Nader discusses corporate ethics
By JULIA MILLER-LEMON
News Writer

Americans must question corporate practices and take action when they believe corporations are behaving unethically, Ralph Nader, consumer advocate and former 2000 Green Party presidential candidate, said at Wednesday's lecture titled "Legislating Corporate Ethics." "If you want to make sure that these companies behave, you have to empower the owners and the victims," Nader said. "It's the lack of power of the people who pay the final price that is the root of the fraudulence that occurred."

Nader said that corporate ethics can be synonymous with corporate crime, and that major corporations are responsible for more deaths and disease each year than street crimes. Since 2001, Nader said there have been 58,000 deaths due to work-related accidents, 65,000 deaths due to air pollution caused by major industrial corporations, 85,000 fatalities as a result of medical malpractice and 42,000 deaths of highway workers according to the Department of Transportation.

On the other hand, street crimes punishable by law are only responsible for an estimated 14,000 deaths each year. Nader said he believes that corporate crime is really a source of violence not recognized by the law.

Nader argued that corporate ethics must encompass a vast spectrum of values, including honest internal auditing and a fair treatment of employees. The heightened levels of greed and corruption in the business world today make the need for a new type of corporate ethics all the more necessary, Nader explained.

No one thought this kind of corruption would happen, Nader said, specifically referring to the corruption evident in the Senate's actions on the resolution as well as their opinion on the matter. "I sent it to him because I think in this situation, he's the person to go to," said Foley, who chairs Senate. "He's the one who decides about the Pass in Review."

Foley said once the Senate passes a resolution, it is sent to the appropriate part of the administration for review and debate. The University does not take any action or react to resolutions passed solely by the Senate, said Storin, but may review those resolutions as it receives them.

However, Storin also said that the ROTC department has already begun planning this year's ceremony, which could possibly make a location change for this year difficult.

"It is our understanding that the ROTC command has already made its plans to have the ceremony indoors and they're not contemplating any change in those plans," Storin said.

Colonel David Mosinski, chair of the Department of Military Science, said the Review would benefit from a more public outdoor setting.

Review unlikely to return to SouthQuad
By MAUREEN REYNOLDS
News Writer

After Student Senate passed a resolution March 19 calling for the return of the ROTC Presidential Pass in Review to South Quad, a University spokesman said the school is unlikely to take action on the Senate resolution.

Matt Storin, a spokesperson for the University, said the Campus Life Council must approve a Senate resolution before the administration can act on it. Because Student Body Vice President Trip Foley submitted the resolution directly to University President Father Edward Malloy and bypassed CLC, the resolution will probably not be acted upon.

The ceremony honoring cadets, which includes speeches from University President Father Edward Malloy and University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh, was moved to Loftus from South Quad several years ago as a result of inclement weather.

Foley sent the ROTC resolution to University President Father Edward Malloy along with a letter explaining the
What's Inside

Amendment right to assemble and support of U.S. America" and professions of concern for involvement in the war. In Chicago, anti-war protesters clashed with those who support U.S. involvement in the war. In Oregon, a raucous group burned an American flag. In San Francisco, protesters staged a "vomit-in," regurgitating red-dyed milk on the steps of City Hall to show their disgust with the war. Americans who choose to protest the war in these and other ways understandably have the right to do so. Our First Amendment right to assemble and express an opinion represents the bedrock of our liberty and sets us apart from people in countries like Iraq — where every move and word are watched and guards for exile, torture or execution.

So when I saw the television coverage and read the newspaper reports of the thousands of protesters with slogans like "No Blood For Oil," "The Inspections Were Working" and "Regime Change in America" and professions of concern for the Iraqi people, I didn't question their right to protest. I did, however, question the method they were using.

By breaking the law — over 1,500 were arrested in San Francisco — they divert precious anti-terrorism resources. They fail to support the thousands of Americans overseas who are prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice to protect America and secure freedom for the Iraqi people.

But most of all, they are opposing the removal of a vicious dictator whose crimes against his people should make any civilized person recoil in horror. One international organization reported that at least 200,000 Iraqis have died as a result of placing human beings feet first into an industrial machine meant to shred plastic. Another method of torture involves placing human beings feet first into an industrial machine meant to shred plastic. Another method of torture that particularly delights Saddam is putting people in swimming pools filled with acid and watching them melt.

Saddam, not the U.S. campaign to remove him, deserves a "vomit-in." Saddam, not President Bush, poses the greatest threat to the Iraqi people. Many of the protesters claim to oppose the war out of concern for them, but they should first consider the testimony of people like Ajmat Saadoun Khis of Safwan, who had turned into a gigantic concentration camp for Iraqis.

The view expressed in the Inside Columns are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Kristin Yemm at kyemm@umassd.edu

What's Going Down

Car towed for illegal parking
A visitor's vehicle was towed for a parking violation Tuesday afternoon from Mouse Krause Circle.

Car hit near Stepan Center
A university employee reported Tuesday that her car was struck March 20 or 21 in lot 816 by an unknown vehicle.

Student taken to Health Center
NDSP transported a student to the University Health Center Tuesday for treatment of injuries sustained during a fall near the Information Technology Center.

Juveniles removed from bus
NDSP assisted a Transpo bus driver in removing unruly juveniles from a bus Tuesday afternoon. They were identified and released in a parent.

Student sustains injury near Rock
A student was transported to St. Joseph Regional Medical Center for treatment of a sports injury sustained near the Rockne Memorial Tuesday night.

Compiled from the NDSP crime blotter
As the development office awaits the formal announcement of the University's next strategic plan and the subsequent development of a capital campaign, it will undergo a transition period as positions are reshuffled and created.

Lou Nanni, vice president for University relations, said promotions were made and a new position was created in order to increase development funding and the number of contributions.

"These changes would make the University even better," Nanni said.

Dan Reagan, assistant vice president for University relations and executive director of development for Notre Dame, received a promotion earlier this year to the newly created position of associate vice president for University relations and executive director for principal gifts and campaign administration.

Nanni said the position was created because many of Notre Dame's peer institutions have equivalent positions. He added that the move was not connected to the downturn in the economy or the decreased University endowment.

Nanni said the University needed to be more strategic in looking for major gifts, which are considered those that are above $5 million. Reagan will focus on and cultivate a group of prospective major gifts donors for the University's next capital campaign.

Reagan, who has been part of the development staff since 1984, worked extensively on the Generation capital campaign, which raised approximately $1 billion dollars. Nanni said he expects the next campaign will be established following University President Father Edward Malloy's May report in the Board of Trustees titled "Notre Dame 2010: A Quest for Leadership," which expresses campus wide strategic planning.

"Dan has been a senior administrator in development operations and an instrumental leader in the largest campaign ever in Catholic education," Nanni said. "He embraces the ideals of Notre Dame and is respected by his peers inside and outside of the University. He garnered great respect from alumni.

Two assistant vice presidents will fill the positions that Reagan will vacate this summer. Timothy Rippinger, director of development operations, will be in charge of leadership or six-figure gifts, regional development, estate gifts, the research office and stewardship.

"Tim is the consummate professional and represents, so very well, the values of Notre Dame," Nanni said in a press release. "We fell fortunate to have someone of Tim's caliber with the specific fund-raising experience he possesses. From regional development to the management and orchestration of a large staff, Tim is a perfect fit to lead this critically important area of the University."

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The development office is searching for someone to fill the other assistant vice president position, which would be in charge of national programs.

Contact Meghanne Downes at mdownes@nd.edu
Students concerned about study abroad

By MARY BETH BROVIK
News Writer

With the out break of war in the Iraq and the occurrence of sometimes-violent protests in European countries, Saint Mary's students currently overseas and those considering studying abroad face concerns about their safety.

Along with individual American embassies in foreign countries, the State Department issued guidelines for Americans abroad, and Saint Mary's abroad programs follow these guidelines depending on the danger in each particular country.

"The policy at Saint Mary's is the policy of the State Department," said Renee King, a French professor and director of the College's Dijon, France program.

King said she believes Saint Mary's students abroad in France are safe. Should concerns arise. Cultural Experiences Abroad — the organization that facilitates the College's Dijon program has its own policies for dealing with dangers to students and evacuations if they become necessary.

Sophomore Haley Samuelson, currently studying abroad at the National University in Maynooth, Ireland, said program director Peggy McCarthy went over Saint Mary's guidelines handed by the security office and advised students to contact her immediately should a conflict arise.

Samuelson said she and other Americans were warned by the American embassy not to attend last month's anti-war protests because of concerns about the events turning violent against Americans, but she decided to attend anyway.

"We went and people seemed really happy that we were there," Samuelson said. Additionally, students scheduled to study abroad next semester face the decision of whether to travel overseas because of concerns over safety.

Freshman Carrie Brison, who is considering studying in Rome next year, said her decision would not be affected by the situation in Iraq.

"War doesn't affect my thoughts on going abroad," although it may affect my mother's," she said. "You just have to go in the world and not let those things affect you."

Contact Mary Beth Broviak at brov99@smainmarys.edu

Review

continued from page 1

"The ceremony is a show of our organization, its discipline and its membership for the whole community and an outdoor setting would always be better," she said. "I believe for the whole community, he said. "When the Notre Dame Sports Pass in Reviews, they are traditionally outdoors.

ROT C officials and cadets praise the ceremony as a way for the program to be publicly recognized and for the cadets to be honored. During the ceremony, senior ROTC members receive awards and the cadets march past Malloy in a ceremonial inspection.

However, campus peace officers have protested the ceremony in the past couple of years because they oppose a public military presence on a Catholic campus.

"I do not think that ROTC should be on Notre Dame's campus," said Tom Feeney, a representative of Pax Christi, a Catholic student group.

However, Feeney added that ROTC should be on Notre Dame's campus "like the idea of the Third Wave of feminism because it specifically gives the people who are maturing and coming into influential roles, the people who are having a voice to be heard, hope and a new spark of energy, rather than just a continuation of previous movements," said Saint Mary's Junior Zoe Zelasky.

Contact Emily Brammer at bram3501@smainmarys.edu

Lecturers discuss women's issues

By EMILY BRAMMER
News Writer

Women today should question traditional stereotypes about women's issues when taking positions on such topics as the abortion issue, said lecturers Amy Richards and Jennifer Baumgardner Wednesday.

Richards and Jennifer, co-authors of "Manifesta: Young Women, Feminism, and the Future," discussed the Third Wave, a new generation of feminism, in their talk titled "Can I Be a Feminist and... Love My Boyfriend, Make Money, Get Married, Be Pro-Life?"

Richards and Baumgardner explained the context in which their ideas of feminism were formed. Both women grew up witnessing their mothers practice the ideas of the Second Wave feminism in the framework of their everyday life.

"We've had the privilege of growing up with our mother's ideas of feminism in the '70s, but we're trying to define what it means for us now," said Richards.

Their talk concentrated on the predominant uncertainties that many contemporary women have in justifying feminism with their personal beliefs.

"I constantly hear women ask, 'Can I be pro-life and be a feminist?" or 'Can I support a certain piece of legislation and still be a feminist?" said Baumgardner. "Basically what these women were asking is 'Can I be myself and be a feminist.'"

Richards and Baumgardner explained that personal decision-making in life should not be dependent on the predominant feminist ideas concerning men, the pro-life issue and religion. They also said that many stereotypes do not reflect the true feminist movement.

"We needed men to help advance the feminist movement in the '70s, but the current incarnation of the 'man question' is 'What do we need men to be feminists for our own sake,'" said Richards.

The speakers also emphasized the importance of diverse personal opinions among feminists.

"We find that some people are again on certain sides, but some people have wildly different opinions and that's great," said Nader.

Nader continued from page 1

Eraun scandal

Nader also discussed the current economic state of our country. Though the economy was growing at an unprecedented rate, Nader was concerned about the high numbers of lower class citizens.

"Why are there poor people?" said Nader. "Why are 25 percent of children raised in poverty? Why are public services crumbling before our eyes?" According to Nader, Americans do not ask for the answers to such important questions because they are conditioned by the corporate business culture.

"Nader challenged college students to respond differently to that corporate culture. You are not here just to learn a trade. You're here for liberal arts, to develop critical minds (and) to develop minds that reach the heights of human possibility," Nader said.

A key component of the policy of social accountability that Nader discussed was preventability.

"Being effective citizens is fundamental for a just democracy," Nader said.

Citizen impact on the accountability and integrity of corporations needs to be rede- fined, said Nader.

"There isn't moral imperative for students like you who are in the top 2 percent of students to do something. You are the peak of your ideal-..." said Nader.

Contact Julia Miller Lemon at jmliller1@nd.edu

Out and Back: How Notre Dame Prepared Me for the "Real" World

Mark Massoud
Notre Dame BA '89 MA '00

Founding member of the Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs; 1996-1999

Welsh Family Hall Lounge

4:45 p.m.

Thursday, March 27th

Sponsored by the Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

Thursday, March 27, 2003
Iraq

Needy Iraqis cheer arrival of delayed relief convoy

Associated Press

SUSANVILLE, Calif. - A teenager found safe after spending 13 days with a convicted murderer is back with her family in Michigan.

Lindsey Diane Ryan, 14, was picked up Monday by her mother, Carol Ryan, at the Susanville airport late Tuesday.

“She’s shaken and not sure what this all means for her, but she’s glad to be home and she’s cooperating and talking,” 41-year-old Carol Ryan said of her daughter. The mother added that she “got more and more relaxed on the way home.”

Before her departure, the teen told the California Highway Patrol officers who located her Monday she wants to follow in their footsteps, and hopes to return to California in a year to meet them again.

Convicted killer Terry Drake, 56, was stopped with the girl by two CHP officers near Standish, 90 miles northwest of Reno, Nev.

Police found two stolen motorcycles hidden at a remote mountain campsite north of Susanville along the California-Nevada state line where the pair spent much of their time. They also found three others in Drake’s pickup truck.

Guns, ammunition and $4,000 were discovered missing from Lindsey’s home March 1, when she slipped out her bedroom window to meet up with Drake, police said.

Drake, who is married, spent 16 years in prison after being convicted of murdering a woman from the Evansville, Ind., area, in 1977. He and Lindsey met at church and, without her parents’ knowledge, corresponded over the Internet.

Drake was flown in handcuffs and shackles Wednesday from Susanville to Sacramento on a federal writ charging him with interstate transport of a minor with intent to engage in criminal sexual activity. The charge was handed up by a federal grand jury in Michigan on Tuesday. More federal charges are pending, authorities said.

Drake could also face state charges in Michigan of receiving and concealing stolen firearms, and criminal sexual conduct with a minor. He already faces charges in California.

World News Briefs

U.S. paratroopers land in northern Iraq: Army airborne forces parachuted into northern Iraq on Wednesday, seizing an airfield for a new front against Saddam Hussein. U.S. and British warplanes bombed an enemy convoy fleeing the besieged city of Tikrit in the north.

Pakistan, India trade missile tests: Pakistan and India conducted tit-for-tat, capable missile tests Wednesday, pushing their deadly conflict to the forefront of a world on edge. The United States may be focused on the war in Iraq, but the dual missile tests served as a reminder that the world’s other conflicts continue. India on Wednesday also accused Pakistan of having a hand in this week’s murder of 24 Hindus in disputed Kashmir, and the two countries exchanged heavy artillery across the ceasefire line dividing the Himalayan province between them.

National News Briefs

Nobel peace winners arrested: Two Nobel Peace Prize winners, two bishops and a Vietnam War activist were among those arrested near the White House in anti-war protests Wednesday. More than 100 demonstrators in Florida denounced President Bush during his trip to the state. Police said 65 people were arrested.

Bush warns hardest battles lie ahead: President Bush said Wednesday the war in Iraq is far from over and the toughest battles lie ahead as coalition forces near Baghdad. After rallying troops, Bush flew to Camp David for a war council with British Prime Minister Tony Blair. “I can assure you there will be a day of reckoning for Iraq, and that day is drawing near,” Bush told hundreds of cheering American troops and their family members in a packed hangar in Florida.

Court rules on Elian excess force lawsuit: Former Attorney General Janet Reno and other federal officials have immunity from an excessive force lawsuit filed by the Miami relatives of young Cuban refugee Elian Gonzalez, an appellate court ruled. Reno, former Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner and former Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder cannot be sued for their official actions unless it can be shown that they knew the agents would violate the Gonzalez family’s rights when they seized the boy, the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said in a ruling made public Wednesday.

Shuttle probe finds clues in melted metal: The way metal melted in debris from the space shuttle Columbia indicates the leading edge of the shuttle’s left wing experienced the hottest temperatures, perhaps offering clues as to where fiery gases penetrated the spacecraft, experts said Wednesday.
**Senate**

Sena

continued from page 1

**Marine**

continued from page 1

The Washington Post report

owed Monday that a second

medical center outside of the

United States. According to the

report, the second group of

wounded personnel was sent to Landstuhl with four people on ventila-

tors, which is what Dustin Ferrell used initially to breathe.

The first day was pretty miserable because all they said was he had a very serious accident," she said.

A major from the Camp Lejeune, North Carolina mil-

itary base, where Dustin Ferrell worked, called Rachael Ferrell to let her know her husband was in critical condition and the surgery today will be for his mid-facial fractures, Rachael Ferrell said.

The Washington Post article referred to a Marine who fit some of the descriptions of Dustin Ferrell. The Marine was at Landstuhl on a ventila-

tor and unable to speak with experts how and where the Humvee accident had occurred, although she sus-

pects that his unit might have been in southern Iraq. She responded "no" to questions of whether his group had hit someone, if the vehicle had rolled over and if someone had hit them said Rachael Ferrell. The nurse told them that four of the people were in the Humvee at the time of the accident, Rachael Ferrell said her husband and two other

personnel were injured. Another person in the group died and the two who were injured are also staying at Landstuhl.

In Germany, Dustin Ferrell has been under the care of two doctors for his pulmonary contusions and broken bones. The surgery today will be for his mid-facial fractures, Rachael Ferrell said.

Friends and family of Dustin Ferrell have lost a great American, an intellectual and a man of passion and understanding for what really makes the country work," she said.

"It's difficult to imagine that Dustin Ferrell will be able to walk in the National Mall next season to increase awareness of a cause," she said.

"We really think [the in-hall dances] is something the Campus Life Council should be reviewing again, especially in addition to the letter."
**MARKET Recap**

**Market Watch March 26**

- *Dow Jones*: 8,229.88 **↓** 50.35
- *NASDAQ*: 1,387.45 **↓** 3.56
- *S&P 500*: 869.95 **↓** 4.79
- *AMEX*: 820.88 **↑** +0.10
- *NYSE*: 4,844.63 **↓** -17.38

### TOP 5 VOLUME LEADERS

- **COMPANY**
- **%CHANGE**
- **$GAIN**
- **PRICE**

- SIRIUS SATELLIT (SIRI) **↑** +6.35 **↑** + 0.84  **6.67**
- NASDAQ-100 INDEX(QQQ) **↑** +0.57 **↑** + 0.15  **25.56**
- MICROSOFT CORP (MSFT) **↑** +0.94 **↑** + 0.24  **24.25**
- CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO) **↑** +0.44 **↑** + 0.66  **13.66**
- SPDR TRUST SER (SPY) **↓** -0.50 **↓** - 0.48  **77.98**

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### IN BRIEF

**Senate OKs budget reducing tax cuts**

The Senate delivered a wartime reprieve to President Bush's domestic plans on Wednesday, approving a $2.2 trillion budget that provides less than half the $726 billion in tax cuts he wants to rally the listless economy.

The Republican-controlled chamber used a mostly party-line 56-44 roll call to approve the fiscal blueprint, which endorses just $350 billion of the president's planned tax cuts through 2013. That vote came after moderate GOP senators joined Democrats to fend off, by 52-48, a last-ditch Republican attempt to add a hard right provision that would have gutted a $3.3 billion in refund, a third of what Wilson said.

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**U.S. regulators may demand refunds**

Federal energy regulators, cataloging widespread manipulation of Western markets, said U.S. regulators may demand refunds because of the corrupt market activities prevalent at the time. The issue will be decided next month.

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### Game tests ND community's wit and skill

By MEGHAN MARTIN
Assistant News Editor

Members of the Notre Dame community can now test their wits and compete for campus prizes in a new online riddle contest.

The game, called RiddleMeIrish.com, is the business venture of sophomore Judah Wilson and a product of the Entrepreneurs Club's Student Business Incubator. University policy prohibits students from using campus facilities or resources to operate for-profit businesses. However, the Student Business Incubator, created this year by the Entrepreneurs Club, allows students to begin their own for-profit or non-profit ventures under the guidance of the Student Activities Office and the Gigot Center for Entrepreneurial Studies.

Wilson, who received an extraordinary amount of hard work that's gone into entrepreneurship given to all incoming freshmen each year.

**The University has talked about it, but I want to start it on my own**, he said. "The proceeds from [RiddleMelrish.com] will be seed money."

Registration for the contest will end at midnight on April 5 after which participants will test their riddle skills.

The response has been encouraging, after all the hard work that's gone into it," said Wilson.

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**Top 5 Volume Leaders**

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Contact Meghan Martin at mmartin@nd.edu
American officials were lying, said he hoped that his willing-top secret Defense Department he considered proof that leaking the Pentagon Papers, a nes to get arrested might.

The Republic-controlled chamber used a mostly party-linked 56-44 roll call to approve the fiscal blueprint, which endorses just 350 billion of the president’s $726 billion tax cuts through 2013. That vote came after moderate GOP senators joined Democrats to feed off, by 52-48, a last-ditch Republican attempt to add $67 billion back to the tax reduction package.

The final say on the budget’s tax-cutting figure will come when House-Senate bargainers work out a compromise tax-and-spending framework. The Republican-led House approved its own budget last week, embracing Bush’s entire $726 billion tax-cutting economic plan, and GOP leaders are sure to drive the tax figure in their compromise as high as they can.

Even so, the Senate budget was an unambiguous setback for Bush on one of the pillars of his domestic agenda. It also highlights the limits on Bush’s abilities to persuade lawmakers to adopt his proposal, at least, even though the war with Iraq has helped keep his popularity high.

There are just differences that on a bipartisan basis Congress has had with the administration” over taxes, the economy, minority sentiment, and other issues,” Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., told reporters before the vote.

“I don’t think, war or no war, those differences would be any differently reflected.”

In a written statement, Bush said it was unfortunate that the Senate’s tax number fell shy of his own.

“We will work to ensure that the final House-Senate budget provides the growth measures American workers deserve,” he said.

“The growth package is not what I want,” said Senate Budget Committee Chairman Don Nickles, R-Okl., “I think about half a loaf. That’s bet­ter than none.”

The votes came as Congress begins considering Bush’s $74.7 billion proposal to pay for the war with Iraq and other costs of the U.S. drive against terrorism at home and abroad.

Members of both parties have said a concern about the war’s price tag — and the potentially expensive American role in a postwar Iraq — has helped soften support for Bush’s entire tax plan.

Bush’s economic package was dominated by his proposal to eliminate the taxes stockholders pay on corporate divi­dends, which lawmakers say is now in trouble. It would also accelerate income tax reduc­tions already scheduled to take effect and enhance some write­offs for businesses.

The administration and its GOP supporters said the tax cuts would reju­venate the econ­omy by boosting stock values, increasing corporate invest­ment and putting more money in consumers’ pockets. Democrats and some moderate Republicans say the cuts would only worsen federal deficits that seem likely to near a record $400 billion this year, and are the opposite of the sacrifice the government often requires dur­ing wartime.

Congress’ budget does not need Bush’s signature and sets overall ceilings on spending and taxes. Final decisions on the size and details of the tax cuts — as well as any spending changes — will be made in later bills.

The budget is significant because it will shield whatever tax-cutting figure lawmakers agree upon from Senate proce­dure-intensive reconciliation, which take 60 votes to halt. That means any tax-cutting bill protected by the budget would need only a simple majority, or 51 votes, to pass.

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Washington — The Senate approved Bush’s tax cuts, evening money for Iraq and other war-related costs. It passed the fiscal blueprint, which endorses just 350 billion of the president’s $726 billion tax cuts through 2013. That vote came after moderate GOP senators joined Democrats to feed off, by 52-48, a last-ditch Republican attempt to add $67 billion back to the tax reduction package.

The final say on the budget’s tax-cutting figure will come when House-Senate bargainers work out a compromise tax-and-spending framework. The Republican-led House approved its own budget last week, embracing Bush’s entire $726 billion tax-cutting economic plan, and GOP leaders are sure to drive the tax figure in their compromise as high as they can.

Even so, the Senate budget was an unambiguous setback for Bush on one of the pillars of his domestic agenda. It also highlights the limits on Bush’s abilities to persuade lawmakers to adopt his proposal, at least, even though the war with Iraq has helped keep his popularity high.

There are just differences that on a bipartisan basis Congress has had with the administration” over taxes, the economy, minority sentiment, and other issues,” Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., told reporters before the vote.

“I don’t think, war or no war, those differences would be any differently reflected.”

In a written statement, Bush said it was unfortunate that the Senate’s tax number fell shy of his own.

“We will work to ensure that the final House-Senate budget provides the growth measures American workers deserve,” he said.

“The growth package is not what I want,” said Senate Budget Committee Chairman Don Nickles, R-Okl., “I think about half a loaf. That’s bet­ter than none.”

The votes came as Congress begins considering Bush’s $74.7 billion proposal to pay for the war with Iraq and other costs of the U.S. drive against terrorism at home and abroad.

Members of both parties have said a concern about the war’s price tag — and the potentially expensive American role in a postwar Iraq — has helped soften support for Bush’s entire tax plan.

Bush’s economic package was dominated by his proposal to eliminate the taxes stockholders pay on corporate divi­dends, which lawmakers say is now in trouble. It would also accelerate income tax reduc­tions already scheduled to take effect and enhance some write­offs for businesses.

The administration and its GOP supporters said the tax cuts would reju­venate the econ­omy by boosting stock values, increasing corporate invest­ment and putting more money in consumers’ pockets. Democrats and some moderate Republicans say the cuts would only worsen federal deficits that seem likely to near a record $400 billion this year, and are the opposite of the sacrifice the government often requires dur­ing wartime.

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Smallpox vaccine leads to death

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Health officials are recommending that people with heart disease not get vaccinated against smallpox as authorities investigate a possible link between the vaccine and heart problems.

The vaccination has never been associated with heart problems before, but the warning and the investigation came Tuesday, after an illness in a woman who died and six others became ill after being inoculated.

"I think we want to err on the side of safety," Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the federal Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, said Tuesday. Gerberding emphasized that officials do not know whether there is a connection and said the national vaccination program, off to a slow start, must move forward to prepare for the possible of a bioterror attack with smallpox.

"The potential for terrorism has probably never been higher," she said.

Of the seven people under investigation suffered heart attacks, including the Maryland woman who died, another woman who is now on life support and a third woman who was hospitalized and released. All three were health care or public health workers in their 50s.

Two other people developed angina, or chest pain. All five of these patients had received at least one dose of the vaccine before the vaccination, such as diabetes, obesity, hypertension or history of tobacco, Gerberding said.

The other two patients under investigation suffered from heart inflammation. Additionally, 10 people vaccinated through the military program had the same condition.

Gerberding said she does not expect to find a link between the heart trouble and the vaccine but wants further study before ruling it out.

"It could be entirely coincidental," she said. "Coronary artery disease is a very common condition in our society." The vaccine carries well-documented side effects, but they have never included heart problems. Still, the data were gathered during a time when most people being vaccinated were young children not likely to have heart trouble, Gerberding noted.

The CDC planned to gather cardiac experts on Wednesday to consider whether something in the vaccine might be triggering heart problems in people who already have risk factors.

Health officials also plan to compare the rate of heart problems in the pool of smallpox vaccine recipients with the rate expected in a similar population of people who have not been vaccinated.

Under the new, temporary guidelines, people who have been diagnosed with serious heart disease such as coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, previous heart attack and angina are being told not to get the vaccine.

Gerberding said she expects the new guidelines, which are being developed in the coming days, to be "less stringent" than the initial guidance that limited smaller to eliminate fewer than 10 percent of potential vaccine recipients and people with a history of skin disorders.

The woman who died, a hospital worker in Salisbury, Md., was vaccinated a week ago. She died five days later, on Sunday, in Arlington, Va., state officials said. An autopsy was performed Tuesday.

Her death is the first associated with either the civilian vaccination program that began two months ago or the military program launched in December.

As of March 14, states had vaccinated 21,698 civilians, mostly in public health departments and hospitals. Concerns about the vaccine's risk have helped keep the numbers well below the 450,000 initially expected.

Under the mandatory military program, several hundred thousand people have been vaccinated, the CDC said. Two people have been reported with inflammation of the heart, none of which was clinically severe. All the people who became ill were being vaccinated for the first time.

Based on studies in the late 1960s, experts estimate that one or two people out of every million being vaccinated for the first time will die. The death rate for those being revaccinated was lower: Two people died out of 8.5 million who were revaccinated in a 1968 study.

Additionally, 14 to 52 people out of every million being vaccinated for the first time are expected to suffer life-threatening side effects.

That's because the smallpox vaccine is made with a live virus called vaccinia, a cousin to smallpox which can cause illness if it escapes the inoculation site and infects another part of the body. Vaccinia can also infect those who touch someone else's vaccination site.

Seven more nations become part of NATO

Associated Press

BRUSSELS

NATO officially signed up seven eastern European nations to become members on Wednesday, an expansion hailed as a historic reunification of the continent after decades of Cold War division.

In an emotional ceremony at NATO headquarters, foreign ministers from Romania, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Estonia and Latvia approved the formal protocols of accession.

"This is a momentous day for NATO," said Nicholas Burns, the U.S. ambassador to NATO. "The United States congratulates these seven nations for their dedication to the Alliance and the broader trans-Atlantic community." NATO invited the seven to join at a November summit in the Czech capital, Prague. The countries will become members in May 2004 if their parliament ratify the treaties. They will be covered by the alliance's core security guarantee that states an attack on one member is an attack on all.

"Today we feel like winners," said Romania Foreign Minister Mircea Geoana. "A dream of generations of Romanians has come true."

Ministers from the three Baltic states that broke free of Soviet rule in 1990 stressed in particular the importance of NATO's security umbrella.

"Latvia will never again stand alone in the face of a threat," said Foreign Minister Sandra Kalniete.

Estonia Foreign Minister Kristiina Ojuland called the accession of seven newcomers "a historic step for a Europe free, whole and at peace." Under NATO procedures, the ministers did not themselves sign the protocols, but approved the signing by diplomats from the current 19 members.

"Future historians will recognize that this decision to open NATO's doors has been a turning point in the building of a Europe reunited and free," NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson said.

The United States firmly supported NATO's post-Cold War eastward expansion. In turn, it received strong backing from most newcomers in the run-up to the war against Iraq — in marked contrast to opposition from long-standing allies France, Germany and Belgium.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld welcomed the pro-American sentiment from the easterners, saying it represented the views of a "new Europe" while French President Jacques Chirac denounced their refusal to back his anti-war stance.

Further underlining the demise of Cold War divisions, five of the new NATO members will join the European Union in May 2004 along with Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic, which became NATO members in 1999.
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Look beyond the numbers.
NORTH KOREA

Officials call talks with Americans ‘meaningless’

Associated Press

PYONGYANG
North Korea on Wednesday cut off the sole regular military contact with the U.S.-led U.N. Command that monitors the Korean War armistice, saying it was “meaningless” to sit with the Americans. The move will further isolate the North amid heightened tension over its suspected nuclear weapons programs. The North has accused the United States of using the nuclear issue as an excuse to attack the communist state, and Pyongyang has said it will boost its defenses amid such fears.

But South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun on Wednesday dismissed as “groundless” allegations by the North that U.S. forces may attack and spark a “second Iraqi crisis” on the Korean Peninsula. “There will be no war on the Korean Peninsula as long as we do not want a war,” Roh’s office quoted him as saying, adding that Washington has repeatedly pledged to resolve the crisis peacefully.

Meanwhile, U.N. envoy Maurice Strong said that North Korean officials told him in meetings in Pyongyang last week that they “reserved the right” to reprocess spent fuel rods that experts say could yield enough plutonium for several atomic bombs within months. Such a move would spike tension even further.

The North’s People’s Army sent a telephone message to the U.N. Command saying it will no longer send its delegates to the liaison-officers’ meeting at the inter-Korean border village of Panmunjom. “It is meaningless to sit together with the U.S. forces side by side to discuss any issue as long as it remains arrogant,” the North’s official news agency KCNA quoted the North Korean message as saying.

The announcement came as lawmakers from across North Korea convened the country’s rubber-stamp parliament amid heightened tension over the communist state’s suspected nuclear weapons program. The U.N. Command, which has monitored the armistice since the end of the 1950-53 war, had no immediate comment. Without a peace treaty, the Korean Peninsula is still technically in a state of war.

U.S. officials representing the U.N. Command have met North Korean officers at Panmunjom almost weekly since the end of the war.

In Japan, space agency officials were preparing to launch their first spy satellites into orbit on Friday, North Korea has condemned the move, prompting fears it may retaliate and test-fire a long-range missile.

Japan’s satellite launch “is for the purpose of information gathering,” said Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hoshina Takashima. “It is not offensive, or intended to interfere with any other nation’s security whatsoever.”

Takashima said that the satellites will play a role in Japan’s national security, however.

Meanwhile in the North’s capital, Pyongyang, North Korean Finance Minister Mun Il bong said that the 2003 budget will increase 14.4 percent from last year, with 15.4 percent of the spending allocated to national defense, according to KCNA.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re-examining domestic policy

Paul Graham is right in his March 26 column. Despite the war, we certainly cannot ignore our economy or our domestic problems. I find it a humerous coincidence, though, that his article appears immediately above Mr. Zeilner’s article defending Aetna Foods. Zeilner points out that the Progressive Student Alliance and Paul Graham advocate the union view in a manner unfair to Aetna. In this very same Observer issue, Graham again unfairly slants and skews the issues of domestic policy.

Graham describes a “strain on the national budget.” This includes deficit spending and a decline in the national surplus. He can hardly be faulted for criticizing this. Common understanding holds that eliminating debts and deficits is part of a fiscally responsible government. This common understanding, however, is wrong.

So long as a country can service the interest on its debt, deficit spending actually expands the economy and stimulates growth. Furthermore, when a government runs a surplus, it takes more money than it spends. This shows the economy by removing money. It should come as no surprise, then, that periods of large deficit reduction — and even of government-run surpluses — have immediately preceded most of our nation’s recessions.

Graham unfairly treats tax cuts. Certainly, wealthier people receive more raw dollars back from these cuts than poorer people. This should be obvious. Even wealthy people pay an enormous amount in taxes. Poorer people, in contrast, pay relatively little. In fact, some poor people do not receive any money from tax cuts. For example, if a wealthy person pays 30 percent, or $1,000,000 a year and pays 30 percent, or $300,000, in taxes, if you cut the first person’s taxes in half, so that he will only pay five percent of his income, then he saves $1,000. If you reduce second person’s tax rate by a mere one percent, in 29 percent, she will gain 10 times as much as the first person, or $10,000.

Student Senate needs independence

I am writing this letter in response to Mark Leen’s letter in Wednesday’s Viewpoint and the coverage of Monday’s Executive Cabinet meeting. I am very vocally opposed the idea presented in previous articles about giving Executive Cabinet power over Senate. In addition to being a present member of the Executive Cabinet, I have also had the privilege last year of serving as the senator from Pasquerilla West. In that capacity, I served on the oversight committee, which specifically looked at and preserved the Senate’s independent power with no restriction from the Executive Cabinet. The Senate’s main emphasis is on affecting policy fights the right of workers to live up to them.

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I grew up in a military family. My brother graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy and is now in South Korea as an air traffic controller. I will also serve in the Air Force. And despite these stories, I have much hope for advent in the present of pacifism. My mentality is one of contradiction. Or is it?

The church promotes the just war theory and pacifism as twin Christian responses to violence. While pacifism is a commendable personal ethic, it would be dangerous if it were a public government's exclusive response to violence. Although steady, pacifist efforts by the government could result in a strength that would lead most of the public authority is responsible for addressing rising conflicts with an immediacy and effectiveness that pacifist efforts would struggle to provide.

The Church consequently also endorses the just war theory (JWT), which has a peaceful spirit in its focus on limited war. The government can work to stop immediate problems, ideally through a JWT approach, but it is indeed naïve to endorse ethics such as pacifism who are needed to cool the deep fires of hatred with the power of agape.

Imagine, for example, a tree dropping destructive-accorns of death onto innocent people. The military could cut off the branches causing the immediate problem, but people, especially those skilled at the heart with the pacifist virtues of peace and love, would be essential for providing the natural solution to uproot the core of the evil.

Andrew Delberry
ND Changing Times

Such pacifists are to be recognized for being the voice in the desert working to keep people in their right, moral sense. They provide strong viewpoints to be considered in any public ministry as well as at an external peace. The more successful activists have shirked a "peaceful pacifist" image to effect significant improvements in the world.

Even my AFROTC workout acknowledges the potential of pacifism with a picture of demonstrators that show how "Czech and Slovak nationalism led to the peaceful separation of Czechoslovakia into the Czech Republic and Slovakia."

These successes challenge the pacifist advance to draw more from its great potential. The effort must have a presence in this world that is as tangible as military forces with an effective organization, coordinated leaders, skilled professionals and clearly articulated objectives. The numbers of those who are willing to die for peace must match the numbers of those who are willing to die within the military. The resurrecting power of pacifism won't be realized until the peacekeepers are willing to become peace martyrs.

I appreciate Fred Zeilner's March 26 response to the Progressive Student Alliance campaign in support of striking workers at Ateza Foods. Needless to say, there are two sides to any labor dispute, and Zeilner and others should be afforded every opportunity to present the company's position. Many concerned students had in fact hoped that Mr. Velasquez himself would respond to Paul Graham's March 5 column. Such a response would allow interested individuals to further evaluate the issue.

While I found Zeilner's analysis of working conditions at Ateza to be somewhat informative, I am left with the feeling that he failed to mention the foot as they marched at the downtown Mall in hopes that the Church would take up the cause. The Church must do much more before we can hear the glad echo of peace.

Andrew Delberry is a senior in Air Force ROTC, and encourages peace-lovers and patriots to check out this weekend's student peace conference in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies. He can be contacted at adeberry@nd.edu.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PROTEST FALSE PATRIOTISM

My Washington Program peers, Ben Haney, Beth Monteleone and Jacques Wilson claim in their March 24 letter that once Congress has decided to go to war, not only is the debate over but speaking out against this decision is in fact unpatriotic even if it is protected under the Constitution. If going against my conscience, reasoning and religious and philosophical beliefs in support of a resolution made by a small group of people is patriotism, then I want none of it.

I have been brought up to believe that the Constitution is not applicable only during peacetime. I also believe that it is my duty as an American to exercise my rights, including freedom of speech. This is especially so during a war that, according to Haney, Monteleone and Wilson, is being waged by a small group of people is patriotism, then I am left with the feeling that he failed to

Christian Carey
Senior
Washington, D.C.
March 24

AZTECA MUST RESPOND TO CLAIMS

Azteca must respond to claims at a time when Azteca is said to be doing quite well. Of further concern is the noticeable silence of Zeilner's responses on other demands made by striking workers. As Graham noted, workers are also asking for seniority rights, grievance procedures and better retirement benefits. The letter has been written to warn of the dangerous aspects of the situation in which Ateza Foods finds itself. The letter is an open invitation for the company to reconsider its position.

Christian McNamara
Letter
March 26
‘Tears of the Sun’ predictable yet entertaining

By JOE HEIECK
Scene Movie Critic

When I first saw the preview for “Tears of the Sun,” I thought the movie looked stupid — so I went to see it. Expecting junk, it actually was entertaining.

Lt. A.K. Waters (Bruce Willis) and his SEAL team head deep into Nigerian jungle to extract an American, Dr. Lena Kendricks (Monica Bellucci), from the war-ravaged nation. Kendricks refuses to leave without the villagers she has cared for and has grown to love. A soldier that always does the "right" thing (following orders without thought of consequence based on U.S. policy), Waters decides to do the real right thing: save Kendricks and the villagers. Now, Waters and his men must get everyone to Cameroon while fending off the rebel army and defying orders.

The movie follows standard script format. Hence, its only noticeable drawback is you can anticipate what will happen, for example who will live and die, from their character development and dialogue. Yet the movie moves at a good pace. Plenty of twists, explosions, death and sexual tension hold your attention throughout the picture. Moreover, “Tears of the Sun” spotlights the wretched wars in Africa that claimed the lives of millions without much care from the rest of the world.

Director Antoine Fuqua is no stranger of fictions in forgotten realities. His last film, “Training Day,” is such a story. Denzel Washington starred as an LAPD narcotics officer who has corrupt ways of enforcing law and raises ethical questions for rookie Ethan Hawke. Washington won an Academy Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role for his complicated depiction, only the second black actor to do so (the first was Sidney Poitier).

Again, Fuqua delivers a movie of gritty reality. He creates tension and conflict through great shots, good direction and few words. Overall, “Tears of the Sun” was an entertaining action-adventure film. Reality mixed with classic Hollywood conflicts makes it a good “popcorn movie.”

Contact Joe Heieck at jheieck@nd.edu

American doctor Lena Hendricks (Monica Bellucci) refuses to leave her patients behind in the Nigerian jungle.

Lt. A.K. Waters (Bruce Willis) and his SEAL team attempt to get villagers to Cameroon while fighting off the rebel army.

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GUARDING the BASKET
Under Brey, Irish now have national respect

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

They last met on a basketball court called Madison Square Garden, when the program had three future NBA players and the other team had a lot of star-strike looks on their faces.

In the Preseason NIT Classic three years ago, few doubted Arizona, Kentucky and Maryland belonged in one of the most prestigious early-season tournaments.

But Notre Dame? The Irish hadn’t been to the NCAA Tournament since the early 1990s.

Then, the Irish were out of their league, and they gave it. They lost to Arizona 76-60 in a game that was never close.

“Back then, we were in kind of awe,” senior Matt Carroll said, who was a freshman when Notre Dame last played Arizona. “It was the first time we had been in that territory. You went out there and gave it your best.”

Three years ago, few thought the Irish belonged on the same court as the Wildcats. Tonight, the two teams will meet in the West Regional semifinal with an Elite Eight berth on the line.

The increased respect for eight-seeded Notre Dame — playing in the Sweet Sixteen for the first time since 1987 — shows how far the program has risen in three years of Mike Brey’s leadership.

After the Irish lost to Arizona in the Preseason NIT in former coach Matt Heytys only year at the helm, the Irish went on to finish runners-up in the NIT after narrowly missing an NCAA berth. But under Brey, the Irish have advanced to the NCAA Tournament three consecutive years after an 11-year drought. The only Big East team to win 10 league games all year, the Irish are one of just nine teams to win their team needs a solid perimeter players.

The Irish rely on their perimeter players for most of their points, and scissors have provided offense at times in the tourney. Notre Dame needs to play at their tempo and not let Arizona dictate the pace of the game.

The Wildcats have a solid inside game and very good perimeter players. They also have shown their ability to score in bunches, Arizona will try to push the ball and shred the Irish.

The experienced Walton is arguably the best passing big man in the nation. He hurts teams in different ways by either scoring, passing or rebuffing. Frye will also present problems for the Irish in their first two tourney games by scoring rebuff and playing good defense. He, along with Cornette and Timmermans will need to shut down the Wildcats’ big men like they did against Illinois.

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The best thing to happen to Arizona was to have a close game like they did against Gonzaga. That contest should make the Wildcats up and have them more than ready to face the Irish.

The Wildcats’ depth is one of their biggest assets. One of just nine teams to win their team needs a solid perimeter players.

Arizona has one of the deepest benches in the country. Olsen plays his freshman a lot — except down the stretch when he turns to Miller and Quinn to shoot well from the outside.

The best thing to happen to Arizona was to have a close game like they did against Gonzaga. That contest should make the Wildcats up and have them more than ready to face the Irish.

Walton is the leading perimeter player in the nation. He leads Arizona with 20.1 points per game, is third in scoring, second in assists and fifth in steals.

Walton is a matchup nightmare for any opponent, and he is hard to defend because of his ability to score at a variety of positions. Walton is one of the reasons why Arizona is favored to reach the Sweet Sixteen and win the national title this season.

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Unwavering support

Torin Francis' teammates gave him the confidence to live up to his lofty expectations.

**By ANDREW SOUKUP**

Tyrone Woods

He was just a 6-foot-10, gangly freshman who arrived at Notre Dame this summer. He hadn't started playing like anything yet and hadn't shown he could fill the gap in Notre Dame's frontline. But when Torin Francis joined the Irish for summer workouts, he was eager to learn everything he could about the college game. His teammates, who quickly discovered, were more than eager to give him advice.

That started a confidence-building process for Francis, a process that resulted in solid play from the Irish freshman in Notre Dame's first two NCAA Tournament games.

Francis, his work in the summer showed he could be the answer in a question that loomed over the Irish basketball program: how would Notre Dame replace Harold Swantag and first-round NIT draft pick Ryan Humphrey?

"One thing that was questionable about one team in the fall was the type of balance we'd have between the perimeter and front court guys," Francis said. "I knew I could be the type of player that we need at that position for a freshman." Expectations, Francis now says, they thought he lived up to.

Building a big man

A week ago, after Francis scored 23 points and grabbed 14 rebounds in Notre Dame's first-round victory over Wisconsin-Milwaukee, someone asked Irish coach Mike Brey when Francis started making his move to the basket much quicker.

"Point guard Chris Thomas, for example, made a concerted effort to get Francis extra touches so he might make those baskets," Brey said. "But there's one part of the game Francis really grabbed is his defensive game experience early in the game. His team mates, he quickly dispersed, were more than eager to give him advice.

Just felt like I established my role on the team," he said. "I felt like I was getting better from then on.

Big East big man

Slowly but surely, the Irish began to trust their big man with the ball more. An athletic rebounder and a solid defender, Brey often complemented the play of his big man even if he didn't have the points to support such generous praise.

"I wanted to establish myself in the beginning of the season because they said, 'If he's effective, we'll get him the ball,'" Francis said. "I felt like I was establishing my role on the team, and I definitely started getting better from there on.

Stretch run

As the Big East season wore on, Francis developed a reputation as an excellent rebounder — he averaged 8.3 boards a game — and a solid defender. What's more, he proved himself wise beyond his years when, if the shots didn't fall in the first half, he refused to get taken out of the game.

"I know they said that freshmen hit a wall a little during the season," Francis said. "Some games, I just didn't have a good game, and you can't have a good game every game. But there were games that I was effective."

The Irish began making concerted efforts to get the ball to Francis, who proved himself adept at either kicking the ball out or scoring on demand. When earlier in the season Francis seemed touched by the ball on offensive possessions, Thomas would often dribble around the 3-point line to give Francis an easier shoot.

"If you look at how many times I got the ball in the beginning of the season, and how many times I got it now, it just shows how much of an effect I can have," Francis said.

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**IRISH INSIDER**

Contact Andrew Soukup at soukupd@nd.edu

**The Observer • IRISH INSIDER**

Thursday, March 27, 2003

**IRISH INSIDER**

By the time practice officially started, Francis was a confident young man. In the summer, I tried to instill the mentality in myself that I have to be ready to go out and play," he said. "I knew I could be starting as a freshman. I knew that was a possibility, and I think I've been able to play partly helped me gain confidence."

Starting quickly

The philosophy of Notre Dame's new-season squad, since Mike Brey arrived three years ago, has been one where the Irish play a huge role in helping freshmen get comfortable from the get-go.

The plan worked well for Francis, who saw significant playing time and scored decent points in Notre Dame's first five games of the season.

But the sixth game, an 85-80 Irish loss to Creighton, showed how much the big man had learned. He never got into the flow of the game, got only played six minutes.

Yet, much like he would in Big East games later in the season, Francis bounced back to register two of his best performances of the season at the Big East Classic. Francis dominated the Irish's first meeting with the Irish, helping Maryland and edged Texas. In the next game against the Irish, Francis averaged 20.5 points and nine rebounds, which worked wonders for the freshman's confidence.

"That was definitely a boost for the team, but it's been personally, I important Francis would be, senior Matt Carroll picked the freshman as his weight lifting partner in the summer. That started what teammates jokingly called a big brother-little brother-like relationship between Notre Dame's veteran leader and Notre Dame's primary post threat.

"In the summer, I could ask him questions, and he'd give me advice," Francis said. "If I have a problem, I know I can talk to him. We've really clicked, and it's been going on throughout the entire year."

But it wasn't just Carroll who spent time working with Francis. By playing countless pick-and-roll games in the summer, Francis got accustomed to how the Irish played together. The veterans, meanwhile, spent time teaching Francis the finer points of the game.

"Point guard Chris Thomas, for example, made a concerted effort to get Francis extra touches so he might make those baskets," Brey said. "But there's one part of the game Francis really grabbed is his defensive game experience early in the game. His team mates, he quickly dispersed, were more than eager to give him advice.

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Good 'D' might not stop hot-shooting Wildcats

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

At one point in the season, the word "defense" seemed to be just that to the Arizona basketball team — a word. However, in Notre Dame's first two NCAA Tournament victories, the Irish won in large part due to a stingy defense that had disappeared for most of the 2003 calendar year.

But will a strong commitment to defense be enough to help the Irish knock off top-seeded Arizona tonight?

Notre Dame coach Mike Brey isn't sure.

A year ago, when the Irish faced Duke in the second round, Brey told his players they would probably have to score 80-plus points to win, because he knew the Irish would have a tough time stopping the prolific Blue Devil offense.

So how many points does Brey think the Irish need against Arizona, who enters tonight's game averaging a national-best 85.4 points a game?

"I'm thinking about asking for a hundred," Brey said, only half kidding.

Although Brey thinks the Irish match up fairly well against the Wildcats, who play a style of basketball similar to Notre Dame's perimeter-oriented attack, every member of Arizona's starting five averages double-digits in scoring.

Jason Gardner leads the Wildcats in scoring with an average of 14.3 points per game, but he is closely followed by 3-point sharpshooter Salim Stoudamire, who averages 13.4 points a game and shoots 44.1 percent from behind the arc.

When the Wildcats want to look inside, they can pass to either Channing Frye or Rick Anderson, who average 12.8 and 10.7 points a game, respectively.

What helps make the Wildcats so dangerous, however, is forward Luke Walton, the son of Hall-of-Famer Bill Walton. One of the best passing big men in the nation, Walton averages 10.3 points and 4.9 assists a game — the same assist average as point guard Gardner.

Couple those impressive offensive statistics with the fact that the Wildcats are a relatively experienced team, and the Irish have good reason to be worried.

"To try and guard the best offensive team in the country right now, we're not going to shut them down," Brey said.

"But if we can take a few things away every now and then, that certainly would help the effort." Throughout the season, the Irish have been a team whose defensive prowess is directly related to their offensive production. If the shots fall for the Irish, then the players appear to buckle down on defense more.

But if the shooters start going cold, as they did in the latter stages of the season when Notre Dame often gave up over 80 points a game, the Irish give up big scoring runs that put them in a hole too big to climb out of.

Against a team with as many offensive weapons as the Wildcats, Brey knows that if the Irish fall back into that trap, his squad will be in trouble.

"We are a kind of team that needs our offense going a little bit to get our defense going," Brey said. "That's kind of who we are."

Against Illinois, however, the Irish played defense in a way exactly as Brey described. They hit 11 first half 3-pointers while limiting the Illini to just 60 points in the game.

Brey believes the Irish have the offensive firepower to knock off the Wildcats. Because both teams rely on the 3-point shot, Brey thinks scores could easily spiral up into the triple-digits.

The Wildcats are also coming off a second-round scare when they beat Gonzaga in double-overtime. And all their offensive talent isn't making the Irish back down.

"To be the best, you've got to beat the best," Irish point guard Chris Thomas said. "And Arizona is on top right now."

Contact Andrew Soukup at soukup@nd.edu

THE SWEET SIXTEEN

MIDWEST REGIONAL

No. 1 Kentucky
They beat the most depth and are tourney-tested. Look out everyone else.

No. 2 Pittsburgh
Defense will save the Irish. Keep the Panthers off the Final Four.

No. 3 Marquette
Dwanye Wade and Travis Diener have made the Irish a team to fear in the Midwest.

No. 4 Wisconsin
The Badgers are here thanks to an amazing comeback against Tulsa.

WEST REGIONAL

No. 1 Arizona
A scare from Gonzaga last week may have woken this giant up.

No. 5 Notre Dame
The Irish are playing in their first Sweet Sixteen game since 1987.

No. 3 Duke
Duke is playing its best ball of season in the tournament and could be dangerous.

No. 2 Kansas
After a scare from Utah State, the Jayhawks have routed Arizona State.

SOUTH REGIONAL

No. 1 Texas
The Longhorns have an excellent shot at making the final game.

No. 2 Duke
Duke is playing its best ball of season in the tournament and could be dangerous.

No. 3 Syracuse
Syracuse has played well already and could run the table as a No. 3 seed.

EAST REGIONAL

No. 1 Oklahoma
Star Hollis Price is having some problems that could hurt the Sooners chances.

No. 2 Connecticut
The Huskies are playing well after wins over BYU and St. Mary's.

No. 10 Auburn
Is one of the tournament's biggest surprises after upsets of St. Joe's and Wake Forest.
"Piglet's Big Movie" a postmodern haymaker

By BJ STREW
Scene Movie Critic

Laugh it up, sure, but most critics miss the boat on the Winnie the Pooh spin-offs. Anyone remember the Tigger Movie? Alas, after its celebrated run on the festival circuit, it was roundly ignored by both American critical and mainstream audiences. Most wrote it off as a run-of-the-mill children's musical, appreciating neither its debt to the French New Wave nor its droll, nuanced commentary on American politics. So it is a small wonder that it bypassed the megaplexes on its way to the living room VCR or DVD player.

Piglet's Big Movie is inarguably one of the most ingenious spin-offs ever imagined — more so even than Tang. (Thanks, NASA.) At last, the much-maligned genre of animated musicals has subsumed the long-ignored genres of the spaghetti western, the Chinese "wuxia pian," burlesque, film noir and blaxploitation movies in this dazzling postmodern salmagundi. At last, the runt of the Hundred Acre Wood family gets his fifteen minutes.

Terror, in the form of marauding ronin, again plagues the serene Hundred Acre Wood. It goes without saying that Christopher Robin, the jaded-yet-prissy British leader of said ronin, supplies the precise amount of honed menace to propel the action of the story. In the penultimate danc ing showdown between the Piglet-Roo-Kanga camp and Robin's set of bandits, it's Superfly meets Sergio Leone in 1930's Manhattan. Then Philip Glass chimes in.

Truth be told, however, Glass's strident Tibetan score finally meshes neither with the sunny, easygoing tenor of the Pooh franchise, nor the slashing mettane of genres. Fans of Deolimite will recognize Piglet's voice as belonging to the relentlessly debonair Rude Ray Moore. Fred "The Hammer" Williamson, of Black Caesar fame, takes on the dual task of furnishing the voices of both Eeyore and Pooh.

Robin will be puzzled over for years by underground film majors.

In the end, the sundry influences of B-movie titan Roger Corman, singer-songwriter Chris Yanek and New Wave trailblazer Francois Truffaut collide in a graphic triple-trainwreck of a movie that nevertheless draws the obligatory rubbernecking. Tigger's antegrade amnesia, the Pulp Fiction-style fragmented narrative and the off-kilter stripteases make for a consistently pleasurable experience, while preserving its satirical take on the American presidential election mechanism.

Critics should agree — this time — that decades will pass before such a nonpareil triumph of creative and corporate forces working in tandem could be matched, let alone outdone. One thing's for sure: in order to save the animated musicals genre, Piglet had to destroy it. And postmodernism was his wrecking ball.

Contact BJ Strew at wstrew@nd.edu

While Pooh wears his ever-present smile, Piglet's worried countenance reveals that all is not as serene as it seems for their familiar group of friends.

In "Piglet's Big Movie," the tiny title character stars in his very own spin-off. Surrounded by his trusty friends Pooh, Roo, Tigger and Rabbit, Piglet faces terror in the Hundred Acre Wood.

Contact BJ Strew at wstrew@nd.edu

Producer: Michelle Paparrarde-Robinson
Animator: Alexander Williams
Voices: John Feddler, Jim Cummings, Ken Sansom, Peter Cullen

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The 76ers' Allen Iverson takes a shot over Indiana's Jermaine O'Neal Wednesday night in Philadelphia's 91-85 win over the Pacers.

The game-winner was the second in less than three weeks for Billups. He hit a 3-pointer at the buzzer March 9 to give the Pistons a 107-105 win over Golden State.

“Chauncey is a confident guy who is only thinking about a win,” Carlisle said. “He has done some great things at the end of games.”

Terry, who played all but 13 seconds after playing 42 minutes Tuesday in a loss to the Lakers, said he was hurting more emotionally than physically.

“It's hard to work that hard all night and then lose because someone hits a deep bomb on you at the buzzer,” he said. “I feel fine — I was more tired last night — but this one is very demoralizing.”

Suns 101, Grizzlies 99

Stephon Marbury capitalized when the Phoenix Suns got a second chance at a game-winner.

Marbury scored 23 points, including an 18-footer and a free throw with 1.2 seconds left Wednesday night that gave the Phoenix Suns a 101-99 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies.

Shawn Marion missed a 15-foot shot with about five seconds left, but his left rebound and foul Marbury on the right wing for the winning three-point shot.

Marbury had seen limited action in the second half after catching a knee to his thigh with 6:15 left in the third period.

“I really had no burst,” Marbury said. “I tried to play the playmaker role. The jump shot was just there. It was ordinary. The same thing I always do.”

Memphis couldn’t get the ball inbounds for a tying shot after Marbury’s win.

Phoenix snapped a three-game road losing streak, while Memphis lost for the first time at home in its last four.

“Give Marbury credit,” he said. “He had a tough shot, got fouled and hit the free throw and had Mempho forward Shane Battier, who guarded Marion, “They made one more big play than us.”

Amare Stoudemire added 22 points for Phoenix, while Marion had 21 points and 18 rebounds.

Penny Hardaway scored 18, and Marbury added eight assists.

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Kwan wins group at World Championships

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Michelle Kwan could have done this in her sleep.

Kwan practically tumbled out of bed to beat Russia’s Elena Sokolova and U.S. teammate Sasha Cohen, winning her qualifying group at the World Figure Skating Championships. Olympic champion Sarah Hughes was third.

“It’s odd to skate so early, compete so early,” said Kwan, whose Wednesday session began at 10:30 a.m. “But all the skaters are in the same boat.”

Well, they wish they were in the same boat as Kwan.

Considered the “old lady” of the sport — her first worlds were in 1994 — the 22-year-old Kwan remains a force. The lack of an Olympic title has had little effect on her. Kwan tends to perform steadily, and better than the competition.

She skated in only two events this year, not having to leave this country for Skate America and the U.S. Championships. She won both, taking her seventh national title and sixth in a row.

Now Kwan leads at worlds, which she was second behind the four-time world champion, won her group Wednesday.

The MCI Center was about one-third full for Kwan’s group, which also included Hughes, who had a ragged performance that included a fall and two shortened jumps.

Cohen hit seven triple jumps, three in combination, and had a strong conclusion to her routine to a piano concerto by Rachmaninov. She was mechanical early on, but her spins and spirals were superb at the end and she finished first with one of the seven judges. Her marks, however, ranged from 5.6 to 5.9, while Kwan’s were 5.7 to 5.9.

“It takes a lot of composure to do seven triples and skate well against the tough group that we had,” Cohen said.

As for the 5.1, she added: “I was kind of like, ‘Whoa,’ because I have got pretty high marks all season not skating as well as this.”

Of course, under the interim system in use at worlds, with only seven of 10 judges’ marks counting, it is unknown if the 5.1 actually mattered.

While Cohen didn’t flow nearly as well as Kwan, her program was pretty much spotless. Kwan did mess up once late in hers, and she wore an ironic smile after doing just a single toe loop as the second part of a combination that included a triple.

“What was that?” she said, laughing. “I was like, ‘OK, got to go.’”

Hughes lacked spark and looked rusty from lack of competition this season — an injured leg sidelined her until nationals, where she was second behind Kwan. She never got in the air for a planned triple salchow-triple loop combination, and then after a nice triple loop out of footwork, she fell on a triple flip. Later, Hughes managed only a single toe loop rather than a triple.

“My body is a little tight right now,” Hughes said. “I didn’t have a year of competitions to rely on.”

It was a disappointing performance after Hughes lit up the arena in Dallas for her free skate at nationals.

“From a first world title disappointed, even a medal will be difficult for the 17-year-old high school senior who has dealt well with the distractions that follow an Olympic champion.”

 Hughes’ last year has been so many new things, things I’m not sure where they fit in my life,” she said. “To come here is a little comforting.”

You are invited to hear Deirdre McQuade

National Program Director, Feminists for Life of America present "Don't Women Deserve Better than Abortion?"

Tuesday, April 1 at 7 pm, Haggar Parlor, Saint Mary’s Q&A Period and Refreshments to follow
League rejects OT changes

Associated Press

PHOENIX

NFL owners changed nothing.

The league closed its annual spring meeting Wednesday by voting down a proposal to give both teams a shot at the ball in overtime. And it tabled a proposal to expand the playoffs from 12 teams to 14.

The plan to change the overtime rule got 17 votes, seven short of the 24 required for passage.

"They made the decision because the current system presents a tremendous reward or risk. That's something that adds a lot of excitement to the game," said Indianapolis general manager Bill Polian, who helped convince the other teams by citing the Colts' 23-20 win over time rule got 17 votes, seven more than either Polian said, the league had to study the ramifications for both competition committee chairm an Rich McKay expected.

But it was tabled until the league's May meeting in Philadelphia because, Tagliabue said, the league had to study the ramifications for both competition and television coverage involved in adding two wild-card teams.

Some teams also are concerned that only one team would have a bye under the proposed system. And both Tagliabue and McKay noted it was a change in an agreement to wait two years with the new eight-division alignment before tinkering with the playoffs.

"We had no problems last year with the alignment," said McKay, Tampa Bay's general manager. "The teams that made the play-offs were the teams with the best records."

The change in overtime was proposed after a record 25 games went into an extra session last year. Ten of those were won by a team on its first possession and 58 percent were won by the team that won the coin toss at the start of the OT.

One of those was the game in Denver, which seemed to sway many teams.

In that contest, which was televis ed nationally, the Colts' Mike Vanderjagt tied the game with a 54-yard field goal in regulation. Indianapolis then won the coin toss in overtime and moved the ball far enough for Vanderjagt to try a 51-yarder into the wind, which he made.

Polian said that if it wasn't sudden death, head coach Tony Dungy certainly would have changed the alignment before tucking in with the team on the field until Vanderjagt convinced him to try the field goal.

"That game made our season," Polian said. "It's probably the main reason we made the play-offs. If there had been two possi-

sessions, a defensive-minded coach like Tony certainly would have tried to pin them back. That would have been the right call. But the reward for kicking was much greater—we won the game on the spot."

In another move, the league changed the rules involving onside kicks in the final five minutes of games.

In the past, if a ball did not go 10 yards, went out of bounds, or was touched illegally, the kicking team was penalized, but had a chance to kick again from five yards back. McKay said that while that was rewarding a team for an illegal play, coaches wanted it retained; the coaches feared teams would stop trying surprise onside kicks.

It finally passed when it was amended to cover only the final five minutes, when a trailing team often tries to get back in the game by getting another possession through an onside kick.

The owners also spent considerable time discussing racial diversity in hiring practices. There was no agreement, however, on what discipline to take against the Detroit Lions, who hired head coach Steve Mariucci, a white man, to replace the popular Jim Mandich, who won a Super Bowl with the Lions.

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The Lions said that five prospective black candidates turned them down because it was clear that Mariucci was the first choice for the job.
Ace finishes spring strong

Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. - Pedro Martinez capped his healthiest spring in years Wednesday with a dominant performance, marred only by a two-run homer by Cincinnati's Jason LaRue. The three-time Cy Young Award winner faced the minimum through four innings and looked untouchable before stumbling in the fifth and giving up three runs. He finished with nine strikeouts and no walks.

Still, with the deadline he imposed for a contract extension by the end of spring training fast approaching and Randy Johnson having signed a two-year, $33 million contract in Arizona this week, most of the questions afterward were about his future in Boston.

Answers were harder to come by.

Martinez said last month that unless Boston picked up his $17.5 million option for 2004 by the end of spring training and re-signed him to a new contract, he would finish his career elsewhere.

Then he sealed his lips, and said he wouldn't discuss the matter again until the deadline passed.

Though the deadline isn't until opening day, Wednesday was Martinez's final appearance of spring training, and reporters pushed him for hints of progress.

"It's been such a long time without doing anything, I should be pessimistic, but I'm not," he said.

But at other points, he sounded less sure. While not precisely repeating his threat and insisting he wanted to finish his career in Boston, he didn't appear to be softening.

"If they don't show that they have interest in signing me, what are they telling me?" he said. "What am I going to do - go in and beg them to extend my contract?"

Martinez said he has no reason to believe a deal will be done before Monday - but acknowledged he might not be the best person to ask since he told his agent not to come to him until it's done.

Martinez was also asked if he thought New York Yankees' owner George Steinbrenner was helping the Red Sox would lose out on Martinez, and about the prospect of one day pitching for a team like the Yankees. He acknowledged it would be quite a spectacle.

"Pedro Martinez pitching in New York," he said. "I don't even want to think about that."

Boston's Pedro Martinez earns a pitch from the mound to a spring training loss to Tampa Bay. The right-hander for the Red Sox has had one of his most dominating springs to date.

Burk takes another shot at CBS, Augusta

Associated Press

NEW YORK - Martha Burk believes it is "appalling" that women who fight for the United States in Iraq face discrimination at home at private golf clubs like Augusta National.

"Broadcasting the Masters now and showcasing a club that discriminates against women is an insult to the nearly quarter million women in the U.S. armed forces," she said at a news conference Wednesday.

Burk, chairwoman of the National Council of Women's Organizations, was invited by a half dozen City Council members and representatives of civil rights groups denouncing CBS and the club for its all-male membership.

Several council members planned to introduce a resolution Wednesday condemning Augusta National and asking CBS not to broadcast the tournament.

The Masters, the year's first major tournament, will be held April 10-13, and Burk has said she plans to protest in Augusta, Ga. The American Civil Liberties Union has filed a federal lawsuit on her behalf to hold a protest at the club's front gates.

Burk said the club's all-male membership is an affront to women in the U.S. armed forces, particularly those in Iraq.

"It's appalling that the women who are willing to lay down their lives for democratic ideals should be shut out of this club... Democratic ideals do not include discrimination," she said.

Club spokesman Glenn Greenspan characterized Burk's remarks as "grandstanding."

"Ms. Burk will say anything to get publicity," Greenspan said. "But if she is invoking the troops to draw more attention to herself, only three words apply - shame on you."

When asked before the news conference whether her message would be lost because of the attention on Iraq, Burk said her position would actually be strengthened.

"Women in the military know what it's like to fight for equal opportunity," she said.

"While I know that more important things are on their minds, as more important things are on the mind of the nation, including us, it is just part of a continuum of discrimination."
Friday, March 28

9:00am-5:00pm
- Conference Registration (Great Hall of the Hesburgh Center)

6:00pm
- Dinner at Greenfield's for those uninvolved in the conference

8:00pm
- War Got You Down? Visions of Peace in Troubled Times Panel by various professors (Hesburgh Center Auditorium)

10:00pm
- Karaoke party (Great Hall of the Hesburgh Center)

Saturday, March 29

9:00-10:30am
- Presentation by Take Ten (Hesburgh Center Auditorium)
- Women in War and Peacebuilding (Room 102)
  - Davis J. Borgen, moderator (Professor of History, Peace Studies, and European Studies, University of Notre Dame)
  - Johann Husk (College of St. Benedict), "On Stills or Off? The Link Between Mothering Activities and Visions of Peace"
- Women's Eye (Antioch College), "The Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in India as an Example of Gandhi's Vision of Empowerment for Peace through women's Education and Development"
- Teresa Hansen (University of Notre Dame), "The Role of Women in Peace Building"
- Seaver Malone (University of Notre Dame), "The Legacy of the Mothers of the Disappeared in Argentina"

- Regional Conflicts of the Middle East and Central Asia (Room 103)
  - Alisher Khamidov, moderator (University of Notre Dame)
  - Omar Ahmad (Maxwell School, Syracuse University), "Pragmatic Hard, Poetic Soft: Creating Freedom While Rebuilding Kashmir"
  - Rob Newberry (McMaster University), "Gandhi, Israel, and the Problem of Hatred"
  - Aline Zakhraoui (University of Notre Dame), "Chechnya: An Inter-Ethnic Conflict"
  - Eric Hershkowitz (University of Brussels), "Parliamentary and Civil Control Over the Military Forces in Kyrgyzstan"

10:15-11:45am
- Opportunities and Challenges of NGO's and IGO's in Global Society (Room 102)
  - Moderator: TBA
  - Chris Descharmes (University of Notre Dame), "How NGOs Spoiled the Rome Statute"
  - Staci Willits (Antioch College), "Nonviolent Action and Peace Initiatives in the Middle East: Case Studies of Three Organizations and How They Might Work Together to be More Effective"
  - Ahyoung Oh (Antioch College), "From India to Iraq: The Role of NGOs in Creating Global Change"
  - Massimo Fasano (Antioch College), "How to Improve UN Structures and Effectiveness for Global Peace and Security: A Perspective from Japan"
  - Laura Kerner (Antioch College), "Proposal to Reform and Upgrade UN Peacekeeping"

- Religions Paths to Peace (Hesburgh Center Auditorium)
  - Dan Philpot, moderator (Professor of Political Science and Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame)
  - Thomas Frency (University of Notre Dame), "Prophecy and Peace: Rereading Isaiah 2:2-4"
  - Peter J. Quaranta (University of Notre Dame), "The Pacification of Derry City: Radical or not so Radical?"
  - Leon Shom (Antioch College), "Judah and Peace"
  - Neil Bolton (University of Notre Dame), "Living the Vision of Peace: Queer Texts and Harsh Practices"
  - Printal Munshi (University of Notre Dame), "Preparing for Peace: Exploring Peacebuilding Capacities within Mormonism"

- Presentation by students from Notre Dame's Washington DC Seminar (Room 104/105)

11:45-12:15
- Lunch

12:15-1:45
- Innocence Lost: The Effects of War on Children (Room 102)
  - Kim Overylock, moderator (coordinator of Take Ten, University of Notre Dame)
  - Christina Chauvin (College of St. Benedict and St. John), "Peace and War through a Child's Eye"
  - Almina Longuen (University of Notre Dame), "Columbus's Small Soldiers: The Forced Recruitment of Children into Columbian Military Forces"
  - Almugh Fik (Kyung Hee University), "Children in Armed Conflict: What can Children do to Formulate Peaceful Solutions?"
  - Fajr Karako (University of Notre Dame), "21st Century Youths: Visions of Peace Under the Shadows of War"

- Promoting Peace Through Media (Room 103)
  - Fred Dalnay, moderator (Professor of Political Science, European Studies, and Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame)
  - John Fiero (Marquette University), "War and Peace Revisited"
  - De Yann Kao (University of Chicago), "Why Intervene? A Comparison between the "Two" Gulf Wars"
  - Claire Carter (Indiana University), "It is Just? Three Perspectives on the Moral Status of the Bush Administrations Proposed War in Iraq"
  - Kryzin Fowad (Antioch College), "Patriotism and Peace"
  - Ko Berrill (University of Notre Dame), "What is Happening to Just War Theory?"

- Legislative presentation (Hesburgh Center Auditorium)
- Israeli and Palestinian: Open Question and Answer Forum by Tariq Fatah (Room 104/105)

2:00-3:30
- Workshop: Resolving Conflicts with Other Americans Over the Current War by George Lopez (Room 103)

- Workshop: Stress-Relief by Lisa McKay (Room 104/105)

- Peace of Mind: Education and Psychology in Peacebuilding (Room 102)
  - Richard Jackson, moderator (Professor of American Studies and Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame)
  - Nathan Smith (Antioch College), "The Implications of Ken Wilber's Transpersonal and Epistemological Theories of Human Development for Peace and Conflict Resolution"
  - Caroline Napoli (Antioch College), "Body, Image, and Peace"
  - Meredith Morelli (Antioch College), "A Teacher and an Agent for Peace"
  - Jonathan Lobel (Antioch College), "Educating for Participatory Citizenship in a Democratic Nation: A Case Study of a Model for Structural School Reform"

3:45-5:15
- U.S. Foreign Policy: Blessing or Burden? (Room 105)
  - Moderator: TBA
  - Alisher Khamidov (University of Notre Dame), "The Dilemmas in the U.S. Policy Toward the Islamic World after 9/11"
  - Cara Shat (University of Notre Dame), "Plan Columbia: A Plan of War of Peace"
  - Mary Dalehini (University of Notre Dame), "Economic Sanctions in Iraq: A Call to Protect Civilians"
  - Yaqoob Bangash (University of Notre Dame), "US State-Building: Afghanistan a Year Later?"

- Political Party Debate: Democrats vs. Republicans vs. Greens (Room 102)

- Children's Art Therapy by Megan Sutton (Room 104/105)

5:15-6:15
- Dinner

6:15-8:00
- Concert sponsored by Antemny International (Hesburgh Center Auditorium)
BELLES CRUISE PAST VALPARAISO FOR 5-2 VICTORY

By LISA REJULA
Sports Writer

The spring weather allowed the Saint Mary’s tennis team to travel to Valparaiso Wednesday to play a match that had been postponed a week. The Belles made the most of the rematch, notching a solid 5-2 victory over the Crusaders.

Singles winners for the Belles were freshman Kristen Palombo at No. 2, Kris Spriggle at No. 4, senior Elisa Ryan at No. 5 and Angela Sander at the No. 6 spot. Jeannie Knish was defeated in No. 1 singles play by Mara Sonkin of Valpo, 6-4, 6-1. The Crusaders’ other singles winners came at the third spot as Jill Dierberg beat Kaitlin Cutler 6-2, 6-2 in a close match.

In doubles action, the Belles continued their winning ways. Valparaiso (2-0) managed to win just one match. Dierberg and Monika Danko defeated Cutler and Ryan 8-2 at second doubles. The No. 1 team of Knish and Palombo won their match, as did the No. 3 team of Spriggle and freshman Lindsay Cook.

The Belles improved their record to 6-1 on the season as Valparaiso lost their fifth straight dual match. The Crusaders were coming off a disappointing 7-0 loss to Indiana State on Mar. 25.

The upcoming weekend will be busy for the Belles as they host matches at home both Friday and Saturday. First up is Aquinas on March 28. The match will take place at Lakeland Health Club in Niles in the event of bad weather.

Aquinas returns four of six starters from a squad that went 9-4 last season. Senior Kara Ferguson leads the way for the Saints as a strong first singles player. MIAA conference foe Olivet will travel to Saint Mary’s for a morning match on March 29. St. Joseph’s will be scheduled to compete but has cancelled out of the match. Tentatively taking their place is the women’s team from Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

The match against Olivet will be the first MIAA conference game for both teams. The Lady Comets have just three returning players from last year’s squad. They recently suffered a 9-0 shutout loss against Tiffin University.

On March 31, the Belles will be on the road again, this time against Bethel at 4 p.m. The Royals aren’t off to a stellar start for the season, having lost four of their last five matches.

Saint Mary’s will face Aquinas Friday at 3:30 p.m. and Olivet at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Contact Lisa Rejula at lrejula@nd.edu

ND WOMENS SOCCER

Womens Soccer Showcase brings 5 top teams

Special to The Observer

Michiana-area soccer fans will be treated to a display of international women’s soccer, during next week’s Women’s Soccer International Showcase.

The games will take place on April 2, 4 and 5 at Alumni Field.

The showcase will feature five games highlighted by a Wednesday night match between the Mexican women’s national team and the Canadian under-18 national team. Action continues Friday night, April 4, with facing Canada at 5:30 p.m., followed by the renewal of the Mexican-Mexico rivalry.

The Irish posted hard-fought wins over Mexico in the springs of 2001 and 2002. The event now will conclude on April 5 with a Michigan-Mexico game at 5 p.m. and the Notre Dame-Canada matchup to follow at approximately 7 p.m.

“These games will provide a unique opportunity for Michiana soccer fans to see international soccer played at a very high level,” fourth-year Notre Dame coach Randy Waldrum said.

“Mexico has enjoyed its previous experiences coming to Notre Dame for training, and this is something we hope to make into an annual event, with the possible inclusion of mens international teams as well. We anticipate this being a great event for soccer fans in this community and look forward to the challenge of facing such a high level of competition.”

The Mexican women’s national team, which was founded in 1998, steadily has grown into a contender on the international soccer scene. Originally founded on a core of U.S. college players who held Mexican ancestry — including former Notre Dame players Monica Gonzalez and Monica Gerardo — the team has begun to develop a hometown base of players who are considered some of the more dynamic competitors among the world’s young players.

Canada’s under-18 national team stands with the United States as one of the world’s premier teams for that age group, with the U.S. edging Canada at the 2003 under-18 World Championship 1-0 in overtime.

Top players expected to participate in the Showcase with Canada include Kara Lang — one of the world’s emerging forward talents — and Brittany Timke, who has signed to play at Nebraska next season.

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Jackson, Michigan: Home for the disabled
Kansas City, Missouri: Shalom House (Catholic Worker House for homeless men)
Los Angeles, California: Mystery site
Albuquerque, New Mexico: 1) Good Shepherd Shelter; 2) Dismas House (home for ex-offenders)
St. Joe Valley, Indiana: 1) Nappanee Boys and Girls Club; 2) Plymouth Boys and Girls Club
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**QUESTIONS? CALL TRACY AT 631-9402 OR SUE AT 1-7867**
By JOE LINDSLEY
Sports Writer

With Notre Dame up 3-0 in Wednesday's match against Purdue, all the remaining matches were in the third set and the Boilermakers, if they were to prevail in each remaining match, could have stolen the victory from the Irish. But in their last home match of the season, the Irish held on for the 6-1 victory over No. 59 Purdue. Like their match against Michigan Tuesday, the Irish began well against the Boilermakers by winning the doubles point and by continuing that success into the singles portion.

"Purdue always plays really hard, and that was a great match," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. Despite the commanding score, the match was actually a close one with several matches extending into three sets.

"That might be the closest six-one match ever," Louderback said.

With the Irish up 3-0, it was freshman Lauren Connelly who came through with the requisite win to give Notre Dame a fitting conclusion to its home season. Connelly, claiming victory for the third time this season, defeated Missy Wright, 6-0, 4-6, 6-4.

A tweaked doubles lineup began the winning momentum for the Irish. Sophomore Sarah Jane Connelly and freshman Kristina Stastny, who have neither played nor practiced together before, claimed an 8-4 victory at No. 3 doubles. Then senior captain Katie Cunha and freshman Jennifer Smith, playing in Stastny's usual role, won 8-3 at the top of the lineup to put the Irish ahead 1-0.

Louderback was especially pleased with the performance of the doubles teams. He admitted that he and assistant coach Liz Balanis were "just shooting from the hip" when they formed the doubles lineup.

"It's just a great effort from all of them, especially those in the doubles," Louderback said. "They played so well.

The No. 2 doubles duo of Lauren Connelly and junior Alicia Salas lost for the first time this season. Junior Caylan Leslie, who was forced to drop out of her Tuesday match due to an illness and who has been experiencing some shoulder problems, was the first singles player to leave the court with a win.

Leslie topped Purdue's Gretchen Haynor 6-1, 6-3 playing at the No. 1 position. The Irish veteran, freshly ranked 33rd nationally, has won 11 of her last 13 matches, and is the highest-ranked Irish singles player since Michelle Dasso finished fifth in 2001.

After Leslie's win, No. 77 Salas put the Irish within a point of the win when she triumphed over Amy Walgenbach, 7-6 (7-1), 6-2.

After the match was decided, Stastny defeated Shanna Zuccarini, 2-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4. Then the elder Connelly, Sarah Jane, came back to win in the third set after losing the first for the fifth time this season. Connelly rallied to defeat Lara Burgarello 6-7 (5-7), 6-2, 6-1 at the No. 5 flight.

Despite the frequency of this occurrence, Connelly does not want to get accustomed to it.

"I'm definitely not getting used to it, and I hate it more than anything, always playing from behind," she said.

Louderback also would prefer that Connelly, 19-10 overall, win her first set too.

"It's a good effort playing the third, but we don't want her to lose the first," he said. "She's been battling. She's just played very, very hard. The thing is she's done really well is that she hasn't mentally lost.

With all their home matches behind them, Louderback is proud of an Irish squad that has done well against a tough schedule and in a season of so much parity.

The Irish embark upon the final road trips of their season in the next few weeks, beginning with Ohio State Saturday. "[The Buckeyes] are going to be out to get us," Sarah Jane Connelly said. "I know that they're always a really strong team. We're going to have to go out and fight in every match. Every match is big, and winning the doubles like we did today [will be] really important.

Contact Joe Lindsey at jlindsle@nd.edu

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EVENTS LEFT THIS WEEK

Thursday March 27 4pm
•A Life of Service
Lecture by Francie Schmuhl, an ND alumna and Guest Services Coordinator for the South Bend Center for the Homeless
DBTL 118

Contact Joe Lindsey at jlindsle@nd.edu

Friday March 28 9-11pm
•Benefit Concert featuring local campus groups Unchained Melodies, Joe Nava, Sean Dudley and David Salmon, and Chris Trice
Coleman-Morse Center-Main Lounge, first floor

Contact Joe Lindsey at jlindsle@nd.edu

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SPONSORED BY STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Irish finish in 8th after 'mediocre' tourney

By ANDY TROEGER
Sports Writer

After a strong week in Florida, the women's golf team was looking to continue their momentum at the Baylor Tapatio Springs Shootout.

The Irish did not play quite as well as they had hoped, however, finishing eighth with a team total of 963, 45 strokes behind champion Illinois. The Irish fired rounds of 318, 326 and 319.

"It was not a terrible tournament," Irish coach Debby King said. "But it wasn't a great one either. We just had a lot of mediocre rounds."

The second day was really windy but other than that the weather was quite good."

Once again the brightest spot for the Irish was freshman Katie Brophy, who tied for 17th at 235 (80-77-78). Brophy was coming off her best week of the season in Florida when she won the Peggy Kirk Bell Invitational and also had a good showing at the Northern Illinois Snowbird Invitational. She backed up those results with another strong finish.

"Katie Brophy is really hanging in there and staying very consistent," King said.

Following her was senior Terri Taibl, who fired the lowest round of the tournament for the Irish with a final round 75. She tied for 26th at 236 (79-84-73) after also coming off her best tournament, which included rounds of 75 and 74 in a top five finish at the Snowbird Invitational.

"I'm really proud of my senior, Terri Taibl," King said. "She's really peaking at the end of the season."

Illinois won the event by three over Missouri, overcoming the Tigers on the final day. Baylor finished third, and Texas Christian and Kent State rounded out the top five.

Dae Ward of TCU won the individual crown, firing a 221 (68-75-78) to win by one over Illinois' Renata Young. Randi Gauthier of North Texas and Malinda Johnson of Wisconsin tied for third at 224.

For the Irish, junior Shannon Byrne tied for 41st at 244 (81-82-81), while freshman Sarah Bassett was 45th with a 248 (78-85-85). Sophomore Karen Lotta tied for 54th at 253 (82-86-85) and freshman Lauren Gebauer finished 58th with 256 (87-83-86).

The Irish have next weekend off before heading to Bloomington, Ind., for the Indiana Invitational to be held at the Indiana University Golf Course beginning April 5.

Contact Andy Troeger at atroeger@nd.edu

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APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 28.
Smith guaranteed to start for Arizona

In Brief

Smith who led the Cardinals in rushing last season in his second year. Smith will wear the same No. 22 he wore with the Cowboys.

The Cardinals said Smith got a two-year contract, but did not disclose terms. It was believed to be worth about $4 million a year.

A starting job was one of the things Smith had sought and one of the things the Cowboys couldn't guarantee when they released him Feb. 27 after 13 seasons and 17,162 yards.

But Smith's other desire — winning again after three Super Bowl victories in Dallas — might not be easy. Arizona finished 5-11 last season, and it has one playoff victory since 1947.

Smith contributed to the Cardinals' woes over the years. He scored 25 career touchdowns against them, his highest total versus any opponent.

Overall, Smith ranks No. 1 in NFL history with 153 rushing TDs.

Smith, who will turn 34 on May 15, failed to reach 1,000 yards this season after being named for the Super Bowl for the first time since his rookie year in 1990, gaining 975 yards.

Smith rushed for over 100 yards in only two games, including the one with Seattle on Oct. 27 in which he broke Walter Payton's career rushing record of 16,726.

"I've always been very confident in my abilities," Smith said right after being released by Dallas.

"I think I'm a 1,300-yard back, and I will be out to prove that.

"I am not a guy that is afraid of competition," he said. "I walk up and face it full throttle. I will help someone's organization get to the Super Bowl, get back to the Super Bowl or win the Super Bowl."
Irish continued from page 28
got to be able to take advantage of our scoring opportunities," Mainieri said.

The Irish were able to tack on three more runs on the board in the bottom of the sixth inning. With shortstop Matt Macri and Sanchez already on first and second, respectively, Rizzo smacked a single up the middle that was bobbled by the Purdue centerfielder, allowing Sanchez to score and Macri and Rizzo to each advance a base.

After a pitching change brought in a left-handed pitcher, Mainieri replaced designated hitter Steve Andrews with freshman Craig Cooper, whose groundout with no outs not only scored a run, but also put the Irish in great position to score another run by advancing Rizzo to third with one out.

Mainieri deemed Cooper's at-bat as a turning point of the game.

"The best at-bat that was a determiner of the game wasn't even a base hit," Mainieri said. "A ground ball to the second baseman scored a run and moved another runner to third base, which set up the squeeze by Thaman. That at-bat by Cooper really created two runs for us."

Thaman's successfully-executed squeeze bunt on the very next pitch gave the Irish a 6-3 lead.

Meanwhile, on the mound for the Irish, reliever Tyler Jones gave up two more runs in two innings of relief of Thornton, leaving the Irish with a 4-3 lead into the eighth inning.

Cooper picked up another RBI in the bottom of the eighth on another groundout, and Sollmann closed out the scoring with an RBI single three batters later.

Irish closer J.P. Gagne pitched a 1-2-3 ninth inning to earn his fourth save of the season.

Notre Dame will now take a day off before returning to practice in preparation for the Big East home opening series with Georgetown this weekend, beginning with a doubleheader slated for Saturday at noon.

Notes:
◆ With his fourth save of the season and his 10th of his career, Gagne became only the third pitcher in Notre Dame history with 20 wins and 10 saves, joining Aaron Heilman and Chris Michalak.
◆ With his 0-for-5 performance Wednesday, freshman centerfielder Brennan Grogan's nine-game hitting streak was snapped.

Contact Bryan Kronk at bkronk@nd.edu

Irish third baseman Andrea Loman makes the throw to first as pitcher Heather Booth ducks during Notre Dame's doubleheader against Northwestern Wednesday at Ivy Field.

Wildcats continued from page 28
tunity in the bottom of the inning and had runners at first and second with no outs when pinch runner Heather Booth was tagged out when she turned around on second base to effectively killed the Notre Dame rally.

Scoring only four runs in the two games came down to one basic thing, being too passive at the plate.

"We were not aggressive at all, and that's why we couldn't get it done today," Gumpf said. "I think we didn't capitalize on good pitches. We need to hit good pitches, and we need to be aggressive.

In order to right the ship heading into the opening of Big East action this weekend, Gumpf feels the Irish must raise their game in one area to get back in the win column.

"We need to start playing great somewhere, that's the difference," Gumpf said. "I think if we could have played great in one area, that could have carried over to the other areas."

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

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Chocolate City Theatre
Thursday, March 27, 2003 6:30 p.m. Agnus Dei Auditorium Drawbridge Library
Former players return to Rolf's for Classic

By MATT LOZAR
Associate Sports Editor

The team practices four nights a week at Rolf's and now hosts optional one-hour morning practices at the Rock with the hopes of finally qualifying for the national tournaments. The experienced players to teach and the new guys to learn.

We have a lot of guys from all around the country. Some of these guys played competitive water polo in high school and some started a team from Activities Night. They come in and ask to get on the team, sign up and show up,” Deimel said.

“The experienced guys for the past few years help the new guys serving as coaches. They catch on really quick.”

A game consists of four 7-minute quarters with seven players from each team in a deep 30-meter pool.

The goals are the only players permitted to touch the ball with both hands.

To say the least, it’s a physical game that tests swimming endurance and “encourages” some rough play.

“The refs can only see what happens on the top of the water and not what goes on under the water,” Deimel said.

The match between the current Notre Dame men’s team and its alumni is scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday.

The women’s club team and alumni game will take place at 5 p.m.

Other matches this weekend for the men’s team include Gannon (Friday, 7 p.m.) and James Madison (Saturday, 2 p.m).

The final matches are scheduled for Sunday starting at 10 a.m., with the championship scheduled for 1 p.m.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

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* Regular Faculty includes Teaching-Research Faculty, Research Faculty, Library Faculty, and Special Professional Faculty, as described in the Faculty Handbook.
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ND SOFTBALL

Irish lack fight in doubleheader loss

No. 24 Northwestern ruins home opener at Ivy Field

By MATT LOZAR
Associate Sports Editor

When it came right down to it, the Wildcats simply played better.

No. 24 Northwestern ruined Notre Dame's home opener sweeping the doubleheader 4-2 and 3-2 Wednesday at Ivy Field.

"We just didn't play well enough to win against a team like Northwestern who plays well in all parts of the game," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "We just didn't play well enough in any area. We didn't hit well enough, we didn't pitch well enough and we didn't have enough solid defense."

The Irish wanted to jump to an early lead against the Wildcats and they did just that on a first inning solo home run by third baseman Andrea Loman in game one. Even with that quick strike, the Irish couldn't get anything going.

"When you get down, the other team gets momentum, and I don't think we had momentum tonight at all," Gumpf said. "Even when we were ahead in the first inning, I don't think we had any momentum."

Northwestern took the lead for good in the third, scoring three runs on just one hit. The first run came home on an RBI single while the other runs crossed the plate on a sacrifice fly in foul territory and a wild pitch.

The Irish cut the lead in half in the fourth on a single up the middle by center-fielder Megan Ciocli in the bottom of the fifth. Second baseman Sara Schonnaert scored to make the score 3-2.

The Wildcats added an insurance run in the top of the sixth, and it could have been worse. Carrie Wisen relieved Stefanny Stenglein (3-4) and retired two batters with the bases loaded to keep the score 4-2.

The Irish got the tying run on base in the bottom of the seventh with one out, but couldn't muster anything after that and the Wildcats took game one.

After the Wildcats scored a run in the top of the second of the second game, the Irish came back with two in the bottom of the third. Ciocli singled to short and Schonnaert reached on a bunt single. An error by the Northwestern pitcher on the throw moved Ciocli and Schonnaert into scoring position.

Loman came through with a two-RBI single past the second baseman and put the Irish up 2-1.

Northwestern tied it in the fifth on a two-out error by Notre Dame shortstop Andria Bledsoe.

The Irish went up 3-2 on a leadoff home run by first baseman Jamie Douton in the top of the sixth.

The Irish had a golden opportunity to take the doubleheader with Northwestern Wednesday. The Irish lost both games in their home opener.

BASEBALL

Clutch hitting subdues Boilermakers in 8-5 Irish win

By BRYAN KRONK
Senior Staff Writer

Some key hitting by the Notre Dame offense helped the Irish overcome three defensive errors on the way to an 8-5 victory for the home team at Frank Eck Stadium Wednesday night.

"We did a lot of little things tonight," Notre Dame coach Paul Mainieri said. "I thought [starting pitcher Tom] Thornton and all the guys we brought in did a good job on the mound. Our defense was a little shaky at times, but did enough to win. It was a good win against a good Big Ten team, so we'll take it."

The game was characterized by sloppy defensive play as the two teams combined for seven errors in nine innings of play.

Each team opened with a single run, with the Irish manufacturing a run in the second inning and the Boilermakers responding with a run in the top of the third.

For the second straight game, the Irish sent a freshman starter to the mound in Thornton, and once again, the defense gave the opposing offense some extra opportunities due to errors. With two outs, a groundout to Irish second baseman Steve Sollmann was bobbled and ended up costing the Irish two runs, as the Boilermakers were able to respond with a two-run single to give Purdue a 3-1 lead.

"I don't think Tom gets flustered at all [when the defense commits errors behind him]," Mainieri said. "They've got some guys who put some good at-bats up against him. I thought he did a pretty doggone good job for his first start in Frank Eck Stadium with a nice crowd against a Big Ten team. I thought he showed great poise."

Notre Dame responded in the bottom of the inning by manufacturing two more runs. After right fielder Kris Billmaier led off the inning with a single up the middle, catcher Javier Sanchez smacked a double to deep left-center that brought Billmaier home. After a Cody Rizzo groundout moved Sanchez to third, a wild pitch brought him home to tie the game at 3-3.

"We're not going to be a team that's going to knock the fences down all the time, so ... when we get the run on base, we've seen IRISH/page 25
GUARDING the BASKET
Under Brey, Irish now have national respect

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

They last met on a basketball court called Madison Square, when one program had three of their best NBA players and the other team had a lot of star-struck looks on their faces.

In the Preseason NIT Classic three years ago, few doubted Arizona, Kentucky and Maryland belonged in one of the most prestigious early-season tournaments.

But Notre Dame? The Irish hadn't been to the NCAA Tournament since the early 1990s.

Then, the Irish were out of their league, and they knew it. They lost to Arizona 76-60 in a game that was never close.

"Back then, we were in kind of awe," senior Matt Carroll said, who was a freshman when Notre Dame last played Arizona. "It was the first time we had been in that territory."

You went out there and gave it your best.

Three years ago, few thought the Irish belonged on the same court as the Wildcats.

Tonight, the two teams will meet in the West Regional semifinal with an Elite Eight berth on the line.

The increased respect for fifth-seeded Notre Dame — playing in the Sweet Sixteen for the first time since 1987 — shows how far the program has risen in three years of Mike Brey's leadership.

After the Irish lost to Arizona in the Preseason NIT in former coach Matt Doherty's only year at the helm, the Irish went on to finish runners-up in the NIT after narrowly missing an NCAA berth. But under Brey, the Irish have advanced to the NCAA Tournament for three consecutive years.

For Notre Dame, who plays a No. 1 seed for the second straight year after losing to Duke in the second round last year, tonight's game represents a turn point of sorts. The team's goal since June has been to qualify for the Sweet Sixteen, and with that goal met, the Irish now turn toward making as much noise in the postseason as possible.

They'll try to do so at Arrowhead Pond, where Dan Miller advanced the Final Four when he played for Maryland.

"We believe that we are one of the top programs and one of the best teams in the country, and we expect to win those games," said Carroll, who is one of two players on Notre Dame's team left from the squad that lost to the Wildcats three years ago.

"We are going in there ... to beat Arizona, even though nobody is probably going to pick us."

Matt Carroll
Irish guard

"We are going in there ... to beat Arizona, even though nobody is probably going to pick us."

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu

Irish coach Mike Brey pumps his fist during Notre Dame's 66-60 win against Illinois on Saturday. The Notre Dame team that got blown out by Arizona three years ago is far different from the Brey-coached squad that takes on the Wildcats tonight.

COACHING

Brey is a good motivator and he often has his team well prepared, especially for big games. This season is the first time the Irish made the Sweet Sixteen since 1987.

Arizona

In 20 years as Arizona's head coach, Olsen has won nearly 700 games and one national title. He has taken four teams to the Final Four and has the second highest winning percentage in Pac-10 history.

The Wildcats have a solid inside game and very good perimeter players. They also have shown the ability to score inside, and Arizona will try to push the ball and run and gun with the Irish.

Thomas played well for the Irish in their first two tournament games by scoring and rebounding and playing good defense. He, along with Corrette and Timmernann will need to shut down the Wildcats' big men like they did against Illinois.

Perimeter players

Arizona has one of the deepest benches in the country. Olsen plays his freshmen a lot — except down the stretch when he turns to his veterans. Still, the freshmen have contributed all year. The Wildcats' depth is one of their biggest assets.

The Wildcats are a tough tandem in Arizona's backcourt. Gardner may be the best point guard in the country, and both can shoot well from the outside. The Wildcats bench also has several other solid perimeter players.

Bench

The best thing to happen to Arizona was to have a close game like they did against Gonzaga. That contest should wake the Wildcats up and have them more than ready to face the Irish.

INTANGIBLES

We live in a world where things don't always happen the way they should. Arizona's hot streak was cut short. The Wildcats may have been playing well but the Irish could have won by five in the Sweet Sixteen.

The Wildcats will also have an emotional boost from playing in Arizona, a place they have never been.

Arizona is a good team, but it's hard to see Arizona beating the Wildcats on the road.
Unwavering support

Torin Francis' teammates gave him the confidence to live up to his lofty expectations.

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

He was just a 6-foot-10, gangly freshman when he arrived on Notre Dame's campus this summer. He hadn't earned his playing time just yet and hadn't shown he could fill the gap in Notre Dame's frontcourt.

Sure, he had a reputation for being the nation's top big men out of high school, and he was a McDonald's All-American honoree. But his accomplishments in high school amounted to diddlysquat in college, and he knew that.

When Torin Francis joined the Irish for summer workouts, he was eager to learn everything he could about the college game. His teammates, who quickly discovered, were more than eager to help.

That started a confidence-building process for Francis, a process that resulted in solid play from the Irish freshman in Notre Dame's first two NCAA tournament games.

But Francis, in his work in the summer showed he could be the answer to a question that loomed over the Irish basketball program: how would Notre Dame replace Harold Swanagan and first-round NIT Draft pick Ryan Humphry?

"One thing that was questionable about our team in the fall was the type of balance we'd have between the perimeter and the front court guys," Francis said. "I knew we'd have to be ready to go out and play, but I also knew we'd have to be confident about our team for me as a freshman."

Expectations, Francis now says, they too he lived up to.

Building a big man

A week ago, after Francis scored 23 points and grabbed 14 rebounds in Notre Dame's first-round victory over Wisconsin-Milwaukee, someone asked Irish coach Mike Brey when Francis started realizing he was something other than a freshman.

Brey thought about the question for a minute before saying: "I'm sure Torin Francis realized he was a big man. He wasn't a freshman, but for me personally, I think they helped me more with everything I was able to do when he arrived at Notre Dame."

The Irish had lost their senior leaders, two of whom were McDonald's All-Americans and contributors in the post. Notre Dame needed someone to step up. Francis did.

"If you look at how many times I got the ball at the beginning of the season and how many times I got it now, it just shows how much more I can have in me," Francis said.

Torrin Francis Irish forward

Just felt like I established my role on the team," he said. "I felt like I was getting better from there on out."

Big East big man

Slowly but surely, the Irish began to trust their big man with the ball more. An athletic rebounder and a solid defender, Brey often complemented the play of his big man even if he didn't have the points to support such generous praise.

"In the summer, I tried to instill the mentality in myself that I had to be ready to go out and play," he said. "I knew I could be starting as a freshman, I knew that was a possibility, and I think with the help of our team and the attention we gave each other, I was able to really help me gain confidence."

Starting quickly

The philosophy of Notre Dame's first-season coach, since Mike Brey arrived three years ago, has been one where the Irish play a horde of games in order to give freshman tons of game experience early.

"The plan worked well for Brey's young teams, who were significant playing time and scoring decent points in Notre Dame's first five games of the season.

But the sixth game, an 85-80 Irish win over Creighton, was a game where the big man had the most to say.

"He never got into the flow of the game, got in the flow of the game early and only played six minutes. Yet, much like he would in Big East games later in the season, Francis bounced back to record two of his best performances of the season at the BB&T Classic, where the Irish triumphed over Maryland and edged Texas. In a situation that shows more than anything else, he proved himself wise beyond his years when, if the Irish didn't have a good game, and you can't have a good game every time. But there were games that I was effective."

The Irish began making concerted efforts to get the ball to Francis, who proved himself adept at either kicking the ball out or scoring on demand. When earlier in the season Francis seldom played the ball off defensive possessions, Thomas would often dribble around the 3-point line waiting for Francis to establish himself.

"If you look at how many times I got the ball in the beginning of the season, and how many times I got it now," Francis said, "I just show how much more of an effect I have on the game now."

He accomplished one of his pre-season goals by getting named to the Big East All Rookie team after averaging 10.7 points a game and recording nine double-doubles.

In the NCAA Tournament, Francis followed his offensive outburst against Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a solid performance against Illinois. Although he only scored five points in the first four games, he was a key part of a defensive alignment that limited Big Ten Player of the Year Brian Cook to just 6-for-23 shooting.

Now that the Irish are in the midst of an NCAA Tournament run, Francis has also started establishing himself as a vocal leader in the locker room. He knows the time will come when Carroll and Miller graduate, and a new wave of leaders will have to emerge to lead the Irish in the summer.

But for now, those leaders who groomed Francis in the summer have started saying something entirely different to the player who is only a freshman by grade only.

"I want to establish myself in our system and get recognition as a freshman, be effective, and play on a winning team," Francis said. "I think my teammates were willing to pass me the ball because they said, 'If he's effective, we'll give him the ball.'"

Stretch run

As the Big East season wore on, Francis developed a reputation as an excellent rebounder — he averages 8.3 boards a game and is a solid defender. What's more, he proved himself wise beyond his years when, if the Irish didn't have a good game, and you can't have a good game every time. But there were games that I was effective."

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Good 'D' might not stop hot-shooting Wildcats

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

At one point in the season, the word "defense" seemed to be just that to the Irish basketball team - a word.

However, in Notre Dame's first two NCAA Tournament victories, the Irish won in large part due to a stingy defense that had disappeared for most of the 2003 calendar year.

But will a strong commitment to defense be enough to help the Irish knock off top-seeded Arizona tonight?

Notre Dame coach Mike Brey isn't sure.

A year ago, when the Irish faced Duke in the second round, Brey told his players they would probably have to score 80-plus points to win, because he knew the Irish would have a tough time stopping the prolific Blue Devil offense.

So how many points does Brey think the Irish need against Arizona, who enters tonight's game averaging a national-best 85.4 points a game?

"I'm thinking about asking for a hundred," Brey said, only half-kidding.

Although Brey thinks the Irish match up fairly well against the Wildcats, who play a style of basketball similar to Notre Dame's perimeter-oriented attack, every member of Arizona's starting five averages double-digits in scoring.

Jason Gardner leads the Wildcats in scoring with an average of 14.3 points per game, but he is closely followed by 3-point sharpshooter Salim Stoudamire, who averages 13.4 points a game and shoots 44.1 percent from behind the arc.

When the Wildcats want to look inside, they can pass to either Channing Frye or Rick Anderson, who average 12.8 and 10.7 points per game, respectively.

What helps make the Wildcats so dangerous, however, is forward Luke Walton, the son of Hall-of-Famer Bill Walton. One of the best passing big men in the nation, Walton averages 10.3 points and 4.9 assists a game — the same assist average as point guard Gardner.

Couple those impressive offensive statistics with the fact that the Wildcats are a relatively experienced team, and the Irish have good reason to be worried.

"To try and guard the best offensive team in the country right now, we're not going to shut them down," Brey said. "But if we can take a few things away every now and then, that certainly would help the effort."

Throughout the season, the Irish have been a team whose defensive process is directly related to their offensive production. If the shots fall for the Irish, then the players appear to buckle down on defense more.

But if the shooters start going cold, as they did in the latter stages of the season when Notre Dame often gave up over 80 points a game, the Irish give up big scoring runs that put them in a hole too big to climb out of.

Against a team with as many offensive weapons as the Wildcats, Brey knows that if the Irish fall back into that trap, his squad will be in trouble.

"We are a kind of team that needs our offense going a little bit to get our defense going," Brey said. "That's kind of who we are."

Against Illinois, however, the Irish played defense in a way exactly as Brey described. They hit 11 first half 3-pointers while limiting the Illini to just 60 points in the game.

Brey believes the Irish have the offensive firepower to knock off the Wildcats. Because both teams rely on the 3-point shot, Brey thinks scores could easily spiral up into the triple-digits.

The Wildcats are also coming off a second-round scare when they beat Gonzaga in double-overtime. And all their offensive talent isn't making the Irish back down.

"To be the best, you've got to beat the best," Irish point guard Chris Thomas said, "and Arizona is on top right now."

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THE SWEET SIXTEEN

MIDWEST REGIONAL

No. 1 Kentucky
They have the most depth and are two-way-tough. Look out everyone else.

No. 5 Wisconsin
The Badgers are here thanks to an amazing comeback against Tulsa.

No. 3 Marquette
Dwayne Wade and Travis Diener have made this team a threat in the Midwest.

No. 2 Pittsburgh
Defense could be the key to taking the Panthers to the Final Four.

WEST REGIONAL

No. 1 Arizona
A scare from Gonzaga last week may have woken this giant up.

No. 5 Notre Dame
The Irish are playing in their first Sweet Sixteen game since 1987.

No. 3 Duke
Duke is playing as well, half of season in the tournament and could be dangerous.

No. 2 Kansas
After a scare from Utah State, the Jayhawks know what Arizona State

SOUTH REGIONAL

No. 1 Texas
The Longhorns have an excellent shot at making the final game.

No. 5 Connecticut
The Huskies are playing, and other wins over BYU and Stanford.

No. 6 Maryland
A first round buzzer-beater against UNC-Wilmington got the Terrapins in.

No. 7 Michigan State
The Spartans surprised many by beating Colorado and Florida.

EAST REGIONAL

No. 1 Oklahoma
Star Heidi pave is having groin problems that could hurt the Sooners' chances.

No. 12 Butler
This year's Commack bracket-buster wins over Southeast State and Jacksonville.

No. 3 Syracuse
Syracuse has played well already and could run through the table as a No. 3 seed.

No. 10 Auburn
Is one of the tournament's biggest surprises after upsetting St. Joe's and Wake Forest.

Good fortune to all Irish fans and to all basketball fans in the Sweet Sixteen.