illinois we know they will play hard and be ready to take us on.

The Irish will attempt to take down the nation’s best women’s tennis team, the Northwestern Wildcats, Sunday. The Wildcats recently moved up to No. 1 after winning last weekend’s ITA Kick-Off Weekend National Tournament, which the Irish did not qualify for after the loss to North Carolina.

“With Northwestern we are excited to play the top-ranked team to see where we stand,” Louderback said. “We always have good matches against Northwestern.

Aside from being the top team in the nation, the Irish look toward the Wildcats as a big rivalry as the two teams have played each other for many seas-

sons in a non-conference match in the regular season at 7:05 p.m. Friday night and 5:05 p.m. Saturday night.

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ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Road redemption

After loss, ND looks for road win in D.C.

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

After suffering only its second loss of the season, both on the road, Notre Dame travels to the nation’s capital to take on No. 14 Georgetown Saturday.

The No. 4 Irish had not lost in eight straight games before they fell to No. 22 St. John’s Tuesday, and that was following a 15-game winning streak separated by a loss to top-ranked Connecticut. Now, Notre Dame (23-3, 10-2 Big East) looks to build up another streak.

“We’ve just got to bounce back,” senior captain Ashley Barlow said. “We have to come in and work hard and get after it in practice. We practice hard. We’ve just got to transfer that stuff into the game.”

Senior guard Lindsay Allen added, “We’ve just got to get the idea that we’ve got to be thinking about Duke. I know we’ve got to be thinking about Duke, we’ve got to be thinking about those Players, but I think we should be focusing on ourselves, and that’s the most important thing. We’ve got to be thinking about ourselves. We’ve got to get our own stuff in there and forget about them.”

The Blue Devils finished the 2009 season with a loss to Notre Dame. The Blue Devils decided to be thinking ahead of Duke. “We’ve got to be thinking about ourselves, and that’s the most important thing. We’ve got to be thinking about ourselves. We’ve got to get our own stuff in there and forget about them.”

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The Irish open a new sea-son against No. 2 Duke Saturday. “We don’t look too far ahead,” Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. “We aren’t going to worry about goals and expectations for the sea-son. That only means we had a good team at the end of last season. We’re getting into this game and are concerning ourselves with a very experi-enced and strong Duke team.”

And the Irish are right not to be thinking ahead of Duke. The Blue Devils finished the 2009 season with a loss to Syracuse in the national semifinals, and are ready to prove themselves stronger this season. With a roster of 17 seniors and fifth-year sen-iors in addition to their younger players and return-ing All-Americans, including the nation’s top attacker Max Quinzani, the Blue Devils return a strong attack.

However, Notre Dame has proved itself to be a force in the past as well. Finishing the 2009 season with a 15-1 cam-paign and the No. 7 seed entering the NCAA Championship, the Irish won both the Great Western Lacrosse League regular-sea-son and tournament titles in the conference’s final season. With the creation of the Big East’s men’s lacrosse league, they might have a slightly greater challenge with rivals such as Syracuse, Georgetown, Providence, St. John’s, Rutgers and Villanova.

“[Duke] is going to be a challenge, but more than that we need to play with concern for our own team in our first game of the season,” Corrigan said. “We need to play with the lacrosse-10 mindset, that’s exactly where a trip to Omaha should be: the very back of his players’ minds.

“I know it’s cliché, but we’ve just been focusing on getting better every day and trying to be the best team we can be,” Schrage said.

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish look to defend home court

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

After suffering their first loss of the season against North Carolina on Jan. 31, the Irish lost to Illinois Saturday and top-ranked Northwestern Sunday.

“We are treating these matches like our national indoor since we didn’t make it to the tournament this year,” Irish coach Dave Schrage said. “I think we will be excited to play both teams for different reasons.”

First this weekend, the Irish will take on the Fighting Illini, who are not currently ranked in the NCAA but still boast a highly respected program in collegiate women’s tennis.

Illinois is coached by Michelle Dasso who was an All-American at Notre Dame and was my assis-tant for three years,” Loudenback said. “With Michelle coaching at Illinois, we’re able to better understand the game and the style of play.”

Returning for Notre Dame are six starters and 16 letter-winners, including first-time captain Mike Creighton, Neal Hicks and Kelly McKenna, as well as seven seniors and 12 pitchers, an asset the Irish believe will be invaluable early in the sea-son.

Nevertheless, Notre Dame lost two of its most produc-tive players in Lucy Montefusco and Ali Cifuentes who are not currently ranked in the NCAA but still boast a highly respected program in collegiate women’s tennis.

Two return from injuries

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

With only two weekends left in the regular season and Notre Dame looking up from 10th place in the conference standings, the Irish are simply seeking momen-tum, beginning in a two-game series this weekend at Bowling Green.

Notre Dame (12-13-7, 8-10-6-2 CCHA) was tied for fourth in the CCHA when it headed up to Western Michigan two weeks ago. A Broncos sweep and a week of inaction dropped the Irish to third from the cellar in the conference, and a first round bye in the conference tournament was all but ruled out, a fact senior defense-man Kyle Lawson could not help but see.

In the season against No. 2 Duke Saturday, “We’ve been through January, and we told our guys we don’t want to talk about Mississippi Valley or Omaha or winning the Big East. We want to talk about getting better and winning a national title,” Irish coach Dave Schrage says. “We have great strides over the past two seasons, improving its win total steadily from 28 in 2007 to 36 in 2009. This year’s team features 7 returning position players and 12 pitchers, an asset Schrage believes will be invaluable early in the sea-son.

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