Priest cites Catechism in support of gay rights

I would like respectfully to ask [O'Hara!] to explain publicly her rationale for the prohibition.

Father David Garrick

Challenging the prevalent belief that homosexuality and Catholicism are incompatible and citing Catholic doctrine as support, Father David Garrick, a professor of philosophy and theater, claimed that it is the obligation of a Catholic university to recognize a homosexual student group.

To facilitate this step, Garrick believes that a University wide dialogue must take place which concentrates on Catholic teaching and the moral status of gay and lesbian students. Saying that Notre Dame is the ideal setting to discuss these issues, Garrick stated that some fundamental questions must be addressed.

"Are homosexuals an oppressed group?" Garrick asked. "And if they are, what are the practical ways to help this minority?"

Garrick noted that several tenets of The Catechism of the Catholic Church (1994) provide an answer. In a letter to The Observer on April 4, he said that certain points of The Catechism provide support for his claims.

In the letter he said, "The Catechism offers teachings that should be considered as support for the recognition of groups of gay people, governed by gay people, for gay people — so long as these groups do not in any way encourage their members to break the institution's rule that prohibits sexual intercourse outside of marriage."

His letter came in response to Vice President of Student Affairs Patricia O'Hara's denial of official recognition for a homosexual student group which was made on the basis of Catholic teachings. He explains in the letter, "In light of the Church teaching, I would like respectfully to ask her to explain publicly what her authority or rationale is for the prohibition."

Garrick chose to step forward at this time because he believed that it was his duty, both as a priest and as a man of homosexual orientation, to question the stated belief that homosexuals are inconsistent with Catholic doctrine. It was a difficult step, said Garrick, who had not previously stated his sexual orientation.

Holy Cross, Regina head to polls for run-off vote

Penalties and abstentions have forced Saint Mary's students to return to the polls. Election runoffs will be held on Monday for the 1996-1997 Regina and Holy Cross Hall Councils.

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The Battison ticket was unable to clinch the Holy Cross Hall Council election due to numerous abstentions. Forty-three percent of future Holy Cross resident voters in yesterday's election, 48 percent of the votes abstained. After the ten percent deduction, Battison amassed 48 percent of the votes. Since this falls short of 50 percent plus one vote, the ticket faces a run-off.

Regina Hall also faces a Hall Council election run-off.

SMC HALL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

By LAURA SMITH

Assistant Saint Mary's Editor

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Every now and then something sparks a bit of controversy throughout the otherwise peaceful Notre Dame and Saint Mary's campus communities. Whether it's deciding to allow females into Notre Dame nearly 25 years ago, deliberating whether to light up the number one after the Greensboro victory won the national championship, or handling the unabashed outburst of incoherent (oh-hum) campus commentators as Fred Kelly or Christine-Like, the campuses have handled it in stride.

For the most part they have taught that every student is a unique individual. I believe this is right or wrong but rather search for support and accept the person you are. The students at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's need their outlet, maybe more than any in justice. They are not allowed to have other clubs and organizations on the two campuses possess. They are not allowed to have emotional support. Emotional support for students who may feel lost within the system could be one of the main advantages of establishing such a club.

The students at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's pride themselves on being one of the most intelligent groups of students in the nation. Yet does anyone see the narrow-mindedness and prejudice really going on here? The universal god has been adapting to differences in race, culture, and gender since its conception in 1452. All students have been given equal opportunities to participate in all clubs and activities. But when asked what has brought us to this, the response is the anti-gay clubs. They are not allowed to have a club like a gay single's bar within the boundaries of the school. They are not allowed to have an outlet for something that is a part of them. Seventy-one-year-old Guenther Marocke of Kleve said he saw flames burst through the ceiling at about 4 p.m., and pointed them out to workers.

"All of a sudden, people started calling, 'Fire! Fire!'

Dole blasts Clinton veto as extremist

WASHINGTON

Sen. Bob Dole's placement of President Clinton on the "extremist fringe" for his veto of an anti-abortion bill sharpens battle lines for the 1996 presidential election. A strong rhetoric from both sides, polls show a majority of Americans don't want a ban on abortion. Dole's sharp comments, made after Clinton vetoed last week's partial-birth abortion bill, could make it harder for him to win support from the political center as he moves beyond the GOP primaries into the general election campaign. Asked about Clinton's veto as he campaigned in Pennsylvania late Wednesday, Dole said: "It's not there on the extremist fringe." Dole renewed his contention during a campaign stop Thursday in Memphis, Tenn., saying: "It is out there on the extreme edge." Dole's point was that the bill, which would ban a seldom-used late-term procedure, had considerable bipartisan support in Congress — even if not enough to override a veto.

Rudeness a problem in the U.S.

WASHINGTON

A poll says Americans think their country is becoming a nasty place to live, where bad manners, uncouth d rituals, unpolite language, and unacceptance, unless they were thrust into it. Their lives are not easy, especially at Catholic institutions. Gay and lesbian students at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's need their outlet, maybe more than anyone else on these campuses. A true club would give them a common place to meet and the opportunity to find others who happen to have the same feelings as they do. Notre Dame and Saint Mary's are not the most accepting places, a recognized club could possibly help the students feel like they belong. It would offer them a chance to express who they truly are without inhibitions. Individuals differ a lot from one another greatly. I am not attempting to decide if homosexuality is right or wrong but rather search for support for people who may really need help.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Observer.
Mize honors Madeleva’s goals

By BERNADETTE PAMPUCH
News Writer

Adventure, danger and romance may not be the first things that come to mind when contemplating a Catholic education, but it was certainly the focus of yesterday’s presentation on Christian identity and Higher Education held at Saint Mary’s.

The third in a series of presentations sponsored by the Center for Academic Innovation, the discussion was headed by Sandra Yoram Mize from the University of Dayton. Mize, the author of the forthcoming book “Strange Impulse: Educating Women in the Science of Theology, Saint Mary’s College and the Making of an American Religious Vocation” (Indiana 1943-1969), taught at Saint Mary’s from 1988 to 1992. She spoke about Sister Mary Madeleva and her contributions to the theological atmosphere of the college in its early days.

According to Mize, the purpose of the speech was to view the possibilities of Catholic higher education through the eyes of Sister Madeleva. Madeleva was instrumental in making Saint Mary’s the first Roman Catholic institution in the United States to grant a degree in theology to women. Madeleva, also known for her elegant and imaginative prose, was intent upon helping Saint Mary’s draw a parallel between 20th century materialism and the spirituality that she hoped she could instill in her students. Much of Mize’s presentation focused on Madeleva’s views of the role of Catholicism and Catholic colleges in the secular world.

“Sister Madeleva thought that to enter into the process of a Catholic education was an opportunity to begin a great adventure,” said Mize, who then went on to detail the “danger” and “romance” involved in choosing a Catholic path.

“There is no doubt that for Sister Madeleva the great danger to Catholic education was exposure to secularism,” she explained, adding that Madeleva’s romance with Catholicism contributed greatly to the development of the Saint Mary’s community as it is known today.

“For Sister Madeleva, education without God at its center was merely wordplay, but education with God at the center was the Word,” said Gail Mandell, Saint Mary’s professor and biographer of Madeleva. Mandell spoke afterwards in response to Mize and later joined in the open discussion that followed.

Not content to only establish the School of Sacred Theology, Madeleva was also instrumental in shaping the vast library resources of Saint Mary’s College and had a hand in many of the important decisions on campus.

“The library was a repository of both the sacred and the secular world,” said Mandell, noting that the theology school was established so that women could receive degrees in theology, the ultimate goal of which was to establish a core of instructors to teach at the undergraduate level.

Both Mize and Mandell agreed that Madeleva was an important figure in shaping the future not only of Saint Mary’s school of theology, but also of the religious training of many women in the years that followed.
Dante continued from page 1
with his colleague Dino Cervigni of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, translated one of Dante's other works, "Vita Nuova," or "The New Life." Both specialists in medieval literature, Vasta and Cervigni are working on a second volume to their translation, which Vasta said will serve as a commentary to that work. "Stunning" and "massive" are the words Vasta chose to describe Notre Dame's Dante collection. "It's one of the best in the world," he said. "Some of the samples of original material in the collection are very rare."

The oldest item in the exhibit is a facsimile of "Dante En-tense," or a photographic copy of a late 14th century manuscript by the Italian poet, which dates back to the 1370s or 1380s, according to Dupont. The collection also includes 500-year-old original editions of "The Divine Comedy." Over 50 editions of Dante's work, which include color and black and white reproductions, are on display in the exhibit.

Some of the more recent artists who have contributed to the collection include the well-known Spanish surrealist Salvador Dali, who painted illustrations of "The Inferno." The work of Robert Pinsky and Michael Mazur, who collaborated to produce an illustrated version of Dante's work, is also featured in the exhibit. While Pinsky wrote a verse translation of Dante's "Inferno," Mazur supplied portfolio print to illustrate Pinsky's words. In a presentation of their book at Notre Dame on March 6, Pinsky said that the theme of "The Inferno" is the "weak faith" of the Pilgrim in the story. Dante's work can be interpreted as "an imitation of action, a deficiency of the soul," Pinsky said of the narrative which describes a journey to hell and, thus, an exploration of the self.

Mazur said that through the images he created for Pinsky's translation, he attempted to depict the human soul and to illustrate the themes present in "The Inferno," one of which is the struggle for faith.

In addition to the artists and literary experts who have praised the University's Dante collection, other faculty members agree that the Italian poet's work should be showcased at Notre Dame because it encompasses a vast area of study. "Dante was a bridge figure who historically brought together the Medieval period and the Renaissance," said Howard Louthan, assistant professor of history and teacher of a Renaissance Europe class. Therefore, Dante "linked an older, intellec-tual tradition with a new, emerging mode of thought." As an endowed program, the Devers Program in Dante Stud-ies will fund rare book acquisi-tions to the Dante collection, an annual visiting lecturer in Dante Studies and print and electronic publication of scholarly research work in the field.

As Dupont explained, part of the endowment has already been put to good use. For example, the 1380s manuscript was a purchased using part of the Devers' donation. And a Web site will be set up with information on the present Dante exhibition in Special Collections next semester. The Renaissance edition of Dante is already on the Web, Dupont said.

Ted Cachey, associate professor of Romance language and literature and director of the Devers Program, noted the importance of the program. "The Devers Program enables the soul, shape and form of Dante to touch the hearts and lives of students at Notre Dame," Cachey said.
By JON SARCHE
Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — A 7-year-old girl who hoped to become the youngest person to fly cross-country was killed yester-
day when her small plane nose-dived to the ground "like a dart" soon after taking off in driving rain and snow. Her fa-
ther and her flight instructor also died.

Jessica Dubroff, who used a red booster seat and extenders so her legs could reach the con-
trol pedals, spoke to her mother by telephone even as she revved the engine on the runway.

"I begged people to let children fly if they want to fly," a tear-
yed Hathaway said before fly­ing the three began to take off and ended the communication.

The plane took off at 8:25 a.m. — just minutes after a thunderstorm hit the area, accompanied by heavy rain, snow and winds gusting to 32 mph.

Surface visibility was about five miles and the temperature was 38 degrees, "right on the edge of icing being a problem," said Cheyenne Airport Manager Jerry Olson.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1996

The Observer • NATIONAL NEWS

Seven-year-old pilot dies in airplane crash

Federal Aviation Administration said it would review rules that govern when a pilot can allow an unlicensed passenger to fly the plane.

Youngsters have to be at least 16 to solo at the controls of an airplane. But children of any age can fly alongside a licensed pilot, who may let them operate the controls if he feels it is safe.

Shortly before takeoff, Jessica told a reporter for Cheyenne television station KGTU she thought about one thing when flying: crashing. But she said she did not worry about it.

Jessica lived with her mother, a 9-year-old brother, Joshua, and a 3-year-old sister, Jasmine, in Pescadero, a rural community about 40 miles south of San Francisco. Lloyd Dubroff lived with his second wife in San Mateo.

The children were schooled at home, learning to read, write, and do arithmetic through such activities as flying, riding horses and even helping rebuild a house.

On Tuesday, Lloyd Dubroff said he was inspired by another young girl's cross-country flight several years ago, and when Jessica expressed an interest in flying a year ago, he asked her

if she would like to try such a flight. She agreed: "I'm the cul-
prit," Dubroff said.

After landing in Cheyenne late Wednesday, Jessica was exci-
ted. "It's been a long day," she said.

"I'm the culprit," Dubroff said.

"I'm the culprit," Dubroff said.
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Israel completes first in potential series of bombings

Peres advocates further warfare when necessary

By SAM GHATTAS
Associated Press

BEIRUT
Israeli aircraft fired rockets across Lebanon yesterday, targeting the command center of Hezbollah guerrillas in Beirut and bombarding cars suspected of carrying the guerrillas' commanders.

It was the first time since the 1982 invasion that Israeli forces have attacked the Lebanese capital. The airstrikes were in retaliation for Hezbollah attacks on Israeli soldiers in southern Lebanon and rocket assaults on northern Israel that killed one soldier and wounded 38 other Israelis this week.

But with Israeli elections just weeks away and recent suicide bombings deep inside Israel still fresh in Israelis' minds, the nine hours of strikes went beyond the usual reprisal.

Casualty and damage reports were conflicting, with four or five people reported killed and about a dozen wounded.

Speaking not long after the airstrikes, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres refused to rule out further attacks on the Shiite Muslim guerrilla group.

"We are not trigger-happy, (but) if someone prefers a confrontation to a dialogue we have the ability to confront them," he said.

Ahmed Younis, a 35-year-old aide to a Hezbollah commander in the south, was seriously wounded when his car was gutted by a helicopter missile on the highway near the southern port of Sidon.

The commander was not in the vehicle, Lebanese security sources said. A 27-year-old woman passenger was killed and two other civilians were wounded at an adjacent highway rest stop in the fishing harbor of Jiyeh. A third civilian was wounded when a missile hit a car at Dirdisiya, near the southern port of Tyre, the sources said. Israeli fighter-bombers also attacked bases of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah in eastern and southern Lebanon.

Hezbollah's top commander in southern Lebanon, Sheikh Nabil Kassouk, swore to "burn (the Israelis) with their fire and blow up the ground under their feet."

Thousands of Israelis fled the border town of Kiryat Shemona, where 36 people were wounded by Katyusha attacks on Tuesday, to safety in central Israel. The army ordered all children under 16 to be evacuated from the north.

The attack on Beirut was Israel's deepest assault inside Lebanon since its troops invaded nearly 14 years ago to rout Palestinian guerrillas.

Four Apache helicopter gunships swooped in over Beirut under overcast skies from warships off the Mediterranean coast to blast Hezbollah targets in the slums with at least seven missiles.

The Observer is now accepting applications for:

Day Editor

Please contact Brian Tierney, at 631-5303 with any questions regarding the position. Applicants should submit a letter detailing their qualifications and why they want to work for the Observer. Letters must be received no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, April 15th at the Observer office, 314 LaFortune.
Train derailment causes emission of toxic fumes

By LEN IWANSKI

ALBERTON, Mont. — A railroad tank car containing poisonous chlorine gas derailed and ruptured near this western Montana town yesterday, forcing the evacuation of hundreds of people and sending at least 91 to hospitals.

A cloud of chlorine gas hovered over the area throughout the day; emergency officials anxiously watched to see if the plume would dissipate or move. Bill Reed, chief of the Missoula Rural Fire Department, said late Thursday afternoon the plume was stable and did not threaten other nearby communities, including Missoula, one of Montana's largest cities.

Of 91 people taken to four area hospitals, 11 were admitted and two were listed in critical condition Thursday evening. The other 80 were treated and released. Most had lung irritation and difficulty in breathing.

Gov. Marc Racicot declared a state of emergency in Missoula and Mineral counties.

The derailment involved a 71-car Burlington Northern-Santa Fe train pulled by five locomotives. Eighteen cars derailed about 4:30 a.m., including five tank cars that tipped onto their sides.

Mike Flood

Mike has done a dynamic job working for transfer orientation and training programs with WY Domino's. Mike's efforts with the Sun, 7 Top pizzas, coke, and other Domino's campaigns.

The New Number on Campus...

The Observer • NATIONAL NEWS
Mediators initiate peace talks with Chechnya

Russian attacks continue despite call for cease-fire

Associated Press

MOSCOW

The Kremluin's newly ap­pointed mediator set out yester­day to contact the Chechen rebel leader for peace talks to end the 16-month war in the breakaway republic.

Mintimer Shaimiyev, the Tatarstan leader who in 1994 negotiated his Russian repub­lic's autonomy agreement with Moscow, was seen as an able middleman.

Tatarstan and Chechnya both have large Muslim populations and strong separatist leanings. But while Tatar leaders man­aged to reach political agree­ment with Moscow, the Chechen drive for independ­ence was answered by Kreml­lin troops.

President Boris Yeltsin an­nounced a peace plan March 31 that included calls for new talks through mediators.

The president, who is seeking re-election in June, is under growing pressure to end the war, which has left at least 30,000 people dead.

In addition to negotiations, Yeltsin's plan to end the war also called for Russian troops to cease major combat operations. But residents and witnesses, including officials of the Moscow-backed Chechen gov­ernment, say bombings have continued against Chechen vil­lages where the Russians say rebels have bases.

"I was sidding up the yard and saw that planes were flying overhead," said Khava Amsarov, from the village Goliy in southwestern Chechnya.

"They dropped their bombs straight into our garden. Now we have no house, no nothing," she told Associated Press Television from her hospital bed in nearby Urus Martan.

Zarga Nasipova, another woman from Goliy, said Rus­sian troops attacked civilians in the village.

"My two children were with me. There were a lot of others, about 40. We were hiding in a basement," she said. "They (Russian soldiers) drove us all out and stood us against a wall and began throwing grenades.

"Everyone was wounded," she said. "We ran off in differ­ent directions. I was shot in the leg by a sniper."

The women said they saw Russian planes bomb the south­western villages of Shalazhi, Orekhovo and Goiskoye.

Clashes were reported yester­day outside Gorkhoje, Orekhovo and Akchou, Russian news agencies said.

Russia's air force commander on Wednesday denied his war­planes bombed the villages last week, and he blamed the ex­tensive damage there on rebel land mines.

Col. Gen. Pyotr Druzinik said Russian planes did bomb rebel positions and arms depots, in­cluding some south of Shalazhi, which is 3 miles southwest of Grozny, the Chechen capital.

Russian reports have sug­gested the attacks may have been carried out without sanc­tion by a rogue air force unit, or tacitly ordered by military leaders opposed to peace in Chechnya. Druzinik, who promised to investigate, denied a split in the military.

Inguh President Ruslan Au­shey told the Interfax news agency on Thursday said Yeltsin was being "deliberately misinformed" about the bomb­ings by military chiefs hoping to excuse "the periodic bombard­ment of peaceful villages." Yeltsin named Shaimiyev as an intermediary on Saturday.

Russian Nationalities Minister Vyacheslav Mikhailov said Thursday that Shaimiyev, who has been out of Russia on vaca­tion, had begun trying to reach Dusayev. The first goal, Mikhailov said, is to clarify con­ditions for a possible compro­mise.

Presidential Spokesman Mikhail Lapshin said Friday that Dusayev's attempt to contact Shaimiyev was "not serious." Lapshin said Dusayev was "very, very worried" about the possibility of a cease-fire. "I don't think he's thinking of anything else," Lapshin said.

Dusayev, who has 11,000 men in the village of Abzalovka, and 30,000 in the villages of Orekhovo and Goiskoye, said that he had been working on the peace plan since March.

"I've been thinking about it for the last six months," Dusayev said in an excerpt from a video shown on Russian television.

"I'm tired of the war," he added. "I want to live, to free my people and live in peace."

Despite the moves for peace, residents of the region said they feared a return to the war.

"I hope there will be no more bombing," said a woman who asked not to be named. "But I don't trust the rebels. They are liars.

The woman said her family's house was destroyed last week in a Russian air strike, and she did not know if she and her children would be able to rebuild.

A woman from the village of Dayka, who asked not to be named, said she was concerned about the possibility of a cease-fire.

"We heard Yeltsin's promise," she said. "But we still expect a cease-fire."

Dusayev's name is not well known in Moscow, but analysts say his reputation in Chechnya is growing.

"Dusayev is a very respected person," said a Moscow political analyst who asked not to be named. "He has a lot of influence in the village and the war is important to him.

Dusayev's attempts to reach Shaimiyev have been rebuffed, the analyst said.

"I don't know if he's really trying to negotiate a cease-fire," the analyst said. "But he's trying to maintain control over his men and prevent a new war."

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This special correspondent is traveling with the Russian Military Mission to Chechnya and is reporting for the Moscow headquarters of the Associated Press.

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(Professor of Philosophy, former dean, Faculty of Arts, Letters and Human Sciences, National University of Benin, Republic of Benin, West Africa)

PAN AFRICAN CULTURAL CENTER & DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

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A SERIES OF LECTURES

APRIL 15-18, 1996

PRESENTED BY

PROFESSOR PAULIN J. HOUNTONDJI

Sessions

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Monday, April 15, at 4:15 PM "AFRICAN WISDOM & MODERN PHILOSOPHY"

Tuesday, April 16, at 12:00 "OCIDENTALISM AND ELISITISM," OPEN CONVERSATIONS WITH PROFESSOR HOUNTONDJI (119 O'Shaughnessy Hall)

Tuesday, April 16, at 4:15 "LA CULTURE SCIENTIFIQUE DANS LES PAYS DE LA PERIPHERIE" (In French, Hesburgh Library Lounge)

Wednesday, April 17, 4:15 PM "THE CHALLENGE OF SELF-RELIANCE: IMPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATION AND SCIENCE POLICIES IN AFRICA"

Professor Hountondji's publications include African Philosophy, published in French in 1976 and then translated in Serbo-Croatian, English, and German. He is also editor of and contributor to Philosophical Research in Africa, a bibliographic survey (Cotonou, 1987 and 1988) and Endogeneous Knowledge: Research Trails (Dakar, Cedeosria, 1994) and author of over one hundred specialized articles.
Elect ND alum Dan Lungren VP

Any baseball player knows what it’s like, scoring more runs than the opposition. Presidential politics is no different. He supported Bob Dole in the election cycle. The right wing governor, Dan Wilson, declared presidential aspirations. Lungren is the post’s #2 wide receiver in California who could meet the Buchanan litmus tests and still remain in the running. He fills all the voids Dole must address.

Lungren is a Catholic and conservative. He supported Bob Dole early in the election cycle. The right wing governor, Dan Wilson, declared presidential aspirations. Lungren is the post’s #2 wide receiver in California who could meet the Buchanan litmus tests and still remain in the running.

In short, Dole will lose without Lungren on his team. Current Dole advisors Bob ean win a smattering of western, southern and mid western states. He can win New Jersey and Oregon, but that has serious problems in the industrial Rust Belt, New England and California. Texas and Florida are within Dole’s grasp, but it is unlikely that he will carry both. Dole must hit several home runs in several states to win. That is why the short lists include Michigan Governor John Engler, Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson, Ohio Governor George Voinovich and Florida Senator Connie Mack.

All three governors are Catholics. All three come from the industrial midwest. Picking one of them does not guarantee that they can carry their own state, or even their state’s region. Senator Mack might be a better pick for Florida’s larger electoral vote, but his excuses for not serving in the military rival both Bill Clinton’s and Dan Quayle’s for creativity. That negative alone may not be enough to win.

The presidential game hinges on California. It is the game-winning, game-losing grand slam. For Bob Dole, California gives him a good shot at the presidency. Lose it, and Clinton tosses around bases in triumph as a sure winner. For Clinton, a loss in California forces him to struggle through the extra innings by playing flawlessly in other regions to overcome his electoral deficit.

If Bob Dole and his advisors were shrewd professionals, Dan Lungren would be their only choice for Vice President because Lungren is their only hope. Aside from being a fellow Notre Dame graduate, this writer does not automatically recognize as a credible political figure. Dan Lungren is a professional politician and good human being. He separates the pettiness and hostility of politics from personal and family concerns. He always takes time to say hello to those who know, even to us liberal Democrats, and is one of the most gracious persons outside of the political arena. If only he could see the “liberal light”.

Gary J. Cursao, Notre Dame ’72, worked at the U.S. House of Representatives for eight years and is now a publi cist with the International Union of Electronic Workers (IUE) in Washington, D.C. His column appears every other Friday and his Internet address is b distributors@indiana.edu.

Wednesday: We’re Back, and the retirees are sitting in a chair at the line.

Dear Editor:

At no point did Feminists for Life claim that “artificial contraception should be banned, or be considered immoral. This, that pro-lifers base birth control and want women to have as many children as possible, is one of the “pro-choice” side’s greatest scare tactics.

As an organization, we did not and do not officially affiliate ourselves with the Catholic Church, or its teachings regarding the moral/theological status of family planning, contraception, and sex and procreation in marriage.

We are however, concerned by Gordon & Rottenberg’s tactic of “guilt by association” for the coincidence of some of our views with the Catholic Church’s. When they emphasize our “obedience to the Vatican line,” “the Vatican’s anti-woman agenda,” “our lack of independence from the patriarchal, Vatican line,” and “our loyalty to papal teaching,” rather than simply countering our ideas in themselves, they’re following in the most ignoble traditions of anti-Catholicism.

Women—couples—should have the knowledge and the freedom to be able to plan their families, making decisions based on their own preferences, the family’s economic situation, et cetera. No woman should be coerced into pregnancy by the state, society, her partner.

At the same time, however, we are very concerned about coercion to avoid pregnancy or have abortions; we worry that “pro-choice” groups pay too little attention to this serious problem, which encompasses First-World countries making aid to developing countries contingent on population reduction, state coercion in China, coercion to abort baby girls in India, and the more “mundane” coercion in the U.S. of economic difficulties, threats by the child’s father, parents of pregnant teens refusing to bring “shame” upon the family, et cetera.

Certain methods—the pill, IUD, Norplant, Depo-Provera, the “morning-after pill” and the experimental “vaccine”—are wrong insofar as they cause early abortions some or all of the time.

Were they “true” contraceptives, we would not be concerned as a “life issue.” We would still be very concerned about their effects on women’s health—all of these have very real side-effects and long-term dangers, which are far too often simply ignored. In women’s health expendable in the name of sexual availability or population control?

We don’t see the need to talk about birth control methods because everyone knows about them already. High schools get condoms demonstration in classes. Commercial on T.V. promote them. A recent episode of “Friends” showed the characters Rachel and Monica fighting over the last one in the apartment, when both boyfriends were over. Why should we add our voices to the cho ruses—except as a “slim line” test which we do not wish to be considered as a “life issue.”

Natural Family Planning is 100% safe, and its costs are insignificant. Those who condemn it—deny it even as one possible option for women—are misinformed, or refuse to inform themselves because of hostility.

ELIZABETH JENSEN
Treasurer, Feminists for Life

AND NOW, MAD COWBOY DISEASE

CHARLES RICE

I’m not the only person thinking about how to deal with the end of the federal government’s food stamp program. It’s been on my mind for a while, especially since it was announced that the program would be ending in 2008.

We’re working on a bill to extend the program beyond 2008 and increase funding for food stamps to help more people get the nutrition they need. It’s important to me because I was raised in a family where food stamps were a lifeline.

My family was able to put food on the table because of the food stamp program. My parents worked hard to make ends meet, but sometimes we had to choose between paying rent and buying groceries. Food stamps helped us stretch our dollars further and put food on the table.

I want to see this program continue to help families like mine. It’s a safety net that’s crucial for people who are struggling to make ends meet.

That’s why I’m working on this bill. I want to make sure that the food stamp program is here for people who need it. It’s one of the most important programs we have, and we need to do everything we can to protect it.

It’s important to take action now to extend the food stamp program and increase funding. We can’t afford to let this program fall apart. People’s lives depend on it.

So if you care about people who need help getting food, please get in touch with your representatives and let them know that you support extending the food stamp program and increasing funding.

Thank you for your support.

GARY TRUDEAU

THE OBSERVER

MOTHER'S DAY

THANKS MOM

ELIZABETH JENSEN
Treasurer, Feminists for Life

“"You can be my Yoko One."
Social Transformation depended in Relationships

A myriad of words came to mind when I read in the last Thursday's Board of Trustees Observer that Cristiane Likely had been named among four contributors to the Board of Trustees. Perhaps the most encompassing among my reactions was relief. In my opinion, Likely is just one of numerous examples of the English language really evinces the apathy that has infected so many Americans with regards to the political process of change.

Likely's participation in Board of Trustees report questioned

In November her Second piece, Likely writes "... it is necessary to now evaluate the overall endeavors of the Europians, i.e. Caucasians, or for all intensive purposes, the dumbards. The persisting culture of the Caucasians is best described as destructive, evil, deadly, greedy..." I believe the expression Likely was looking for was "intents and purposes." Jonathan Patrick says Likely will "contribute a student voice in written form." (Observer April 6) Does she shares the same first name as the man as the man in Portland. More importantly, however, does or has Likely completed her studies, yet remains plagued by an insecurity she is the one who actually contributed to what appears to be a friend, yet regularly alienates others in her despair and seemingly endless need. I sense that she should reach out to share some important news. He is the one who either goes unsought to a social gathering, or the one we regularly see alone at the dining hall or on campus. Who will respond to such need? Whether or not the time is right, we still need someone to do something for the ones here, and every day with those here in our midst, for Christ has no body now on earth but ours. Kristen Siddle is one of the winners of the recent Martin Luther King essay contest.
By DAN CICHALSKI
Acme Copy Editor

They are our neighbors to the north, bailing from the second largest country in the world, known for (among other things) its bacon and the sport of ice hockey. They are citizens of the same country as Dan Akroyd, Wayne Gretzky and Barenaked Ladies. They are Canadians, and several have matriculated at Notre Dame to pursue their education and take advantage of the opportunities college has to offer.

Although they fit right in and are no more noticeable than a Texan is to a New Englander (or vice-versa), Notre Dame’s Canadian students are aware of the slight differences and little things that set the countries apart.

Freshman Scott Giuliani, originally from Burlington, Ontario, forty-five minutes east of Toronto, points out that “there are a lot of similarities (between Canada and the United States) but there are some differences. You can’t say we’re the same at all. When I go home, I notice the differences. But you see them among the states, too.”

Several of Giuliani’s countrymen and countrywomen agree. Freshman Benoit Cotnoir, from Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec (400 miles north of Montreal), asks “Where do you want me to start?” when discussing American-Canadian similarities and differences. “For one thing, hockey isn’t as big here and there are differences in sports in general.” But to Cotnoir, the Canadian cultural barrier is cross: “French is my first language and my background is very different. I’ve been speaking English for only two years. Canada is a lot more liberal,” says freshman Emily Block, from Toronto. “There’s a lot less crime and racism in Canada and our cities are cleaner and safer. But people are a lot friendlier here.”

Perhaps there is a reason Americans seem friendlier: “Canadians like to be distinct from Americans,” says freshman Megan McNally, from St. Catharine’s, Ontario. All four agree in one general contrast between Canada and the United States. Canadians know more about America than Americans do about Canada. American history is not required in Canadian secondary schools, but classes are offered. “I took a course,” Giuliani recalls. “It mostly dealt with how American history relates to Canada.”

“Americans are more concerned with their own country,” Cotnoir says. This observation is evident. Consider any high school class offerings or even Notre Dame’s own DART books: few, if any, classes on Canadian history or literature, even in the context of American history. “Americans seem to overstate their role (in history),” Cotnoir says.

So what would convince someone from “the Great White North” to cross the border to attend college? The fact that this is Notre Dame has a little to do with it. “Opportunity, change,” says Giuliani. “This school has a lot to offer. Hockey was part of my decision, too. I wanted the chance to play at a competitive level.”

While Giuliani made the Irish hockey team as a walk-on, Cotnoir was recruited. “(Notre Dame) was the best option I had,” he says. “I wanted to play at a higher level and this is a good school.”

McNally, who moved to Ontario from the United States in 1984, had no choice but attending the country in which she would attend college. “I had to go to an American school,” she states. And Block is in the same boat as hundreds of other Domers. “My family. My parents didn’t want me going so far away.”

In the same way that students from the coast miss the ocean and others from the west miss the mountains when they spend eight months of the year in the United States, Canadians also have the borders to consider. But, at least in the cases of these four, that did not present too much of a problem. “My dad was a little hesitant,” recalls Block. “But that was because my parents didn’t want me going so far away.”

Giuliani and Cotnoir both describe their parents as being “completely supportive” when they made their decisions to come to Notre Dame. In the same way that students from the coast miss the ocean and others from the west miss the mountains when they spend eight months of the year in the United States, Canadians also have the borders to consider. But, at least in the cases of these four, that did not present too much of a problem. “My dad was a little hesitant,” recalls Block. “But that was because my parents didn’t want me going so far away.”

Giuliani and Cotnoir both miss the hockey. “Compared to Canada, you don’t get any hockey here,” laments Giuliani. “And the broadcasters back home are better.”

Last fall, the news coming out of Canada that most Americans might be aware of dealt with the vote in Quebec on whether or not the French-Canadian province would secede from the rest of the nation. “I think it’s funny that Americans ask about that,” Block says. “There’s so much going on in Canada but that’s all that gets down here. All my professors ask me about it, too. I don’t think Quebec should secede.”

“I’m glad they didn’t secede,” says Giuliani. “A big part of Canada would have been taken away and it would have been tough for the country to stay together.”

From coming to Quebec, Cotnoir has a different perspective on the situation but the same opinion. “I’m fortunate. I got to travel a lot (because of playing hockey) and to see western Canada. I do not want to separate, but I do see the other point of view. Our French culture is important. I think at one point in time we’ll States or return to Canada—and both sides of the spectrum are covered. “That’s a big dilemma for me,” says Block. “I like Canada better, but I’ll probably stay here.”

“I love it here,” Cotnoir says. “I like traveling and I’d love to go to Europe, too. But at one point I’ll probably go back to Canada.”

“I wouldn’t mind a job in Canada,” McNally remarks. “But I’ll probably stay here.”

“I’m undecided,” says Giuliani. “I can’t really say that now. But at least now I know I’m not going to live in South Bend.”

Despite the obvious differences between Americans and Canadians, both sides at least are in agreement on their opinions of Notre Dame and its standing and prestige. And, it seems, in their feelings towards the city of South Bend.
By SYLVESTER GORMAN

The festival opens tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Stepan with Notre Dame’s band, which is followed by other universities’ and the judges Jam at 10:30 p.m. The afternoon session starts at 1 p.m. and Saturday evening revs up with Illinois at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the La Fortune Student Center information desk and at the door. If you have never seen live jazz, this is your opportunity. Don’t let it happen without you.

Wiskerchen is very excited about. He says, “Our band is very good. There are some very good freshmen, and we don’t find that.” He is talking about soloists Jeff Spoonhower and Phil Erskine on trombone, and Keith Sysics on French horn. A better show that is so conducive to bringing a date and has so much bang for the buck. At $5 for the Friday session, $1 for Saturday afternoon, $3 for Saturday night, and $6 for an all-session pass, Fr. Wiskerchen is on the mark when he says that students “can’t claim it costs too much money.” The public can get the whole package for $15.

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Bryant continued from page 24

Bryant’s prolonged absence from practice, combined with a change in position from linebacker to defensive end as well as a change in the offensive schemes he sees in practice, has led to an expected degree of frustration on his part.

“It's been tough. But I'm just trying to take it day by day, make the best of the situation,” said Bryant. “I've gotten better to the point where I can go out there and at least try to contribute.”

The Irish coaching staff has continued to put faith in Bryant’s potential, slating him to backup veteran Bert Berry at rushing end next season.

“He’s a young guy, and obviously a real fine athlete,” mused defensive coordinator Bob Davie. “He’s up against a lot of obstacles now, but in the end, that’s what’s going to help him. The things we’re expecting from him escalate his whole process of development. We’re throwing the whole ball of wax at him now.”

That ball of wax appeared a little heavy for Bryant during Thursday’s practice, during which the freshman struggled to pick up a few defensive schemes, although often compensating for his mistakes with his pure athleticism. Bryant is the first to admit that he is up against a much tougher challenge than he ever saw in high school.

“I always was a physical player,” said Bryant. “I never really got blocked in high school. It’s a little different going up against this offensive line here.”

Bryant certainly wasn’t blocked much in high school, garnering 160 tackles and six sacks his senior year on the way to earning all-state honors. But college is a different story, and Bryant is yet to become a leading character.

Davie isn’t the only one who sees a world of potential in Bryant, however.

“He’s the type of person who’s going to do whatever the coach asks him to do,” said Berry, who was been an inspiration to the freshman as of late. “We have a great friendship going on, and I’m looking forward to seeing him progress. He’s young and inexperienced, but he’s got the mold to be a great one.”

Bryant himself is more cautious with his words, saying, "I'll just try to give it my all, see what happens."
Attention All Notre Dame Undergraduates!

Future Notre Dame Students want to meet you!

The Admissions Office has recently mailed decision letters to high school seniors. We expect many, many (at least 400 or so) of these admitted students will want to visit campus and learn about the Notre Dame Experience first-hand -- from current Notre Dame students. WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are asking that each on-campus student help us by volunteering to host a student overnight for one or more of the following dates:

- Wednesday, April 10
- Thursday, April 11
- Friday, April 12
- Saturday, April 13
- Sunday, April 14
- Monday, April 15
- Tuesday, April 16
- Wednesday, April 17
- Thursday, April 18
- Friday, April 19
- Saturday, April 20
- Sunday, April 21
- Monday, April 22
- Tuesday, April 23
- Wednesday, April 24
- Thursday, April 25
- Friday, April 26
- Saturday, April 27

We ask that you complete this form today and drop it by the Admissions Office (113 Main Building). If you prefer, you can call Jennifer Carrier at 1-7505 and let her know which dates you would be willing to host. She also will take any questions you have about the program. (You can, if you like, drop this form in campus mail, but please do it now because time is running short.) A final option is to reply by e-mail to the following address:

Jennifer.M.Schlueter.1@nd.edu

The students in our next Freshman class are calling today to visit very shortly. Any assistance you can give them will be greatly appreciated. On behalf of next year's freshmen, we thank you for your generosity.

The Admissions Office
113 Main Building
631-7505
The Saint Mary's softball team looks forward to reversing what occurred against Adrian College last weekend and renewing a winning streak as they face Concordia University this weekend. The Belles have been off since last Saturday, after losing a disappointing pair of games to Adrian.

The Belles have certainly had their ups and downs this season, and were frustrated to leave for Easter with two fresh losses on their minds. Coach Jan Travis and many players felt that they were too anxious to head home for the holidays and were not mentally in the game.

"At times, it seemed like we were already home for Easter," Travis stated. "It was as if we were not in the game at all. We played a good defensive game but we will never win a game when we are batting .149 to our opponent's .404, which was the case against Adrian." So it was batting practice that took up much of the Belles' practice time this week. Both the coaches and the team hope that honing their hitting skills will help to combat some of the stumps that they find themselves in during games. It also helps that the Belles can now practice outside, a treat that was not so long ago forbidden to them because of the cold weather.

"It is good to have days outside to work on our bats," said Travis. "It also helps to work on defensive situations that are otherwise difficult simulating in doors."

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Texas offers Irish opportunity

By JOEY CAVATO
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's tennis team has one last chance to prove to the rest of the country that they are still a force to be reckoned with. They face their final opportunity to improve their national ranking before tournament play.

With just two regular season dual matches left, the Irish are looking to build on their recent momentum. The team is riding on the wings of a four-match winning streak, so this chance comes at an opportune time.

The squad will take on a twelfth-ranked Texas team this weekend. The Longhorns will be a tough match-up, as their top three players have been ranked in the top ten in the Big 12. Winning two out of three at the Blue Gray Classic has highlighted an exceptional year for the Longhorns. Last September the Irish came out on top of a 4-3 decision in an exhibition match.

However that match was played on quicker indoor courts while the weather this Saturday will be outside on the slow courts of Austin. "They are a lot better outdoors," explained Irish head coach Bobby Bayliss. "It was good that we got outside yesterday for practice and for the Purdue match."

Key for the Irish will be capturing the doubles and taking advantage of their depth at the bottom of the lineup. "We need to figure out a way to win the doubles point," Bayliss explained. "I think we have an edge down low, so we'll have to take advantage there."

The Irish will be looking to the sophomore-freshman combination of Jakup Pietrowski and Brian Patterson who have compiled a 13-5 mark to lead the team. "Jakup and Brian have been very solid," Bayliss raved. "Brian brings a lot of athleticism and Jakup is probably our best pure doubles player."

On the singles side, Bayliss is hoping either Mike Sprouse or Pietrowski or Ryan Simms can pick up a point or two at the top of the lineup. "We're going to have to scratch and claw Saturday, they are tough at the top," Bayliss observed. "It is a match we can win, but we'll have to play very well to come out with a win."

After taking on the Longhorns the Irish will get a couple of days off before finishing up regional action at Michigan next Tuesday.

Toledo

continued from page 24

In a game which saw the Irish commit three errors which led to three unearned runs, it was the bat of freshman Allen Greene and the arm of senior Rich Sauget which saved the day.

Greene, who filled in for the injured Rowan Richards in right field, went 3-4 with four RBI, and Sauget pitched the final two innings to stabilize an erratic Irish bullpen and earn his fourth save of the season.

Three of Greene's career-high four RBI came in the second inning, when his bases-loaded double off loser Tom Stauffer put the Irish up 5-1. Greene also helped seal the victory in the eighth, with a one-out RBI single which put the Irish up 8-6.

"He's been in and out of the lineup," said Mainieri of Greene. "With Rowan (Richards) hurt, we're looking for somebody to step up and take that job."

Sauget now owns a 2.66 ERA in a crucial three-game series. The next test for the Irish will come this weekend, when the team plays host to Big East National division rival Rutgers in a crucial three-game series.

Happy 20th, Billy!

With joy and thanksgiving the Congregation of Holy Cross and the family of

Edwin Hilliard Obermiller, C.S.C.

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Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

on Saturday, April 13, 1996

Basilica of the Sacred heart
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana.
LAX

continued from page 24

about the polis," said Corrigan. "We try to concentrate on things like execution and fundamental, and let the rankings take care of themselves." "It's nice to have the ranking, but its not going to affect the way we play," said junior attackman Will DeRiso, who is enjoying the finest campaign of his career.

"The way both teams play will be critical in deciding the upper hand. Both teams will try to force their own tempo on the contest. North Carolina will try to run and gun their way up and down the field, while Notre Dame will use team defense and ball control to create their scoring chances." Saturday's matchup will showcase the nation's most potent offense and one of its top defenses. North Carolina are scoring an NCAA-leading 15.80 goals per game, while the Irish are second in the nation in scoring defense allowing just 6.88 goals a contest.

"It's definitely going to be a battle of tempo," said DeRiso. "It'll be up to us to possess the ball a lot to keep it on our side of the field."

A young, but quickly progressing Irish defense will shoulder the responsibility of shutting down UNC's high scoring quartet. Merrill Turnbull (42 points), Brendan Carey (36), 5 time ACC player Tony Rassas, and Todd Blaualos is ready for the gut-check. Backing them up will be sophomore net-minder Alex Cade and his 6.76 goals against average. The stingy Notre Dame defense has faced opponents to just three goals in 40 man-down situations.

We have some very intelligent defensemen, and that shows up in man-down situations," said Corrigan. "And we've got a kid who has been playing awfully well in net."

The Irish will rely on a balanced attack to just three goals in 40 man-down situations.

We have some very intelligent defensemen, and that shows up in man-down situations," said Corrigan. "And we've got a kid who has been playing awfully well in net."

The Irish will rely on their patience to spread to the scoring chances. Saturday's matchup will showcase the nation's most potent offense and one of its top defenses. North Carolina are scoring an NCAA-leading 15.80 goals per game, while the Irish are second in the nation in scoring defense allowing just 6.88 goals a contest. "It's definitely going to be a battle of tempo," said DeRiso. "It'll be up to us to possess the ball a lot to keep it on our side of the field."

A young, but quickly progressing Irish defense will shoulder the responsibility of shutting down UNC's high scoring quartet. Merrill Turnbull (42 points), Brendan Carey (36), 5 time ACC player of the week Jason Wade (34), and Spencer Deering (32). Notre Dame players have a much fun to play each week. They (the opposition) don't know who they have to shut down."

"As the big-game pressure starts to build, Corrigan thinks that the balanced attack will be prepared to meet the latest challenge."

"The road trip may have been good for us. It forced us to concentrate, work on our fundamentals and come together as a team. It may have been a blessing in disguise," he said.

And despite the remarkable road winning streak, Irish players recognize that now is no time to rest on their laurels. "This is a big game, but its going to be nice to be home in a game like this. I think our best lacrosse is yet to come," said DeRiso.

The "way" both teams play will be critical in deciding the upper hand. Both teams will try to force their own tempo on the contest. North Carolina will try to run and gun their way up and down the field, while Notre Dame will use team defense and ball control to create their scoring chances. Saturday's matchup will showcase the nation's most potent offense and one of its top defenses. North Carolina are scoring an NCAA-leading 15.80 goals per game, while the Irish are second in the nation in scoring defense allowing just 6.88 goals a contest. "It's definitely going to be a battle of tempo," said DeRiso. "It'll be up to us to possess the ball a lot to keep it on our side of the field."

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Irish look for redemption at home against Hoosiers

BY KATHLEEN LOPEZ
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame women's tennis team's goal was to start their road trip off on the right foot. They did just that by defeating the fifth-ranked Texas Longhorns last Thursday.

The team was looking to extend their streak against the third-ranked Duke Blue Devils, but the Devils were too much for the Irish to handle. The eighth-ranked Irish then turned around and took on the eleventh-ranked Wake Forest Deacons the next day. The team lost the match to the Deacons, and watched their record fall to 17-5.

Daniel Jay Louderback. "We wanted to at least win one of the three big matches, and we did. All of the matches were close ones."

"Texas was a great win for us. Duke was close, and we lost a tight one to Wake Forest."

The Irish started the weekend strong, as they claimed a tight victory over the fifth-ranked Longhorns, 5-4. The Irish saw some strong play from the freshmen. Freshman Jennifer Hall, ranked twentieth in the country, faced the eighth-ranked player, Farley Taylor. Hall showed her strength by defeating Taylor in straight sets, 6-4, 6-3. The other freshman, Marisa Velasco, won at the No. 4 singles position. She defeated Texas' Laura Berndt, 6-3, 6-3.

At the No. 6 singles spot, sophomore Molly Gavin squeaked past the Longhorns' Anne Pastor, 7-5, 7-6.

In the doubles competition, the Irish dropped their first match, but claimed wins at the No. 2 and No. 3 doubles spots. Seniors Wendy Crabtree and Helyn Lord, ranked nineteenth nationally, lost out to the eleventh-ranked pair of Cristina Moros and Farley Taylor, 4-6, 5-7. The pair consisting of junior Erin Gowen and Hall won 6-4, 7-5. Sophomore Kelley Olson and Velasco claimed the win for the team, by defeating their Longhorn opponent in three tough sets, 2-6, 6-4, 6-3. Velasco quickly silenced her opponent, 6-3, 6-0.

"Basically, we were excited that we won," stated Velasco, "Everyone played really well."

The team then headed to North Carolina to take on the Blue Devils. The match was much tighter than the score showed, according to Louderback. Duke claimed a quick 4-2 lead against the Irish in singles competition. The only Irish players to win their singles matches were the freshmen. Hall squeezed out a close match, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3. Velasco quickly got the Irish in the saddle, 6-3, 6-0.

"Basically, we were excited that we won," stated Velasco, "Everyone played really well."

The doubles competition was shortened due to weather and time, so the Irish did not really get a chance to rally back. In the end they fell to Duke, 2-5.

The seniors did not have a chance to recover as they had to face Wake Forest the next day. In the singles competition, the Irish were strong in the middle of their line-up. At No. 3 singles, Crabtree unthilled Wake Forest's Nicola Kaiwei, 6-0, 6-0. Then at the fourth position Velasco captured a close victory over Maggie Harris, 6-7, 6-2, 7-6. Gown pummeled the Deacons' Cristina Caparis, 6-3, 6-3.

The doubles competition started off heading in the right direction as Lord and Crabtree won, 9-7. At the No. 2 spot, Gown and Hall dropped their match 3-8, and at the No. 3 spot, O'han and Velasco were defeated 6-8.

The Irish just couldn't put away the surging Deacons, and they fell 5-4.

The high point of the past week was the stellar play of the freshmen. Hall has proven her worth throughout the season, as she had steadily moved up to the No. 1 singles position. Velasco showed her power as she was the only Irish player to win all three of her singles matches. The Irish are looking to bounce back against Indiana at home on Friday.

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FISHER HALL REGATTA 1996
Key recruits revive Irish hopes

By MIKE DAY
Assistant Sports Editor

It was a season of firsts for Notre Dame hockey coach Dave Poulin. And although the campaign was marred by disappointment and frustration, there is reason for optimism as Poulin concluded his first recruiting season.

The rookie head coach unveiled the Class of 2000 Wednesday, and although it is too early to make any predictions, this could be the class that elevates the program to a level that seems to be on its deathbed.

Recruits Troy Bagne, Nathan Borrega, Joe Dusabek, Tyson Fraser, Sean Molina, and Ben Simon could become household names within the next year for the Irish. Coach Poulin is confident that the group will help lift the Irish back to respectability.

"We feel that we ended up with the right direction," said Poulin. "We targeted a very small number of players, and we were able to get six of them. They seemed like they wanted to be part of building a program at Notre Dame."

With Garry Gruber, Jeremy Coe and Davide Dal Grande graduating, the Irish were forced to address a need at the defensive end. Blue-chip defensemen Fraser, Molina, and Borrega hope that, come next season, they will be able to fill the void for Notre Dame.

Fraser, a native of Surrey, British Columbia, represented the province in the Canada Winter Games all-star competition. He was also named to the BCHL all-star squad as one of the league's top defensemen.

"The opportunity to play next season," said Fraser, "along with the coaching staff was what influenced me the most to go to Notre Dame."

A resident of Skokie, Ill., Molina played for the Dubuque Fighting Saints of the USHL last season. The six foot, 185 pound defender was accepted into Notre Dame last year but chose to continue his development in the USHL.

"He is a highly skilled player who should contribute right away," said Poulin. "He played in a pretty good league (USHL), so he has a lot of experience. He is the type of player that can contribute on special teams and at the offensive end."

At 6-foot-2, 225 pounds, Borrega has the size and strength to make Irish fans forget about Dal Grande. Hailing from Wasila, Alaska, Borrega is currently playing for the BCHL Vernon Vipers and was named to the all-star team in his rookie season.

"I feel like I can help the team next year and be part of a program that is on the way up," said Borrega. "Coach Poulin has created a lot of excitement about hockey at Notre Dame. I am really looking forward to being part of what he started."

The Irish offense was a weakness last season, struggling to put the puck into the net, even against the CHL’s weakest teams. Poulin’s sights are set on changing that next year, and he feels that Dusabek, Bagne, and Simon will be a big help.

"We were able to recruit some high skilled players who should make an impact for us next season," said Poulin. "We’re excited about the guys we got coming here. We feel like we got the type of players necessary to build a team."

Of the three, Bagne is expected to make the most immediate impact. From Moorhead, Minn., the six foot, 170 pound right wing was a member of the US Select 16 team in 1994 and the Select 17 team in 1995 and led his high school team to States in two of the last three seasons.

Simon, a native of Shaker Heights, Ohio, and Dusabek, from Fairbault, Minn., agreed to attend Notre Dame during November’s early signing period. The pair gave Poulin something to look forward to as he struggled through his rookie season.

"Ben and Joe are both aggressive, skilled players who should help out at the defensive end as well as the offensive end," said Poulin.

Together, the Class of 2000 gives Irish fans the rare opportunity to be optimistic.

The Observer/Rob Finch

In his rookie recruiting season, head coach Dave Poulin took a step in the right direction by landing six strong prospects from the class of 2000.
The lacrosse team will have to defend Moose Krause Stadium as well as their high national ranking when North Carolina comes to town on Saturday. The Tar Heels are coming off an upset of top-ranked Virginia.

Lacrosse
Tension builds for clash with Tarheels
By DAVE TYLER
Senior Staff Writer
It's almost passé to write this about a team that has made a habit of setting new standards for itself, but such statements are unavoidable. Saturday's lacrosse game with North Carolina is the most important contest ever played at Notre Dame.
The fifth-ranked Tarheels are the highest rated opponents ever to invade Moose Krause Stadium, and are fresh off a thrilling 19-18 upset of then-number one Virginia on April 6. The Irish, on the other hand, continue to impress after reeling off seven straight wins on the road.
Kevin Corrigan's squad finds itself ranked seventh, its highest USILA ranking ever, after taking two one-goal games from #12 Harvard and #19 Dartmouth.
For Corrigan and his team, opportunity comes knocking on Saturday at 1 p.m. At stake is a spot in the top five, and one more signal that Irish lacrosse has taken the next step in its development.
"It's exciting to play North Carolina, any time, anywhere. They're a great program with a great tradition. It's a great challenge and a great opportunity for us," said Corrigan.
Despite the lofty heights the Irish have scaled to this point, Corrigan and his players know that playing the poll-watching game can be dangerous.
"We don't talk too much about the polls," said Corrigan.

Irish escape Rockets, prepare for Rutgers
By DYLAM BARMMER
Assistant Sports Editor
The Notre Dame baseball team continued its winning ways yesterday, hanging on for an 8-6 win over the Toledo Rockets to up their record to 25-8 on the season.
The Irish, whose games of late have contained almost as much suspense as a Stephen King novel, nearly blew a 6-1 lead, allowing the 7-16 Rockets to narrow the gap to 7-6 before putting the game out of reach.
"We're very fortunate to have the record we have right now," commented head coach Raul Mainieri. "We have not played baseball the way we need to play baseball. I have no doubt that we will get better, however."

Baseball
vs. Rutgers, April 13, noon

Lacrosse
vs. North Carolina, April 13

SMC Softball
vs. Concordia, April 13, 2 p.m.

Women's Tennis
vs. Indiana, April 12

Men's Tennis
at Texas, April 13

Track
at Miami (OH) Invitational, April 13

Men's hoops visit Syracuse
see page 26

Fencers set for NCAA qualifiers
see page 25

Norman sets record pace at Masters
see page 14