Food Services: Flex 10 will cost more

By CHRISTINA CEPERO
News Writer

Food Services said that the Flex 10 meal proposal from Student Senate would be more expensive and decrease student unity in the dining halls.

Last week, the Student Senate passed a resolution calling for a Flex 10 meal option, a 10-meal plan with a proportional amount of Flex points.

Director of Food Services Dave Prentkowski said, "The more flexibility and the more options, the more expensive."

If Flex 10 were added to students' meal plans options, the expenses of running the dining hall and its services and variety would remain about the same due to fixed costs and the fact that students eat an average of about 10 meals a week in the dining halls, said Prentkowski.

Prentkowski said the main question is determining where the money would come from to contribute to the additional Flex points in a Flex 10 plan. He said, "It's a matter of economics." Increasing Flex points would possibly result either in higher dining fees for students or their having to give up a significant dining hall service, such as extended hours, Grab 'n Go or the expanded menu, which the dining halls have instituted over the last 10 to 13 years in response to student input.

Trip Foley, student body vice president said, "There are ways to eliminate excess cost in order to make this work."

Prentkowski said the retail establishments on campus at lunchtime already are packed and have long lines. Offering more Flex points to students would add to the overcrowding of areas such as LaFortune. He said that Flex 10 would respond to the current situation, not aggravate it. Foley said the reality is that a lot of students are already eating at Subway, Sbarro and Burger King, which reflects the popularity of the retail outlets and testifies that students want more options in their meal plans. Students can currently purchase Diner Dollars if they run out of Flex points.

The proposed Flex 10 plan also brings into question the University's overall philosophy of encouraging students to eat in the dining halls, said Prentkowski.

Sarah Bates, Pasquerilla West Hall senator, said, "The Senate has said all along that Notre Dame's social atmosphere transcends the dining hall system."

Students can maintain their camaraderie by eating with each other in LaFortune and engaging in other campus activities together. Bates said, "The Flex 10 plan would be more adaptive to students' needs and more convenient for students who have meetings and activities."

Dave Brenner, Dillon Hall senator said, "Our main goal as the Student Senate is to represent the interests of students."

Brenner and Bates said students have voiced in their favor the idea of having more options to choose from.

SEE FLEX/page 4
Who's policing the police?

Where are they?
I’d like to know exactly whom Notre Dame Security Police is here to protect and serve, because I’m starting to have trouble believing it’s the students. Even though we are the ones who support them and pay their salaries through our tuition payments and, later, alumni donations, I honestly don’t think I can say it is the students they are out to serve. Take for example the plight of a fellow student last Sunday as we were leaving our MCAT class at the Kaplan Center just a block or two away from campus. This girl discovered that in the snow and 15-degree weather, she had left her lights on and was left with a dead battery. After trying in vain to jum­per her car, we figured we could call NDSP to punish their own students.

But of course, who poses more of a threat: the guy looking to hold me up, those rambunctious drunk students leaving campus too much to write tick­ets for, or those rambunctious drunk students leaving our MCAT class just a block or two away from NDSP for a jump or some form of help.

Chris Federico
Sports Writer

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journa­lism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct and err.
Prominent activist and author visits Notre Dame

By MELISSA LOU
News Writer

On Tuesday, the Notre Dame Creative Writing Program hosted a reading by author Marilyn Krysl. Described as an activist, witness and deeply engaging writer, Krysl read from several of her short stories and poems before a mixed audience of students, administrators and academics in the Reckers Hospitality Room.

Krysl described much of her work as "a homage or love song to those women I have met throughout my life." While I wrote [these stories], I felt this writing was a way of honoring these women and their suffering and loss due to war and poverty.

Krysl said her work has been heavily influenced by the service she has done, as "writers write about their experiences." These experiences have themselves been a remarkable journey.

After a decade of teaching at the University of Colorado, Krysl decided to take a break and said that she "needed to get back in touch with the real world." To accomplish this, the activist spent a year teaching English as a Second Language in China.

After that year, she went on to work with the Sisters of Charity at their Kallighat Home for the Destitute and Dying in Calcutta. There she worked in the women's ward, an experience she described as "quite interesting, moving and sometimes maddening," as many of the patients were dying and abandoned.

During her time in Calcutta, Krysl was inspired to write a series of poems, one of which she read aloud before the Notre Dame crowd. "While I was there, I met a lot of commercial terminology, such as sustainable development, came to mind. These terms always seemed cold to me, this is where many of the titles of these poems come from," said the author.

Krysl volunteered with Peace Brigade International in Sri Lanka, an experience that had a profound effect on her and inspired her to write many of her "love songs" to women.

The self-described environmentalist, social justice and poverty activist, explained her feminist views, stating that she is a feminist in that she "wants not only the lives of women to improve, but ... wants everyone's life to improve." Krysl also said she is "a part of the rest of the world, thus I don't see how my life can improve if everyone's life doesn't improve."

When asked for her opinion regarding the events of Sept. 11, the self-described "die-hard pacifist" compared the U.S. national experience to that of other countries she has visited. "When you work abroad you tend to learn to love these places," said Krysl. "One of the things I learned was that many hundreds of people are killed in other countries by terrorists. The kinds of violence we see as unusual are common for other people. [When September 11th occurred] I was extremely upset, yet another part of me knew that for the majority of the people on the planet this is commonplace."

Krysl went on to explain her views on the current political situation by stating that her "wish is that we would all work harder at getting to know what life is like for others, gives much more foreign aid, and that our government would put more effort towards a diplomatic solution."

Krysl read aloud from her book of short stories "How to Accommodate Men," as well as excerpts from her well-known poems. She published seven books of poetry, and three of fiction. She is the former director of the Creative Writing Program at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She continues her work as an activist, working in Boulder with Sudanese refugees.

Contact Melissa Lou at lou.l@nd.edu

Author Marilyn Krysl shares excerpts from her own collection of short stories at Reckers Tuesday night.

...
Legacy continued from page 1

Dame ensures that about 1/4 of enrolled students are children of alumni. "Our commitment to recognize those families is higher than normal," Mundy admitted.

Notably, other elite institutions such as Harvard, the University of Pennsylvania and Princeton have higher percentages of enrolled legacies than Notre Dame.

Far from a quota system, Notre Dame's "holistic" approach is "part science and part art," Mundy said. "We admit students who enroll, is 18 percent higher than normal," Mundy admitted.

While Michigan champions affirmative action because of the educational benefits of diversity, Mundy justifies legacy preference because it deepens the strong sense of Notre Dame community.

"Legacy preference is a true manifestation about how the University will behave vis-a-vis Notre Dame and Notre Dame's "holistic" approach is "part science and part art," Mundy said. "We admit students who enroll, is 18 percent higher than normal," Mundy admitted.

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Bush pledges to fight with full force if necessary

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Building a case for war against Iraq, President Bush said Tuesday he has fresh evidence that Saddam Hussein consorts with terrorists and seeks to "dominate, intimidate or attack" with weapons of mass destruction. He pledged to "fight with the full force and might of the United States military," if necessary, to disarm Iraq.

Secretary of State Colin Powell will go to the U.N. Security Council on Feb. 5 to present the U.S. case, outlined by Bush in stark terms in his second State of the Union address.

"We will consult, but let there be no misunderstanding: If Saddam Hussein does not fully disarm for the safety of our people, and for the peace of the world, we will lead a coalition to disarm him," the president said.

Speaking to Congress and a global television audience, Bush presented a laundry list of Saddam's alleged offenses, some of them newly revealed to the public. He said intelligence sources have reported that thousands of Iraqi personnel are at work hiding documents and materials from the U.N. weapons inspectors.

Specifically, Bush said Saddam has not accounted for up to 2500 tons of anthrax, 3500 liters of botulinium toxin, 500 tons of sarin, mustard gas and VX nerve agent and upwards of 100,000 munitions capable of delivering chemical weapons.

"If this man, then evil has no meaning," Bush said in his annual State of the Union address.

For the first time since the Sept. 11 attacks transformed him from a war-weary president, Bush faced serious questions about his handling of the economy, polls show, and only a slim majority support his policies on Iraq — an area where the president enjoyed support of more than 80 percent a year ago.

The speech was delivered amid intense security as lawmakers, Cabinet members, military leaders and Supreme Court justices gathered for the annual event. Several hundred people massed on the Capitol lawn to protest Bush's policies, ranging from a possible war in Iraq to his approach to health care.

The first half of Bush's address was devoted to domestic policy, a reflection of his desire not to let Iraq overshadow a presidential agenda geared toward the 2004 re-election campaign.

The heart of Bush's domestic agenda is his $674 billion plan to revitalize the economy and a $100 billion, 10-year plan to overhaul Medicare.

Democrats challenged Bush's efforts both at home and abroad.

"People are clearly worried about terrorism and Iraq but those concerns should not overshadow the pressing needs of the people here at home," Locke said.

He proposed spending new money for research to develop hydrogen powered cars and to tutor children of prison inmates. He also called for a new $600 million drug treatment program in which federal money could go to religious community service programs.
Students discuss SMC college experiences

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Saint Mary's News Writer

In Tuesday's student run discussion, Saint Mary's students had the opportunity to listen to the stories of five of their fellow Belles, each with different experiences at Saint Mary's. The panelists, Ellen Burns, Adrienne Dorbish, Rachel Finley, Angelique Inghaïre and Sarah Nestor, shared their freshman impressions of Saint Mary's, and how those impressions evolved as their college experiences grew.

They also commented on ways in which they believe the Saint Mary's experience can be improved for future students.

Finley, senior class president, admitted she was unhappy with her choice of schools as a first year student government.

"I literally filled out a transfer application every single day," she said. Finley applied to a resident advisor or in an effort to get more involved on campus, and then went on the run for student government.

"I truly believe that you get out of Saint Mary's what you give," Finley said. Finley applied to Saint Mary's what you give," Finley said. "They smile at you even though they don't know you. They welcome you warmly. Everyone is so friendly, they come up to you."

Ellen Burns
SMC panelist

"Here, you don't even have to try that hard. Everyone is so friendly, they come up to you."

Burns said it was her positive experience at Saint Mary's that led her to transfer to the College. She said the Saint Mary's students, unlike those of her previous school, were academically and career driven and they welcomed her warmly.

"The women here are amazing, and I knew right away I wanted to get more involved," said Burns.

Dorbish said there were areas where student life needed improvement.

"I would like to see things improve in the residence halls," said the panelist. "There isn't that much of a social atmosphere." Other problem areas noted were the quality of the dining hall, as well as the Saint Mary's-Notre Dame relationship.

Contact Megan O'Neil at one0907@saintmarys.edu

'Chicago' leads SAG awards with five

Associated Press

The flashy musical "Chicago" led contenders for the Screen Actors Guild awards with five nominations Tuesday, including lead actors Renee Zellweger and Richard Gere.

The drama "The Hours" was next with four nominations, among them Nicole Kidman for best actress, Julianne Moore for supporting actress and Ed Harris for supporting actor.

"The Hours" and a supporting-actress prospect for "Adaptation," but was shut out in both categories.

Moore also had a best-actress nomination for the 1950s melodrama "Far From Heaven."

"Adaptation," a twisted Hollywood saga from the creators of "Being John Malkovich," earned three nominations, including for Nicole Cage as lead actor and Chris Cooper as supporting actor.

"Chicago," "The Hours" and "Adaptation" were among nominees for the ensemble acting prize, the guild's equivalent of a best-picture award. The other nominees were the fantasy epic "The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers" and the surprise blockbuster "My Big Fat Greek Wedding."

The guild's nominations are the last major awards announcement before the Academy Awards nominations Feb. 11. This month, "The Hours" won the Golden Globe award for dramatic feature, while "Chicago" won in the musical and comedy category.

Kidman, who won back-to-back Golden Globes for "Moulin Rouge" and "The Hours" and scored an Academy Awards nomination for "Moulin Rouge," said a second-straight Oscar nomination is not a certainty despite all the film honors she's accumulated this season.

"Along with Kidman, Moore and Zellweger, the best-actress contenders were Salma Hayek for "Frida," a film biography of painter Frida Kahlo, and Diane Lane for the adultery thriller "Unfaithful." Besides Gere and Cage, best-actor nominees were Adrien Brody for the Holocaust drama "The Pianist," Daniel Day-Lewis for the 1860s epic "Gangs of New York" and Jack Nicholson for the black comedy "About Schmidt."

Along with Cooper and Harris, supporting-actress nominees were Alfred Molina for "Frida," Dennis Quaid for "Far From Heaven" and Christopher Walken for the co-man romp "Catch Me If You Can."

Joining Moore in the supporting-actress category were Kathy Bates in "About Schmidt," Queen Latifah and Catherine Zeta-Jones in "Chicago," and Michelle Pfeiffer in the mother-daughter drama "White Oleander."

Bates was a double pick, nominated as well for best actress in a TV movie or mini-series for "My Sister's Keeper." Beau Bridges also was nominated twice in the television awards, for best actor in a comedy series for "Will & Grace," and best actor in a movie or mini-series for "Martin & Lewis," in which he played Jerry Lewis.

The Observer is currently accepting applications for the 2003-2004 term for the following positions:

MANAGING EDITOR

Applications for Managing Editor and Assistant Managing Editor should demonstrate strong journalistic and management skills. An in-depth understanding of newspaper production, including skills in Microsoft Word, Quark XPress and Photoshop, is required. Experience with Macintosh computers is helpful.

BUSINESS MANAGER

Any sophomore or junior business major interested in gaining valuable work experience is encouraged to apply for Business Manager or Operations Manager. Applicants should be comfortable in a management position, demonstrate strong organizational skills and have a solid understanding of accounting principles.

An application for any of the above positions should be at least five pages and explain the applicant's qualifications and goals.

Managing Editor and Business Editor applications are due by Friday, Jan. 31 at 5 p.m.

Assistant Managing Editor and Operations Manager applications are due by Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 5 p.m.

Submit all applications to Andrew Soukup in the Observer office located in the South Dining Hall basement.

Please direct questions about these positions or the application procedure to Andrew Soukup and Managing Editor Kate Nagengast at 631-4541 or Business Manager Lori Lewalski and Operations Manager Bob Woods at 631-5313
MARKET Recap

Market Watch January 28

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TOP 5 VOLUME LEADERS

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BRIEF

Tokyo stocks, yen strong at open

Tokyo stocks posted tentative gains at Wednesday's opening ahead of earnings reports from major technology companies. The dollar slipped against the Japanese yen. The benchmark 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average opened up a marginal 4.28 points, or 0.05 percent, at 8,252.67. On Tuesday, the index lost 84.08 points, or 0.98 percent, at 8,252.39. The dollar bought 118.70 yen at 9 a.m. Wednesday, down 0.14 yen from late Tuesday in Tokyo but slightly above its late New York level of 118.67 yen.

Treasury nominee backs tax plan

Treasury secretary nominee John Snow told his Senate confirmation hearing on Tuesday that President Bush's tax plan will boost a lagging U.S. economy. But critics told Snow the program was weighed too heavily to the wealthy and would have to be changed. Snow faced a barrage of questions from members of the Finance Committee about the stimulus proposal, but his nomination to replace the controversial Paul O'Neill won widespread praise from both Democrats and Republicans. Committee Chairman Charles Grassley predicted Snow would win quick confirmation, perhaps as soon as Thursday.

Adelphia Communications Corp. moves headquarters

Adelphia Communications Corp. will move its corporate headquarters to Denver, the bankrupt cable television operator's board decided Tuesday, dismaying the man who founded the company a half-century ago in rural north-central Pennsylvania. Subject to 50 years of building the system with my brother and the family, it naturally saddens all of us, because we worked so hard to build the company," said John J. Rigas. "It's not an unexpected move, but it hurts."
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The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's.

The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsubstantiated rumors will be not published.

Visiting Notre Dame without a course or a heading to follow, none of us had any future. We seemed to be floating aimlessly, things weren't going well. Our goal was to find ourselves by venturing forth single-handedly. And what could it hurt? I would only be gone for the better part of an afternoon, or so I thought.

My sense of direction had been lost during the morning fog, and the rest of the day had been spent trying to figure out where I was. Looking around, everything looked the same. In all directions, the trees and grasses of the valley were being accentuated by the overwhelming beauty of God's nature.

The trees and the tall grass swayed in the wind as I looked up at the sun. The large, white clouds seemed like gigante marshmallows against the radiantly blue sky. It was so bright that it hurt my eyes to look at it for more than a few seconds. At any other time, this day would have been considered perfect in my mind. But, under the circumstances, things weren't going well.

In the palm of my hand lay the compass I had brought with me. Its needle was stuck halfway between the N signifying north and S signifying east. I had turned around in a circle over a dozen times, but the needle had remained locked in the same position. My compass was broken and I had no idea where I was.

I was, unmistakably, lost. Having just finished my sophomore year in college, my buddies and I had decided to take a road trip to Montana to get away from the pressures of college life. Even after two years of school, none of us had any future ambitions. We seemed to be floating along in the portentous sea of academia without a course or a heading to follow. All we wanted was for someone to tell us what to do. But we soon found out that things weren't that easy.

Our goal was to find ourselves by identifying our hidden passions. Maybe then we could finally realize the many things we had neglected to see the beauty of. And what could it hurt? I would only be gone for the better part of an afternoon, or so I thought.

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The Observer reserves the right to refuse publication of commentaries, letters and columns. The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsubstantiated rumors will be not published.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Alcohol policy should not reflect legal contradictions

Alcohol prohibition for people under 21 is a violation. Lawmakers, enforcers and supporters of this regulation never gave sufficient consideration to its repercussions. The police are also on a Naomi mission to close in on underage drinking, or as they do at Boat Club on Thursday.

Drinking whether the person is "of age" or not, will always exist, and its censors and puritans are perhaps more interested in preventing the existential than the actual breakdown of this law.

To begin with, oppression cannot exist without ignorance. This may take many forms, like the actual act of underage drinking or the present or the argument that naive medicalization of underage drinking gains support, its adherents grow in proportion. The forbidden fruit always seems to be the most tempting for humanity; it is inherent in our nature. For example, since the national alcohol policy is so radical, it generates thirsty and curious adolescents that just for love and chance they get. The lack of independence from parents and taboos creates them from freedom, that one day, they will get into trouble. Thus, legal prohibition breeds rebels and rampages under the underground activity. If we may call it that. The currentacity of ties and antipathies cannot arise from the fact that their children hide from them like thieves in dark rooms painted by shadows.

Alcohol policy seems to be as unreasoning, simpleminded, and government has yet to learn. Even if the mistakes during the prohibition Capone, one of the most potent despot in history fed the growth of alcohol prohibition. As soon as alcohol became a common-place household item, the evils of a cherished, weaponized, and irritated crime were destroyed. The economic, intellectual and personal resources used in busting illegal alcohol were replaced by disproportionate taxes that quickly bloated politicians' pockets. I don't see why they do not apply the same concept on a smaller scale for people under 21 to continue their lucrative enterprise.

The double standard for adulthood in general is even more ridiculous. Men and women are eligible to "war and die for country" at 18, while they are mere kids when it comes to having a beer in a bar. That discrepancy is in the one that is most abhorrent.

Furthermore, law enforcement's hierarchy of tasks appears to suffer a similar disease. The cracking down on Boat Club is a perfect rubric to demonstrate this inconsistency. Instead of patrolling the streets to provide a safe environment which could help prevent tragedies such as the disappearance of a young man, they want to use the youth in a bar.

Note that this case that has shed light upon the efficacy of the police is the successful robbery another ND student returning from Boat Club two weeks ago. Why is it that the police are so inept in one occasion and not in another? Why are the basic safety and survival needs of a community buried under the verification of ID's and the cutting down under age alcohol consumption?

The detriment people under age experience because of the public servant's lack of prioritization continues. The consequences of police busts for minors' alcohol consumption lead to collateral fines and a sterilized record. For instance, if a person plans to apply to medical school with under-age drinking in the record, it closes most doors upon him or her. That individual's future darkens before his or her eyes in a matter of seconds.

That there are no other candidates is not their fault, but the fault of the whole Saint Mary's student body. Also according to The Observer, a vote of "no confidence" would force another election. On Monday, The Observer editorial staff was derelict in its duty, when it endorsed abstention in the Saint Mary's elections for the reason that there is but one party running. Voting "abstain" would be a vote of "no confidence" according to The Observer. Instead of urging "no confidence," the Observer staff should be applauding Elizabeth Jabbisch-DiBial, and Sarah Brown for volunteering to do the job no one else seems willing to do.

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When two friends head for the New Jersey shore, they inadvertently stumble upon a summer of confusion and murder.

Mysterious voices come from the ceiling in the summer house, eventually controlling the actions and behavior of the characters.

By COLLEEN BARRETT
Scene Theatre Critic

As you head out to Washington Hall this weekend to watch the St. Ed's Players' production of "Betty's Summer Vacation," make sure you leave something behind.

"Leave your inhibitions at the door," said Lena Caligiuri.

Caligiuri plays Trudy in Christopher Durang's dark satire on American sensationalism and its thirst for entertainment at the expense of others.

Trudy and her friend Betty head off to the New Jersey shore to summer in a house that is, unknown to them, already occupied by Keith, a quiet serial killer, and Buck, the stereotypical, testosterone-filled sexist. Trudy's alcoholic, emotionally abusive mother, Mrs. Siezmagraff, arrives shortly after the girls.

The situation becomes more bizarre when characters begin to hear voices coming from the ceiling. The voices monitor the characters' fears and fantasies, egging them on and mocking them. The voices react to the characters as if they are watching a sitcom or daytime television show, and the characters begin to behave with the intention of keeping the omnipresent voices laughing. Eventually, the voices drive the characters to irrational actions, including rape, dismemberment and murder.

"The voices in the ceiling laugh and talk; they make you ask why you laugh at something. They make you ask why you think something is funny," said Bill Kalman, president of the St. Ed's Players and director of the play.

When asked why he chose the particular play, Kalman said while browsing through plays, "Betty's" bright cover jumped out at him.

"I read it, and it was good, it was funny," he said.

In spite of the whimsical title and its classification as a comedy, "Betty" deals with the darker elements of life, including rape, murder and alcoholism. Trudy experienced sexual abuse at the hands of her father, though her mother refused to acknowledge the fact. Other sensitive and potentially offensive interactions take place throughout the play.

"You have to desensitize yourself to some of the things your character says and does," said Jessica Manske, who plays Trudy's contemptible mother. "You have to pretend that you don't know the things you are saying are completely ridiculous."

The things that Trudy's mother and the other characters say are indeed ridiculous, and will shock some, though it will leave others laughing.

"You have to be able to laugh it off and know that Durango isn't meant to be taken seriously," said Caligiuri. "If you don't, you will be offended."

St. Ed's Players present a dark comedy featuring

When two friends head for the New Jersey shore, they inadvertently stumble upon a summer of confusion and murder.

Mysterious voices come from the ceiling in the summer house, eventually controlling the actions and behavior of the characters.

By COLLEEN BARRETT
Scene Theatre Critic

As you head out to Washington Hall this weekend to watch the St. Ed's Players' production of "Betty's Summer Vacation," make sure you leave something behind.

"Leave your inhibitions at the door," said Lena Caligiuri.

Caligiuri plays Trudy in Christopher Durang's dark satire on American sensationalism and its thirst for entertainment at the expense of others.

Trudy and her friend Betty head off to the New Jersey shore to summer in a house that is, unknown to them, already occupied by Keith, a quiet serial killer, and Buck, the stereotypical, testosterone-filled sexist. Trudy's alcoholic, emotionally abusive mother, Mrs. Siezmagraff, arrives shortly after the girls.

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"Betty's Summer Vacation"

Director: Bill Kalman
Playwright: Christopher Durang
Stage Manager: Beth Colombo
Starring: Jessica Manske, Meghann Tabor, Paul Sifuentes, Tara Murphy, Lena Caliguiri, David Buckley, Tom Sutton, Jordan Kohl, and Ryan Greene

Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. $5 admission.

Contact Colleen Barrett at cbaret@nd.edu

"Betty's Summer Vacation" runs this Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in Washington Hall. Tickets for the St. Ed's Players production are available at LaFortune Box office or at the door for $5.

The comedy, while humorous, addresses darker issues in life as the tension builds among characters. The voices demand outrageous behavior from the characters, laughing at their plights and misery in much the same way the public clamors for sensational stories. America's recent obsession with reality shows perfectly reflects the theme of "Betty," as television audiences eagerly revel in the pain, misery or fear of those participating.

"I've tried to write in things during the scene changes that weren't in the play just to make people think about the theme," said Kalman. "I'm trying to make the tone of play like a television show."

Kalman hopes that the commentary between the scenes, as well as additional segments that reflect the nature of television, will further the sense of a television dynamic. Another way that Kalman looks to implement his idea is through the set. Washington Hall main stage has been transformed by set designer Sean Quinn into a large, neon green room with touches of bright pink. The set and the supplementary props are elaborately built and painted to reflect the surreal world of television.

"It's the whole architecture thing, you go too far," he said. "But going too far is what "Betty's Summer Vacation" is all about. What can one expect from a play in which all characters but one are insane?"

"Well, Trudy tries to be sane, but she never quite manages it," said Caliguiri. "The play needs a Betty," said Tabor, "or it would be completely off the wall and things would get too out of hand."

As it is, the play promises to be as off the wall as Betty will let it get. Whether the events in the play leave audience members laughing or shocked, they will go away thinking about Durango's message, which is exactly what the cast and director of "Betty's Summer Vacation" want to happen.

Director Bill Kalman attempted to recreate the feeling of watching a television show.
Robbins missed Super Bowl because of depression

Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Oakland Raiders All-Pro center Barret Robbins, who spent nearly 24 hours, after which he had apparently stopped breathing, was treated by doctors associated with the NFL's emergency response team, a league source told the Chronicle. The source would not confirm any of the reports.

Robbins had been acting strangely during the week, appearing dazed during Tuesday's Media Day, and seemed disoriented when he showed up for a team meeting, the Chronicle reported, citing unnamed teammates.

Shortly after the team told him he wouldn't be playing in the Super Bowl, he was admitted to a San Diego hospital, Robbins' agent Drew Pittman told the San Francisco Chronicle on Tuesday. "We're here at the hospital, we're still waiting for a call from that, including him," Pittman said.

Robbins, a 6-foot-3, 320-pound lineman and bipolar disorder, the Associated Press

San Francisco Chronicle report.

"Everyone's here at the parade," said Gruden. "We've been here 10 years and I've waited a long time to do this, so help me out — We're No. 1. We're No. 11?"

Sapp added: "Thank you for coming out of my heart."

"Unbelievable," said receiver Joe Jurevicius, as he worked the crowd into a frenzy.

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers owner Malcolm Glazer and coach Jon Gruden celebrated at the city's first Super Bowl championship.

"Going Loco" with a "Last Chance Tomorrow!"

"They rushed to stores across the region to buy anything they could find," said Alstott, a cigar clenched in his teeth, stopped for a moment as he walked the parade route slapping hands with happy fans.

"They're here," he said, gesturing up to people who waved from the top of a downtown parking garage. "It's better than anything ever. It's for the fans. Look at all this!"

"It's been a long time coming," he said. "All my friends in New York can't even tell me again that the Bucs never won a Super Bowl."

Tania Stabilein dressed her tiny black poodle in a No. 99 Saggy jersey.

"This is probably the best thing to happen to Tampa," she said. "Maybe now this will put us on the map as a real city."

Classifieds

NOTICES

Oak Hill Condo for Sale: 2 Bed, 2 Bath, 0.5 miles from campus.

Friday, January 29, 2003

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the News Office, 124 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifications is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid.

The charge is $3 per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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CARMEL - 3 BED, 3.5 BATH HOME ON 1/2 ACRE W/3 CAR GARAGE.

235-3655.

TAMPAY Fla. Warren Sapp blew kisses to the crowd and coach Jon Gruden received the key to the city as an estimated 100,000 people lined the streets of downtown San Francisco Tuesday to celebrate the Buccaneers' Super Bowl victory.

Fans clad in the team's red and pewter colors waved banners and chanted "Defense!" and "Tampa Bay!" as the Buccaneers rode in convertibles and pickup trucks in a parade in their honor.

"This is about you, Tampa," I love you,". running back Mike Alstott told the crowd.

Tampa Mayor Dick Greco, flanked by mayors from Clearwater and St. Petersburg, presented Gruden the key to the city and said Tampa owed him "a million thanks."

"There's a storm warning out there," Gruden said. "We've got a heck of a football team, and we're just getting started."

Tampa Bay won its first Super Bowl title Sunday, beating the city and said Tampa owed him "a million thanks."

"It's been a long time coming," he said. "All my friends in New York can't even tell me again that the Bucs never won a Super Bowl."

Tania Stabilein dressed her tiny black poodle in a No. 99 Saggy jersey.

"This is probably the best thing to happen to Tampa," she said. "Maybe now this will put us on the map as a real city."

Informative ads

NEW YORK TIMES: 3-6 BDRM HOMES. 03/04 YR. SEC. SY'S. WASHED. 272-6306

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KRT Photo
**MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL**

Committee investigates financing options for Expos

**Associated Press**

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**NEW YORK**

Baseball had a loud message in its first meetings with suitors who want to lure the Expos from Montreal: Show us the money.

Financing for a new ballpark is the top priority for the committee, which wants to know how fast the areas — Portland, Ore., Washington, D.C., and Northern Virginia — could put in place plans to host the Expos in 2004.

"The committee is clearly focused on funding," said Bobby Goldwater, executive director of the DC Sports and Entertainment Commission.

Portland Mayor Vera Katz and District of Columbia Mayor Anthony A. Williams led their delegations Tuesday. Virginia Attorney General Jerry Kilgore and Northern Virginia — could put in place plans to host the Expos in 2004.

Katz said she believes baseball wants to make a decision by the end of the summer and said the groups will be invited back for more formal presentations in six to eight weeks.

"This can't be done if it involves raising income taxes, involves raising property taxes," said David Kahn, the former Indiana Pacers general manager who is a leading figure in the Oregon Stadium Campaign.

The Expos, who report to the voters, "can't be done if it involves raising income taxes, involves raising property taxes," said David Kahn, the former Indiana Pacers general manager who is a leading figure in the Oregon Stadium Campaign.

Kahn said a bill would be introduced in the Oregon Legislature to use state income tax money from player salaries to service bonds the state would issue to raise money to construct a ballpark, which would cost $300 million or more.

"If that's the case, then there's no problem," said Gene Orza, the No. 2 official of the players' association. "But if they're singing out baseball players for a special tax to help finance a ballpark, they would not find an ally in us."

Several potential sites for ballparks in Portland, Washington and Northern Virginia have been discussed, but none has been selected.

"They wanted to know what our situation is in Oregon, who had authority for what revenue sources, whether we need to go to the voters," Kahn said.

Washington, which included District Council Chairman Linda Cropp in its delegation, has not yet come up with a financing plan. It thinks a team has a better chance to succeed downtown than in the suburbs.

Kahn said.

"We believe you build a ballpark where people live, work and come to be entertained," Goldwater said.

Baltimore Orioles owner Peter Angelos opposes a Washington team, which he says would cut into his team's revenue.

Downtown Washington is about 40 miles from Camden Yards.

"It came up in a general discussion today," Goldwater said. "We know we certainly have to discuss that in detail."

Baseball also wanted to know if rain would be a problem in Portland, one of the wettest U.S. cities. It's unclear if a new ballpark would have a retractable roof, such as Safeco Field, the home of the Mariners in rainy Seattle.

"It doesn't rain any more in Portland than some East Coast cities," Katz said.

Portland's only professional baseball team in the four major sports is the Trail Blazers, who began play in 1970.

"Portland is by far the most underserved professional sports market in the United States," Kahn said.

No potential owners have been invited to speak with baseball, only government authorities. This contrasts with baseball's meetings prior to expansion in 1993 and 1998, when ownership groups put the bids together.

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**Volunteers Needed**

ECDC, at Saint Mary's and Notre Dame, is looking for volunteers to play and interact with young children. If you enjoy reading to children, playing games, building with blocks, art activities and singing songs, please consider volunteering for two hours once per week. It is both rewarding and fun! Paid positions also available.

Please call 631-3344 or 284-4693.

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**A Montreal Expos fan expresses his devotion to the team at the Expos' last home game of the 2002 season.**

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Reservations: 1-2903

Fischoff, 303 Brownson Hall, info@fischoff.org

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**END**
WASHINGTON

A group representing female athletes asserted Tuesday it would be unthinkable to retreat on a 31-year-old law designed to ensure gender equity in educational institutions.

"To suggest that it's OK for a federal law to allow women to be treated in a manner that is inferior to men is unfathomable in this day and age," said Donna Lopiano, executive director of the Women's Sports Foundation.

Lopiano argued her case — as did representatives of organizations with contrary views — before an Education Department panel that will soon recommend changes to the law known as Title IX.

The department's 15-member Commission on Opportunity in Athletics will debate and vote on as many as 24 competing recommendations during public meetings Wednesday and Thursday. It must submit a final report to Education Secretary Rod Paige by Jan. 31.

The commissioners appear to be leaning toward recommending a less restrictive interpretation of the law's proportionality standards — a move that sits well with supporters of a Title IX lawsuit filed by the National Wrestling Coaches Association.

The lawsuit contends that a "proportionality" rule that is a part of Title IX has led to the elimination of hundreds of men's sports teams.

Opponents of the existing rule stemming from that 1972 law say that many universities have struggled to comply. The standard says the male-female athlete ratio at such institutions must be "substantially proportionate" to the male-female enrollment ratio.

"It's clear that proportionality just doesn't work," said Eric Pearson of the College Sports Council, the lead plaintiff. "It's created a quota system that was never intended when Title IX was originally created."

Commissioner Julie Foudy, a member of U.S. national women's soccer team, said she feels the majority of her fellow commissioners want to tinker with proportionality.

She said she is especially concerned about a proposal by University of Maryland athletic director Debbie Yow, which would allow schools to have a 50-50 split of male and female athletes regardless of the make-up of the student body — with a leeway of 5 to 7 percentage points.

"That scares me," Foudy said. "The reality is that the universities are going to go down the path of least resistance, which would be 43 percent."

A member of the commission, speaking on condition of anonymity Monday, said the "directions they are moving toward" include a less restrictive interpretation of the law's proportionality test. It also is expected to call for new surveys to gauge sports interest among student bodies.

"The majority seem to be in favor of some form of change," the commissioner said.
NBA

Central Collegiate Hockey Association

Mens College Basketball Big East Conference

WASHINGTON D.C.

Washington Wizards guard Michael Jordan drives against the Bulls in what could be Jordan's final game in Chicago last week. Tuesday, Jordan was named as a reserve on the East All-Stars.

Jordan picked as All-Star reserve

Associated Press

Michael Jordan was selected to the All-Star team for the 14th time Tuesday, and Karl Malone was shut out for the first time in 15 years.

Jordan moved into a tie with Malone and Jerry West for the second-most All-Star selections in NBA history behind Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's 19.

Jordan, who has the highest career scoring average in All-Star history at 23.1 points, was voted in as a starter in his 13 previous selections. He is a reserve for the Feb. 9 game in Atlanta.

Malone was selected every year since 1988, but did not make the cut in balloting by the 29 NBA coaches.

Also chosen for the Eastern Conference team were Jason Kidd of New Jersey, Paul Pierce and Antoine Walker of Boston, Brad Miller of Indiana, Zydrunas Ilgauskas of Cleveland and Jamal Mashburn of New Orleans.

The Western Conference reserves are Shaquille O'Neal of the Lakers, Stephen Marbury and Shaw Marion of the Nets, Gary Payton of Seattle and Chris Webber of Sacramento.

O'Neal, who finished behind Houston's Yao Ming in fan balloting to pick the starters, was chosen for an All-Star for the 10th time.

The selections of Ilgauskas (Lithuania), Nash (Canada) and Nowitzki (Germany), along with starters Tim Duncan (U.S. Virgin Islands) and Yao (China), tie the record set last season of five international players.

Other than Malone or anyone else from the Utah Jazz, those notable for not being selected included Indiana's Ron Artest, Washington's Jerry Stackhouse, Dallas' Michael Finley and Golden State's Antawn Jamison.

Among the league's top 20 scorers, only Jamison (23.4 points), Chicago's Talen Rose (22.1), Stackhouse (22.9), Cleveland's Ricky Davis (22.4) and New York's Allan Houston (21.3) were not selected.

Marion, Yao, Ilgauskas, Mashburn, Miller and Wallace will be making their first All-Star appearances.

In Brief

James gets in accident with 85-year old woman

LeBron James hasn't completely steered clear of trouble with his Hummer.

The nation's top high school basketball player was cleared Monday after a two-week investigation by state officials determined he did not violate amateur bylaws by accepting a Hummer H2 vehicle as a gift.

Hours after James was cleared, an 85-year-old woman filed a police report claiming that he backed his sport utility vehicle into her car.

Iola Winston of Akron said the accident occurred while she was stopped in traffic Friday afternoon — a few hours before James' final home game at Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary.

Winston said she called James her phone number after he said he would have the damage repaired. She was not injured.

Her car later broke down, and she had it towed. She waited until Monday night to file the accident report with Akron police.

James' attorney, Fred Nance, was not immediately available for comment.

Norman won't play in Masters

Barring a remarkable rebound in the next two months, Greg Norman will not be returning to the Masters.

Norman, the epitome of collapse and heartache at Augusta National, said he received a letter from chairman Hootie Johnson that he will not be offered a special exemption.

"Hootie wrote explaining the decision, and I think it is the right decision," Norman told the Sydney Morning Herald. "I support him 100 percent and respect him for that.

"A runner-up three times at the major he craves the most, did not make the cut but was given a special exemption by the club. He tied for 36th.

The only way for the 48-year-old Norman to qualify now is to move among the world's top 50 in the world ranking by the end of March, to be in the top 10 on the PGA Tour money list for the Players Championships or to win The Players.

Norman is playing the Heineken Classic at Royal Melbourne this week, and said he plans to play four PGA Tour events before the deadline.

Johnson invited Norman to be a guest at Augusta National if he doesn't make it, but the Shark isn't interested.

"There's no point in me going up there," he said.

Norman's best chance to win the green jacket came in 1996. He had a six-stroke lead over Nick Faldo going into the last round, but shot 78 and lost by five.

The most devastating loss might have been in 1987, when Larry Mize defeated him on the second playoff hole by chipping in for birdie from 140 feet.
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We have to know to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to know to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to know to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to know to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to know to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to know to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to know to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to know to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to know to be ready no matter who is out there. We have to be ready no matter who is out there.

Continued from page 20

Nielsen continued from page 20

to both play hockey and get a good education.

After making a name for himself at Taft, one of the premier hockey prep schools in the country, Nielsen was confronted with the choice of where to attend college. For him, the choice was simple.

"Notre Dame was the only school I visited that wasn't on the East Coast," he said. "When I had the chance to come here, it was really refreshing to be back in the Midwest. Attending Taft gave me the academic reputation to go to any school I wanted to.

As a freshman, Nielsen clicked with the Irish right away, taking advantage of the chance to be an important part of Notre Dame's defense.

"I always knew I had those other guys to count on," he said. "So I was able to go around and play my game. I didn't play all situations back then either, like the penalty kill, so it was nice to get a chance to rest. It was a great opportunity to grow as a player."

Nielsen's growth was well noted by scouts, and after his sophomore year, as he was driving to South Bend for a summer hockey camp, he received a call from his parents that he had been drafted.

That year and the year after he was invited to take part in the Atlanta Thrashers' prospect camp, which consisted of nearly every prospect in the Atlanta organization, many of whom are currently in the NHL or the minor leagues.

"It's a great experience," he said about the camp. "The last two summers I knew I was coming back to school, so it was a chance to get a taste of what kind of skill is needed to play at the next level. You really get a sense of what it would be like to have hockey as your profession."

Poulin noted a difference in Nielsen's play immediately after the Irish defensemen returned from prospect camp.

"I think that really helped him," Poulin said. "You never really know until you've been there and can say, 'I can play with these guys.' You could just see the increased confidence."

Nielsen may be confident, but he's certainly not arrogant.

"Definitely one of my goals is to play in the NHL," he said. "But I plan on playing for as long as it takes to get there."

After the game against the Irish, Nielsen will hang up his Notre Dame jersey for good and continue on the road toward his ultimate goal.

"That's the driving force in my life," he said. "I'm looking forward to new experiences and meeting new people. It's been a good four years here, but I'm also looking forward to moving on."

Maybe some day, in some NHL city, a young fan in the stands will see Nielsen skating around on the ice in a bright clean uniform. And maybe that kid will turn to his mom and say, "I want to do that."
**MENS TENNIS**

**Struggling Irish face No. 2 Illinois**

By JOE LINDSLEY
Sports Writer

After beginning the spring season with two losses, the Irish, winless in dual match play, will face No. 2 Illinois today at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

The Illini roster is rich with talent, with five singles players and two doubles teams ranked nationally. The Irish, on the other hand, are a relative­ly young and less experienced squad.

"They are, I think, the best team in the country," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said.

Although Bayliss recognizes the formidable challenge awaiting the Irish on the courts today, he believes Notre Dame has valuable assets that could help the Irish register their first victory of the season.

"Primarily, he believes the Irish roster has players with the heart and energy to rebound after two consecutive losses. Sometimes our guys have played their best tennis with their backs against the wall," Bayliss said. "We're going to be ready to play and we'll be out there firing on all cylinders."

While the Irish lost six of nine letter­men to graduation, the Illini roster from last season remains intact. Last year, Illinois won two out of three matches with the Irish, but the Irish triumphed 4-3 in Champaign, Ill.

So far this spring though, the Irish, as a team, have not had much to smile about. "To say I'm disappointed in an 0-2 start is an understatement," Bayliss said. "I think we had a chance to beat Illinois." Nevertheless, several players have provided hope for the team. "I am extremely happy with play of (Luis) Haddock," Bayliss said. "Even though Matt Scott has lost twice at No. 2, that's a huge jump to go from five to two in our lineup. He's done a very good job." Additionally, sophomore Brent D'Amico, who saw little singles playing time last season, has earned two singles victories in the matches against Indiana and Ohio State.

The two freshmen in the lineup, Eric Langenkamp and Patrick Buchanan, need time to adjust to collegiate tennis, according to Bayliss. "Both lost matches they could have won, and they're going to win as the year goes on," he said. "They're going to get pretty good. I just have to be patient and wait for them to develop and get used to the intensity of college tennis."

But if Langenkamp and Buchanan are not able to aid Notre Dame in trying to succeed with a tough schedule, the Irish have enough depth to manipulate the lineup.

In doubles play, D'Amico and junior Mark Buchanan are a very successful team against Illinois, but struggled against Ohio State Sunday. Senior Brian Farrell, who has been playing at the No. 2 doubles flight with Haddock, may not play today due to a shoulder injury.

After playing Illinois today, Notre Dame will welcome Florida State Friday. Next week, the Irish will face a challenging trio — Wisconsin, Purdue and Duke.

"We've got to remember we are a very young and very inexperienced team," Bayliss said. "They're going to grow, and they're going to get confidence. We're going to be heard from as the year goes on."

For now, the Irish are looking forward to the challenge ahead, the challenge that begins today against a team ranked second in the nation.

"This is an extremely exciting week," Bayliss said.

Contact Joe Lindsley at jlindsley@nd.edu

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**SMC BASKETBALL**

**Belles seek home upset**

By TREY WILLIAMS
Sports Writer

The "upset" has become as much a part of sports as the players and coaches who make it all possible.

Perhaps that's just one of the reasons why Saint Mary's basketball team goes into its match against the third-ranked team in the conference with a positive attitude and outlook.

The Belles (5-12) don't expect to be the favorites as they square off against the Scots (10-5) of Alma College, coming in with a five game losing streak, but that hasn't distorted their image of themselves.

"A lot of teams are going to underestimate us at this point, and I think we can use that to our advantage," said guard Katie Boyce. "We're a stronger team than we've shown and we know that."

The Belles have had a rough past couple of weeks, losing their last three games on the road. However, with the home-court advantage, a long standing school rivalry, and the challenge of facing the third-ranked team in the MIAA, coach Suzanne Beilina and her squad believe they can take the season in a new direction.

"I think returning to their home court will definitely motivate the team to play their best," said Bellina. "Alma has also been a rival of ours for a while, and I think these factors challenge the team to perform well."

Besides playing on their own turf, the Belles have yet another advantage over the Scots, and that is the depth of their bench. Forward Emily Creachbaum, who has shot for 43 percent from the field this season, leads the Belles. Creachbaum is backed by guard Maureen Bush who has shot for 42 percent.

Contact Trey Williams at Williams.317@nd.edu
Nielsen follows childhood dream

He served as the only freshman on a defense filled with seniors and juniors his first year at Notre Dame, and still managed to tie for the team lead in goals by a defenseman.

After his sophomore season, he was selected by the Atlanta Thrashers in the eighth round of the 2002 entry draft.

In his junior year, he achieved career highs in goals, assists, points, shots and plus-minuses.

"If I could sum up Evan in a few words it's that he's an all-around player," said Irish head coach Dave Poulin. "He has improved his play in each category of the game every year he's been here. He's a mature kid and his leadership and presence are intangible.

Nielsen has always had the talent to compete at a high level of play. At the age of 16, he was forced with the decision of going to play junior hockey or going to prep school. He chose to attend The Taft School, in Waterbury, Conn., hundreds of miles away from his home in Evanston, Ill.

"I knew I was going to have to leave home," he said. "But playing at Taft offered me a chance to be the next Brian Sutter, and began a stretch of my life where I was in the rink for some of the bigger boys coming up at my mom and said, 'I want to do that.'

That day, Nielsen traded his chance to be the next Brian Boitano for a chance to be the next Brian Sutter, and began a lifelong love of hockey that eventually brought him to Notre Dame.

Since wearing the Irish jersey, Nielsen has achieved almost everything he hoped to accomplish at The Taft School, including being named captain his junior year and continuing to wear the "C" this season.

Many of the things the Taft School offers are available at Notre Dame, but Nielsen said, "I think— we're ready and excited to play in front of our home crowd."

It's nice to be home.

After its longest road trip of the season—a stretch of three games over eight days that saw the Irish go 2-1—Notre Dame (16-3, 4-1) returns to the Joyce Center for a Big East matchup with West Virginia (11-6, 2-3).

"It was a long, long stretch on the road, but it's great to be home," Irish guard Matt McGraw said. "I think—we're ready and excited to play in front of our home crowd."

While the Irish got only their first two victories on the road last week against Providence and Boston College, they have been at least competitive at home court. Notre Dame is a perfect 12-0 this season in the friendly confines of the Joyce Center.

The trip to South Bend may be more difficult for the Mountaineers, however, who are 0-5 on the road this season. West Virginia has been outscored by an average of 12 points in those five road losses.

A danger for the Irish could come in their opponent's inconsistency, however, as West Virginia is a team that has shown this season it has the ability to play with anyone in the country. The Mountaineers' 11-6 record includes impressive victories over No. 4 Florida, Tennessee and Miami, and a tough two-point road loss to Georgetown.

"They're a good team. They have a good coach there," Carroll said. "He's done a good job with them this year. It's going to be a tough game just looking at how they run their offense.

Much of that offense comes in freeing up guard Drew Carroll said. "I think that we have really been making really some strides since after the Purdue game."

McGraw said that the difference has been in practice.

"We kind of came to the realization that we really had to step it up in practice," McGraw said. "Our intensity wasn't quite where it needed to be."

Notre Dame will need to play another game like their last, if they hope to secure a second road win in the past week. The Eagles present several problems for the Irish, specifically their experience. They start four seniors, including three fifth-year seniors.

"They present a lot of problems, because they're a veteran team," McGraw said. "They're the kind of team that doesn't beat itself—they don't give us any real problems."

"We need to play well. That's what we need to do."

Muffet McGraw head coach

MEN'S BASKETBALL

By JOE HETTLER

Notre Dame took a step forward last Saturday by beating a ranked opponent, No. 20 Villanova, 56-55 on the road.

Now the Irish look to take another step to improving their overall record—when they face Boston College tonight at the Conte Forum.

"We definitely made a step forward (against Villanova)," Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said. "I think that we have really been making really some strides since after the Purdue game."

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MEN'S TENNIS

Illinois at Notre Dame

Today, 4 p.m.

After starting the season with two losses, the young and inexperienced Notre Dame men's tennis team faces a tough challenge with second ranked Illinois visiting the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

SMC BASKETBALL

Alma at Saint Mary's

Today, 7:30 p.m.

Currently on a five-game losing streak, the Belles look to surprise third-place Alma and pull the home upset.