Use of fertility enhancers raises moral questions

By SARAH J. HILTZ
Associate News Editor

In the past two years, headlines have celebrated the McGlaughlin and Cherny octuplets. While the parents of these babies declare that they have been blessed, doctors are questioning the ethics of multiple births.

"This is not a victory," said Dr. Benjamin Younger of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine. "A lot of these kids survive, but unfortunately, they survive with major handicaps.

"Any life is a miracle, but how it got there might be perceived as a mistake," Reineke said.

Reineke was displeased over the media's exploitation of the octuplets' births. He sees it as a misrepresentation of what is actually an unsuccessful medical procedure.

"News wants happy stories," the attitude of news reporters is predictable. It's like they're looking at puppies," he said, pointing out that the divorce rate for parents of multiple birth children is higher than 90 percent.

In the aftermath of the now famous octuplets, many have attacked the fertility industry for irresponsibly endangering the lives of mothers and babies. But according to Reineke, it is often the impulsive couples who are to blame. While Reineke can not speculate on exactly why Nkim Chukwu had so many babies, he explains that she was not under the direct supervision of a physician.

"Nobody was taking care of her. She was self-medicating," he said. "These drugs are very expensive. To cut costs, people buy them over the Internet or buy them abroad and treat the patients incorrectly.

"With good management of hyperstimulation, it is very difficult to get more than twins or triplets," he said.

After fertility drugs such as Clomid are administered, a vaginal ultrasound is performed to count the number of mature egg follicles. If the count falls three to five follicles of mature size, the patient is injected with Human Chorionic Gonadotropin (HCG) and seminum, it is not natural or artificial, is attempted. If too many eggs are found or they are too small, the patient must wait and try again after another menstrual cycle.

People sometimes arise when couples ignore doctor's advice, when the doctor incorrectly counts the follicles, or when couples do not seek medical attention and regulate their own drug intake.

The choice to go ahead with insemination is also often based on finances. Each treatment cycle costs thousands of dollars, making it burdensome to cancel and wait for a more opportune time.

"People are making choices not based on quality medical care," Reineke said.

By TIM LOGAN
Associate News Editor

Four years of protests, rallies, resolutions and debate will come to a climax next weekend when the Notre Dame Board of Trustees meets in London to consider the addition of sexual orientation to the University's nondiscrimination clause. Throughout the day leading to that meeting, The Observer will take a comprehensive look at the history and people behind these two issues as well as possible ramifications of decisions that the board might deliver.

Courtship fills long Big Ten-ND history

By BILL HART
Assistant Sports Editor

The cliché "history repeats itself" applies often enough to collegiate sports, and the issue of Notre Dame examining membership in the Big Ten conference confirms that usefulness.

Now is hardly the first time that both college and conference have met to consider a future together. In fact. Notre Dame and the Big Ten have conferred several times in the past to discuss the issue. The long history of courtship between the two Midwestern powers is one worth examining in light of the approaching deadline for decision-making on Notre Dame's part.

IN THE BEGINNING

In the early days of the college football, the University of Notre Dame had no interest in running a football team. The university's president, Father John Fleming, had been a missionary in China and was skilled at running schools, teams, so he left the decision-making up to students or alumni. However, with the managers gave a "free hand" at practices and a growing emphasis of winning, recruiting became a major problem for many institutions by the late 19th century. This alarmed faculty and as a result many colleges created "athletic boards of control" to monitor players, coaches and alumni of their schools' teams.

by the 1900s, most schools had their own forms of these faculty boards, but there were still tensions and conflicts, mostly caused by differing rules and procedures at each institution.

In 1895-96, the presidents of the universities of Chicago, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Northwestern, Purdue and Michigan agreed to form the Western Conference to construct a uniform code of intercollegiate athletic rules. Many educators and sportswriters labeled this a major leap in collegiate sports.

It was the first organized conference, wrote Murray Sperber, University of Indiana professor and author of Onward to Victory. "Many think the Ivy League was the oldest, but it didn't get legally created until the 50s. The Big Ten's creation was the beginning of organized athletics."

At Notre Dame, it was obvious that the Western Conference would help the Irish improve their notoriety and perhaps improve their recruiting. The school immediately applied for admission in 1986, but it was quickly rejected on the grounds that the university was not large enough and its eligibility rules for athletics were not in line with conference standards. The next year, Notre Dame changed its rules in

JANUARY 27, 1999

Students find another outlet for volunteerism in the local SOS program.

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOL XXXII NO. 76

NEWS ANALYSIS

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see BIG TEN / page 6

Clauses revision efforts will reach Trustees

By TIM LOGAN
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Opposition to the change has largely focused on two issues, one legal and one theological. There is concern that frivolous lawsuits and invasive civil court decisions could erode Notre Dame's ability to act independently. Another potential difficulty lies in the Church's distinction between homosexual orientation and homosexual acts.

When the Trustees meet next weekend, they will have to weigh these concerns with the importance of protecting minority students of the Notre Dame community.

This issue, and the greater issue of gay rights at Notre Dame, has been the subject of intense discussion on campus over the past several years, particularly since Gays and Lesbians of ND/SMC was barred from meeting on campus in January, 1995.

Soon after that incident, Vice President for Student Affairs Patricia O'Hara established the Ad Hoc Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs, which began to look into the conditions of homosexual students at Notre Dame. The committee studied the matter for nearly
outside the home

Medical school praises animal testing in search for cures

PITTSBURGH, Penn. Almost all major medical advances in the past 61 years have depended on using animals for research, according to the dean of Pitt's medical school.

Dr. Art Levine, Pitt's senior vice chancellor of health sciences and dean of the School of Medicine, said the experiments are performed on animals because their reactions are similar to those of humans. Because many researchers are not willing to risk human lives to study medicine, tests are first performed on animals.

"Without the animal research, we'd have no cancer chemotherapy or radiation," Levine said. "And no happy people taking Prozac."

Nearly 1 million of the 11 million American diabetics are alive today because of animal studies, according to Pitt's animal research specialists.

More than 10,000 blind or visually impaired people can now see because of corneal transplants perfected on animals.

Since the first Nobel Prizes were awarded in 1901, 65 private universities have relied on animal subjects for their research.

"Supreme Court action could force the National Collegiate Athletic Association to change policies on athletic scholarshipships, budging and athlete eligibility," the Court heard oral arguments Wednesday in the case of R. M. Smith v. National Collegiate Athletic Association, which centers on whether the NCAA, as an institution separate from its members colleges, receives federal funds in the form of dues from its members. Federal laws prohibiting discrimination against women and minority students, known collectively as Title IX and Title VII regulations, apply to all recipients of federal funds. Because the NCAA does receive government money, it would be subject to Title IX and Title VII regulations. Such regulations could affect budgets and, if so, women's and sports events, distribution of athletic scholarships and standards for athletic eligibility.

SOUTH BEND WEATHER

The AccuWeather forecast for noon, Wednesday, Jan. 27

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© 1999 AccuWeather, Inc.

Institute's history.

As reviewed each experiment and has issued penalties only 14 times in the past 10 years. Superior courts are not bound by those decisions, and the institute has 30 days to appeal.

"This is why we are so concerned," Levine said. "The ends we are going to justify the means. Our laboratory is like a baseball team. We want to win and we want to win by any means necessary."

Responsible scientists are constantly examining their experiments to make sure they are worthwhile and don't sacrifice animals unless absolutely necessary. Each experiment is reviewed by a committee that must approve any animal research and, according to Levine, fewer than one out of four experiments are approved.

The National Institutes of Health reviews each experiment and has generally condemned only 14 times in the institute's history.

"The scientific community is doing the right thing," Levine said.

Before an experiment can be performed, a researcher must prepare a protocol stating how many animals will be used, what species will be used and the scientific purpose of the experiment. The protocol is judged by a committee of peers, made up of community members as well as scientists.
Budgetary concerns fill meeting agenda

By M. SHANNON RYAN

The board of governors reviewed this year's budget and examined updates of expenditures at Tuesday night's meeting.

With a remaining balance of $43,702.37, the BOG announced that spending for the current year has totaled $82,464.63 so far.

President John Hoey submitted the board that this remaining money "will go fast" because of end-of-year costs. She also said she expects to have enough money for a rollover into next year's budget.

BOG also granted co-sponsorship to the board for the second-annual SOTA festival, held in the form of $3,800 for the annual SOTA festival....

CONCERNS

Social

The Appalachia Seminar during Fall and Spring break presents a unique service-learning opportunity. Students travel to a variety of sites in Appalachia which present a service-learning through various sites in Appalachia Seminar:

• One credit Theology course
• Acceptance of Residency does not guarantee admission
• Students are required to complete a six to eight credit hours
• The seminar is limited to 10 students

AMONG THE S.O.S. VOLUNTEERS

Amnesty International

Advocating a universal ban on the use of weapons of mass destruction, Alan Isenberg, professor of government and fellow at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, examined why the United States reserves its right to use this weapon in response to the threat of chemical and biological weapons.

"Give priority to preventing their use," Dowdy stated.

The first step must be taken by "the arms control community," Dowdy said. When the numbers of those supporting a ban on nuclear weapons increase, the closer the world will get to disarmament.

"We need a strong voice and a strong voice in the United States to support disarmament," Dowdy added.

States has already agreed not to use chemical and biological weapons, but it still relies on nuclear weapons as a deterrent.

Advocating for a non-nuclear country, Dowdy said that other countries would be more likely to eliminate their chemical and biological weapons. This would allow the United States to rely on its conventional military supremacy.

Dowdy believes the continued use of such weapons will be greatly increased with the "poor man's equalizers" gone.

These problems could be dealt with effectively through legislation.

Dowdy has published books and articles on nuclear weapons policy, and is a member of the National Academy of Sciences.

Further Information

Tom Kilroy, Student Task Force Co-Chairperson, 271-1901
Sarah Kohn, Student Task Force Co-Chairperson, 634-2892
Rachel Ianna Morgan, Student Task Coordinator, 1-5293

ND prof renews calls for nuclear restraint

By KYLE ANDREWS

Advocating for a ban on the use of weapons of mass destruction, Alan Isenberg, professor of government and fellow at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, examined why the United States reserves its right to use this weapon in response to the threat of chemical and biological weapons.

Dowdy stated:

"Give priority to preventing their use."
Inclusion continued from page 1

a year before presenting a list of 12 recommendations to O’Hara, including calls to recognize GLND/SMC as an official student group and to include sexual orientation in the non-discrimination clause. In April, 1996, O’Hara agreed to put the non-discrimination clause issue under consideration by the University’s Academic Council.

At that time, campus groups, including both the Student and Faculty Senates, began looking into the matter. Both senators passed resolutions in support of the change and support among the general student body began to grow. More than 400 people attended a rally on the steps of the Main Building to call for the amendment in April, 1997, while the officers were still debating the matter.

In August, 1997, when classes began for the 1997-98 school year, the officers announced their decision not to revise the clause, instead drafting the Spirit of Inclusion statement, a non-binding statement which called on members of the Notre Dame community to treat each other as equals.

“We welcome all people, regardless of color, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, social or economic class, and nationality, for example, precisely because Christ’s calling to treat others as we desire to be treated,” the statement read.

At this time, the last word on the matter, but supporters of the clause continued to push for a stronger statement offering legal protection to homosexuals.

Recent Events

Last March, Father David Garrick, an openly homosexual professor in the Communication and Theater department, resigned in protest against the University’s handling of gay and lesbian issues at Notre Dame. His resignation brought a new focus to the issue. A rally in March calling for the clause change attracted several hundred people to the Fieldhouse Mall and national media organizations including the New York Times covered the realization.

The Faculty Senate passed a resolution in May calling for the clause change, and in September, that motion was put on the agenda for the Academic Council. The Council is a group composed primarily of faculty and administrators which decides issues of importance to the University’s academic and campus life.

On Oct. 8, the Council chose to put off a decision for five weeks in order to further research the amendment’s legal and theological ramifications. At that meeting, dean of the College of Business Administration Carolyn Wood told the Council that a most-qualified job applicant who admitted in an interview to being a practicing homosexual was not hired largely because of that fact.

This development, and the advancement of the clause change to such a high level of University hierarchy, led to an increase in student activism surrounding the issue. Talk show pioneer and Notre Dame graduate Phil Donahue came to campus to speak out on the clause change, and a number of student leaders petitioned the Council to support the change.

On Nov. 17, the Academic Council voted 19-15 to send the clause on to Malloy and the Board of Trustees. This is the highest level of University decision makers to consider the matter thus far, and the Board can make a final decision on issues.

The Clause

The University’s legal non-discrimination clause, as published in the 1996-97 catalogue reads, "The University of Notre Dame does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, disability, veteran status or age in the administration of any of its educational programs, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs or in employment.

The proposed change would most likely result in the addition of sexual orientation to the list of characteristics.

Babies continued from page 1

care but on what their insurance will cover," said Theresa Voest Grant, president of the International Council on Infertility Information Dissemination (ICSID).

Further ethical issues are raised when an obstetrician believes that too many babies in the womb are endangering the mother’s health. This is why the healthy development of other fetuses. At this point, as in the case with Bibbi McCaughey, selective reduction is often suggested. Selective reduction is the pick-and-choose technique of aborting some fetuses and leaving others.

"The problem is that some doctors aren’t careful about how many pregnancies they cause. You just get a reduction until you get [how many babies] you want," Dr. Reineke explained.

In a decision that made headlines, McCaughey refused doctors’ recommendations to have selective reductions. Instead, she assumed the risks until her waist line grew to 52 inches and she delivered eight babies. More than a year later, the babies are all relatively healthy.

The Chukwu’s also reportedly refused selective reduction due to their religious beliefs. Chukwu was hospitalized for several weeks during her pregnancy, suspended nearly upside down to relieve pressure on other parts of her body.

Reineke stressed that it is not the place of physicians or "Harvard ethicists" to decide whether the existence of these babies is good or bad, and that he feels it is his responsibility to help the couples that come to him for help.

"Whether you can say it’s good or bad is a human value. Nature doesn’t care. You can’t stand by and do nothing — You’ve got to be proactive, but you don’t have to be reckless," he said.

The New York Times contributed to this report.
**World News Briefs**

Prankster impedes high school basketball game

AKRON

With Copley High School leading Wadsworth by only two points in a crucial basketball game, a Copley fan made a defensive maneuver supposedly not addressed in Wadsworth’s playbook. First to a Wadsworth player was about to throw an inbounds pass, the 16-year-old Copley student pulled the player’s shorts down in his knees. Copley held on to win Friday night’s game, 65-60. “The incident took place at a critical stage of the game, and it was a must-win for our team,” Wadsworth coach John Martin said. “Can you imagine what kind of concentration our kid had after he was exposed?” The Copley prankster, whose name was withheld because of his age, was arrested after he tried to run away. He was charged with misdemeanor counts of disrupting a lawful meeting and disorderly conduct. Police Lt. Dave Saltier said the boy understood what he did was wrong and is sorry.

**Columbus**

Jurors who took less than an hour to acquit "Bizzy Bone" acquitted of charges

Mike Harden was manhandled in the barber shop.

This week Scott traded a metal- and-plastic "Bizzy Bone" acquitted of charges

sometime in the next few days to one week."

June 26, last Sept. 16 at the Hair Experts Barber Shop. "That testimony from both sides said

Man moves finger on freshly transplanted hand

Harden was manhandled in the barber shop. Harden was manipulate in the barber
college stewardship by the two barbers.

The man who received the first hand transplant in the United States moved a finger

tuesday, and doctors said there are no serious complications or infection. "His hand looks

good," said Dr. Warren Breidenbach, lead surgeon for the team that transplanted the hand to Matthew Scott's left wrist on Monday. "We are very cautious and not encouraging movement at this point. Controlled motion of the fingers will begin sometime in the next few days to one week."

While the pope was in town. "We love Jesus, yes we do! We love our pope, how about you?" youth groups shouted back and forth.

"We were very cautious and not encouraging movement at this point. Controlled motion of the fingers will begin sometime in the next few days to one week."

"When the crowd was euphoric, the 78-year-old pope's speaking message to the American was more solemn. His arm shook as he held the lectern, his body stumped over his text. Still, his voice was firm as he urged Americans to reach for a higher moral vision.

"Today," the pope went on, "the conflict is between a culture that affirms, cherish, and celebrates the gift of life, and a culture that seeks to declare entire groups of human beings— the unborn, the terminally ill, the handicapped, and others considered 'useless'— to be outside the boundaries of legal protection."

The pope is also a leading opponent of capital punishment and has intervened in several cases in the United States. Missouri's Supreme Court, without explanation, an execution that was to have taken place while the pope was in town. Papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls called the postponement "a mockery.

During previous visits, the pope has spoken against materialism.

**Colombia**

Deadly earthquake stuns villagers

With hundreds of people believed still buried beneath the rubble, mayhem reigned Tuesday in the streets of Armenia, a city of 300,000. Rescue teams in Armenia had recovered about 650 bodies by noon and relief workers estimated the death toll for all of western Colombia would eventually total more than 2,000. Two-thirds of the city's buildings were rendered uninhabitable. People wandered desperately looking for relatives. There was no electricity or running water in most of the city, and food was in dangerously short supply. An estimated 180,000 people were left homeless in Armenia alone.

Coffins have become a coveted commodity.

"I’ve been looking for five coffins for relatives for since 8 o’clock this morning and I couldn’t find any, so we’re going to have to bury them in plastic," said 34-year-old Diego Ruiz, who lost his grandmother, a sister and three nieces.

Rescue workers scrambled to evacuate the thousands of injured and to locate survivors. At the city's small airport, ambulances arrived every 15 minutes with more victims, who were airlifted to hospitals in Bogota. Medellin and Cali.

"There is a danger of epidemics, because we have more than 200 bodies and we have no refrigerated trucks," said Carlos Giberto Gilardo, a top Colombian Red Cross official.

Two members of Colombia's professional soccer club Aliances Quindio —Diego Montenegro and Ruben Bluret, both from Argentina— were found dead. Witnesses said the two were holding onto each other in the ruins of a downtown hotel. Another four players are feared dead.

## Polls

**United States**

**ST. LOUIS**

Pope John Paul II arrived in the heartland Tuesday for a 30-hour visit and likened America's dispute over abortion and euthanasia to the bitter legal battle over slavery on the eve of the Civil War.

"America faces a similar time of trial," he said.

President Clinton and the first lady joined 500 families in a National Guard hangar at Lambert Airport to greet the pope on his seventh papal trip to the United States. John Paul flew in from Mexico City after a triumphant, five-day visit.

The pope later met privately with the president and was to attend a youth rally at the Kiel Center on Tuesday night. On Wednesday, he is scheduled to celebrate a Mass before 104,000 people at the Trans World Dome.

"We welcome you back to America," the president told the pontiff. "For 20 years you have challenged us to think of life not in terms of what we acquire for ourselves but what we give of ourselves.... We honor you for standing for human dignity and human rights.

The president quoted a Polish phrase that means, 'May you live a hundred years and more.'

By mid-morning thousands of young people had circled the Gateway Arch before walking to the Kiel Center and the Papal Plaza nearby.

"We love Jesus, yes we do! Do you love our pope, how about you?" youth groups shouted back and forth.

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**Market Watch: 1/26**

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**World Leaders**

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**Colombia**

The death toll from the worst earthquake in Colombia in more than a century surpassed 1,000 on Tuesday as survivors anxiously awaited rescue workers and prayed for signs of life under the rubble. Those hopes were dashed again and again.

Monday's 6-magnitude earthquake devastated cities and villages across western Colombia, a vast Andean terrain where much of the country's cattle is grown. The temblor shook buildings as far away as the capital, Bogota, 140 miles from the epicenter.

A small aftershock shook the region Tuesday afternoon, causing little damage but sending panicked residents running into the rubble-littered streets. It was one of about 15 aftershocks.

With hundreds of people believed still buried beneath the rubble, mayhem reigned Tuesday in the streets of Armenia, a city of 300,000. Rescue teams in Armenia had recovered about 650 bodies by noon and relief workers estimated the death toll for all of western Colombia would eventually total more than 2,000.

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Coffins have become a coveted commodity.

"I've been looking for five coffins for relatives since 8 o'clock this morning and I couldn't find any, so we're going to have to bury them in plastic," said 34-year-old Diego Ruiz, who lost his grandmother, a sister and three nieces.

Rescue workers scrambled to evacuate the thousands of injured and to locate survivors. At the city's small airport, ambulances arrived every 15 minutes with more victims, who were airlifted to hospitals in Bogota, Medellin and Cali.

"There is a danger of epidemics, because we have more than 200 bodies and we have no refrigerated trucks," said Carlos Giberto Gilardo, a top Colombian Red Cross official.

Two members of Colombia's professional soccer club Aliances Quindio —Diego Montenegro and Ruben Bluret, both from Argentina— were found dead. Witnesses said the two were holding onto each other in the ruins of a downtown hotel. Another four players are feared dead.
Big Ten
continued from page 1

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

Wednesday, January 27, 1999

CAMPUS NEWS
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Officer Elections, the Spring Trip and the Finance Forum

We will discuss:

Officer Elections, the Spring Trip and the Finance Forum

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Praying for the Poor by Name

Who prays for the poor by name? Ten years ago, I was a math teacher for a Milwaukee GED (General Educational Diploma) equivalent program. Some students had dropped out after becoming teenage moth-

ers or falling prey to drugs. Others had quit high school because of dangerous gang warfare. Many couldn’t recall a single teacher or parent who had believed in their ability to succeed. Their neighborhoods were poor and their spirits were broken.

How did they get to me? True, some couldn’t collect their AFDC check without proof of attendance. We were either in school or seeking employment. Most, however, had tasted the real world and knew they would never make it out of the gutter — let alone get a job at McDonald’s — without a high school diploma.

Still, it took me four weeks to focus Kendell, the class clown. Halfheartedly! Thought for two days, he actually learned something! Then, professor, he stopped coming. I suspect fear of the unknown (i.e. success?) One wonders: what if someone had thought to toss him for ADD? Eventually, I sought other solutions — economic solutions. Yet, when I arrived at ND for MBA school, it was as if a fire was burning that no one on campus knew about. There existed a surreal peace here; happy, healthy people, more concerned about waking up national champions than waking up alive. I shook my head often … had I traveled to another world? How could I keep from going my self?

To help, I brought with me two photons; memories which I still keep nearby. The first, of Kendell, reminds me that the fires are still burning, even if the smoke never reaches ND. The second photo, of Cardell with his broad, toothy grin, holding up his GED certificate, reminds me that there is hope, if we pray unceasingly and never give up or turn away.

That’s why I admire people like Gearre Griffin, a local nurse who founded Shelf for the Homeless, Brother Bill Tomes, an ND grad who helps Chicago gang members strive for lives between deadly bullet and fast, Donald Wedick, the Marquette grad who founded the above GED program. Most of all, I admire my mother, JoAnne Tardy, a former teacher who ran that GED program for years and still prays nightly rosaries (yes nightly) for students and DOZENS of others — by name.

Look at Malcolm X, who’s ministry began with hustlers, pimps, dope dealers and number runners — people he knew personally. MLK was the same way; in his day’s his family’s church long before an assassin cut short his grandiose plans for a “Poor People’s Campaign.” Jesus, of course, gained credibility by daily breaking bread with the poor for whom he prayed. I believe that when we pray in anonymity, fashion for the poor, it is easier to brush them off. Where we, instead, pray for them by name, we offer up a powerful prayer and are less likely to forget those for whom we pray, even amidst the waves of our middle-class routines.

The question, then, is how does one begin? Who, Notre Dame, can pray for the poor by name? The answer is easy; one who knows them.

Mel Tardy, ND ’86, ’90 is an Academic Advisor with the First Year of Studies. His column runs every other Wednesday and he can be reached by e-mail at tardy.l@nd.edu.

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

Mel Tardy

Dismissed

No matter how one views the presidential impeachment trial, anyone with a grasp of the English language would be appalled by a statement of Henry Hyde made before the Senate as he argued that the case against the President should not be dismissed. He said he looked up the word dismissed in a thesaurus and found that it means "to ignore, disregard, neglect, or brush off." Therefore, he did not want the Senate to disregard or brush off the case against the President. The problem is, as most educated people know, that a thesaurus does not define words but merely provides a list of related words. (A dictionary defines words.) Hyde’s error can be easily demonstrated. If one of my students at Saint Mary’s raised her hand and asked if she may leave the room because she is ill, I might tell her, "Very well, you are dismissed early." Have I then ignored, neglected, disregarded, or brushed her off? Quite the contrary. The word dismiss means (among other things) to reject a claim — something many Americans wish would happen in the Senate, pronto.

Perhaps such a verbal gaffe is not surprising, coming from the mouth of a politician who dismissed an adulterous affair in his 40s as "a youthful indiscretion."
Big Ten Must Reconsider Catholic Mission, Quality of Undergraduate Education

Kenneth M. Sayre

Given the research apriorifications of the faculty, undergraduate education courses in such institutions are seldom attended by students primarily by graduate students who have little time and often less interest in teaching courses.

The dynamic is not conducive to sound undergraduate education.

The basic question to be faced by the Board of Trustees in its upcoming meeting is how, and to what extent, its Catholicism would be served if Notre Dame were to commit itself officially to the kind of specialized research that binds the Big Ten together academically. Suppose Notre Dame were to join the Big Ten, become a member of the American Universities, move up a few notches from its current ranking of 164th among American universities in terms of "research and development expenditures financing. Given the passion for the author and not necessarily the views expressed in this column are those of the Board of Trustees and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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

Monday through Friday, at 7:30 in the morning, a group of students leaves from Library Circle and goes to a nearby abortion clinic to pray the Rosary, counter-protesting. Specifically, they come back in time for the earliest clinic, the 8:00 a.m. clinic. This is the day and hour that when a matter of life and death is at stake, even sleep does not have precedence.

For a generation what call means call a woman's choice be legal in this country. Does this matter? Alas, all that read this column are clearly not directly affected by abortion: you are not a female. Yet abortion is theHour issue of our age. Abortion goes to the core of what abortion is an abomination in all circumstances, a heinous crime that goes to Heaven. She teaches that it tears to pieces the very core of human dignity, that it subverts and corrupts the intimate bond: that of mother and child. Do we answer "So what?" Our personal position in the issue of abortion defines, in a single stroke, what we care about God, the biblical story of Creation, the idea that it is the point of view of a woman who is affected by abortion: you are not a person, you should care.

I show you this, note what the U.S. Supreme Court said in the famous "superject clause," of Planned Parenthood v. Casey: "At the heart of liberty is the right to define one's own existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of one's place in human life. Beliefs about these matters cannot form the attributes of personal freedom were they formed under compulsion of the State." That is, if your conscience tells you that to be defined as a human whom and who's life will be taken by others, you would not be persons, they would not be able to escape from the legal rights of personhood: the right to define what is the concept of existence. Abortion in the next sentence.

Just note what the Supreme Court is suggesting. The legal right to abort exists, but if your conscience tells you the thing that I can take away, you leave unqualified: if I hold my nose, I may not be a full person day (s) the Court. Abortion is nothing that just concerns a woman's, but her husband, and being Pro-Life the baby. It concerns you, because to be a human being, it concerns all the people who would never have an inconvenient preg­ nancy. The key issue is not a teacher, not thanks to biology, will never have to decide between the life of their and that of their child. Abortion is a central issue for YOU.

Abortion is a central issue if you believe, if you believe that each child which we give birth to have a right to life, have a right to death. Or, on the other hand, what did a woman do to deserve a fair world, to deserve death, how did she deserve to be raped? The Pro-Lifer in me cannot refrain from noting that the child did not rape her mother, the rapist did. If you believe that justice is essentially about justice and if we must decide whether a doctor can kill another human being, the Hippocratic Oath (which forbids abortion and euthanasia) is still valid, or do we feel like we are in a place to relieve suffering? The Pro-Life in me cannot consider who suffers more in an abortion, and whether it is just to actively take away another human being. Raining or allowing abortion defines, in a single stroke, whether the legal system is a just or an unjust system.

Abortion is a central issue, if you believe abortion is a central issue, if you believe that the Way, or does she just teach opin­ ions? The Church has taught, most­ lessly, that abortion is an abomination in all circumstances, a heinous crime that goes to Heaven. She teaches that it tears to pieces the very core of human dignity, that it subverts and corrupts the intimate bond: that of mother and child. Do we answer "So what?" Our personal position in the issue of abortion defines, in a single stroke, what we care about God.

Abortion is a central issue if you care about God, is the biblical story of Creation, the idea that it is the point of view of a woman who is affected by abortion: you are not a person, you should care.

Gabriel Martinez

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

**How It Feels To Be Something On**

*Sub Pop Records*

**** (out of five)

_**Georgette Leonard**_


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_Benefit for Hurricane Mitch_

Four bands - Stepan Center - Friday, Jan. 28

Tickets are $5 - All Ages

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**Placebo**

*Beyond Nothing*

_Foto courtesy of Sub Pop Records_

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_Benefit for Hurricane Mitch_

Four bands - Stepan Center - Friday, Jan. 28

Tickets are $5 - All Ages
The other night, I was lying in my room listening to the music blasting from the floor below me, when all of a sudden, everyone in the room yells out, "And all the girls say I'm pretty fly, for a white guy!" Yep! They're at it again. Five years after introducing pop punk to teenagers and mall-goers, California's The Offspring have recently released their new album entitled Americana. Their latest CD has already climbed to number nine on the Billboard Top 20. Their reignited popularity has been fueled by the hit single, "Pretty Fly (For a White Guy)." This track provides humorous social commentary on all of today's fads and subcultures having the latest gangsta clothes from the local mall.

The band has a history of being associated with novelty songs such as the 1994 hit, "Come Out and Play." It's the song that's known for the line "You gotta keep em' separated!" In a recent interview with Rolling Stone Magazine, lead singer Dexter Holland stressed that novelty "helps get something on the radio, but it helps you to out over really fast. I did want the other side to come out as well — that we are a band beyond one song."

The Offspring's new CD, Americana, achieves Holland's hope of being more than a one-hit-wonder. Aside from "Pretty Fly (For a White Guy)," the CD rocks with the Beatlesque "Why Jetzt wonder. Aside from "Pretty Fly (For a White Guy)", the song was coming up. expanding their musical horizons beyond the redundant theme of sex, drugs and rock n' roll."

"You could call this one of my favorite G.N.R. songs, whose tumultuous career was just as famous as its music."

After exploding onto the national scene in 1987, Guns N' Roses looked like the typical metal band — the big hair, the biker apparel and the chaotic attitude. What prevented G.N.R. from becoming part of heavy metal's downward spiral in the early '90s was that they concentrated on the substance of their material, while other metal bands were obsessed with perfecting their bad-boy reputations. Welcome to the Videos, a 75-minute compilation featuring 13 Guns N' Roses videos broadcast on MTV, documents the tremendous evolution G.N.R. underwent on a musical level as well as a band.

Beginning with the hell-raising, lock-up-your-darlings and throw-away-the-key antics of "Welcome to the Jungle," the compilation video is definitely a walk down memory lane, but, at the same time, you can't watch without realizing that when G.N.R. made a video, they made a video. Aside from being tremendously talented musicians, the band incorporated the key themes of its music into the videos, and it capitalized on the aggression and intensity associated with their songs.

I understand that many of you are right now shaking your heads saying "Wait, this reviewer actually thinks Axel Rose and Slash are accomplished filmmakers?" I'm not going to go out on a limb to declare that, but I do believe that Guns N' Roses took the art of music videos to an entirely different level, one which few bands since have been able to reach. Whether composed of performance footage, behind-the-scenes snippets or narratives touching on birth, marriage, survival and death, G.N.R. videos have been among the most emotionally provocative ever made.

One of the most interesting parts of the CD is its special interactive features. Put the CD into your computer's CD ROM drive, and you can watch The Offspring video clips, and participate in a karaoke type sing along where the words appear on the screen as the song plays through the speakers. My roommates were shocked when they came into the room and found me singing and screaming to the CD's karaoke feature. "And all the girls say I'm pretty fly for an Asian guy!"

At any rate, this album will not only leave you with an expanded Spanish vocabulary (i.e., "uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, cinco, seis"), but also with a few quality songs that you and your friends can jump around to and relieve the stresses of college life. "So if you don't rate, just overcome. At least you know you can always go on with it."

Keith Kawamoto

Welcome To The Videos

Geffen Home Video

What's interesting about the compilation is that it's not entirely a headbanger's ball. Sure, there are anthems like "Paradise City" and "Live and Let Die," but in between these messages of anarchy and turmoil are the song-along's like "Patience" and "Yesterday." And who can forget those late night discussions and debates about what or who killed Stephanie Seymour in 1992's "November Rain"? And why were her injuries so severe that she needed that silver wall in her closet? And why did Slash, the best man, unexpectedly walk out of the wedding? Although the songs are supposed to be obvious when you watch The Trilogy ("Don't Cry," "November Rain," and "Barracuda"), I just got more confused. After years of analysis, this is my conclusion — she died at the wedding reception when she was struck by lightning. There is a theory that Slash killed her, and the reason he left the wedding was out of jealousy, not because his guitar was coming up.

The only disappointment is the exclusion of two of my favorite G.N.R. videos — "You Could Be Mine," featuring a cameo by Arnold Schwarzenegger as The Terminator and the live concert at Bob Dylan's "Knockin' on Heaven's Door," taken from a show in London. I was extremely surprised when I was reading over the truck listing and noticed that these two videos were missing. In addition, the most recent video, 1994's "Since I Don't Have You" a cover of the Skyliners' 1958 hit, was a tremendous slide from the band's high standards regarding its videos. Despite a guest appearance by Gary Oldman as the devil, the video is excessively psychedelic and makes absolutely no sense.

Since the band's last video in 1994, Slash and Duff McKagan have both quit the band, leaving Axel Rose as the only remaining original member. Therefore, in a sense, Welcome To The Videos is a tribute to a band whose mark in rock history will not be forgotten. Once you watch the video compilation and remember that America was still alive, it was, you'll be uttering one word to yourself: REUNION, REUNION, REUNION.

Emmett Malloy
Rookie goaltender records first shutout in fifth game

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif.\nGoaltender Rich Parent recorded his first career shutout and Scott Young and Pierre Turgeon each scored goals as the St. Louis Blues beat the San Jose Sharks 3-0 Tuesday night.

St. Louis added an empty-net goal by Igor Ovchinnikov with 17 seconds remaining as the Blues snapped a season-high three-game losing streak.

Parent, appearing in his fifth career NHL game, had 20 saves, including a stop in the final minute when the Sharks had an extra attacker. He was recalled Monday from the Worcester IceCats of the AHL and started in place of Grant Fuhr, who has been bothered by a groin strain.

His only previous career decision came Nov. 21, when he stopped nine of 10 shots in a 3-2 tie against the Dallas Stars after relieving Jamie McMinnan.

The Sharks, outshooting 36-20 and scoring 3-0, were unable to counter the Blues' effective offensive thrusts and failed to capitalize on another solid effort by goalie Steve Shields.

Shields made 33 saves, including a stop on Terry Yake's penalty shot.

Parent was quickly in position during the Blues' penalty calls and seemed to have the Sharks' power play contained.

Parent's control of the game was evident in his 18 saves in the second period.

His performance against Scotty Bowman's explosive team was a solid one, especially considering he was recalled earlier in the day from the Worcester IceCats of the American Hockey League.

But Parent, who made 33 saves, nearly allowed a goal on the Blues' first shot.

Shields stopped it, but the官方同志 said the Blues' second shot was stopped by Parent, who has yet to play in an NHL game.

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Falcons, Broncos players talk it up at Super Bowl media day

Associated Press

So many reporters, so little news.

The most belligerent Broncos player talked so much during his appointed hour that the humid tropical air around him actually grew thin.

"Loquacious?" Shannon Sharpe stopped one interviewer in mid-question. "Does that mean talkative?" As if he didn't know.

The dismantle Falcons player, meanwhile, declared the "Dirty Bird" passe — even though he refused to take the wraps off his new step.

Funny he should mention that. At some other time, in some other place, what happened Tuesday at Pro Player Stadium would be called slacking. Instead, the National Football League calls it "Media Day."

The annual event involves turning hundreds of sports writers, assorted TV personalities and cameramen loose on the Super Bowl-contending teams like they were entering at a postgame buffet. Sort of a feeding frenzy with a time limit.

At 8:45 a.m. Tuesday, the scoreboard clock at Pro Player was set to 60 minutes to count down the first interview session with the Atlanta Falcons. After a break of 45 minutes, it was reset to give equal time to the Denver Broncos.

In between, reporters were treated to a real buffet in a stadium concourse a few levels up — probably to discourage any Tyson-like snacking when they returned to the playing field.

Afterward, it was hard to say who enjoyed the morning less — the predators, the prey or the two dozen former NFL players who used to be part of the meal and are now part of the media.

Nothing emerged as monumentally stupid as the 1988 session, when a reporter actually asked Washington's Doug Williams how long he had been a black quarterback. Or in 1981, when another reporter, overplaying the human-interest angle, asked Oakland's Jim Plunkett whether his mother was dead and his father was blind — or vice versa.

That is not to say, however, that Tuesday was totally devoid of silliness.

Atlanta's Ray Buchanan showed up wearing a black leather, silver-studded dog collar he bought for his Rottweiler, named Tyson because "he bites ears." The Falcons cornerback picked it up at a local pet shop, he explained, and decided to wear it during interviews so he would look like the "7-point underdog" the sports books in Vegas have made Atlanta heading into Sunday's game.

That explanation, though, didn't satisfy a reporter from Comedy Central.

"He doesn't want to get into words with words," Eugene Robinson, the other Denver receiver who unabashedly admits that he models every move — off the pitch as well as on — after Sharpe. No one had the nerve to ask why.

"Shannon is known worldwide," Smith said. "And he's got some good plans.

"When we talk about retirement, he says the plan is to do nothing. And the way my accountant set it up, I can still stay in this game for 30 more months at my current level. I'd set.

"So naturally, when another reporter pointed out that Robinson was a Colgate graduate who might be more skilled at talking smack than Sharpe suspected, he was ready for that one, too.

"I didn't go to Harvard," Sharpe said. "But I can count to a million.

Fortunately, he didn't. But Sharpe removed any doubts about his math skills a few minutes later. Asked how he thought the rooting interest would break down come Sunday's kickoff, Sharpe replied: "We've got 17,500 tickets and they've got 17,500 tickets. That leaves 40,000 for the locals and such. And most of them will be so drunk by then they won't care."

Occupying the podium to Sharpe's right was Rod Smith, another Denver receiver who unabashedly admits that he models every move — off the pitch as well as on — after Sharpe.

"We've got 17,500 tickets and they've got 17,500 tickets. That leaves 40,000 for the locals and such. And most of them will be so drunk by then they won't care."

"I'm just stay in this game for 30 more months at my current level. I'd set.

"Someone pointed out that three years down the road, the 28-year-old Smith might find retirement boring."

"Unh-uh," he said, "I'm real happy. I just have a famous job."

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Sixers' Iverson signs $71M deal
Thrity-year youngster becomes one of league's top players

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA
No matter where Allen Iverson goes or how many defenders he baffles, the critics are always in close pursuit. They say he's cocky, selfish, too enamored of old friends from a troubled past.

Ready, or not, Iverson signed a $70.9-million contract extension with the Philadelphia 76ers on Tuesday that gave him much more than a raise. Flashing a smile to team president Pat Croce, this enigmatic 23-year-old took on the pressure of becoming one of the top young stars in the NBA's post-Jordan era.

"I want to win the most championships," Iverson said. "And I want to be the best player."

The job began as soon as Iverson finished signing his name. Iverson will get the maximum for a player entering his third season in the league, Croce said. He will get $9 million next season with annual raises of $1.1 million that add up to $14.6 million in the final year of the contract.

"I didn't want to wait until the end of the year and then decide whether to play for a contender," Iverson said. "I never wanted to take the easy way out. I've been here through the bad times, I want to be here through the good. I pretty much knew what time it was."

It is the largest contract ever guaranteed by the Sixers, hurling Iverson past the likes of Julius Erving, Wilt Chamberlain, and Charles Barkley.

"There were no snags on our part," Croce said. "I knew him, and I know he's a winner. I know he's a good guy. That smile can break you down like his crossover."

Iverson's chance to strike it rich came with a $100-million contract — like those signed by Kevin Garnett, Antonio McDyess and Shawn Kemp — was wiped out by the lockout. According to the NBA's new collective bargaining agreement, a player with up to six years experience can receive as much as 25 percent of his team's salary cap, beginning at a maximum of $9 million.

His 1998-99 salary of $3.5 million is prorated for a 50-game schedule, reducing it to $2.2 million — a loss of more than $1.3 million due to the lockout.

"I just wanted to make enough money to take care of my family," Iverson said. "The money that's out there for me right now is enough for me to do so. If the Sixers were going to give me $100 million, I would be a fool not to take it. I have a family and I want to know how my future's going to look financially. But it's not all about money all the time." Iverson is feared for his speed and crossover dribble, yet criticized for ongoing legal problems and judged on his appearance and choice of friends. Along with incredible skill and competitiveness, he brings a street-kid look to the court with his braids, jewelry and tattoos running up and down each arm.

Barkey once called him Allen "Me, Myself and Iverson."

Two weeks ago, legal problems haunted Iverson again. Mercedes-Benz Credit Corp. sued Iverson for more than $28,300 in unpaid lease payments on three late-model cars. The suit also asks for the return of the cars and for the total buyout amount of about $100,000, on the 24-month lease vehicles.

"I didn't know until the article came out," Iverson said. "It was something that my accountant was supposed to handle."

Though Croce was willing to let his championship hopes rest with Iverson, he still worries about him.

"He's young, and I know he's giving of himself and of his riches to his friends and family in a fault," Croce said. "So I always worry about him, because he's not someone who will say no."

If Iverson had waited until July 1, he could have negotiated with any team for a seven-year contract worth more than $86 million. But he said he wants to stay in Philadelphia, despite his past grievances with coach Larry Brown.

"I just had to mature," Iverson said. "I realized that he was a great coach when I looked at his resume. It was important for me to put my pride aside and listen to what was said to me as a positive."

"I was just young. I had to do a lot of growing up."

Criticized for being cocky and selfish, Allen Iverson added one more opening for criticism on Tuesday by signing a new deal with Philadelphia.

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The Observer • SPORTS
Wednesday, January 27, 1999
HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. - Bill Parcells is missing his first opportunity to coach in the Pro Bowl.

The New York Jets coach received permission Tuesday from NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue to skip the game Feb. 7 in Honolulu. Parcells underwent a series of medical tests last week, and two doctors who examined him recommended that he not go. Last year, he begged off working the Senior Bowl.

"Coach Parcells was examined by his cardiologist, as well as by me in my office a couple of days after the Denver game," Jets medical director Elliott Pellman said, referring to the 23-10 loss for the AFC championship on Jan. 17.

"He clearly was showing the physical effects of the long season." Parcells left coaching in 1991, quitting the New York Giants because of health problems. He has undergone several heart procedures.

"I was in the midst of preparation for the Pro Bowl with my staff and fully planned to carry out my obligation under the NFL guidelines," Parcells said. "But after undergoing a thorough medical examination, I feel it would be a big mistake on my part not to listen to the doctors.

"I have nothing but respect for the Pro Bowl and the great players who are in it. Frankly, I'll miss being around them." In his place, assistant head coach Bill Belichick will run the AFC team, along with the entire Jets coaching staff. Minnesota's Dennis Green will coach the NFC.

Pro Bowl assignments go to the losing coaches in the conference championship games, and Parcells had been 3-0 in those games before the loss to Denver.
Olowokandi to start with L.A. Thursday

Associated Press

PALM DESERT, Calif. Michael Olowokandi, the overall No. 1 draft choice who played in Italy during the lockout, is expected to join the Los Angeles Clippers on Thursday.

"He's been delayed by paperwork," Clippers spokesman Joe Safety said. "It took him three or four days just to get over here. It's going to take some time to get back here."

The 7-foot center was released from his contract with Kinder Bologna of the Italian League on Monday. He originally was under contract with them through Feb. 15.

The Clippers, working out at College of the Desert, initially expected Olowokandi to join them on Wednesday. The team returns to Los Angeles on Wednesday and plays exhibition games against the Los Angeles Lakers on Friday and Saturday nights. It is not known if Olowokandi will play in those games. The Clippers open their season Feb. 5 against Phoenix.

Pat Garrity, who led the Big East in scoring last year for the Irish, was drafted in the first round of June's NBA draft and was signed on Tuesday by the Phoenix Suns.

Suns grab Garrity in round of signings

Associated Press

The Phoenix Suns signed four free agents Monday, including Rex Chapman and Clifford Robinson.

Chapman, entering his third season with the Suns, signed a six-year contract. Terms were not disclosed.

The 10-year veteran led the team last season with a 15.9-point average and 120 3-pointers, 19th in the NBA. Chapman played in 68 games and also averaged 2.5 rebounds, 3 assists and 33.3 minutes.

Robinson, returning for his second season in Phoenix, signed a one-year deal. Terms were not disclosed.

Last season, Robinson finished third on the team in scoring (14 points per game) and second in blocks (1.13).

The Buckeyes trailed for most of the first half, but rallied to lead at halftime on a layup by Larecha Jones in the closing seconds.

Four shooting kept the Boilermakers from capitalizing on several miscues by Ohio State in the opening minutes, including a three-minute span when the Buckeyes failed to hit the rim, let alone score.

The Buckeyes never led by more than four points in the first half.

Purdue hit 9-of-23 shots from the field in the opening half and missed several chances for easy layups following Ohio State turnovers. The Buckeyes had 11 turnovers in the half.

Purdue hangs on for 15th-straight

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio

Stephanie White-McCarty scored 20 points and Camille Cooper had 12 of her 14 in the second half as second-ranked Purdue shook off a sluggish start and hung on to beat No. 19 Ohio State 64-56 Tuesday night.

White-McCarty and Cooper scored 20 of Purdue's first 23 second-half points as the Boilermakers (17-1 overall, 9-0 Big Ten Conference) rallied from a 27-25 halftime deficit to win their 15th straight game.

The defeat was Ohio State's first against a ranked opponent in the Buckeyes' new Value City Arena.

White-McCarty hit a jumper and a pair of 3-pointers, and Cooper dominated in the lane, getting six close-in baskets, to give Purdue a 56-37 lead with 8:27 remaining.

White-McCarty's first 3-pointer gave Purdue the lead for good at 30-27.

Ohio State (13-5, 6-2) got within six points at 62-56 in the closing seconds on two 3-pointers from Larecha Jones. But her third attempt at a late basket from long range bounced off the rim, ending Ohio State's chances.

Jones led Ohio State with 20 points in 19 minutes of play. Merrita Porter added 18 points.

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In addition to Chapman and Robinson, the Suns signed two first-year players, Pat Garrity and Gerald Brown.

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Tennis
continued from page 20

season, while Wisconsin opens its season at 0-1, marks the take on seventh-ranked Texas Dame head coach Bob Bayliss.

continued from page 20

Tennis

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M.Bball
continued from page 20

Extra shooting practice paid off for Wyche, whose clutch jumper with 8.3 seconds remaining tied the game at 70, and gave Notre Dame a legitimate chance to steal another conference victory. Hickey notched his fifth double-double of the season with 13 points and 12 boards.

Tonight the Irish (16-10, 4- 5) square off against Big East rival Boston College (13-14, 0- 9). Despite a wireless conference mark, the Eagles will do their best to make Notre Dame's trip to Chestnut Hill a disappointing one. The all-time series favors the Eagles 8-6, although the Irish posted a three-point win against BC the last time the teams met on Feb. 11, 1998 in South Bend. Michael Cotton leads the Eagles with 12.2 ppg in conference games, while Dwayne Fana is the primary playmaker for the Big East basement-dwellers, dishing out 4.22 assists per game. Kenny Hartley provides Boston College with a dangerous threat from beyond the arc, leading the league with a .486 shooting percentage in Big East contests.

Once again the Irish may be without the services of Murphy. The freshman is questionable for tonight's game, as he continues to nurse his sprained left ankle. It will take another great team effort to ease the pain of the recent defeat and what may turn out to be the team's last game without Murphy.

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McCaskey's front-office moves keep Bears mediocre

By JOHN COPPOLELLA
Sports Columnist

As Super Bowl XXXIII approaches and the Denver Broncos' inevitable decimation of the Atlanta Falcons, we should look to the less fortunate. The less fortunate, that is, among football fans. One group in particular deserves a lot lately, from inept front office decisions, to poor coaching, to just plain bad luck. However, one has to hope, for the sake of Chicago Bears fans, that they will not be put through another fiasco similar to the hiring of their head coach. The Chicago Bears are the NFL's oldest franchise and one of its proudest names. In the late '80s, the Bears were a dominant force, winning three Super Bowl seasons in 1985. Neither much good nor bad, the team has come to embody mediocrity. Why has this happened to such a proud franchise? Four words: Team President Michael McCaskey. McCaskey was the chief culprit, er, from office executive, in charge of hiring a head coach to replace the fired Dave Wannstedt. After interviewing a number of candidates, including the overly qualified, but often overlooked Sherman Lewis of the Green Bay Packers, McCaskey settled on his choice: Arizona Cardinals defensive coordinator Dave McGinnis.

Common sense would tell you that if you were McCaskey, your next step would be to tell McGinnis that he would become the head coach and begin to negotiate a contract. McCaskey took a different route: he advised McGinnis to stay overnight "if he wanted to" and that he might call him in the morning for a follow-up interview. McCaskey did call the next morning and McGinnis was scheduled to meet with Halas Hall. One small problem, however, occurred on the drive. McGinnis heard over the radio that he had been named the new head coach of the Chicago Bears. This came as a shock to him because (1) he hadn't been informed of his hiring and (2) no contract had been negotiated. By the time McGinnis arrived at Halas Hall, a press conference announcing his hiring had already been planned and the message on former coach Wannstedt's voice mail was changed to say, "You have reached the office of head coach Dave McGinnis." I would have loved to have been a fly on the wall during McGinnis' conversations with McCaskey and other Bears officials.

McCaskey: "Surprise! You're our new coach!" McGinnis: "Uh, what about my agreeing to be head coach?" McCaskey: "What'd you say? Yes, we agreed to let you be the head coach, silly. Let's go to the press conference! Come see!" McGinnis: "Uh, what about my contract?" McCaskey: "Contract? I knew I forgot something. You know, I was just thinking about that Bryan Cox signing a couple of years ago. Do you like Bryan Cox?" McGinnis: "What? What's going on here?" McCaskey: "Don't worry about leaving the Cowboys and Jimmy, Dave. "McCaskey: "I didn't do it, to be the head coach of this team yet. You should have my agreement and a mutually agreed upon contract before announcing my hiring." McCaskey: "Hey, where's that Jim Harbaugh at?" McGinnis: "I'm out of here. Give me a call back when you know what you're doing." McCaskey: "You know, you sound a lot like Ditka." After a conversation somewhere along the lines of the one framed above, McGinnis left and removed his name from the list of candidates to become the 12th head coach of the Chicago Bears. It was a sad day for McGinnis, a former Bears assistant under Ditka, who had termed this his "dream job." It was a pathetic day for the Bears, as McCaskey's ineptness and the incompetence of the front office were exploited.

Both sides emerge losers. The Bears lost what little credibility they had left. How many free agents will want to sign with a team as disorganized and dysfunctional as the Bears appeared through this fiasco? Probably the same number as the number of Bears who have made the Pro Bowl since 1994: none. Players, already critical of the front office, have now hit their worst nightmores come true; the inmates are running the asylum. McGinnis also loses.

Even with this incident, the Bears still are the Bears, and McGinnis was the first to realize it. "This is the Chicago Bears. They're going to get a good guy in here to coach. I promise you," Well, he was right and on Sunday the Bears announced the hiring (and that hopefully includes agreement to coach and signing of contract) of Jacksonville Jaguars defensive coordinator Dick Jauron.

McGinnis will return as defensive coordinator with the Cardinals. He returns as a man who was willing to walk away because he was not treated the right way. Jaeron will coach the Bears, hopefully, back to respectability.

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SPORTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 7 Irish still rolling in Big East with win over 'Cuse

By BRIAN KESSLER
Associate Sports Editor

Although the team has compiled just a 1-2 record since Murphy's ankle injury, Notre Dame still has an 18.2 points per contest and was coming off two double-doubles, was just 2-0-12 from the field.

With the win, Notre Dame improves to 16-2 on the season and 4-6 in the conference.

Notre Dame will travel to Providence on Saturday, returning home for a critical game against Boston College next Wednesday.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame shoots to rebound

By ALLISON KRILLA
Assistant Sports Editor

In some ways, the absence of Trey Murphy from the Fighting Irish lineup has been good for Notre Dame.

Although the team has compiled just a 1-2 record since Murphy’s ankle injury, losing its leading scorer has pushed the remaining players to the brink. New offensive threats have emerged from the freshman forward’s shadow.

Without Murphy’s 18.2 points per game, several ensuing losses have made their presence known, including the high man in last Saturday’s heartbreaking two-point loss to Rutgers, Martin Ingelsby.

The point guard from Philadelphia, Penn. tossed in a career-high 22 points against the Scarlet Knights, while shadowing Rutgers senior sharp-shooter Geoff Billet. Seniors Phil Hickey and Antoni Wyche also turned in all-star caliber performances, truly shouldering the responsibilities they accepted as team captains.

"Our kids never gave up, and made a big surge at the end," coach John MacLeod said following Saturday’s heartbreaker.

MEN'S TENNIS

Badgers drop to Irish eighth straight time

Special to The Observer

MADISON, Wis.

The 33rd-ranked Notre Dame men’s tennis team swept the doubles and used straight set wins from the top half of its singles lineup to beat Wisconsin for the eighth straight time on Tuesday in a 5-2 win over the 63rd-ranked Badgers. The win improves the Irish to 5-0 on the season.

The Irish also blocked eight shots.

McGraw’s squad had 14 steals, while committing just 14 turnovers. Syracuse also blocked eight shots.

Syracuse’s Belt Record converted on 5-0-9 three pointers and finished with a career-high 24 points to lead all scorers. Jamie James added 14 for the Orange women.

Moore, who averages 17.9 points per contest and was coming off two double-doubles, was just 2-0-12 from the field.

With the win, Notre Dame improves to 16-2 on the season and 4-6 in the conference.

Notre Dame will travel to Providence on Saturday, returning home for a critical game against Boston College next Wednesday.

Photos courtesy of Notre Dame Sports Information