Academic Council votes to dissolve Econ dept.

Economics and Policy Studies branch, in existence since 2003, will be disbanded by the end of this semester

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

The Academic Council voted to dissolve the Department of Economics and Policy Studies (ECOP) at its meeting Thursday. The department will cease to exist effective at the end of the semester.

The existing Department of Economics and Econometrics will be renamed the Department of Economics, and will serve as the University’s sole economics department.

The University has supported two economics departments since 2003, when the Academic Council voted to split the Department of Economics into Economics and Policy Studies and Economics and Econometrics.

Since 2003, the ECOP, which emphasizes alternative economics theories, has not been allowed to hire new faculty members or accept doctoral candidates.

John McGreevy, dean of the College of Arts and Letters, initially proposed the dissolution of ECOP last year. Continuing to support two economics departments is “not sustainable,” McGreevy said in September.

Fate of the Faculty

The tenure of ECOP faculty members will be respected, McGreevy said. The University is currently working with the faculty to identify new institutional areas for them. McGreevy said he hopes to find new departments for ECOP professors by the end of the semester. Some Policy Studies professors might move to the reestablished Department of Economics, but they will have to be invited by the department itself, McGreevy said.

“It’s a mutual process,” he said.

McGreevy cited the Kroc Institute, the Kellogg Institute and the Poverty Studies minor as potential homes for ECOP faculty.

The Poverty Studies minor is currently administered by the economics department.

Chesley, Smith to lead SMC student body

Duo beats current student body president Meg Griffin and running mate Emily Skirtich

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary’s Editor

Saint Mary’s juniors Rachael Chesley and Laura Smith said they will bring a “fresh perspective” to their roles as Student Government Association (SGA) president and vice president, respectively, when they take office April 1.

The pair defeated junior Meg Griffin, current SGA vice president, and sophomore Emily Skirtich, SGA executive secretary in the Feb. 26 election.

Chesley has served as a member of the Student Activities Board (SAB) as well as on Dance Marathon and the Class Gift Campaign. Smith has also participated in economic studies.

As the winner of the competition, King landed a $25,000 publishing contract with The Viking Press to publish his novel, “Bill Warrington’s Last Chance.” The novel is due for release in August.

The panel that reviewed the top three manuscripts included “Secret Life of Bees” author Sue Monk Kidd, “Alphabet Mystery Series” author Sue Grafton, literary agent Barney Karpfinger and Penguin Press Vice President and Editor-in-Chief Eamon Dolan.

King’s novel is the story of a man, Bill Warrington, who is diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease, although King never explicitly mentions the disease in the book. Warrington is trying to reconnect with his three adult children who want nothing to do with him.

“The main character was inspired by a neighbor of mine who had lost his wife shortly before I met him,” King said. “Over the years the house he built with his own hands was falling apart around him.”

In the novel, Warrington decides the only way to bring his family back together is to kidnap his 15-year-old granddaughter April, who dreams of becoming a rock star. The two of them take off across the country on a road trip inspired by a dream come true last May when he received an unexpected call from Amazon on a train ride into New York City.

King, a member of the Class of 1977, was one of three finalists for the second annual Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award, an international competition seeking the “next popular novel.” He would later be selected as the grand prize winner out of more than 6,500 manuscript entries. "I got a call one day from a man from Amazon..." King said. "I was one of three finalists." King said, "Of course I just wanted to scream because I [have been] trying to get a novel published ever since I graduated from Notre Dame in 1977."

As the winner of the competition, King landed a $25,000 publishing contract with The Viking Press to publish his novel, “Bill Warrington’s Last Chance.” The novel is due for release in August.

"The total number of manuscripts was around 6,500..." King said. "I almost forgot about it because I didn’t think I stood a chance to win."
INSIDE COLUMN
Freshman flashback

Juniour year is a time where you are apparently focused on the future. Lately, I’ve been so focused on the future, that I’ve noticed I’ve carefully compartmentalized my past. Now, not all memories are being suppressed because of their traumatic content. Even the “traumatic events” of my freshman year are on the whole pretty laughable. I was mortified to have to appear in a swimsuit in front of a large group of people who didn’t know me yet but who I’d be spending my college career with. My solution was to toss on an old racing suit from my Varsity swimming days, avoid mirrors and get in and out as quickly as possible. After drying off with the miniscule towels provided by the university, I rushed home to my room where I got the first glance in a mirror that day. It wasn’t until then that I discovered that my racing suit was indeed quite old... so used that it finally became transparent. My entirely sheer suit in fact turned out to be an inadequate covering of my birthday suit.

That was just the start of my hapless freshman year. There was also the day where I wiped out face first on the floor of DeBartolo. And the day where I was called to front of the student lecture, I climbed 100 stairs to the floor of DeBartolo. And the day where I wiped out face first on the dorm area at the student parking lot, a park and the freeman. In fact turned out to be an inadequate covering of my birthday suit.

Admittedly, all the memories I’ve imparted so far are traumatic. But I swear I’m not repressing them, I’m imparting so far are traumatic. But I was mortified to have to appear in a swimsuit in front of a large group of people who didn’t know me yet but who I’d be spending my college career with. My solution was to toss on an old racing suit from my Varsity swimming days, avoid mirrors and get in and out as quickly as possible. After drying off with the miniscule towels provided by the university, I rushed home to my room where I got the first glance in a mirror that day. It wasn’t until then that I discovered that my racing suit was indeed quite old... so used that it finally became transparent. My entirely sheer suit in fact turned out to be an inadequate covering of my birthday suit.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffe1@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS
The Observer regrets indulging in a professional publication and prints for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at jshaffe1@nd.edu so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE OLYMPICS?

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com

Russian chimpanzee sent to rehab

MOSCOW — A Russian chimpanzee has been sent to rehab by zookeepers to cure the smoking and beer-drinking habits he has picked up. A popular daily reported on Friday. An ex-performer, Zhou, became aggressive at his circus and was transferred to a zoo in the southern Russian city of Rostov, where he fathered several baby chimps, learned to draw with markers and picked up his two vices.

The beer and cigarettes were ruining him. He would pester passers-by for booze, the Komsomolskaya Pravda paper said.

It added he has now been transferred to the city of Kazan, about 500 miles east of Moscow, for rehabilitation treatment.

Goat leads cops on 30-minute police chase

ODESSA, Texas — All over town ran a lone goat as Odessa police and animal control officers tried to catch the roaming animal. The report to police came in Saturday as a sheep on the loose. Officers then determined it was a goat loping through a Taco Bell parking lot, a park and the dorm area at the University of Texas-Permian Basin. It took four police officers, two animal control officers and one off-duty police officer on motorcycle to corral the goat after about 30 minutes. Animal control officers subdued the goat with a tranquilizer gun and took custody of it. There was no immediate word on who owned the goat.

IN BRIEF

An exhibit titled “All Art is Propaganda” will open at 8 a.m. today in Special Collections Room 102 of the Hesburgh Library.

A funeral mass for Dr. Gail Walton, director of music at the Basilica, in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart will be held at 9:30 a.m. today.

“Markings by Koo Kyung Sook” will be on display in the Mills and Fritz Kanner Mestrovic Studio Gallery of the Suite Museum of Art. The exhibit will open at 10 a.m. today.

Daily Mass will be held at 11:30 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

The Department of Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences will host a seminar on “Small-scale Structures in Coastal Flows: Observations and Modeling” in Room 258 of Fitzpatrick Hall at noon today.

Children’s storytime at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore will feature “My Heart is Like a Zoo” today at 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

“Boundary-value Problems in the Theory of Lipid Membranes” will be discussed in Room 138 of DeBartolo Hall. The seminar will begin at 3:30 p.m.

Catholic Common Ground will hold discussion groups at 8 p.m. tonight on sexual orientation issues in Stapleton Lounge of Le Mans Hall at Saint Mary’s College.

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

BOSTON 36 / 31 PHILADELPHIA 45 / 32 PHOENIX 76 / 54 SEATTLE 57 / 44 ST. LOUIS 57 / 44 TAMPA 67 / 47 WASHINGTON 47 / 37

Atlanta 36 / 29 BOSTON 42 / 32 CHICAGO 34 / 27 DENVER 51 / 34 HOUSTON 59 / 37 LOS ANGELES 63 / 50 MINNEAPOLIS 37 / 18 NEW YORK 45 / 34 PHILADELPHIA 45 / 32 PHOENIX 76 / 54 SEATTLE 57 / 44 ST. LOUIS 57 / 44 TAMPA 67 / 47 WASHINGTON 47 / 37
CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

CLC debates du Lac changes

By MEGAN DOYLE

The Campus Life Council (CLC) debated recommendations for du Lac revisions Monday, specifically focusing on medical amnesty and clarification of language.

“We wanted this in written form for two reasons,” student body president Grant Schmidt said. “One is to have this on record for future reference, and two, we wanted a response from (Vice President for Student Affairs Fr. Mark Poorman) as to why or why not these recommendations would be adopted.”

The Council passed four resolutions to be sent to Office of Residence Life and Housing (ORLH) after considerable discussion.

The Council focused on the recommendation for a medical amnesty policy.

“We realize that we want this to be educative,” chief of staff Ryan Brellenthin said. “We want to change student behavior so they can actively seek out help for their friends.”

Debate was raised over whether a rigid policy should be recommended, or if ORLH should present a more formal statement similar to an honorable code.

“Having the guidelines that makes it easier to make a decision in a situation where student is already irrational,” Student Senate representative Claire Sokas said. “You are not able to weigh the pros and cons unless you know what is going to happen.”

Schmidt said Student Senate has already passed a resolution recommending the University adopt a formal medical amnesty policy.

“Student Senate representative John DeLacio said many freshmen specifically do not know or understand the University’s position on medical amnesty, and a policy of ORLH would send a strong message on this subject,” the resolution states. “The discussion was not resolved and remains on the table for future CLC meetings.

CLC members also recommended a serious consideration of the language used when ORLH discusses sanctions in du Lac. The Council will ask that the du Lac revisions include changing the word “shall” to the word “may” to clarify various texts.

“It seems like a small change,” Schmidt said. “But it is important.”

The recommendation states the change should be made due to “broaden the options of the Office of Residence Life and Housing.”

Changing the words would allow a more “case-by-case” judgment, Brellenthin said.

“Student body president Grant Schmidt and vice president Cynthia Weber lead a CLC meeting on Feb. 9. supported by the ORLH would send a strong message on this subject,” the resolution states. “The discussion was not resolved and remains on the table for future CLC meetings.

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Changing the words would allow a more “case-by-case” judgment, Brellenthin said.

“This recommendation was previously discussed when Associate Vice President for Residence Life Bill Kirk said part of the du Lac revisions would clarify the language to match up with the actions of ORLH. CLC members also wanted to distinguish between the jurisdictions of Indiana state law and the laws of other nations and states where students may reside. They specifically suggested du Lac should clarify this distinction.

The spirit of this recommendation is to clarify that students are not subject to Indiana state law at all times but to the law of the nation or state where they are residing,” Brellenthin said.

The Council members also unanimously supported a recommendation for continuing service hours as a sanction, an issue that Kirk specifically asked CLC to consider.

Other recommendations for future meetings address first-time incidents of intoxication within a student’s residence hall, discipline at lower administrative levels, undergraduate tailgating policy and the issue of drinking games in dorms.

Contact Megan Doyle at mndoyle11@nd.edu

American Studies Studies club awaits official status

By EMILY SCHRANK

Although Notre Dame’s Department of American Studies has been in existence for nearly 40 years, the American Studies club is a recent addition to the University.

The club, still waiting for official recognition from the Student Activities Office (SAO), began the initial formation process last semester, according to Jason Ruiz, assistant professor of American Studies.

“The department hopes to help form a community among the American Studies majors,” he said. “That is really our goal in sponsoring the club.”

Ruiz said the students who founded the club were looking for a way to enrich the meaning of their major.

“The club will give members an opportunity to meet their fellow students, as well as professors, outside of the classroom and in a more relaxed setting,” he said.

If that isn’t enough, we’ll also be making t-shirts because, apparently, Notre Dame students love t-shirts.”

Senior Cynthia Curley, one of the club’s founders, said her primary motivation in starting the club was to get young majors involved in the American Studies community on both an academic and social level.

“Beyond bringing all the majors together, we wanted to bring American Studies to the rest of Notre Dame,” she said. “We study the complexities of the American identity, or identities, and it’s really challenging and enlightening.”

Senior Amanda Johnson, acting vice president of the club, said once the club is officially established, the members hope to sponsor at least one event each month.

Possible events include films screenings, movie nights and field trips. According to Johnson, plans for a trip to the Chicago Art Institute are currently underway.

“We want to make sure people know what American Studies is and increase the presence of American Studies as a major on campus,” she said.

Although the club currently consists of only American Studies majors, non-majors are certainly welcome, Johnson said.

“Hopefully we’ll be granted the status of an official student organization by April, and then things can really get started,” she said.

The club’s first trivia night, hosted by the Department of American Studies, will take place March 18 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Alexander’s Grill on South Bend.

Students interested in joining the American Studies club should contact Ruiz.

Contact Emily Schrank at eshrank@nd.edu

Get headlines from The Observer in your inbox. Subscribe online.

By EMILY SCHRANK

Contact Emily Schrank at eshrank@nd.edu
International News

Mexican police arrest sex trafficker

MEXICO CITY — Federal police in central Mexico have captured a man wanted by the FBI for allegedly trafficking women and minors for prostitution in the United States.

The Attorney General’s Office says police acting on an anonymous tip captured Mexican suspect Gerardo Subercaseux on a high-way in the central state of Tlaxcala.

The office says Subercaseux is being held for attempting bribery and possible extradition to face the U.S. charges. It said in a statement Monday that when police stopped Subercaseux, he offered them a house and a car to let him go.

The FBI alleges Gerardo Subercaseux kidnapped three European women and girls to work as prostitutes in the Houston, Texas, area in 2004 and 2005.

African sports journalists kidnapped

Uganda — The Uganda journalist union said Monday it had kidnapped three sports journalists Monday working for an African satellite channel in the oil-rich and restive North Delta, a region that has seen a lull in violence because of a government amnesty program, a colleague said.

The SuperSport journalists, including two Nigerians and one South African, were near Warri on their way to an airport when they were attacked by unknown assailants.

SuperSport journalist and organizer Charles Anazodo told The Associated Press Anazodo said the South Africa-based sports network, distributed by satellite throughout southern Nigeria, had yet to receive a ransom demand.

National News

Base fails nuclear inspections

HILL, Colo. — Two Air Force units responsible for the nuclear missiles ware-housed in Montana failed inspections last month.

There is no threat to the public and the units at Malmstrom Air Force Base, but structure, which has seen a lull in violence because of a government amnesty program, a colleague said.

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Cal students protest fee hikes

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — University of California students from around the state have traveled to the state capital to protest steep fee hikes and urging lawmakers to take action against hikes and cuts to higher education funding.

More than 150 students gathered Monday outside the Capitol in Sacramento, waving signs and urging lawmakers to take action against raising fees.

The demonstration comes three days before a planned “National Day of Action for Public Education.” Students from the UC, California State University and community college systems will hold rallies, marches, teach-ins and class walkouts throughout the state on Tuesday.

Similar protests are planned around the country.

Local News

State Senate passes microbrewery bill

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Senate has given its final approval to the state’s capitol to prevent deep fee hikes and cuts to higher education funding.

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Chile

Rescue efforts continue, death toll rises

CONCEPCION — Rescuers found signs of life in the wreckage of a 15-story building Monday as the world offered aid to victims of an earthquake that killed more than 700 people.

The government announced late Sunday that 22 years of diplomacy had finally paid off with the release of a prisoner who was arrested in 1999 on charges of terrorism.

The Associated Press

Associated Press

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The Associated Press
continued from page 1

The Department of Economics and Policy Studies... We envision [the minor] as part of the Center for Social Concerns,” McGreevy said.

Faculty Senate passed a resolution calling for ECOP faculty to be allowed to return to the reestablished Department of Economics.

The resolution protested the “removal of a faculty member from a continuing department without his or her consent.”

Because current ECOP faculty members were tenured in the pre-2003 Department of Economics, Faculty Senate claims these faculty members “have been involuntarily excluded from the Department of Economics,” according to the resolution.

Faculty Senate was concerned about the “treatment of the faculty in this particular case,” Seth Brown, chair of Faculty Senate’s Administrative Affairs Committee, said.

Econ

Concerns about Academic Freedom

Economics and Policy Studies faculty members protested the plan to eliminate the department in a letter released last month. The letter expresses the unanimous opinion of the ECOP faculty, department chair Jennifer McGreevy said.

Dissolving the department would “undermine the strong and vibrant conversation about economics that currently exists within our University,” the letter said.

“(The Academic Council’s) action represents a dangerous precedent for academic freedom and university governance,” the letter said.

Dissolving the department inhibits ECOP faculty members’ ability to “participate in the education of our students, to conduct our research, and to engage in service activities,” the letter said.

The decision to dissolve the department, however, was made in part to broaden the “economics conversation” at the University, McGreevy said.

“We’re not eliminating their ideas, and we hope they continue to make as big a contribution as they have made,” he said.

“The faculty may be in different units, but I’ve always thought that’s less important than the broader conversation.”

McGreevy said the new Department of Economics will be “open to different ideas and methodologies,” as opposed to embracing only one approach to economics.

Faculty Senate did not argue “that there was some particular affront to academic freedom in this face,” Brown said.

The Senate’s concerns about academic freedom were part of its concerns about tenure.

“The purpose of tenure is to safeguard academic freedom,” Brown said.

Reducing the protections of tenure makes faculty members less willing to pursue unpopular or cutting-edge research, according to Brown.

Student Involvement

Student Senate passed a resolution calling for the delay of the decision to dissolve the department last week.

“We opposed this on the grounds that student input hasn’t been included,” student body chief of staff Ryan Brellethin said.

Student body president Grant Schmidt said he has gotten good feedback from many students.

“We emphasized that students were frustrated with the process,” Schmidt said.

After the decision was made to dissolve the department, student government hopes to make the Department of Economics as academically viable as possible, Schmidt said.

“I have confidence the Economics Department will continue to be successful,” Schmidt said. “It’s important for us to continue to be a part of the conversation.

“We want to have a seat at the table when it comes to discussing major academic decisions,” Brellethin said he hopes to work with McGreevy to “ensure that the aspects of the old department that were beneficial continue to exist,” he said.

“We would make sure the decision doesn’t take anything away from the undergraduate education,” he said.

McGreevy cited the sensitive nature of closing a department as a limitation to how much he could dialogue with students. He said the decision was finalized, but he said he is open to student input.

“Students need to take charge of their education at Notre Dame,” he said.

McGreevy said he welcomes student involvement in economics now that ECOP has been dissolved.

“I am happy to think through with groups of students how we can best build an economics major at Notre Dame,” he said.

Contact John Tierney at jtierne1@nd.edu

SAB

continued from page 1

Courtney has been a member of SAB for two years. She has served as a member of the Entertainment Committee. She also helped bring poet Gabriela Garcia Medina to campus in the fall of 2009.

“I am passionate about helping students become engaged in the Saint Mary’s community,” Courtney said. “I want to be part of the team that plans these events for the students.”

Kline has also been involved with SAB for the past two years. She has served as co-chair of the Traditional Committee for one year. She also attended the National Association for Campus Activities National Convention (NACA Conference) in Nashville, Tenn., last year. This year she attended the National Conference in Boston.

“It’s been a lot of fun,” Kline said.

“Every since I began the Board

freshman year, I have loved every minute of it,” Kline said. “Last year at the NACA Conference in Nashville, I was able to really get involved in the behind-the-scenes work of planning campus activities. The Conference, both this year and last, reinforced my drive to bring the very best events to campus and put my acquired knowledge to good use.”

Courtney and Kline plan to utilize student feedback in order to gain insight as to what is wanted on campus.

“We both feel student surveys are necessary and helpful to bring and plan successful acts around campus,” Kline said.

Student Diversity Board

With new ideas to expand the Student Diversity Board, junior Morgan Gay and sophomore Kelly Reidenbach are ready to take office as the new president and vice president.

They were the only ticket to run during the Feb. 26 election.

Gay has been a member of SDB for two years. She has worked as chair for the DSLC Sodexo Chair. Gay has also been a member of SAB for the past two years. She has served as co-chair of the Committee for the Hunger Free Zone. Gay has been the College Track committee member of the Diverse Student Leadership Committee (DSC). As College Track committee member, Gay has been responsible for recruiting students from other universities and colleges to help in the College, which will be held from March 17-19 at the College.

“When I came to college, I heard about the Student Diversity Board and I think it’s really important to promote diversity,” Gay said. “It all starts with treating people with respect. With the events that SDB holds, just learning about other cultures and understanding them and their point of view, I think [we] can make a difference.”

Reidenbach has been a member of SDB for one year. She has served as the DSLC Sodexo Chair, been the College Track committee member of the Diverse Student Leadership Committee (DSC). As College Track committee member, Gay has been responsible for recruiting students from other universities and colleges to help in the College, which will be held from March 17-19 at the College.

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Reidenbach has been a member of SDB for one year. She has served as the DSLC Sodexo Chair

She has also been on the SDB Bonfire Committee and the Committee for the Hunger Banquet as well.

Gay and Reidenbach said they are planning on having many of the same events that have been held in the past, but hope to expand them.

“We just want to try and expand, get more people in the Saint Mary’s community, as well as the Notre Dame and Holy Cross Community involved in what we do,” Reidenbach said.

Gay added that they hope to get the word out and generate more interest and involvement.

“I think we have really good events,” Gay said. “I really like what we do with them but I’d like to expand them and get more people to come to them because I really think that’s what we’re here for.”

Residence Hall Association

Juniors Marianne Jones and senior Ashley Charnley will take over as Residence Hall Association president and vice president on April 1. They were the only ticket to run for the office.

Jones will take her place on the SCA board, replacing the current president, Kristen Dalessandro. BHA currently oversees activities within the four residence halls on campus as well as the senior living apartment, Opus Hall. Most recently, they held a formal on Feb. 27.

Contact Ashley Charnley at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

Coffee at the CoMo

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Questioning Students of Notre Dame

Tuesday, March 2
7:00pm-9:00pm
316 Coleman Morse

The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning members of the Notre Dame family, along with their friends and allies, to an informal gathering at the Coleman Morse.

Coffee and refreshments will be served.

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

E-mail Sarah at smervosh@nd.edu

Have an idea for a news story?

CAMPUS NEWS

The Observer

Tuesday, March 2, 2010
Global holdings see strong rise

European countries seek rescue deal for Greece; Japan’s stocks make sharp recovery

**MARKET Recap**

**Dow Jones**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Up</th>
<th>Same</th>
<th>Down</th>
<th>Composite Volume</th>
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**Commodities**

| LIGHT CRUDE (B/B) | 69.08 | 2.15 |
| GOAL (T/O) | 696.12 | 38.30 |
| PORK BELLY (cent/lb) | 92.00 | 94.20 |

**Exchange Rates**

| YEN | 89.2490 |
| EUR | 1.3354 |
| CANADIAN DOLLAR | 1.0435 |
| BRITISH POUND | 1.4942 |

**United Kingdom**

**London** — World stock markets rose strongly Monday amid growing hopes that European countries will announce some rescue deal for Greece before the release of a raft of fairly upbeat manufacturing surveys.

In Europe, the FTSE 100 index of leading British shares closed up 51.42 points, or 1 percent, at 5,405.95 while Germany’s DAX rose 115.05 points, or 2.1 percent, to 5,713.51.

The CAC-40 in France was 60.74 points, or 1.6 percent, higher at 3,860.62.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 71.20 points, or 0.75 percent, at 10,396.46 around midday New York time while the broader Standard & Poor’s 500 index rose 9.05 points, or 0.8 percent, to 1,113.54.

Reports of a plan to prevent a Greek default came as the EU’s Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn met in Athens with Greek Prime Minister George Papandreou and insisted that Greece take additional austerity measures.

“If you want to encourage the Greek authorities to consider and announce additional measures in the coming days” to meet deficit targets for 2010, Rehn said.

The deal brings Jonathan Sposato, Picnik’s CEO and co-founder, for a second tour of duty.

In early 2005, Sposato sold another startup called PhatBits to Google, where he remained as CEO, back to Google for a second tour of duty.

Picnik employs 20 people in Seattle.

**Maine lobster value drops with economy**

Associated Press

PORTLAND — Maine lobstersmen have a record harvest in 2009, but the value of the catch continued to plunge amid the sour global economy.

Lobstersmen caught 75.6 million pounds last year, the highest harvest recorded since 2008, the Maine Department of Marine Resources announced Monday. But the value of the catch fell $23 million, to $221.7 million.

“Many factors contribute to the supply in good shape and that lobstermen are fishing hard to make up for the lower prices they’re receiving,” said Maine Resources Commissioner George Lapointe.

The low value is a reflection of the poor economy worldwide and people cutting luxury items out of their budgets, he said. The value of last year’s harvest is $96 million less than its peak value in 2005.

That means lobstermen have less money to spend on new boats, pickup trucks, gear and other things in Maine’s coastal communities.

If there’s $20 million or $100 million less they’re spending in their local economies, that ripples through grocery stores and gas stations and things like that, just like the rest of the economy,” Lapointe said.

Maine is the nation’s lobster breadbasket, accounting for 80 percent of the U.S. catch of the so-called Maine lobster.

Lobstermen have taken a huge hit since the economy melted down in 2008, sending lobster prices to levels not seen in decades.

Lobstermen last year got an average of $4.64 a pound, roughly the same price they were getting in 1998. They averaged $5.30 a pound in 2008 and $4.39 a pound in 2007.

Lobstermen were pleased with last year’s catch, but the low prices — coupled with the higher costs of diesel and bait and new rope required to reduce whale entanglements — have forced fishermen to rethink the way they do business, said Dwight Carver, who fishes out of Beals Island in eastern Maine.
Spread the word to end the word

Tomorrow, a human rights movement will sweep our country. Thousands of college students on hundreds of campuses, joined by students of all ages, are trying to jog the consciousness of a nation. They are sensitizing Americans to a subtle but pernicious prejudice reflected in our language — in the common use of the slur “retard.” Every one of us can join this effort. It’s as simple as changing the way we speak.

But are we fighting something that even exists? We say yes. Recently, one of the authors was shopping with his 14-year-old sister, Olivia Palumbo. With a slew of children’s books under her arm, Olivia bounded down a aisle, her brother in tow. As she pointed at something that caught her interest, her laugh nearly drowned out a taunting voice behind her. “Who let the retard in? Look guys, I can run like the retard!” The boy and his posse ran by, pointing. Olivia’s intellectual disability had attracted negative attention for years. She did not turn around. Nor did her brother.

This prejudice exists. And it is virulent. Retard, like other slurs, does more than hurt feelings. These words crystallize discrimination and encapsulate marginalizing stereotypes. What slurs do against ethnic or other minorities, so does “retard.” When used pejoratively against people with intellectual disabilities, because of their effects, society has made these forms of hate speech reprehensible. So it should be.

Soeren Palumbo

Guest

Columnists

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In response to Justin DeRosa’s letter in Viewpoint (“An argument against research,” Feb. 24), Mr. DeRosa is mistaken in saying that Fr. Jenkins “in his inaugural address, asserted that he is simply committed to maintaining [Notre Dame’s] traditional excellence in undergraduate teaching.” This statement is nowhere in Fr. Jenkins’ address (see http://inauguration.nd.edu/commencement/inaugural_address.shtml), and the suggestion that Fr. Jenkins and the University are merely settling for a status quo in teaching is also unfounded. Instead, Fr. Jenkins was visionary in tying undergraduate research to his goal of constantly improving undergraduate education across the board.

Undergraduate research is education, and research is service. As such, undergraduate research embodies the best of the University’s promotion of it among its students. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**The hurtfulness of one word**

Someone once told me he loves people who have developmental disabilities because they remind him “just how neat God really is.” Unfortunately, most people do not have access to this point of view. People with developmental disabilities are too often placed in segregated groups in America. Seventy percent of people with developmental disabilities are unemployed, 60 percent of parents do not want to develop a relationship with their disabled children to attend the same school as their children and over 90 percent of babies diagnosed with Down Syndrome are aborted. There is growing awareness about the value of people with developmental disabilities, but much of our country remains overdue to accommodate and benefit people with disabilities.

On March 3, 2010, Special Olympics will hold its second annual “Spread the Word to End the Word” day, which raises awareness about the offensive use of the word “retarded” in casual conversation.

The r-word is deeply offensive and demeaning to the special needs community, yet its use continues to be prevalent. This is because many people do not realize that the use of the r-word is often used as a form of social and cultural isolation, denying the existence of the person as an individual. The r-word not only prevents those people with special needs from interacting with others, but also to make known the fact that people with developmental disabilities are truly blessed, and that they can contribute to society in a tangible way. So please, think about what you are saying next time you use the r-word, and remember who you are offending.

Nicholas Pellegreni
Knoebel Hall
March 2

**In gratitude to Gail Walton**

I was among those who were deeply saddened to receive word of the death of Dr. Gail Walton on Wednesday. I know a small fraction of the students who had worked with Gail during her many years as director of music at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, but in the wake of her passing, all have expressed remarkable sentiments of gratitude. She was a trusted mentor, who helped instill lifelong passions for choral music. Some tell me that I am indebted to her for their entire professional careers in church music, and still others affirm that Gail played a key role in their decisions to enroll in the Catholic Church to begin a lifelong journey of faith by her devotion to beauty and reverence in sacred music. I tell you, on behalf of the students, the faculty, and the choral community, I am eternally grateful to Gail for providing me an opportunity to appreciate the grandeur and breadth of the Church’s living liturgical tradition. When I first came to Notre Dame, I had never experienced time-honored hymnody, the use of the pipe organ, choral masterpieces or Gregorian chant at Mass before. She fostered a repertoire and culture of prayer that broadened my perspective and shaped my life for the Mass. I am also blessed to get to know Gail better in recent years. On a personal level, Gail helped me with my liturgical Choir alumna, and me to prepare our wedding mass. The first of Dr. Ralph McInerny, the former devoted his prolific academic career to the integrity of the Catholic intellectual and literary tradition. Gail’s influence came in subtle form, through her teaching, her example, her commitment to the power of the Church’s artistic treasure. In liturgical studies, we are taught that the art which we worship lays the foundation for what we believe. Gail Walton may not have realized during her earthly life how cathedralesque her work was, but I suspect it has helped many to encounter the Divine in a profound way. May her legacy live on, and may she rest in peace amidst the communion of Saints and the choir of Angels.

Brian MacMichael
MTS, class of 2006

**EDITORIAL CARTOON**

Love the earth. Recycle. The Observer.
I forgot my plaid shirt. And my can of beer. But I had my sway on and a friend by my side and that was all that was needed to enjoy the folk musical trolley of the Avett Brothers Sunday night.

As the Murat Egyptian Room lights dimmed in Indianapolis and the opening act, The Low Anthem, took the stage, filling the atmosphere with hipster folk rock, a sense of serenity fell over the crowd preparing us for the magical night that was ahead. The opening band, a group of four from Rhode Island, brought their own flair to the stage and invited us into their trance of musical harmony, opening our ears to new sounds with innovative instruments. Their ending song changed pace and quickly shook us from our reverie, waking us just in time for the two brothers, Scott and Seth Avett, their bassist Rob Crawford and their cellist Joe Kwon to take the stage.

Never have I seen a cellist like Joe Kwon. He was the most fascinating character to watch by far (even more so than the drunken college bros in front of me) and worked his bow with such precision that he seemed as practiced as a doctor using his scalpel in surgery. His look was a total contradiction — a classy suit with shaggy hair and a Genghis Khan-like mustache/beard combo. He rocked that cello though, forcefully adding vigor to the nut musical styling and acoustic guitar, don’t quite fit the bluegrass genre, nor are they fully folk, punk or rock. They’re a mix of genres, a unique entity unto their own. This, combined with their simple yet surprisingly profound lyrics, makes them a fascinating band to listen to. Just when you think you can push them into one category and set aside their CDs for chill time, you hear a song like “Distraction #74” that makes you want to link arms with a person nearby and spin around (which we did with those drunken bros in front of us).

The set list swayed between fast and slow numbers, highlighting each member of the band at one point or another. Scott and Seth took turns singing the lead vocals, allowing for one favorite moment in particular when Scott (or “Hottie Scottie” as my friend likes to call him) performed the cryptic song “St. Josephs.” One I hadn’t heard before. The melancholy soft strings of Scott and his brother’s guitar matched with the mysterious lyrics about a hospita
tal stay were entrancing and bitter-sweet. “MURDER IN THE CITY” was also poignant nd sweet, recalling memories of sibling rivalry, parental pride and a last will made of love for a family. The closing two lines, “Always remember, there’s nothing worth sharing/I like the love that let us share our name,” are as charming as a song can get, and struck a chord with the women lusting after the simple loving world of the Avett Brothers.

There’s a reason these men were picked to open for Dave Matthews Band during a portion of their spring 2009 tour. They’ve got talent, sincerity and simple passion that reverberate with every pluck of their instrument strings. The only thing that left me blue was the fact that they didn’t play my personal favorite Avett song, “I Would Be Sad.” Regardless, I left the concert feeling refreshingly light and worry-free … until I got back to campus and remem
erered it’s Midterms Week. Oh well, it was nice while it lasted. Thanks for the break from reality Avett Brothers — to put me in such a serene mood, there really are no others.

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

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

Adriana Pratt Assistant Scene Editor

Maija Gustin Assistant Scene Editor

Observer Graphic I BLAIR CHEMDLIN

Shamrockshake season has arrived

It’s the most wonderful time of the year! No, not Lent. Shamrock Shake season, of course! Those wonderful green milkshakes are back at McDonald’s through St. Patrick’s Day. A Shamrock Shake is a hard thing to describe. While technically considered mint milkshakes, to the trained connoisseur, they are so much more. As a person who doesn’t typically enjoy mint-flavored ice cream, it would be a disservice for me to label these delicacies as mere mint milkshakes. The light flavor is something of a delight to the taste buds regardless of proclivity to mint. There are some secret ingredients buried within that green milkshake-y goodness that adds a complex flavor to something that seems so simple. And they’re green!

McDonald’s has changed things up on us a little this year. It seems the mega-restaurant chain has decided to class up its products by serving all milkshakes in a clear plastic cup, much like those used for frozen coffee beverages, with whipped cream and a cherry on top. While many will be horrified to see that their favorite wax-paper cups are no longer available, the beautiful light green color of the Shamrock Shake can now be shown off to all. This year, I had my first Shamrock Shake of the season on Feb. 19. The McDonald’s on Ironwood did right by me and had my favorite seasonal beverage waiting for me at my first free moment on Friday afternoon. What a way to start out a weekend. It has come to my attention that many at Notre Dame are unfamiliar with the ways of the Shamrock Shake.

To this, I say for shame! Many will find it difficult to share the love for it that I have, but you owe it to yourself, and really to humanity as a whole, to at least try it. You might not like it, in which case I feel sorry for you, but at least you can say that you have tried the mighty Shamrock Shake. You will instantly garner the respect and admi
nation of those around you. And for those of you who have experienced the magic, I say there isn’t a moment to lose! Head over to the nearest McDonald’s and start March off right!

For further inspiration on the quest for the Shamrock Shake, just search “Shamrock Shake commercial” on YouTube, and prepare for your mouth to water and your eyes to pop at the kitschy ‘80s era commercials. The only thing left to say, really, is bon appetit!

Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Midterm week means sleepless nights and stressful studying, but thankfully Spring Break is coming along to bring a smile to everyone’s distressed face. And with Spring Break, many of our Notre Dame students will be making their way either to some warm and exotic location, or just home to sleep and watch TV for many uninterrupted hours. Yes, we all know these midterm breaks always come in at exactly the right time, and the very much-anticipated Spring Break is only a few dreadfully long, exam-packed days away.

As of mid-February, plans were made, and the “So, what are you doing for Spring Break?” question is the newest go-to conversation starter. Fewer students seem to stay on campus for Spring Break as compared to Fall Break, and travel plans have been in full swing for weeks now. Taking this into account, and thinking of other breaks and typical Notre Dame student traveling habits, I have assembled a list of trips that every Domer makes throughout their time as a student. In a sort of undergraduate bucket list, you cannot graduate with “student experience honors” without completing most, if not all, items on this list.

Appealing to the reality and the stereotypical, in no particular order, here goes:

**Notre Dame-Michigan football game in Ann Arbor**

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**Notre Dame-Michigan football game in Ann Arbor**

Fall at Notre Dame means football, and going up to the Big House to watch the Irish play the Wolverines is definitely one of the defining experiences for Notre Dame undergraduates. Forget about those difficult books you had to read in class and that one time you understood what was being taught in your Orgo class. Wearing Mack Fichigan shirts and driving three hours to maybe have the chance to glorify your victory against one of ND’s favorite rivals in their own stadium — that is Notre Dame.

**Appalachia**

It seems everyone does Appalachia. Service is, without a doubt, a big part of Notre Dame life and these trips serve as proof to this. Students who go always love it, and the number of applicants for these programs is always large, and increasing. Included in this section are the SSLP and ISSLP, which also offer summer service programs that are extremely popular and successful.

**Chicago**

All Notre Dame students go to Chicago for a weekend. They take pictures at the Bean and make it their Facebook profile picture, and then they eat deep-dish pizza.

**Pro-life march in Washington, D.C.**

Much like Appalachia, another aspect of your typical Catholic Notre Dame student is going to D.C. in January to the pro-life march. Frequently, during that week of January, you’ll see students absent for class, and then back with a “Irish Fighting for Life” sweatshirt. To some, hopping on that bus to D.C. is a marking experience of life at Notre Dame, where Catholic principles can easily be applied in every aspect of daily life.

**Home for the weekend**

If you go to Notre Dame, you’re from Chicago — which basically means you live anywhere in the Midwest. Therefore, you sometimes go home for the weekend. Actually, on your way there you’ll probably be sitting next to someone who decided to go to the city for the weekend (view item No. 3 of the list).

**Michigan City outlets**

This is mostly for the girls, although it applies to both sexes. Since South Bend isn’t your typical idea of the perfect college town and the Mishawaka Mall can become a little tiring after a while, the outlets in Michigan City provide a quick escape from academia to the wonderful world of shopping. An experience Notre Dame students have to have, at least once.

**Spring Break in Daytona Beach, Fla.**

Finally, the most relevant item in the list for this week! Although some decide to be more “culturally diverse” and go to Puerto Rico or Cancun, this trip is not so much a Notre Dame must-do, but more of a college student requirement. Popular nation-wide, Spring Break in Daytona Beach is where all things tan and sunny happen. Many wild nights are experienced and yet memories of them are lost as you wake up hungover, in the clothes you wore last night, and completely unable to recall anything that happened after 9 p.m. Might sound like a regular weekend at Notre Dame, minus the sun, bikinis, beaches and tanning.

Contact Tatiana Spragins at tspragins@nd.edu
Special to The Observer

This weekend the Notre Dame Women’s Water Polo Team won all four of its games in a tournament at Grand Valley State University. The Irish defeated Flanagan one, Meghan Flanagan (one), Alli (two) each contributed off against Miami (Ohio), winning 14-4. Erin Gibson (one), Maise O’Malley and Emily Hariz and O’Malley put the Irish on the board with one goal each in the floor game. In the second period, freshwoman Victoria Anglin had a breakaway steal for the point to give the Irish a renewed en-

Women’s Ice Hockey

Notre Dame finished its season this weekend with three games. Margie Delors scored twice for the Irish, and the record of 9:41 mark of the second peri-

Equestrian

Whitney Preiser Clino and Isabella Tolsk were in both events. The Irish finished fifth in a 10-24-2, 15-22, 16-15 and 15-12 win over the Chicago Inferno, 6-1. DeBot,

CLUB SPORTS

Squad sweeps weekend slate; two more equestrians qualify for regionals; women’s hockey season ends

NCAA Men’s Basketball

Syracuse moves up to top spot in rankings

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 624 South Dining Hall. Deadlines for next-day classifieds are 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The change is $5 cents per character per line, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring fees.

_paid classifieds

FOR RENT

Furnished/ground students 2 bikes, 2.5 bath, LR, DR, FR, Florida room, utility room.

For rent: Furnished 4 bedroom house 5 blocks from campus.

Available now.

Ilandolo was again recognized as the top performer. The Orange haven't been out

Olympics

Medvedev blasts sports ministers

Moscow — President Dmitry Medvedev said Monday that Russian sports officials step down over the coun-

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED

Summer Camp Positions: Make a difference in the life of a child. Summer camp camp for children with physical disabilities. Located on shore of Lake Superior in Ely, Minn. Positions available for Counsellors, Waterfront, Lodge/Rust (Bake), Craft/Recreation Nurses, Therapy, Transportation, and Kitchen. Must be at least 18 years old and willing to work between June 13 through August 7. Salary: room & board, and experience of lifetime provided. Download application at www.bluelake.org. For more information call or email: (218) 345-9012. For more information, visit Notre Dame's website: http://observer.nd.edu.
Rodriguez contacted by feds after doctor connection

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Yankees slugger Alex Rodriguez has been contacted by federal investigators regarding a Canadian doctor accused of selling an unapproved drug.

New York general Brian Cashman said the Yankees never had any dealings with Rodriguez's players being involved.

“Not aware of any,” Cashman said. “The Yankees released a statement saying they had not been contacted about the matter.”

The Yankees never authorized Dr. Tony Galea to treat Rodriguez, nor do they have any knowledge of any such treatment, the statement said. “We will continue to monitor the situation.”

Cashman said the Yankees have not had any dealings with Galea. He declined comment on Rodriguez’s situation, saying “I don’t have much to comment off of.”

It had been uneventful start of the new season — except for a minor car accident that caused no damage or injuries for Rodriguez.

Last year, he started spring training by addressing his use of performance-enhancing drugs and underwent right hip surgery in March that sidelined him until May 8. The third baseman then put together a 30-home, 100-RBI season that ended with the Yankees winning their first World Series title since 2000.

Galea is known for using a blood-spinning technique — platelet-rich plasma therapy — designed to speed recovery from injuries. Among the athletes he has treated are golf superstar Tiger Woods and Mets shortstop Jose Reyes.

Athlete's drug use

In Brief

Cabrera says he is done drinking after 2009 incident

LAKELAND, Fla. — Detroit Tigers slugger Miguel Cabrera wants to clear a few things up after the ugly incident last fall, right before his team surrendered the American League Central Division title to the Twins.

First, he’s done drinking alcohol. And he’s not an alcoholic.

“Your guys write in the paper ‘alcoholic,’ that’s not right,” the Detroit first baseman said Monday before the Tigers’ morning workout at spring training. “I don’t know how to explain, but it’s not an alcohol problem.”

Five months ago, Cabrera went 0 for 12 in a 5-1 loss to Chicago. That game started about 12 hours after Tigers general manager Dave Dombrowski picked him up at a police station following a fight with his wife — apparently after a late night out.

Judge dismisses charges of assault against Reed

PITTSBURGH — A judge on Monday dismissed charges of simple assault and resisting arrest against Steelers kicker Jeff Reed, who was accused of raising his fists at a Pittsburgh police officer when ordered back in his vehicle as police dealt with a teammate.

The two misdemeanor charges dismissed by state District Judge Richard King at Reed’s preliminary hearing were the most serious he faced. King postponed for six weeks a decision on whether to hold Reed for trial on charges of disorderly conduct and public drunkenness.

King directed Reed to perform 40 hours of community service and said he would consider dropping the two summary charges if Reed complies.

The judge said that “something was there” between Reed and police on Oct. 18, 2009, several hours after the Steelers beat Cleveland 27-14, but that it didn’t rise to the level of simple assault or resisting arrest.

Blackhawks send two players to Blues for goalie

ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Blues have acquired goaltender Joe Fallon from the Chicago Blackhawks in exchange for goalie Hannu Toivonen and defensemen Danny Richmond.

The 25-year-old Fallon has played in 29 games this season with the American Hockey League’s Rockford IceHogs. The Blues said Monday that Fallon will report to their AHL affiliate in Peoria, Ill.

Fallon was originally picked by the Blackhawks in the sixth round of the 2002 entry draft.

The Blues also recalled forward Derek Armstrong from Peoria. The 36-year-old forward has played in 30 games for Peoria this season, scoring 22 goals.

Toivonen, 25, was 11-11-3 record with a 2.73 goals-against average and a .906 save percentage in 26 games with Peoria this year. Richmond, 25, has 15 assists, 16 points and 135 penalty minutes in 24 games in Peoria.
NHL

The Observer  ●  SPORTS

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

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NHL returns to play after classic Olympics

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — A thrilling Olympic tournament capped with a golden opportunity.

Hockey was enjoying a sudden surge of appeal among fans when a day after Sidney Crosby lifted Canada to a 2-1 overtime victory over the U.S., fans will be able to return to the Vancouver Games to watch the replay.

The ending could not have been better for the NHL, with the league and their fans with such distinction,“ Bettman said in a league cent increase.

The latest affirmation that the season resumes.”

play as the excitement of our game remains on dis-

and silver medal teams plays statement.

distinction,” Bettman said in a league and their fans with such

world. We send our Olympians players—is the finest in the

Games in Vancouver served as

sioner Gary Bettman praised

Canada’s latest golden victory

the return to relevance. The

Kane have been joined at the

up costing Kane his dream of
deserves.

 Debate continues to rage as to whether the NHL is positive and negative— taking a two-week break in the heart of the season has been a good move, and when the Olympics are held in North America and its companion network of televised coverage of the games, and when the NHL makes the

for us in Pittsburgh,”

But for every finish like this, there is also the possibility that Sweden and Finland could

Olympics. And next time out, there is also the possibility that Sweden and Finland could

dynamic duo, pitting Toews and Canada

Olympics broke up this dynamic duo, pitting Toews and Canada against Sweden and the

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Olympics. He will get over

Olympics. Two-time defending

Vancouver center Shane O’Neal had surgery on his injured right thumb Monday and seems likely to miss the rest of the regular season.

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O’Neal has played well for the

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Cavs general manager Danny Ferry said O’Neal will wear a splint for the next two weeks, then begin his rehab.

“Our guys have done a very

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be the last Olympic mem-

But for every finish like this, there is also the possibility that Sweden and Finland could

in 30 years, drawing an average

The most-watched hockey game

returns to play for the post-

Canada to a 3-2 overtime victo-

Canada’s three gold that ended

O’Neal's MVP Alex Ovechkin has already

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NBA

Shaq sidelined 6-8 weeks

Associated Press

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Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Taylor Mays has no regrets about finishing his senior season at Southern Cal.

Eric Berry saw no sense in risking everything one more time at Tennessee.

The top two safeties in this year’s NFL draft exemplify the high-stakes choice dozens of college underclassmen debate each winter: Should they stay in school or should they jump to the NFL?

“He told me I’d be a fool to come back,” Berry said with a laugh explaining the advice his defensive coordinator, Monte Kiffin, provided.

Kiffin’s NFL pedigree helped Berry make an informative choice, one that could bring in millions of dollars by August. The junior is projected to be a top-five pick in April and could slide into the bottom of the first-round draft picks despite possession flaws. Others aren’t so fortunate.

NFL defensive end Adewale Ogunleye likely would have been a first- or second-round choice after his senior season at Indiana. But he went back to school, injured his knee and wound making the Miami Dolphins in 2000 as an undrafted free agent.

It happens, and making the right choice can be as risky as a poker. There are no assurances, no set standards, and little historical evidence to help.

This year 53 underclassmen have declared for the draft. Some of the names are familiar—Heisman Trophy winner Sam Bradford, Notre Dame quarterback Jimmy Clausen, Oklahoma defensive tackle Gerald McCoy, Oklahoma State receiver Dez Bryant and Terry. Others, such as Nevada defensive end Kevin Basped and Marshall running back Darius Marshall, are still trying to prove themselves.

“I came back to become a better football player, and I feel like I did that, came back to help some of the young guys on our team learn like older guys before helped me,” Mays said. “That was important to me. I feel regardless of what our record is, or how I played the season, that’s what I accomplished.

The reasons for leaving can be very personal. Clausen for instance, thought he did as much as he could in 2010. Bradford didn’t want to risk another injury.

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Problem 1

Kevin Youkilis

Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — When the Boston Red Sox traded for signed free-agent first baseman Mark Teixeira last month, it seemed Kevin Youkilis would be moved from first base to the corner. But when Boston attempted to trade Youkilis to Texas in December, as Lowell to Texas this winter, Youkilis was mentioned as a possible trade piece. Not exactly the sort of stability most two-time All-Stars would expect, but while many big leaguers prefer to hold down one position, the uncertainty doesn’t bother Youkilis. He’s comfortable at both corner bases, he said, a luxury that gives general manager Theo Epstein added flexibility. “I just tell Theo I need a raise every year,” Youkilis said. “Tell him I should get a bonus if I move around because there for many times I have to move over,” Youkilis said. “A lot of times you have to move because there is an injury.”

Youkilis, an eight-round draft pick by Boston in 2001, approached Youkilis said that hitting first this year is something he wanted. “I don’t want to worry about all that other stuff,” Youkilis said.

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As a safety precaution, the kids used batting gloves, and others used a bat with grip tape. “Say I break a bat and I’ve probably getting tossed out of that game if they try to do that.”

Kevin Youkilis

Associated Press

West Virginia’s Dan Sewing hit a three-run home run in the top of the first inning Monday night.

West Virginia (23-6, 12-3 Big East) clinched a double by into the quarters of the Big East tournament during West Virginia’s 81-68 win Monday.

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — De’Sean Butler scored 22 points and 13 rebounds in West Virginia’s 81-68 win over Georgetown Monday night.

The Mountaineers (23-6, 12-3 Big East) clinched a double by into the quarters of the Big East tournament. Devion Eckanks added 15 points, Kevin Jones scored 14 and Darryl Bryant had 11 for West Virginia.

The free fall continues for Georgetown (19-9, 9-6), which was ranked No. 7 three years ago and has lost four of five.

The Mountaineers led by as many as 27 points early in the second half and Georgetown, playing without its leading scorer, Chris Wright, couldn’t catch up.

Butler was introduced last among West Virginia’s three seniors on Senior Night and received the loudest ovation.

Hinkle Fieldhouse will end up in third place on the school’s career scoring list behind the Hoyas’ career scoring leader, John Thompson, and Hot Red Hundle (2,140).

Butler has the school record with 100 games scoring in double figures. Wright, Georgetown’s third-leading scorer at 13.9 points, helped soften the loss of Freeman, scoring 10 points in a 3:30 span and the Hoyas used runs of 9-0 and 8-0 in the second half to whittle the deficit to 62-53 with 5:55 left.

With Washington out of the way for at least five minutes and the sellout crowd grew restless, West Virginia’s Travon Capers (14 points) hit a three-pointer. Butler made a three-pointer to pull within 68-65, 2:54 left.

West Virginia outscored Georgetown 27-14 from the free-throw line, forced 20 turnovers and picked apart the Hoyas with an up-tempo transition offense. Freeman, who is averaging 17 points per game and is Georgetown’s top 3-point shooter, is still recovering from stomach flu that limited him to five points in only 23 minutes in a loss to Notre Dame on Saturday. Hollis Thompson started in Freeman’s place for the second straight game but was held to only two points on 1-of-6 shooting.

Jones scored six points during West Virginia’s 10-0 run to start the second half that pushed the lead to 53-26 with 16:51 remaining.

West Virginia’s Darryl Bryant, right, attempts a layup in front of Hoya Greg Monroe during West Virginia’s 83-68 win Monday.

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SPONSORS

FTD FLOWERS, S.C. — When the downtown FTD Flower Shop put out a sign free-agent first baseman Mark Teixeira this season, it seemed Kevin Youkilis would be moved from first base to the corner. But when Boston attempted to trade Youkilis to Texas in December, as Lowell to Texas this winter, Youkilis was mentioned as a possible trade piece. Not exactly the sort of stability most two-time All-Stars would expect, but while many big leaguers prefer to hold down one position, the uncertainty doesn’t bother Youkilis. He’s comfortable at both corner bases, he said, a luxury that gives general manager Theo Epstein added flexibility. “I just tell Theo I need a raise every year,” Youkilis said. “Tell him I should get a bonus if I move around because there for many times I have to move over,” Youkilis said. “A lot of times you have to move because there is an injury.”

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Kevin Youkilis

Associated Press

Kevin Youkilis

Red Sox first baseman

“I love first, I love first — put me out there.”

Kevin Youkilis

Rex Sox first baseman

Red Sox first baseman

“I love first, I love first — put me out there.”

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West Virginia downs Georgetown
Big East
continued from page 20

“(The GWLL) was a great conference for us. It really helped us in a period of growth for our program,” Corrigan said. “We leave with nothing but fond memories of the GWLL.”

But the time has come for change, Corrigan said. “At the same time, it’s a great time for us to join a league like the Big East,” he said. “I think the league itself is a tremendous thing for the sport of lacrosse.”

Joining the Irish in the newly-formed Big East men’s lacrosse league will be defending national champion and No. 1 Syracuse, No. 14 Georgetown, Villanova, Rutgers, St. John’s and Providence. Of the seven teams, Syracuse was unanimously picked to win the conference in the preseason by the seven coaches, and Notre Dame was picked to finish second.

Now in a conference with two other top-15 teams, the Irish will face a more difficult schedule throughout the regular season, a fact that should benefit Notre Dame as they seek to continue playing the way they have been playing — so far registering an 11-7 win over No. 2 Duke and a 12-8 win over Penn State Sunday — with one major improvement.

“The biggest thing we haven’t done is consistently well in the first couple games is we haven’t cleared the ball well, and that can really hurt you,” Corrigan said. “When you get defensive stops, you need to turn those into offensive possessions and even offensive opportunities.”

The Irish have five more matches to fine-tune their game before opening their first Big East conference season on March 27 when they host Rutgers.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

Watt continued from page 20

but it wasn’t working. He began concentrating differently and keeping the ball high on Baumann. He was able to get some short balls and create opportunities for himself.

“Another struggle the Irish have been fighting to overcome is making sure that all their players are healthy and able to make it through multiple sets of games,” Bayliss said. “We have some injuries that are lingering nicely.”

Bayliss said, “Watt showed that he is close to being all the way back having played two matches on Sunday. In two of three of this weekend’s matches, Notre Dame was able to not only dominate the doubles portion, but also sweep the competition.”

“We changed our lineup around to try and create some different looks,” Bayliss said. “We moved Casey [Watt] from playing with Tyler Davis, to playing with Stephen [Havens]. It was good to see them pull out a win over Wisconsin. We may switch things around against Illinois, but we are still looking for the proper chemistry.”

The Irish will look to their doubles pairs to get the team off to another strong start today against the Illini in order to keep up their winning ways. Notre Dame will face Illinois at 5 p.m. in Champaign.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrab@nd.edu

PPE

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PPE

MEN’S SWIMMING
Top freshman making a splash for the Irish

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

As first-time performers on the intercollegiate stage, freshmen in all sports are often expected to undergo an adjustment period as they learn the college stage. The Irish freshmen, however, have quickly adjusted and contributed in a number of key ways over the course of the team’s regular season and postseason.

“The learning curve is similar to that which you see in basketball and football,” Irish coach Tim Welsh said. “As a senior in high school you race against 14-year-olds and here you race against 23-year-old men. Also, racers in college focus on technique and turns, which aren’t really emphasized in high school.”

Any discussion of the Notre Dame freshman class begins and ends with Bill Bass, who broke a number of records in a virtuoso debut season for the Irish. Bass, who came onto campus as a decorated all-stroke swimmer in high school, didn’t miss a beat in the pool. Bass’s highlights this season include a Notre Dame school record in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 1:46.44 at the Big East championships in Pittsburgh. His performance came on top of a previous season-best time of 1:50.70 in the 200-meter medley event that scored a victory for the Irish in their Shamrock Invitational.

Bass’s contributions have not gone unnoticed by his coach.

“We’ve seen great things from Bill Bass right away,” Welsh said. “Especially at the Big East championships. It’s evident that he’s gotten bigger and stronger over the year.”

A number of other Irish freshman have contributed to the Notre Dame this year, among them breaststroke specialist Christopher Johnson. An Indiana state champion in the 100-yard breaststroke in high school, Johnson carried his breaststroke success with him to the Irish pool.

Top freshman making a splash for the Irish

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

Schultz continued from page 20

She won the 400 at the Big East Indoors this year with a time of 53.16 seconds, setting a new conference record. In her final season, Schultz said she knows it is her last chance to shine, and that is exactly what she intends to do — even as she looks back on three years with the team.

“Track has made me realize I’m a little tougher than I once thought I was, has helped me survive the freshman 15, and has given me some of the best friends anyone could ever ask for.”

Contact Megan Finnegan at mfinnegan@nd.edu
For the second time this season, the Irish fell hard to Connecticut, a team that in the end was simply too athletic, too talented and too good. A team with players, Connecticut guard Kalana Greene said, "weren’t planning on losing."

Notre Dame was the only Big East team to play Connecticut twice this season, and the results Monday’s loss and a 70-46 loss on Jan. 16 — weren’t pretty. But was it really a disadvantage to play Connecticut twice in one season?

Absolutely not. Let’s play them more.

Notre Dame’s loss, coupled with St. John’s 77-65 win over Pittsburgh Monday, bumped the Irish to the No. 5 seed in the Big East tournament. Instead of having a double-bye, Notre Dame will begin the tournament Saturday against the winner of Friday’s first-round game between the No. 12 seed Pittsburgh and the No. 13 seed St. John’s.

Each team in the 16-team Big East repeats against one other team over the course of the 16-game conference schedule. Notre Dame played Connecticut twice. St. John’s, which won the No. 4 seed and a double-bye into the conference championship, repeated against last-place Seton Hall.

While the question of fairness could have been avoided altogether if the Irish had been able to defeat the Red Storm on the road last Tuesday, it should still be mentioned that Notre Dame had a significantly harder road to its 12-4 conference record than St. John’s did.

But the Irish also got two chances to play the undisputed, far-and-away best team in the country. This can only help going forward, as they might see the Huskies again as the Big East tournament draws to a close, and maybe again after that in the NCAA Tournament.

In January, Connecticut’s press defense stifled Notre Dame, and the Huskies led 28-6, a little more than 10 minutes into the game. Monday, the score was 16-15 in favor of the Huskies after 10 minutes. Connecticut changed up their defense Monday, playing a zone that all but took the Irish guards out of the game but allowed junior forwards Becca Bruszewski and Devereaux Peters to score 15 points apiece once the Irish had adjusted to the different style.

How many more new strategies could Connecticut possibly throw into a third or fourth game against the same opponent? Notre Dame figured it out a little bit more Monday and, if called to play the Huskies again, will have two more games to learn and adapt from which to prepare.

The Irish actually led Monday in several defensive categories, including blocks, steals and forced turnovers. If they can put that together with their solid post play and find a way to improve Monday’s dismal 31.1-percent shooting performance, the next match between the two teams could be a game worth watching until the end.

Even if Notre Dame does not play Connecticut again this season, it can only improve by playing the best competition. After two games against the Huskies, possible NCAA Tournament matchups against No. 2 Stanford or No. 3 Tennessee — both of which lost to Connecticut in the regular season — may seem a little less daunting.

If nothing else, playing Connecticut and other top teams could help Notre Dame get a little bit closer to a day when opposing coaches declare the team to be just "that good."

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily of The Observer. Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu.
Sports

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

‘They’re that good’

Unbeaten Huskies hand team first home loss

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Notre Dame failed to defend its home floor for the first time this season, falling to Connecticut 76-51 in a rematch with major Big East tournament seeding implications. The Irish pulled to within 14 points with 11 minutes to go in the second half, but the nation’s No. 1 team broke off a 13-0 run to push its winning streak to 69 games.

“Last game we weren’t in it at all, so if we’re in it for 10 minutes tonight, that’s improvement,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. “I think there’s definitely more highlights for us in this game. They’re just really, they’re that good. They have to play poorly and we have to play well. And we didn’t play well, they didn’t play poorly. That was a tough combination.”

Junior forward Becca Bruszewski

Playing No. 1 UConn twice should help ND

There were a lot of reasons for Notre Dame’s 76-51 loss to No. 1 Connecticut Monday. But Irish coach Muffet McGraw summed them up in three words: “They’re a great team,” she said. “Really, they’re that good. They’re that good. The Huskies have now won 69 straight games, one shy of their own record set from 2001-03. This is their second straight undefeated regular season, something they also accomplished in the 2001-02 and 2002-03 seasons.

SCHULTZ

Schultz looking to shine on the track in final season

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

A stereotypical college life is one of partying, enjoying life and doing nothing productive as often as possible. Those Saturday or Sunday morning jogs around campus you vowed to run become few and far between, and eventually sometimes get pushed to the back burner.

For Irish senior sprinter Joanna Schultz, this lifestyle was never an option. Schultz began running in seventh grade, and thanks to relentless encouragement from her mom, she never stopped.

“I started running because I wasn’t athletic enough to play softball, and everyone in middle school did all three seasons of sports, so I had to do something,” Schultz said. “It was close enough, yet far enough away from home, and the girls on the team made me feel welcome.”

In her junior year she took eighth in the 400 at the 2009 NCAA Indoor Nationals, earning the title of All-American, which she called the best memory of her career thus far. From there, Schultz’s success continued into the outdoor season where she won the 400 hurdles at the Big East 2009 outdoor championships with a time of 53.12 seconds. She advanced to the NCAA Midwest Regionals, where she placed fifth and barely missed out on the chance to compete in the national championships. Now Schultz is more determined than ever.

After having surgery on her stomach last September, Schultz has recovered and become stronger than ever.

MEN’S LACROSSE

Big East poses new threats

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame won the last three GWLL championships, but this year has no chance to defend that title. Rather, the Irish will go after the first-ever Big East men’s lacrosse title in the first year the conference has sponsored the sport.

In its 16 years in the GWLL, Notre Dame became a nationally-recognized program, finishing in first place 12 of those 16 years. Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said despite the promise the Big East holds for the Irish, the GWLL helped make the No. 3 Irish (2-0) what they are today.

Men’s Tennis

Irish prepared to take on Illini on the road

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

After breaking their three-match losing streak with wins over Michigan State, No. 36 Wisconsin, and Toledo over the weekend, the No. 31 Irish are set to take on the Illini in Champaign, Ill., today.

“It was a great weekend for us,” Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. “I’m really proud of how our team competed against Wisconsin, who is a very good team. They’re a legitimate top-20 team. They beat Florida State a couple weeks ago outdoors without having practiced on their turf. One of Notre Dame’s (6-5) bright spots this past weekend came from No. 28 sophomore Casey Watt’s performance at No. 1 singles.

Watt was able to defeat the nation’s No. 7 player, Wisconsin’s Moritz Baumann, in three sets, 6-2, 6-2, 6-4. “Casey Watt had a fantastic weekend,” Bayliss said. “He changed up some of his tactics after the first set and they really paid off for him. He was trying to play aggressively against them.”