College programs address campus violence

♦ Group examines student feelings on campus safety

By MYRA MCGRIFF
Saint Mary's Editor

The Anti-Violence Task Force, formed by college President Marilou Eldred, is currently working to process data on students' attitudes and knowledge about violence, sexual assault and safety on campus.

The task force, which began meeting this fall, is in its first year of operation. Composed of faculty, staff, administration and a diverse group of students, the task force defined goals early in the year to expand programming, events and methods of handling campus safety.

"We wanted to be a little more intentional about addressing the issues of violence on campus," said Eldred.

To do this, the task force wanted to get a representative sample of students' attitudes and knowledge about violence, sexual assault and safety.

With the help of Astrid Henry, women's studies and English professor, the committee formed a survey to draw out of students main concerns and how best to address the problem. The 10-question survey aimed to get a sense of the student need on campus in relation to their awareness of safety and violence.

The survey was sent by e-mail to students in December. The task force got responses from 254 students. Fifty percent of the respondents said they were somewhat to very concerned about safety on campus. In contrast, 73 percent of the respondents were somewhat to very concerned about their safety outside of campus. The 23 percent difference may be due to the situation.

NDToday doesn't endorse ticket

By HELENA PAYNE
Assistant News Editor

NDToday.com, the online media source for Notre Dame students, will have to cover this year's student government elections differently, according to the site's president Scott Palko.

The reason for the change is Palko himself. He is running for student body president along with fellow junior P.J. Mercante.

"We are going to alter our coverage," said Palko. "NDToday will not be serving an endorsement this year."

Palko said he and the site's owner Frank Helgesen have discussed the consequences of endorsing a candidate and decided to "equal the playing field" by not endorsing anybody. Palko added that Helgesen, a 2001 Notre Dame graduate, could offer his own endorsement or student government election coverage if he chose to do so.

"The ultimate decision is up to Frank," said Palko. "He still has considered offering something."

The two NDToday.com executives have been in conversation since Palko decided to run, but they have focused on different aspects of the possible conflict of interest.

"Helgesen's concern is more content. He wants to offer students content that is pertinent to them," said Palko. "My concern is that I don't want to abuse the situation and just take advantage of NDToday." Originallly, Palko said the Web site was going to have an endorsement as it did for last year's election, but he decided it could be unfair. "It's obviously an enormous resource to have at your disposal," Palko said.

Palko's position on NDToday.com does not violate any Judicial Council rules although it originally raised some concerns among candidates, said John McCarthy, vice president of elections.

"I've looked over NDToday and there's really nothing specific for or against [Palko]," said McCarthy.

Students share free tax advice

By LAUREN BECK
News Writer

Accounting students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's are providing free tax assistance for low-income taxpayers in the Michiana area again this spring.

Beginning this Saturday, more than 70 juniors and seniors will prepare thousands of federal and state income tax returns as part of the 31st annual Wavian Harrington Gray Tax Assistance Program.

Michiana residents who earn less than $35,000 annually or are unemployed are eligible for free assistance, said senior Melissa Rauch, the program's publicity director.

"We try to get them back some money they wouldn't normally get if they weren't working with the process," she said.

The students spent about 10 hours in the classroom preparing for their volunteer work. They learned to fill out items on the federal income tax returns and studied certain credits and deductions for which their clients could be eligible, said Ken Milani, professor of accountancy and program coordinator.

For example, the Earned Income Credit allows taxpayers to draw more out of the system than they actually contribute. The child credit also provides a...
In the spirit of black history

In days of past my people lived in lands—
divided and branded, shackles around their wrists, and in still my eyes you can see their pain, their cries, despair. But given to them was something greater and through the beatings and exploitation it remained. I can remember the first time I heard "Wade in the Water." It was like honey mixed in lemon waiting to heal. It was the power of words that held some inside black folks heads when hands of oppression stomped in base.

Some ask how did black folks get the legs to run past it all, all the locks, all the ways it hurt, and yet run past it all, all the ways it hurt. We survived in the way we learned to scream "Christ, God," on Mondays and dance on Sundays. We survived by lyrics of freedom songs and rumors of open opportunity past the Mason Dixon line. We hung on in the dust of dreams that mama’s whispered in newborn babi’s ears. We hung on through loving mothers to fathers to daughters trying to claim stability with no space to call our own. Man, we hung on. And Langston Hughes validated our struggle, while Lorraine Hansbury made us wave our hands in what we’ve all been through.

We even reached a point that we could shout together at the blues Bily sang in "Strange Fruit," talking of how black folks hung from Southern trees. We didn’tYet but held our hands out and jumped higher. But we dared to think that we could do this.

And now, now I ask what keeps me moving through the battle of today facing my black skin in the backdrop of society. I say it is this, these same people coming back to mind and lines of Coltrane’s sax jumping off my hands as the years go by. But I only have these people because someone said to me, read, listen, and care. Care that my family came from trial and died in the fight to walk with heads high. Care that my family came from tears with tears in their eyes King speak and the riots of the 60’s. Care that our people lost jobs and home on picket lines so I can sit here in the safety of this private school.

They told me to care because without the struggle and the pain there is no me. I am the field of cotton picked until fingers bled, and backs that cleaned floors (the only job my people could do). I am the mother of my children. I am the singer of my people. I am the voice of my people. Some of those problems [might have been] simply because people weren’t aware of what had been done or how things had been dealt with.

Bryant declined to specify the problems the committee found initially but said the group filed a confidential report with Chafe. In a Nov. 28, 2000, letter to the department, Chafe specified that the committee heard accounts from several people who suggested past instances of sexual harassment. "These included first inappropriate contact between staff or instructors and graduate students, use of language or display of pictures in public environments that were offensive to women and inappropriate requests that women perform tasks that seemed based upon their gender alone, such as cleaning up coffee spills," Chafe’s letter read. "The committee found some basis for the assertion that the culture or climate of the department was sometimes perceived as unfriendly to women."
Officials claim
CIA report unfair

Associated Press

MOSCOW

Russia angrily denounced a
CIA report that questions the
Kremlin's willingness and abil­
ity to prevent the spread of
dangerous technology, a sign
of renewed tension following a
sharp improvement in rela­
tions in the wake of the Sept.
11 terror attacks.

The Foreign Ministry, in a
harshly worded statement, on
Thursday demanded an official
explanation from Washington.
The unclassified CIA report on
weapons of mass destruction has caused "not only extreme
surprise but also serious con­
cern" in Russia, it said.

"This is the first time in
recent years that an official
American document makes an
attempt to question the devo­
tion, willingness and ability of
the Russian government to
prevent the leakage of sensi­
tive products and technology
abroad," the Foreign Ministry
said. "Russia strictly meets its
international obligations to
control the export of sensitive
trade and technology.

CIA Director George Tenet
told Congress on Wednesday
that Russia is one of the lead­
 ing suppliers of nuclear tech­
 nology and missiles to coun­
tries hostile to the United
States and remains "the first
choice of nations seeking
nuclear technology and train­
ing."

The CIA report to Congress,
which covers the first half of
2001 but was released last
week, said the Russian govern­
ment's "commitment, willing­
ness, and ability to curb prolif­
eration-related transfers
remain uncertain."

Despite improvements in
Russia's economy, the state­
run defense, biotechnology,
and nuclear industries remain
strapped for funds, even as
Moscow looks to them for
broadly needed foreign exchange
through exports," it said. "We
remain very concerned about
the proliferation implications
of such sales in several areas."

President Vladimir Putin has
 lent strong support for the
U.S.-led campaign in
Afghanistan, saying Russia
long ago recognized the world­
wide threat of terrorism. But
President Bush's denunciation
of Iraq, Iran and North Korea
as part of an "axis of evil" that
must stop pursuing weapons of
mass destruction or face con­
sequences presented a chal­
 lenge to Russia, which has
friendly ties with all three.

In Moscow, Iran's ambas­
daor warned of unpredictable
consequences if the United
States uses force against Iran,
saying "we will react as any
country would," but Gholam
Reza Shafei expressed hope
that U.S. leaders "will come to
their senses and will not allow
this to happen." He did not
deliberate on Iran's possible
response.

Shafei dismissed as "base­
less" allegations by top U.S.
officials linking Iran to terror­
ist organizations and that it

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Web site continued from page 1

McCarthy said.
He added that Judicial Council views ND Today.com as a "completely separate entity" similar to other campus publications. Palko and Mercanti have an official campaign Web site different from ND Today.com just as the other candidates do.
McCarthy said the message boards on ND Today.com criticize all the tickets — even Palko and Mercanti.
"They get made fun of just as much as anybody else does," said McCarthy.
Senior Matt Sutton, who regularly visits ND Today.com, said he doesn't think Palko's position with the site gives Palko/Mercanti an unfair advantage.
"I don't think there's really any conflict," said Sutton.
He said he noticed that most of the messages that talk about the candidates are more fault-finding than laudatory.
"I don't think that he's been trumpeting the fact that he's the president to get votes from users," said Sutton. "I'd say he's doing it the fair and ethical way."

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS
Friday, February 8, 2002

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS
Friday, February 8, 2002

Happy 21st

MULLET MAN

Say...

"Cheesecake"

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Bread Mix

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Happy 21st

NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAM IN

BRAZIL - Spring 2003

RIO DE JANEIRO

SAO PAULO

INFORMATION SESSIONS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

5:30-6:30
125 Hayes-Healy

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

5:30-6:30
125 Hayes-Healy

BRAZIL - Spring 2003

RIO DE JANEIRO

SAO PAULO

INFORMATION SESSIONS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

5:30-6:30
125 Hayes-Healy

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

5:30-6:30
125 Hayes-Healy
Defense
continued from page 1
that she had not experienced at other colleges.
"The relationship between Saint Mary's and Notre Dame creates a host of issues that are unique to this situation," Henry said.
Compiling results from a question about what a student would do in a case of sexual assault, the committee can decide how to design new campus programming and rethink old policies. Although 82 percent of respondents said they knew what to do in cases of sexual assault, only 28 percent knew what the College's post-sexual assault procedures were. Henry said that part of the committee's position will be to make students aware of existing programs.
"I think there is a concern that when there are programs that student take advantage of them," Henry said.
Additionally, 28 percent of respondents said they were somewhat to very knowledgeable of homophobia and violence against lesbian and bisexual students. Also, 20 percent of respondents said they were aware of racism or violence against students of color. This data may be used in the future to develop strategies for education, according to the task force.
"In the long-term, I think the committee should have a broad vision of what we see as violence, including violence against lesbians, racism and emotional abuse," Henry said.
In terms of education, the committee has already been putting survey results into action. Even before the committee knew only 32 percent of their respondents were knowledgeable about self-defense, the committee proposed a solution: offer self-defense classes on campus.
"The self-defense classes are a direct result of the task force meetings," said Susan Dampe, assistant to the president. But the committee knows the classes are just a step in education. Once all the data is tallied by Mary Lelik, director of institutional research, and digested, the task force will meet again to brainstorm more ideas for programming and education.
Faced with the job of education, Henry stresses that the task force can educate Saint Mary's women on how to protect themselves, but hopes that the Notre Dame community can do the same.
"What I have seen (in the past) is men's anti-violence task force, men leading the movement teaching men right and wrong," said Henry.
Susan Almeda, student task force member, hopes the task force establishes more inclusive orientation programming as well as programming throughout the year that involves all parts of the student body. However, to make the task force fully effective, Almeda also sees a need to increase student safety awareness beyond Saint Mary's.
"My hope is that committee's mission will expand the to Notre Dame, Holy Cross and greater South Bend college community," Almeda said.

Saint Mary's Self-Defense Survey
86% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about issues related to sexual assault
64% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about date-rape drugs
83% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about how to prevent sexual assault and rape
67% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about dating violence
72% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about emotional and sexual abuse
86% Are somewhat to very knowledgeable about issues of sexual harassment
20% Somewhat to very much believe college curriculum addresses the issues of sexual violence
40% Believe a little college curriculum addresses the issues of sexual violence
50% Somewhat to very much believe college programming addresses issues of sexual violence
*Survey based on 254 respondents

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The Judicial Council cheated Wednesday. The body cheated the students who turned out for the election debate among the four tickets for Notre Dame student body president and vice president. But mostly it cheated the spirit of the political process on campus.

The debate wasn’t a debate at all. Election officials organized a watered-down “meet the candidates” event where tickets merely plugged their platforms and answered Judicial Council-approved questions from campus media. There was no discourse between rival tickets. There were no questions solicited from audience members. There were only scripted, non-confrontational sound bytes from eight people who were essentially issued a gag order by the Judicial Council, barring them from speaking openly about important issues.

John McCarthy, the council’s vice president of elections, claimed that’s the way the debate has functioned in the past. But that excuse simply fails for meaningful campaigning in the name of a bad tradition.

Lack of debate cheats election

It’s a tradition that cheats Scott Paiko and P.J. Mercanti. The body of cheating operations Lizzie Ribble and Nikki is alleged to have orchestrated. Ribble and Nikki sought to line those tickets out of inquiring about the feasibility of outsiders Paiko and Mercanti’s platform.

By restricting candidates from as much as raising an eyebrow over the best ideas or strategies, the Judicial Council tramples on the values of competition and open discussion that should be part of any election.

The council showed its willingness to inhibit these values when it sanctioned the Moscona-Oxley campaign for questioning the feasibility of another ticket’s goals. With the so-called debate this week, the council again kicked the air out of the Notre Dame election process. The Judicial Council should be willing to open the floor to serious debate among candidates before students head to the polls each year. It only cheats student politicians—and the people who need to be informed for them—if the council doesn’t.

The Relationship Expo

On Wednesday, I took my friend to the mail to find a Valentine’s day present for her. As I scoured the aisles of heart-shapeded cards, sprinkled with “love” and “special someone,” I stood behind her, somewhat disappear­ ing into the sea of cards waiting for a particular guy for whom to buy a box of chocolate marriage hearts.

Yet, after two and a half hours of shopping, I have school, I am not. I do not return to the concept of the relationship status as an insult to my womanhood or proof of my social-in­tercept. I simply realize that here, sincere male-female relations­hips are a rare treasure and actual dat­ing is practically non-existent.

Hardly a dinner hall conversation pass­es without a lament from one of my friends, all female of course, about the terrible state of gender relations on cam­pus. Most often, students blame the sin­gle sex dorms and partials for the pitiful state of affairs. They say the administration continues these traditions in a back­wards attempt to preserve the virtue of the students, to keep us — shall we say — from going over to the dark side.

I disagree. The problems of gender relations stem from a basic structural flaw in the campus community. On a fundamental level, the dating scene does not cater to the mentalities of the typical Notre Dame student.

The typical student of this University operates according to definitive goals. He or she writes the to-do list each morning, details the precise steps to achieve an ‘A’ and factors in each club activity accord­ing to its impact on his or her résumé.

He or she appreciates order and stabi­lity. For him or her, relationships tend to be far too ambiguous. If only, I thought as I stared at a moun­tain of work with the words “love” and “special some­one,” I walked behind her, somewhat disappear­ing into the sea of cards waiting for a particular guy for whom to buy a box of chocolate marriage hearts.

Joanna Mikulski
Tuesday Voice on Friday

I have a proposal. (I hope that all stu­dents have a proposal.) I propose that a student government candidate take notice. I call it “The Relationship Expo.”

First, I would like to list the things that “The Relationship Expo” is not.

1. A meat market. (This is after all one of the most prestigious universities in the United States.)
2. A wet T-shirt contest or beauty pageant. (Business casual attire will be required.)
3. A party. (No drinking prior to the event or excessive flirting will be tolerat­ed.)

“The Relationship Expo” is a profes­sional event. Violators will be asked to leave the premises.

Now, I would like to unveil the mechanics of this event as held at the JAC. First, women will run the booth. In keeping with tradition, men will approach prospective significant others. For their convenience, women will prominently display various colored bal­loons, which will specify the length and nature of the relationship desired.

For example, red will denote seekers of high commitment relationships, who require contracts of one year or more. Pink will signify seekers of moderate commitment relationships with necessary contracts of three to twelve months. And finally, yel­low will denote seekers of brief flings­ or light commitments.

Secondly, men will be required to sub­mit with the following commitment: an oral test or a written test that outlines dat­ing history (if applicable), three refer­ences and any additional interests or skills.

Finally I propose the establishment of a "relationship center" on the 180th floor of Planter Hall to oversee the production of this event. To ensure the readiness of candidates, it will provide various work­shops prior to the event including “How to Approach a Member of the Opposite Sex,” “What to Wear: Style and Presentation” and “Writing the Résumé Skills to Advise and Skills to Optimize.”

Although I do not expect my plan to come to fruition during my tenure at this University, I have hope that one day, “The Relationship Expo,” will favorably affect the status of gender relations on cam­pus for future generations. But until then, I would like all potential candidates to know that I am currently accepting resumes, and I wish you all the best of luck.

Joanna Mikulski is a junior English and German major. She would like to thank the girls without who this column would not have been possible. Her column appears every other Friday.

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

Defending the parents of Walker-Lindh

Ed Fitzpatrick's response to Scott Flipse's letter, which appeared in the Feb. 5 issue of The Observer, was both immature and illogical. Although Mr. Fitzpatrick begins his letter by criticizing Mr. Flipse's opinion, by calling it "liberal garbage," Mr. Fitzpatrick does nothing but discredit himself. Such tactless attacks are not convincing, nor are they productive in engaging in a debate over such a decisive issue as that of Mr. Walker-Lindh. Mr. Flipse makes many excellent points, none of which Mr. Fitzpatrick even attempts to refute or answer.

But because Mr. Fitzpatrick's letter was so ridiculously off base, I feel that it deserves a response to prevent even one person from thinking what was written in that letter makes sense. Mr. Fitzpatrick begins by writing that Mr. Lindh, John Walker Lindh's father, should also be tried for treason and cites the case of "Haupt v. United States," which makes little sense. Mr. Lindh's right to dis­agree with the United States must be respect­ed while his illegal actions punished — despite the best of the few in society such as Mr. Fitzpatrick not to speak of their son for many months prior to his capture in Afghanistan.

Additionally, a father fighting within the legal means for his son by hiring a lawyer and talk­ing to the press is not only legal, but what almost any parent would do for his or her child.

Finally, Mr. Flipse's argu­ments continue to hold weight and are strong in their assertion that Mr. Fitzpatrick's letter makes no sense. The problem with this argu­ment is many.

Firstly, any parent can be tried for their child's actions, especially parents of child who are not minors — i.e. John Walker-Lindh, who is 20 — unless they knowingly and willingly were accomplices, thus violating the laws that punish accomplices. The Haupt case in no way resembles the Walker-Lindh case. Mr. Lindh did not even know where his son was, let alone assist him in any actions against the United States. Court records have shown, as well as state­ments by Walker-Lindh's parents, that they had not spoken to their son for many months prior to his capture in Afghanistan.

Maureen Gottlieb, junior, Cavanaugh Hall
February 6, 2002

Accepting Notre Dame gender relations

Though I'm only halfway through my career as a Notre Dame student, I'd like to go out on a limb and say that I'm as aware of the gender relations issues on campus as any other Domer.

But what is the problem exactly? Why must we endure the erroneous yet constant comments about the "lack of quality" in the females at Notre Dame? Why can't guys and gals mix at a social gathering, without having to bring up last week's chemistry test or adding another bullet to our list of embarrassing moments?

Some may quickly blame the causes as deriving from antiquated Catholic values, a one-dimensional focus in life due to our zeal for academics or even just plain hard chemistry professors.

But a second thought to ponder: this perhaps the problem lies in ourselves, and not totally in our duLac-regulated environment. I wouldn't be surprised if the duLac hasn't changed in decades and still remains on a stone tablet somewhere.

I agree that the environment makes it harder to casually date but I refuse to believe that it's impossible. So get used to it. Many of our Notre Dame legacies can testify that relationships can in fact be formed courting around the lakes or before goodbyes under the arch. Their sons and daughters wouldn't be here if it wasn't possible.

I'm not saying that I haven't spent countless hours drowning on about my own "gender relations issues" to my friends and roommates, not at all.

I'm just presenting a new perspective on the matter. After all, with a defeatist attitude and negative approach heritage, them gender of interest, would you really be getting any more lovein' your local school state?

So let's make a deal. Instead of sitting around our rooms and complaining, let's both introduce ourselves to someone new today and see what happens.

Mimi Matkowski, sophomore, Lyons Hall
February 6, 2002

Suggesting changes for Bouts

"Strong bodies fight that weak ones may be nourished." is the famous saying Dominc J. "Nappy" Napolitano used to describe the spirit of the Notre Dame Bengal Bouts. The Bengal Bouts tour­nament unlike any other in the nation. In fact, Bengal Bouts is more than just a boxing tournament because it helps to improve the lives of people stricken by poverty. Every year the program sends thou­sands of dollars to Bangladesh to help those in need.

Students all across campus utilize many different forms to help make this tournament possible. Bengal Bouters have already begun training and are just a few weeks away from the tournament. These participants sacrifice their time and bodies to help people halfway across the world. It is the duty of Bengal Bouts officials to provide these participants with the safest and fairest tournament possible, so I cannot ignore the safety and fairness issues that I and many others feel need to be addressed.

Seeding: Seeding does not ensure better fights on finals night nor does it ensure fairer and safer match ups. Seeding only benefits the "favorites" in each weight class. Since Bengal Bouts is not a tourna­ment about winning or losing, why not treat all the Bengal Bouters as champions and give them all an equal chance to reach the finals by matching them through a random draw? By not labeling the Bengal Bouters with seeds their confidence can be helped. Whoever makes it to the finals will be there because they fought their way there and have earned it, not because they were the "favorites."

Judging: A reevaluation is needed in the area of judging. Personally, I will not participate as a judge this year in hope that better judges can be found. Having 16 years of boxing experience with only 10 losses out of more than 100 fights, having judged in various amateur tournaments and being a Level II USA Boxing certified coach, I feel very qualified to judge. However, fighters should never be judged by their peers, companions or family friends. An official within RecSports told me that he believed politics came into play when certain fighters fought. His insight cannot be overlooked because he has been intricately involved with the program for many years.

A single Bengal Bouter that expressed his discontent with the tournament last year received venom­ous letters from Bengal Bouts judges. One judge even went on to state, "...next year when I judge your fight. Be prepared. You pissed a lot of people off with the one." This obviously proves that bias does exist within the judging com­munity. Now, I know that there will always be unfavorable deci­sions, but more steps can be taken to improve this issue.

Good luck, Bengal Bouters! I encourage everyone to purchase a ticket to this year's Bengal Bouts tournament even if you cannot attend. The money that you contribute will go to help people far less fortunate than you and I.

Edward "El Papoose" Hernandez III
junior, Morrissey Manor
February 6, 2002

Good luck, Bengal Bouters! I encourage everyone to purchase a ticket to this year's Bengal Bouts tournament even if you cannot attend. The money that you contribute will go to help people far less fortunate than you and I.

Edward "El Papoose" Hernandez III
junior, Morrissey Manor
February 6, 2002
COFFEE BEANS

The Observer looks at South Bend off campus

Friday, February 8, 2002

Scene Staff Report

Escaping from the bubble of college life can be as thoroughly challenging as an Orgo exam or getting a date to an STR. Luckily, South Bend offers a number of bastions of sanity for Notre Dame and Saint Mary's overworked and overtired student bodies.

Lulu's Café

Students that want to take a quick break from the daily grind will find that Lulu's Café is as economical as it is enjoyable. Lulu's features a wide array of international coffees offered on a rotating daily basis. The New Orleans Community house blend is offered daily and is a superior cup of Joe for coffee drinkers who like their coffee with a strong earthy flavor.

Even better, Lulu's coffee is priced well for the pennywise student; a small coffee is $.75 (with one free refill), comparable to Dalloway's but much less expensive than a $1.29 cup of Starbucks-standard swirl at Recker's.

Lulu's most enticing aspect is its charming atmosphere. The café is adorned with comfortable couches and love seats for extended study sessions and the walls are covered in local artwork and quasi-hippie paintings. The leisurely ambiance is a refreshing break from the daily mental grind of class work. Students in need of corporeal nourishment are in luck at Lulu's as well. Although the prices are higher than the "deli" or "recycled dining hall" food offered overworked and overtired student bodies. An escape from the snow and 900-page Bible readings is as near as South Bend's off-campus coffee shops.

"Our staff will bring new things to the table. We try to keep things fresh and new."

Steve Egan
Lulu's Café owner

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"Our staff will bring new things to the table. We try to keep things fresh and new."

Steve Egan
Lulu's Café owner

Lulu's also offers opportunities to local musicians and artists whose work can be seen and heard at the coffee shop daily. Egan is always looking for artists to feature.

Lulu's is located at 1631 Edison Rd. (on the corner of Angela Boulevard and Edison Road, between the Linebäcker and the Edison Plaza. Lulu's is close enough to the Notre Dame campus to take a five-minute bike ride or a 15-minute walk to. The café is open from 7 a.m. to midnight from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to midnight on Saturdays and 10 a.m.
to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

Lulu's Café owner Steve Egan '93 (left) in his coffee shop with "Lulu's Pals." From left to right they are: Nicole Kenney, Laura Flate and Josh Hermes.

Molly McGuire's Coffee House

This is the stuff of legends: all those cherished stories from older brother's and freshman-year resident assistants; telling of Molly's predecessor and older sister, the bar known as Bridge McGuire's Filling Station.

Alumni still remember well the tale of Bridge's infamous downfall: on a cold January night in 1998, a police raid busted and ultimately shut down the popular undergraduate watering hole.

Today, the familiar building still stands on the corner of South Bend Avenue and Eddy Street, but now its once-traditional cups of beer have been replaced with mugs of steaming coffee.

Molly McGuire's Coffee House entered the South Bend scene in 1998 and has since established a solid reputation for its eats, drinks and comfortable atmosphere. Yet this slice of Notre Dame history may have passed its heyday of appeal for the undergraduate population.

For starters, entering the bar-turned-coffee house feels a little like walking into grandma's place or that sweet old neighbor's living room. Rocking chairs, lace doilies on the armchairs, old family portraits mingled with antique toys on the walls make Molly's a far cry from the Filling Station of yore. The atmosphere is quiet, no music and few customers on a weekday afternoon.

But before writing Molly's off as simply a safe place to sedate the relatives on Junior Parent's Weekend, a mosey up to the bar-turned-lunch counter reveals a variety of interesting fare.

Molly's drink and food menus offer an solid selection. Italian sodas and iced coffees are a cool choice, while every Starbucks-schemed concoction of caffé-mocha-latte-americanos to warm up these chilly February days. Chai, hot chocolate and freshly brewed pots of tea round out the list for those who
have yet to develop the coffee addiction. This is what Grandma's kitchen nook was always best for, anyway: cradling a warm mug while all wrapped up in an afghan?

When hunger strikes (and it always does) the kitchen at Molly's boasts an impressive menu: lots of salads, soup, homemade sandwiches and taco wraps. Vegetarians will be (par-don the expression) happy as claims here as well, with options like veggie sandwiches and hummus tortilla wraps. The prices are just right for a student's budget, ranging from $4.95 to $5.95, and most dishes also come with sides like bread, soup or a muffin to make it a full meal. Clearly Molly's knows how to cater to the starving, caffeine-addicted college student.

As far as providing a trendy hangout or a haven for late-night students, the coffee house falls short. For starters, it closes at 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and isn't open on Sundays — a tough sell for those who camp out at Java hugs to keep their blurry eyes open as they struggle through book after book.

The atmosphere isn't specifically tailored to a college crowd either. This is more of a place to relax and have an intimate chat with good friends, or a peaceful escape for those Saturdays when the second floor of the library gets a little too crazy. Molly's has its charms, but it's more subdued and laid-back than other area coffeehouses.

Above all, there is the site's irreplaceable history. Despite the new honey décor of perfectly worn couches, ecclesiastically mixed chairs and tables, Molly's former identity as Bridget's is still all-too-obvious. Its setup still looks just like a bar looking for a tap and a close listen might still reveal the strains of "Sweet Caroline" or "Oh! What a Night!" echoing in the corners.

But lingering too long in nostalgia leaves an unwanted cappuccino to get cold.

Laura Kelly

Higher Grounds

"The Tazo was our most popular tea until Starbucks started selling it. Then we switched to selling Numi because we wanted to do our own thing."

Higher Grounds clerk

Molly McGuire's Coffee House is, perhaps, not a popular as its infamous former self: Bridget McGuire's Filling Station. The establishment legally serves underage patrons now.

Amanda Hughes

Contact C. Spencer Beggs at beggs3@nd.edu, Laura Kelly at ldkelly@nd.edu and Amanda Hughes at hughes41@nd.edu

Laura Kelly

Higher Grounds

"The Tazo was our most popular tea until Starbucks started selling it," said a Higher Grounds clerk. "Then we switched to selling Numi because we wanted to do our own thing."

The Tazo was our most popular tea until Starbucks started selling it. Then we switched to [selling] Numi because we wanted to do our own thing." Higher Grounds clerk
Torch arrives in Salt Lake City amid scare

Police break up suspicious package; authorities say bag was a "hoax device"

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY
Police blew up a plastic grocery bag filled with flares and electrical wires as a "hoax device," authorities said. The package was just one of several blocks from the media center, in a downtown area increasingly crowded with Olympic pedestrians on the day before the opening ceremony. Security officials were studying video tapes for clues.

"There’s some concern it was like a trial run," said Craig Gleason, a police department spokesman. "My gut says the bag might have been designed to see how authorities would react. It contained no explosives.

"It was absolutely not an explosive device," Gleason said.

Officials vowed to prosecute anyone involved in the hoax.

Police evacuated two nearby buildings and military helicopters began hovering over the area. The FBI and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms were also on the scene.

The quick response by various police agencies is proof the Olympic security plan is working, said Robert Flowers, head of the Utah Olympic Public Safety Command.

"Everything is going the way it’s supposed to," he said.

The site is about 40 yards from the Federal Reserve Building and across the street from the police station.

The quick response by various police agencies is proof the Olympic security plan is working, said Robert Flowers, head of the Utah Olympic Public Safety Command.

"Everything is going the way it’s supposed to," he said.

The site is about 40 yards from the Federal Reserve Building and across the street from the police station.

Torch wraps up two month, 13,500 journey across U.S.

SALT LAKE CITY

The Olympic torch entered Salt Lake City on Thursday the same way the Mormon pioneers did 155 years ago — aboard a covered wagon.

It took more than three decades, 13,500 miles and a bribery scandal, but the torch finally made it into town a day before the start of the Winter Olympics, rolling down Emigration Canyon with the Salt Lake valley below.

Thousands of spectators cheered as a runner jumped out of the wagon and ran toward a small stage, where a brief speech was made by an actor portraying Brigham Young.

Young led the Mormons to Salt Lake City from Illinois in 1847. Utah civic leaders first began trying to land the Winter Games in the mid-1960s, and finally convinced the International Olympic Committee to award them the games in 1995. That victory last week was found to have been partially secured with more than $1 million in gifts, scholarships and cash to a handful of IOC members.

Earlier Thursday, runners carried the Olympic torch past skiing venues in the Wasatch Mountains as it headed to its final destination.

The torch left the northern Utah City of Ogden at dawn, on its way to the mountains and Park City area. Families lined the street in Midway, home of the cross-country skiing venue, and waved flags and cheered as the torch ran toward downtown.

Alan Truitt, 37, was the first runner to carry the torch in Midway. Truitt, who’s on the board of directors of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, ran his two-tenths of a mile before passing the flame and getting swarmed by a dozen family and friends.

He was incredibly exhilarating, a tremendous rush," Truitt said. "I had a great feeling of pride."

The flame took its slow four- mile run from Soldier Hollow to Heber in a cauldron aboard the Reber Creep, an old coal-fired train. About 800 people gathered at the train station to greet the flame.

The torch was driven to Park City, home to slalom skiing and snowboarding events. Thousands of people — many in ski gear — crowded Main Street as the torch came to the historic silver mining town.

Kelly Milligan, a member of the 1984 U.S. cross-country ski team, ran the torch Thursday afternoon before passing it to her older sister.

"Honestly, I was really self-con­scious. I didn’t fall, break the torch or singe my hair," she said, laughing.

The torch was to pass through the Olympic Village, by the State Capitol and to Temple Square, home to the Mormon Temple.
Irish soar at Indoor Tennis Championships

No. 10 men rally against No. 7 Pepperdine, 4-3

Special to the Observer

No. 10 Notre Dame rallied from a 3-1 deficit to knock off No. 7 Pepperdine 4-3 in first-round action Thursday morning at the USTA/ITA National Team Indoor Championships at the Louisville Tennis Club.

The Irish won the doubles point, but lost the first three singles matches off the court before rallying to win the final three matches. Senior captain Casey Smith broke serve at 4-4 in the third set of the final match on court to gain a 6-4, 6-6, 6-4 win over No. 24-ranked Calle Hansen at No. 3 singles to clinch the victory.

"Pepperdine is a team I expect to be in the top 10 all year so we're really excited to get the win," said Irish head coach Bob Bayliss. "But our guys are looking forward to the challenge."

The Irish advance to the quarterfinals of the Team Indoors for the first time since 1994 and will face No. 1 Georgia today at 12:30 p.m.

Notre Dame rallied to win the final two matches on court to win the doubles point. Johan Berg and Al Garland of Pepperdine drew first blood with an 8-2 win at No. 2 doubles. Smith and classmate Javier Talbora, ranked No. 6 nationally, then notched an 8-5 victory at No. 1 doubles over the No. 11-ranked team of Sebasitjan Graeff and Stefan Suter. Senior Aaron Talarico and freshman Brent D'Amico clinched the doubles point for the Irish with a 9-8 (7-4) win at No. 3 doubles, marking their first victory as a doubles team.

Pepperdine won the first three singles matches complet before the Irish took the final three points to gain the win.

Graeff knocked the match with a 6-4, 6-2 win at No. 6 singles before Garland, ranked seventh nationally in singles, delivered a 6-4, 6-2 win at No. 1 singles. Suter, ranked No. 45 nationally, then gave the Waves over a 3-1 lead with a 6-2, 7-5 win at No. 2 singles.

Then sophomore Luis Haddock-Morales started the Irish rally, drawing even at 7-7 (7-2) at No. 7-8 (6-6) win at No. 4 singles. Classmate Matthew Scott then won 6-3, 6-3 at No. 5 singles to tie the match 3-3 and set up Smith's clinching victory.

Haddock-Morales and Smith both improve to 16-2 this season in singles. Scott is 5-0 in dual-match action and has won 14 of his last 15 matches.

The Waves were the highest-ranked opponent to fall victim to Notre Dame since 1994 and are the second top-10 team the Irish have defeated this season. Notre Dame defeated then-No. 10 Duke 4-3 on Jan. 29 of this year and knocked off the then-No. 4 Blue Devils by the same score in 1994.

The Irish improve to 9-7 all-time in matches where both Notre Dame and its opponent are ranked in the top 10 in the country.

The win was the first for Notre Dame in three matches against Pepperdine. The Waves are the 82nd team the Irish have defeated under Bob Bayliss out of 90 opponents.

Today's opponent, Georgia, is the defending national champion and notched a 4-1 win over Brown in opening-round play. The Bulldogs will enter the match having not lost in more than a year, winning their last 26 in a row, including nine over top-10 teams. This season, Georgia is 14-0.

It's always exciting to play the No. 1 team," said Bayliss. "But our guys are looking forward to the challenge."

No. 13 women earn revenge, defeat No. 7 USC

Special to the Observer

Notre Dame's No. 13 women's tennis team averted an exhibition loss by upsetting No. 7 USC 5-2 in first-round action Thursday at the USTA/ITA National Team Indoor Championships in the A.C. Nielsen Tennis Center.

The Irish won the doubles point and four of six singles matches to gain a victory and advance to the quarterfinals for the second year in a row.

Notre Dame will face No. 4 Vanderbilt Friday at 3:30 p.m. The Commodores defeated No. 17 Northwestern in first-round action.

The Irish improve to 3-3 and snapped a two-match losing skid. Southern California is 2-2 after losing two straight matches. UCLA defeated the Trojans 5-2 last weekend.

Notre Dame won the doubles point with wins at the bottom two positions. Senior Nina Vaughan and sophomore Alicia Salas gained an 8-4 win at No. 3 doubles before the No. 53 ranked team of junior Katie Cohea and freshman Lufana Magnani, the No. 24-ranked team in the country, who had defeated Connolly and Cunha in a fall action.

In singles action, Nos. 1, 3 and 5 were played first with the other three matches following. The Irish won two of three in each wave of matches.

Sophomore Lindsey Green registered an upset of No. 91-ranked Loyola 6-2, 6-3 at No. 3 singles, while Salas defeated Brymer 6-3, 6-3 at No. 5 singles. Salas has a 9-0 career singles record in dual matches and has won nine in a row overall this season, as well as 12 of her last 13 matches.

Connelly clinched the Irish win with a 6-4, 6-3 triumph at No. 6ingles over Bernarda Bayani. After the outcome was determined, Vaughan gained a 7-6, 6-3, 1-0 (10-2) at No. 4.

The Irish and Trojans faced off last October in an exhibition match in the Eck Tennis Pavilion with USC gaining a 5-2 win. The Trojans won the doubles point and then gained victories at Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 singles.

TEXAS Extravaganza!!

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WHEN: Friday, February 8th from 9 to 12 pm

ADMISSION: ABSOLUTELY FREE!!!

TRANSPORTATION: You MUST ride on the bus in order to participate in activities! First-come, first-serve basis, so get there early! Bus pick-ups at Library Circle at 8:30 pm and 9:30 pm and at LeMans Circle at 8:15 pm.

PRIZES: $10, $50, and $100 Meljer gift certificates!

SPONSORED BY FLIPSIDE

There IS Something To Do~
Men

continued from page 20

Notre Dame players seem to know they have survived a conference slump and are ready to continue their winning streak well into February.

"The season's rolling now," guard Matt Carroll said. "February makes or breaks teams. We've overcome lots of obstacles and hope we've passed that."

With a 16-6 record, the Irish are ready to prove they have what it takes to recapture their Big East West Division title. A huge hurdle in that quest will be Saturday's rematch.

"I think we were embarrassed after that game with Georgetown. And it has stuck with our players," Brey said. "We'll accept that challenge Saturday."

That challenge will be a formidable one as the Irish enter a particularly hostile arena. Georgetown is enjoying a two-game winning streak, including a 15-point win over then No. 14 Syracuse, a team Notre Dame fell to earlier in the season. But the Hoyas have also dropped two games to No. 21 Pittsburgh, a team the Irish have defeated twice.

If the Irish hope to walk away with a win Saturday, they will have to pay particular attention to Sweetney. The forward, who received Big East Player of the Week honors last week, has led his team on both offense and defensive ends. He averages 19 points and 10 rebounds a game.

Tip-off against Georgetown is at 12 p.m. The game is televised on WNOU-TV.

Contact Kerry Smith at Smith.387@nd.edu.

SMC SWIMMING

Belles wrap up dual meets this weekend

By NATALIE BAILEY

Sports Writer

The 3-5 Saint Mary's swim team wraps up its dual meet season this Saturday with its final match against Kalamazoo.

After knocking off Albion last weekend, the Belles hope to carry that momentum into Saturday's meet and the MIAA conference meet.

Although Kalamazoo finished third in the MIAA last year, they have struggled this year. They enter Saturday's meet with a 1-4 record — one of the losses being to Albion.

Belles' head coach Gregg Petcoff knows his team does not come at the best time in his tapering schedule, but he remains confident that his team will do as best they can.

"I fully expect a mixed bag," he said. "We are going to have to take it event by event and person by person."

At this point in the season, lethargy and physical strain are simply the nature of a taper used to prepare swimmers for a large meet like the MIAA Conference Championships.

But the Belles have to fight more than fatigue and weariness — they'll need to take on Kalamazoo one of their top competitors, Lane Herrington, junior co-captain of the team, has obligations towards an academic competition on Saturday.

"She is one of the top swimmers, so we will have to try harder without her," teammate Julie McGrahan said.

Despite the negative factors, the Belles believe this is the season for Saint Mary's to defeat Kalamazoo. Last year, Kalamazoo beat Saint Mary's by a narrow margin of 10 points. Had the Belles placed higher in just two events, they could have claimed victory over the third best team in the MIAA.

But Kalamazoo isn't as good as last year and Saint Mary's is better, leading many Belles to believe they have the edge on Saturday.

"I would love to beat Kalamazoo but I would rather place better at conference," he said.

Contact Natalie Bailey at ball407@saintmarys.edu.
**Men's Swimming**

**Irish swim against CSU in final home dual meet**

By SHEILA EGTS
Sports Writer

The men's swimming and diving team faces off against Cleveland State on Saturday, commemorating the first dual meet ever held in Rolfs Aquatic Center when it was built in 1985.

While Cleveland State defeated the Irish in that first meet 17 years ago, Notre Dame is prepared for an opposite outcome this time around.

Irish head coach Tim Welsh is emphasizing the 20 swimmers and three divers who are already qualified for the Big East and hopes a few more can make the cut this weekend. Saturday's meet is the last dual meet of the regular season for the Irish, honoring seniors Austin Anderson, Elliot Drury, David Horak, Mike Koss and Jonathan Pierce.

"This weekend is more or less a tune up for us before the Big East Championships which have been built in 1985. While Cleveland State defeated the Irish in that first meet 17 years ago, Notre Dame is prepared for an opposite outcome this time around. Irish head coach Tim Welsh is emphasizing the 20 swimmers and three divers who are already qualified for the Big East and hopes a few more can make the cut this weekend. Saturday's meet is the last dual meet of the regular season for the Irish, honoring seniors Austin Anderson, Elliot Drury, David Horak, Mike Koss and Jonathan Pierce. "This weekend is more or less a tune up for us before the Big East Championships which have been built in 1985.

Our focus all season," said senior freestyler Elliott Drury. "We have a few more guys who will use this meet to make a big effort and get the whole team qualified for Big East." Travis Kline will race the 200 butterfly in a final attempt for a qualifying, but feels fairly confident about the event.

"I've been struggling to make the cut, and I'm about a second off in the 200 butterfly," Kline said. "I know how to swim it, I've put in the yards, now I just need to get up and run.

Since this is the last dual meet of the season for the Irish, time will be taken on Saturday to honor seniors Austin Anderson, Elliot Drury, David Horak, Mike Koss and Jonathan Pierce.

Contact Sheila Egts at egts0236@saintmarys.edu.

**track and field**

**Irish set for Big East tune-up**

**Windsor Invite last meet before conference meet**

By DAVE COOK
Sports Writer

With the Big East championships just a week away, the Notre Dame track and field teams hope to carry their early-season success as they travel to Canada this weekend for the Windsor Invitational.

"Entering into their fourth week of the indoor track season, the men and women's teams have posted a total of six NCAA provisional times and four automatic times that would qualify them for both the Big East championships on March 9 and 10. In their first month of competition, two runners and two relay teams have posted nationally ranked times. Luke Watson and Ryan Shuy are both ranked second in the event in the country, and 5,000-meter and 10,000-meter respectively. The men's distance medley team and the women's mile relay are both ranked third in the country. "With the men, we can be a little bit farther along," Notre Dame head coach Joe Piane said. "I think that some of our distance guys are doing exceptionally well, and the same with our sprinters. But I think there are a few distance guys that can improve significantly, and I think we can get a little bit better in the sprints and field events area. "If we want to do something in the Big East, we are gonna have to be a notch better or two."

This weekend the team hopes to qualify a few more runners and prepare themselves for the Big East championships.

"Everyone is going there to prepare for the Big East meet. Some people haven't qualified and we still need to get them qualified," said Piane. "We're using this meet to give some people an opportunity to run on a 200-meter flat track similar to the one we'll be running on at the (Big East) conference meet," sprints coach John Millar said. "(The Windsor Invitational's) events are different than what we normally run, which is good preparation for the events we will be running next week."

Notre Dame is sending mainly sprinters to run in the Windsor Invitational, but a few distance runners will be racing also to condition themselves for the Big East.

"It's a chance for them to gain experience on a smaller track. We're really using this as preparation for next week."

John Millar assistant coach

"It's a chance for them to gain experience on a smaller track. We're really using this as preparation for next week."

The Windsor Invitational is an all day event taking place this Saturday at the University of Windsor. Tameisha King was named Most Outstanding Female Athlete in last year's Windsor Invitational. King and coach hope it can carry its positive momentum into this week's meet and then into next week's Big East Championships.

Contact Dave Cook at dc026@nd.edu.
Sports Writer
By JOE LINDSLEY

page

The Belles are
tough, this team,
depressing
have yet to
(7-13, 2-9 MIAA) on Saturday
at Hope College, plays Olivet
SMC B

Olivet Comets
defeated the
same
74-64 loss
ings this weekend.

This time, the game will be
Saturday just because we beat
earlier in the season,

Katie Boyce

Belle freshman
confidence and ready for
another victory though.

"When you get beat by somebody, you're always
more likely to come out with intensity and more
likely to want to get revenge the next time
you play them."

Contact Joe Lindsley at
jlindsle@nd.edu.

Hockey
continued from page 20
Dame has the No. 2 and No.
3 scorers in the CCHA with
Connor Dunlap and David
Inman respectively.

"In the past it has been the
exact opposite," said Poulin.
"We have had good defenses
and no offense in the past,
but this is the first time we
have had a really proficient
offense."

While the goals are nice,
the Irish will need to play a
complete game to knock off
the Spartans.

Michigan State is loaded
with talent. Their top three
scorers are forwards Brian
Maloney and Adam Hall and
defensemen John-Michael
Liles.

The Spartans also thrive on
special teams. They are first
in the CCHA on the power
play, and first in the CCHA in
penalty killing.

Michigan State boasts the
top goaltender in the nation
in Ryan Miller. Miller won the
Hobey Baker award last
season, an award is given out
every year to the best player
in college hockey.

This year in the CCHA,
every team makes the post-
season tournament. While
the Irish are guaranteed a
spot, that does not mean the
team can afford to limp into
the postseason with a losing
streak. Notre Dame is still
within four points of a having,
home ice advantage for the
first round of the CCHA post-
season. For Notre Dame to
do that, they will have to
beat one of the elite teams in
the country.

That daunting task begins
tonight at 7:05 tonight in
East Lansing.

Contact Matt Orenchuk at
morenchu@nd.edu.

NOTRE DAME'S DAVID INMAN SKATES TOWARD THE PUCK DURING A GAME LAST WEEK. THE IRISH HAVE A TOUGH WEEKEND MATCHUP AS THEY PLAY A PAIR OF GAMES AGAINST NO. 3 MICHIGAN STATE.
Women

continued from page 20

Stepherson is just an outstanding point guard.”

The one thing Boston College has that Notre Dame doesn’t have experience. Amber Jacobs and Stepherson, both shooting in the double digits, are both veterans joined in the paint by center Kim Mackie.

The freshmen have been carrying the Irish, especially in recent games when Balteast has become the go-to player and center Teresa Burton has stepped up in some dire situations. As Notre Dame takes the court on Sunday, McGraw will be looking to her few veterans to step up.

“Teresa has done so many great things at critical times and Jackie has been the go-to player,” McGraw said. “But certainly Ericka Haney and [junior] Alicia Ratafay, we expect them to lead us in and would help us in a game like this.”

Boston College brings a lot of weapons to Notre Dame, but with home court advantage, the Irish toppled ranked Virginia Tech by seven. Tip off is at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Contact Katie McVoy at mcvo5685@saintmarys.edu.

“Probably have the second-best backcourt in the conference behind Connecticut.”

Muffet McGraw
Irish head coach

"They probably have the second-best backcourt in the conference behind Connecticut."

Happy 21st
Special K!
Heartland
ain’t
seen
nothin’
yet!

Happy 21st, Laura!

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Senior Ericka Haney looks to pass between a pair of Connecticut defenders during Notre Dame’s loss to the Huskies last month.
**FENCING**

**Top freshman fencer breaks foot**

By MIKE CONNOLLY

Against its toughest competitor in the Midwest Fencing Conference, Notre Dame will be battling short-handed.

Freshman epeeist Michal Sobieraj fractured a bone in his foot and will not fence against Ohio State this weekend. Sobieraj’s injury which he suffered against Northwestern last weekend will keep him out for at least the next three weeks. The Irish expect their top male freshman to be ready two weeks. The Irish expect their top male freshman to be ready to fence against at the NCAA qualifiers in March but not before then.

“We are kind of stunned right now,” foil captain Ozen Debic said.

On the year, Sobieraj is 26-1 with his only loss coming against Air Force All-American Seth Kelsey.

The injury comes at a bad time for the Irish as Ohio State is expected to be Notre Dame’s top Midwest competition. Sobieraj’s injury will move senior Brian Casas into the No. 2 spot while the No. 3 spot will be filled with a walk-on.

“When someone like Michal is out, you just can’t replace someone of that caliber,” sabre captain Andre Crompton said.

The strength of the Buckeyes lies in their epee and sabre squads. National team members Colin Parker and Jason Rogers make Ohio State’s sabre team one of the best in the country while epeeist Alan Jones led the Buckeyes to a 5-4 win against perennial power Penn State last weekend.

The weakness of the Buckeyes lies in their foil squad. With Sobieraj out, Debic said his squad will try to build as big a lead as possible to make up for a weaker epee squad.

“We are going to have to try to make the biggest advantage possible because this is their weakest weapon,” Debic said.

The sabre squad will have a little more pressure on itself as well this weekend with the epee squad down a man. Crompton said that Ohio State’s squad is definitely the toughest the Irish will face in the Midwest but not quite comparable to St. John’s top sabre-man Ivan Lee.

“I have fenced [Parker and Rogers] a lot when I was younger,” he said. “We grew up fencing nationally together. Colin and Jason are both great fencers but I don’t think they are out of our league. It’s going to come down to a good fight.”

Crompton said that although Ohio State’s top two sabremen are strong, he believes that the Irish depth will carry them to victory. He doesn’t think the Buckeye’s No. 3 fencer is on par with himself, Andrej Bednarski and Matt Fabricant.

The Notre Dame women will be slowed by an ankle injury that she suffered in Germany. She is expected to fence just not at 100 percent.

Contact Mike Connolly at Connolly.28@nd.edu.

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**FOOTBALL**

**Receiver commits to Irish**

By ANDREW SOUKUP

Notre Dame rounded out its 18-member recruiting class early this morning when wide receiver prospect Rhema McKnight faxed his letter of intent to the Irish football office.

McKnight planned on announcing his decision late Wednesday night. While rumors slowly trickled around the Internet that the California prospect had verbally committed to the Irish, he had yet to sign a binding letter of intent.

Apparently, the delay occurred because McKnight had to play in a basketball game Wednesday and was unable to fax his letter to the Irish before his game. Notre Dame received McKnight’s letter early this morning.

McKnight, the No. 10 wide receiver prospect according to analyst Tom Lemming picked the Irish over UCLA, Washington, Oregon and Florida.

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu.
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Settlement
20 Holdern
30 Middle of the road?
31 Unseen problem maker...
32 Poggis of the lunatics
34 Not good, as ideas go
59 Unseen part of the moon
75 Instant, in a phrase
37 A R N E D

DOWN
1 Venomous, as a snake
2 Old two-wheeler
3 Nurse
6 Where seconds count
7 Illinois birthplace of William Jennings Bryan
13 Made a case (for)
14 Heart of France
15 Made go "vroom"
16 Carry on
22 Footwear
23 Street shader
25 News summaries

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

17 Gave too much
18 Made too much
19 "Li'l ol' me?"
21 Stuck is stuck
23 "Henry & June"
24 Batson twirler,
26 I M P A C T
27 B A T T I N G

Visit The Observer on the web at http://observer.nd.edu/
Men's Basketball

Ready to rumble again

Georgetown, Notre Dame set for rematch two weeks after Hoya blowout

By KERRY SMITH
Sports Writer

Mike Brey was blunt when he described the last meeting between Notre Dame and Georgetown.

"It was like the varsity playing the JV," the Irish head coach said. "It was men among boys."

The Hoyas crashed the Joyce Center in late January and went home with a critical 83-73 Big East West Division win that sent the Irish below .500 in conference play.

Capitalizing on Irish forward Harold Swanagan's injured ankle which kept him out of the game, the Hoyas dominated in the paint as forward Mike Sweetney put up a game-high 21 points and led his team to a 30-point victory.

But a lot has happened since the Jan. 21 meeting.

Sewanee is back in the lineup. Freshman point guard Chris Thomas has weathered through a midseason slump. Notre Dame has picked up four straight conference victories since the loss and the Irish are coming off an impressive offensive display in their Wednesday win over Rutgers.

And the Irish have proven they can win on the road.

"We like the road," Brey said. "It takes older guys to be good on the road. They like to go in and quiet crowds. They've brought the younger guys along saying this is what we do and this is who we are."

The Irish have dropped only three of 12 road games this season, with two of those losses coming to ranked teams.

By KATIE McVOY
Sports Writer

Although Irish head coach Muffet McGraw may see the second and third spots in the Big East as basically the same, she'd rather finish in second.

As the Irish take on 20th-ranked Boston College this Sunday, McGraw said, "We would rather be second. But every game is important to us and I think this is a game that has NCAA implications as well as Big East implications."

The Irish are coming off a pair of close road wins against unranked teams. But when they take the floor at the Joyce on Sunday, they'll be facing real ammunition against the Eagles.

Boston College shoots over 40 percent from the 3-point line and promises to give the Irish defense a taste of perimeter play it faced since Connecticut.

"I think it will be a huge challenge for our perimeter players," McGraw said. "This is a team that has more talent, so I think it will be a great opportunity to see how we are."

The perimeter players will have to focus on containing the ball. During Tuesday's victory against Pittsburgh, Notre Dame had trouble stopping driving players.

In order to defend against the Eagles' ability to drive to the basket and then pass out for a 3-point shot, the Irish will have to stay focused on the ball.

"We've just got to keep the ball in front of us," McGraw said. "We're working on a help defense, but we're working on an individual defense as well.

Women's Basketball

Eagles, Irish vie for second in Big East

By KATIE McVOY
Sports Writer

Eagles freshman Clare Droesch may be the only Big East player to challenge Jackie Batteast for Big East Rookie of the Year. Droesch starts games on the bench, but still averages 12 points a game and shoots over 60 percent from the perimeter against Big East opponents.

In addition, Boston College brings a solid backcourt to the game. Led by Brianne Stepperson, it promises to be a challenge for the Irish.

"They've got probably the second best backcourt in the league behind Connecticut," McGraw said. "Brianne brings a solid backcourt to the game. During Tuesday's victory against Pittsburgh, Notre Dame had trouble stopping driving players."

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Hockey

Slumping Irish take on No. 3 Spartans

By MATT ORENCHUK
Sports Writer

This weekend the Notre Dame men's hockey team travels to East Lansing, Mich. to take on the Michigan State Spartans. The Spartans, ranked No. 3 in the country by USA Today/American Hockey Magazine, have an impressive resume.

They are first in the CCHA with a 14-4-4 conference record, good for 32 points. The Spartans also has a 12 game home-unbeaten streak (29-0-3).

Despite all of the achievements that Michigan State has racked up, Irish head coach Dave Poulin is not afraid to go on the road and play the Spartans.

"We think we can go in there and play well," said Poulin. "We have played well against them the last four or five years."

The Irish could certainly use the win. They have dropped six of their last seven, and are currently in 9th in the CCHA with 15 points.

For Notre Dame to win, they will have to tighten up defensively. Last weekend against Alaska-Fairbanks, the Irish gave up 13 goals in two games. A lot of those goals came on odd man rushes, something that the team worked on controlling this week.

"This week we worked a lot on handling the puck," said Poulin. "We also worked on handling the puck in the gap between offensive and defensive zones."

A big question mark will be who will be in goal for the Irish. Freshman Morgan Cey has given most of the starts this year. But after letting up four goals in the first period against Alaska-Fairbanks, Poulin pulled Cey in favor of Jeremiah Klement.

As of Wednesday, Poulin was still unsure who would be in net this weekend vs. the Irish.

One bright spot for Notre Dame during the current losing streak has been the offensive output. Currently Notre