South Bend system aims to stop crime

By MAUREEN SMITHE
Assistant News Editor

When Notre Dame junior John Bodnovich moved off-campus this fall, he was aware of the safety concerns associated with living beyond the friendly confines of the golden dome. He was aware of Bodnovich, like many of his off-campus counterparts, was unaware of a community policing network widespread throughout South Bend.

Established in 1997 as a means of improving the relationship between citizens and the police department, the program attempts to address the many causes of crime and the fear associated with it.

Lieutenant Dick Powers of the South Bend Police Department said the objective of community policing is three-fold: emphasizing partnership, problem solving and prevention.

“The Three P’s really put together what our definition of community policing is,” Powers said. “It is us and the community working together.”

The program operates under the understanding that crime is a community-wide problem, not just a duty of the police department. Everyone can contribute to a safe neighborhood.

Although he is not directly involved in community policing, Bodnovich and his fellow off-campus student neighbors keep an eye on what is going on around their block.

“We are pretty friendly with our neighbors. We are always watching their houses and they are always checking ours,” Bodnovich said.

“My neighborhood watches, but I’m not aware of one being officially implemented here.”

Bodnovich recalled an instance where one neighbor tackled a potential bike thief, rescuing another neighbor’s bike from the pawnshop.

“On occasions such as this where citizens come together to keep the discussion the meaning behind the tradition is important to hold onto traditions.”

Other arguments against women’s ordination exist, all of which the Commission has a viable counterargument for. In addition to discussing women’s ordination, the Committee also looks to the many causes of crime and the fear associated with it.

Wednesday
NOVEMBER 29, 2000

Robinson: God-based service good for all

By KATIE KELLEHER
News Writer

God-based service is something everyone could benefit from, said Dr. Jim Robinson Tuesday night at Saint Mary’s.

Robinson travels abroad with Health Care Ministries to provide dental care to poor villagers. He spoke about his personal experiences abroad, which inspired him to continue giving back.

Robinson told stories from his travels in Honduras. Robinson has been to more than 25 countries and has taken teens and college students on service trips around the world.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Yup, I’m back.

I went home to battle bacteria and infection, and have regained victorious. Yay me.

Home was a different experience. Since I was not expected to be home, my brother and father had made previous plans in California for my mom, who had decided to stay and finish her last semester, was going to be in and out of the house. It wasn’t going to be the usual Hagger Thanksgiving, but it didn’t surprise me. I wanted to go home so much. For the previous four weeks all I thought about was the great feeling of being able to relax and just be home. The thought made me happy. It offered a chance for me to sit in my room and do absolutely nothing. Absolutely nothing. How appealing.

Once home, I set up camp in the family room. Braving the steps to my bedroom was just too much. So I curled up in my favorite chair and watched endless hours of television. I had so much things to do while I was away. The couch—the novelty of being able to relax and about was the great feeling of being able to relax and just be home. The thought made me happy. It offered a chance for me to sit in my room and do absolutely nothing. Absolutely nothing. How appealing.

Once home, I set up camp in the family room. Braving the steps to my bedroom was just too much. So I curled up in my favorite chair and watched endless hours of television. I had so much free time that added up in a heartbeat.

Columbus police are still unsure how much money was spent on security for the riots on 13th Avenue in October, but believe the damage done to squad cars during that incident might push its cost total higher than the more recent disturbance. Smith cited overtime, equipment costs, the cost of food and refreshments for officers and paramedics as the major expenses for the police department in potentially dangerous situations like the one that took place during the early morning of Nov. 28. The Columbus Division of Police was forced to staff several hundred more officers than usual that night in order to maintain a presence around the campus. Instead of pulling officers from other areas of the city, the police department simply added more police officers to the shift. The extra cost meant most of the officers received overtime pay, ranging anywhere from $15 and a half to double their regular salary.

As conflicts occurred with the OSU-Michigan game, even those officers were not enough. Eventually, the police department did call for backup, a move which left other parts of the city without adequate protection.

Ohio State riot causes $80,000 in damages

COLUMBUS

Columbus police estimate that the riots after the OSU-Michigan football game last week will cost Columbus taxpayers more than $80,000. With exact figures still undetermined, there is no clue yet exactly how much the police department actually spent combating the post-game riots.

"The riot last April cost us about $80,000. This riot will most likely exceed that," said police spokesman Sgt. Earl Smith: "Anytime we talk about extra manpower, that adds up in a heartbeat." Smith cited overtime, equipment costs, the cost of food and refreshments for officers and paramedics as the major expenses for the police department in potentially dangerous situations like the one that took place during the early morning of Nov. 28. The Columbus Division of Police was forced to staff several hundred more officers than usual that night in order to maintain a presence around the campus. Instead of pulling officers from other areas of the city, the police department simply added more police officers to the shift. The extra cost meant most of the officers received overtime pay, ranging anywhere from $12 and a half to double their regular salary.

As conflicts occurred with the OSU-Michigan game, even those officers were not enough. Eventually, the police department did call for backup, a move which left other parts of the city without adequate protection.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Wrestler dies of heart condition

As members of the Cornell community continued to cope with the loss of Graham Morin, who passed away during a Saturday afternoon wrestling practice, more details emerged Monday regarding the medical cause of his death. An autopsy revealed that Morin suffered from Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM), according to Sharon Ditteman, associate director of community relations for Gannett Medical Center. HCM is characterized by a thickening of the walls of the heart, which results in an obstruction to blood flow through the left ventricle outflow tract. The result can be fainting spells, shortness of breath and heart arrhythmia. "Unfortunately, most people with HCM are asymptomatic," Ditteman said. "For many, the first sign may be cardiac arrest and sudden death." "There are only 10 to 25 deaths due to cardiac causes in athletes every year, and HCM is only a small fraction of that," said Ditteman. "That gives you a sense of how rare this condition really is." Ditteman added. It is estimated that out of every 1,000 Americans has HCM.

LOCAL WEATHER

5 Day South Bend Forecast

**WARNINGS:**

- Lakeshore - Flooding
- Storms - High winds

**TODAY'S STAFF**

Kelly Hager

Co-Editor

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Cheney wants to keep health issues private

WASHINGTON

Dick Cheney said Tuesday night he was back at work full-time with his doctor's approval, feeling fine after his fourth heart attack and determined to keep at least some parts of his anatomy private.

"I think we have been very forthcoming," said Cheney, 59, asked about criticism that he has not made public his health records.

"There was a more thorough scrub on my medical history than on any of the other candidates," he said. Cheney had refused to release his past medical records.

"There isn't much about my physical capabilities and history that aren't known," he said. Cheney said his health won't affect his travel should he become vice president.

"I could end up having to spend a lot of time in the U.S. Senate as vice president rather than traveling the world attending funerals of foreign leaders," he said.

Bush, Gore plea to Supreme Court

WASHINGTON

The Supreme Court should "forestall an impending constitutional crisis" over Florida's 25 electoral votes, lawyers for George W. Bush argued Tuesday, while Al Gore's lawyers said the court should not interfere.

Bush, whose appeal the high court is set to hear Friday, said the justices can bring "legal finality" to the presidential election by overturning the Florida courts and ending any further ballot recounts.

"I don't think anyone knows for sure," said Gore lawyer Laurence Tribe.

If the justices think they do not have enough information to decide, they could opt not to hear the case after all. Bush's filings Tuesday, however, argued that the court still has a role to play.

Bush asked the justices to overturn a Florida Supreme Court ruling that allowed hand recounts of votes to continue past a state imposed deadline of Nov. 14, saying the manual reviews opened the door for Democrat Gore to continue legal contests for weeks more.

"The Florida Supreme Court's decision, which conflicts with both federal statutes and the federal Constitution, will thus continue to affect, and has the theoretical potential to change, the outcome of the presidential election in Florida, and thus the nation," Bush argued.

He wants the results of ballots recounted since Nov. 14 omitted from the official state election tally. That would give Bush a 930-vote margin instead of his current 377-vote lead.

Bush attorneys argued that the Florida high court violated the Constitution by extending a "clear" vote recount deadline set by the state Legislature to ensure proper election of the state's representatives to the Electoral College.

Thursday, November 30th

The fast growing jam band from Chicago returns to their Notre Dame roots for a rare all ages treat Don't miss this chance to see them in an up-close, intimate environment

Tix available at the LaFortune box office $4 students $5 Public

LaFortune Ballroom 10pm -1am
Robinson continued from page 1

next day." Despite some difficult situations that Robinson faced during his journeys, he said he remains con-su- dent of the presence of God. "In the trips I have taken I have seen amazing and wonderful things," said Robinson. "I can tell you without any doubt that God exists."

But he did not always have this strong faith in God. Robinson described how his difficult childhood caused him to question his faith, admitting, "I didn't know if I believed in God."

Still unsure of his beliefs, Robinson questioned his mission and purpose during his first trip abroad. He broke down to a friend during the bus ride to the village. The group of volunteers gathered around him and placed their hands on his head and prayed for him. "I felt the presence of God embracing me and loving me, and it changed my life," he said. At that moment he said his purpose in life was clear. "My job was to help people with physical needs and to share the word of God."

Robinson encouraged everyone to reexamine his or her lives to include service. "Allow God to use you for his glory. We have so much and it is so easy to get immersed in it all," he said. "In our country, we have everything the world has to offer. But because God has blessed and loved us, He also tells us to use these gifts to help others."

Women continued from page 1

women's current vital roles within the Church. Committee member and Lyons Hall rector Sister Kathleen Beatty said that there are a number of parishes in the United States where women are serving as active pastors.

The Committee also discusses activism on campus for or against women's ordination. Although no students are currently involved, their participation is welcome.

"A good number of students support the ordination of women, but there is a good number who don't," Beatty said. "I would say there is a good, healthy percentage of people on the faculty and staff who believe we should keep the discussion alive." The Future

There is a wide range of estimates within the Commission as to when women will be allowed into the Roman Catholic clergy, but one thing is certain: members believe it will happen eventually.

"I would certainly hope in the next 15 years we will see (women serving as priests)," Beatty said. "It's not going to happen under John Paul, that's for sure. I am 60 years old, and I hope to have it happen in my lifetime," Milani said. "I never thought the Berlin Wall would come down either."

Others said they do not see any changes in the immediate future.

"I am sure that women will be ordained within the next 50 or 60 years," Call said.

System continued from page 1

eral facets of the police department. Since its intro­ duction, the academy has had 126 graduates.

"It is one of the best interactive, collaborative and information-sharing programs we do with the community," Powers said, citing the academy's open forum atmosphere.

Community policing does not focus solely on crime. Powers said that a major goal of the program is to improve the quality of life for all South Bend area residents. Overgrown lots, abandoned cars and broken streetlights can all be addressed through the program.

"Police officers can request for city departments to come look at a quality of life problem, and within 10 working days it can be addressed," Powers said. "Quality of life issues are just as important as law enforce­ ment issues."

Non-criminal activity can also be addressed through community policing. For example, officers can respond to residents who are concerned about a street with frequent speed limit offenses.

The South Bend Police Department's community policing network has received high acclaim since its introduction just three years ago. Earlier this year, South Bend was named a mentor site for cities in the northern third of Indiana looking to establish community policing. In addition, the Community Oriented Police Consor­tium, an organization based out of Washington DC, chose South Bend as a training site.

"We took this idea from several communities, includ­ing from the Department of Justice in Washington DC," Powers said. "We were able to customize it for our own community and needs. We are always trying to improve."

The many benefits associated with community policing serve to alleviate some of the concerns off-campus students feel about living in a community different from their own at home.

"We definitely see the police presence," Bodnovich said. "They are there to check things out."
Dutch first to legalize euthanasia: The Dutch parliament approved a bill legalizing euthanasia Tuesday, positioning the Netherlands to become the first nation to openly legally help doctors help suffering patients end their lives. Advocates of patients' right to die voiced praise for the vote, but many Christian groups and others condemned it, led by the Vatican, which said the law "violates human dignity." Dutch officials stressed that foreigners would be unable to meet strict standards under the law for allowing euthanasia.

Iranians disapprove of Khatami: Iranian hard-liners harshly criticized moderate President Mohammad Khatami for encouraging them of constitutional violations, saying it was part of a ploy to win re-election next year, newspapers reported Tuesday.

National News Briefs

Scientists debate biotech corn: Opponents of biotech food urged the government in Washington Tuesday not to allow a variety of genetically engineered corn to be used in food despite industry claims that the grain poses no risk to consumers. The corn, which was only supposed to be used for animal feed and industrial uses, mistakenly entered the food supply, prompting recalls of taco shells and disruptions in grain handling. To avoid further problems, the corn's developer, Aventis CropScience, has asked the Environmental Protection Agency to temporarily approve its use in food.

U.S. bans Chinese clothing: Attacking the use of forced child labor, the Customs Service on Tuesday ordered that all men's and girl's clothing manufactured by the Chinese-owned textile company in Mongolia, Dong Fang Guo Ji, be stopped at the U.S. border.

Indiana News Briefs

Court finds checkpoints unconstitutional: The Indiana Court of Appeals took away a key police tool in the fight against drunken driving, ruling that sobriety checkpoints violate the state's constitution. The Indiana State Police suspended the roadblocks in response to the court's decision earlier Tuesday. "As of right now, the Indiana State Police will not be conducting sobriety checkpoints," said 1st Sgt. Scott Beamon. The Indiana Association of Chiefs of Police recommended that local police agencies stop using checkpoints out of respect for the ruling.
Activists mark WTO's 1-year anniversary

Associated Press

SEATTLE

The World Trade Organization meeting that collapsed in clouds of tear gas a year ago is being marked by activists this week in a city that's now known as much for civic haplessness as it is for its good coffee and charm.

The violent anti-WTO street protests that overwhelmed police on Nov. 30, 1999 left Seattle with permanent scars, some say, even as it galvanized a growing movement against corporate globalization.

"One of the biggest things we learned with WTO is that Seattle is not Mayberry with high-rises," said City Council member Judy Nicastro. "People don't play nice anymore."

To mark the one-year anniversary, some 5,000 activists are expected to gather Thursday for "NO!" the International Solidarity Day Against Corporate Globalization.

That number is a fraction of the 50,000 protesters who showed up last year, bent on blocking streets and trade and banking conferences.

Last month in British Columbia, organizers cited the Seattle protest as another target of frequent and serious harassment from protesters with tear gas, rubber bullets and arrests.

Soon after, Police Chief Norm Stamper announced his early retirement. Mayor Paul Schell, another target of frequent and harsh criticism, has yet to announce whether he'll seek another term.

Carlos Lavin, 49, who has lived in Seattle for 23 years, said last year's demonstration gave outsiders the wrong impression.

"It wasn't good for the city's image. It was very un-Seattle," said Lavin. "My view of Seattle is what it's always been. It's a great town. But the rest of the country probably thinks we're a bunch of radicals, which is good because it might keep them away from here."

The impact of the demonstrations extended well beyond Seattle as officials in other cities hosting protests also descended on the city that's now known as much for its civic haplessness as it is for its good coffee and charm.

U.S. promotes cultural diplomacy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Pingpong diplomacy in 1971 smoothed U.S. relations with China. When the United States reached out to a new democratic South Africa, performance of the Dance Theater of Harlem helped forge diplomacy. As the Cold War thawed, pianist Vladimir Horowitz returned to his native Russia in 1986 to give concerts.

Culture speaks a universal language and can play a critical role in U.S. relations abroad even where America has no formal diplomatic relations, President Clinton said Tuesday at the first White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy.

"Cultural diplomacy does have the power to penetrate our common humanity," Clinton said.

Glen Miller and other American jazz bands had a positive effect on the morale of U.S. allies during World War II, he said. And singer Elvis Presley did more to win the Cold War when his music was smuggled into the former Soviet Union than he did as a GI serving in Germany, the president added.

Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who were a Navajo bolo — a symbol of America's early heritage — were joined in the East Room by about 160 authors, artists, diplomats, actors, actresses, poets, business leaders from the United States and abroad. They talked about the role culture plays in foreign policy and how cultural exchange programs can improve relations among different peoples.

"Cultural diplomacy does have the power to penetrate our common humanity."

Bill Clinton

President

* International Internship/Teaching Position
* Informational Session...sponsored by SIBC
* WHERE? Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business
* WHEN? Wednesday, November 29, from 7-9pm
Bush considers choices for cabinet

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — George W. Bush is in "a truck" in planning a new government, one that would include Democrats in key positions, aides suggested Tuesday. Still, continuing legal clouds subdued some of Bush's optimism.

The governor has asked us all to be humble and to be gracious," she said. "We are mindful of the fact that the vice president... a little more than an hour ago reiterated that he is continuing in court to challenge the legitimacy of the outcome of the election," she said after Gore discussed his continuing battle in a Florida courtroom that extended the deadline for recounts.

Bush also visited the headquarters that Bush continues to insist he not be called "president elect" because of the current court challenges by Democratic rival Al Gore.

"The governor has asked us all to be humble and to be gracious," she said. "We are mindful of the fact that the vice president... a little more than an hour ago reiterated that he is continuing in court to challenge the legitimacy of the outcome of the election," she said after Gore discussed his continuing battle in a Florida courtroom that extended the deadline for recounts.

Bush later told reporters during an afternoon briefing at campaign headquarters that Bush continues to insist he not be called "president elect" because of the current court challenges by Democratic rival Al Gore.

"The governor has asked us all to be humble and to be gracious," she said. "We are mindful of the fact that the vice president... a little more than an hour ago reiterated that he is continuing in court to challenge the legitimacy of the outcome of the election."
Closing one chapter, opening another

While most of the United States watched the drama slowly unfold in Florida, President Bill Clinton made a historic visit to communist Vietnam. Clinton is the first U.S. president to visit Vietnam since the Vietnam War ended.

Many people find the situation ironic since Clinton is an admitted draft dodger. However, the irony is unimportant — Clinton's visit marks a milestone in U.S. relations with Vietnam.

While many Americans would complain about the loss of jobs, America would receive more jobs when companies began exporting goods to Vietnam. This would be a win-win situation, with more jobs for both countries.

With Clinton's trip to a country where 58,000 American soldiers and 3 millions Vietnamese died only a quarter century ago, many people awaited to see what he would say about the war. Clinton offered no apologies for the conflict, but instead discussed the future of those two countries. He avoided assigning blame for the war.

To many Vietnamese veterans, the move was an important one. Clinton did not dishonor those who fought, and he even visited a site where bodies of American pilots shot down during the war had been found.

At least 20 soldiers who were listed as missing in action will be returned to the United States for burial.

Clinton's trip offered hope to the Vietnamese for a more global economy while introducing a possible market for American businesses.

Yet, he also respected America's veterans by not accepting blame for the war. Vietnam will be a new market for American businesses to expand their consumer base and their employee pool.

The most impressive part of Clinton's visit is that he got the two countries to discuss their future.

Clinton said that the countries' histories have "interwined" for many years and that the countries need to put the "painful" past behind them.

While many Vietnamese government officials were nervous that Clinton would discuss political changes, Clinton discredited the part only lightly touched on other issues.

Clinton's trip to Vietnam respected America's veterans and encouraged discussion of economic opportunities for both countries.

This column first appeared in the Texas A&M newspaper, The Battalion, on Nov. 27, and is reprinted here courtesy of U-WIRE.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
I am writing in response to Professor Rice’s recent article on homosexuality. As an alumnus, I respectfully disagree with the Church’s teaching and the interpretation of Scripture by Professor Rice.

Professor Rice argues that homosexual acts and the inclination toward them are objectively disordered because they are contrary to the nature built into us by God, which is contrary to the nature of Christ’s body (1 Cor. 13:18-20). God calls each person to many parts, each as he intended. If they were all one part, where would the body be? But they are many parts, each as he intended. If they were all one part, where would the body be? But as it is, there are many parts, yet one body (1 Cor. 12:27). God calls each person to many different parts, each according to his or her particular gift and purpose. The Church and the Professor may disagree on the specifics of parts, but we are all Christ’s body (1 Cor. 12:27).

This raises the question, what is the essential nature God has placed within us? In this, Jesus was most clear: You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, with all your being, with all your heart, with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself (Luke 10:27). When I believed that I was objectively disordered, I could not love God, I could not love myself, I could not love my neighbor. Rather, I could only believe that somehow God had made some sort of mistake, that my very being was an affront to creation.

At my lowest days, God granted me the grace to accept myself, not as someone who is objectively disordered, but rather as God’s creation, born to love and serve God as God created me. For me to accept what the Church and Professor Rice teach is to deny God’s wisdom, to deny God. As such, I cannot disagree more with Professor Rice’s contention that the University misleads students by refusing to admit that the homosexual inclination is disordered. While this may imply that the Church teaching is an arbitrary restriction, so be it. While the University has been less than a vanguard in accepting its gay and lesbian students and alumni, such a decision would only serve to further push us away from the University, the Church and from Christ. I cannot think of any more serious betrayal of its mission.

Marc Echave
Class of ’95
Scottsdale, Arizona
Nov. 28, 2000

I should like to respond to your editorial in The Observer on Friday, Nov. 10, in which you distanced your response on the question of suicide among teenage homosexuals. I simply took issue with the assertion that among teenagers who think they are homosexual there is a very high rate of suicide. A United States government agency in D.C. had made such a statement and subsequently had corrected its own statement. This does not mean that I regard suicide among homosexual men and women as “imconsequential.” I have always taken this issue very seriously in my counseling of people with same-sex attractions and never “seriously dismissed” them. I am dismayed by this direct attack upon my character, coming as it does, from The Observer.

My response to the letter by William Dell, class of ’69 on Nov. 13 is to appeal to your readers, asking them to read my book on the issue: “The Homosexual Prison” and “The Truth About Homosexuality.” In doing so you will realize that Dell has no understanding of the Church’s teaching on chastity.

Married people are bound by conjugal chastity, which does not mean abstinence from marital sex but rather fidelity to each other and the avoidance of contraception and masturbation. In brief, chastity is a gift of God’s grace by which we must express our love and express affection in the right way, according to our state in life, recognizing that sexual intercourse is meant only for the married.

Rev. John F. Harvey, OSFS
director of Courage
Nov. 27, 2000
Mid-winter blues got you dreaming of sunny beaches?

Travel planning Web sites cater to college students, offer deals on all-inclusive fun vacation for minimal costs.

By MERIDETH PIERCE
Scene Writer

It is almost December and the weather just keeps getting colder. To top it off, exams are growing ever closer and students are beginning to feel as though hibernation might be a genius idea. For those who choose not to hide away in dorm rooms covered in blankets, there is one driving idea that keeps them warm: spring break.

Although spring break feels like it might never come, it is actually just 100 short days away. With the need for warm thoughts and with time quickly ticking away, now is the perfect time to start planning.

But where will you go? What will you do? And how are you supposed to plan out an entire dream vacation?

To stop your worries, check out the help and deals on-line. There are hundreds of resources at your fingertips that all eagerly want to help you have a fun vacation for minimal costs.

The popular Travelocity.com is a great place to start. In general, Travelocity.com is easy to use and contains many tools to aid in every aspect of your vacation planning.

You are allowed two visits to the site without becoming a member, but if you decide to purchase from Travelocity.com, membership is a must. Although signing up is free, you are required to enter contact information such as your name and e-mail address. Once this is done, you are set to go.

Travelocity.com offers reservations for more than 400 airlines, 47,000 hotels and 50 car rental companies. They offer thousands of vacation packages and cruise offerings that cater to your interests, along with information on hundreds of destinations from guidebook experts and other Travelocity.com members.

With so many options, it is easy to get carried away with plans for numerous destinations. However, the best way to critique the site is to look at one specific vacation destination and everything that it involves.

Many college students will again swarm to Cancun, Mexico this year. Its growing popularity as one of MTV's official spring break locations provides many routes for visiting Mexico this break.

Travelocity.com provides you with several options to plan a vacation to Cancun. You can either book your flight, hotel and attractions separately on this site, or book a package deal.

The simplest option is working through their "planning a vacation" site. This can be reached by clicking on the "vacation" button at the top of the home page. Once you are here, there are many databases available, listed by "interest," by "destination," or by "search and compare."

"Search and compare" is a great tool where you can choose your package type, maximum price per person, destination and time of travel. Then Travelocity.com will list all the possibilities arranged by hotels.

The great thing about this aspect of Travelocity.com is that you can select up to 10 vacations that are of interest and the site will list and compare them in a chart that is easy to read.

Next you can choose whether or not you want the airfare included in the package. If you choose Travelocity.com will pull up all your flight options.

Through Travelocity.com, the price range of packages for one adult to Cancun for six days and seven nights in the week of March 10 — 15 ranges from $1,109 to nearly $2,000.

This price does not include airfare, which can range from an additional $500 to $1,000, depending on your flight preferences.

Once you decide on a vacation package, Travelocity.com has many "add-ons" that you can choose from. Many of these vacation add-ons are tours that range in price from $39 to $97 for one person.

If this does not interest you, do not fear there are many more travel Web sites with packages to choose from. However, not many other sites offer the vast amount of choices and variety in locations that Travelocity.com has for vacation packages.

Other travel sites such as Priceline.com offer plane tickets, as does TravelScape.com.

TravelScape.com is similar to Travelocity.com in that it has a large selection of hotels as well as plane tickets, but it does not offer vacation packages.

Most other sites that offer spring break vacation packages have much narrower options.

Many sites can be found that offer vacations to sunny places like Cancun, Jamaica and Daytona Beach. These vacations are directed toward the fun-loving college student.

A perfect example of this is Springbreak.com. This site is a notch down in professionalism from Travelocity.com, but still provides great vacation options.

Highlighted vacations can be planned for several sites in Florida such as Daytona Beach and Orlando. There are also four Mexican locations, including Cancun and Acapulco. Vacations to Jamaica are also an option.

Once you have picked a destination from the site's map, you are brought to a page that lets you choose your type of hotel from either "beachfront," "lagoon" or "downtown" locations.

This option narrows down your choices and makes searching for a hotel much easier.

Springbreak.com's biggest downsides are the hard-to-distinguish pricing guide and the site's tendency to circle back to the home page. Bottom line prices are rarely, if ever, available on the Web site, although it does publish companies' phone numbers.

If you can get past these annoyances, there are definite perks in planning your vacation through Springbreak.com, especially if you are ready to let loose on your spring break.

One of these Springbreak.com perks arrives when you check into your hotel. You will be given an "Arrival Pak" that contains a week-long party schedule telling you where to find the hot daytime events and nighttime parties.
es? Surf the Web to plan your ideal spring break
spring break packages to vacation hot spots — Jamaica, Cancun, Florida

Spring Break-Travel.com works along the same lines as SpringBreak.com. This Web site arranges trips to the Bahamas, Cancun, Mexico, Negril, Jamaica, Panama City, Daytona and South Beach, and also provides various cruise packages.

If these destinations spark your interest, then deciding where to go will be the hardest decision you make through SpringBreakTravel.com. One of the site’s selling points is its simple and attractive set-up. You can even watch videos online from the various vacation locations.

A vacation package through SpringBreakTravel.com includes round trip airfare, transportation to and from the hotel to the airport, hotel accommodations, meals and departure taxes, seven free breakfasts per day, 10 “buy one, get one free” dinners and lunches at some of the most popular restaurants in the town.

The Cancun trip includes a pass like SpringBreak.com’s VIP Party Pass” that provides 30 hours of free drinks and “buy one, get one free” drink specials. However, the best part of SpringBreakTravel.com is its ability to rate and compare hotels.

After choosing your desired destination, you enter the dates of your spring break, the departure city and the number of people in each room.

SpringBreakTravel.com then provides a list of all available hotels. The hotels are organized by categories: Downtown, Lagoon, Beach Moderate, Beach Value, Beach Superior, Beach Deluxe and Beach Luxury. You can select a hotel category and many more options appear.

SpringBreak-Travel.com not only provides pictures of the hotel and its rooms, but the site lists the total package price as well. There is also an easy to read rating system that ranks the package’s overall experience, fun factor, beach and tan factor, daytime and nighttime entertainment, and the quality of the hotel’s location and amenities.

A spring break package to Cancun for two people in one room would cost from $698 to $1,400 per person, including airfare. The only downfall to searching on SpringBreakTravel.com is that if a hotel is nearly booked, the site will not tell you how much its rooms cost. Instead, the site prompts you to call a listed number to find out if there is still room.

If you start planning now, though, SpringBreak.com is a great site to vacation through. Making reservations is fairly easy as well. The electronic registration is simple and fast, and you can also fax or call in reservations.

Another great site that is both inexpensive and easy to use is SpringBreakCenter.com. Working through a company called Endless Summer Tours, SpringBreakCenter.com offers more destination choices than SpringBreakTravel.com. Another highlight of SpringBreakCenter.com is the option to include a meal plan.

To start your vacation planning with SpringBreakCenter.com, you choose a destination, departure date and location, room occupancy, the option for a meal plan and the price range you are willing to spend. Then the site lists a handy list of hotels with a price per person. The prices on SpringBreakCenter.com for a trip to Cancun range from $669 to $1,146 per person.

If none of these spring break party locations suit your needs, there are still more options. For those who crave something a little different, check out European tour vacations on GorillaGuide.com. This site is in the midst of a makeover, and many features are not yet up and running. However, GorillaGuide.com has the potential to provide great opportunities for European-bound travelers.

Not only is GorillaGuide.com a resource for purchasing a vacation, but it provides valuable tourist information as well. There is a “Trip Prep” page that lists information from American embassies to laundromats in your country of choice. It provides all the things that you might be too busy to worry about checking out.

If Europe is calling your name right now and you cannot wait for GorillaGuide.com to finish its construction, try out EuroVacations.com. Although it is not necessarily geared towards spring break craziness, there are still many options on this site. You can choose from a huge variety of pre-planned European vacations or you can tailor your own trip in their “Dream Vacation” section.

However, if partying in Mexico or shopping in Paris does not satisfy you, there is still hope. The simple Vacation.com provides a huge number of preplanned as well as custom made-to-fit vacations from all over the world.

Whether it be hiking in Alaska or swimming in Hawaii, there will be something on Vacation.com to spark your spring break desires and warm your thoughts to get you through the cold winter months.

The beaches of Cancun are another popular spring break hot
Oliver sank two free throws for a 58-49 lead and answered a Georgia Tech basket with a 3-pointer from the left wing. A Ryan Hogan free throw and a 3-pointer by Recker finished an 11-2 run that gave Michigan a 55-41 lead with 8:47 remaining.

Recker then hit two more 3-pointers to keep Iowa safely ahead, the first with 4:50 left to make it 75-61 and the second with 3:25 to play, starting an 8-0 burst that stretched the lead to 83-65 and finished off the Yellow Jackets.

Deamon Deacons 71
Wolverines 60
Robert O’Kelley scored 19 points to lead No. 12 Forest to a come-from-behind victory over Michigan in an ACC/Big Ten Challenge game. Michigan (2-2) led by 11 with 16 minutes to play, but couldn’t hold off the more experienced Deacons (5-0). Wake Forest, last season’s NIT champ, has won 10 straight.

Smith has had a huge hand in this team’s turn around. In addition to being full time, young and strong, she inspires team confidence and respect much more successfully than last year’s head coach, Dave Roeder, ever did.

"Coach Smith is young, but we still really respect her," McDowell told me early this week during an interview. "She’s been the reason this team has turned around.

The Observer accepts classified every business day from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 614 South Bend, Dole Ave. for next day classified. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 3 cents per character, per day, including all space. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without refunding costs.
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Hornets hit new record in 95-63 victory

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Rodney White scored 20 points and Charlotte hit a team-record 16 3-pointers Tuesday night in a 95-63 victory against Miami.

Damon Brown scored 16 points for Charlotte (3-1). Ivory Thomas had 15. Diego Guivara scored 12 and James Zimmerman had 11.

It was Charlotte's second rout in 10 days of a team from a high-profile conference. The Hornets, from Conference USA, blew out North Carolina State 95-78 in Raleigh on Nov. 18.

The Niners had hoped the victory would push them into the Top 25 for the first time in two years, but a last-second 79-78 loss in St. Bonaventure on Saturday spoiled their expectations.

Against Miami, they set out early to redeem themselves by taking quick and confident shots at the basket — especially from long range.

The Hornets, who are averaging 113 points per game, hit 16 3-pointers Tuesday night in a 95-63 win.

The game, which featured two of the worst offensive teams in the NBA, was decided by the halftime. Charlotte took a 50-30 halftime lead and weren't threatened in the second half.

The Hawks entered the first win of the season without their leading scorer Jim Jackson, who was still in the NBA. The Hawks couldn't match Charlotte's offensive play in the half.

The Niners led 77-53 after three quarters and poured it on the Yellow Jackets in the fourth quarter, hitting 12 of 15 shots for the game's final 17 points.

Guivara led the barrage by making 7 of 7, while Zimmerman was 3-for-4.

Miami (3-1) jumped out to a quick 17-5 lead and was ahead 49-26 at the half. The Niners started hitting their shots to close the gap and then pull away.

Guivara and White both hit 3s at the beginning of a 12-2 run that gave Charlotte the lead for good at 20-19. The Niners then shifted into their transition offense and poured it on the Hurricanes.

Zimmerman and White hit long 3-pointers in another 12-2 run that gave Charlotte a 42-29 lead with 6:03 to play in the half.

Miami, which returned only one starter from the team that won a share of the Big East title last year, couldn't match Charlotte's offensive punch and never recovered.

The Hurricanes got 16 points from John Salon. James Jones added 12.

Hawks 103, Wizards 75

Lorenzen Wright scored 23 points and grabbed 12 rebounds as the Atlanta Hawks snapped a 22-game road losing streak with a win over the Washington Wizards.

Alan Henderson added 16 points and 11 rebounds for the Hawks, who had lost eight straight road games this season and hadn't won away from home since Nov. 10 in Seattle. It was the franchise's longest road losing streak since the 1975-76 Hawks lost 29 straight games over two seasons.

Rod Strickland scored 17 points for Washington, which missed the opportunity to earn back-to-back wins for the first time since Nov. 17.

The game, which featured two of the worst offensive teams in the NBA, decided by the halftime. Washington broke the game open by holding Charlotte to two field goals in the first 6:25 minutes of the second quarter. The Wizards only points during that stretch were a layup by Mitch Richmond and a three-point play by Richard Hamilton.

The Hawks closed the quarter with a 20-5 run to build a 50-30 halftime lead and weren't threatened in the second half.

The Hawks earned their first win of the season without their leading scorer Jim Jackson, who was placed on the injured list Friday with a sprained right knee.

The Wizards shot 33 percent from the field and were outrebounded 50-38.

 Celt 87, Cavaliers 72

Antoine Walker scored 28 points and the Boston Celtics got their first win of the season with a 95-63 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers, who scored just four points in the second half.

Paul Pierce added 20 points as the Celtics snapped a 10-game losing streak at Gund Arena and handed the Cavs their first loss at home in seven games this season.

Cleveland didn't score in the final 6:44 of the period with things getting so bad that at one point, 7-foot-3 center Zydrunas Ilgauskas grabbed a rebound underneath and clanged a putback dunk.

It wasn't that Boston's defense was doing anything special. The Cavs just couldn't make shots. They missed 3-pointers, mid-range jumpers, layups and nearly everything else they put up. However, the Cavs didn't miss a free throw — they didn't try one.

Chris Gatling's jumper and a driving layup by Robert Traylor were the only points in the quarter for the Cavs, who set a new franchise record for the fewest points in a period.

They did manage to avoid the NBA's dubious record for fewest points in a quarter. That mark still belongs to the Dallas Mavericks, who scored just two in the third quarter against the Los Angeles Lakers on April 6, 1997.

The Cavs didn't score again until Andre Miller hit a jumper with 9:46 remaining in the third quarter — snapping an 8:58 scoring drought — and earning the team a sacrificial ovation from its fans.

Eric Williams scored 12 of his 14 points for the Celtics in the second half. Williams made consecutive 3-pointers in the third quarter and 20-5 run to build a 50-30 halftime lead and weren't threatened in the

Trailing 27-20 after one, the Celtics scored the first nine points of the second half but couldn't have imagined the run they were about to go on. With the scored tied at 31-all, Williams made consecutive 3-pointers as the Celtics ripped off 18 straight points to close the half.

With his team launching bricks on virtually every possession, Cleveland coach Randy Wittman looked to his bench for an answer but it didn't seem to matter who was on the floor for the Cavs.

NCAA Football

Texas has Holiday Bowl expectations

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Texas is expected to be invited to play in the Holiday Bowl on Dec. 29, against either Oregon State or Oregon.

Holiday Bowl officials scheduled a news conference for Wednesday morning to announce which Big 12 team they've selected, but refused further comment. However, a football source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press the invitation is expected to go to the No. 12 Longhorns (9-2).

In Austin, Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds wouldn't confirm or deny the invitation.

"I won't react," he said Tuesday evening. "We're working on the details. Hopefully we'll know soon. When we do, we'll call a press conference to announce it.

"This will be the first trip to San Diego for Texas, which is believed to covet a Holiday Bowl berth because of the recruiting exposure the Longhorns will receive in California.

"The Holiday Bowl would like to pair the Longhorns against No. 5 Oregon State (10-1), which remains in the Bowl Championship Series picture. The Beavers will know by Sunday if they are headed to a BCS game, or they could be released from BCS consideration before then.

If Oregon State goes to the BCS, the Pac-10 Conference's berth in the Holiday Bowl will go to No. 9 Oregon (9-2).

"No, 10 Nebraska, which lost to Arizona in the 1998 Holiday Bowl, also was considered for the Big 12's berth. Nebraska is still under consideration for a BCS berth.

"Texas is coming off a 43-17 win over Texas A&M. Sophomore quarterback Chris Simms, son of former New York Giants quarterback Phil Simms, had a breakout game with 383 yards passing and three touchdowns.

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The Observer

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Wednesday, November 29, 2000

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University of Notre Dame * November 30 - December 2
Hewitt, Agassi earn opening round wins

Associated Press

LISBON, Portugal

Pete Sampras, playing his first match in more than two months, lost 7-5, 6-0 to Lleyton Hewitt on Tuesday in the opening round of the Masters Cup. Andre Agassi, coming off a three-week break because of a hip injury, was more successful, beating Gustavo Kuerten 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Marat Safin, seeking to become the youngest player ever to finish the year as No. 1, also won his round-robin match Tuesday, rallying past Alex Corretja 6-7 (6), 7-5, 6-3.

Safin’s victory means Sampras no longer holds even a mathematical chance of finishing the year at No. 1, a feat he accomplished a record six straight times from 1993-98.

Safin increased his lead over Kuerten to 95 points.

An appearance in the final of the $3.7 million event will secure the No. 1 spot for the 20-year-old Russian no matter the outcome. Hewitt had only nine and 32 unforced errors, while Sampras passed Sampras with ease.

“Definitely wasn’t pretty out there,” said Sampras. “I don’t know if it was a case of not having played for a while. I knew coming into here that I might be a little rusty in the beginning.”

“It’s not easy to swallow, losing 6-0,” said Sampras, who lost the title to Jimmy Connors in 1996, in the semifinals of the French Open to Yevgeny Kafelnikov.

Hewitt said Sampras, the Wimbledon champion, might be a little rusty in the opening round.

“Coming off such a big break, Pete wasn’t at his best today,” said the 19-year-old Australian, who lost to Sampras in the semifinals of the U.S. Open. “I knew it was a big opportunity for me to get a good match under my belt.”

Because of the round-robin format, Sampras can still advance. Every time he won the title, he lost one of his early matches.

Masters Cup

Texans consider Miami coach

Associated Press

HOUSTON

Butch Davis, who has the Miami Hurricanes in contention for a national championship, met Tuesday with officials of the Houston Texans, the NFL’s newest franchise.

Davis met with team owner Bob McNair and general manager Charley Casserly to discuss coaching the Texans, an expansion franchise to begin play in 2002.

“Butch is a highly qualified coach, who had done an outstanding job at Miami, as he did as an assistant with the Cowboys,” McNair said. “He has all the credentials in my view and certainly is well qualified to be head coach of the Texans.”

Davis is the first of five to 10 potential candidates the Texans might interview in the coming months. The two qualifications all candidates must have are head coaching experience and NFL experience, McNair said.

The team might make a decision either in February 2001 or February 2002. Although the Texans would prefer naming a coach in 2002, McNair said he might make a decision sooner if the situation warranted.

While the meeting with Davis was publicized, the Texans won’t always announce who they are meeting with, McNair said.

Alabama also is interested in having Davis fill its head coaching vacancy.

Miami athletic director Paul Dee said he has offered Davis an extension to his current contract, which pays him about $900,000 annually and has three years remaining.

McNair believes Alabama has a good shot at hiring Davis.

“Certainly Alabama is a great institution and something that is attractive to a number of coaches,” he said.

“And certainly there will be other opportunities in the NFL.”

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Oklahoma's Heupel, Stoops awarded

Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Oklahoma's Josh Heupel and Bob Stoops won the Walter Camp player and coach of the year awards Tuesday. Heupel, quarterback for the Sooners, led the team to a 11-0 record. In only his second year, Stoops took Oklahoma to the top of the national rankings for the first time since 1987. It marked only the third time a player and coach from the same school were honored in the same year.

The winners of the awards, named for the former Yale coach who helped develop the rules of the game, are picked by a national panel of Division I-A coaches and sports information directors. Stoops and Heupel will be honored at the Walter Camp 34th national awards banquet on Feb. 10 at the Yale University Commons in New Haven.

Heupel also was honored Tuesday as The Sporting News' player of the year. The St. Louis-based magazine selected Oregon State's Dennis Erickson as the coach of the year, and Florida receiver Jabar Gaffney as the freshman of the year.

NFL

Packers' Dotson ends season with injury

Associated Press

Green Bay Packers defensive lineman Santana Dotson's season is over.

The Packers' locker room leader and pillar of consistency probably broke his left knee in the second quarter of Green Bay's loss at Carolina on Monday night.

General manager Ron Wolf said tests Tuesday revealed that the nine-year veteran needs an operation and an off-season of rehabilitation to be ready for the 2003 season. Meanwhile, Brett Favre needs another cast, and not the type he wore on his badly strained left foot two weeks ago.

In spite of all his injuries, including tendinitis in his throwing elbow and a perpetually swollen thumb, Favre has regained his form. His supporting cast hasn't.

Last year, a bruised and swollen thumb contributed to a sub-par season in which Favre threw 23 interceptions and failed to lead Green Bay to the playoffs for the first time in seven seasons.

This year, the trouble is his teammates.

Favre, who has started an NFL-record 137 consecutive games, is throwing the ball with as much zip as ever. On Monday night, he threw a bullet pass to Donald Driver that traveled 50 yards on a line.

He's just 107 yards shy of joining Dan Marino as the only players who have thrown for 6,000 yards in a season. Dotson's loss is a huge blow to the Packers' ability to offset the offensive weaknesses.

That's why, Favre said, he can't try to win games by himself anymore — except in the fourth quarter, when he regularly finds himself trying to rally his team from self-inflicted wounds.

Nine of Favre's 13 interceptions have come in the fourth quarter.

Despair set in earlier than usual for the Packers in their demoralizing 31-14 loss to Carolina Monday night.

Green Bay found itself down 14-0 early on to a makeshift Panthers lineup coming in at 4-9.

"At that point it didn't seem you could stop them," Favre said.

The Packers don't seem capable of stopping anybody once they fall behind.

Besides Favre, there are no playmakers. No Dorsey Levens, no Robert Brooks, no Mark Chmura, no Earl Dotson.

Favre has two rookie tackles protecting him in Chad Clifton and Mark Tauscher. Rookie tight end Bubba Franks and Ahman Green, a first-time starter at halfback, are prone to drops and fumbles.

Coach Mike Sherman, who has preached a return to fundamentals football since replacing Ray Rhodes last winter, is particularly peeved by the drops, which have come in bunches of up to a dozen a game.

Then, there's Antonio Freeman, a colossal disappointment since signing a $42 million deal 15 months ago that at the time made him the highest-paid receiver in the NFL.

Freeman entered this season intent on avoiding a repeat of last year, when he never got going after a long holdout and finished with 74 catches for 1,074 yards and six TDs — a down year by his lofty standards.

But his numbers are down even more this season. Although he has six TDs already, Freeman is averaging just 3.67 catches a game, down from 4.63 a year ago, and his per-game yardage is down from 67 to 54.

He committed a crucial fumble deep in Packers territory Monday night that led to a Carolina touchdown. Two weeks ago, he knocked the ball out of an official's hand for a 15-yard penalty that took the Packers out of field goal range in a close game at Tampa and cost him a $10,000 fine.

And the defense hasn't been able to offset the offensive blunders.

The Packers' top two defenders, linebackers Bubba Franks and cornerbacks Mike McKenzie, have hardly been heard from because of injuries...
onto the ball at all costs, their opponents haven't been able to do the same. USC, which wound up 5-7 largely because of its 35 turnovers, including two interceptions and a lost fumble against Notre Dame.

"We win because other teams turn the ball over," Davie said. "We don't turn the ball over."

Notre Dame's low number of turnovers has the Irish in BCS contention for the first time in years.

Leading the error-free play for the Irish is an 18-year-old freshman, quarterback Matt LoVecchio. In seven games played as a starter and one as a reserve, he has thrown just one interception.

That's not a typo. LoVecchio's lone interception came back in mid-October against Navy.

Because LoVecchio has played in less than 75 percent of Notre Dame's games, he is not eligible for the NCAA record books.

But if you're interested in a comparison, of the 50 players at the top of the passing list in Division I-A football, the fewest interceptions thrown is four, by Toledo's Tavares Bolden. Heisman candidates Drew Brees of Purdue, Josh Heupel of Oklahoma and Chris Weinke of Florida State have thrown 34 between them.

Granted, LoVecchio has attempted fewer passes than any of the Heisman candidates (he's 73-for-125). But his passing efficiency marks are 151.70, good enough for seventh best in the nation.

"The guy gets you into the right play almost every time," Davie said of LoVecchio. "There are a minimal amount of bobbled plays. He's dropped one snap this year."

Award-winning Irish

Linebacker Anthony Denman highlights the football team's list of award-winners this year. The leading Notre Dame's games, he is not eligible for the NCAA record books.

The leading Notre Dame's games, he is not eligible for the NCAA record books.

The leading Notre Dame's games, he is not eligible for the NCAA record books.

The leading Notre Dame's games, he is not eligible for the NCAA record books.

The leading Notre Dame's games, he is not eligible for the NCAA record books.
Irish end regular-season play with loss to No. 3 USC

By RACHAEL PROTZMAN  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame volleyball built a 5-1 lead in the match against No. 3 USC before falling in the last two games to drop the five game match (5-15, 17-15, 17-15, 7-15, 11-15) on Saturday.

"USC was a legitimate third in the poll rankings, but our team came out and fought hard for every point," sophomore Keara Coughlin said. "We found ourselves taking games away from them even though our statistics for the match were not at our usual level."

After not being able to come back from an 8-2 deficit in the loss of game 1, the Irish came on strong in game 2 to take a 14-10 lead. Then USC put up a fight, scoring five points to take the lead Notre Dame hung on for the 17-15 win. Freshman Kim Fletcher racked up a career-high 10 kills in the game.

In game 3 action, the Irish built an 8-3 lead before falling apart to allow the Trojans to take the 13-11 lead. Seniors Christi Girton and Denise Boylan each struck hard with a kill to give the Irish the tie before USC took the lead. With a burst of strength, Notre Dame stole back the lead and the win. USC took back the lead with an 8-3 lead in game 4 and went on to win as the Irish couldn't fight back.

Game 5 went back and forth between both teams with USC pulling ahead in the end for the win.

"After losing in five games to a talented team like USC," Coughlin said, "we were able to leave California itching to get back in the gym for practice this week and then start off our post season at the level at which we have proven we can compete."

Senior Christi Girton led the Irish in their last regular season game with 22 kills and 16 digs while junior Kristy Kreher followed with 18 kills. Junior Malinda Goralski added 16 kills

USC moved to 25-2 on the season with their fourth win over the Irish. Notre Dame has just one win in its history against the Trojans, a 1995 victory.

Next up for Notre Dame will be the first round in the NCAA tournament where it will face Cincinnati on Friday night.

"Even before going into the match on Friday," Coughlin said, "we knew that our performance against USC would mean a lot. In the back of our minds, we knew that what we did on Friday would affect our match-up in NCAA as well as our attitudes going into the tournament."

Freshmen Katie Neff, left, and Jessica Kinder go up to block at. Lake Superior State Wednesday, November 29, 2000

FOOTBALL

Ball control, BCS bid go hand-in-hand

By KATHLEEN O'BRIEN  
Associate Sports Editor

Head coach Bob Davie's plan for Notre Dame's running backs to tote the football with them every waking minute in the early season has paid off in the form of a 9-2 record.

After last year's Irish committed 36 turnovers — 15 interceptions and 15 fumbles lost, Davie decided his players needed some extra practice keeping the ball in their hands.

So he gave Julius Jones, Tony Fisher, Terrance Howard and teammates the order to carry the pigskin everywhere they went, be it practice, class or the dining hall.

Eleven games later, the Irish rank first in the nation with just eight turnovers. Not only is that mark a Notre Dame record, besting the previous mark of 10 set in 1993, it also ties an NCAA record.

While the Irish have held the ball better, the defense has had no help from the offense. The Irish have gone four games without forcing an interception, and two without forcing a fumble.

Staying ahead  
Preseason All-American Shane Battier and the Duke Blue Devils cling to their number one spot by edging over Illinois 78-77.

 page 12

Battier

Wednesday, November 29, 2000

INSIDE SAINT MARY'S SPORTS

Belles start season with wins

They say the road to success is a long road paved with many obstacles, but that it is a road worth traveling. This past weekends end, the Saint Mary's basketball team proved that following that road is not only worth traveling, but it is imperative to travel the road.

Following a long history of starting off the home season with a losing record, the Belles will start their home stand this Friday with a 3-2 record after coming off a tournament victory at Marietta over Thanksgiving.

A column I wrote earlier in November described team and fans' hopes that this year would be more successful than last year for the Saint Mary's basketball team. The team's 2-1 record over break surpassed those hopes, at least in the early part of the season.

In addition to having a winning record, the Belles currently have an MIAA player of the week in sophomore Kristen Matha and hold the leading spots in several MIAA categories. Matha holds the No. 1 spot in most rebounds in a game and most blocked shots in a game. Leigh Ann Matesich and Katie Christiansen are tied for the top spot with most assists in a game.

Why the sudden success? If you were to ask head coach Suzanne Smith, she would attribute the success to her team's confidence; she would see MCVY/page 12

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

Women's Swimming  
Notre Dame Invitational  
Thursday-Saturday

vs. North Carolina  
College Cup semifinal  
Friday, 5 p.m.

Men's Swimming  
Notre Dame Invitational  
Thursday-Saturday

at Lake Superior State  
Friday, 7:05 p.m.

Volleyball  
vs. Cincinnati  
NCAA tournament  
at Columbus, Ohio  
Sunday, 7 p.m.