Hundreds of Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and South Bend community members attended a Mass held Tuesday at Sacred Heart Basilica in memory of Chad Sharon. Many Mass-goers came in advance of the service to offer condolences to Steve and Jane Sharon, Chad’s parents.

By TERESA FRALISH
Assistant News Editor

Hundreds of Notre Dame students and staff have signed a petition opposing the war in Iraq, according to CSC Voice editor Helana Payne.

Payne said the students wanted to get a wide cross-section of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s community from freshmen to University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh, who was the first to sign the petition.

"The great thing about this ad is we have all these people who have their own reasons for opposing this war," Laracy said.

One reason petitioners repeated in multiple interviews with The Observer was just war theory. A theory rooted in St. Augustine’s writings, it purports to draw up criteria for the declaration of war. In general, just war theory holds that war should be a last resort, but if it is comes from the right authority for the proper reasons, it can sometimes be validated. A just war must also have a reasonable chance of success, a fitting means to achieving the end and as few civilian deaths as possible.

"I don’t think a pre-emptive attack follows a just war," said Father Tom Bednar, rector of Zahm Hall and director of cross-cultural ministries for Campus Ministry.

Bednar said he signed the petition because he felt the American public should speak out against the Bush administration’s support of a U.S.-led war against Iraq.

"There are certain times when we can’t be silent," Bednar said.

Propponents of the war have said that Iraqi president Saddam Hussein has violated United Nations resolutions for the last 12 years by harboring weapons of mass destruction.

However, since Iraq has not declared war on the United States, many, such as Ball, believe a pre-emptive strike would be inappropriate.

"Attacking Iraq under the pretense of enforcing an United Nations objective would be in and of itself violating a United Nations objective," she said, citing the non-aggression proviso of the UN charter.

Philosophy professor Gary Gutting also signed the petition, saying even if Hussein "probably does" have biological arms and weapons of mass destruction, there is no eminent danger.

"Congress is obviously unwilling to stand up to the administration," he said. "The American public has to make its own statements.

The students who organized the petition said they have not yet made plans as to what they will do with the signatures but they said they hope their published petition makes a strong statement against a war in Iraq.

Contact Helana Payne at payne.30@nd.edu

Disability week kicks off with talk

By AMANDA ROTHEY
News Writer

The Office of Student Disabilities and Best Buddies kicked off Disability Awareness Week Tuesday night with "Life After College," a discussion aimed at offering students with disabilities advice and experiences to ease their transition into post-graduate life.

Laura Hoffman, a junior political science major, led the talk by sharing her experience as an intern for the Justice Department in Washington, D.C. Hoffman, who has difficulty reading small print because of a vision impairment, emphasized that disabled students must take the initiative to find services that can enhance their independence.

"You have to be your own advocate and take the initiative to ask for accommodations," she said.

Psychology professor Kathy Gibney relayed her struggle to overcome dyslexia at a time when few educators understood learning disabilities. Using self-created study techniques, Gibney persisted through college and eventually earned her master's degree in counseling.

After a car accident that placed him in a wheelchair the summer before his junior year at Notre Dame, Adam Sargent reevaluated his focus. Sargent, a varsity lacrosse player before the accident, eventually graduated and went on to work for Academic Services for Student Athletes and pursue a master’s degree in mental health counseling.

"Don’t limit your choices," Sargent told the group. "But be realistic about the environment you put yourself in."

Hoffman also discussed the importance of understanding the rights afforded to people with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Under the ADA, employers cannot discriminate against disabled persons and must provide accommodations for disabilities.

Disability Awareness Week continues today with a panel discussion entitled "Experiences of Students with Disabilities: Parents, Children, Siblings, Adults," at 7 p.m. at the Center for Social Concerns.

Contact Amanda Rothey at arothy@nd.edu
Hey, don't you all want to go... where nobody knows your name, but they're always glad you came? No. I don't mean the 'Backer, Finnigans, House?'

...or even the sinking Heartland, Corby's or even the sinking Boat. Oh, and I suppose to the shameless rip-off of one of the greatest TV shows ever. Anyway, there's a place, well, thousands of places all across America that strike a chord in the hearts of those who know it. After all, where else can you get awesome brownies in the wee hours of the morning except at Waffle House?

Waffle Houses across the country have a share of antics that would do any local bar or campus dorm proud. Well, maybe not proud exactly, but I think there's some similarities there. For instance, one proud Doser once walked confidently into a Waffle House "store," placed his order, and then asked for a pitcher of syrup. The waitress gave him an odd look, but produced the goods. Evidently taste-challenged, our young man promptly picked up the pitcher, cocked it back, and downed it in one swig, provoking both abject laughter and a hearty tip, presumably to avoid being run off the premises.

While this may be one person's "Once upon a Waffle House" story, another took it far too literally. Following the consumption of a glass of hot water, our completely sober subject hopped atop the bar counter, singing "Oh, hash browns, oh, hash browns, we stick our fork in thee!" I had the unfortunate pleasure of witnessing this event, and while it was hilarious, eating half a ham and cheese sandwich in the parking lot proved not so amusing.

If your tastes stray more towards staying inside the restaurant, however, there's still plenty to do. Just find a random waitress and a random group of young people, and say the following: "So there was this guy in a bar, right? He looks at the bartender and says, 'Piece of bread.' Proceed to laugh like crazy, at which point, the waitress and the group of people will begin to laugh too, acting like they get your joke that wasn't really a joke. If you play this one right, it will get you far — maybe not rich, but just out to lunch."

I prefer to start out on the street and end up inside a Waffle House, myself. I've ended up in three or four of them in one night, driving all over southern Ohio for the hash browns. It's all about the hash browns, if you're a diehard Waffle House. Beware of ending up getting lost and ending up in the parking lot of a Lions Den, though. It's been known to happen to a few poor lost souls who only wanted to find Magic Mountain and then get a double order of hash browns and some more bowls, covered, chunked, topped, diced and peppered.

The views expressed in the Inside Columns are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Will Puckett at willpukett@nd.edu.

**Corrections**

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-2, so we can correct our error.

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**WHAT'S UP**

**WHAT'S HAPPENING @ ND**

- Exhibition: Contemporary Impressions: Art by Native American Artists, Snite Museum of Art, all day

- Student Senate: Jesse Norman of OIT, LaFortune Notre Dame Room, 6 p.m.

- Panel discussion: With Special Needs: Students, Parents, Children, Siblings, Adults, Center for Social Concerns, 7 p.m.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING @ SMC**

- ND/SMC Tax-Assistance Program, Haggard College Center, 3 p.m.

- Accreditation Celebration, Noble Family Dining Hall, 4 p.m.

- Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting, Madelcva Hall, 7 p.m.

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**WHAT'S COOKING**

North Dining Hall

**Today Lunch:** Buffalo chicken lasagna, Hawaiian pizza, roast top round, champagne rice pilaf, turkey gravy, cherry crisp, baked baeon jalapeño pollocc, cheese and vegetable pita, broccoli roti, sliced carrots, winter-bland vegetables, oatmeal, bacon, scrambled eggs, sausage gravy and biscuits, hash brown, cherry crisp, snow peas and noodles with soy dressing, black beans with tomato and cilantro.

South Dining Hall

**Today Lunch:** Pasta shells primavera, fettucine, french bread pizza, turkey turnovers, London broil with wine marinade, ceddar-baked-potato, shrimp creole, grilled turkey sandwich, crinkle fries, soft pretzel, chicken teriyaki, portobello fajita, chicken cacciatore

**Today Dinner:** French bread pizza, roast top round, oven-fried chicken, grilled polish sausage, rotini with vegetables, polish-style-kielki noodles, cabbage, honey-mustard chicken, french pressed fries, onion rings, chinese noodles and snow peas with soy dressing, flashbread beef pizza

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**WHAT'S GOING DOWN**

**Harrassment complaint filed**

NSUS's investigating a harassment complaint that was reported Friday at WNDU.

**Employee loses decals**

A University employee reported losing two parking decals at an off-campus location Friday.

**Student loses decals**

A student reported losing her wallet outside DeBartolo Hall Thursday at approximately 2 p.m.

**Trespasser charged with misdemeanor**

The prosecution's office charged the suspect who trespassed in Nieuwland Science Hall on Feb. 13 with a Class A Misdemeanor Criminal Trespass Thursday.

**-compiled from the NDSP crime blotter**

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**LOCAL WEATHER**

**TODAY**

**TOMORROW**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**

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Activist Victor Lewis shares stories of inequality

By SARAH NESTOR

Activist Victor Lewis shared his thoughts on a variety of topics during his talk Wednesday, February 26, 2003, in Stapleton Lounge. Lewis began by likening society to a boat, using the analogy throughout his talk.

"First and foremost, every single human being, you and me, is in the same boat," he said. "We're all on the same boat but we are not all on the same deck [of the boat]."

Having established that all humans are on the same boat and intrinsically connected, Lewis added the problem of a hole in the bottom of that boat.

"If there is a hole anywhere, especially in the bottom of the boat, then there is a problem for everyone," Lewis said. "It is just the people closest to the hole who have a more urgent problem."

"Holes," or problems, in society that he discussed included white privilege and male supremacy. Lewis shared his own personal encounters with both instances. Lewis, who grew up in Cleveland, said he did not have any direct encounters with prejudice until he was 11, when he said he changed schools and was one of a few African-American children in his class. According to Lewis, his new teachers assumed he was dumb, which pushed him to achieve more.

"I became intellectually deficient," Lewis said, "whereby it became a process of me being praised for being so articulate."

Once in college, Lewis, who considered himself an intelligent person, discovered feminism and the existence of a male privilege.

"My ignorance of the condition of women's lives made me ignorant of my own life," Lewis said. To change this, Lewis began to read and learn about the struggles women face. According to Lewis, women do 70 percent of the world's work but only earn 10 percent of the world's wages. Lewis also added that the No. 1 reason in America that women visit the emergency room is because they are victims of domestic abuse.

"There has been a breach on the U.S.S. Gender," Lewis said. "The more comfortable your seat on the boat than the more likely you are to think the boat is fine."

On Lewis' boat, the people on the top deck have the most intimate knowledge of the hole, but that does not mean that the people on the top deck are not in danger.

"Diversity is important to you, whether you know it or like it, because everything and everybody you love is threatened," Lewis said.

Lewis points to a hierarchical system of education that perpetuates prejudices and slows change. According to Lewis, knowledge flows from those who have a Ph.D. to those who have a master's degree, to those who have a bachelor's degree, etc. Those with the most education are the most likely to make decisions, not listening to those with the least amount of education.

"We live in a culture that assumes that knowledge comes from the top down," Lewis said. Instead, Lewis pointed again to the boat analogy, where the people at the top of the boat and the captain have the most authority but the people at the bottom and next to the hole have most intimate knowledge about the hole.

According to Lewis, there are four antidotes to the barriers of diversity: service, sacrifice, struggle, and solidarity.

Lewis sees the solidarity of humanity as being threatened if a war with Iraq was to occur. He pointed to the solidarity of humans that occurred when worldwide demonstrations were recently organized.

"I'm very pleased by the focus group that came out and marched before Washington," Lewis said. "They were unprecedented, spontaneous, internationally, uniformly, unified people."

Lewis was involved and led the race relations documentary "The Color of Fear" and is also the co-author with Hugh Vasquez of "Beyond the Color of Fear: Dismantling Racism." He is currently the Director of the Center for Diversity Leadership.

The Saint Mary's Office of Multicultural Affairs sponsored Lewis' talk. He also presented a lecture sponsored by the Notre Dame Office of Multicultural Student Programs and Services earlier in the day at the University.

Contact Sarah Nestor at neo987@stmarys.edu

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Mass
continued from page 1

farting words." At the end of the Mass, Notre Dame sophomore Danita Altfiillisch, who attended high school with Sharon in Merrill, Wis., read a letter that Sharon’s parents had written to their only child. The Sharnons addressed the letter “to the best son a parent could ever hope for” and said that they hoped they would make their sons proud. Cédric Alvarez, Sharon’s resident assistant in Fisher Hall, also spoke at the end of the Mass about his memo­ries of Sharon. “[His] smile earned him the nickname on the third floor of Fisher Hall as Smiling Chad,” said Alvarez.

Malloy also noted that Sharon would receive his diploma posthu­mously at graduation ceremonies for the class of 2006, continuing in the tradition of award­ing degrees to Notre Dame students who died.

Funeral services for the Fisher freshman were held Feb. 22 at Bible Presbyterian Church near Sharon’s hometown.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu

Autopsy
continued from page 1

0.18 to 0.224. Rakow said it would be diffi­cult to tell how an alcohol level like the one reported in Sharon’s body might impair an individual’s judgment.

“It just depends on the person,” said Rakow. “I don’t think you can make any general­izations.”

Sharon’s body was discov­ered Feb. 12 under the Angela Bridge in the St. Joseph River. Sharon had been missing since Dec. 12 and was last seen by friends at an off-cam­pus party on Corby Street at 2 a.m. on Dec. 12. A Madison Center Hospital employee later reported speaking with Sharon around 4 a.m. The Madison Center is located farther away from campus than the party Sharon had attended.

Throughout the investiga­tion, police felt that foul play was not involved in Sharon’s dis­appearance or death. Magdalinski said the involvement of the coroner’s office in the case is over unless there are major developments, but the St. Joseph County Metro Homicide Police will continue their investigation into the circumstances of Sharon’s death.

“It’s primarily closed but the County Metro Homicide Police are still going to be conduct­ing an investiga­tion. They’re still investigating some informa­tion that was given to them. ”

Magdalinski said without specifying what the informa­tion was.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu

A memorial Mass was celebrated Tuesday in Sacred Heart Basilica for Chad Sharon, whose body was found Feb. 12 in the St. Joseph River.

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Wednesday, February 26th
8-11 PM
The Huddle, LaFortune

1-5323 is the number to call if you want News.
NEW YORK

Iraq is providing new information about its weapons and has reported the discovery of two bombs, including one possibly filled with a biological agent — moves that the chief U.N. weapons inspector said Tuesday signal real cooperation.

Prominent nuclear expert, predicted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein would want "to fool the world one more time" by revealing the existence of weapons he has previously denied having. He urged the United Nations to take U.S. action against Iraq.

With the Security Council deeply divided over whether Iraq has squandered a final opportunity to disarm, Canada was going to circulate a proposal to council members Tuesday proposing a series of benchmarks Iraq would have to meet by the end of March. The council would then be asked to vote on whether Iraq was complying with its U.N. obligations.

Canada, which isn't on the Security Council, circulated a document to council members Tuesday proposing a series of benchmarks that seeks U.N. authorization for war; and a French-Russian-German proposal to strengthen weapons inspections and continue them at least until July.

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Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Blix sees Iraqi information as signal of cooperation

Associated Press

Iraq has informed arms inspectors of 100 documents concerning weapons of mass destruction. Iraq maintains the missiles don't exceed the limit and has asked for technical talks. But Blix said the issue was not open for debate. Saturday is also the deadline for Blix's next written report. He is then due before the council on March 7 with U.N. nuclear chief Mohamed ElBaradei. A key issue for many countries is deciding on war or more inspections in Iraq's cooperation with U.N. weapons inspectors.

The helicopter was one of two V Corps helicopters participating in the exercise. The other returned safely.

On Jan. 30, a SH-60, an adapted version of the Black Hawk, crashed in a training mission seven miles east of Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan. Four members of an elite aviation regiment were killed.

More than 70,000 U.S. troops are training in the Kuwaiti desert in preparation for a possible invasion of Iraq. President Bush has threatened to use force to disarm Baghdad of weapons of mass destruction if it does not do so voluntarily according to U.N. resolutions. Iraq denies it has such weapons.

KUWAIT

4 U.S. troops die in chopper crash over Kuwaiti desert

Associated Press

KUWAIT CITY

A U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopter on night training crashed Tuesday in the Kuwaiti desert, killing all four crew members, U.S. military officials said.

The Pentagon identified those killed Tuesday as Spec. Rodrigo Gonzalez-Garza, 26, of Texas; Chief Warrant Officer Timothy M. Moehling, 35, of Florida; Chief Warrant Officer John D. Mullen, 42, of Nevada; and Spec. William J. Tracy, 27, of New Hampshire.

Kuwaiti army spokesman Col. Youssef al-Mulla said the helicopter went down in bad weather. Sandstorms and high winds were reported overnight and continued Tuesday afternoon.

The helicopter was part of the 158th Aviation Regiment, 5th Battalion, of the 12th Aviation Brigade based in Giebelstadt, Germany. The group is attached to V Corps' 11th Attack Helicopter Regiment, which is part of some 9,000 troops from the corps deployed as part of the recent U.S. buildup. It includes a headquarters unit commanded by Gen. William Wallace. The corps spokesman Bill Roche said from Germany, that it was still too early to speculate about a cause of the crash.

"A V Corps safety team is already on site, and then additional people are coming in from the U.S. Army Safety Center in Fort Rucker, Ala.," Roche said. The bodies are expected to be brought back to Germany, Roche said.

World News Briefs

N. Korea warns of possible U.S. attack: North Korea urged its military and people to be ready for a U.S. attack, a South Korean news agency reported Wednesday, quoting a statement from the communist government. The North's Foreign Ministry issued a statement late Tuesday accusing the United States of planning massive war games in the Korean Peninsula in preparation to attack South Korea.

Teenagers said to drink a 5th of U.S. alcohol: Underage drinkers account for nearly 20 percent of the alcohol consumed in the United States each year, a study says. Attempting to correct biased statistics they released a year ago, researchers from Columbia University's National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse analyzed three sets of data from 1999 and said underage drinking amounted to 19.7 percent of alcohol consumed that year, or $22.5 billion. The previous estimate — now discredited — was 25 percent.

Justice sides with death row inmate: The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that a black death row inmate in Texas deserves a new chance to press his claim that prosecutors stacked his jury with whites and death penalty supporters. The 8-1 ruling is a rare example of the conservative-leaning court agreeing that a death row inmate may have been treated unfairly at trial.

National News Briefs

Great White subpoenaed in club case: Members of the rock group Great White have been subpoenaed by prosecutors and said Tuesday they will appear before a grand jury investigating whether criminal charges should be filed in the nightclub inferno that killed 97 people. The grand jury is expected to convene today, law enforcement officials said on condition of anonymity. Based primarily on Byron Bostin's testimony, federal agents have cooperated with the California fire department and the Los Angeles police. The California fire department and the Los Angeles police. The California fire department and the Los Angeles police.

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Alleged gunman gives up in shooting: A Huntsville, Ala., man looking for work opened fire at a temporary employment agency Tuesday during an argument over a CD player, killing four fellow job-seekers and wounding a fifth, police said. The gunman later surrendered after a standoff at his apartment, where police tracked him down using the address he put on his job applications. Police said the man shot at officers early in the standoff.
Malvo implicates partner in shootings

Associated Press

FAIRFAX, Va. — Sniper suspect Lee Boyd Malvo implicated his alleged accomplice as an equal partner in their shooting spree, with John Allen Muhammad acting as a spotter and calling out shots, prosecutors said.

In a legal brief made public Tuesday, Fairfax County prosecutor Raymond Morrogh also said Malvo made multiple confessions to the Oct. 14 shooting of FBI analyst Linda Franklin, the case that is expected to be his first to go to trial.

The brief was the first official confirmation of reports from anonymous sources that Malvo had confessed to taking part in the multistate shooting spree last year that left 13 people dead and six wounded. It also was prosecutors' first substantial description of the relationship between Muhammad, 42, and Malvo, 18.

The pair "acted as a unit," Morrogh said. "One would be the spotter, while the other would do the shooting.

Malvo also "claimed both were equals and either could call a particular shot on or off," Morrogh wrote.

Nothing in the brief indicates that prosecutors have any evidence that Muhammad fired any shots. But if the pair acted as a team, Muhammad could get the death penalty under Virginia's new anti-terrorism law, passed in the wake of Sept. 11.

Malvo's confessions are unusually detailed and are corroborated by other evidence, Morrogh wrote. He added that Malvo has expressed no remorse.

Morrogh wrote that the confession made by Malvo "was uncoerced and completely voluntary.... In fact, the defendant was calm and rather boastful of his doings in this case."

The two men have been accused of shooting 19 people, killing 13 and wounding six in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. No one was hit in another incident, in which a bullet went through a craft store window.

Malvo is set for trial in November in the slaying of Franklin. Muhammad is scheduled for an October trial in another slaying in neighboring Prince William County. Both face the death penalty.

Morrogh's brief was a response to a request from Malvo's lawyer, Michael Ariz, for any evidence that might clear his client. "The Commonwealth does not have evidence that casts doubt upon the defendant's guilt," Morrogh wrote.

Efforts to reach Ariz Tuesday evening were not immediately successful. Peter Greenspun, who represents Muhammad, was out of town Tuesday and could not be reached for comment.

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In Brief

Home Depot says 40 profit down

The Home Depot said Tuesday its profit slipped 3.4 percent in the fourth quarter as sales dropped for the first time ever despite gains in its appliance business. The earnings results still beat Wall Street expectations, and Home Depot shares rose.

Clear Channel beats expectations

Clear Channel Communications Inc., the nation's largest radio station operator, posted sizable revenue gains. San Antonio-based Clear Channel reported profit of $366 million, or 61 cents per share, in the current quarter, compared with $295 million, or 50 cents per share, in the year-earlier quarter.

Crosstown cars gain popularity

Crossover cars are getting more attention on dealer lots as consumers turn away from minivans and SUVs. The Element, which went on sale in March 2002, is the fastest growing category of U.S. autos last year, up from 1.8 percent in 1999, according to Ward's Automotive Reports. Some analysts predict they'll surpass vans and luxury cars to become the industry's fourth-largest segment this year.

Kmart may sue former CEO

The board of Kmart Corp. said Tuesday it has found evidence supporting possible legal claims against founder and former chief executive Charles Conaway who allegedly hid the retailer's deteriorating finances from the board in the months before the company filed for bankruptcy.

Kmart, which plans to emerge from Chapter 11 protection this year as several automakers -- including Volkswagen -- introduce models of crossover cars to become the industry's fastest-growing category of U.S. autos, said the board believes Conaway failed to keep Kmart's board adequately informed of the retailer's deteriorating financial situation, leading to the necessity of loans and about $4 million in severance from Conaway.

The documents also contained evidence supporting possible legal action in the implementation of a program to suspend vendor payments as Kmart scrambled to avert a liquidity crisis in the fall of 2001 and failed to keep Kmart's directors apprised of the company's financial situation in the last half of fiscal 2001, which ended in January 2002 -- the same month Kmart filed for bankruptcy.

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Former Kmart CEO Chuck Conaway appears at a promotional event April 2001. Conaway may face legal action by Kmart for covering up the corporation's finances.

Former Kmart CEO Chuck Conaway appears at a promotional event April 2001. Conaway may face legal action by Kmart for covering up the corporation's finances.
A message from the source of evil

Where does all this evil come from? Bombs, terrorist attacks, biological weapons and war against other peoples have become commonplace in today's world, but the roots of the evil that produces these things is unknown. You can hardly die traumatic deaths in a day without facing hardship and devastation in the news. So, I'll ask the question again: Is this evil fabricated? Where does it come from? I'll tell you.

The evil comes from me. I come as an embarrassment to many, especially when I affect large groups or nations. Everyone knows who I am, but I don't want you to talk about me. And always be, choking off the air in your lungs and paralyzing you when something unexpected happens. I am the reason for your heart races at night when there's tapping on the window or your car travels through a bad neighborhood. But you cannot stop me because I have no limitations. I can consume millions of lives without much effort and can create a confident man to become a mere shell of himself.

But my existence, though sickening and incomprehensible to most, serves a purpose. Those who recognize me can and have used me to their advantage. I am and have been the driving force of many of the world's most improbable movements. Hitler used me as his personal puppet to form a movement that killed countless lives. He used me to manipulate his people into believing that race matters because God had predestined one to be superior to others. Joseph Stalin used me through Marxist ideals to intimidate and frighten his countrymen into believing in a political system that was doomed to fail from the start and then proceeded to campaign and push for its spread throughout the world. These two men were fools, but they knew how to use me to get what they wanted.

I also am the backbone of any smaller country's quest to become recognized as a world power. I am present in their lives only because they long not to be forgotten in the world. Right now, I am Samuel Hussein's minion because he exploits my talents, allowing me to grow even larger and more powerful. And because of me, Hussein grabs your attention like a bear trap even though he is a relatively small country halfway around the world. I cause you to meddle in his and others' businesses so that you can sleep soundly at night and not worry about danger from beyond the horizon.

I only tell you this now because I'm beginning to tear the world apart again like I did during World War I, World War II and the Cold War. I brought the world to the brink of nuclear holocaust during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and I could possibly do it again in the next few weeks. It's easy for me to do that I will warn you, ahead of time, that I'm coming. I'll tell you exactly how to avoid me, and I don't think that you can stop me.

I do have weaknesses, though, and it's love. You may say that it isn't smart to inform others of your weaknesses, but I'll tell you anyway. Love cuts through me like a sword through the prairie and can't be stopped. I am the only fear to the source of all evil. My name is Fear.
Wednesday, February 26, 2003

page 9

Letters to the Editor

America needs missile defense

Terrorists and their increasing capacity to obtain weapons of mass destruction pose the greatest danger to the United States. First, the United States is confronted with a myriad of hostile state-sponsors of terrorism: Iraq, North Korea, Libya, and Iran. These nations are engaged in an unprecedented, aggressive and lethal campaign to develop, harbor and use weapons of mass destruction against freedom loving people. Third, lethal Islamic terrorist groups continue to coalesce, and their ultimate goal to murder free people. It is important and essential that this dangerous wave of international terrorism be neutralized. As we have seen with North Korea and Iraq, and now Iran, the technology and capacity to develop the most dangerous weapons known to man. Friend or foe, these nations must recognize that regimes obtain enriched uranium, fuel rods, “dual-use” nuclear material, and biological and chemical weapons from developed nations in order to develop these offensive weapons. Therefore, a warning is in order. I am sure that more unforced and rambling than usual. That saying is apt.

Christmas Break: No real highlights here. Once again, one of the best events of the holiday season is the Carols in the Courtyard. The only highlight was my friend who purchased an — ahem — tobacco waterpipe. The main attraction of the evening was a contest to see who could name the three hot tall glass appliances. One night, after a drunken viewing of the Fox News Channel, inspiration struck: Osama Bin Laden, and a new version of the Karmic implications of naming one’s piece after an internationally renowned terrorist. My friend awoke the following morning with the name and makes it a positive thing. Instead of inducing terror alerts, the only thing this new “Osama” is inducing is trips to the local bong laden. One friend voiced his concerns as to the Karmic turning to missiles capable of delivering the most destructive, and terrorist groups have the shadowy networks to employ these deadly weapons covertly and without notice. Dangerously, the relationship between terrorist states and state-terrorist groups are blending into one.

The United States is faced with a severe problem. For example, the CIA recently reported that a North Korean three-stage rocket could strike at a distance of 9,300 miles — far enough to strike all of North America. These three-stage rockets are built to carry several hundred pounds of weapons payload. The frightening part is that in 1998, North Korea tried to use the three-stage version to launch a satellite into orbit. Even the less sophisticated two-stage Taepo Dong 2 could hit Alaska or Hawaii. On Feb. 24, the South Korean Defense Ministry announced that North Korea fired an anti-ship missile that landed in the sea between the Koreas Peninsula and Japan. As White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer said, “Technology and time means regimes like North Korea will increasingly have the ability to strike at the United States.”

Given these frightening details, it is apparent that the U.S. government cannot condemn the American people to permanent vulnerability — we must develop a missile defense system now. Presently, only a handful of types of missile were launched, preemptively, against the United States, then the U.S. could do absolutely nothing about it. An effective missile defense system, using land, sea, and air and space-based sensors and battle management control systems, would use an interceptor rocket to destroy an offensive missile heading towards the United States. Critics of this idea constantly try to remind us that a missile defense system cannot and will not work because the technology required to implement such a system is too expensive and far-fetched. The critics are wrong. Five out of the last eight tests conducted by the United States Military were successful. In addition, the Navy has conducted several successful tests on short-range ballistic missiles, including the Standard SM-3. Critics also complain that a missile defense system would demonstrate that the United States’ foreign policy is becoming too aggressive. However, we believe that interceptors are of a defensive nature only. Each nation has an inherent right to self-defense and the United States should exercise its rights to develop a missile defense system.

We have the technology to make this plan happen. We have the technology to defend the American people from hostile state and non-state sponsors of terrorism: Iraq, North Korea, and others. The government needs to focus on building an effective missile defense system. It is time to protect our citizens. It is time to focus on the security of the United States.

Mike Koprowski
Kess Hall
Feb. 25

It's not about the oil

In her Feb. 21 column, “Questioning reasons for war,” Jessica Brabec questions the importance of the Bush administration’s case for war. One in particular is worth some extended discussion, mostly because such discussion will show that whatever else might motivate the Bush administration, not to mention Congress which in various ways has endorsed the President’s decision, is not the reason for war.

The familiar mantra “We must go to war,” is an interesting meaning when discussing not only the reasons for war, but also such nations that continue to have access to this technology. Iraq is currently Iraq’s most favored trading partner and is heavily involved in Middle Eastern regional energy development. A war in Iraq would have very negative effects on French economic prospects in the region. The French export to Iraq over $500 million in multinational-dollar oil contracts with Iraq, but because of U.N. resolutions, these contracts have not been signed and cannot be executed until sanctions are lifted.

One outstanding question is whether there will be automatic implementation of existing agreements should Saddam be overthrown. Regime change could bring about a shift in fortunes, with American and European states becoming the primary beneficiaries. So goes the theory. However, note that Kuwait has been reluctant to extend such privileges to access to American oil, and that country owes its very existence to the United States.

Nevertheless, all of this will be most if war breaks out, because the oil wells will likely not survive. Saddam will most likely seek to destroy all petroleum production facilities to deny them to potential successors. With these production facilities gone, the oil wells will face years of reconstruct and billions in investment to restore full Iraq production. This is hardly a bargain — but if no war is fought, the oil wells will survive, sanctions will be lifted and the contractors could be executed.

The fact that French oil interests tend to mitigate the potential conflict is an irony for the Greens to ponder.

Meanwhile, Americans ought rest assured that this column, which links the United States purportedly ignores alternatives to war.

Jacob T. Rodenbiker
written off
Feb. 25

Back from politics

So, well, there you have it. Most of you I met, and a few of you I ended up meeting because of the efforts of campaign publicists who were seemingly endorsing candidates by picking names out of hats. We got almost 20 percent of the total student vote, and the runoff by a mere 50 votes. We hardily won the vote in the junior class, the off-campus vote and the abroad vote. Considering that one candidate got a mere 18 votes, I consider our 876 votes an accomplishment.

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

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When people think of Notre Dame, dancing usually isn’t the first thing to come to mind. Football, basketball, academics and Catholicism are normally associated with the University, giving it its national reputation as one of the finest institutions in the nation. Many students would be surprised to discover, however, that dance at Notre Dame is an essential part of the culture. It goes far beyond the Irish jig at football games or the bump-and-grind that used to work so well at Boat Club. Electronics. Dancers at Notre Dame put just as much time and effort into their groups as varsity-lettered athletes, while at the same time having a blast moving to music.

Probably one of the most conspicuous groups of dancers on campus is the Notre Dame Pom Squad. Founded in 1988, this club has been entertaining spectators at sporting and other campus events for nearly 15 years now with their slick dance moves choreographed to popular music. Every year, the Pom Squad performs at football pep rallies, basketball games and at other signature events around campus, such as the Keough Charlot Race.

The time and effort required of the members of the Pom Squad is as intense as any varsity sport on campus. During the fall semester, the 14 members of the group meet weekly as often as any sports team on campus, with practices two times a week for two hours each. At practices, the women run through their routines, which they choreograph themselves. “All the members are involved with the choreography,” said senior co-captain Michelle DeLay. “Every member takes a turn choreographing a specific dance that we perform.”

Competition is fierce to be a member of the Pom Squad, with over 50 women trying out every year for only 14 spots on the team. The try-outs include a learning clinic where the captains teach a routine, usually to a well-known piece of music like the Victory March. The girls trying out get one day to work on the routine before first cuts take place. During second cuts, the squad also holds a practice clinic and then tryouts, until the team is pared down to its 14 members.

Nearly everyone who survives the try-out becomes a member of the squad has had some sort of dancing experience in the past. Tryouts are still open to anyone including men, although DeLay said “male interest in the Pom Squad, beyond being a spectator, has never been very high.”

Another dancing group on campus that is gaining more and more popularity is the First Class Steppers. Unlike most dancing groups, the Steppers rarely use music in their routines. Members use their hands, feet and whatever else is around to create fast-paced beats and rhythms. “It’s kind of like a cappella dancing,” said Linda Iu, a junior who has been a member of the Steppers for two years. “There’s no music in the background. We create the beat with our bodies.”

The club is fairly new, only having become official in 1999, but their reputation is growing fast. The Steppers have performed at a number of popular multicultural campus events, including Black Images, Asian Allure, Latin Expressions, Freshmen Orientation and most recently last Saturday at Fiestang.

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Similar to the Pom Squad, the time and effort the Steppers put into their club is quite impressive. The group meets two times a week for two-hour practice sessions. Before a show, the practices are more intense, with the group meeting four times a week to perfect the performance.

Another similarity the Steppers have with the Pom Squad is that they choreograph their own routines. Some of the dance moves and rhythms are influenced by other groups, but many are created by the First Class Steppers themselves.

Currently, the group has just over 10 members, including five women and six or seven men. People try out each semester and cuts are made based on the performance of a routine learned in a prior work-shop session. Most members don’t have experience with dancing in the stepper style before trying out, so there is an opportunity for anyone to make the group.

“It’s a lot of fun,” said Stepper vice-pres­ident Kameron Chappell. “The attention from the crowd is great, it’s really neat to watch the audience react to a performance.”

Hu agreed, saying, “It brings a lot of diversity to the campus. Without Step, there would be something missing at Notre Dame.”

Most people are familiar with Irish step dance in the form of Riverdance and Michael Flatley. The home of the Fighting Irish also has its own devoted group of Irish step dancers who perform through­out the year around campus and the community.

Notre Dame’s Irish Dance Team, a stu­dent-run University club, has been part of Notre Dame’s dance scene for about seven years. While many people might think picking up Irish dance at a college level would be too difficult, the group of 30 dancers is equally split between experi­enced Irish steppers and students who joined the club as novices.

“Tbe beginners pick it up fast, it’s incredible,” said club co-president Kristy Hernandez, who had never danced Irish step before starting at Notre Dame. “The advanced dancers are very helpful.”

The Irish Dance Team also lost one of its own with the death of Chad Sharon, who danced with the team during his time at Notre Dame.

“There’s been an amazing group camaraderie,” said Hernandez. “The team has really bonded together during a hard time.”

The members of the Irish Dance Team practice together twice a week, with two-hour meetings for the advanced members of the group on Monday nights and rehearsals for the beginning dancers on Thursdays. The group performs at a wide variety of events, including performances at a tap dance exhibition organized by club adviser and professor of anthropolo­gy James McMenna, at the Notre Dame cultural fair and at nursing homes around the community. An upcoming performance at Latin Expressions will also put Irish step dance to Latin music.

“People hear about us and ask us to dance,” said Hernandez. “We never say no.”

To pick up the style of Irish dance,
Irish Step Dancers perform at numerous events throughout the year.

The Irish Step Dancers perform at the Notre Dame Cultural Fair in the fall of 2002. The instructors of the club are all students.

There is an open dance for everyone twice a month, which is free of charge. The instructors of the club are all students.

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Senior Newburg begins defense of 125-pound crown

By LUKE BUSAM
Sports Writer

Tonight's semifinal action will begin with senior captain Shawn Newburg, the reigning 125-pound championship in the 2003 Bengal Bouts. As returning champion of this weight class, Newburg received two byes and will face his first opponent tonight in freshman Brian Faist, who won a split decision victory over Michael Feduska in Sunday's quarterfinals.

Jon Valenzuela, coming off an impressive unanimous decision over Robert Mustula, will face Sung Hoon Kim who advances to Sunday's finals. Kim's fight was stopped in the first round after he sent his opponent Gerardo Roja to the mat. Both fighters are extremely quick and used multiple punch combinations in the semifinals victories.

Junior captain Tony Hollowell will attempt to earn his second trip to the finals in the last three years in his match against Joe Shmидlin. Both Shmидlin and Hollowell had first-round byes and both boxers' quarterfinal round fighting experience called early as they dominated their opponents. Senior captain Chris Hoffman in tonight's second match in the 125-pound division, will face Christopher Hoffman in tonight's second match in the 125-pound division.

Hoffman will face his second trip to the finals. Hoffman won an impressive decision victory against Edward Liva Sunday. Hoffman won an evenly matched braw in against Mark Pfizenmayer and may have trouble with Wun's long reach tonight.

145-pound
Luke Dilloon withstood a seri­ous challenge from Andrew Sylting to earn his spot in tonight's semifinals. He will meet law student Paul Harris, who earned a spot in the semi­finals with a forfeit quarterfinal victory because Paul Robinson was unable to fight because of medical reasons.

Jeffrey Ham won an unani­mous decision victory Sunday over Jon Streit and will fight Ryan Duffey tonight. Duffey, the No. 2 seed in the 145-pound, won a close fight over Dave DeBoer on Sunday.

150-pound
Sordin sophomore Ryan Rogers has a tough fight ahead of him tonight against Juan Diego Vargas. This is Rogers' second Bengal Bout and Vargas' first, yet the advantage still lies with Vargas, who looked terrific in both of his wins this year.

No. 3 seed Brandon Gasser will meet the No. 2 seed Nathan Lohmeyer in the other 150-pound semifinal. Each boxer looked strong in the early rounds and both have ring experience behind them. Tonight is the first time that Gasser has been to the semi­finals, but the second for Lohmeyer, who lost to Jemar Tishy last year in the semis.

155-pound
Galen Loughrey slipped his way past Colin Karl Basola and will face Colin Kerrigan tonight. Kerrigan won an impressive victory over No. 1 seed Mike Melby in the quarterfinals to earn his spot in the semis tonight.

Senior Greg Schafer will face senior Steve Keppel tonight. Schafer bled a bit in his quarterfinal match against Cliff Arnold and his straight punches should be an interest­ing match to the brawling style of Keppel.

160-pound
Mark DeSplinter will exercise his technical style and straight left jabs tonight as he tries to earn his second trip to the finals. DeSplinter faces John Enterline and the two fighters should match up well. Enterline is more of a brawler than DeSplinter, but boxes well when he settles down.

Senior captain Tom Pierce will meet Bill Philip in the sec­ond match of the 160-pound class. Philip has a reach advantage over Pierce, but this disadvantage has never been a problem in the past for the hard-charging boxer who seeks his second trip to the finals.

165-pound
Senior captain Pat Dillon meets freshman Charlie Gough tonight.

The Lakers played without Phil Jackson, who missed his first game as an NBA head coach recuperating from a kidney stone removed a coach recuperating from a kidney stone removed a six months ago. Only Chamberlain was healthy for the Lakers in the 125-pound division.

Tonight's second match in the 125-pound division, will face Christopher Hoffman in tonight's second match in the 125-pound division. Hoffman won an impressive decision victory against Edward Liva Sunday. Hoffman won an evenly matched braw in against Mark Pfizenmayer and may have trouble with Wun's long reach tonight.

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NHL
Western Conference, Atlantic Division

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<td>Toronto</td>
<td>31-14-1-1</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore</td>
<td>26-25-13-3</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montreal</td>
<td>32-22-4-4</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>31-21-1-2</td>
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Western Conference, Central Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
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<th>Last 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>32-17-3-8</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>26-19-11-6</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>31-22-7-1</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmton</td>
<td>26-21-3-3</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calgary</td>
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Western Conference, Northwest Division

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<tr>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
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<td>San Jose</td>
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American's Cup Championship

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<td>74</td>
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<td>Chicago</td>
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<td>Minnesota</td>
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<td>Edmton</td>
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<td>57</td>
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Women's College Basketball
Big East Conference

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<td>Boston College</td>
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<td>Virginia Tech</td>
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<td>Notre Dame</td>
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<td>Duke</td>
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<td>Syracuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. John's</td>
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MBL

Trevor Hoffman delivers a pitch last season for the San Diego Padres. Hoffman will undergo shoulder surgery that will keep him out Indefinitely, but he hopes to pitch sometime after the All-Star break.

Hoffman sidelined until All-Star break

Associated Press

"FOBIA, Arte
Trevor Hoffman already is focusing on his comeback — and not the shoulder operation that will make him miss half of the season.
"We're going to take care of this," the San Diego Padres' closer said Tuesday after deciding to have surgery. "The ball will be in my court. I'll do the things in rehab that I need to do to get on the field and pitch. Hopefully, we'll write a better ending, the way I want it done."

In 10 major league seasons, the San Diego Padres right-hander never has been on the disabled list.
"To lose his ability to close games, which is basically automatic, is going to be tough," first basememan Ryan Klesko said.
Manager Bruce Bochy said the length of rehabiliation won't be known until the surgery. It will be performed at the end of the week in Los Angeles by Anaheim Angels medical director Dr. Lewis Yocum.
"It's a blow when you lose your closer, especially when your closer is one of the best of all time," Bochy said.
The 35-year-old Hoffman ranks fifth with 352 career saves. He's never gone on the disabled list in 10 major league seasons, and since Bochy took over the Padres in 1995, Hoffman has 327 of the team's 359 saves — 91 percent.

There is no timetable for Hoffman's return, though general manager Kevin Towers was optimistic Hoffman could pitch sometime after the All-Star break.
An MRI last week revealed no additional damage to the rotator cuff but showed arthritic degeneration of the clavicle. Doctors will shave the edge of the clavicle — the collarbone — to reduce irritation and give tendons more room.
"It's not a 25-year-old shoulder anymore, but I feel confident with the procedure we're going to do," Hoffman said.
Hoffman was 2-5 with a 2.73 ERA in 61 games last year, converting 38 of 41 save opportunities.
Last fall's operation was the first time doctors saw problems with Hoffman's AC joint, where the clavicle meets the shoulder blade. The coarse edge of the collarbone didn't show on an earlier MRI.
"If this procedure is able to relieve some of the discomfort, then he'll be back," Towers said.

IN BRIEF

Becher's widow to sue
The lawyer for the widow of Steve Bechler plans to sue the manufacturer of a dietary supplement the Baltimore Orioles pitcher was believed to be taking before his death.
Bechler, 23, died on Feb. 17 from heatstroke after collapsing during a workout at training camp. In his pre-footinary autopsy report, Broward County chief medical examiner Dr. Joshua Perper linked Bechler's death to a diet supplement that contains ephedra.
A bottle of Xenadrine RFA-1, an over-the-counter weight-loss product related to ephedra, was found in Bechler's locker after he collapsed.
"The way we see it, Steve Bechler is dead, and ephedra is the primary cause of death," David Meiselman, the attorney for Kiley Bechler, said Tuesday.
"We will wait for the toxicology report to come back, do our homework, then go hunting for the companies that distribute this drug," Meiselman said. "This drug is a killer. Our real concern is to get this poison off the shelves."
Cytodyne Technologies of Mahwah, N.J., the supplement's manufacturer, responded with a statement that read, in part:
"We feel that it is reckless and irresponsible for an attorney to prematurely place blame or deflect responsibility to others for the events leading up to Mr. Bechler's death. At this point in time, it is clear that this attorney is making these statements without the benefit of any toxicology results ... It's unfortunate that this attorney has chosen to ignore the fact that Mr. Bechler had a number of serious medical conditions including liver disease, hypertension, an enlarged heart and history of heat-related illnesses."
"The arrogance of this company is beyond belief," he said. "It's never their fault, and in the meantime, people are dying. It's important to note that three days before his death, Steve Bechler passed a physical exam to play baseball."

Broncos release 3 starters
The Denver Broncos cut starters Chester McCOgton, Kavika Pattman and Demar Walker and four other players Tuesday as the team trims payroll before the free-agent signing period.
Denver also released guard Lennie Friedman, tackle Blake Brockermeyer, cornerback Jimmy Spencer and defensive end Keith Washington. The Broncos tendered offers to restricted free agent receiver Chris Cole, running back Reuben Droughns and quarterback Jaurious Jackson.

The Broncos were about $20 million over the salary cap heading into the free agency period, which begins Friday. Denver general manager Ted Sundquist said Tuesday's moves should clear about two-thirds of that amount.
As citizens of the United States and the global community, we feel compelled to evaluate the decision to invade Iraq.

Having done so, it is our duty to speak out against this act which is being undertaken on our behalf.

From diverse backgrounds and for many reasons, we the undersigned students, faculty, staff and affiliates of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College stand united in opposition to the impending war against the nation of Iraq and in our desire to pursue alternatives to this course of action.

Equate yourself on this important issue. Speak out. Talk to your family, your colleagues, your friends. Take a stand. Contact your local representative. Write President Bush. Call the UN headquarters. If you agree with this statement, post this ad on a wall or in your window.

Let your voice be heard.
BENGAL BOUTS — 170 POUNDS-HEAVYWEIGHT

Cosses takes on Knust and looks to return to finals

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Sports Writer

On the heels of a split-decision victory over Patrick McGarry, No. 1 seed Clay Cosses will take on junior Matt Knust. Cosses, a senior, served as this year's 170-pound captain.

Knust defeated James Gaffey in the first round and earned a victory by unanimous decision over Brian Michalek in the quarterfinals.

Two seniors face off in the second semifinal. Jason Voss is going against Rob Joyce. Joyce is the No. 2 seed, while Voss is participating in the semifinals after only winning one bout last year. Joyce received a bye in the first round, and easily defeated James Ward in the quarterfinals by unanimous decision. Voss defeated John Lantz in the first round and prevailed over Matt Padilla in the quarterfinals by unanimous decision as well.

180-pounds

The first semifinal in the 180-pound division features an intriguing matchup between No. 1 seed Tommy Demko and senior Christopher Pearss. Demko, a junior from Alumni Hall, defeated dorm rival Erik Bosca de Dillon in the quarterfinals and serves as this year's captain. Last year, he advanced to the semifinals only to lose to eventual runner-up Matthew Sarb.

"You always set a goal to go farther each year," Demko said. "You're always trying to do better. That's what this fight tomorrow means to me."

Demko is one of three junior captains this year, the other four are seniors.

"I look at it as we all get to know each other and help each other," he said. "You don't really think about what year you are. Some sophomores are really good boxers." Pearss hopes to use his seniority to defeat the younger Demko. Pearss defeated Michael Ryan in the first round and earned an unanimous victory over Denis Sullivan in the quarterfinals.

Junior Larry Rooney and senior Andrew Groebner face off in the second semifinal match. Rooney defeated Chris Orenstuko and Eric Callahan en route to the semifinals.

Groebner defeated Christopher Cavanagh in the second round and earned unanimous decision over junior James Christoforetti in the quarterfinals.

190-pounds

No. 1 seed John Lynk takes on Mwangi Gathinji in the first of two semifinal matches. Lynk is defending champion and serves as this year's captain. He'll face a formidable opponent in Gathinji. Gathinji, a senior from Alumni Hall, dominated Jose Ronchetta in a unanimous decision victory in the second round.

Both Gathinji and Lynk earned first round byes with Lynk advancing to the semifinals after defeating David Eschbacher by technical knock-out in less than two minutes. The defending champion is rather composed before the semifinal round.

"The night before you just kind of relax. You just try not to think about the fight until the day comes."

Tommy Demko
Junior boxer

"The night before you just kind of relax. You just try not to think about the fight until the day comes."

The Observer • SPORTS Wednesday, February 26, 2003
Irish looking to make a run at NCAA Tournament

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Editor

Both Pittsburgh and Notre Dame head into tonight's game at the Joyce Center with much to play for in terms of making tournaments.

The difference in the two teams lies in the tournament each is aiming for at the end of the regular season.

Pittsburgh (11-13 overall, 3-10 in the Big East), is fighting with West Virginia and St. John's for 12th place in the Big East standings. The top 12 teams from the conference participate in the Big East postseason tournament, which Pittsburgh hasn't made in three years.

The Irish (15-9, 7-6) are looking towards a possible NCAA Tournament bid. Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said two weeks ago in a press conference that 18 wins would likely get the Irish into the tournament.

"Last year we were 18-9, and we got a [seventh seed], and our RPI wasn't nearly as good as it is now," McGraw said. "So if we can go into the 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 to 19 or 20 wins, we'll get a better seed."

With three games left, all against teams with worse league records than themselves, Notre Dame has the opportunity to get at least 18 wins, if not more, by the end of the season. But they'll need to get the first of those three tonight against the Panthers.

Pittsburgh is looking for their first win over Notre Dame, who has won all 11 contests of the series. The two teams last met Feb. 5, 2002, when the Irish beat the Panthers 68-56 in Pittsburgh.

The Panthers have been in a slump, dropping seven of their last nine games and their last game was a 78-52 loss to No. 22 Boston College Saturday. Laine Selwyn and Haley Harguth led the Pacers, scoring 18 and 15 points, respectively.

The Irish lost their last game to No. 1 Connecticut in Storrs 77-59. However, Notre Dame did have some positive performances in the game, especially their rebounding. Led by Jacqueline Batteast's career-high 18 boards, the Irish outrebounded the Huskies 43-40. It marked only the third time a Connecticut opponent had accomplished such a feat.

But poor shooting ruined any chance of an upset for Notre Dame. They could only manage to hit just over 33 percent of their field goal attempts.


Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

Cosse

continued from page 20 to offer. He hopes to pass this message along to the younger boxers.

"[Being a captain] means that I have worked really hard to receive a prestigious position, but also that I have the opportunity to make a huge difference both in sending money to the needy of Bangladesh, and in teaching younger guys to do the same in years to come," Cosse said.

After receiving a first-round bye in his 170-pound weight class this year, Cosse brought the crowd to its feet in his quarterfinal bout with Patrick McGarry Sunday, marking the first standing ovation of this year's tournament.

"This was another spectacular fight," Cosse said. "Pat really came after me, but I came right back and the crowd loved it. I didn't know that Pat would fight me so tough, but I'm glad he did, because that's what Bengal Bouts is all about.

After the ovation subsided, Cosse emerged victorious.

"I came into my first fight this year knowing that I might never box competitively again," Cosse said. "So I fought as hard as I could, and left it all in the ring. That's been my philosophy every year, but it seemed more urgent this year with graduation looming on the horizon."

Tonight, the top-seeded Cosse faces fourth seed Matt Knust in the semifinals. He knows that, just like every other fight he's taken part in, he is going to leave the ring knowing he put everything he has into the fight.

As a senior, Cosse would enjoy a victory in the finals in his swan song in Bengal Bouts. However, a phone call he received Tuesday means he has a whole lot more to fight for.

"Tuesday morning, my mother called me to tell me that my grandfather had passed away," Cosse said. "I was very close to him, and he always supported my boxing. So now I'll be fighting even harder because I know he's watching."

Contact Bryan Kronk at bkronk@nd.edu

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The Observer • SPORTS
SMC BASKETBALL

Belles season ends after 77-50 first-round loss at Hope

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s couldn’t overcome a 24-point halftime deficit and ended its season with a 77-50 loss to Hope in the first round of the MIAA tournament.

For the Flying Dutch, Bri Els scored 18 points in only 14 minutes of action. Amanda Kerker, the MIAA Player of the Week, added 12 points along with four assists and was the second of three Hope players to score double digits.

Meanwhile, the Belles were led once again by senior Shaun Russell, who scored in double digits for the third time in as many games, as she finished with 11 points. Maureen Bush also scored 11 points.

"We made a very good effort, and we did some good things in the game." - Suzanne Bellina

Belles coach

However, the efforts of these two players were not enough for the Belles to overcome their poor shooting that included going 2-for-10 from beyond the arc. Saint Mary’s finished shooting 29 percent from the field for the game.

Hope, on the other hand, shot 51 percent from the field, and was 5-for-11 in 3-point shots. However, the Flying Dutch only outscored the Belles 33-30 in the second half.

Though the Belles were the obvious underdog in the matchup with the No. 2 team in the country, the loss was still disappointing, as another season came to a close on Tuesday night.

"Hope is such a good team," coach Suzanne Bellina said. "We made a very good effort, and we did some good things in the game."

Another positive for the Belles was sophomore forward Emily Creachbaum, who scored 10 points while grabbing six rebounds. Despite only shooting 4-for-17 Tuesday, Creachbaum has been a bright spot for Saint Mary’s all season, as she has been her most consistent performer.

"Our posts played extremely well," Bellina said. "We did a good job of getting the ball inside, and we were much more aggressive."

Sophomore Katie Boyle added seven points for the Belles, while senior Kristen Matha scored four points with seven rebounds.

Saint Mary’s ends its season with a record of 6-20 overall and 2-13 in the conference. The Belles only lose two seniors to graduation and had one junior on the team this season.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvvanhoeg@nd.edu

Records

continued from page 20

Irish.

"Notre Dame was always a school that I really wanted to go to," said Krakowski. "It was a program on the up, so I figured it was the right fit for me."

Krakowski’s siblings are also swimmers. His sister Mary is a freshman on the women’s team at Bucknell. Younger brother Joe is a member of his high school swim and water polo team, and seventh-grader George plays three sports.

Krakowski’s stellar performance last weekend capped a strong year for the sophomore. He qualified and placed in three individual events at the Big East, setting two new records. In dual meets this season, Krakowski won the 50 free against Oakland University, the 50 free against Northwestern, the 100 free against Texas Christian University and the 100 fly against University of Pennsylvania, among others.

"I think I bring intensity and a lot of enthusiasm to get up for races," he said. "I want to get everyone motivated to do their best. I want the team to have an attitude about ourselves; a swagger. You have to have a positive attitude to succeed."

Coach Tim Welsh considered Krakowski’s performance a major boost to the team.

"If you look at the seven University records that we set this weekend, Frank Krakowski was a part of five of them. In terms of special performances, he’s contributed to five of the seven University records and he’s a sophomore. We know that we’re building a young team, so that’s pretty good."

After his standout performance at the Big East Championships, Krakowski will take time off to rest and heal his injuries. For the last two years he has suffered from shoulder problems. Recently, numbness followed by shooting pains in his elbow has been a concern.

"Rest is the only way to get healed," Krakowski said. "I want to avoid surgery. I’ve been going for MRIs and tests, so hopefully we’ll figure out what’s wrong."

The Big East’s were the conclusion to a very long season for the Irish. They began work in August, and will now take about a month-long break from the water before starting to train again.

"We made a lot of improvement this year and hopefully next year we’ll get people to the NCAAs," said Krakowski. "Also, we just missed the 100 free record by .7 of a second. But you can’t do everything."

Judging by his record-breaking efforts in the pool for the Irish last weekend, it looks like Krakowski can.

Contact Lisa Rejijula at lreijijula@nd.edu
**School Daze**

**Comments:** Dear Dining Hall Guy, please get rid of the broccoli and red beets on the salad bar.

**Also:** the chili and lentil soups have got to go.

**Jump!**

**Cutting down the air pollution problem.**

**Thanks,**

from
dining hall president

**The Observer**

**Happy Town**

A nice steak, perhaps. Yes, I would be splendid with a lovely, tender steak right now.

Pepper, NOODS!

You're such a drama queen.

This table is filthy, did you know that?

**Jumble**

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

**JUMBLE**

Visit the Observer on the web at http://observer.nd.edu/

**CROSSWORD**

1 Not telling

4 Drink before bed, maybe

9 Bell clip-on

14 Part of a World Cup chant

19 Sister of Teresa of Avila

22 Squashed-away item

27 Man of old movies

28 Irish symbol

32 Time off, finally

37 Fuller than full

38 Part of a World Cup chant

39 Society trains avant garde

40 Item in a thrilling game

42 Item, in a way

43 Jrs.' exams

47 Confine, with "with a"

48 Huge expanse

52 Letters at a NASCAR race

53 Commodity in the old South

57 Island

59 „I love you"

60 Big name in movies

61 Nutritional fig.

63 Palindrome

64 Highway

65 “Boy, am I hungry”

66 In shape

69 “Same here”

70 “Get comfy”

71 “You’ve got a warning!”

72 Strand in winter,

73 D.D.E.’s WWII for one

74 “The Opposite of Sex”

75 Commodity in the old South

78 Strand in winter, maybe

80 Huge expanse

81 “I love you”

82 “What shall I do?”

83 In the sky

84 “What shall I do?”

85 “What shall I do?”

86 “What shall I do?”

87 “What shall I do?”

88 “What shall I do?”

90 “What shall I do?”

91 “What shall I do?”

**WILL SHORTZ**

**Horoscope**

**Celebrities born on this day:**

Tony Randall, Johnny Cash, Fats Domino, Godfrey Cambridge

**Happy Birthday:** This will be a year for love, romance and partnerships. You will take greater pride in the way you present yourself, and your efforts won’t go unnoticed. Exercise your ideas with precision and if someone doesn’t understand the direction that you’re taking, don’t worry about it. Your numbers are 2, 7, 23, 31, 45, 48.

**Aries** (March 21-April 19): Take a less sensitive approach to criticism and you will fare much better. Do not try to confront unresolved issues today.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20): You should be on a quest for knowledge today. By giving new things you will learn much that will be valuable down the road.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20): You may be tempted to act on someone else’s responsibilities today. Be smarter than that and offer suggestions on how they can turn around for themselves.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22): Your emotions will be up and down depending on how you are treated. You may be involved with someone who is dragging you down or holding you back. Analyze your relationships and whether or not they are healthy.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22): Whatever you do, make sure that it relates to your work. You should be able to do the kind of job that will bring recognition and praise. You will impress others.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You are in a romantic mood today and will be very hard to resist. Travel and philosophical discussions will be exciting. Spend your money wisely.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may not want to make changes, but if you are suffering from the downturns that surround you, it may be wise to do something about it. Don’t take on more than you can handle.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Please yourself and you will get in shape others. Relax and get in touch with your feelings. It will help you form better relationships with others.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Business will be good and you’ll be on top of your game. Don’t hesitate to entertain associates, but do accreditation when choosing a partner.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Someone may confide in you his or her actions today. You may be a little overemotional today, so don’t read too much into it. Look at the fact you wish to eliminate conflicts.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Hidden matters will haunt you today. You may have to dig in order to discover what is actually going on behind your back. Someone is trying to lead you in the wrong direction.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20): Hidden matters will haunt you today. You may have to dig in order to discover what is actually going on behind your back. Someone is trying to lead you in the wrong direction.

**Birthday Baby:** You will have know-how, style and grace. You will be lovely and entertaining, admired by all.

---

**THE OBSERVER**

**Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community.**

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Visit The Observer on the web at http://observer.nd.edu/
By BRYAN KRONK  
Sports Writer

Clay Cosse leaves everything in the ring — especially some pretty aggressive talking.

So it's only natural that the Chalmette, La. native earned the nickname "Mouth of the South" early in his brief boxing career.

"I talk a lot and I like to joke around a lot to lighten up the atmosphere," Cosse said. "Sometimes, or maybe a lot of the time, I'd be better off keeping my mouth shut, but I don't. Back home, when someone talks a lot, you call say, 'Man, mouth of the south over here' or something like that. I'm very proud of where I'm from, so 'Mouth of the South' was a great fit."

Cosse didn't actually turn to boxing until he arrived at Notre Dame in the fall of 1999. Having never competed in any sort of athletic competition in high school, it was a tough adjustment for him to make.

"I showed up at the first day of practice for the novice season and it was pretty ridiculous for me, because I was pretty out of shape," Cosse said. "It was a difficult skill for me to learn, because I had never been aggressive or competitive. I definitely took my licks freshman year, and I lost my first fight in the Bengal Bouts tournament, but I loved the experience."

Undeterred by the early loss, he loved the experience so much that he bulked up in the off-season and returned for his second turn at Bengal Bouts the next year. He moved up from the 155-pound weight class to the 165-pound class, and he even advanced to the second round before being defeated.

His junior year, he advanced to the finals of the 165-pound bracket before he dropped an exciting back-and-forth bout with then-senior Chris Matassa.

"Matassa was about 6-foot-3 and had a lot of reach on me," Cosse said. "This was a truly great fight. I took the advantage early on, but it was back and forth for the rest of the fight. We won the award for best fight of the tournament."

This time around, Cosse has more to prove. As a senior and a captain, he represents the best of what Bengal Bouts has to offer in the old time of 1:22.02, easily eclipsing the old time of 1:23.09.

"Notre Dame was always a school that I really wanted to go to."

Frank Krakowski
Irish swimmer

Irish swimmer Frank Krakowski shone individually as well. In the 50 freestyle preliminaries, he shattered the previous school record with a new time of 20.45. He finished seventh in the finals with a time of 20.53.

In the 100 butterfly, Krakowski placed seventh overall and set yet another new record for the Irish, touching in 48.92. His time broke the oldest standing record in the Irish books, set back in 1994 by By Beville (50.02).

Krakowski nearly set a record in the 100 freestyle, missing the mark by only 7 seconds. He placed seventh in the final, finishing in 45.46.

"I was really happy with how I swam," said Krakowski. "I would have liked to place higher in some of the really close races. I got touched out a couple times."

As a freshman last season, Krakowski provided immediate help in the freestyle events. He qualified for the 50 free, 100 free, and 100 fly in the 2002 Big East Championships and had the fastest Irish times in those events. He finished 12th in the 100 fly at the Big East last year.

Krakowski began swimming in the fourth grade, eventually choosing it over basketball and soccer. During high school in Erie, Pa., Krakowski set 11 varsity swimming records. He won the 2001 state championship in the 100 fly, and was captain and MVP of his state championship team. He was also a standout in water polo, leading his team to second place in the state as a senior. His accomplishments made him a prized recruit for the