Prosecutor offers 2 options to Boat Club

By TERESA FRALISH
Assistant News Editor

As a result of a late January raid that led to 231 citations, The Boat Club must either lose its liquor license or sell the bar to new owners, said Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission prosecutor Fred Bauer.

"I received the report last week from the Indiana State Excise Police and sent them a proposed settlement," said Bauer. Bauer said the two options provided to The Boat Club are either having their liquor permit revoked or paying a $3,000 fine and selling their permit. "The permit would be held by the ATC for up to two years," Bauer said. In the second option, the bar could remain open but could not be run by anyone connected to the current owners. The Boat Club owner Mike McNeff did not return Observer phone calls.

Though Bauer didn't know the exact details, he estimated The Boat Club would have about three weeks to make a decision on the two options. The prosecutor noted that owners of The Boat Club would likely make the argument that the bar was checking identification, but Bauer said that would not be likely to change the proposed settlement.

"You don't get that number of kids in one place if they know that they can't get in there," he said. "Obviously that's been going on for someone and the word got out.

If the owners of The Boat Club do not agree with Bauer's proposal, they will have the option to appeal the settlement.

If we can't reach an agreement, the case would have to be tried," Bauer explained. "There is no way that I can summaries pull the permit."

The prosecutor said that the settlement offered to The Boat Club is similar to the ones that have been offered to other South Bend bars, such as Bridget McGuire's Filling Station and Finnigan's, in the wake of police raids that yielded dozens of underage citations.

"In South Bend I have done the same thing on at least two cases. All involved substantial and indetified numbers of minors on the premises," Bauer said. "I'm trying to be consistent."

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu

Women boxers debut at the Bengal Bouts

By KATE NAGENGAST
News Writer

For the first time in more than 70 years of Notre Dame boxing history, women are ready to rumble.

Beginning this weekend, 12 Notre Dame women will enter the ring in six exhibition boxing matches at the Joyce Center Fieldhouse. They will spar in three unscored contests before the men's quarterfinal Bengal Bouts Sunday afternoon and three more before the semi-finals Wednesday evening. Although the women's boxing club was founded in 1997, this will be the first time women spar in public at Notre Dame.

The club is fairly new and in the beginning it took awhile to establish a club before you could throw the girls in front of people," said Shelley Skiba, co-president of the club and a four-year member. "But I've always wanted to do this."

It was a proposal to RecSports written by Skiba and fellow co-president Laura Young that made public sparring possible for women this year.

Young told The Observer in previous interviews that although the idea of public matches for women had seemed implausible in previous club presidents, their proposal for this year met little opposition.

Skiba agreed and said that past captains had felt it would be "pushing their luck" for the women to request University resources for public fights.

This year, however, Rich O'Leary, director of intramurals and club sports for the Athletic Department, said he was looking forward to the women's exhibition matches.

"I think we're anxious to see the progress the women have made in our boxing club," he said.

Each of the 12 contenders was chosen from among more than 100 members of the women's club.

Group organizes Heartland petition

By CAITLIN EARLY
News Writer

In an effort to generate support from a large cross-section of Notre Dame students, faculty and staff, student organizers of the Heartland boycott have started a petition campaign.

The group is upset over alleged discriminatory remarks made to Notre Dame senior Kristine Rosario on Jan. 30 by a Heartland bouncer. Rosario, who is from Puerto Rico, said the bouncer told her that her identification card could not be accepted because it was not an American ID. Rosario also said the bouncer asked her for a passport and further discriminated against her. Rosario, who is 21, said she was ultimately denied access to the bar that night.

As citizens of a U.S. commonwealth, Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens and have all the legal rights and privileges as those who live in the 50 states.

The group of students protest the alleged discrimination will have tables set up in LaFortune until Friday to make the petition accessible to as many students as possible.

"We are using tables to vocalize the information and to raise student awareness," said Shannon Stilin, a student organizer for the Heartland petition.

see HEARTLAND/page 4

ND files a brief in favor of affirmative action policy

By HELENA PAYNE
News Writer

Notre Dame and 37 other private colleges and universities filed a brief this week to the U.S. Supreme Court in support of the University of Michigan's affirmative action policies.

"We have a keen interest in the Supreme Court case because we strongly feel that we and other universities should be allowed to consider race as one of a number of factors in deciding which students to admit," said Matt Storin, see AFFIRMATIVE/page 4

ND backs UM admission policy

By KATRIX MARQUETTE
Assistant News Editor

Private Institutions in Support of the University of Michigan's Affirmative Action Policy

Carlow Mellon University
American University
Belmont College
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Bucknell University
California Institute of Tech
Case Western Reserve University
College of the Holy Cross
Dickinson College
Drexel University
Duke University
Elizabethan College
Emory University
Fordham University
Georgia Tech
George Washington University
John Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute
Michigan State University
National University
New York University
Northwestern University
Occidental College
Pepperdine University
Rhode Island School of Design
Saint Louis University
Syracuse University
The Catholic University of America
The George Washington University
The University of Notre Dame
The University of Miami
The University of Rochester
The University of South Florida
The University of Scranton
Villanova University
Washington and Lee University
Wittenberg University
It could be worse

For anyone who doesn’t know me, I’m quick to vocalize my dislike for South Bend weather. As a native Floridian, I feel I’ve earned that right and it’s a right I make use of pretty often.

Freshman year, for example, I complained my way through a blizzard. Last year also provided me with opportunities to voice my dislike of the region’s weather with an ice storm and frequent days with wind chills in the zero and below range.

I am, however, one to give credit when it’s due. If, like me, you’ve been following the weather reports recently, you’ll see that Indiana isn’t such a bad place to be right now.

Sure we’ve gotten our share of lake effect snow, painful winds and sunless days but this doesn’t even compare with what the East Coast is going through right now.

It’s scary but South Bend’s gray, sunless days but this doesn’t even compare with what the East Coast is going through right now.

Take New York City, for example. The city received over 20 inches of snow in the past few days from a blizzard. Washington D.C. temporarily closed its Baltimore-Washington and National airports after it got a record 28.2 inches of snow. Boston may have produced snow flurries in the last couple days, but this doesn’t even compare with what the East Coast is going through right now.

Here’s one more reason to be thankful that we’re not in New York City right now. Take New York City, for example. The city received over 20 inches of snow in the past few days from a blizzard. Washington D.C. temporarily closed its Baltimore-Washington and National airports after it got a record 28.2 inches of snow. Boston may have produced snow flurries in the last couple days, but this doesn’t even compare with what the East Coast is going through right now.

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Kennedy discusses American success after World War II

By MAUREEN REYNOLDS

The United States was successful in winning World War II because of specific policy decisions regarding military tactics and economic decisions made by U.S. leaders, said David Kennedy, a Stanford University history professor and Pulitzer Prize-winning author. Kennedy addressed the world's history, the United States' role in the World War II period in his lecture Wednesday titled "How the United States Won World War II."

Kennedy set out to show how America rebounded after the most severe economic depression in the nation's history, the United States became one of the most powerful countries by the end of World War II. According to Kennedy, several major decisions and events ensured that America emerged as a major player in international affairs.

The first decision regarded the way the United States fought its enemies. According to Kennedy, this question was resolved on Aug. 17, 1942, when a squadron of U.S. air bombers raided a train yard controlled by the Nazis. The deliberate decision to attack with air strikes set the United States' war-fighting pattern for the duration of the war and allowed America to spare lives but bring munitions to the front to inflict damage, said Kennedy.

"Air power, if properly developed... could over-fly the traditional battlefield to hit the industrial heart of the economy," David Kennedy, history professor, said.

"[It] proved one thing conclusively—that the Soviets would not be defeated by a superior German force in the field." David Kennedy, History professor

Kennedy concluded by saying that these deliberative decisions reached by the United States allowed a "contest of attrition in which America had the time to produce the technology needed" to win the war.

Contact Maureen Reynolds at mreynolds@nd.edu.

Vandalism occurs in SUB office

By TERESA FRAILISH

The front rooms of the Student Union Board office were vandalized Wednesday afternoon, said Andrew Lam, student chief controller for SUB.

According to Lam, several desks, couches and a stereo at the office were covered with red punch. In addition, flowers and cookies were ground into the office carpet. The office is located on the second floor of LaFortune Student Center.

Lam said the punch, cookies and flowers were left over from Sophomore Literary Festival activities held last week. "Somebody trashed our office," said Lam. "Punch was spilled all over some couches. As far as we know nothing was stolen." Lam said the desks will still be usable but all of the papers on the desks, which belong to SUB programmers, were ruined by the punch. Lam also said that the stereo and couches would still be usable.

The mess created in the office was quickly cleaned up by Notre Dame janitors, said Lam. "Everybody is really grateful," Lam said.

The mess was discovered in the afternoon by janitors, who then notified the SUB adviser, Brian Coughlin. Coughlin notified Lam and others officers on the SUB. Lam said that the SUB has not yet notified Notre Dame Security Police about the vandalism. He said the group would wait until Friday to contact NDSP and hoped that someone would come forward with information about who might have been involved with the vandalism.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu.
Michigan

continued from page 1

Bishop welcomes new chief of staff

associate vice president for
news and information.

and its supporters are arguing that the 1978 Bakke
decision, which declared quota systems across the
university admissions, set a legitimate
precedent.

Since it did not strike down the consideration of race in admissions but recognized the benefit of diverse student bodies, the University says its poli
cies are still constitutional and
necessary.

Carnegie Mellon University initiated the amicus, or "friend
of the court," brief.

According to the brief, the institutions in support of Michigan, "do not suggest every college or university must con
cider race in the same way, or even at all, when selecting stu
dents for admission. They do
suggest, however, that selective private colleges and universities cannot achieve meaningful
diversity on their campuses without continuing to have that academic tool at their disposal."

Carol Kaesebier, Notre Dame vice president and
general counsel, who was involved with the amicus men
tion in the brief, said it was important for the University to
support Michigan's policies because institutions need
diverse student bodies. In read
ing several drafts of the brief
since January, she said Notre Dame evaluated specific crite
ria.

"One, it's important to have a
diverse community, and two, as
a private university it's very difficult to accomplish that without
any consideration at all of race and; three, race should be one of many factors that universities consider because we're looking at each candidate as an indivi
dual and what the University can
offer our community," Kaesebier said.

The current undergraduate admissions policy for Michigan ranks students on a 150-point scale and stipulates that appli
cants may receive up to 20 points for "membership in an underrepresented minority group, socioeconomic disadvan
tage, attendance at a predomi
nantly minority high school, ath
letes, or at the Provost's discre
tion."

In Michigan's law school, while there is a no-point sys
system, race is still considered as a factor in admissions.

Michigan is being challenged in two separate cases that both attack its admissions policies. One case, Grutter v. Bollinger, involves the law school admis
sions policy and the other case, Gratz v. Bollinger, challenges the policy of Michigan's largest undergraduate school, the College of Literature, Science and
the Arts.

The cases were both filed in 1997 by Jennifer Gratz and Patrick Hamacher in the Gratz case and Barbara Grutter in the
Gratz case. All three cases involved Michigan applicants who were not accepted into the University and are arguing that the
Michigan policy discrimini
mates against them. They are
being represented by the Center for
Individual Rights.

According to the Michigan
news office, more than 60 briefs
will be filed, representing over
300 organizations. Tuesday was
the deadline for briefs.

At the time Storin said there
was only speculation as to how the Michigan cases will affect other
states.

"No one knows what the extent of such a ruling might be and ideally we would like to help the University of Michigan win those two cases," he said.

Pointing out the recent announcement by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions that it has received a record number of applicants, Storin said this
could help Notre Dame's own
efforts to achieve a more diverse
student body.

While Notre Dame is an affir
mative action institution, assis
tant provost of admissions Dan
Saracino said that its policy is not a quota system. However, with a student body that is 84
percent white and 16 percent
minority, the University admis
sions officials and other adminis
trators say that using race as a
factor in admissions would help
increase racial and ethnic diversity.

"We at Notre Dame are not
satisfied at this point that we've
achieved the level of diversity that we'd like to achieve and we
continue to work toward approving our numbers," Storin
said.

The Supreme Court will hear
oral arguments April 1. At pre
sent, lower courts have ruled in favor of Michigan.

Contact Helena Payne at
paynes.30@nd.edu

A Look Inside

In light of Eating Disorders Awareness Week, it is important that we all acknowledge the sad reality that we are a society plagued with eating disorders and poor
body image. We are a culture that worships thinness at any cost. The media is filled with images of thin models who look happy, successful, smart, and sexy.

However, this is far from reality. The diet industry spends over 37 billion dollars yearly and the cosmetic industry spends over 20 billion dollars yearly to
convince women and men that they need to be different from their natural size.

The relentless bombardment from the media and advertising is highly detrimental
to our health and well-being. Statistics show that 80% of fourth grade girls have already dieted. An estimated 10 percent of female college students suffer from a
clinical or sub-clinical (borderline) eating disorder, of which over half suffer from bulimia nervosa. In a survey published in Psychology Today, 41% of
respondents said that they would give up five years of their life in order to be thin.

On the flip side to our obsession with thinness is our discomfort of fat. The media stereotypes overweight people as lazy, stupid, and lacking willpower. Despite our
attempts to combat these fallacies, activists in the women's movement and size-acceptance field, along with eating disorders therapists and educators, have made
little progress towards changing our culture's highly unrealistic and unhealthy standards of beauty and narrow gender roles. However, each of us as individuals
can choose to rise above the cultural obsession with fat.

As the UBWELL2 committee, we are dedicated to the physical, emotional, and spiritual health and well being of all the students and faculty. We challenge you to take a deep honest look at yourself. Are you promoting a healthy accepting environment or are your thoughts, comments, and behaviors contributing to the destruction of our society? Here are some things you might consider...

OR

- Do I care about people who are concerned with weight and strive for unhealthy standards of beauty?
- Do I comment on what others or myself eat?
- Do I talk about how I am on a diet or how I need to be on a diet?
- Do I feel satisfied with my body?
- Do I judge people's bodies, especially in the dining hall?
- Do I use the mirror or scale as a measure of self-worth?
- Do I believe the things that I say about eating disorders?
- Do I feel comfortable discussing eating disorders?
- Do I show support for people who are struggling with eating disorders?
- Do I understand the challenges that people with eating disorders face?
- Do I listen to people who are struggling with eating disorders?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a choice?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are caused by willpower?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of weakness?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of strength?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of courage?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of fear?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of pride?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of shame?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of hope?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of despair?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of joy?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of pain?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of happiness?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of sorrow?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of love?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of hate?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of fear?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of hope?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of peace?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of war?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of victory?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of defeat?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of success?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of failure?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of happiness?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of sadness?
- Do I believe that eating disorders are a sign of joy?
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Moroccan receives 15 years for involvement in 9/11

Associated Press

HAMBURG

A Moroccan received the maximum 15-year sentence Wednesday for helping the al-Qaeda hijackers who carried out the Sept. 11 attacks — the first conviction anywhere of a suspect in the terror plot against the United States.

Mourir el Motassadeq, 28, showed no emotion but occasion­ally shook his head or showed no emotion but occasion­ally shook his head or

The defendant was “a cog that kept the machinery going,” said Judge Albrecht Mentz at the trial as co-plaintiffs — some offering emo­tional testimony that Mentz said prompted him to impose the maximum sentence — praised the verdict.

Joan Molinaro of New York City said she was “shocked and thrilled.”

“It’s the first small victory we’ve had since 9/11,” said Molinaro, whose firefighter son Carl was killed at the World Trade Center. “I kind of feel like, ‘OK, Carl, we got one,'” she said. “I think my son is smil­ing.”

Another New Yorker, Kathy Ashton — whose son Tommy was killed at the World Trade Center — called the 15-year sentence “a drop in the bucket, especially for a young man, but at least it’s something.”

Interior Minister Otto Schily hailed the verdict as a “success in the fight against terror. It is a warning to all those who think they can toy with the idea of al­igning themselves with ter­rorist networks.”

While suspects in the plot detained in the United States face possible death sentences if convicted, el Motassadeq’s sen­tence — the maximum allowed under German law — translates into a minimum of 10 years with 15 months off for time served.

Even defendants in Germany sentenced to life in prison gen­erally serve at most 15 years.

El Motassadeq, a slight­bearded man who admitted receiving al-Qaeda training in Afghanistan, denied the charges during his 3½-month trial. The defense, which had cast doubt on the evidence was circumstan­tial, said it would appeal.

In addition to 3,066 counts of accessory to murder, el Motassadeq was convicted of five counts of being an accesso­ry to attempted murder and an accessory to bodily injury. Charges introduced so far wounded survivors of the attacks, including a Navy officer at the Pentagon, could join the trial as co-plaintiffs.

Planes crash kills 302 elite Revolutionary Guard soldiers

Associated Press

A military plane carrying 302 people, all members of the elite Revolutionary Guards, crashed in the mountains of southeastern Iran on Wednesday and all on board were killed, state-run media reported.

The plane was en route from Zahedan, on the Pakistani border, to Kerman, about 500 miles southeast of Tehran, state-run Tehran television reported.

It crashed in a mountainous area about 20 miles from its destination.

The Russian-made Antonov airliner operated by Turkey’s military lost contact with the control tower at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, according to the reports.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency said rescuers had reached the crash site and that all 302 people on board had been killed.

It said the plane’s passengers and crew were members of the Revolutionary Guards. Earlier reports said 270 were aboard, but the latest media updates didn’t explain the increase.

State television and radio did not offer rea­sons for the crash and did not address the possibility of err­ors.

There was heavy snowfall in many parts of Iran on Wednesday, including in Zahedan, which didn’t see snow in three years.

Tehran television quoted an an­onym­ous official as saying the forces had vis­ited the impoverished Sistan-Baluchestan province, of which Zahedan is the capital, for an “important mission.” The Revolutionary Guards are seen as the defenders of Iran’s Islamic regime.

The government issued a statement offering condolences to the families of the victims, television and radio reports said.

Iranians were preparing for an Islamic holiday on Thursday, the feast of Yalda, when Shiites believe Islam’s prophet Mohammad appointed his son-in-law, Ali, as his successor.

Wednesday’s crash was the latest in a string of air disasters in Iran mostly involving Russian-built aircraft.

A Ukrainian An-140 aircraft flew into a mountainside Dec. 23, 2002, while preparing to land at an airport near the central city of Isfahan, killing all the esti­mated 46 scientists aboard.

In February 2002, a Russian-made Tupolev Tu-154 airliner, carrying 119 people, smashed into snow-covered mountains not far from its destination of Khorramabad, 230 miles southwest of Tehran.

World News Briefs

Gaza City battle kills 11 Palestinians: Israeli tanks and soldiers battled Palestinian mili­tants in the streets of Gaza City before dawn Wednesday in violence that left 11 Palestinians dead, including a suicide bomber who tried to blow up a tank. Palestinians said. The Israeli forces said they were targeting Palestinian metal workshops that manufacture mortars and rockets.

Turkey, U.S. fail to agree on deployment: Turkey and the United States failed again Wednesday to agree on the size of an economic aid package that would open the way for Turkey’s parlia­ment to approve the deployment of tens of thou­sands of U.S. combat soldiers. Turkey has delayed a vote on the troops, saying a multibillion-dollar aid package must first be approved that would compen­sate Ankara for any losses during a war with Iraq.

National News Briefs

Gephardt announces presidential run: Rep. Dick Gephardt, a 26-year veteran of Congress who failed to return Democrats to power in the House, announced his candidacy for presi­dent Wednesday with a broad attack on Bush ad­ministration policies he said “left us isolated in the world, and stranded here at home.” Entering a crowded Democratic field, the Missouri lawmak­er promised to “take the fight to the GOP and use our savings to deliver health insurance to "everyone who works in America."

Chicago Club owner may face charges: The owner of a nightclub where 21 people died in a stampede down a stairway could face fines and more than a year in jail for criminal contempt of court, of­ficials say. "This was a disaster that absolutely should never have happened," said Mayor Richard Daley.

Police return to woman’s home: Investigators will return to the home of missing pregnant woman Laci Peterson on Wednesday, a day after removing dozens of bags and boxes of potential evidence from the house. Police Detective Doug Bledin on Thursday downplayed the significance of Tuesday’s search, saying it was routine and did not unearth a big break in the case. The follow-up search came after officials said they made unspecified new findings in the case.

Feds announce plans for arming pilots: Commercial pilots who want to carry guns in the cockpit could begin training in a month, the agency said.

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Women continued from page 1

boxing club, which is one of the
largest women's boxing programs
in the county. Skiba said they
were selected by club captains
based primarily upon skill, presen-
tence under pressure, seniority
dedication to the club.

Each match will last for two
minutes, 45 seconds rounds — a
total of 3 1/2 minutes of sparring.

There will be no scoring, thus no
total of 3 1/2 minutes of sparring.

"There was heckling and we
remember many cat-calls and
inappropriate comments from the
audience there," Skiba said.

"I think [the women's fights]
will be a lot less brutal [than the
men's fights]," she said. "We're
centrating on demonstrating our
ability, not beating an opponent."

"The guys are going after a
jacket," Skiba added, referring to
the coveted Bengal Bout champi-
"The next Bethany Barker vs.
Sarah Panco
Combination included 200 jumping jacks,
1,000 sit-ups, before an hour of
**FIGHT SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, Feb 23**
1 p.m.
Theresa Pagana vs.
Kerry Phillips
Jody Kahn vs.
Sara Sweeney

**Wednesday, Feb 26**
7 p.m.
Amanda Borys vs.
Sarah Ponko
All fights will be
held in Joyce center
fieldhouse.
Admission included in regular Bengal
Bouts ticket

**Admission to the women's exhibi-
tion fights is included in the cost
of Bengal Bout tickets. The
Bengal Bout have been an annu-
ual men's boxing tournament since
1953 to raise money for the Holy
Cross Missions in Bangladesh.

Contact Kate Nagengast at
knagenga@nd.edu.
In Brief

Wachovia, Prudential form unit: Experts were impressed bit Wall Street didn't celebrate right away when Wachovia Corp. and Prudential Financial Inc. agreed Wednesday to combine their retail brokerage units, forming the nation's third-largest brokerage firm.

The new firm will have $537 billion in assets. Executives with Wachovia, the nation's fourth-largest bank, and Prudential, told analysts it would be based in Richmond, Va., and be called Wachovia Securities.

Under the agreement, Charlotte-based Wachovia will own 62 percent of the new firm and Prudential, based in Newark, N.J., will own 38 percent. Some 1,750 jobs will be eliminated and 131 offices will be closed by 2005, moves that will save $220 million, the companies said.

Judge: IPO lawsuits can proceed:

In her ruling, Scheindlin said she considered the claims and counterclaims made in more than 1,000 lawsuits filed in Manhattan from Jan. 11, 2001, through Dec. 6, 2001. Investors allege the banks joined with Internet companies to defraud the public by hiding secret deals and deliver a payoff to insiders. The plaintiffs say they would buy more stock on the open market if they had known the truth.

While the storm meant a pile of green for plow drivers, the snow was a monumental headache for governments already wrestling with fiscal shortfalls.

The storm, blamed for 53 deaths, finally headed out to sea after taking a parting shot at New England, which got a record 27.5 inches by the time the snow stopped falling Tuesday morning.

While the storm was gone, many schools remained closed Wednesday, including all Philadelphia public and parochial schools, because of snow-clogged and slippery streets and roads.

But the trouble isn't over yet. Officials predicted later this week combined with melting snow has residents throughout the region braced for flooding.

The storm cost Massachusetts between $7 million and $8 million in snow removal, bringing the state's total so far this year to at least $52 million. The state had budgeted only $16 million in fiscal 2003 for snow removal.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg estimated the storm would cost the city $20 million — about $1 million for each inch of snow. Maryland's State Highway Administration was already $141.5 million over budget before the President's Day storm, which Gov. Robert Ehrlich estimated had cost the state an additional $20 million, a $30 million shortfall.

The storm is expected to cost cash-starved New Jersey about $14 million.

Associated Press

Blizzard saps states' budgets

BOSTON

Backs aren't the only things crashing as residents of the Northeast shovel away mounds of snow left by the year's first blizzard. State and city budgets also are strained.

"We had a snow budget of $15 million," said Jack Lettieri, New Jersey's acting transportation commissioner. "And we had spent $30 million before this storm even started."

"This has been one of those storms where things could go either way, and it's gone the right way very time for us," said Peter Judge, a spokesman for the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. "It was sort of Murphy's Law in reverse."

Twelve weather-related deaths were reported in Pennsylvania, with two in Illinois, seven in West Virginia, six in Missouri, two in Virginia, eight in Maryland, four in New York, four in Iowa and one each in Nebraska, Ohio, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

The Maryland victims included four children killed by carbon monoxide while sitting in snowbound vehicles.

Eight people died in Tennessee, including a 7-year-old girl whose body was found Tuesday, two days after the car she was riding in was swept away by a flood. Her 12-year-old brother was still missing.

Authorities warned of the danger of roofs collapsing under the weight of snow. New Jersey's death was caused by a collapse and one person was injured in Massachusetts when a warehouse fell in. Thirteen poultry houses collapsed in West Virginia, killing about 325,000 chickens and turkeys.

White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., lost one of its Civic Center buildings, which held offices and exercise class space. "The walls buckled and the whole building was folding in on itself," said Mayor Debbie Pogue.

In West Virginia, residents are bracing for more flooding as the snow melts and heavy rain is likely later in the week.

Oil price is highest since Gulf War

New York

The price of oil is nearing levels not seen since 1990 as the U.S. prepares for a potential war in Iraq at a time when crude supplies are extremely tight.

The crude contract rose 20 cents Wednesday to finish the day at $37.16 per barrel, a new 29-month peak.

Oil futures on the New York Mercantile Exchange are just a nickel shy of closing at their highest level since Oct. 16, 1990.

"It is hard to understand that we went into the beginning of this year with very low stocks," said Lawrence Goldstein, president of the New York-based Petroleum Industry Research Foundation.

Since then, oil prices have jumped 19 percent — a trend Goldstein and other oil analysts attribute to the increased likelihood of military action in Iraq.

Retail fuel prices have also soared. The average pump price of regular unleaded gasoline is now $1.66 per gallon, 54 cents higher than a year ago, according to Energy Department statistics. A gallon of diesel averages $1.76, or 55 cents higher than last year, according to the agency.

Oil traders have pushed prices higher out of supply concerns and fear that a war in Iraq could spur violence throughout the Middle East, leading to attacks on oil export facilities in Saudi Arabia or Kuwait. The short-term loss of Iraqi oil is less of a concern to U.S. market traders, said Key.

U.S. imports of Venezuelan crude oil still are not being exported as the result of a row over fuel theft in Latin America.

"They would buy more stock on the open market if they had known the truth."
**Country singer**

PayCheck dies at 64

Associated Press

PayCheck, the hard-drinking country singer who had fired up fans with hit songs such as "Take This Job and Shove It" and "You Raised Me Up," has died at 64.

PayCheck had been bedridden in a nursing home with emphysema and asthma. He died Tuesday, Grand Ole Opry spokesman Jesse Schmidt said.

Specializing in earthy, plain-spoken songs, PayCheck recorded 70 albums and had more than two dozen hit singles. His biggest hit was "Take This Job and Shove It," which inspired a movie by that name and a title album that sold 2 million copies.

His other hits included "Don't Take Her, She's All I Got," (which was revived 25 years later in 1996 by Tracy Byrd), "I'm the Only Mama Ever to Shave Your Satin Sheets," "Old Violin," and "You Can Have Her."

"My mama's always been about life. And situations. Situation comedies, situation life," he said in 1997.

Several country artists said Wednesday that PayCheck will be missed.

"I think he spoke to the blue-collar American public," Terri Clark said. "He was a lifeline for real people who worked real jobs and who had to deal with life's hardships."

John Michael Montgomery noted that PayCheck's death followed a year that of Waylon Jennings, another country music veteran.

"Those guys worked their way around. It was hard touring, it was hard getting your records played," Montgomery said. "They did it at a time when country music was struggling in all the way around. It was hard touring, it was hard getting your records played."

In early in his career, PayCheck played in George Jones' band, and the two later recorded an album called "Double Trouble."

"But in later life we both mellowed," Jones said Wednesday. "The world will miss a great country singer and I will miss my friend."

Born Donald Eugene Lytle on May 31, 1938, in Greenfield, Ohio, he took the name Johnny PayCheck in 1961. He had been performing since 1954, but it was hard for two guys at the same time. It was hard getting your records played, PayCheck told The Associated Press in 1997.

PayCheck had been married three times and had fathered two children.

**Heartland**

Country singer

continued from page 1

petition

Attempts to gain comment from employees at Heartland were unsuccessful. Copies of the boycott letter have also been sent to resident assistants at Notre Dame to ensure that the petition is readily available to students in every dorm.

The petition states that "Heartland's management has a civic and social responsibility to ensure that this type of behavior is not repeated." It outlines the objectives for the boycott and stipulates three courses of action the Heartland management must take if the boycott is to be ended.

Members of the group have said the petition will successfully mobilize support from the Notre Dame community while the issue is still at the forefront of people's minds. Student organizations would like to secure at least 500 signatures on the petition before Rosario meets with Heartland management, which is expected to happen in the next week.

**2003 SPORTS BUSINESS FORUM**

Interested in a career in sports?

The ND MBA Sports Business Club cordially invites you to join us as executives from the industry share trends, career advice and networking philosophies.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21st
1:00pm - 3:00pm
Eck Visitor's Center Auditorium
(located next to the bookstore)

Q&A, Refreshments and Industry Insights

Participants include:

- Chris Bevilacqua: Former Director of Global Negotiations and League Affairs at Nike Inc.
- Kelly Melaragno: VP Customer Development, Pepsi Americas
- Alvin Zucker: VP Athletic Marketing, IMG

Contact Caitlin Early at cearly@nd.edu

Recycle the Observer

**HOCKEY**

vs. Lake Superior State

FRI. 2/21 - 7PM
ND Bean Bag

Bears to the first

SAT. 2/22 - 7PM
Junior player

trading cards

to the first

500 fans!
IRAQ

Saddam choses dignity over war

Associated Press

BAGHDAD

Saddam Hussein said Wednesday that Iraq doesn't want war with the United States, but peace cannot be kept at the expense of "our independence, our dignity and freedom.

Speaking to a visiting delegation of Russian lawmakers, including Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov, the Iraqi president said that if the United States carries out its threat to attack, Iraq will "triumph over it, God willing.

"Iraq doesn't want war," Saddam said, but he added that peace "at any cost" was unacceptable. "We will not relinquish our independence, our dignity and our right to live and act freely."

Saddam spoke as President Bush again urged the United Nations to threaten force to disarm Iraq. U.N. weapons inspectors, meanwhile, visited five arm Iraq. U.N. weapons inspectors returned to Iraq in November after a four-year gap under a new, tougher Security Council resolution. The inspectors are trying to verify Iraq's claims that it no longer holds banned weapons.

On Feb. 14, chief inspector Bilix and Mohamed Ellabadi, head of the U.N. nuclear control agency, told the Security Council that they detected some improvement in cooperation on the part of Saddam's government. But Bilix also said inspectors found that Iraq's Al Samoud 2 missile exceeded the permit- range of 94 miles and chas- tened Iraq for not giving a full accounting of chemical and bio- logical weapons programs.

On Wednesday, inspectors visited the al-Fida company, which is involved in the maintenance of Al Samoud launchers, the Ibn Al-Haytham company, which manufactures and assembles Al Samouads, and a factory that makes the rocket's components, U.N. spokesman Hiro Ushiki said.

"We will not relinquish our independence, our dignity and our right to live and act freely." Saddam Hussein

Iraqi president

in Kuwait, the main springboard for a possible inva- sion of Iraq, to leave unless it was absolutely necessary for them to remain. It also increased travel warnings for Israel and the Palestinian terri- tory.

Humanitarian agencies have warned that war could bring great suffering to the Iraqi peo- ple by disrupting supplies of food, medicine and drinking water.

However, Trade Minister Mohammed Nebdi Saleh told reporters that authorities have distributed six months' worth of food rations to Iraqi families so they can prepare for a long war.

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"We're not obliged to listen to the government," jihadist youth leader Ble Goude said, declining to call off the protest.

"Viiplop! Chiraq! Attackers!" protesters chanted, denounc- ing French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin and President Jacques Chirac. Youth leaders in the govern- ment — controlled south repeatedly have expressed reser- vation at the 3,000 French troops deployed in Ivory Coast and have threat- ened to attack and burn French military vehicles patrolling the streets of Abidjan.

France says its troops are protecting foreigners and try- ing to enforce cease-fires. Despite the threats of vi- olence, Gen. Emmanuel Beth, head of the French forces in Ivory Coast, said he wanted to "reasure and re-establish the confidence of the French com- munity and Ivorian people" that his troops were there to help promote peace.

The sentiment was echoed by Ivorian army chief Gen. Mathias Doze, who insisted French forces do not pose a threat to Ivorians.

"We are resolved in engaging in the process of the restora- tion of peace," Doze said after the meeting with Chirac.

In the central insurgent stronghold of Bouake, rebel leader Guillaume Soro said, "We want to give peace a chance." He spoke upon his return from a regional tour, during which he met with the presidents of Nigeria, Ghana. Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso to seek diplomatic support for rebel demands.

"The advice they gave us was to find political solutions to the crisis in Ivory Coast," said Soro, whose forces con- trol the northern half of the country.
Boston archdiocese fails in attempt to end sex abuse cases

Associated Press

BOston

A judge refused to dismiss more than 400 sexual abuse lawsuits Wednesday against the Boston Archdiocese, rejecting arguments that the Constitution bars the courts from interfering with church operations.

Superior Court Judge Constance Sweeney's ruling clears the way for the lawsuits to move forward. However, settlements are under way.

The lawsuits allege church officials were negligent in their ordinary organization or discipline of priests accused of molesting children.

Church lawyers had argued that the court does not have jurisdiction over cases that involve the relationship between a church and a priest because that involves church policy, which is protected by the First Amendment guarantee of freedom of religion.

But the judge said Wednesday, saying: 'The cases ... do not lure the court into involving itself in the church doctrine, faith, internal organization or discipline of priests.'

Sweeney made two exceptions: the diocese had failed to remove a priest from the priesthood, saying those were "purely ecclesiastical matters" not subject to court action. She also rejected arguments that because a priest is a priest 24 hours a day, church supervisors can be held liable for anything he does.

A spokesman for the archdiocese said church lawyers would not comment on the decision until they had time to review it. "In all of this, we are still committed to a full, equitable and just resolution for all cases against the archdiocese."

Rev. Christopher Coyne
Boston archdiocese spokesman

"In all of this, we are still committed to a full, equitable and just resolution for all cases against the archdiocese.

"We were trying to do the right thing. Unfortunately people took advantage of that, so now we have people way out in Queens or upper Manhattan where there was no potential for air quality impacts."

Brad Gair
Federal recovery officer

NEW YORK

A $100 million federal program to reimburse New Yorkers for air conditioners, filters, vacuums and other air-purifying tools after the World Trade Center collapse is ripe with fraud and abuse, government officials say.

As many as 90 percent of the more than 219,000 applications for reimbursement were filed by people not suffering from the effects of contaminated air, according to estimates from federal officials.

They say fraud has taken several forms. Some people have manipulated the program to score a free air conditioner, while cold con artists have posed as federal employees and sold air-purifying items to residents.

About $45.8 million has been paid out so far, and while many applications are legitimate, officials said millions have been paid to people who could not have had any reason to buy the items.

Church documents released over the past year show that church supervisors shuffled accused priests from parish to parish. The scandal rocked the nation's fourth-largest diocese and led to lawsuits across the country.

More than 300 priests have since been suspended or resigned.

The archdiocese has said it mounted the legal challenge based on the separation of church and state to satisfy its insurance company that it had done everything possible to defend itself.
FDA studies link to Ephedra

Associated Press

Food and Drug Administration investigators are looking into the possible link between Ephedra and the death of a Baltimore Orioles pitcher, says the agency's chief, who worries the dietary supplement may prove particularly risky for athletes.

Determining Ephedra's danger and whether it heed calls to ban sales are priorities, FDA Commissioner Mark McClellan said in an interview Wednesday with The Associated Press.

Ephedra, an herb commonly used for weight loss and body building, increases metabolic rate and speeds the heart rate, he noted. Add strenuous activity, and "sports use is one area where I have got some particular concern," McClellan said.

McClellan's boss, Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson, convened a meeting of health officials to discuss ephedra on Wednesday. Asked what he thought of the herb, Thompson told reporters: "I wouldn't use it, would you?"

The comments came after a Florida medical examiner said Monday's heatstroke death of Orioles pitcher Steve Bechler's body will not be available for at least two weeks. But Broward County, Fla., medical examiner Dr. Joshua Perper urged baseball officials to ban use of the supplement, an action already taken by the International Olympic Committee, the National Football League and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Xenadrine's maker, Cytodine Technologies, said in a statement that two capsules a day is the recommended dose and that studies show the product is safe when used as directed.

But ephedra long has been linked to heart attacks, strokes and other serious side effects - even at recommended doses and particularly if users have underlying heart trouble or certain other ailments.

The FDA has reports of at least 100 deaths linked to use of the herbal supplements. A study published this month found U.S. poison control centers reported 1,178 side effects among ephedra users last year alone, and critics have urged FDA to ban the pills.

Now Bechler's death is focusing public attention on ephedra again.

Within a month, the FDA expects to receive a report of ephedra's risks from the Rand Corp., long believed an independent look.

Also, FDA investigators are talking with the Florida medical examiner and will scrutinize the baseball player's toxicology tests, McClellan said.

"If there is a health risk, we also have a responsibility to keep up our resistance on this," he said. "We're looking at this one very carefully, because clearly it is an area of concern for us.

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Supporters of appeals court judicial nominee Miguel Estrada plan to run ads in several states represented by waverers Democrats in an effort to break a filibuster by Senate Democrats.

"This is a very serious issue for our community and no politician can take this quietly," Roberta Ponsa of The Latino Coalition said Wednesday, announcing plans for radio spots in Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida and the District of Columbia.

If confirmed, Estrada would be the first Hispanic judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Ads also were planned for Nebraska and North Carolina. A rally was held Wednesday in New York and more public were being organized, including one in Miami.

President Bush, who nominated the Washington lawyer in May 2001, has accused Democrats of "shameful politics" in holding up a confirmation vote. Democrats say Estrada has not been forthcoming about his judicial philosophy and that too little is known about a man who would join an important appeals court viewed as a stepping stone to the Supreme Court.

Democrats began a filibuster on the nomination last week, but the 60 votes needed to end a filibuster. Republicans have the 51 votes needed to confirm Estrada but the 60 votes to end a filibuster. Democrats said last week that 44 Democratic senators have agreed to keep the filibuster going, with Sens. John Breaux of Louisiana, Zell Miller of Georgia and Ben Nelson of Nebraska against the stalling tactic and Sen. Blanche Lincoln of Arkansas on the fence.

Republicans said the ad campaigns would also be aimed at Democratic Sens. Mark Pryor of Arkansas, Bill Nelson of Florida, and Mary Landrieu of Louisiana.

Estrada supporters say Landrieu reversed herself after appearing to support Estrada in a Spanish-language radio ad run during her recent re-election campaign. Landrieu has said the ad misrepresented her neutrality on the Estrada nomination.

Several major Hispanic groups, such as the League of Latin American Citizens and the National Hispanic Bar Association, others, including the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, have voiced opposition.

Estrada's supporters, at a news conference, challenged Democratic complaints that too little was known about Estrada's legal record, pre- empting the 2-foot high stack of legal briefs involving Estrada.

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Your Irish eyes will be smiling while your face laughs hysterically at the "Lads of Comedy!" A mixture of stand up comedy, characters and sketches all centered around the Irish American experience.

It's a show for the Irish, about the Irish, by the Irish! Everything will be covered from Catholic school, wakes, Notre Dame, and our families!

Friday February 21, 9 pm, LaFortune Ballroom

Friday February 20, 2003

The Observer • NEWS

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Associated Press

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Friday February 21, 9 pm, LaFortune Ballroom
A war of words between Iraq and the U.S.

I write this with the shared anxiety that many of us around the world must be feeling about the possibility of a war between the United States and Iraq, a war which has been carefully constructed over the last months by words — as indeed, almost all wars are — with ramifications that could well extend to the entire globe.

I write as well with another level of anxiety, that anything I, as an individual might say, could itself be fraught with the kind of reductive rhetoric that I find I must not only criticize but also criticize of, all supposed "sides" in this current pending catastrophe.

I am not a member of the government, nor a professor of political science, or history or economics, or anthropology — though I know that all of those branches of knowledge are finally inseparable and much needed at this moment. What I can offer here, with any credibility, is merely the perspective from a professor of literature. And yet, I would like to say strongly and sincerely that the history of literature — as nothing more than naive propaganda is very necessary here.

It is with respect to the "God is on my side," and "we" are good, and "you" are evil, with the consequences hidden all along that in actuality other ethnic groups, other religions, women, children, animals, the earth itself are tragically plundered under the supposed legitimizing rhetoric of that old valorization of war, duty and nationalist pride.

That members of these three very large world religions, all of whom claim the same person, Abraham, as their father, could continue to "legitimize" a singular religion, race, gender or even anthropological self as the single and right inheritors of this earth (and spiritual geography) is more clearly now than ever — all saying "God is on my side," and "we" are good, and "you" are evil, with the consequences hidden all along that in actuality other ethnic groups, other religions, women, children, animals, the earth itself are tragically plundered under the supposed legitimizing rhetoric of that old valorization of war, duty and nationalist pride.

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Newspaper Article: Redeeming work on and off the field

Andrew DeBerry

The perseverance Godfrey learned on the field has helped this work. He cites St. Paul's athletic metaphors as the Life Athletes' inspiration to set noble goals and to sacrifice to meet those goals. "I am doing something worthwhile with the time I have left," he said.

The depth of his prayer surprised Godfrey. He had only been going through the motions of his Catholic faith and unknowingly — he thought — God had spent a beginning of a commitment that would shape his life for years to come. Later, the Packers coaching staff changed its mind and asked him to stay. This infed Godfrey that his prayer wasn't just happenstance and that God had a plan for him. Later, at a team Bible Study that Matthew 6:33: "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you besides." This told him he needed to pray the prayer.

Godfrey's football adventure brought him to the Michigan Panthers in the USFL. He moved to the offensive line, and the team was won its one game that season. The next year, he joined the New York Giants and won the starting right guard spot. A couple years later, his team beat the Broncos in Super Bowl XXI.

Instead of pursuing corporate sponsorships after the victory, Godfrey focused his prestige on promoting responsible living. "I realized that being some male dorm's groupie. I grew tired of him since I threw my first left shoe in a pile during a Freshman 'meet-a nice-Fisher-boy' activity."

During his studies, Godfrey learned a firm basis for the law which made light of what can be a semi-depressing subject. Students (men and women) have told him that dorms are good because they force individuals to break out and be "social.

I, in a quest to be social, I played in the student body, mild-mannered dorm parties, the half-blind, dogboot SYR dates and the 1950s summer-camp style Frosh-0 activities. However, I grew tired of being some male dorm's groupie. I grew tired of trying so hard in something that had always come naturally in my life. So, I stopped trying, ceased to be tired, and began to enjoy my life, find friends, and date. Now I cherish and love are those I discovered two nights out of the week while pursuing downs. No, they are my Howard Hall girlfriends. We spend time together every day. On accident. No trying. No awkwardness. No drinking. Just getting to know each other and again and again and better and better."

I am not how great all this "dating" or sexual relations should begin, to. If not, then the sexual segregation of young people at Notre Dame is working wonderfully.

Even when I fail, His grace keeps me going. I have peace and security.

"He saw a lot of people being hurt by abortion, not only the children but also their parents who tried to cope with the loss and guilt. He resolved to combat this problem and was encouraged by Professor Charles Rice to enroll in Notre Dame's Law School."

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'Talk to Her' is poignant to perfection

By BRIAN BIRCHER
Scene Movie Critic

'Talk to Her' begins with the raising of a red curtain, revealing two women dancing on a stage. The women appear to be blind and in pain as she moves across stage through a maze of chairs. In the audience are two men, currently strangers, who sit side by side as they take in the performance. One of the men, Marco (Dario Grandinetti), a writer in his early 40s, is moved to tears. The man sitting next to him, Benigno (Javier Camara), a male nurse, notices these tears but does not say anything.

Time passes and eventually Marco and Benigno's paths cross again. This time at the private clinic "El Bosque," Benigno works. Marco ends up at the clinic because the woman he loves, Lydia (Rosario Flores), Spain's most famous female matador, has been gored by a bull and fallen into a coma. Marco resolves himself to stay by her side and do what little he can for her. While Marco is walking through the hospital, Benigno notices him and does not hesitate to start up conversation.

A friendship begins between the two men. Benigno and Marco have something in common that unites them — both care for a woman who is in a coma. Benigno has been taking care of his patient, Alicia (Leonor Watling), for four years. Benigno first noticed Alicia at the dance studio across from his apartment before her accident and now cares solely for her. His interest, however, has developed into a love that has only grown with her time spent comatose.

The story progresses at a steady rate and uses a few flashbacks to flesh out storylines and characters. These flashbacks do not feel forced or heavy-handed as they sometimes do in other movies, but provide insight at just the right points in the movie and add to our understanding of the characters and their motivations.

At the heart of 'Talk to Her' are the excellent performances, especially by the two male leads, Grandinetti and Camara. Camara plays Benigno with subtlety, creating a seemingly simple and earnest character. Grandinetti is also excellent as Marco, giving the character a sense of history that justifies the tears he sheds. These are believable and realistic characters, that while we may not identify with we can understand and empathize with.

Despite the somewhat soap-opera plot, writer and director Pedro Almodovar has made an intelligent and thought-provoking film that examines a number of themes. For one, he questions the sources and boundaries of love. He also examines the nature of masculinity by portraying two characters who have no qualms with engaging in behavior typically seen as feminine: crying, cutting hair and doing nails.

Almodovar has been nominated for an Oscar for Best Director, and rightly so. He creates a story in which a morally reprehensible act is one that is at the same time understandable and poignant. He has made a moving story from complex and original material. "Talk to Her" is a beautiful and touching story that will not leave the viewer's mind easily.

Contact Brian Bircher at bircher.1@nd.edu
By ERIN ENGLISH
Scene Movie Critic

Often, when you find yourself rooting for the villain of a movie, it means that there is something incredibly wrong. It means that you hate the hero and don't want there to be even a possibility of a sequel.

"Daredevil" is one of those movies where you pray that the villain will come out on top and save you from having to endure another moment.

Marvel took a gamble by making a movie from a cult comic book character rather than one of their name brand superheroes. Matt Murdock (Ben Affleck) is a lawyer by day and a vigilante at night, with the typical twist — he is blind. Robbed of his sight as a child when he was sprayed in the face with bio-hazardous material, his other senses were amplified, including his sense of hearing. This provides him with a "radar sense" which allows him to navigate the rooftops and rooms where he prowls.

The plot of "Daredevil" centers on Murdock, beginning with a flashback of his childhood and the death of his father. We immediately zoom forward in time to Murdock as lawyer and avenger, with little explanation as to how he became either or how a blind man could design a costume that ugly.

From here, we are rushed yet again into the introductions of the main characters and fast-forwarded through a plot involving the murder of hotel mogul and father of Murdock's love interest, Elektra (Jennifer Garner), who it conveniently appears as an ass-kicking martial artist. Everything is done so fast and loosely that you end up not caring about what happens to the characters at all.

"Daredevil" fails to take a single dare and prefers instead to set itself up for a sequel rather than giving audiences a movie worth the ticket price. Ben Affleck's acting is flat throughout and devoid of any charisma until it is far too late to make his character likable. Instead, he is outshined in every scene that he shares.

The highlights of the movie nearly all come when one of the villains is on camera. Michael Clark Duncan literally is the Kingpin, despite the controversy in his casting, and dominates every scene he is in. Elektra is as well played as possible, considering how poorly the part was written for her.

The assassin Bullseye (Colin Farrell) steals the show; he is amusingly homicidal and appealing at the same time. In fact, Bullseye is pretty much the only reason that you should go see the movie, if you go at all. Farrell is just as over the top as is required for the ridiculous character he is given and never fails to make you wish that he was "Daredevil" instead.

Contact Erin English at eenglish@nd.edu
With sore knee, Kobe scores 40 as Lakers defeat Jazz

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY
A sore knee and exhaustion from playing two overtime periods the night before weren't enough to end Kobe Bryant's torrid scoring run.

Bryant scored 11 of Los Angeles' last 17 points and finished with 40 as the Los Angeles Lakers held off the Utah Jazz 93-87 Wednesday.

Bryant has scored 40 or more in seven straight games and has at least 35 in his last 11. The Lakers have gone 9-2 during his scoring binge.

"I don't really know what it is," Bryant said of what's driving him during the streak. "All this has done is help us win games. Maybe when I retire I can look back and see what an accomplishment it was."

When he finally does look back, Bryant will find himself in good company.

The last player to score 40 in as many consecutive games was Michael Jordan, who did it in nine straight early in the 1986-87 season. Will Chamberlain scored at least 40 in 14 consecutive games early in the 1961-62 season.

Bryant, who scored 52 the night before, had a 106-99 double overtime win over Houston, decided just before tipoff to play with a sore right knee as the Lakers were without Shaquille O'Neal for a second straight night.

"Kobe was Kobe. He carried the load for two superstars tonight," said Rick Fox, who scored 11 for the Lakers.

Bryant was booed throughout the night until the end, when the sellout crowd of 19,911 realized he was about to continue the streak.

Most of his points came from the outside because his scoring binge had no choice but to foul him.

"I never thought I'd hear that," Bryant said. "It felt like the Staples Center went out there." Bryant finished 15-for-29 from the floor and 4-for-6 on 3-pointer attempts. Several points came from the outside because his knee was too sore to drive.

Defensive players guarded by Calbert Cheaney and Andrii Kirilenko, Bryant kept hitting his shots.

"He's the best player in the game right now. He's playing as good as I've seen him in my career," Jazz guard Mark Jackson said.

Derek Fisher scored 16 for the Lakers, who won less than 24 hours after beating Houston in double overtime.

"If you lose a game like tonight, then all that fighting we did yesterday was probably much for nothing," Bryant said.

Karl Malone led Utah with 25 points, but also was called for a key technical foul as the Jazz tried to rally at the end.

After two straight jumpers by Bryant put Los Angeles up 80-74, Malone was called for pushing on Robert Horry with 3:47 left. He had words for referee Eric Holti all the way to the bench.

Bryant hit two more field goals down the stretch.

New Orleans 87, Washington 75

The New Orleans Hornets wanted redemption after a late-game collapse Tuesday night in Orlando, and Jamal Mashburn decided he should provide it.

Mashburn wrapped up a 24-point performance by hitting a 3-pointer and a pair of aggressive runners in the lane as the Hornets scored on eight of nine possession down the stretch for a victory over the Washington Wizards on Wednesday.

"At the end of the game I really want to take the shots ... it was pretty important and it's pretty much sealed the game at that point," Mashburn said. "They've got the best player in the world (Michael Jordan) and he can still re-create some old highlights, so they can come back and you don't want that to happen, especially not two nights in a row."

Michael Jordan scored 20 to lead Washington, but shot only 4-for-23 in his first game since turning 40. Jerry Stackhouse, returning from a strained left groin that kept him out five games, added 15 for the Wizards.

"We missed a lot of easy shots; I know I missed a lot of easy shots," Jordan said. "We had chances, but unless you get it done it doesn't matter."

After blowing a 12-point lead in the final 5 minutes against the Magic a night earlier, New Orleans needed the victory both for morale and to get some separation in the standings between themselves (29-27) and Washington (25-26), which currently holds the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Portland 125, Golden State 98

Portland Trail Blazers defeated the Golden State Warriors Wednesday night.

Portland bounded to a 76-49 halftime lead, the most first-half points scored in the NBA this season, en route to its third consecutive win. The Blazers led by as many as 33 points, and their final point total was a season high.

Golden State's Antawn Jamison, who played for just 16 minutes, was scoreless after the Warriors lost their third straight.

Gilbert Aramis had 22 points.

It was the first meeting between the two teams since Dec. 20, when a post-game brawl broke out after Rasheed Wallace's 16-foot jumper won it 113-111. Wells and Chris Mills scuffled, Wallace tried to charge into the stands after a fan apparently threw a Ward of glass at him, and Mills reportedly blocked the Blazers' bus with his car as the team was headed to the airport.

There was little outward friction between the two teams Wednesday night as the Blazers jumped out to a 44-21 lead in the first quarter, paced by Wells' 18 points.

Late in the quarter, Danny Fortson was called for a flagrant foul after swatting back Wells as he went for a layup. Wells lay on the court holding his face for several moments before getting up to make both free throws.

After Wells accumulated 26 points in the first 15 minutes, he rested the rest of the half.

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Humphrey traded to Grizzlies in four-player deal

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Orlando and Memphis pulled off the first big trade before Thursday's NBA deadline, agreeing to a four-player deal Wednesday that sent Mike Miller and Ryan Humphrey from the Magic to the Grizzlies for rookies Drew Gooden and Goran Giricek.

The Grizzlies also received a first-round pick owed to Orlando by Sacramento and a second-round selection in 2004, while sending an undisclosed amount of cash to the Magic.

Orlando is giving up its second-leading scorer, Miller, who was averaging 16.4 points as the second offensive option behind Tracy McGrady. The Magic never envisioned having to use Miller, a small forward, as their No. 2 scorer, but the chronic ankle injury that has sidelined Grant Hill indefinitely forced Miller into that role.

Without Miller, the Magic are looking to both Gooden and Giricek to relieve some of the pressure on McGrady, the NBA's leading scorer.

"We saw an opportunity to move a player we like very much in Mike Miller for two young players that better fill our needs on this particular team," Orlando general manager John Gabriel said.

Added Magic coach Doc Rivers: "This is a tough business and Mike was one of my favorites. He, however, was the only way we could improve our basketball team."

Gooden, a 6-foot-10 power forward, was the fourth overall selection in last year's draft. The 6-foot-5 Giricek, a 25-year-old guard from Croatia, is regarded as a sharpshooter.

Both players could soon start for the Magic, Gabriel said. That would send to the bench Pat Garrity, a 3-point shooting specialist who is sometimes taken advantage of by larger power forwards.

Gooden was averaging 12.1 points and 5.8 rebounds for the Grizzlies, but was not regarded as one of coach Hubie Brown's favorite players. His name had been coming up in trade rumors during recent days as the clock ticked down to Thursday's 3 p.m. EST deadline.

Gooden appeared in 51 games, making 29 starts.

Giricek averaged 11.2 points in 49 games, including 35 starts.

Humphrey, a rookie power forward from Notre Dame, appeared in 35 games for the Magic before being traded to the Grizzlies.

"Humphrey was one of my favorites. He, however, was the only way we could improve our basketball team."

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Humphrey, a rookie power forward from Notre Dame, appeared in 35 games for Orlando and averaged 1.8 points. Undersized at 6-feet, 6-inches, he was shooting only 27 percent from the field and lost Rivers' confidence early into the season.

Miller was the NBA's Rookie of the Year in 2001, but he never established the consistency the Magic wanted.
Duke hangs on for 75-70 victory over Maryland

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. - Duke got Maryland in its comfort zone and paid back the 13th-ranked Terrapins for its most lopsided loss of the season. Jahiihann scores 21 points and J.J. Redick added 17 as the eighth-ranked Blue Devils ran their winning streak in Cameron Indoor Stadium to 26 straight with a 75-70 victory Wednesday night.

After a rough few weeks, Duke (18-4, 8-4) is tied with the defending national champion Terrapins (16-7, 8-4) for the Atlantic Coast Conference lead with two free throws.

But this time around it was the Blue Devils with a career-high 18 points, but Drew Nicholas, who scored 24 against Duke a month ago, was held to eight.

Each team started slowly in the second half before Duke went up 67-57 with 5:49 left as Redick made two long 3-pointers and Jones had a three-point play in a span of 1:07.

But the only team with a winning ACC record coming in would make one last stand, putting up two with 3:18 remaining.

Jones then made two free throws and Daniel Ewing nailed a 3-pointer with 2 seconds left on the shot clock to give Duke a 73-66 lead.

Duke was guarding a three-point shot that came up short. But led only 35-31.

In the victory.

They deserved the victory. They beat the bell out of us.”

Rick Pitino
Louisville coach

“Everybody should be proud of us. We took away pretty much everything they they wanted to do. We wanted to be the aggressor.”

Duke’s gaffe.

Burks missed a layup, Myles rebounded and Erik Brown made two free throws with 35 seconds left to cut the lead to three.

Duke got no closer. The Tigers, the second-worst free throw shooting team in the conference, went 5-for-16 from the line over the final 20 seconds, including two by Grice.

The Tigers’ 3-point shooting.

We shot way too many 3s,” said Gaines, who hit a game-winning 3-pointer in a victory at Marquette on Saturday. “I shot too many 3s that didn’t go in. I thought they’d go in, but they didn’t.”

Five players fouled out of the tightly called game which had 65 fouls called.

Both teams fought like crazy,” Memphis coach John Calipari said.

Massie fell awkwardly with 14:08 left in the game. He returned later, but Calipari said he played with a broken nose.

Louisville forward Ellis Myles left in the second half with a shoulder injury, but also returned for the final minutes.

The Tigers led 74-67 with 50 seconds left, when John Grice stepped to the free throw line. He made the first, then made a throat-slashing gesture, drawing a technical foul.

Memphis outrebounded Louisville 19-12 and forced 10 turnovers in the opening half, but led only 35-31.

The teams were tied at 59-59, but led only 59-59.

Grice made two free throws and Barron rebounded a missed layup by Myles and found Burks downtown for a breakaway layup for a 63-59 lead.
Barry Bonds had a 10-minute operation on his left elbow Wednesday to remove a quarter-inch ball of scar tissue and sutures from a previous surgery.

San Francisco Giants trainer Stan Conte referred to the procedure, performed by local team orthopedist Dr. David Zeman, as a "bumpectomy."

"It was uneventful, exactly as we planned," Conte said. "We didn't have to dig into the (triceps) muscle or anything else. It was right below the skin. The key to the surgery was we opened up the skin and it was right there."

The five-time NL MVP rested at home after the operation, and was expected to do some running and other cardiovascular workouts for the defending NL champions.

"It was uneventful, exactly as we planned ... The key to the surgery was we opened up the skin and it was right there."

Stan Conte
Giants trainer

Bonds had local anesthesia, meaning his elbow was numb. He also was under some sedation. There was a 30-minute recovery period for Bonds before he was allowed to go home, Conte said.

The scar tissue was irritating Bonds when he rested his elbow, not when he worked out, Conte said. Bonds complained of tenderness to Conte after arriving at camp Tuesday.

The pain stemmed from surgery in 1999, when doctors repaired a tear in Bonds' left triceps and removed a bone spur from the back of his elbow.

Bonds' teammates know he will be ready to play soon.

"Barry's always been a gamer," new center fielder Marquis Grissom said. "He always goes out and wants to play and he will do whatever he has to do to get back on the field. I think of him as a great competitor. You look at what he's done over the course of his career and how bad he wants to win that ring, I don't think anything is going to stop him from coming back and doing what he's supposed to do."

"I don't think anything is going to stop him from coming back and doing what he's supposed to do."

Marquis Grissom
Bond's teammate

Bonds lost in his first World Series last season when the Anaheim Angels beat the Giants in seven games. Bonds won his first batting title with a .370 average and his record fifth MVP award.

He was walked a major league record 198 times in 2002. He hit .471 with four home runs and six RBIs in the first World Series and was walked 13 times.

Bonds is ready to make another run at a title, with many new faces around him, including Grissom and right fielder Jose Cruz Jr.
Tyson, new tattoo, ready for fight

**Boxer Mike Tyson shows off his new tattoo and responds to questions at a press conference Wednesday. Tyson will fight Clifford Etienne Saturday in Memphis.**

Tyson had a bewitched look on his face as he headed quickly toward an elevator and the sanctuary of his hotel room.

His trainer said later that Tyson was discouraged about his return to training after a week out of the gym, and still feeling the effects of flu-like symptoms.

"His mind seemed to be in the right place," trainer Freddie Roach said. "I'm not sure about anything else.

Thecircuslike atmosphere surrounding Tyson moved Wednesday to the string of casinos along the Mississippi River, where the former heavyweight champion worked out behind closed doors before emerging to give the world a peek at his new tattoo.

Tyson is one of the NFL's few top black executives, the new vice president of player personnel for the Jacksonville Jaguars. But Harris thinks the league has work to do in minority hiring.

"We're talking about African-Americans, but we're also talking about the best candidate to get the job," Harris said. "In some cases, where an African-American is the best candidate, he's still not getting the job."

Harris ate dinner Wednesday night with commissioner Paul Tagliabue. Among Tagliabue's other guests were the NFL's three black head coaches: Tony Dungy of the Colts, Herman Edwards of the Jets, and Marvin Lewis of the Bengals.

**Tagliabue discusses hiring of minorities in NFL**

When James Harris retired as an NFL quarterback two decades ago, no team would hire him as an assistant coach.

Now he's one of the NFL's few top black executives, the new vice president of player personnel for the Jacksonville Jaguars. But Harris thinks the league has work to do in minority hiring.

"We're talking about African-Americans, but we're also talking about the best candidate to get the job," Harris said. "In some cases, where an African-American is the best candidate, he's still not getting the job."

Harris ate dinner Wednesday night with commissioner Paul Tagliabue. Among Tagliabue's other guests were the NFL's three black head coaches: Tony Dungy of the Colts, Herman Edwards of the Jets, and Marvin Lewis of the Bengals.

Among the topics was the NFL's new plan to promote minority hiring. It requires teams to interview at least one minority candidate for coaching vacancies. But the Detroit Lions were unable to get a minority to talk to them after it became clear they were ready to hire ex-San Francisco coach Steve Mariucci.

Lewis is uncertain about what more can be done.

"Really, you can't tell someone who to hire," he said. "When I put together my staff, I wanted to hire guys who I know. You want to know what kind of stress he's under and how he handles stress."
Belles win in home game, end streak

By TREY WILLIAMS
Sports Writer

The myth that says 13 is an unlucky number obviously doesn't apply to Belles basketball.

Senior members of Saint Mary's basketball team said final goodbye to the Angela Athletic Center in an enjoyable fashion as the team slapped a would-be 13-game losing streak with a convincing 71-58 triumph over Adrian College Wednesday night.

The Belles kept the Bulldogs on a short leash for most of the game, trailing 25-22 at the end of the first half, but surged ahead with a 49-point second half.

"We’re finally clicking," coach Suzanne Bellina said. "This is the moment this team has been working toward for a long time."

Suzanne Bellina
Belles coach

The little pieces fell perfectly into place for the Belles as each team member contributed where she saw fit. Scoring leaders Emily Creachbaum, (16 points) and Shaun Russell (15 points) kept victory within grasp while the defense, led by 5-foot-2 Katie Boyce and senior forward Kristen Matha, put the pressure on the relentless Adrian offense.

Matha was a force to be reckoned with under the basket as she totaled five rebounds, two assists and contributed four points. Boyce, though small in stature, proved herself worthy of a guard position, drawing numerous fouls by the Bulldogs and answered them by cashing in 58 percent of free throw shots.

"We knew that we weren’t executing on the important plays in the second half," said Boyce. "We needed those hustle plays to turn the game around where I thought I could help the team.

Failure to execute took its toll on the Belles as the Bulldogs fought to keep the lead in the opening minutes of the second half, leading by as much as nine points with 10:52 left on the clock.

However, the Belles stepped up, limiting Adrian to a 39 percent shooting average and a mere 14 percent in 3-point shooting.

Even when we were down, we had this ‘refuse to lose’ mentality," said Creachbaum. "Usually in that situation you kind of drag yourself along, but we were confident throughout because we knew we couldn’t lose the last game on our home court, especially for the seniors."

The Belles showed their energy when it counted, sealing the win with unbeatable accuracy late in the game and substituting in normally untapped resources.

The crowd and bench was on its feet as Barbara Kierl, limited by a knee brace, sunk a 3-pointer from deep with only 6 seconds on the clock.

"Barbara’s basket was like the icing on the cake," said Boyce. "The energy was high enough already but that just made it even better. I feel like we won a championship.

The Belles will attempt to make that championship a reality as they head into next week’s MIAA tournament.

"We’re definitely at a high point," said Bellina. "But now our focus is to be on the next couple of games. The girls are in an ‘open’ state of mind and I think they’re capable of doing what they set their minds to."

Contact Trey Williams at williams.317@nud.edu

NCAA WOMENS BASKETBALL

Connecticut wins 64th straight game

Associated Press

CORAL GABLES, Fla. — In the first half against No. 1 Connecticut, Miami did what only one other team has done during the Huskies record winning streak.

In the second half, the Hurricanes did what every other team has done — come up short.

Diana Taurasi scored 19 points, including 14 during a decisive 30-4 run, as top-ranked Connecticut extended its women’s NCAA-record winning streak to 64 games with a 81-60 victory over Miami in an NCAA women’s basketball first-round game Thursday.

"We don’t think about the streak," Taurasi said. "We don’t even know what number it’s on.

UConn has won 17 straight over Miami since a 69-51 loss in Coral Gables in 1993. The Huskies led 37-29 at halftime and have not trailed the Hurricanes since the first 3:30 of the game.

"We didn’t think about the streak," Taurasi said. "We don’t even know what number it’s on.

UConn has won 17 straight over Miami since a 69-51 loss in Coral Gables in 1993. The Huskies led 37-29 at halftime and have not trailed the Hurricanes since the first 3:30 of the game.

Kansas State 66, 56
Megan Mahoney scored 21 points and Kendra Wecker in her first ESPN game turned 48-32 at halftime.

Nicole Ohlde added 17 points for Kansas State. Mahoney also had 12 rebounds and was 7-of-10 from the foul line.

Wecker, the Big 12’s leading scorer, scored 18. She scored in double digits for the 39th straight game.

Kansas State (24-2, 11-1 Big 12) won its sixth straight and has won 19 of its last 20. The Wildcats also tied the series between the schools at 38-38.

After being down by as many as 20 early in the second half, Kansas State (13-10, 7-7), led by Smith’s 18 and 3-for-3 from the free throw line, scored 24 points on 5-for-8 shooting.

The Tigers held Kansas State without a field goal for 7:14 until Ohlde scored with 2:30 left to put the Tigers up 58-51.

Kerensa Barr led Missouri with 17 points and Eivan Amaur announced 15.

Kerensa Barr led Missouri with 17 points and Eivan Amaur announced 15.

Kansas State capitalized on poor Missouri shooting early. The Wildcats made nine of their first 14 shots to take a 21-18 lead. Despite making just two of their next 14 during the next 10 minutes, Kansas State held a 34-17 advantage at halftime.

The Tigers made eight of 28 shots in the half.

Mahoney, who had 10 points in the game’s first eight minutes, led all scorers in the first half with 13 points on 5-for-8 shooting.

Mahoney missed all eight of its 3-point attempts, including the first half, while Kansas State was 5-for-9. Despite shooting 38 percent in the first half, the Wildcats outscored the Jayhawks 24-17.

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Take the Opportunity to Open Your Mind

The Observer ● SPORTS

page 21
A Crazy Kind of Love

by Chandra Johnson
Assistant to the President & Assistant Director, Cross Cultural Ministry

I’ve been reading Donald Spoto’s book, Reluctant Saint: The Life of Francis of Assisi, and there’s a phrase in Chapter 3 that I can’t get out of my mind. When speaking of Francis’ penances and odd asceticism, Spoto writes that “…saints are in fact heroically in love, and like lovers, they sometimes become eccentric, and even overstep themselves; holiness does not preclude humanity, after all.” I’m struck by this phrase because it helps me to understand why we oftentimes make saints out of crazy people. Maybe they’re not crazy, after all. They’re just in love—with God.

Being in love makes you do odd things. Like talking on the telephone for hours at a time. Or being distracted all day by the image of the one who makes you feel all sweet inside. Or replaying the moment you first met over and over in your mind. Maybe this is what Francis felt when, in 1205, he encountered Jesus at San Damiano and knew it was real. He felt all sweet inside and knew he had to share this sweetness with other people. He began doing crazy things and people saw in him what they didn’t see in themselves: holy boldness and peace which surpassed all human understanding.

If you walked through LaFortune last Tuesday at about noon, you would have heard horns honking (or maybe you thought someone let the ducks inside). As I stood at the elevator, someone handed me a horn that said, “Honk if you love Jesus! Come to Interfaith Christian Night Prayer.” I remember thinking, “If I honk this horn, the boards of people packed into LaFortune will notice me and think I’m drawing attention to myself.” I grabbed the horn, thanked him and dashed into the elevator. I stood there alone with this horn in my hand and suddenly I found myself slowly squeezing its rubber bulb. Honk...honk. This display of affection was my private, demur response to loving Jesus. I honked the horn with nobody around.

These are interesting times in our church and world as the human spirit is being tried and tested, and loyalties are being stretched in every imaginable direction. Looking for God in the midst of this global upheaval is a natural response to our fears. It may be time to honk for Jesus; to realign our contemporary Christian views with those of the early Christians who knew Jesus was in love with them and who waited with bated breath for his return. As they waited, they retold the story of how he loved them. In a politically and spiritually tumultuous time, they loved him unconditionally regardless of the chaos. Their faith was central, and they were confident of its potential for transformation and healing. As we hear daily talk of war and economic and political unrest around the world, maybe now’s the time to open ourselves to falling in love with God’s love. It’s risky business, though. Nobody wants to be perceived as a Jesus freak or national dissident. When we open ourselves to a “crazy kind of love” which promotes human dignity and equality through open dialogue and considerate compromise, people will recognize the justice and tell the story.

As we hear daily talk of war, maybe now’s the time to open ourselves to falling in love with God’s love. It’s risky business, though. Nobody wants to be perceived as a Jesus freak or national dissident. When we open ourselves to a “crazy kind of love” which promotes human dignity and equality through open dialogue and considerate compromise, people will recognize the justice and tell the story. I looked for the Interfaith horn the other day and couldn’t find it. I probably put it down somewhere and someone picked it up. I hope so. Even more, I hope they follow the directions and honk, pray, and shout loudly for the love of Jesus. Like Francis, we’re after the sweetness of God’s affection in our lives. Once we’re open to receiving it, we will be changed and so will the world. Once we master the sacredness and treasure of our common humanity, the holiness will come. And they’ll know we are Christians by our love.
Men's
continued from page 28
Big East team the Irish have competed against this season. At the Notre Dame Invitational in early December, the Mountaineers placed third while the Irish came in first. Mountaineer senior Kleyton Franca is a standout and a returning winner in the 200 free. Other tough teams this week-end will be Boston College and Seton Hall. The Eagles came into the championships on a roll, having won seven of their last eight meets. Their top swimmer is sophomore Tim Tully, who has times of 1:49.20 in the 200 breaststroke and 1:50.20 in the 200 freestyle. For Seton Hall, the 2002-2003 season has been a breakthrough. The team holds a record of 11-3 overall, which is the first winning record in school history.

In the diving competition, Georgetown's duo of Michael Kier and Alan Fong has the two best scores for the 1-meter event. Miami, strong in past championships, will look to Kyle Prandi and Miguel Velazquez to perform well.

For the Irish, Fitzpatrick is ranked in the top three for both the 100 and 200 breast-strokes. Junior Matt Grzegorczyk has strong times in the 100, 200 and 500 freestyles. Matt Bertke, a senior, and Patrick Davis are co-standouts in the 1,650 free, as is Doug Homan in the 100 backstroke.

"We'll go out and outperform the rest of the teams in the Big East. We'll prove they're wrong about us."

Jason Fitzpatrick
Irish swimmer

Women's
continued from page 28
Lisa Garcia. "We can't walk into this meet and expect it to grant- ed, (given the fact) we've been the top two Big East champs."

Weathers agrees.

"The girls are confident in terms of being able to swim well, but it's going to be a pretty big challenge for us," he said.
The five-time Big East Coach of the Year said Pittsburgh, Virginia Tech and Rutgers all present a similar threat to the defending champions.
The Irish mark of 797 points last season dwarfed a 672.5 first-place 2001-02 effort, but did not quite reach the 829.5 points the team amassed in 2000. Last year's team, however, dominated across the board while showing special strength in the relays.

Individual champions included Carrie Nixon in the 50 freestyle, Kelly Hecking in the 100 and 200 backstroke and Allison Lloyd in the 200 breaststroke.

In the relays, Hecking, Lloyd, Lisa O'Doyle and Nixon set Big East records in the 200 medley relay (1:39.93) and the 400 medley relay (3:40.98).

"The competition doesn't expect too much of us. We're going to surprise them."

Jason Fitzpatrick
Irish swimmer

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Irish
continued from page 28
we got a seventh seed and our RPI wasn't nearly as good as it is now. So if we can win our first two Big East tournament and win a game or two and get to 19 wins - although I think that 18 wins will get us in - but if we get 19 or 20 wins, we'll get a better seed.

"That's why the Irish might be better off finishing sixth in the league so they wouldn't have to face Connecticut until later in the tournament."

But now, Notre Dame is focusing on playing Connecticut, then battling Pittsburgh at the Joyce Center the following Tuesday. After that, the Irish face Seton Hall at home and finish the season against Syracuse Lebanon. Missions
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MENS TENNIS

Irish narrowly escape Spartans

By JOE LINDSEY
Sports Writer

For the fifth time in eight matches this season, it came down to the wire for the Irish. And for the second time, junior Luis Haddock was cast in the spotlight during the tense final minutes. Haddock responded, winning the deciding match Wednesday at Michigan State and leading the Irish to their third win in their past four matches. With the conquering of the 70th-ranked Spartans, No. 44 Notre Dame began to leave behind memories of its 0-4 start as the team improved to 3-5 for the spring season.

I don’t think any of us expected it to come down to the third set of the final match, but that’s the beauty of college tennis.”
Matt Scott
Irish tri-captain

Wednesday Haddock triumphed 6-4, 7-6 (7-5), 7-2, and the Irish earned the victory. "Luis is a really clutch player," Scott said. "He’s the guy you want to have on the court when it comes to the deciding match." Haddock responded, because he’ll do anything to bring home a win for us, and he did that today," Scott had two victories for the Irish—one in doubles play with sophomore Brent D’Amico and one in singles play. After Scott and D’Amico’s 8-2 triumph at the No. 1 doubles flight, though, the Spartans claimed No. 2 and No. 3 doubles, and secured the first point of the match. Then, the Spartans’ Goran Topalo defeated Irish senior Brian Farrell in 6-1, 6-2, 6-4, as he registered a 6-4, 7-5 win over Eric Simonton. Junior Nicolas Lopez-Acevedo, a transfer from Bowling Green, tied up the match with his 6-1, 2-6, 6-4 defeat of Jimmy McGaule. Finally, with the match tied up, Haddock, ranked 72nd nationally, triumphed over Michigan State’s Andy Formancyzk.

While the Irish were a little surprised that the match was so close in the end, the team had expected some difficult play from the Spartans. “We expected a tough match,” Scott said. "They’re very competitive. They played very hard.” The Irish have now defeated the Spartans 14 consecutive times. But more applicable for this season, Notre Dame is feeling it has recovered from the early season struggle. “I think guys are getting more and more confident,” Scott said. A primary concern for Notre Dame has been doubles play, and the young Irish squad is still trying to gain experience. Yet big lineup changes are not likely. “If we change [the lineup] too much it might not give guys a chance to settle in,” Scott said. Saturday the Irish will face No. 40 Northwestern at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. “We’re expecting a battle,” Scott said. "They have some very good players at the top of the lineup. It’s a team that’s good enough to beat us if we’re not on top of our game.”

Contact Joe Lindsey at jlindsey@nd.edu

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BENGAL BOUTS 125-145 weight class

Four fights in 140-pound class include intrahall clash

♦ No preliminary round fights for 125-pound class

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Editor

With only 12 boxers in the weight class, the top four boxers receive byes into the quarterfinals, leaving the 140-pound division with only four preliminary fights tonight.

Freshman Matt Conn fights junior Chip Marks in the matchup of the eight and nine seeds. The winner of that fight gets junior and top seed Tony Hallowell, who lost in the semifinals last year to eventual 135-pound champion T.J. D’Agostino.

Moreau Seminary student Stephen Davidson faces junior Matt Welsh in another preliminary fight. That winner draws fourth-seeded Joe Schmidlin in the quarterfinals.

An intrahall fight between Dillon Hall residents senior Kevin Hool and freshman Edward Liva will take place in the bottom half of the 140-pound bracket. Hool lost in the first-round last year. The winner of the Hool-Liva fight will face senior Bill Wuest Sunday.

The final preliminary fight is between junior Mark Pfizenmayer and sophomore Adrian Velez. That victor draws second seed Christopher Hoffman.

145 pounds

In the 145-pound division, top seed Luke Dillon looks to use his experience from his loss in the quarterfinals to former senior Matt Fumagalli and make a run at the title. Dillon dropped a narrow split decision to Fumagalli last year in the 135-pound division. The junior from Zahm will face Stephen Hill in the preliminaries.

The winner of that bout will face the winner of junior Andrew Sylling and freshman John Piposar.

Junior Joseph Shonkwiler draws Paul Harris in another preliminary bout. Shonkwiler lost in the first round last year.

The winner of the Shonkwiler-Harris fight will get the winner of the Paul Robinson-Timothy Sims bout.

In the other half of the bracket, senior Jeffrey Ham faces business graduate student Andrew Schoppe in the first round. The winner of that bout gets the winner of the fight between sophomore Timothy Huml and Jon Streit. Huml won his first-round match last year.

The last two preliminary round fights in the 145-pound weight class are between freshman David DeBoer and Robert Murphy and law student John Vaglio.

125 pounds

With only seven fighters in the 125-pound weight class, no preliminary round fights are necessary and their fights will begin Sunday with three quarterfinal round fights. Senior and defending champion Shawn Newberg received a bye into Wednesday’s semi-final round.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

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BENGAL BOUTS 150-165 WEIGHT CLASS

150-pound class sports toughest field in preliminaries

By LUKE BUSAM
Sports Writer

With no dominating captain and no bye granted to any fighter, the 150-pound weight class is arguably the most competitive class this year in Bengal Bouts. Juan Diego Vargas, who is fighting in his first Bengal Bouts this year, but who is not his first experience with the boxing. His performance in practice and in sparring earned him the No. 1 seed for his division. Vargas' excellent hooks and the ease with which he switches from lead to body are evidence of his previous ring experience. Vargas, from Spain, fights Jonathan Lorenzo, an O'Neill sophomore from the Philippines, who is also participating in their first Bengal Bouts. Lorenzo has wanted to fight in the Bouts since last April and looks forward to tonight's matchup.

The second fight in this competitive division pits Steven Arevalo from Keough against Hats Bielp from Alumni. Both are sophomores who are participating in their first Bengal Bouts this year. Bielp's nickname is "Blitzkrieg" and he says he is going to "step in the ring and show everyone what the light-warring is all about."

Zahm sophomore Christopher Koegel, also fighting in his first Bengal Bouts will face Ryan Kohoff from Alumni. Both are freshman in last year's Bengal Bouts, beating Ted Volo in the preliminaries and losing a hard battle to last year's 145-pound champion, Tamir Tshay in the quarterfinals.

Craig Cardillo, a Stanford freshman will face an experienced fighter in his bout against left-hander Jon Prinzl. Prinzl, a junior from Alumni, is fighting in his third Bengal Bouts this year. Last year Prinzl beat Matt Seidler in the preliminaries but lost in the quarterfinals to Sam Fushuk after knocking him down in the first round.

Brian Gasser, an Alumni junior, received good reviews in his sparring sessions. He brings several years of experience to this year's bouts. He lost a split decision to Daniel McCoy as a freshman in the preliminaries and advanced to the quarterfinals as a sophomore. He lost a tough battle against Mike Melby in the 155-pound division. Gasser faces Luke McClellan, a Knott senior and a first-year boxer.

Bobby Gornyvski, a sophomore from St. Francis faces Ryan Steeke, an O'Neill sophomore. It is both fighters' first year in Bengal Bouts.

Dan Schorr, a Keough sophomore will battle Chase Heston, a sophomore from Keenan. The winner of that fight will face either Matt Dowling or No. 2 seed Nathan Lohmeyer.

Matt Dowling, sophomore from O'Neill, will face the experienced sophomore, Nathan Lohmeyer. Lohmeyer lost to Tshay in the 145-pound champ last year, in the semifinals of last year's division. Lohmeyer's place this year is a simple one: "Go balls to the wall, all the way."

150 pounds

While the 155-pound division also features no captain, Mike Melby an off-campus senior, is the favorite. Melby is a strong, experienced fighter with several years of training behind him. As a sophomore Melby advanced to the semifinals as a sophomore. He lost a split decision to Julian Devoe. Kerrigan has improved this year, throwing harder and straighter in his sparring sessions.

Mark Bassola, a Keough freshman, will touch gloves with Ryan Morton, a sophomore from Sorin. Both are first-year fighters.

Our Dame law student Jeff Christofferson faces Galen Loughrey, a sophomore from Dillon. Loughrey fought well in his preliminary match last year against Mike Ponzio and is one of the top seeded fighters in his division.

Stephen Keppel, an off-campus senior, is making his return to the Bengal Bouts after going abroad last spring to London. As a sophomore, Keppel lost in the quarterfinals to Tom Pierce, who went on to win the 155-pound division that year. Pierce has also returned from London this year and is a senior captain. Keppel says he is excited to get back in the ring this year.

"The captains have been really helpful and I'm excited to go out tomorrow night," Keppel said.

Keppel's hooks and ability to box are the most noticeable during this match. He says he is going to "fight smart and put all the practice and hard work to use."

Tommy excellent 160-pound boxer is Bill Phillips, a junior from Sorin. Last year, Phillips fought in the 170-pound weight class. Where he advanced to the quarterfinals before losing to Matt Knust in the 170-pound division.

Mark DeSplinter in the quarterfinals last year. DeSplinter beat Chris MacClugage in the next bout of the 160-pound division. This year Enterline is one of the strongest boxers in his weight class and is "looking to fight smart and put all the practice and hard work to use."

Another excellent 160-pounder is Bill Phillips, a junior from Sorin. Last year, Phillips fought in the 170-pound weight class. Where he advanced to the quarterfinals before losing to Matt Knust in the 170-pound division.

The next fight in 160 pairs up two experienced boxers, neither of whom made it past the preliminaries last year. Chris Milliron a sophomore form Sorin lost to Matt Knust in the 170-pound weight class last year and Mike McDonald an off-campus senior lost to Matt Seidler in the 165-pound division last year. The winner of this fight will advance to meet Charlie Gough in the quarterfinals.

Ross Bartels, a junior from O'Neill, will face Dillon junior Brent Burish. Burish fought in the 160-pound division last year and lost to Pat Dillon the in first round. As a freshman, Burish lost a tough match to Mark Orr in the 175-pound class.

"I hope to make it deeper into the tournament this year and possibly get a rematch with Dillon," said Burish.

Contact Luke Busam at busam@nd.edu
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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep your access to yourself today. Your reputation may be ruined if you have been involved in something that you are not proud of. You have to take a major change in your professional life. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll look good in the eyes of others today. Take a peaceful dance where it comes to your beliefs. Social activities and romance should be highlighted today. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will be happy with the things you choose to do. Avoid dealing by including others in your activities. You will pick up information today that will enable you to advance professionally. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Love interests are present, however, the turmoil you are experiencing is self-consuming. Pull yourself away from the stress and spend time enjoying your own. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Travel and communication should be on your agenda. Take a break from your regular routine. You don't have to be the center of attention all the time. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make your move and speak your mind. If someone interests you, tell THEM. You will get the response you are looking for This is a do-it-locustine.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Find your own little space, free from the dilamagium that surrounds you. You have the ability to look at all sides of a situation and, given the right setting, you will find a solution in whatever is bothering you. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be prepared to deal with people who are judgmental. If you are prepared to defend yourself, you won't need to; we'll make a defense of you. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your help will be valued, so offer assistance to someone who is in dire need. Don't feel limited if you can't physically travel. Mental gains will be gratifying.***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Desperation is in the picture, so don't believe everything that you're told. Read between the lines and ask pertinent questions. Don't expect to see your favor today.***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your creative ideas will rise to the surface today. The new friends you make today will be important to your future direction and accomplishment.****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The changes you make to yourself, your home or that's home to ESPN*


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BIG EAST SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Headed for stormy waters

• Men are underdogs, but hope to surprise

By LISA REIJULA
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame mens swimming and diving team will be playing the role of the underdog at this season's Big East Championships. The meet will be held Thursday through Saturday at the Nassau County Aquatic Center in Uniondale, N.Y. The Irish will be looking to make a statement in a strong and competitive field. The team is aware of their underdog status going into the Championships. "The competition doesn't expect too much of us," senior Jason Fitzpatrick said. "We're going to surprise them.

The heavy favorite to win the meet is No. 16 Pittsburgh. The Panthers are on a streak having recently achieved their highest national ranking ever. Pittsburgh has also won the last six straight Big East titles and seven in the last 10 years. Returning for the Panthers this year are four 2002 Big East individual winners. Mike Grube (50, 100 freestyle), Randy Gertenbach (100, 200 breaststroke), Kenny Shellhorse (200 backstroke) and Eric Limkemann (500 and 1,650 freestyle, 400 IM).

The Irish faced the Panthers in Philadelphia Jan. 18, losing 183-58. However, Notre Dame defeated another Big East foe, Villanova, at the same meet 168-68.

West Virginia is the only other team is aware of their underdog status and competitive field. The team is going to surprise them.

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A Notre Dame diver plunges towards the water at the Rolfs Aquatic Center. The Irish swimming squads are competing in the Big East Championships this week.

• Three-quarters of roster qualifies for conference tournament

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

There are 31 swimmers and divers on the Notre Dame mens swimming roster.

Twenty-five have qualified for the Big East championships this weekend. Following a conference restructuring three years ago, individual swimmers now must score below a certain time to qualify for the championships. Previously, coaches picked the best 18 swimmers to travel.

"The Big East made a change across the board in sports and reduced the field to improve the quality of the meet," said Irish coach Bailey Weathers. "It's much better not having to pick."

The airfare may be more expensive for the Irish, but that is a small price to pay for three-quarters of its roster at the Big East Championships on Thursday through Saturday in Uniondale, N.Y. The team travels to Uniondale for the fifth consecutive season and returns as the favorite in its quest for a seventh straight championship.

The key for Notre Dame, according to players and coaches, is to stay calm and focused. The pressure will be on the team that scored 797 points overall last season, 274.5 points more than a second-place Rutgers squad.

"This year, Big East is going to be a tough meet for us," said junior

see MENS/page 23

ND WOMENS BASKETBALL

Notre Dame closing in on NCAA tournament berth

• 18 wins should get Irish in tourney

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Editor

The magic number is 18. Notre Dame (15-8, 7-5) has four regular season games remaining and at least one Big East tournament game to achieve 18 wins, which Irish head coach Muffet McGraw thinks will secure the team a berth in the NCAA Tournament.

Three of the Irish's final four games are against teams ranked below them in the conference standings. The only game Notre Dame will be the underdog in will be this Sunday when the Irish face No. 1 Connecticut. McGraw said the team needs to focus on one game at a time and hopefully gain more confidence heading into the conference tournament.

"We're in really good shape right now," McGraw said. "Really, right now, all we're thinking about is playing well. We're getting a good string of games where we're feeling good about the way we're playing. We just want to head into Big East tournament feeling confident and good about the way we're playing."

The Irish have won four of their last five games. Notre Dame has several factors working in its favor. Their RPI of 25 is a major asset. The rating takes several areas of a team's profile into account, such as schedule strength and record against ranked opponents. While the team is 1-6 against top 50 RPI ranked teams, Notre Dame has dominated teams rated between 51-100, compiling a 6-1 record against these opponents.

Notre Dame also has played well against teams that have poor RPI rankings, and this also helps their overall chance at achieving a berth in the Tournament.

McGray said this year's team has a better RPI than last year's and could have more wins after the Big East tournament is over.

"Last year we were 16-9 and..." see IRISH/page 23

SMC BASKETBALL

Saint Mary's 71
Arizona 58

The Bellies put an end to their 12-game losing streak in their final home game at the Angela Athletic Facility.

MENS AND WOMENS SWIMMING

Big East Championships

Feb. 20-22

Both the mens and womens teams are traveling to Uniondale, N.Y., to compete in the Big East championships this week.

MENS TENNIS

Notre Dame 4
Michigan State 3

The Irish win their third match in their past four contests as they narrowly defeat the Spartans.

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