Local Hispanic youth participate in games and activities with Notre Dame Spanish students through CASH, the Community Alliance to Serve Hispanics.

The Observer/Kevin Dalum

CASHing in

By KATHLEEN O'BRIEN
News Writer

‘CASH’ program pays off for South Bend Hispanic community

Through the vision of Isabel Jakab, an alliance between Notre Dame students and the Hispanic community of South Bend has flourished in the form of an organization called Community Alliance to Serve Hispanics (CASH). Jakab, who came to the U.S. from El Salvador, had long seen the needs in the Hispanic community. She served for 10 years on the Board of Directors at La Casa de Amistad (House of Friendship), a social service agency primarily for Hispanics in South Bend. She sees CASH as a way to help Hispanics participate more in the Notre Dame community. She and her team hope to establish a Habitat for Humanity chapter in South Bend and to host game nights for Hispanic students. They also plan to distribute a bimonthly newsletter by e-mail and put up an informational website for sophomores. They will also hold open class council meetings.

By TIM LOGAN
News Writer

Hanover team will lead class of 2001 in 1998-99

The ticket of Hunt Hanover and Anna Benjamin was elected yesterday to lead the class of 2001, edging Gerry Olinger and Meghan McCurdy by 28 votes. Hanover will take over as president, with Anna Benjamin stepping in at vice president, Brian Smith as treasurer, and Meghan McCurdy as secretary. The ticket also plans to hold several class activities early next fall "in order to increase class unity," said Hanover.

Professor details relationships of freedom, religion

By M. SHANNON RYAN
News Writer

Professor Hugh Page led the packed crowd in Stapleton Lounge at Saint Mary's yesterday through a "brief imaginative journey to the Ancient Near East," as part of the College's Lenten Lecture Series. Focusing on four selected texts, Page urged the audience to conceptualize freedom and liberation. His goal was for listeners to understand the religious ethos by which the Bible is shaped, form a spiritual kinship with ancient forebears of religion, and gain an awareness of this theme in Judaism and Christianity. Page first spoke on the freedom of group inclusion, pointing out an example of this the Egyptian story of Sinuhe. Sinuhe was a man who fled into self-imposed exile, but later longed for the community of his homeland. "The culture] placed a premium on the group, not the individual. They found safety and meaning in life with their families, community, and relatives, not outside the community," Page said.

This story offers a sense of liberation by drawing from others. This "wholistic and integrated approach" led to members "plunging] head first into the joys ... of the group," according to Page. In his second topic, Page described freedom in the heart of human existence in Mesopotamian cultures. In the Epic of Atrahasis, the burden of duties is delegated to mortals. The chief spokesperson of the gods is ironically sacrificed for the birth of humans who were created through mixed clay and flesh.

Before the god’s death, a promise was made that a son of him would be found within every person — "the drumbeat of the human heart." "It suggests that the same courage and intelligence is at the heart of the human experience," Page said. "The heart is the seed of emotion and intellect. [It is seen as the cosmic liberator.”

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Friday Feature

The Observer/Kevin Dalum

Professor details relationships of freedom, religion
Nationwide 'cyber attack' strikes Princeton, other schools

Princeton, N.J. — Investigations are still underway to explain the computer crash that affected thousands of civilian and military computers all over the nation, including those at the university.

During a 36-hour period that began early Monday morning, several schools, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Minnesota, and the University of California at Berkeley, were affected, according to Associated Press.

Officials unscrambled Navy computers were also affected, according to Commander O'Leary from the U.S. Navy Office of Information in New York City.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is heading up the effort to find the people responsible, O'Leary said. "The FBI handles all investigations involving military computer systems."

Huth said.

Huth added the university has been an important collaborator in this and past investigations. "Princeton is well known about its expertise in computer security," he said.

According to Huth, there are various types of 'cyber attacks' possible.

"This type of attack is called a denial of service attack," when no data is conducted to the computers, Huth explained. "These, that causes them to freeze. Systems are set just to reboot after they freeze." Huth said.

Huth also said the university's lack of computer users who are targets for cyber-suspectable targets in cyber attacks.

"This type of attack can only be mounted against organizations that do not protect their networks with firewalls," said Huth. "A firewall is a piece of software that insulates the Internet from the internal network of the organization," Huth said.

DUBUKE, N.C.

West Campus looks remarkably barren now. Displaying an impressive level of organization and unity, students Tuesday night burned many of the benches that had inhabited the area. The spark for the burnings came from the administration's refusal to allow students to build a traditional bonfire following the men's basketball game Saturday afternoon 77-75 victory over archrival University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and from its plans to take away 14 of the benches in order to prevent future fires. "Public Safety didn't want any more bonfires on campus," Trinity center ent Jeff Konder said sarcastically. "I guess we're just doing their job for them." In an elaborate plot — orchestrated by two students who wished to remain anonymous — several benches a day destroyed the discontent members of the Duke University Police Department. They moved the bench to the other side of the computer and forged it. At approximately the same time, a fire alarm went off in Clocktower Quad, and a few of the students who were trying to ignite the Microcet bench were taken away by police.

Michigan State University

Casino management will be offered

AUBURN, Mich.

MSU's gambling Saturday where the Academic Council approved courses that teach how to manage a casino, some faculty members said. "Does MSU want to be associated with an activity that will teach impressionable young people how to gamble?" asked Shawnee Vickery, a market and sales professor.

"As a company, it's our policy to assist professors in courses that teach management," said Edmund Huth, the university's assistant director of hospitality business. "We have an obligation to the students."

Huth said.

"College students are being taught how to gamble by professors," said Vickery.

"I am concerned that the students are being taught how to gamble, that in our society," Vickery said.

Another concern is that the University of Michigan is being used as a test market for the casino business.

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Forty million dollars to renovate dormitory is needed for renovations. "The University of Michigan is being used as a test market for the casino business."

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Music students to perform opera

By SARAH J. HIITZ

The music department later this month.

on display in an opera put on glory of ancient Rome will be performed in English, is set in the Roman Empire during the reign of Nero.

Emperor Nero, who will be played by graduate student Magnus Hilibo, is the main character. He is in love with Poppea but is married to Ottavia, who eventually tries to have him killed. Ottavia winds up banished, and Poppea, played by senior Laura Fortune, becomes queen.

Graduate student Erin Kraemer, who plays the part of Ottavia, sung the praises of the show's director, Marc Verzaat.

"Marc has so much energy, and he gives everything he has. During the first rehearsal, he gave me a whole extra hour and a half," Kraemer said.

She also explained the care taken by Verzaat to accommodate the character according to the abilities and personality of the singer.

"He takes time to get to know you personally, and then decides how the character should be played. He gets a feel for your own personality, then shapes the character," Kraemer explained.

Stephanie Mann, a Notre Dame graduate student, plays Drusilla, who takes the blame for trying to murder Ottavia to protect Ottane, the man she loves.

"The story is very sick. Drusilla is really the only one with some redeemable qualities," she said.

Mann emphasized that, while college students may not have a particular interest in opera, the intriguing plot makes the show worth seeing.

"What is interesting is that the plot has such subtle twists. There are a lot of subtexts that make it good. There is a lot of meat in this particular work," she continued.

The music for the opera will be conducted by John Apeitos, who is resident conductor of the National Radio Symphony in Athens.

Tickets for "The Coronation of Poppea" are now available at the LaFortune box office.

The music department will take place at 7:30 p.m. in O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Scandiano. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their degree program at Notre Dame
2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals
3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow
4) a budget indicating the costs involved
5) the names of two references

Application deadline:
Wednesday, March 25, 1998

Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship Program in Italian Studies 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall University of Notre Dame

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Announcing the 1998 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the 1998 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed $3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses.

Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

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Lent
continued from page 1
The Bible was the third selection Page marked as pos-
sessing concepts of freedom, especially in the Book of
Ephesians.

A brief episode in this book "almost goes unnoticed,"
according to Page. However, when examined, God's mes-
gage to Moses, "I bore you on eagle's wings and brought you
to myself," implies Israel's concept of liberation.

The text provides a sense of "divine strength, deliverance,
and parental mourning" and also the union of a community
and a divine God. Israel's obedience to the covenant indi-
cates a life of service through which people who invited to
priestly vocations and found a link between freedom and the
society. "The kids Club is one of the most successful endeavors of
CASH. It offers activities which celebrate the culture and
diversity of the children of La Casa de Amistad, who are
mostly Hispanic.

The Notre Dame volunteers play games with the children,
celebrate holidays, do various arts and crafts, make snacks,
go on field trips, and participate in other activities such as
costume making and Hispanic ghost stories.

One interesting aspect of the club is that the children may
switch back and forth between speaking English and Spanish.
Many children come with their friends and siblings in tow, as
interest in the club spreads largely by word of mouth.

Sophomore Laura Antkowisk, Kids Club Coordinator and vice president of CASH, is responsible for planning events for each week.
She decides what will be the activities for that day.

However, she notes that these are not always set in stone, reconceptualizing one morning when the children handcuffed the volunteers and dragged them off by one to a room which they referred to as jail. Antkowisk called that day her fondest memory of Kids Club.

"I love kids. These are like my brothers and sisters away from home," said Antkowisk. "It's hard getting up early on Saturdays, but it's so worth it once you get used to playing with the kids," she said.

"With the Kids Club, we are helping the kids to realize that it is not bad to speak Spanish; it is a gift," said Jakab. "If Notre Dame students are trying to learn Spanish, it must be good.

We want to make them proud of their culture and also a part of American culture.

What we want to help is the self-esteem of the Hispanic children.

The citizenship classes, orga-
nized by senior Kelly Nicholas and junior Matt Sparancito, meet one to two times a week to teach Hispanic people about citizenship and helping them become citizens.

A number of people are looking to take advantage of this service through La Casa de Amistad.

"With the citizenship classes, once people become citizens, they can vote and be the equal of Americans," said Jakab.

"That is the goal of almost every person; they do not fear because they love their country and are afraid to be
disloyal to their homeland, but know they are going to live here and want to be integrated into the community."

The Boy Scouts offer a much needed after-school activity for elementary school students, and the English program helps individuals to improve their grasp of the language.

The program at the Early Childhood Development Center is different in that it is not primarily for Hispanic children, but meant to promote understanding of the Hispanic culture and the speaking of Spanish.

Down the road, Jakab would like to see 200 level Spanish classes getting involved in CASH as an experiential learning component. As the experiential learning is currently only in place for 200-level courses.

"For the future of CASH, I would like to see more people involved and more projects," said Jakab.

"I would like to see us become a very strong organi-
zation on campus with office space, to be a more solid and comprehensive organization because we have a lot to give and there is a big group there with the need," he commented.
On March 6, 1998, a car driven westbound by John Rita, a third-year Notre Dame law student, struck and killed Mara Fox as she and three other students were walking west along Douglas Road.

John drove away from the scene and was later apprehended in his apartment. At 3:28 a.m., he was given an Intoxilyzer breath test which showed an alcohol blood level of 0.14 percent. The only substantial evidence was the police videotaped interview of John.

In November 1994, John was tried in South Bend on two counts, one for causing a death while driving with a blood alcohol content of up to 0.10 percent, and the second for knowingly leaving the scene of a personal injury accident. The jury acquitted him on the first count and failed to reach a verdict on the second.

The proper concern that justice be done was transmitted in some media and other quarters to an identification of justice with the conviction and imprisonment of John. This prejudgment was fueled by the effort of some, even before the trial, to deny John his degree. The University has authority to do so. However, such a rush to punishment would have been inappropriate in a case in which the decisive facts were seriously in dispute.

We hear much about "the Notre Dame family," especially in fund raising. But if a family turns on a member in trouble, when the facts are in dispute and before the trial has run its course, it is not much of a "family." And there were facts in serious dispute. After the trial, prosecuting lawyer said he realized the case had possible weaknesses—notably the Intoxilyzer test and Fox's position in the road—but he thought the other evidence would overcome that. South Bend Tribune, Nov. 13, 1994, p.C1.

On the initial test, the Intoxilyzer registered a .14 blood alcohol level, causing defense counsel to question the accuracy of the reading. Instead of returning to the scene, Rita drove to the hospital in an ambulance for tests, which indicated a .07 blood alcohol level. The victim's blood alcohol level reported was .14 (also known as fog lines). The defendant's position in the road (also known as fog lines) was crucial in determining the point of impact between the Rita vehicle and Fox. The Rita vehicle never left the roadway. The driver impact point between the Rita vehicle and the victim was in the right center portion of the roadway. Any change in the direction of the road was reported that the mood on campus "was one of great sadness." Why "sadness"? John Rita is as much a member of the Notre Dame "family" as is (not was) Mara Fox. The law gives an accused the benefit of the doubt and does not consider him guilty until a proper adjudication on the evidence. His "family" ought to do no less.

Professor Rice is in the Law School faculty. His column appears every other Friday. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Members of Japan’s Habitat for Humanity work on a house in the Philippines. The houses in the Philippines are constructed out of cement blocks, which differs from the wood construction techniques used in the United States.

Below: This is the same site that 10 members of Notre Dame’s chapter hope to visit this August. Their goal is to build 25 houses during a two-week stay in the country.
"They are really excited about Habitat in general, and excited to learn about how we build. Apparently, our way of building things is completely different than theirs."

Typically, the Japanese chapter build homes made out of cement blocks instead of wood. Because land is so expensive and volunteerism uncommon, the four existing Habitat campus chapters in Japan have not had many opportunities to build within their country. Instead, the chapters frequently travel to the Philippines and build homes there.

"In the Philippines, a house made of wood is like a shack," explained Farrell. "It's not really worth anything. The Japanese students are used to building with cement blocks. They're really excited about learning how we build. They even asked if they should take carpentry classes before they came." Building techniques will not be the only unfamiliar aspect for the visiting chapters. Although they attend international schools in Japan, only four volunteers are completely fluent in English. The rest speak only a few words or do not understand the language at all. Luckily, the Michiana Nihon Friendship group has offered to meet the students at the airport and help with translation throughout the week.

"The Nihon Friendship group is a group of Japanese-Americans in South Bend who speak Japanese and they're going to really help us out," said Farrell, who emphasized that the language barrier even poses problems with her e-mail correspondence. Despite the barrier, the St. Joseph County Habitat chapter has planned various activities to give the Japanese students a taste of American life. After arriving in South Bend on Saturday, March 7, the students will have a full day to rest, sight-see and socialize with the Indiana student volunteers.

Sunday evening, they will participate in a tailgate dinner organized by St. Joseph County Habitat. Work at the site begins at 8 a.m. Monday, and throughout the week, group dinners will be provided by various church organizations in the area.

"I'm really enthusiastic to meet all of the students," said Jen Nelson, a Notre Dame Habitat volunteer. "There are quite a few activities and dinners planned that will give us a chance to get to know each other. I'm excited to meet some people and form some new friendships."

Nelson considered various other spring break options, but Habitat's Japanese exchange convinced her to stay on-campus.

"It's a unique opportunity," she explained. "I worked on a Habitat Seminar house on an Appalachia seminar last year. The Habitat project in South Bend really convinced me to spend spring break here."

While in South Bend, the Japanese students will also visit Japanese classes at LaSalle High School and have lunch with the students. On Tuesday, March 10, participate in a press conference with Lt. Governor Kernan who will help build the site that day.

The trip, which is still in the planning stage as the chapter considers funding options, would send members of Notre Dame's Habitat for Humanity chapter to a two-week work project in the Philippines. During these weeks, the chapter would attempt to construct 25 houses.

"Houses don't cost as much there," explained Farrell. "I think the whole exchange just shows how much people around the world care about what happens in the Philippines and here."

For now, the club is focusing on this week's project in South Bend.

"I'm really excited to work with these students from Japan," said Crawford. "It's going to be a busy and hectic week, but I'm excited about meeting Japanese students, learning about their lives and culture and how they're interested in Habitat."

"I just want our students to have a good time and the Japanese students to have a good time too," she added.
Runners look to qualify for NCAA’s

By KATHLEEN O’BRIEN Sports Writer

This weekend will be the final opportunity for members of the Notre Dame track and field team to qualify for the NCAA indoor championships, with just a few individuals remaining in either the Silverton Invitational in Ann Arbor, Mich., or the Big Ten Indoor Qualifying Meet at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis.

“We want to get some people qualified, and in the case of Eric Hines (who is already automatically qualified), just to run as preparation for the outdoor season,” said head coach Joe Pyne. “It will be good for him to get back to the track and have the NCAAs held on.”

The weekend’s coefficients are pole vaulter Mike Brown, who should be bound for nationals, and his 12-feet, one inch higher than his current best; Marshann West, who is two centimeters away from an NCAA berth in the long jump, and Tyson Hoefer in the 35-th weight throw.

Taking part in the indoor meet this weekend are Williams in the 55-meter hurdles, Anna Doster in the 3000-meter run, whose previous times in the 3000 and 5000 may be good enough to qualify her; and a distance medley relay of Mike Conway, Danny Payton, Phil Mishka, and Jason Reising.

“Our goal is we’re going to try to improve JoAnna’s time in the 3000, and hopefully get her into the 3000 at nationals,” said distance coach Tim Reising. “We want this to be a chance to qualify her, run as good as we can this time the NCAAs are run on, and sharpen her up.”

“If she makes it to nationals, our number one goal would be for her to be an all-American, which would mean running right now, that’s a pretty realistic goal.”

This weekend, we’re running the 100M and 800M for the NCAAs,” said Reising, an all-American in the 800M. “We’re going to make sure that we should be able to do that if we perform up to our capabilities. It will be tough, but I think we can do it.”

The championships will be held in the RCA Dome March 13-14, the same size as this weekend’s Indiana meet.

“We have to assume, assuming that JoAnna, Jerri, and a couple others get in, we’re going to have five- or six, whatever we think,” said head coach Joe Pyne.

Though the NCAAs are only the first step in the team’s season, Pyne said, “We’re very optimistic.”

The Observer/Jeff Hsu
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L-S·AYRES
Irish host classic in San Antonio

By ALLISON KRILKA
Sports Writer

A seven-game stint in San Antonio, Texas, stands between the Irish and their Big East conference opener against Providence on March 21.

Notre Dame hosts its annual Irish Spring Baseball Classic at Wolff Municipal Stadium, March 11-14, with Brigham Young, Southern Illinois and Incarnate Wolff Municipal Stadium, March 11-14, with Brigham Young, Southern Illinois and Incarnate

The pitching staff also did its part, striking out 21 batters and walking none in a three-game stretch against Central Michigan, Evansville and Purdue. Alex Shilliday took the spotlight with his eight-inning, 10-strikeout gem against Evansville.

Depth is a major concern for the staff during spring break. The Irish will be without the services of freshman Danny Tamayo and sophomore Scott Cavery, as both hurlers nurse sore arms. If the Irish can survive this test, they will be well-prepared for the upcoming Big East schedule.

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(bob) 1-9 pm Howard Robinson (University of Liverpool)

"The Music of Modality"

comments - Philip Quinn (University of Notre Dame)

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1998 - 1:00 P.M.

"Extending the Possibilities of Dualism"

comments - John O'Leary-Hawthorne (Syracuse University)

comments - William Hasker (Huntington College)

comments - John Foster (Oxford University)

comments - Richard Warner (Chicago Kent College of Law)

"Theology and the Metaphysics of Dualism"

comments - Barry Loewer (Rutgers University)

"A brief defense of the Cartesian View"

comments - Philip Quinn (University of Notre Dame)

"Conceivability, Possibility and the Mind/Body Problem"

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DILBERT SCOTT ADAMS

**CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**
1. Lt. j.g. 
19. Wedge-shaped wonder  
16. Site of two of the Ancient Wonders  
17. Ace  
18. Sieg  
19. Put --- ease  
20. Tote  
21. Third rock from the sun  
22. Toward the end  
23. Rags, Dr.  
24. Marching band instruments  
25. Defects  
26. Italian count?  
27. Actress Balin?

**DOWN**
1. Jolly sound  
2. Calling company?  
3. Strike out  
4. Fall  
5. --- ever so  
6. Airline to Chile  
7. Site of the Temple of Hephaestus  
8. Foreign assembly  
9. Ontario’s _______  
10. Certain home improves  
11. Ring dance  
12. Excessive  
13. Was unkind to  
14. Cassettes  
15. Shag’s alma mater  
16. Ready big shine  
17. Hudson’s Bay Company, e.g.  
18. Translates  
19. Rhoda’s sister  
20. Director’s cry  
21. Burke’s birthplace  
22. Cosmos  
23. Second rock from the sun  
24. Toward the end  
25. Site of two of the sun’s instruments  
26. Detects the Ancient ergs per gram  
27. Inserted component  
28. He was Amin’s birthplace  
29. "Andy Warhol" (1996 movie)  
30. Spoiled rotten  
31. Ford’s folly?  
32. Personal question  
33. Crate  
34. Ring dance  
35. Famous director  
36. Man of the Woods  
37. Excessive  
38. "Wild Orchid" director  
39. Excessive  
40. Gray scale  
41. Japanese man  
42. "Farewell-"  
43. "I ___ the business with 'up'  
44. "Ever so_____

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

1. Pollinator  
2. Find the middle  
3. Find the middle  
4. There is a pattern  
5. There is a pattern  

**YOUR HOROSCOPE**

Happy Birthday in the next year of your life, your "30's" will take flight as you move onto new creative territory. You might feel some stress if you are trying to do many things at once, so you may need to slow down. Financial risks could be around the corner. If you decide to invest in a home or vehicle.

Aries (March 21 - April 19): You will have a major front-reference today. Take her out and show her a good time. 16 is the key to success. 16 will take your success to new heights.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): Try not to tell lies or change today. You will be called on it. However, you're not nonchalant in your life right now. That's okay because you know how to give your job done. Money will come to you if you work hard.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20): There are two problems that will come up in your life. These two problems are anger at you, and how to express them. Forget about it and try to salvage your relationship with your only friend first.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22): Today is a good day to compare last summer's sadness with your current happiness. If you have the same knowledge. Try not to be stingy with others.

Leo (July 23 - Aug 22): Today is a great day to compare last summer's sadness with your current happiness. If you have the same knowledge. Try not to be stingy with others.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sept 22): Planning ahead has saved you in the end this time. While you may feel yourself in a need of attention at work, your social calendar is pure. So you can spend that time concentrating on other things.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22): Tug with your opinion you may decide not to take anyone's advice but your own. Go with that and forget the consequences.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21): Your work at the office is done on time. Go home for once and relax in the comfort of that big-wedge. Try not to be stingy with others.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): Bring a cool-weather person, you will feel today's interesting effect of warm and sunshine. Interesting things will happen if you eat the proper food and read for them. Ahead for the masses, you may get the chance.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): Introduce yourself around to everybody at the office. Take those people whom you don't know out to lunch. This contact will pay off when you pitch for a new job.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): What people laugh at you for travel plans, laugh back and ask them why they haven't thought of it. Now is the time to get away from everything.

For the first time under head coach Dave Poulin, the Irish will participate in postseason play.

Playoff-bound Irish end regular season with Michigan

By CHARLEY GATES

Senior hockey players Yle Andrusiak, Steve Noble and Matt Eider will play their final game in the Joyce Center tonight when the Irish take on the Michigan Wolverines in Central Collegiate Hockey Association action.

The game also concludes the regular season for the Irish (17-15-4 overall, 12-13-4 CCHA) but for the first time in head coach Dave Poulin's three-year tenure, his squad is bound for the postseason, regardless of the game's outcome.

The Irish clinched a playoff birth with a win at Northern Michigan two weeks ago in that game, Brian Erick had three points on his way to becoming the third Irish player to be named CCHA player of the week.

The Irish currently sit in sixth place in the 11-team league, tied with Lake Superior State with 28 points. Both teams have one game remaining. The Lakers host Michigan State, the top-ranked team in the CCHA, on Friday night, which means that Notre Dame will know what it has to do to earn sole possession of sixth place when it takes the ice on Saturday night.

The Wolverines have won both meetings this season, a 7-2 triumph on Friday, Jan. 30th. But the following night the Irish played the Wolverines even, taking them to overtime. They eventually lost the game, but it was clear that the Irish could play with the Wolverines.

Both the Irish and the Wolverines have committed special teams. Rathbun was second in league power play scoring and the Irish held a slight edge in penalty killing.

Regardless of the outcome, Poulin's squad will be playing away in the first round of the playoffs.

"We are going to treat it like a weekend away series," commented Poulin. "Our non-conference schedule will help us here. We deliberately scheduled difficult away games to prepare us for this."

The Irish have proven that they are a road team with impressive wins like the pair at St. Cloud State and the thrashing of the University of Michigan by a 2-0 shutout.

"Just as we did the past two weekends," commented Poulin. "Our team is excited, and therefore a very excited team," Corrigan stated. "We have to make sure not to get into a position where we are building their excitement.

Looking past this weekend, the Irish have a chance at revenge when they play Loyola. Last year, Loyola knocked Notre Dame out of the NCAA tournament in the first round, beating the Irish 2-1. The Irish hope to play up to their potential this time around.

"I don't think that I will have to do much to get our team excited to play Loyola," Corrigan said. "Last year where we played 11 very competitive games and only finished with one game where we didn't play our best. This year we are all anxious to go out there.

The Irish have their work cut out for them this spring break, but a team never ceases to meet the challenges it presents.

Lacrosse team prepares for road trip

Irish looking to avenge last year's loss to Loyola

Lacrosse team prepares for road trip

By TOM STUDEBAKER and DAN LUZIETTI

Spring break is a time for hanging out at the beach, relaxation, and a relief from the normal, monotonous routines of school.

But, for the Notre Dame men's lacrosse team, it will be time for the longest road trip of the year.

The Irish travel to Colorado this weekend for a double-header against the Air Force Academy and Denver University. The second weekend of spring break will see the Irish in Hempstead, New York, to face Loyola College.

The Irish are coming off of a strong performance against Penn State last weekend, winning 14-9. They were led by sophomore Dave Ulrich, who scored five goals and added two assists. Senior captain Burke Hayes and juniors Chris Duane and Brad Owen each added two goals in the win.

Notre Dame looks to build upon this victory during this three-game road trip.

"This road trip is crucial for us, to get to the regional bids that we want, we must win these tough regional games," said head coach Kevin Corrigan. "With the season being so short, every game is crucial. We hope to keep our momentum moving in the right direction."

A unique challenge on this road trip will be playing on back-to-back days. This is the only time that the Irish are scheduled to play in a row this season.

"This will give a lot of people on our team an opportunity to play," Corrigan explained. "We need contributions from everyone in a situation when we play back-to-back games. It is a challenge for us, but we also see it as a chance for many different individuals to step up and produce."

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