Passing the magic wand

By COLLEEN MCCARTHY
Assistant News Editor

One of the things Crissie Renner, former Saint Mary's student body president, misses most about not holding office since her successor Michelle Nagle took over two weeks ago is what she calls the "magic wand" phone calls.

"I always called those the 'magic wand' calls because people seemed to think I could just wave my magic wand and resolve the problem," said Renner.

For Renner, the students, faculty and alumni who called her about a variety of issues was signs of the trust people have in her and the power that the student body president holds.

"I never complained about the calls because it is a great feeling to know that people feel comfortable just calling me up to ask me questions on issues from algae on Lake Marian to the use of fertilizer on the grass at Saint Mary's to calling me to say that the lights in the LeMans tower are too bright at Saint Mary's to calling me to the use of fertilizer on the grass," said Renner.

As someone in student government, you don't have the luxury of giving your personal opinion," said Nagle. "You have to be neutral and especially at Saint Mary's in classes, we're taught to give our opinions. Throughout life you're never taught 'neutral skills.' But now, I have to remember that before I say something I have to think it over carefully because it isn't coming from me.

Michelle Nagle (left) and Crissie Renner (right) work on an issue as last year's president and vice president of BOG.

Michelle Nagle, student body president also means assuming her new role as her identity.

"Especially as student body president, you don't have the luxury of giving your personal opinion," said Nagle. "You have to be neutral and especially at Saint Mary's in classes, we're taught to give our opinions. Throughout life you're never taught 'neutral skills.' But now, I have to remember that before I say something I have to think it over carefully because it isn't coming from me."

Nagle, besides tackling "magic wand" calls, being student body president also means assuming her new role as her identity.

"As especially as student body president, you don't have the luxury of giving your personal opinion," said Nagle. "You have to be neutral and especially at Saint Mary's in classes, we're taught to give our opinions. Throughout life you're never taught 'neutral skills.' But now, I have to remember that before I say something I have to think it over carefully because it isn't coming from me."

"I always called those the 'magic wand' calls because people seemed to think I could just wave my magic wand and resolve the problem," said Renner.

As someone in student government, you don't have the luxury of giving your personal opinion," said Nagle. "You have to be neutral and especially at Saint Mary's in classes, we're taught to give our opinions. Throughout life you're never taught 'neutral skills.' But now, I have to remember that before I say something I have to think it over carefully because it isn't coming from me."

Priest urges society to 'reach out' to gangs

By ANDREW THAGARD
News Writer

Society should recognize the humanity of gang members and invest in their future, said Father Greg Boyle, a Jesuit priest who founded programs aimed at preventing youth violence in East Los Angeles.

"It think's it's important to put a human face on the issue of gangs," Boyle said in his Tuesday lecture, "Mi Barrio." "It's the privilege of my life to work where I do, I'm surround-ed by heroes.

Boyle, who runs the community outreach organizations Jobs For A Future and Homeboy, spoke of his experi-ences working with rehabilitat-ed gang members in the Los Angeles projects — an area he described as being "balkanized" by 60 rival gangs.

"It's important to share their experiences, I am an expert in nothing but I have my experi-ences," he said.

Boyle told of his encounters with youth of all ages as he helped place them in jobs and avoid crime, using the slogan "Nothing Stops a Bullet like a Job."

"A job does about 80 percent of what you have to get done," Boyle said. "A kid feels a sense of dignity."

"We want to empower them not by handing power over... I think that the [sense of] hope that we can accomplish... is to give kids back to themselves and give them the truth," Boyle continued. "The truth is that they are exactly what God had in mind and no bullet can pierce that, death can't even touch it because it's its own reward."

Boyle told his audience sto ries about youth he employed in Homeboy Bakery, one of his rehabilitation programs in which youths who formerly

Urban poor network for survival

By NOREEN GILLESPIE
News Writer

The survival of the urban poor is dependent upon the development of social networks for the exchange of goods and services, said Larisa Lomintz, professor of anthropology at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma in Mexico.

In a lecture at Saint Mary's Tuesday, Lomintz described the migration patterns of the urban poor in Mexico City from the 1930s through the 1970s, and the effect it had on both the economy and the class structure during those decades. Lomintz conducted research on the survival of the urban poor during a year of field study in the 1970s, and later authored articles on Networks and Marginality: Life in a Mexican Shantytown, "about her work.

In field work to determine how the urban poor survive, Lomintz first studied migration patterns of lower and working class citizens. While the existence of a lower caste dates back to before the Mexican Revolution, a post-1910 population boom exacerbated the problem, Lomintz said. Due to agrarian reform and the growth of industrialization, many members of the lower and working classes moved to cities, where the nation's industrial development was thriving.

The massive migration shift caused population imbalance in the nation's capital.

"Before you had a certain equi-librium, but after the 30s, we had exactly the reverse," Lomintz said. "People began to migrate, and the migration continues.

Migrants moving to the cities were typically able to find employment in the booming industrial sector or low-skilled public sector jobs.

"Migrants not only lived in the cities, but also were absorbed by the modern economy. The need for workers was so tremendous they could enter the industrial sphere," she said.

But the increasing population surge put a strain on housing and job opportunities for many migrants. Because the opportuni-ties in the cities decreased, migrants shifted from migrating into the cities to the out-skirts, creating shantytowns.

"The same thing that was hap-pening in the countryside was hap-pening with the economy. The for-mal, modern type of jobs began to fill up. Suddenly, you had a big population of people that could not be absorbed by the modern economy," Lomintz said.

Priest urges society to 'reach out' to gangs

By ANDREW THAGARD
News Writer

Society should recognize the humanity of gang members and invest in their future, said Father Greg Boyle, a Jesuit priest who founded programs aimed at preventing youth violence in East Los Angeles.

"It think's it's important to put a human face on the issue of gangs," Boyle said in his Tuesday lecture, "Mi Barrio." "It's the privilege of my life to work where I do, I'm surround-ed by heroes.

Boyle, who runs the community outreach organizations Jobs For A Future and Homeboy, spoke of his experi-ences working with rehabilitat-ed gang members in the Los Angeles projects — an area he described as being "balkanized" by 60 rival gangs.

"It's important to share their experiences, I am an expert in nothing but I have my experi-ences," he said.

Boyle told of his encounters with youth of all ages as he helped place them in jobs and avoid crime, using the slogan "Nothing Stops a Bullet like a Job."

"A job does about 80 percent of what you have to get done," Boyle said. "A kid feels a sense of dignity."

"We want to empower them not by handing power over... I think that the [sense of] hope that we can accomplish... is to give kids back to themselves and give them the truth," Boyle continued. "The truth is that they are exactly what God had in mind and no bullet can pierce that, death can't even touch it because it's its own reward."

Boyle told his audience sto ries about youth he employed in Homeboy Bakery, one of his rehabilitation programs in which youths who formerly

Urban poor network for survival

By NOREEN GILLESPIE
News Writer

The survival of the urban poor is dependent upon the development of social networks for the exchange of goods and services, said Larisa Lomintz, professor of anthropology at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma in Mexico.

In a lecture at Saint Mary's Tuesday, Lomintz described the migration patterns of the urban poor in Mexico City from the 1930s through the 1970s, and the effect it had on both the economy and the class structure during those decades. Lomintz conducted research on the survival of the urban poor during a year of field study in the 1970s, and later authored articles on Networks and Marginality: Life in a Mexican Shantytown, "about her work.

In field work to determine how the urban poor survive, Lomintz first studied migration patterns of lower and working class citizens. While the existence of a lower caste dates back to before the Mexican Revolution, a post-1910 population boom exacerbated the problem, Lomintz said. Due to agrarian reform and the growth of industrialization, many members of the lower and working classes moved to cities, where the nation's industrial development was thriving.

The massive migration shift caused population imbalance in the nation's capital.

"Before you had a certain equi-librium, but after the 30s, we had exactly the reverse," Lomintz said. "People began to migrate, and the migration continues.

Migrants moving to the cities were typically able to find employment in the booming industrial sector or low-skilled public sector jobs.

"Migrants not only lived in the cities, but also were absorbed by the modern economy. The need for workers was so tremendous they could enter the industrial sphere," she said.

But the increasing population surge put a strain on housing and job opportunities for many migrants. Because the opportuni-ties in the cities decreased, migrants shifted from migrating into the cities to the out-skirts, creating shantytowns.

"The same thing that was hap-pening in the countryside was hap-pening with the economy. The for-mal, modern type of jobs began to fill up. Suddenly, you had a big population of people that could not be absorbed by the modern economy," Lomintz said.
A promise of hope

Easter has always been one of my favorite holidays. As I've grown older, however, I have begun to look at the Easter holiday in a whole new light. Even though I still enjoy the candy and the break from academics and good ol' South Bend, they pale in comparison to the true message of Easter.

For one, Easter is the beginning of spring and of warm weather. It marks the end of sunny skies and that distinct, fresh and flowery smell of spring. The drab grayness of winter is transformed into a color scheme of lush green and yellow sunlight. Overnight, it seems, flowers bud push through the dark soil, and the birds are heard in the trees again.

Easter marks a new beginning. It is vibrant with new life and creates an optimistic hope for the upcoming year. A rebirth. A fresh beginning.

Those outside the home of Easter only serve to represent the true meaning behind the holiday. Two thousand years ago, Christ was crucified in order to bring us a new beginning and a promise for the future.

This spring season serves to highlight the brilliance of the Easter message — and the miracle of Christ's resurrection.

In addition to all of our blessings here at Notre Dame, we are infinitely more blessed by the sacrifice of Christ. In His death, we are offered life.

As in the winter, when everything shrivels up and Christ's death indicated a time of darkness and disillusionment, however, in His infinite love, God took Christ's death and designed a "complex good" from the ashes of our failure. He used death to create life anew.

Every winter, flowers wilts and die, only to remerge in the Spring to offer us beauty. In the same way that every year flower buds push towards the sun to hail the beginning of spring, Christ suffered and died, only to rise again to offer us hope.

Our lives are quick and from time to time it can be hard to maintain optimism amidst our trials and tribulations. And we live and die. But through the pain and despite our doubt, we will always be able to see the hope in the message of Easter.

We know that winter will always end, and that during the Easter season the plants and flowers will grow, the skies will turn blue and that the birds will sing.

And we know that in death we will find everlasting life. Happy Easter, Notre Dame, enjoy your break and see you next week.

Today's Staff

News
Maureen Smith
Nate Phillips
Amy Grene
Lauren Beck

Scene
Laura Kelly

Graphics
Kate Hall

Production
Katie McCoy
Lab Tech
Angela Campos

Today's Staff

News
Maureen Smith
Nate Phillips
Amy Grene
Lauren Beck

Scene
Laura Kelly

Graphics
Kate Hall

Production
Katie McCoy
Lab Tech
Angela Campos

Today's Staff

News
Maureen Smith
Nate Phillips
Amy Grene
Lauren Beck

Scene
Laura Kelly

Graphics
Kate Hall

Production
Katie McCoy
Lab Tech
Angela Campos

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Ameritech donates $90,000 to support minority program

Notre Dame has received a $90,000 gift from the Ameritech Foundation to expand the University's Ameritech Pre-College Minority Engineering Program (APMEP).

"This program represents exactly the kind of partnerships we hope to grow with corporations and the community," said Father Edward Malloy, Notre Dame's president. "The continuation of the relationship between Ameritech and the College of Engineering has made it possible to touch so many young people and their families in the South Bend area and, now, extending to Indianapolis."

"We are pleased to announce our continued support of this important program," said George Fleetwood, president of Ameritech Indiana. "Ameritech is committed to helping young adults, from all backgrounds, get the experience necessary for them to be successful in their careers."

APMEP was developed by the University's Minority Engineering Program and has been supported by the Ameritech Foundation since 1995. The program is designed to introduce minority students in middle schools to engineering and related fields. Originating from a specially equipped classroom in Delbartolo Hall, Notre Dame's high-tech learning center, APMEP uses a two-way video-conferencing system to link students to four sites—Notre Dame, Washington and Adams Schools in South Bend, and Harshman Middle School in Indianapolis—with faculty and minority graduate and undergraduate engineering students for a variety of projects, experiments and discussions.

The Ameritech Foundation is a member of the SBC Foundation, the charitable giving arm of SBC Communications, Inc., and its family of companies. In 2000, SBC, through foundation and corporate giving, donated more than $95 million to support efforts that enrich and strengthen diverse communities nationwide.

The Foundation places primary emphasis on supporting programs that help increase access to information technologies; broaden training and professional skills development; and effectively integrate new technologies to enhance education and economic development, especially for underserved populations. SBC has been named among "America's Most Generous Companies" for two consecutive years by Worth magazine.

Book analyzes ethnic trends in China

Notre Dame anthropology prof discusses modernity

Special to The Observer

Susan Blum, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Notre Dame, is the author of a new book that examines how Han Chinese in the southwestern Chinese city of Kunming regard ethnic minorities and themselves. In "Portraits of 'Primitives': Ordering Human Kinds in the Chinese Nation," published by Rowman and Littlefield, Blum argues that modernity is of great concern to the people of China. She examines trends involving ethnic minorities in the complex nation state, which imply that the group that ultimately achieves the most power remains the most modern.

Blum also considers questions of identity in China, employing methods from linguistic and psychological anthropology, including interviews and observation, to obtain various forms of cultural analysis. Blum is an expert on anthropological theory, linguistic and cultural anthropology, food and culture, the self and the body, ethnic and language, and Chinese identity and nationalism. A first-year member of the Notre Dame faculty, Blum earned master's degrees in anthropology and Chinese language and literature, and her doctoral degree in anthropological sociology from the University of Michigan.

INTERESTED IN LATIN AMERICA?

STUDY PORTUGUESE

The Language of Brazil

Learn about Brazil's
• History
• Music
• Culture
• International Business Opportunities

Register for the Fall Semester:
• Intensive Course, LEARN FAST
• Fulfill language requirements in 2 semesters
• NEW: Advanced courses offered
• Qualify for internships in Brazil

Consult your "Schedulé of Classes" ROPO 111F — ROPO 112F

WANT TO DESIGN GRAPHICS FOR THE OBSERVER? CALL 1-4542.
BOG
continued from page 1
a representative of Saint Mary’s, and glad that the student body are vocal about questioning what is happening at the school,” said Nagle.
Nagle believes she is up for the challenge.
Tenwatched three student body presidents before me and some were then replaced. I was glad to see Nagle
and Renner start off by expressing their confidence to be student body president within the first
week of the year,” said Nagle. “Their names are still remembered on this campus. People still talk about
how exciting it is to create your own shoes, create your own legacy.”

Fearless turnover
Looking at 2000, a swirl of controversy and tears concerning the turmoil surrounding the student
council and the student body president with student elections. Renner and Nagle took office knowing they
would have to win the support of the student body.

“Thank what happened last year and this year (with only one ticket running was unfortunate,” said
Nagle. Nagle and Boyle described the rehashing of the opinion of the student body that was already
forwarded. Boyle said that the campus should remain neutral and hold back on student elections. One of
the controversies that may happen this year is the issue of the student body president being elected with
the opinion of the student body.

"Many were relying on their personal opinions of the student body, but I believe that in the case where I
would have to cast a vote to break a tie, I could do so from my personal opinion but do so in the best interest of the stu-
dent body.”

Nagle knows from watching Renner through the past year while dealing with controversial issues what it is to
remain neutral on controversial issues.

“I experienced a really trying time during the shirt controver-
sy,” said Renner. “It was really a personal struggle for me and I
knew that Michelle had a voting role so she could have a strong
voice but I struggled to remain neutral. It was hard to be in the
position of representing the student body during the controversy
and knowing they all felt differently about the shirt and some would
disagree with my personal opin-
ion which was against the shirt. I
still hope that it wasn’t my voice on BOG to vote against allowing the junior class to
see the shirt.”

Migrants
continued from page 1

The migrants who moved to shantytowns began to acquire the
status of "migrant" in Spanish term meaning "marginalized.”
According to economic analysis in the 1950s, the migrants were
forming a new social sector a group with no set income or social
services. Lomintz said.

In conjunction with a survey

Lomintz was completing for her
job at a medical clinic, she added a survey of her own to
research migration patterns.

“People survive because they create from traditional institu-
tions such as friendship and kin-
ship local networks in which there was a regional exchange of
goods and services,” Lomintz
explained.

Lomintz observed between 40 and 45 shantytowns in Mexico City, and watched as the clusters
of households participated in a common economy and social support networks.

“In the lower class, the differ-
ence between reciprocating or not is the difference between
dying or living,” she said.

However, while the networks were critical to survival, Lomintz
observed that participants were much more likely to confess
what they had done for others.

“People remember very well the favors they have done for others,” she said.
Amnesty International criticizes Jamaican police: Execution-style slayings by the police and the government's unwillingness to stop has created a "human rights emergency" in Jamaica, Amnesty International said Tuesday. The London-based human rights group issued an 89-page report on police violence in the Caribbean country amid growing controversy over a police shooting last month where seven men in a working-class Kingston suburb died under suspicious circumstances.

Dutch approve euthanasia bill: Despite protests outside parliament, the Netherlands legalized mercy killings and assisted suicide Tuesday, becoming the first nation to allow doctors to end the life of patients with unbearable, terminal illness.

Strong storms hit the Midwest: Strong thunderstorms pounded parts of the Midwest and Great Lakes Tuesday, but clear skies dominated much of the rest of the country. The storm system stretching from Texas to Virginia brought hail, winds up to 60 mph and tornadoes. In Ohio, a man died after being struck by lightning, and a tornado damaged homes and knocked down trees and utility poles.

China pushes for US apology: Chinese President Jiang Zemin walks from a meeting with Uruguayan President Jorge Batlle in Montevideo. Jiang is the third stop of a 12-day, six nation Latin American tour.

Jiang asks for apology from U.S.

Associated Press

MONTPELIER
Chinese President Jiang Zemin said Tuesday that he trusts in the ability of his country and the United States to end their impasse over the airplane collision, but said he still wants an apology.

"Taking into the account the important role of the two countries, we have to find a solution. I trust in the ability of both countries to resolve this issue," Jiang said at a news conference in Uruguay, his third stop on a six-nation Latin American tour.

Though brief, Jiang's comments sounded more upbeat about reaching settlement than comments of the past week as Chinese and American officials worked to end the standoff. Negotiations have stalled over Beijing's demand for a full apology for the collision and Washington's refusal to give it.

At only his second news briefing since opening the trip Thursday in Chile, Jiang said China's position was "sufficiently clear" as he stood by earlier demands that the United States apologize for the downing of the Chinese jet April 1. The pilot is missing and feared dead.

Jiang's response to a question about the stalemate was terse. When asked what was the key to finding a way out, he alluded to his repeated demands for a U.S. apology.

"Our position on this issue is sufficiently clear," said Jiang, adding that he had already spoken about China's demands during his last news conference in Santiago, Chile. At the time, Jiang repeated Chinese calls for the Bush administration to apologize and accept responsibility for the collision of the U.S. Navy EP-3 surveillance aircraft and the Chinese jet. The U.S. aircraft made an emergency landing on Hainan Island off the coast of southern China after the collision. The 24-member U.S. crew continued to be held there.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell had said the U.S. government was "sorry" for the Chinese fighter pilots still missing. Bush also offered his personal regrets at the apparent loss of life but the U.S. government has stopped short of apologizing.

Ashcroft debates execution's viewing

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY
Attorney General John Ashcroft said Tuesday he would decide this week whether to show Timothy McVeigh's execution on closed-circuit television to Oklahoma City bombing survivors and victims' families.

Paul Heath, a retired Veterans Administration psychologist and bombing survivor, said Ashcroft made no promises but said he would try to grant their request to watch McVeigh die.

"He listened with his heart," Heath said. "He heard a story that's hard to tell. We told a story that's hard to tell. He assured us that within the limits of the law, a policy would be developed that would accommodate for this unique event."

Ashcroft met with about 100 survivors and relatives after a visit to the Oklahoma City National Memorial. About 250 survivors and family members, relatives had said they want to watch the execution of McVeigh, who was convicted of eight federal murder convictions.

McVeigh, 32, is to die by injection late May at the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute, Ind. Only eight places are available for victims' witnesses to view the execution at the penitentiary.

"I am going to do my best to respect their needs and their wishes in ways that are consistent with the fulfillment of responsibilities to carry out justice," Ashcroft said before meeting with the victims.

After his tour of the memorial Tuesday, Ashcroft spoke near a tree that was damaged but survived the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, which killed 168 people and wounded more than 500.
Motorola reports wider loss

Associated Press

CHICAGO

Motorola Inc. reported a first-quarter loss that was wider than analysts already lowered expectations, citing a billion-dollar slump in sales from a year ago. It was the cellphone and chipmaker's first quarterly operating loss in 16 years.

In the quarter ended March 31, Motorola lost $533 million, or 24 cents per share, compared with profits of $448 million, or 20 cents per share, in the year-ago quarter.

Excluding one-time items, the company lost $206 million, or 9 cents per share. Analysts surveyed by Thomson Financial/First Call expected a loss of 7 cents a share.

Motorola reported sales of $7.8 billion in the first quarter, a decrease of 11 percent from $8.8 billion a year earlier.

The Schaumburg, Ill.-based company reported its results after the close of the markets. Shares of Motorola, which were up $1.50 to $13 Tuesday, fell 95 cents in after-hours trading.

The stock also still hasn't recovered from its dive last week — when it hit an eight-year low of $10.30 on Friday — and has lost 75 percent of its value since last May when it reached its 52-week high.

"This quarter was a difficult one. Order growth weakened significantly from a year ago. It was suffering from a slow-down in the core industries but many analysts didn't anticipate the degree of the impact," said Todd Bernier of WorldMark Corp. "It's pretty disconcerting."

Motorola has cut 22,000 jobs since December, bringing its work force down to about 125,000, and Growney said "substantial cost-reduction activities continue." But he added that Motorola has been hard hit by slowdowns in its core industries and that analysts say its problems are of its own doing. Motorola failed to connect with consumers during a recent period of runaway worldwide growth in its primary business, cell phones.

Now first-time buyers are dwindling and users are putting replacement purchases on hold amid a slowing economy.

And analysts say the company may have misjudged again with a series of next-generation-technology phones due out over the next few months.

"The phones that Motorola has kind of hung their hat on are the higher end models," said Todd Bernier of Morningstar Inc. "They're chasing a market that doesn't really exist."

Robert L. Growney, president and chief operating officer, said he believes this change in customer requirements is part of a major global pattern affecting many technology companies.

"We've had a very pessimistic viewpoint ... and they still managed to miss all of my revenue numbers," said Dale Piau, an analyst with CIBC World Markets Corp. "It's pretty disconcerting."

Motorola has cut 22,000 jobs since December, bringing its work force down to about 125,000, and Growney said "substantial cost-reduction activities continue." But he added that Motorola has been hard hit by slowdowns in its core industries and that analysts say its problems are of its own doing. Motorola failed to connect with consumers during a recent period of runaway worldwide growth in its primary business, cell phones.

Now first-time buyers are dwindling and users are putting replacement purchases on hold amid a slowing economy.

And analysts say the company may have misjudged again with a series of next-generation-technology phones due out over the next few months.

"The phones that Motorola has kind of hung their hat on are the higher end models," said Todd Bernier of Morningstar Inc. "They're chasing a market that doesn't really exist."

He said Motorola's new phones are like Rolls-Royce automobiles when most people are in the market for more sensible models.

"It's a cool thing to have but there's really not many people buying them," Bernier said.

Bush calls stand-off with China 'a stalemate'

WASHINGTON

President Bush called the showdown with China a "stalemate" for the first time Tuesday, as U.S. diplomats awaited China's reply to a new formula for releasing 24 Americans

Offering hope, the Chinese president said he was eager to end the spy plane ordeal.

"Taking into the account the important role of the two countries, we have to find a solution," Chinese President Jiang Zemin said at a news conference in Urumuqi. "I trust in the ability of both countries to resolve such a serious issue."

But Jiang, making a six-day tour of Latin America, also said China's position was "sufficiently clear" as he stood by earlier demands that the United States apologize for the crash of a Chinese jet. The United States has refused to apologize.

Bush tried to lower expectations for the quick release seen of 24 U.S. servicemen and women, even while his foreign policy team reported modest behind-the-scenes progress and said Beijing was weighing the administration's latest proposal to end the stand-off.

"Diplomacy sometimes take a little longer than people would like," Bush said, preparing the public for the prospect of a lengthy standoff. "I urge the Chinese to bring resolution to this issue. It's time for our people to come home."

In a new formulation, Bush was willing to express regret for the U.S. plane landing on Chinese soil — if the conciliatory gesture would free the crew, U.S. officials said. The concession is part of a larger U.S. proposal offered to Beijing several days ago, with no immediate response, officials said.

"All diplomatic efforts are still in place," said Assistant Secretary of State Richard Armitage. "But we are willing to see the U.S. position change if the Chinese are willing to make a change."

The president said his administration would release a statement in the next few days "just as a way of providing some hope and resolution for the families concerned." He added, "It's a matter of the Chinese to come forward and say they are willing to come to a resolution of this entire episode."

Bush said "the Chinese president said he was eager to end the spy plane ordeal."
Congratulations

Congratulations to these men and women who will receive the Sacraments of Initiation — Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist — at the 9:00 p.m. Easter Vigil this Saturday in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

KRISTA ROBINETTE
Executive Secretary
Anderson, IN
Godparent: Brian Robinette

JAY JOHNSON
Graduate Student—Government
Monteray Park, CA
Fischer Graduate Residence
Godparent: Colleen Dunne

RYAN KENNY
Sophomore—ALPP, Psychology
Great Falls, MT
Alumni Hall
Godparent: Megan Murphy

JAY JOHNSON
Graduate Student—Government
Monteray Park, CA
Fischer Graduate Residence
Godparent: Colleen Dunne

MARCUS W. CAMPBELL
Law Student
Detroit, MI
Fischer Graduate Residence
Godparent: Mark Coomes

CAITLIN MURRAY
Junior—English
Rochester, NY
Lewis Hall
Godparent: Pat Virtue

LISA HUDSON
Law Student
Atlanta, GA
Fischer Graduate Residence
Godparent: Christine Harding

JAMES RILEY
Admissions Counselor
South Bend, IN
Godparent: Mirella Riley
Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Scott Blaszak and I am currently a senior at the University of Notre Dame. I am writing in response to your client service associate position listed on Golrish.

This May I will graduate with a degree in English, which is one of the easiest on campus. My careful four-year study of 19th century romantic novels has not prepared me in any way for employment in your client service department.

Like many of my fellow liberal arts students, I was weeded out of a more demanding college freshman year, but this has allowed me more free time to pursue extracurricular activities, which I haven’t done. In my time here I have failed to join any clubs or be elected to any positions or volunteer for any projects or organizations.

Mostly I just sleep about 14 hours a day and then lie in bed watching daytime television. Sometimes I get up to eat. Lately I’ve taken to dating a myriad of shallow girls as a way of distracting myself from the fact that I have no idea what I want to do with my life.

I describe my involvement at Notre Dame to give you a clearer picture of the type of individual I am. Hard working, energetic, cooperative— these are not words I would use to describe myself. I would opt for apathetic, passionless and arrogant instead.

For a more detailed record of my qualifications, I’ve included with this letter a resume for your consideration. It is nothing more than a list of organized lies on a sheet of fancy paper. The truth is I’ve never even been to Chile, let alone built shanties there. My career counselor told me it would be good to include something that exhibited my selflessness so I concocted this false yarn about helping the poor people of Santiago.

Though I am aware of your company’s distinguished reputation and the poor people of Santiago, I intend to be a dirt bike racer. Ha ha ha. But while back in February this was considered cute, with May approaching I fear it comes off pathetic.

If you do choose to hire me, I have no doubt in my mind that in no time I would sidestep responsibility, blend into the office framework, take liberties with religious holidays, abuse the company stash fund and probably even sexually harass the secretaries. I know that you, in return, would grow disappointed with my lack of production and unprofessional attitude but would hesitate to fire me for fear that I might file suit against you or perform juvenile pranks on your car. Or both.

Please contact me via telephone at (219) 273-3169 or via email at Blaszak.2@nd.edu. I look forward to a possible interview which will allow me the opportunity to lie to you about the issues that concern me, agree with everything you say and feign excitement about joining your company.

Sincerely,

Scott Blaszak

Scott Blaszak is a senior English major. His column appears every other Wednesday.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Discerning a call to compassion

When I think about how I have been called in my life I remember my mom calling me away from outside games with a "come inside" exclamation. I was excited to hear it because I was often excited to hear it. I wasn't working when friends began to call me on the telephone because my name was more important than relationships. I think back to feelings of anticipation, hoping that my name would be called to be on sports teams.

The dynamics of these calls — displaced by the reality of college life — is quite different today. The call today is more likely to relate to a deeper call as well. How do we listen to the stirrings in our souls that call us to move away from the ordinary place? Do we feel passionate about an issue that moves us to a particular career or way of life? In what ways do we discern with anticipation our unique call?

I believe our calls begin early in our lives. What strikes me as I look back at my childhood during the 1960s is not that I had an understanding that God was calling me in any direct way but the ideas that were beginning to emerge in the songs of the time, such as, "deep in my soul I do believe we'll overtake someday," and "I hammer of justice. It's a hell of freedom, it's a song about the love between my brothers and my sisters all over this land." These words set to music spoke to me in a way that only I believed to be critical in needs the world. How was I to respond?

Coming to Notre Dame in the mid-1970s, my career aspirations were a reaction to my high school education. I wanted to make education more challenging and more engaging, fostering a love of learning for every student. When meeting with my Pre-Vet advisor in my sophomore year, he challenged me to think creatively about the many ways I could respond to my passions for education and for social justice. So I began to think outside the box to expand my imagination about career, call or vocation.

During that same pivotal sophomore year I had opportunities to put my faith into action in a more concrete way by visiting two women in a nursing home and reflecting on the experience in a theology course. This led to participation in many programs and courses that deepened my social awareness and desire to work for a more just and humane world.

Gradually I discerned that my call was to educate for justice and to combine the two passions I felt from childhood — affect not only my professional life but it also impacts by family life with my husband and three children. As I look at my long-term friends, I can see that I need to be in this world not only with those who support and challenge me as I attempt to live out this call.

In my current position as director of transition programs I meet with many seniors who are discerning what they should do after graduation. Whether students decide to take a job, continue with a post-grad program or graduate school, it is important to ask what values and beliefs they carry with them.

In what ways can all who work at the University continue to invite students to find their response to the call of the University's Mission Statement to develop "a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice?" I believe that solidarity, the common good and all the themes of the Catholic Social Tradition ought to impact decision-making as students look beyond Notre Dame.

One step in this process is the Discernment Seminar: Call, Compassion and Commitment offered for seniors through the Center for Social Concerns. Students in the seminar are invited to reflect on readings from the Catholic Social Tradition as well as other sources and look for ways to integrate service and justice with whatever they choose after graduation. The seminar is a time to listen, reflect and converse with others in the process of coming to a deeper understanding of one's call.

My hope is that Notre Dame graduates may come to find what Frederick Buechner describes as the place where our heart's deep gladness meets the world's great hunger. We may not make direct statements in the process of this calling but we can anticipate passionately living out our calls.

More information about the Discernment Seminar is available at the Center for Social Concerns or email andrew@nd.edu. The "Center for Social Concerns" column appears every other Wednesday. The author, Andrea Smith Shuff is director of Senior Transition Programs at the Center for Social Concerns.

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

Prayer: a potent weapon

Timothy McVeigh has confessed to the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City which killed 168 children of God and hundreds of other souls. Mr. McVeigh, an Irish-American Catholic who experienced a religious conversion enlisted military man during Operation Desert Storm, has described himself as a soldier in the war against moral injustice committed by the United States government.

This writer, a psychotherapist, is also an Irish-American Catholic whose ancestors migrated from the north of Ireland, county Armagh. McVeigh reminds me of the zealots who roamed throughout Northern Ireland — some of whom may be distant relatives — who were guerrillas of the Irish Republican Army (IRA). McVeigh enlists his kin in the service of a religious sect inflamed by the perceived martyrs of the Protestant establishment. McVeigh's view of the political and religious apple does not resonate with his Protestant sponsors, the English Parliament, perceive the British government to be an abject enemy — just as McVeigh views the United States government.

Consequently the IRA and McVeigh believe that violence is a morally appropriate option in their quasi military battles against governments which they see as oppressive. McVeigh's decision to violently challenge the government was born out of his personal observation of the annihilation of the Branch-Davidian compound in Waco, Texas by a small army of United States federal law enforcement agents. The fires which killed the perceived martyrs of the religious sect inflamed McVeigh's sense of justice. The lira of the Ira have had the same reaction to British government.

Violence never brings peace. The Blessed Virgin Mary has counseled in her many appearances beginning at Fatima, Portugal in 1917 that the daily meditation of the prayer of the rosary brings peace to the world and causes the salvation of souls.

While McVeigh's anger with the bureaucratic morons of the federal government is clearly understandable, violence is never acceptable. But he was taught by the Protestant establishment, rationalistic culture that war and militarized violence are at times morally appropriate. Of course the people making these moral decisions are politicians — hardly a saintly group. The rosary is a very potent weapon. I pray for the rosary for peace in Central America, Haiti and Northern Ireland. Relative peace has come to these nations. McVeigh should have been taught the power of the rosary by the Catholic priests of his childhood. Apparently it didn't happen. McVeigh will soon be killed by a secular government which prohibits killing. Let us pray for Timothy McVeigh and the victims of the Oklahoma City tragedy.

Joseph Vallely
Washington Green, CT
April 3, 2001

Law school must focus on improvement, avoid excuses

In his letter to the editor yesterday, law student Bruce Hek brought up several good points about the law school's recent fall in the U.S. News & World Report rankings. I am writing not to criticize him but to add a few points in anticipation of the law school's recent fall in the U.S. News & World Report rankings. I am writing not to criticize him but to add a few points in anticipation of the law school's recent fall in the U.S. News & World Report rankings.

McVeigh and the victims of the federal building bombing in Oklahoma City which killed 168 children of God and hundreds of other souls. McVeigh, an Irish-American Catholic who experienced a religious conversion enlisted military man during Operation Desert Storm, has described himself as a soldier in the war against moral injustice committed by the United States government. I believe that the people making these moral decisions are politicians — hardly a saintly group.

The rosary is a very potent weapon. I pray for the rosary for peace in Central America, Haiti and Northern Ireland. Relative peace has come to these nations. McVeigh should have been taught the power of the rosary by the Catholic priests of his childhood. Apparently it didn't happen. McVeigh will soon be killed by a secular government which prohibits killing. Let us pray for Timothy McVeigh and the victims of the Oklahoma City tragedy.

Joseph Vallely
Washington Green, CT
April 3, 2001
Cable in dorms, tighter security to improve life at ND

Jeff Baltruzak is a sophomore business major. "Short Circuits" appears every third Wednesday in Scene.

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

Seeing how Notre Dame is rolling in the dough like some third-world president that just ran off with his country's entire treasury, it's about time we made some technological changes around this campus to make our life a little easier.

My first suggestion is CABLE. That's spelled C-A-B-L-E, and a lot of people interact with this technology every day. Insanity!

For those of you who do not care about the negative effect this information will have on your GPA, read on to learn the many wasting, mindless and addicting activities the Internet has to offer.

AOL Instant Messenger

In case you do not already have AOL Instant Messenger (AIM) on your computer, run — do not walk — to your computer and download it from AOL.com. This free service allows you to spend countless less hours talking to practically everyone you know via the Internet. Instant Messenger also gives you the chance to think of witty away messages that are sent to people who instant message you when you are gone.

Through the newest version, AIM 4.3, you can play many card games with people who are also using AIM. After AIM, you will wonder where those four hours went when you were going to "write a paper."

Emode.com

For all of you who would rather not procrastinate with help of others in the random bantering conversation of AIM, there are many more options available on the Web. The "all about you" motto of Emode.com might fit your needs better. This site is chock full of tests that analyze and your personality.

But simple personality tests are only the beginning. How about testing yourself to see what color you would be if you were a color? Or what breed of dog you would be? Or maybe the ever popular test, "Are you evil?" You will find all these and many more time consuming modes of procrastination on Emode.com.

TheSpark.com

Along the same lines as Emode is TheSpark.com. Here you will find many tests as well, although most of them are more humorous then those on Emode.com. One of the more popular tests is "The Purity Test" — as for the others, you will just have to check them out at TheSpark.

IEatCrayons.com

If the word "test" instantly an appealing mode of procrastination, then the utter redundancy of the following sites might be the ones for you. How about virtual cow tipping or midget throwing? If internet mischief-making sounds up your alley, then IEatCrayons.com is perfect for you. The site claims that after just one visit, "your life will never be the same." And with everything you can do here, that claim just might be true.

The best feature of IEatCrayons.com is a free downloadable game about Bob the cow. Some of the features of this game include two different skill levels, a "cow-muder" where you control when the cow mows, a chat feature that enables you to chat with a cow or even bust himself and a secret hidden feature. The ability to talk with cows alone will eat up tons of your time.

ArcadePod.com

Another great game site is for procrastinating students is ArcadePod.com. Here you play almost 600 different games, all by merely being online. Many of these games will take you back to a day when you did not even have schoolwork to think about.

Remember "Pac man" or "Tetris?" Playing "Pinball!" These games and many more are waiting for you to waste precious homework hours while playing them away.

ArcadePod.com also has many online board games like Battleship and Connect 4. If you are still longing for the good old days of youth and "Pacman" doesn't satisfy that yearning, then check out the online Etch-a-Sketch at Etch-A-Sketch.com. This site takes notebook doodling to a whole new level.

Neopets.com

Games and toys not different enough for you? Wishing dorm rules allowed you to bring Fido or Fluffy back from home? Then try out Neopet.com. Here you can sign up for a virtual pet that lives in a thoroughly complex virtual world.

You can periodically revisit the site feed to take care of your unusual pet, as well as

Longing for Pacman? In the mood to Snooze?"
e at your fingertips

? Turn to the Internet for your procrastination

to find out about the world it lives in.

Other Amusement

If sheer amusement is what you are looking for in your procrastination, the Internet has that covered, too. If you are reading 388,000 Elizabethan curses at Tower.org/insult/insult.htm, you can be greeted with "Thou unmuzzled raw-boned haggard!!". The insults generated on this site will surely be heard around campus very soon.

After cursing all day the Elizabethan way, you might consider the automated virtual confession booth at Light factory.org/gar.

This site is clearly a "see-it-to-believe-it" page: so check it out and do your soul some good.

If you are still ready for some humor after being cleansed, visit the "I've Lost My Pants" Web site at Sock-monkey.com/pants.html. There you can read hysterical accounts of lost pants, as well as eye witness accounts of the happenings.

Want to play words? Then go to Wordsmith.org/anagram/index.html and create your own snagsams. While you are at it, check what crazy combinations "I should be working" creates — "double wig honk sir" is only one of the thousands.

The computer game "Snood," available for free online in shareware form, is sweeping the nation and addicting college students.

It doesn't sound so bad, and it wouldn't be, if the creators of the site didn't add side comments to your time. "Keep practicing!" or "Did you fall asleep?"

Snood

If messing with anagrams or testing your reflex time isn't enough, you've reached the point of no return of procrastination: SNOOD. This is the game that is single handedly failing the nation and addicting college students.

You too can take part in the phenomenon that is Snood by downloading the shareware from Snood.com. The free version you get with the download is completely functional and leaves you with the option of registering the game for $19.95 only to receive a few small new functions. While registration for Snood is optional, playing for endless hours is not.

This seemingly innocent game starts out with multiple rows of different kinds all happy face icons. You then proceed to shoot out given "snoods" to get three in a row so they will disappear. It sounds harmless, but watch out!

If you don't believe the game could be so addicting, just say the word "snood" to someone who has already played the game and then watch their reaction.

The true procrastinator

Just in case these recommendations aren't enough for the expert procrastinator, try out SoYouWanna.com or Bored.com. As their names revel, they are all excellent resources for time-consuming activities. And as for the No. 1 expert procrastinator who finds no use for all these Internet procrastinations — why don't you just try doing your work?

INTERNET NEWS BRIEFS

Telemar launches Brazilian phone-Web booths:

Phone carrier Telemar and a partner are installing Internet access terminals in the ear-shaped public phone booths that dot street corners across Brazil. The terminals work off regular phone cards on sale at most newsstands for as little as 2.50 reals (just less than a dollar) and are shaded from the hot, tropical sun by the blue, plastic "crowns" on the top, which are big ears.

The cheapest card buys 12 minutes of Internet access on the slim but sturdy, brushed steel terminals. In a country where the digital gap is truly great, this setup will encourage more Brazilians to surf the Net, especially poorer people who often cannot afford a private phone line at home or who pay 170 million reals with its less than 4 million regular Internauts, as Web surfers are called here, reflect Latin America's measager Net penetration. "The idea is to make Internet access more accessible," said Flarys Araujo, coordinator of the project, dubbeted "Ocehanet." Telemar, which operates in 16 of Brazil's 27 states, has launched a pilot program of 50 Internet booths in Rio de Janeiro and Salvador, the capital of Bahia. By year-end, 2,800 multimedia terminals combining Net and telephone services, should be up and running. They will mainly be installed in shopping malls, convenience stores and gas stations. Araujo said, "Initially, a junior automation plan at a Future, an information technology manufacturer that is working with Telemar, said the company plans to produce 4,000 terminals a year, as other carriers follow Telemar's lead. Each terminal costs some 10,000 reals ($4,600). "The innovation here is the mix of computer technology and telecommunications technology," Junior said. "Telemar already had a marketing concept developed and we had already developed the terminals — it was a perfect match.

Net museum shows off North America: The United States, Canada and Mexico went on today with a panora-

ma of North America for all the world to enjoy. The virtual museum shows off 300 pictures by some of the leading artists in the three countries. The images are accompanied by 30,000 words of text to describe and explain them. The name of the museum — "Panoramas" was about the only word that did not need translation into French and Spanish. It's the same in all three languages. Unlike museums built of steel and concrete, this one will be open 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, for five years. After that, it will be checked to see whether it should continue or what changes or updates are needed. "You can go in your pajamas in the middle of the night and have a wonderful time," said Elizabeth Broun, director of the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, who was responsible for the U.S. portion of the project. The State Department furnished $70,000 for the project. Broun said the total cost to the three countries, all the way, would be less than $1 million. In Canada, where the project was launched last summer, it was handled by the Canadian Museum of Civilization and in Mexico by the National Institute of Fine Arts. The subtitle of the museum — "The American Landscape in Art" — covers more than pictures of fields and mountains. It includes "transatlantic" works such as the heroic mural in the U.S. Capitol called "Westward the Course of Empire Takes Its Way" by Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze.

Amazon, Borders reportedly partner: Amazon.com is reportedly going to take over Borders Group Inc.'s online operations as a part of a new partnership between the two companies. The new alliance would mean that Borders would more directly exploit the online book-selling business, The Wall Street Journal reported on its Web site, citing people familiar with the deal. It wasn't immediately clear how Amazon would benefit from the operation, though the online retailer has expressed interest in receiving promotion from Borders through its chain of offline bookstores. Amazon spokesman David Stamper declined to comment, though the company has expressed a great interest in the potential for the bookstore business. The Seattle-based Amazon has reportedly been in talks with various retailers, including Best Buy Inc., the nation's largest electronics retailer, and Wal-Mart Stores Inc., to sell products to analysts, the company is looking to forge an alliance similar to the one it struck with Toys R Us last year, whereby Amazon took over its online operations for the top toy retailer and Toys R Us continues to handle the merchandising. The Ann Arbor, Mich.-based Borders, the nation's second-largest bookeller, has been struggling with its e-commerce business since it was launched in 1998, three years after Amazon.com and one year after Barnes & Noble.com debuted.
Good to the Last Drop upsets No. 25 Rucker Park All-Stars

By KATHLEEN P. MCVICKER

Good to the Last Drop pulled off one of Bookstore Basketball XXXI's first upsets, edging the No. 25 Rucker Park All-Stars 21-19 Tuesday in a game lengthened by fouls and a lack of clarity.

Good to the Last Drop held a slight lead through most of the game and then held on down the stretch with Bob Koch scoring five of his 16 points. With Koch and Adams, the Rucker Park All-Stars were a taller team and featured former Notre Dame basketball walk-on Aaron Bannister, their shots wouldn't fall at key points.

"I had known that they were good and they were coming to come play hard," said Phillip Madonna of the Rucker Park All-Stars. "They really played well. We missed some open shots.

After Bannister tied the score at 11 with a jumper, Good to the Last Drop's Pat Adams scored three straight points to put his team up by three. Adams was the go-to guy to the Last Drop, scoring nine of his team's 21 points.

"That was the best Bookstore game I've ever played," said Adams.

The Rucker Park All-Stars -- whose team included Madonna, Bannister, Andre Crompton, Eric Guerraera and Phil Irvine -- scored the next three points to knot the score at 14.

Koch continued his hot streak, however, nailing a long jumper. Following a string of defensive stops, Irvine made it 20-19 on a reverse lay-up. The Rucker Park All-Stars kept their opponents from scoring and had a chance to tie, but Adams stole the ball and Koch hit a game-winning lay-up on the fast break.

"They were awesome," Koch said of the Rucker Park All-Stars. "We didn't know how good of a chance we had.

Joining Koch and Adams on Good to the Last Drop were Brian Hughes, Matt Alveson and Dan Mazanec.

In another close contest, Victoria's Secret Weapon outlasted the Hill Street Blues 21-18. The game looked like forwards against guards as Victoria's Secret Weapon cornered the size element in the game. The team of Koch and Adams took the edge on ball-handling. From an 11-11 tie, the Victoria's Secret Weapon went on a five-point run that proved the difference in the game. The team of Daniel Sattizahn, Ethan Michnke, Joen Reali, Allen Zuma and Carlos Abeyta made the most of its dominant presence inside during that stretch to keep the Hill Street Blues from scoring.
Andrew Bushey doubled down some clutch hits when we said that. "But we got some clutch hits when we needed them."

In the sixth, Troy moved to third for Chicago State and started a rally with a single, advancing Nick Gaitano to second. Gaitano would eventually score when Cougar rightfielder Jarrod Baur drove out for a sacrifice.

That would be it for Chicago State, as Naumann buckled the Cougars down and shut the Cougars down the last three innings.

It's a simple calculation:

TIAA-CREF's low expenses mean more money working for you.

The equation is easy. Lower expenses in managing a fund can equal better performance.

How much? Just take a look at the chart. Then call us.

We'll send you a free, easy-to-use expense calculator so you can see for yourself that no matter what your investment, you'll benefit from low expenses. And CREF variable annuity expenses range from just 0.28% to 0.34%.³

For decades, we've been committed to low expenses, superior customer service and strong performance.

Add it all up and you'll find that selecting your retirement provider is an easy decision; TIAA-CREF. For more complete information on our securities products, call 1.800.842.2776, ext. 5509, for prospectuses. Read them carefully before you invest.

One of the largest issuers of individual retirement accounts, TIAA-CREF serves more than 6.3 million employees and retirees in the educational and research fields.

THE IMPACT OF EXPENSES ON PERFORMANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense Level</th>
<th>$215,000</th>
<th>$176,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low Cost Account</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Cost Account</td>
<td>$275,000</td>
<td>$236,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For help on what expenses mean, or if you'd like to know more about our investment products, call 1.800.842.2776, ext. 5509, or visit www.tiaa-cref.org.
Nomo dominates, leads Sox to sound defeat of Orioles

Associated Press

Boston

Hides Nomo had everything working for him again: his split-fingered fastball, his curve - and Brian Daubach.

Matched up with the Orioles again in his first game since no-hitting them last week, Nomo allowed four hits in six innings and Daubach hit another two homers to lead the Boston Red Sox past Baltimore, 10-1.

Brian Daubach, right, drove in Shea Hillenbrand, left, and Jason Varitek with a three-run homer in the fourth.

"I wish he could pitch every day," said Daubach, who also homered twice in last Wednesday's no-hitter. "I've only played two games behind him, and it's worked out good for both of us."

Nomo (2-0) received a consolation cheer from the crowd when he allowed Baltimore's first hit, a bunt single to Melvin Mora with two outs in the second inning. Johnny Vander Meer remains the only pitcher in major league history to pitch no-hitters in consecutive games, doing it for Cincinnati in 1938.

"(It) wasn't thinking of a no-hitter tonight," Nomo said through an interpreter. "The only thing he was thinking of was not to let him score after he (Mora) got on base."

Though it wasn't a sellout - the first time that's happened since May 31 - the Fenway fans cheered loudly and waved signs that said "No Mo' Hits" on one side with the Japanese characters for strikeout on the other. Many stood when Nomo came off the field - for good, it turned out - after working out of a jam with one out and runners on first and third in the sixth.

White Sox 8, Indians 7

Playing the 1,000th game of his major league career, Alomar drove in the go-ahead run. And it was against his old team no less, as the Chicago White Sox beat the Cleveland Indians.

"I was just trying to do my job. It had nothing to do with who we were playing," said Alomar, who spent 11 years in Cleveland before signing with the White Sox, the Indians' AL Central nemesis, last winter.

"It doesn't give me any special satisfaction. I'm just trying to win ball games. I'm way over that Indians stuff." Alomar and Herbert Perry both had two RBI for the White Sox.

Yankees 9, Royals 5

Michael Coleman took over for Bernie Williams and hit just like the absent All-Star. The rookie hit his first major league homer, triggering a five-run rally in the ninth inning that lifted the New York Yankees over the Kansas City Royals.

Coleman, subbing for Williams while the center fielder tends to his ailing father in Puerto Rico, had three hits and drove in three runs as the Texas Rangers beat Anaheim in the Orioles' home opener.

Yankees 9, Royals 5

Michael Coleman took over for Bernie Williams and hit just like the absent All-Star. The rookie hit his first major league homer, triggering a five-run rally in the ninth inning that lifted the New York Yankees over the Kansas City Royals.

Coleman, subbing for Williams while the center fielder tends to his ailing father in Puerto Rico, had three hits and drove in three runs as the Texas Rangers beat Anaheim in the Orioles' home opener.

"That was as ugly as it can get for us," Chicago manager Jerry Manuel said. "It's ugly baseball, but it's a fight and we kind of enjoy that. We seem to rise to that situation."

With Chicago trailing 7-6 in the eighth, Lee led off with a single and scored the tying run on Perry's double to deep right field.

That brought up Alomar, who lined one just over reliever Paul Shuey's head - out of the reach of second baseman and brother Roberto Alomar.

The Yankees have beaten the Royals 27 times in their last 34 meetings.

Mariners 5, Athletics

Edgar Martinez homered and John Halama allowed four hits over 6 1/3 innings as the Seattle Mariners defeated the Oakland Athletics.

Martinez hit his first homer of the season, a solo shot in the third inning. He improved to 9-6-11 - with eight walks - against the A's this season. Halama (1-1) walked one and allowed only one batter past first base before leaving.

Kazuhiro Sasaki got the final four outs for his fourth save.

"This is an opportunity," Coleman said. "I'm keeping it warm for Bernie until he gets back. We've got people here to fill in."

The Yankees, who have beaten the Royals five straight times this season, erupted against Roberto Hernandez (0-3), who was handed a 5-4 lead starting the ninth.

"It's nice to have that kind of depth," New York manager Joe Torre said. "He can play all three outfield positions. He's impressed me."

The Yankees have beaten the Royals 27 times in their last 34 meetings.

Rangers 7, Angels 5

Chad Curtis hit a two-run homer and Ruben Mateo doubled in three runs as the Texas Rangers beat Anaheim in the Angels' home opener.

Darren Oliver (2-0) beat Pat Hagg for the second time in a week despite allowing 12 hits in 5 2/3 innings.

Oliver, who lost his final six decisions last season and finished 2-9, gave up four runs on a chilly evening in which the temperature dipped into the 40s.

The game drew 42,784, about 1,000 short of capacity.

Alex Rodriguez, whose $252 million, 10-year contract is the richest in sports, was booed loudly his first time up, then was cheered when he grounded out to shortstop.

Rodriguez was 0-for-4, dropping his average to .258 with no homers and three RBIs.

The Angels gave up a run-scoring double to Tim Salmon in the ninth, then finished for his third save in as many chances.

Notre Dame Finance Club's

Distinguished Financial Leaders Lecture Series

Presents:

JAMES E. ROHR

President and CEO of PNC Financial Services Group
& Notre Dame Alum

When & Where?

Wednesday April 18 at 6:00pm
Jordan Auditorium (MCOB)

*Reception to follow in Atrium

Mr. Rohr will speak about the Banking Industry, PNC, and his path to becoming CEO.

Following the lecture there will be a reception, where students may speak with Mr. Rohr about any topic including personal career advice.

The Observer • SPORTS
Wednesday, April 11, 2001
**WOMEN’S TENNIS**

ND returns home to face Purdue

By STEVE KEPPEL
Sports Writer

The eighth ranked Notre Dame women’s tennis team is on a roll after winning their 19th victory of the season by defeating Illinois 4-3 last week. The Irish are now at 19-4, their best start ever under head coach Jay Louderback and their best record since 1986.

"This year our depth is very good," Louderback said. "We are so deep, all the way down the girls compete well. It comes down from the top with Michelle Dasso.

After two tough matches against the Midwest opponents Indiana and Illinois last week, the Irish will be back at home Wednesday to take on Purdue. The Irish narrowly escaped against Indiana and Illinois with close wins after battling from behind in a number of singles matches. This week they are looking to improve and get themselves ready for the Big East tournament.

"It was good for us to have two really tough matches like those especially on the road, it will really prepare us for when tournament time comes," said Louderback.

The young Boilermakers, who have faced their share of tough opponents, should be an interesting match up for the experienced Irish. They are looking to bounce back from a close 4-3 loss to Minnesota last week.

"Purdue struggled a little this year, they are very young and had a very, very tough schedule," Louderback said. "We are so deep, all the way down the girls compete well. It comes down from the top with Michelle Dasso, they are very young and had a very, very tough schedule," Louderback said. "They are looking to bounce back from a close 4-3 loss to Minnesota last week."

Michelle Dasso returns a shot against Virginia Tech earlier this year. Notre Dame takes on Purdue today.

**SOFTBALL**

Irish face Falcons without Bledsoe

By LIA GARCIA MILHOAN
Sports Writer

The Irish look to continue their winning ways today when they face Bowling Green University in a doubleheader at Byrd Field. Last Saturday the Irish defeated the University of Connecticut 6-0 in the first game and 1-0 in the second. On Sunday Notre Dame recorded its seventh straight doubleheader sweep by defeating Syracuse 6-0 and 6-0.

With the wins, Notre Dame pushes its record to 32-3 overall and 8-0 in Big East play.

Senior captain Jen Sharron says she isn’t worried about a let down even though today’s game is against a non-conference opponent.

"The team is going into each game focused," Sharron said. "With Andria Bledsoe out for a while some people are playing out of position so we’ll definitely be focused." Bledsoe was injured in a game against Syracuse and suffered a Puxter Cruciate Ligament tear. It is still undecided who will enter the starting lineup in Bledsoe’s absence. Sharron said that it will depend a great deal upon who is hitting the ball well.

"To lose our starting third baseman is unfortunate," said Sharron. "Hopefully she’ll be back quick so it won’t affect our chemistry. When you lose a starter it hurts."

Jen Sharron
captain

**LISTENING SESSION**

Location: 119 O’Shaughnessy Hall
Date and Time: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 17

The Sexual Assault Advisory Group was created in the Fall 2000 Semester by Fr. Mark Poorman, CSC, Vice President for Student Affairs, and is composed of Notre Dame and St. Mary’s students, faculty and staff particularly interested and involved in addressing sexual assault issues on the campuses. The group, intended to advise the University, has met several times this year and looks forward to continuing its examination and review of campus concerns. This listening session, open to all students, faculty and staff, is intended to provide an informal opportunity for students and others to share their experiences and opinions with the Advisory Group.
**Men's Tennis**

**No. 16 Irish erase two-match deficit, defeat Sycamores**

By KATIE HUGHES  
Sports Writer

"In their fourth straight 4-3 tiebreaker match, the No. 16 Irish defeated No. 19 Indiana State Tuesday."

"Indiana State is for real," said head coach Bob Bayliss. "They have older players, guys who have played on the Satellite Pro Tour. But our guys played with a ton of energy and spirit. The bottom of our lineup really held us there today."

Junior Casey Smith and James Malahme, who were doubles partners last season, found their chemistry and rhythm at No. 2 doubles, winning 8-1 against Indiana State's Lovre Brjakovic and Verdan Vidovic.

"We played solid," said Malahme, who is also Smith's roommate. "We didn't miss too many balls and we let them make the mistakes."

Finally getting the doubles point is a good sign as the Irish head to the Big East Championships in two weeks. "Smith and Malahme's match was one of the more dominating doubles matches I've seen all year," said head coach Bob Bayliss.

At No. 3 doubles, freshmen Luis Haddock-Morales and Matt Daly beat Dallibor Mihajlovic and David O'Connell 6-2, 6-2. "No. 3 wasn't pretty, but I'll take it," said Bayliss. The Sycamores' took first doubles, defeating junior Javier Tabarga and Aaron Talarico 8-6.

"We didn't play the way we should have," said Tabarga. "We dug ourselves in a hole and it was hard to get out."

The Irish fell to 3-1 after losing first, second and third singles. Smith defeated 6-1, 6-3 by Indiana State's Janes Pillor, struggled with shoulder pain throughout his match. "Casey was not 100 percent today," said Bayliss. "He really took one for the team today. That was not the Casey Smith that has been playing for us the rest of the season."

At second singles, Talarico fell to Indiana State's Stefan Hinn 7-5, 6-2, after winning the first set 5-2. Haddock-Morales was defeated by the Sycamores' Vidovic 7-6, 6-2 at third singles.

Showing uncommon poise at the bottom of their lineup, the Irish defied the two-point deficit to pull out a win. Senior Matt Dah defeated O'Connell at No. 6 singles 6-3, 6-2. "There was some pressure after the other side lost all three," said Daly. "But I knew if I kept playing I would win."

Daly was able to feed off momentum generated by early points on the courts next to him.

"Daly started off very hot, then scratched and clawed the rest of the way to win," Bayliss said.

Freshman Brian Farrell defeated Henry Choi 7-5, 7-6 (7-7) at No. 3 singles to tie the match.

"Farrell has won a lot of big matches for us this year," said Bayliss.

At No. 4 singles, Talarico fought a long battle against Brjakovic, clinching the Irish victory with a 7-6 (8-6), 4-6, 6-4 win. The match went on so long that the last set had to be moved indoors as the sun went down.

"Moving inside favored Aaron's serve. It won a lot of free points," said Bayliss. "To serve with that much authority speaks volumes for his poise. He's the man."

Talarico improves his dual matches singles record to 13-3, and this marks the fifth time in Notre Dame's 15 victories that his win has decided the match. The Irish will now focus on preparing for revenge against Miami in the Big East, confident from this win. Notre Dame improves to 15-5 with the win, while Indiana State falls to 18-4.

"It was sweet to win one like this," said Bayliss.

**Women's Rowing**

**Irish take 6th at Jessop-Whittier**

Special to the Observer

The 14th-ranked varsity eight team of Katherine Burnett, Diane Price, Becky Luckett, Olsgard, Warren, Dillhoff, Michelle Ogard, Ashlee Warren, Ann Marie Dillhoff, Janie Fink will be our presenter for Raptor Chapter, which is a nonprofit wildlife rehabilitation center that specializes in the care of wild birds of prey. Come see these majestic animals in real life and learn while taking a well deserved study break.

Sponsored by the Notre Dame Pre-Vet Club!
dangling his name in the draft pool is the chance to test where he would likely go in the draft pool is the chance to test

Murphy continued from page 20

"I've discussed my future with some agents and although I haven't signed with anyone, I feel that it is best to take advantage of this opportunity." Troy Murphy, captain

The American West Society celebrates its 21st year with an international conference at the University of Notre Dame Center for Continuing Education, McKenna Hall. Noted keynote speakers from France, England, and America will participate thanks to major funding by the Florence Gould Foundation, The Henkel Lecture Series, and the generosity of the following groups at Notre Dame: Core Course, Gender Studies, the Graduate School, the Department of Government, the International Studies Program, and the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts. The presentations will explore how Simone Weil’s reading of ancient Platonism and Christianity make her a major figure in the history of Christian Platonism and give that tradition contemporary relevance. The conference will begin the evening of Thursday, April 19, with an opening keynote address by Professor Louis Dupré (introduced by Fr. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C.). The Schola Musicorum of Notre Dame’s Music Department will give a concert of Gregorian chant on Friday evening after the keynote address by David Tracy. After the banquet, Notre Dame students from the “Simone Weil: Justice, Grace and Creativity” course will give a reading from Stephanie Stockland’s “The Red Virgin: A Poem of Simone Weil.” The conference will end at Sunday noon after a concluding round table discussion.

No charge for Notre Dame faculty or students.

Web site: www.nd.edu/~weilnews
Organized by: E. Jane Doreing, University of Notre Dame and Eric O. Springfield, Princeton Theological Seminary

April 19 – 22, 2001

at the University of Notre Dame

Thursday, April 19

7:30 p.m.:
The Reverend Theodore M. Hesburgh, Professor Emeritus of the University of Notre Dame, will introduce the first keynote speaker, Louis Dupré, Professor Emeritus of ND University, who will set the tone for the conference with his presentation: “Christian Platonism: Past and Future.”

Reception in McGuine Hall

Friday, April 20

8:30-9:30 a.m.:
Session A

Larry Schmidt and Pat Patterson, University of Notre Dame

"The Christian Materialism of Simone Weil"

Robert Cohon, President of Association pour l'Amicale de la personne de Simone Weil

"Simone Weil: Platonisme acheve et materialisme antagoniste," given in French.

10:30 a.m.-noon:
Session B

Richard Bell, The College of Wooster

"Justice: Attributes or Reconstructive Reflections in the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission"

Christina Evans, Lesley College

"Completing the Unfinished Story: Analyses of the Debates, 1900-42 by Simone Weil and Some Contemporaries"

Session C

Patricia Reynaud, Miami University

"Prose de propositions de Simone Weil sur le ‘monde du malheur,’ given in French"

Saturday, April 21

8:30-10:00 a.m.:
Session D

Florence Deley, Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris

"A quoi sert un chef sans son projet d’œuvre?", given in French.

Inese Radins, Vanderbilt University

"Model and Metaphor: Simone Weil’s Timaeus and Trinitarian Creation"

10:30 a.m.-noon:
Session E

Martin Andic, University of Massachusetts Boston

"Freedom in Barth and Weil"

J.P. Little, St. Patrick’s College, Dublin

"Simone Weil and Sorensen Boush"

Session F

Lisa McCullough, University of Chicago

"Simone Weil: Platonism: F The Argument Against"

Michael Rose, Catholic University

"Simone Weil on the Good: The Early and Middle Years"

1:30-2:30 p.m.:
Keynote Address: Emmanuel Casabianca, Université Catholique de Lyon "Revolving Platonism: Simone Weil’s Trinitarian Metaphysics," given in English.

2:00-2:15 p.m.:
Session D

Cyl O’Brien, University of Notre Dame

"Counter-Intimates and Simone Weil’s Christian Platonism: A Hint for Overcoming the Gloom of Evil"

Eric O. Springfield, Princeton Theological Seminary

"I admired the late Saint Augustine..."

7:30-9:00 p.m.:
Keynote Address: David Tracy, University of Chicago

"Simone Weil: Tragedy, Plato and Christianity"

9:30 p.m.:
Concert by the Schola Musicorum

Sunday, April 22

8:30-10:00 a.m.:
Session F

Diogenes Allen, Princeton Theological Seminary

"The Need for History"

Nilou Reza, Université de Paris

"Simone Weil: Between Plato and Kant"

7-10 p.m.:
Banquet (Reading of selected poems in Stephanie Stockland’s “The Red Virgin” by students in the Notre Dame course “Simone Weil: Justice, Grace and Creativity”)

Sunday April 22

10:30 a.m.:
Concluding Panel Discussion: "The Relevance and Future of Weil Studies" in the university course curriculum
Howard stands alone at tailback

By NOAH AMSTADTER

Sports Editor

Less than eight months ago, Irish tailback Terrence Howard considered leaving Notre Dame because of a lack of playing time. Now, he is the only tailback left standing.

Tony Fisher, Howard's roommate who gained 607 yards last fall, is out following shoulder surgery. Julius Jones — the leading rusher for 2000 with 657 yards on the ground — cannot practice this spring for disciplinary reasons.

That leaves Howard taking nearly all the snaps at tailback, with Chris Yura getting a few reps and Mike McNair rotating in on single-back formations.

"He's getting a thousand reps," said Irish head coach Bob Davie. "This is my last year. I'm trying to be the top back."

Howard has changed his goals since last season. He worried about playing time as he did last season.

"Right now I think I'm doing pretty well," Howard said. "I'm staying healthy. I'm going to be the No. 1 back.

"I'm trying to be the No. 1 back," Howard said. "There's no question that Tony wants to be the No. 1 back. Julius wants to be the No. 1 back and I want to be the No. 1 back."

After two off-seasons in which he worried about playing time as well as his ailing father, who passed away last summer, the rising senior has developed into a leader.

"I'm trying to go out there and be the best I can," Howard said. "I'm trying to be the leader and step up for the team."

Howard has changed his lifestyle to suit his leadership role — and help him in his quest to be the top back.

"Right now I think I'm doing the right things," Howard said. "I'm really getting out there and working hard. I'm getting rest, eating right. Every time I'm out there I can give 100 percent."

Howard is working mainly on fundamentals this spring, specifically on his ball-handling skills after being labeled as prone to fumbles in the past.

"If you're a receiver and you only catch two balls in practice, how are you going to catch a ball in a game," Howard said. "I've been very, very just concentrating on holding on to the ball and being patient. That's one of my main focuses, just holding on to the ball."

While he entered his last two seasons needing to impress coaches for playing time, he enters this coming summer with a log up on his absent positionmates.

"When they come out there in the summertime I'll probably be a step or two ahead," Howard said.

Still, the Willingboro, N.J., has not forgotten how he got as far as he did last season.

"I think I improved it by being patient," Howard said. "I think last year, since it was my first year on the field carrying the ball a lot, I was trying to rush things and trying to take everything at a fast, fast pace," he said. "As I got into a groove I got to be more and more patient."

Notes:
♦ In the battle for playing time in the defensive backfield, Davie came away from Tuesday's practice impressed with the play of rising senior Clifford Jefferson and rising sophomore Preston Jackson.

"Jefferson's a guy that's working hard," Dave said. "There's no tucking his tail between his legs over what happened the last year or the misfortunes he's had. Preston Jackson's a competitive, high energy little guy. It's an important off-season for him."

♦ Irish offensive coordinator Kevin Ryan remained coy about the competition at quarterback.

"They're getting the same amount of snaps per practice amongst themselves," Rogers said. "Some guys do things better than others, but they're all getting better and I think they're all quality players. The thing that we've got to keep in mind is that two of them haven't played and one of them has a grand total of eight games under his belt."

Notre Dame's Terrence Howard, shown here against West Virginia, takes most of the snaps at tailback this spring.

Lacrosse joins Saint Mary's athletics

By KATIE McVOY

American Sports editor

Spring training for the lacrosse team won't be the only place goals are being scored on Saint Mary's campus this spring. The athletic department has recently announced the creation of a new intramural lacrosse team that may net some prospective students.

"We have a lot of prospective students asking about lacrosse and field hockey," Gretchen Hildebrandt, assistant athletic director and head of intramural sports, said. "Those are two typical sports for women coming from Catholic high schools, especially all women's high schools. It just seems right.

"Hildebrandt, along with athletic director Lynn Kachmar, created the lacrosse program as part of the work going into expanding the Saint Mary's athletic department. After several years of the question, "do you have lacrosse?" crossing the lips of prospective students, Hildebrandt and Kachmar decided it was time to provide an answer.

"Our main draw is to bring in students," Hildebrandt said. "Coming in [prospective] students will see there's more offered to them.

"Although the athletic department is looking at making both lacrosse and field hockey club sports, they will see there's more offered to them."

"Our main draw is to bring in students," Hildebrandt said. "Coming in [prospective] students will see there's more offered to them."

Since the athletic department is looking at making both lacrosse and field hockey club sports, women's lacrosse club and field hockey, it is hoped that having pick-up contests on Sunday afternoons.

"Women are still welcome to join the team. "Adding field hockey is still a financial issue," Hildebrandt said. "Women are still welcome to join the team."

"Women are still welcome to join the team."

"Women are still welcome to join the team."

"Adding field hockey is still a financial issue," Hildebrandt said. "Women are still welcome to join the team."

"Women are still welcome to join the team."

"Women are still welcome to join the team."

"Adding field hockey is still a financial issue," Hildebrandt said. "Women are still welcome to join the team."
EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Joel Grey, Ethel Merman, Peter Riegert, Michele Lee, Tyne Daly, Sarah Bernhardt, Bette Davis, Katharine Hepburn, Deanna Durbin, Gregory Peck, John Wayne, Butterfly McQueen, Walter Matthau, Sir Laurence Olivier, Mickey Rooney, Pinky Lee, Robert Altman.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Happy Birthday! It’s time to make some decisions. You are the master of your own destiny, so take hold of your life and decide what will make you happy. It’s time to stand your ground and follow your heart. Don’t let anyone push you into a direction that you don’t care to pursue. This can be an exciting year. Your numbers are 7, 13, 22, 26, 36, 37.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Expect a lack of sympathy from your partner if you’ve been stubborn. Don’t waste yourself at work or your boss may question how important your position really is. Miscarriage are evident. OOOO

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your ears are filled to the brim with electrical gadgets, water or other necessary improvements will help you achieve your goals. OOOO

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will have a hankering to find a new home. Travel will initiate new friendships. OOOO

LION (July 23-Aug. 22): This is a great time to travel and may be able to make notable contributions, which will help you win support and additional responsibility. Sun will be most successful at the beginning of the month. In the middle of the month you may want to dig deep for the information you need. OOOO

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You have adventure and excitement on your mind and will be able to make notable contributions, which will help you win support and additional responsibility. Sun will be most successful at the beginning of the month. OOOO

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will have a hankering to find a new home. Travel will initiate new friendships. OOOO

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You’ll have good days that could turn into cash. Be secretive, or someone may try to walk away with your plans. Make abstractions that will allow you to start a home-based business. OOOO

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will remain a realist while others may think you’re being idealistic. A new social scene will expand your circle of friends. OOOO

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your ears are filled to the brim with electrical gadgets, water or other necessary improvements will help you achieve your goals. OOOO

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep your goal in mind as you see your plans. Don’t hesitate to call things you see them. OOOO

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will initiate new friendships. You will have a hankering to find out more about foreign cultures and philosophies. Look to friends and relatives for advice. You don’t want to make a bad move. OOOO

You are beginning to make a mark at your place of work. You should be able to make notable contributions, which will help you win support and additional responsibility. Sun will be most successful at the beginning of the month. OOOO

FURTHER YOUR CAREER BY TALKING TO SUPERIORITY: You may find yourself doing more travel related to business. Don’t forget to pay attention to those who love you. All work and no play isn’t healthy! OOOO

Visit The Observer on the web at http://observer.nd.edu/
MEN’S BASKETBALL

Murphy declares eligibility for NBA draft

+ Irish star doesn’t sign with agent, could return

By KATHLEEN O’BRIEN
Senior Staff Writer

Two-time Irish All-American Troy Murphy bought himself a little time Tuesday.

In what was essentially an “I’ll decide later” announcement, the Notre Dame junior added his name to an ever-growing list of underclassmen entering the NBA Draft, but left open the option of returning for his senior season. Murphy does not plan to hire an agent, and under NCAA regulations, has until June 20 (one week before the draft) to withdraw his name, so long as he does not sign with an agent.

“Troy is doing the smart thing by not hiring an agent so that he can preserve his amateur status,” Brey said.

The legislation which the NCAA adopted several years ago is really beneficial to underclassmen like Troy because it gives them more options and, more importantly, time, before coming to a final decision.”

While Murphy mulls over his options, he plans to continue attending classes and participate in workouts with the Irish as he has over the past three years.

By JEFF BALTRUZAK
Assistant Sports Editor

The No. 4 Irish baseball team continued one of its finest seasons ever, defeating Chicago State at home Wednesday 5-2 to run their record to 26-5-1.

The loss dropped Chicago State to 4-22, with pitcher Nick Troppa losing his fifth decision of the year despite only allowing one earned run in his start.

The Irish were not too concerned about the relatively close victory against an inferior opponent.

“A win’s a win, it’s fine that way,” said Irish first baseman Joe Thaman.

Catcher Paul O’Toole agreed. “We’re not at all disappointed. We’re used to not blowing people out, that’s just the way we play. It was a business-like outing for the Irish, who had nine hits against five walks.

Murphy did not appear at a press conference where Irish head coach Mike Brey announced Murphy’s decision.

“I’ve thought a great deal about since the season ended,” said Murphy in a released statement. “I feel that I owe it to myself to pursue this option.”

The 6-foot-11, 245-pounder, who averaged 22 points and nine rebounds this year, will go through pre-draft camps held by the NBA. Murphy, who averaged 22 points and nine rebounds this year, will go through workouts with several NBA teams, but he has not yet decided which teams.

One benefit Murphy gets by

Irish coach Mike Brey (above) speaks at a press conference announcing Murphy’s decision. Murphy did not attend.

No. 4 Irish claim close victory against Cougars

By LISA VELTE/The Observer

No. 4 Irish baseball

Troy Murphy pulls up for a long shot in Notre Dame’s second round loss to Ole Miss in the NCAA Tournament. That game could have been Murphy’s last in an Irish uniform.

Troy Murphy pulls up for a long shot in Notre Dame’s second round loss to Ole Miss in the NCAA Tournament. That game could have been Murphy’s last in an Irish uniform.