Members pass constitutional overhaul

By MATT BRAMANTI
Senior Staff Writer

It came right down to the wire. With less than an hour remaining in their term, members of the Council of Representatives approved the new student union constitution. The document, which has been in the works all year, represents a complete overhaul of Notre Dame’s student government system.

Though the Wednesday evening meeting in LaFortune was briefly delayed because of a lack of quorum, members approved the 50-page document article by article. One significant point of contention, however, centered on the proposed renaming of the Student Union Board. Notre Dame’s primary programming body. At previous COR meetings, some members had expressed a desire to change SUB’s name, citing incoming SUB manager Jimmy Flaherty opposed renaming the body and saying that any change would require expensive investments in new signage, stationery and other materials.

Flaherty said the changes would cost nearly $10,000, a figure that outgoing SUB manager Charlie Ebersol, who supported the name change, disputed.

“Those costs already exist, and replacing them would be frivolous,” Ebersol said. “The grand total of costs is not $9,998; it’s $1,517.”

Flaherty defended his numbers, saying they had been thoroughly researched.

“Charlie’s underestimating this,” Flaherty said. “When it’s all said and done, that $9,998 number is realistic.”

He also said the costs of a name change would divert scarce funds from SUB events.

“To throw a name change in there is really going to be a drawback to the programming.”

Brian Coughlin, left, and James Lelto discuss proposed changes to the constitution during Wednesday’s COR meeting.

see COR/page 8

Student leaders prepare for turnover

Istvan, Bell assume command, work to fill administration

By AMANDA MICHAELS
News Writer

Students’ excitement for the new school year and their desire to change SUB’s name, citing incoming SUB manager Jimmy Flaherty opposed renaming the body and saying that any change would require expensive investments in new signage, stationery and other materials.

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Brian Coughlin, left, and James Lelto discuss proposed changes to the constitution during Wednesday’s COR meeting.

see COR/page 8

New team takes control of Student Union Board

By CLAIRE HEININGER
News Editor

After a year when many students equated the Student Union with disappointment, new SUB manager Jimmy Flaherty said that accountability to the student body would be his primary goal.

“That’s the first thing on our agenda — making sure we’re accountable to the student body and that we’re doing what they want to see,” Flaherty said.

Despite a lack of big-name performers on campus during

see SUB/page 6

White, Moran enter office armed with high expectations

By ANNELEISE WOOLFORD
Senior Staff Writer

Although nearly two months have passed since their election into office, Sarah Catherine White and Mary Pauline Moran have had little time to count the days until officially becoming Student body president and vice president, respectively. Their wait is over.

White and Moran acquire the positions today as the former administration of Elizabeth Jablonski-Dohl and Sarah Brown concludes its term. The four women have been working closely since February to ensure a smooth transition not only for mem-

By ANDREW THAGARD
Associate News Editor

Father Eduardo Chavez, a priest from Mexico City who served as the postulator for the canonization of Saint Juan Diego, concludes his visit to Notre Dame today.

Chávez, who has been ordered by the cardinal of Mexico City to found a Catholic university there, came to Notre Dame in part to tour the campus and meet with University President Father Edward Malloy. His action-packed visit also included presentations to theology classes and meetings to finalize the translation of his book titled “El Encuentro de la Virgen de Guadalupe y Juan Diego.” His visit was arranged by Father Virgilio Elizondo, a visiting theology professor, and the Institute for Latino Studies.

“This is my first time here and it surprised me,” Chavez said during a Thursday afternoon interview with The Observer in which Elizondo helped to translate. “My [meeting] with Father Malloy was wonderful.”

The proposed university, called La Universidad Catolico Lumen Gentium, named after a Vatican II constitution placing greater emphasis on the people of God as the Church, is currently little more than a vision. Chavez, however, said that he hopes to start classes in education, history and law initially on the campus of a Catholic high school and
**INSIDE COLUMN**

Hath not a Domer eyes?

Some things used to be common property. It used to be that a writer could make reference to certain great works of literature, and be reasonably confident that not only would his readers pick up on his drift, but that most of them would be able to tell the story he was referring to. The American general readership knew their stuff. You can't do that anymore. Shakespeare is not dead, but most people have never met him. At Notre Dame alone, there are, performed in the course of a year, sometimes as many as 10 of his plays—but most students will not even see one. And in doing so, they're not merely missing great drama: they're depriving themselves of a critical library of phrases and ideas central to communication of great ideas from his day to ours.

There's something special, when telling your colleagues or friends about an opportunity which would bring you to the university, listening to a cue from Brutus and remind them that "there is a tide." There's a richness of meaning in a reference like that. There's only one problem—these days, no one knows what it means. It's not our fault. Blame the schools maybe. Blame the movies. I don't personally blame anybody. But that's not to say that it's anything but a really sad situation when students at a place like Notre Dame have never met some of the most famous words of one of the most famous poets in human history.

Now, Shakespeare certainly wrote a lot of words, and you need a doctoral fellowship to really be familiar with anything more than a tiny fraction of them. But there are a few lines and phrases—50 maybe, maybe even a 100—without which a speaker of English is, literally, illiterate.

What I mean by this is that literacy is as much understanding what lies behind an author's words as it is in recognizing symbols on a page into words and sentences. What is a pound of flesh? Why would an actor write to his sister's toilet seat at night? What is the welts he suffered.

Woolf said.

"Saran wrapped [my] sister's toilet seat at night."

"In grade school, my friends and I convinced the teacher to write out fake detention slips for us, which we showed to our parents."

"I woke up in the middle of the night and stole my roommate's ladder."

"I don't know, but my brother once woke us all up at 5 a.m. by running around the house yelling 'Fire!'"

**QUESTION OF THE DAY:** What's the funniest prank you've played on April Fool's Day?

Chris Finch
Sophomore
Fisher

Dawn Parks
Senior
McGillan

Joe Barron Jr.
Junior
Edwards

Patrick Thornton
Sophomore
Fisher

Sean DiTello
Freshman
Dillon

Tom Mulcoren
Freshman
Siegfried

**BRIEF**

The International Women's Club presents a continuation of its annual International Children's Festival today from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the University Village Community Center.

Father Thomas O'Meara, professor emeritus of theology, will deliver a lecture this afternoon titled "Karl Rahner's Influence on Vatican II and U.S. Catholicism" on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Rahner's birth. The lecture will take place at 4:30 p.m. in DeBartolo 209.

A panel discussion titled "Women on and off the Career Track" will take place this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. in the Coleman-Morse lounge. The panel will include Colleen Meiman, Viva Barkus, Tricia Bellia and Cyndi Bergeman.

A symposium panel will tackle prison sentencing tonight at 6 p.m. in DeBartolo 141. The symposium, titled "Does the Time Fit the Crime? Mandatory Minimum Sentencing and the Curtailment of Judicial Discretion," will feature John Martinez Jr., a former U.S. district court judge, Bill Matajo, deputy attorney of the U.S. Department of Justice and Jimmy, professor at Notre Dame Law School. A reception will follow.

The Class of 2006 will sponsor a rosary recitation tonight at 9:30 p.m. in the Coleman-Morse Chapel.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu.

**OFFBEAT**

Police chief sued over alleged paddling

WARREN, Ohio — A part-time police chief has been suspended after a lawsuit accused him of assaulting a teenager by paddling the boy as part of a crime diversion program for a speeding ticket.

Carol Woolf of Vienna said she initially agreed to let her 16-year-old son be paddled, then refused to have him return for 14 more sessions because of the welts he suffered.

"This child is traumatized," Woolf said. James Martin was suspended as part-time police chief of Fowler Township and also as a full-time police officer in nearby Howard Township, pending investigations by state officials and the FBI. No charges have been filed.

Cops: Man robs banks after leaving prison

TARENTUM, Pa. — A man who served time for robbing two banks less than one day after getting out of prison for a botched 2001 convenience store robbery in which he held a can of ravioli under his shirt to simulate a gun, pleaded guilty to a new bank robbery.

Thomas Rotkosky, 28, was arrested Tuesday morning a few minutes after someone robbed the First Commonwealth Bank in Tarentum, about 20 miles north of Pittsburgh.

Police said an alarm system sent a distress call directly to a dispatch center and helped them quickly locate Rotkosky, of Tarentum, and his vehicle, which matched witness descriptions. Police said he also had a note demanding money from a teller.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

**LOCAL WEATHER**

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**CORRECTIONS**

In Wednesday's Viewpoint section the article titled "National defense vs. Educator" was written by Brendan M. O'Connor who lives off-campus and is a top 100 Towhey. The Observer regrets the error.

Contact Matthew Smedberg at msmedber@nd.edu. The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
The Senate also unanimously approved a resolution to send a letter to rectors regarding the completion of rector evaluation forms. Presented by the Committee on Residence Life, the letter encourages rectors to have their RA's hold floor meetings to emphasize the importance of the evaluations and oversee their completion.

Pasquerilla West senator Jana Lamplota spoke at the open podium for the Committee on Residence Life's drive to publicize the upcoming ROTC Presidential Pass In Review. Despite efforts to move the ceremony to an outside area, the Pass In Review will remain in Loftus this year. Lamplota said that the committee is putting together an advertising campaign to encourage students to attend the event.

"The Presidential Pass In Review is especially important to ROTC seniors, and we want to give them a good going-off party," Lamplota said.

In what student body vice president Jeremy Lao called a "light-hearted end to the meeting," senator Brin Anderson presented a joke resolution that would confer emeritus status on the Committee on Residence Life. The resolution was passed — not unanimously — in a roll call vote.

In other Senate news: ♦ The Ethics Committee presented their nominee for the Michael J. Palumbo Award in a closed session at the end of Wednesday's meeting.

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu

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The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

STUDENT SENATE

Senators hold final meeting

By AMANDA MICHAELS
News Writer

As the last Senate meeting before the student government turnover, Wednesday's session was a mix of gravity, levity and sincerity as senators bid farewell to their positions and left their final mark on Notre Dame by pushing through several resolutions.

In a continuation of last week's presentation by Gay/Straight Alliance president Joe Dickmann, the Senate unanimously approved the open letter to the Notre Dame administration in favor of granting United In Diversity club status. The resolution was tabled last week to allow the senators to gauge support from their respective dorms.

Dillon senator Jack Laskowitz presented a resolution that would serve as a statement from the Senate in favor of the publication of the TCOs.

"We've hit a roadblock in the process of getting it published, so this resolution would in essence say that we're committed to their publication, no matter how long it takes," said Laskowitz.

Student body president Jeremy Lao also spoke on the importance of passing the resolution.

"There needs to be a public show of student support, because without it, the credibility of all of our efforts is gone. We need to keep this publicized," said Lao.

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University of Notre Dame
London Summer Programme

LONDON SUMMER PROGRAMME

INFORMATION SESSION FOR
MAY, 2005 & MAY, 2006
ATTEND OUR DROP-IN SESSION ON

THURSDAY APRIL 1, 2004
BETWEEN 5:00 - 6:30 P.M.
140 DEBARTOLO HALL

LONDON SUMMER PROGRAMME
RUNS FROM MID-MAY TO MID-JUNE
Turnover
continued from page 1

coming on the eve of the turnover, the pair must be prepared for changes in the organization of their office and staff. "We're familiar with the proposal (which was not passed at the time), and the biggest changes seem to be the bringing of the Office of the Student Body President into the Senate, and the changing of the Chief of Staff position into the Chief Executive Assistant, which will be held by Dave Baron," Istvan said.

Baron, Istvan and Bell have been interviewing students for staff positions since Monday, and plan on having the majority of their team in place by next week. Upwards of 50 candidates, equally distributed among class levels, applied. "I was surprised and pleased by the number of applications," said Istvan. "I think this shows that people want to get involved, and see potential for growth in their government to accomplish some great things.

With the new term starting, Istvan and Bell are putting their priorities in order so as to most efficiently get things done. They said that they hope to resolve the issue of staplers and hole-punches in the computer clusters before the year is up, plan on moving forward with the DVD rental area in LaFortune and want to explore the option of getting a bus that would go from campus to popular off-campus residence areas on Friday and Saturday nights.

"Our biggest priority is going to be seeing how the new government works and evaluating it for any glaring errors, so that we can get changes through right away," said Baron. Though Istvan said he knew of no great weakness in the Hallahan-Lau presidency besides the departure of Hallahan halfway through the term, he also said that his administration would focus less on making changes to student government and more on giving back to the students.

For today, the focus remains the aesthetics of the presidency — including a new office at their disposal. "I can't wait to tear down these posters and put up some Metallica and Def Leppard," joked Baron.

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@usd.edu

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Contact Anneliese Woolford at wool8358@saintmarys.edu

Thursday, April 1, 2004

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Thursday, April 1, 2004

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

NO WASTED TIME
NO WASTED MONEY

THAT'S WHAT YOUR MBA IS FOR.
UN learns of ND nuclear weapons
Program funded with record-high tuition rates

By RADIOACTIVE LEADER
News Writer

The United Nations imposed sanctions on the University of Notre Dame after weapons inspectors discovered that the University had created a vibrant nuclear weapons program. The Absurder has learned.

Inspectors were initially shocked that a small private University possessed the financial resources and technical knowledge to develop nuclear weapons. But then we started looking at the tuition increases over the last few years, chief weapons inspector Duke Nukem said. "That's when everything started to fall in place."

"There was no way that much money could be funnelled into education. We narrowed it down to either paying off the remainder of Bob Davie's contract or nukes before we saw those kids from Zahm. It's quite sad what radiation can do to humans."

Officials believe research and development began two years ago when the University started banning hard alcohol. School officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said that they hoped more "geeks" would come to Notre Dame to help create the first nuclear weapon at a University.

"Screw being the Harvard of the Midwest," University President Funk Polloy said. "We want to be MIT."

President George W. Bush responded to the U.N. report by deploying troops to the Golan and threatening regime change if Polloy didn't resign within 24 hours. "We believe the citizens of Notre Dame will welcome us with open arms," Bush said. "They need to be liberated from the yoke of tyranny."

Nukem said the University decided to develop nuclear weapons in response to the massive amount of dorm parties that kept administrators from getting a good night's sleep.

WNDU radar discovers life on Mars
NewsChopper16 being prepared for interplanetary travel

Editor's Note: This article is the first in a 300-part series that only the author, the people he quotes and general readers will need to know.

By BRAT SPUMANTE
News Writer

In a stunning coup for weathermen, WNDU chief meteorologist Spike Hoffman announced Wednesday that the station's Live Super Duper Doppler 16 radar has discovered intelligent life on Mars.

"I'm happy to announce we've found Martian life," Hoffman said during a Wednesday telecast. "We're not only Michiana's weather leader, but we're top-notch scientists too."

Hoffman said the discovery vindicates the station's decision to install the obscenely expensive 200,000-watt radar tower, which is located at the South Bend Regional Airport.

"People laughed when I wanted to drop $13 million on the radar," Hoffman said. "Well, who's laughing now, punks?"

However, NASA's top planetary scientist, Ann McClain, was skeptical about the station's announcement.

"We've spent the last 30 years looking for little green men, and some Mongoloid weatherman finds them?" Tenna said. "What a load of crap."

WNDU officials also revealed they will deploy troops to the Golan and threatening regime change if Polloy didn't resign within 24 hours. "We believe the citizens of Notre Dame will welcome us with open arms," Bush said. "They need to be liberated from the yoke of tyranny."

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An artist's rendition of NewsChopper16 hovering above the Martian surface. After Live Super Duper Doppler 16 discovered life on Mars, WNDU announced the helicopter will fly to the Red Planet for a mission called "MarsShot16."

He can't live with losing
Two-time student body presidential candidate running for union head spot

By H TO THE IZZO
News Writer

Desperate to win an election — any election — Notre Dame junior Barry Neversaw announced plans to run for president of the South Bend Teamster's Union Wednesday.

Neversaw gained notoriety at Notre Dame last month as the student government insider's slick campaign and family wealth failed to impress voters during the student body presidential election.

Neversaw hit rock bottom last week after suffering a stunning defeat in the ring and hot air balloon of Miss Cindy's second grade class at St. Thomas Elementary School. He lost 20-2 in a race that pitted him against 7-year-old Billy Sinclair. Sinclair attributed his landslide victory to increased popularity after sticking two crayola crayons up his nose and the fact that his opponent is not actually a member of the class. "Barley's a hooger head," he added.

Neversaw, however, said that his loss was due to a failure to relate to the average worker and not nasal discharge — something he plans to change in the upcoming Teamster's election.

I think workers will see we have a lot in common. They make Hummers. I drive one. - Barry Neversaw

College president: 'If they don't see us, they can't stereotype us'

By ONHERKNESS WHICHCORD
News Writer

In an apparent response to derogatory stereotypes that exist in the Keenan Revue, Saint Mary's President Larllion Elrond announced Wednesday that the College has placed a ban on all students crossing the street — a decision that will cut the only remaining tie to Notre Dame.

"Thank God," Elrond said. "If our women are cut off from interacting with these people, it will put an end to the ridiculous and blatant stereotypes that only those who've barely rounded second base could come up with."

"All of our students display academic quality and notable character that we as an institution take pride in," she added. "What is done behind closed doors is their own business. I didn't hear anything if you didn't." Effective immediately, the ban will force members of the Notre Dame community to venture to Saint Mary's campus should they feel the need to do so. Elrond, however, acknowledges the reality of the situation. "They've never come over in the past," she said. "Why would they start now?"

This year marked the first time that the Keenan rector met with an assessment board before being performed. Although members at both schools deemed its content appropriate, Elrond said the Revue provides an effective way for students to vent their frustrations.

Contact H to the Izzo at izz03@nd.edu

Saint Mary’s bans students from visiting ND

College president: 'If they don't see us, they can't stereotype us'

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Contact H to the Izzo at izz03@nd.edu
**INSIDE COLUMN**

Drinnkign siss ggood

In teh Inside Column, I know, that brings people to the Absurdereeber. They want to read the opleens and adiv of the writers because we're all real, really smart. I likes inside Colonjion. And today i'm going to refer to it becauser, no one else can and most of them are all bars. I was by fore but I had to come home when fell down. owe argh short. So now i'm at a computer writing column. An I want to tell you all about how instant messenger will be the dawn of civilization.

's bad, AIM. Cause to come hojme form massive harcore funest and then have access to all peoples link especially ones you really like or teh ones youy really hate lote. good, you type everything you think. you can abou them and then if your mad you say it when you were sober prob not. ahaha. no good. when b efore people could only drunk dial now they can annoy peo­ple. prolly it's even more harderer becaus because the comp can't talk back. well like notl really, even if you tell it to talk back it won't because they are annoyng and I maas the computer moos like a cow. haw. cow. s. ahaha. they hawve four stomachs or something and they like to hewd it down to them. Because they onlly eat grass but I coulrd read all hasast room for more voeka. and any other alcohol, realy. and quaet dgos. and bore­rcho. isall goood. I'm berracho. berrarecha. whatever. I studiyd in mexico anod my spanish gets so awesome when I'm drunk. entele en mexico. onl mexicanos. ha. my bien.

but i ajm looking b ask at what i wrote and i can't read it so good d but i think i got off track. so any way my point was that drunk IMING is sooo bad for communcation. njoints relationships and stuff. we shouldn't be allowed on IM without a prescription when we're wasted. You might do stuff like me small IMAI thast guy luyes and anny I say I did insted fo them. Because they only eat grass but I coulrd read all hasast room for more voeka. and any other alcohol, realy. and quaet dgos. and bore­rcho. isall goood. I'm berracho. berrarecha. whatever. I studiyd in mexico anod my spanish gets so awesome when I'm drunk. entele en mexico. onl mexicanos. ha. my bien.

** QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF SCHOLASTIC? **

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<tr>
<th>Eric Johansen</th>
<th>Bob Underwood</th>
<th>John Abrams</th>
<th>Pumpkin Man</th>
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<td>Sophomore Keough Hall</td>
<td>Junior St. Ed's Hall</td>
<td>Senior Off-Campus</td>
<td>Chief Vegetable</td>
<td>Man's Best Friend</td>
<td>Junior Siegfried Hall</td>
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Rojie Center

Newly appointed Executive Vice President Michael Hannigan visits with Father Mark Poormann, vice president for student affairs. Long known as the most influen­tial student on campus, Hamigan was an easy choice for the search committee to appoint to replace Father Timothy Scully. A former Knott Hall assistant rector, Hannigan holds a bachelors and law degree from Notre Dame and is a dual­citizen of Ireland.

**CORRECTIONS**

We never make mistakes. Ever. And if we do, we really don't want to hear about them. Especially from you. Give a little credit to us here. Calvin is 1-3-1-31-3-1 to bear Mr. Gormon from South Park say, "You go to hell. You go to hell and you die."

**LOCAL WEATHER**

Look people, you live in South Bend. It could be raining one minute, sunny the next, snowing in five and thunderstorming by the time you go home. So, wear a jacket and take an umbrella. The weather is never right here. You should have learned to be prepared by now.

Nobody leaves South Bend and you have the same access to weather.com that we do, so in the unlikely event that you do leave, look up the weather yourself.

**IN BRIEFS**

A girl in PE will be taking off her shirt around 9 p.m. tonight. Best views can be gotten from rooms in Knott Hall. An enterprising freshman will be selling tickets at the door for $5.

Women in Lewis Hall will be looking at "Cosmopolitan" from 8 p.m. until midnight tonight in the common room. Women can bring their favorite copies of the magazine and hot guys who are willing to take their shirts off are also invited.

The men of O'Neill Hall will be playing video games such as Halo all night, until 4 a.m. this morning when they will begin doing homework.

An all-night Pajama Party will take place in McCandless Hall this evening. SM Curity has been informed that the event is taking place, so feel free to come and scream your heart out.

Lyons and Morrissey Halls will sponsor a "Where the Rectors are any way, the resi­dents will play party all night, until 6 a.m. A girl in PE will be an anal student calls them. Cover is $5 and you are free to drink until you puke.

Feminist Carrie Freewater will be giving a lecture on the vagina tonight in Stepan Center at 7 p.m. A girl in PE will miss out on the Campus Ministry protest that will take place immediately before the event, starting with a rosary at the grotto at 7 p.m. followed by a march to Stepan Center.

The Kroc Institute for Peace Studies will be sponsoring a lecture "The Effect of Expansion on the European Union" at 6 p.m. tonight in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium. Pizza will be provided because the organizers are afraid that if they don't offer food, no one will come.

Professor of American Studies Bob Martin will be giving a Last Lecture Series talk in the Dillon Hall chapel this evening. To make it more real­istic, organizers will be holding a loaded gun to his head throughout the event.

If you have interesting things going on, let us know by e-mailing absurder@nd.edu.
No more freshman letters

Stop. Writing.

Freshmen, we know you are shocked that the dining hall doesn't serve meals on Fridays, that the University is so repressive it enforces parietals and that the janitor hasn't cleaned your hall's bathroom in weeks. But we really don't care. We are already aware of that, and we've already gotten over it. You're not telling us anything new, and we've heard your arguments ten thousand times before. You might as well sign your letters 'Captain Obvious,' because you sound like complete tools. The Absurder, therefore, has made a merciful decision, one which will benefit both would-be letter-writers and subscribers by bolstering the readability of the Pointless section.

Letters written by freshmen will no longer be published by The Absurder. If you're not savvy enough to know when you're embarrassing yourselves, we, at least, can save you from your own self-humiliation by refusing to print your inane material. We suggest that, if you need an outlet to express your outrage or indignance, you share it with each other, since you're all on the same naïve level. Have a complaint session while you're congregating at FlipSide events or while the Legends disco dance parties die down during the early hours of the weekend mornings. Even better — conduct your rants when you're locked in place at a dorm room party; the people around you are trapped there, anyway, so they'll be forced to listen. Just leave your elders out of it, because we're sick and tired of listening to your childish whimpering.

Face it, freshmen, you're the low ones on the totem pole, and you don't know what you're talking about. If you really can't survive without writing letters to The Absurder, then send them in — though we've researched the option, we can't prevent you from sending us letters through e-mail or snail mail. So have a field day, if you want, we might look at your letters and laugh, but there is not a chance under the sun that you will ever see your words in print. It's for the best, children. You'll thank us some day.

Please, get out of my way

The simple activity of walking into a building is not something that most people, I think, would consider complicated. Most people, however, are not petite, five-foot-tall girls, and they are not trying to get into DeBartolo.

I, on the other hand, am a constituent of that minority, and walking into DeBartolo is a huge problem for me. I physically cannot wade through the sea of athletes. They are big and scary, and they are everywhere. I can't shoulder past them, because my shoulder barely reaches their waists. They can't even see me trying to get through, and when I try to shout up to them to politely ask them to move, they can't hear me. They are often too engaged in cell phone conversations with other athletes five feet away. My voice becomes drowned by their joking and laughing, and I remain stuck outside, jostled around as they do all sorts of secret handshake greetings and high-fives and pats on the back. I am forced to dodge elbows and knees and bikes and backpacks, and it's horribly frightening. I have nightmares. Going to class, for me, has become traumatic. Therefore, I would like to nicely ask athletes to be cognizant of the little people like me. It might be hard for you to see us, but we are there. Please let us through, it would make life much easier. Thank you.

Midgite Minniekert
Senior Hall
Sophomore
March 31

For the love of God, shut up already

I would like to direct this letter to all those students who feel the need to talk every five seconds in class — particularly the kid in my philosophy lecture who apparently has a fetish with raising his hand. You are not interesting. You do not sound smart. You are an annoying, conceited kiss-up driving everyone else crazy with your attempt to out-talk the professor. Shut up.

As Notre Dame students, we go to class to learn — but that how most universities work, you see. We do not go to teach or to voice our own unsearched, rambling, idiotic personal philosophies. If you feel the need to engage in prolonged discourse with the teacher, go for it. But do it on your own time. I'm sick of hearing your nasal voice bubble, and I'm pretty sure I speak for the other 150 students in the lecture hall, too. And one more thing. Two minutes before class ends is not an appropriate time to broach the broadest question in existence. No time during class is really appropriate for such an irrelevant query, but right before class ends is completely unacceptable. Get a clue. It's called common sense. People will hate you, and a good number already do.

So for your own good and for ours, you mind-numbing, butt-kissing pseudo-intellectual dork, try to remember that you're not the professor. Try to remember that your classmates and the teachers themselves would rather hear the lesson plan than an uneducated personal thesis from you. So be quiet, you f**king attention whore, and may God have mercy on your soul.

Will Ushutupplease
Senior
Off campus
March 31

Ban sinful poker playing

A new, disturbing trend is sweeping campus and now that the University has eradicated hard alcohol from the dorms, administrators need to set their eyes on a new evil: gambling.

We have been lured into temptation many times by upperclassmen promising a fun game of Texas Hold 'Em. But I always leave the table penniless and have lost hundreds of dollars in this pursuit. I simply do not have the willpower to say no to playing these games.

And as administrators removed the sinful temptation of alcohol from students, they should similarly remove gambling. Students do not have to say no to bad things, the administration should make these decisions for students. As Jesus said in John's Gospel when he drove the moneychangers from the Temple, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise."

The administration must act swiftly to return the dorms to a place of study and worship and one that is not dominated by evil pursuits.

Sore Laser
Zahm Hall
Freshman
March 31

Editor's Note: See policy on freshmen letters to the editor.

You know what? You're right

In response to Mr. Imright's viewpoint letter yesterday responding to my letter printed the day before responding to Ms. Nolife's original letter printed March 19, I would like to say two words: You're right.

Imright's arguments were completely flawless; his persuasive evidence swayed me, and I cannot believe I was ever so stupid to suggest that the Zahm Winter Carnival is nothing but a frivolous freak show of animals and Zambies on a cold quad. As Mr. Imright eloquently pointed out, the event is a lively exposition of creativity and an invaluable show of school spirit. The carnival is praised and worthy and holds an integral place in the Notre Dame identity.

I apologize for my faulty comments and ridiculous arguments. To anyone convinced by my letter: Please disregard it. I was foolish and mistaken, and I thank Mr. Imright for setting me straight.

Once again, I was wrong, you were right, and I am grateful to the Pointless section for providing an opportunity for personal growth and education.

Neva Gonahapen
Sophomore
O'Neil Hall
March 31

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." — Mahatma Gandhi

Hindu nationalist leader
OB heathrowb trads gridiron for runway

By SHEILA QUINN
Sports Writer

Encouraged by his popularity with the female student population and disappointed with the football team's record, quarter­back Grady Flynn announced Wednesday he will leave the University to pursue a modeling career.

"It just seems like a better choice for my future," Flynn said. "I mean, it's look at it logically. The football team is far from stel­lar, but love, the ladies love us.

He said the idea first occurred to him on a random Tuesday in January, while he was eating lunch in North Dining Hall.

"I saw a recent graduate in a spout, and realized that I'm really, really, really, ridiculously good-looking," Flynn said. "So I decided to do that for a living — be profession­ally good-looking — instead of playing football."

Prestigious modeling agencies have already started inundating Flynn with offers, clamoring to sign his "tal, dark and handsome look," said Marty Scheisterman of the New York-based modeling agency Show It Straight Models.

"Who has arms like that? It's a marketing dream come true," said the agency's director.

"And he's straight! My God, if we could only grab him!" said the agency's director.

Scheisterman agreed to speak only if his "big guns" were used. "A tulip had a better chance of being interrupted by the sound of the Victory March on his cell phone."

 Flynn said that Notre Dame teams would continue to use the green jerseys.

"And, in the not the Sports Illustrated kind."

But Flynn said he has not yet decided with whom he will sign. "I'm not positive what I want to do yet — you know, catalogues, runway shows, car sales, I'm still exploring my options."

"But the women on campus said they believe he will be successful in any endeavor."

"Oh my God, he's so hot," said Sophomore Eileen Onjerere. "He's, like, a mix between Ben Affleck and Colin Farrell. He's going to be, like, amazingly good-looking.

"I already have my walls papered with his pictures from the paper," junior Wynne Bogert-Flynn said. "I can't get enough of him!"

"There's no shortage of hearing 'Grady Flynn, Grady Flynn,'" freshman Lou Zerr said. "All the girls are obsessed and now Usain Bolt is obsessed as well."

"Whatever happened to nice people?" "Oh my God, he's supposedly good-looking."

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Alumni: AD is dumb Letter chastises ND for keeping green jerseys

By P. O. MONEYBAGS
Sports Writer

A group of 57 alumni have sent a letter to the Board of Trustees criticizing the athletic department for what they called a "decade of stupidity" because the Irish continue to wear green jerseys in key games.

"That's like the freaking death sentence," the letter said. "When was the last time we won wearing those things? The stone age.

"The letter writers pointed to the recent struggles of the football and basketball teams, who are a combined 1-100 when wearing green in the last 10 years. The lone win came in 2001 when the No. 1 seed women's basketball team beat No. 16 seed Alcorn State.

"Please, that one doesn't count," IrishHomie99 said, who agreed to speak only if his Internet name would be used. "A tulip had a better chance of being interrupted by the sound of the Victory March on his cell phone."

"The letter suggests three options to fix the green jersey problem. Athletic department officials can burn the green jerseys in a massive bonfire on South Quad, put them in deep storage in Bond Hall, or bribe NASA to launch them into orbit.

"I personally prefer the Bond Hall option," IrishHomie99 said. "Nobdy ever comes out of that building, so we know the jerseys would stay there for a while."

Athletic director Bevin Black agreed to speak only if his "big guns" were used. "A tulip had a better chance of being interrupted by the sound of the Victory March on his cell phone."

"At least they're off my case about the stupid football team," he said.

Contact R.O. Moneybags at richguy@nd.edu

5-7? Fine by these hard-core Irish fans

By ILUV DelIRISH
Sports Writer

Several die-hard Notre Dame students declared the Blue-Gold game "Irish Solidarity Day" and said they were planning to hand out Kelly-green T-shirts that said: "5-7! Fine by me."

"The group's leaders said they were upset at what they perceived as keeping the football team's past-poor perfor­mance last weekend.

"It's really important that we stick behind our team," sopho­more Johnny N. Dame said. "After all, they go to class just like we do.

"Well, most of them do, anyway."

"Dame said the project origi­nated when he and his buddies watched Notre Dame Stadium empty when Florida State anni­hilated the Irish last November. "It just wasn't right," he said, "for everybody to run away like that."

"I got really mad at everybody who started booing too. It hurt my feelings. And I felt bad, imagine how horrible the players felt."

Contact ILUV DelIRISH at Willingham.50nd.edu

ND moves home games from Joyce, senior citizens revolt

By U. SHER
News Writer

A lack of fan excitement at the Joyce Center has prompted officials to move all future basketball games to the Fort Wayne Coliseum, where last week's game created the most excitement in the town since the 1979 county fair when an elephant got stuck there for a while.

The group's leaders said they would stay there for a while."

Contact U. Sher at usher@1B1On.com

FINANCING
Irish win national title

In related news, a tree fell in the forest and didn't make a sound.

THE ABSURDER
Sports

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Contact U. Sher at usher@1B1On.com
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

World court rules against U.S. Netherlands judge in seas court The International Court of Justice ruled Wednesday that the United States violated international law by sending a team of 51 Mexicans to sea on death row to receive diplomatic help, and ordered Washington to review their cases.

The ruling by the International Court of Justice could mean a reprise or another case for the international court under one scheduled to die in May 18 in Oklahoma. It also could have implications for other foreign citizens in U.S. prisons who were not told they could receive help from their government.

The order raised questions from the eight states holding the inmates, but no assurances that the states will try to address the court's concerns.

OPEC to cut crude production VIENNA, Austria — With fuel costs already at uncomfortable levels for consumers, OPEC took a step that could push prices even higher by announcing Wednesday that it would cut its crude oil production target by 4 percent.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries hopes the cut, which takes effect Thursday, will prevent a slide in prices this spring, when the global demand for oil usually slips to a seasonal low.

The analysis said the cut could soon push crude prices above the psychologically important threshold of $40 per barrel, thereby raising the already high barrel prices.

The decision could also worsen the pain for U.S. consumers who have been paying the highest prices in recent years for gasoline.

NATIONAL NEWS

Rice to face difficult questioning WASHINGTON — When she testifies before the commission reviewing the Sept. 11 attacks, Condoleezza Rice will face pointed questions about what outgoing Clinton administration officials told her about terrorism — and how urgently the new Bush administration regarded al-Qaida's threat.

She also may face questions about her candidacy.

"We want to hear from Dr. Rice... about the kind of threats and dangers that were apparent before 9/11," Sen. Tom Daschle, D-S.D., and Sen. John McCain, the Republican chairman of the Sept. 11 commission and a former New Jersey governor.

Kerry undergoes brief surgery BOSTON — Democrat John Kerry had complication-free outpatient surgery Wednesday to repair a tear in his right shoulder and bicep tendons and will be back shaking voters' hands soon, although not too forcefully.

The four-term Massachusetts senator planned to be off the presidential campaign trail for the remainder of the week. Dr. Bertram Zains, chief of sports medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital, said Kerry would be in pain for a few days and probably in need of an ice pack and narcotic painkillers.

State News

Army ready to destroy nerve gas CLINTON — The Army said it plans to begin destroying its nerve agent stockpile at the Newport Chemical Depository in about two months regardless of whether it hauls the weapons to New York State.

The Army could store the hydrochlorate — the nerve agent VX — in tanks at the western Indiana site if plans to ship it the waste to New Jersey for final treatment and disposal fall through, said Coll. Jesse Barber, a project manager for the Army Chemical Materials Agency.

The Army plans to begin neutralizing the VX at Newport this summer by mixing it with hot water and sodium hydroxide.

PBS marks 35 years of ‘sunny days’

NEW YORK — Here's a kids show that still boasts plenty of street cred. Now in its third season, “Sesame Street” remains a daily destination for millions of preschoolers, an evergreen cityscape as much a part of their world as any other play space.

It's been that way for generations of kids, as any of the show's estimated 74 million “grads” will recall from “Sesame Street” at 123 Sesame St. (as it exists on Stage G at Kaufman Astoria Studios in Queens). Now nearly 35 years old, it should qualify for landmark status.

Clearly “Sesame Street” was designed for the ages by the “urban planners” at the upstart Children's Television Workshop (now known as Sesame Workshop). But the era that gave rise to “Sesame Street” remains part of its culture.

A telling trace lives on in the theme song: “Sunny day, everything's A-OK.” Popularized by pioneers of the U.S. space program, the term A-OK is as familiar in American homes as glasses and tie-dye jeans.

So, perhaps, is the idealism surging from the streets of town.

The abuse and mutilation of U.S. soldiers through the streets of Mogadishu, eventually leading to the American withdrawal from the African nation. The images were broadcast worldwide, and became the subject of the book and movie “Black Hawk Down.”

But Wednesday's images of the four civilians killed in Iraq filled television screens worldwide Wednesday but were largely shunned by American cable news networks. They deemed it too graphic.

An Iraq throws a rock at a burning car in Fallujah on Wednesday. Angry residents mutilated the charred bodies of four U.S. civilians killed by a roadside bomb. A crowd dragged the bodies through the streets before hanging them from a bridge.

Associated Press

FALLUJAH — In a scene reminiscent of Somalia, frenzied crowds dragged the burned, mutilated bod­ies of four American contractors through the streets of a town west of Baghdad on Wednesday and strung two of them up from a bridge after rockets am­bushed their SUVs.

Five U.S. soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division also were killed when a bomb exploded under their M­113 armored carrier north of Fallujah, making it the bloodiest day for Americans in Iraq since Jan. 8.

The four contract workers were killed in Fallujah, a Sunni Triangle city about 35 miles west of Baghdad and scene of some of the worst violence on both sides of the conflict since the beginning of the American occupation a year ago.

Calling Fallujah is the “graveyard of Americans,” residents noted after the grisly assault on two four-wheel-drive civilian vehi­cles at the entrance to Fallujah.

Residents in Fallujah said insurgents attacked the contractors with small arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades. After the attack, a jubilant crowd of civilians, none of whom appeared to be armed, gathered to celebrate, dragging the bodies through the streets before hanging two of them from the bridge.

Many of those in the crowd were excited young boys who shouted slogans and held up vials of televi­sion cameras.

Associated Press Television News

An Associated Press photographer showed one man beating a charred corpse with a metal pole. Others tied a yellow rag to the body, hooked it to a car and dragged it down the main street of town. Two black­ened and mangled corpses hung from the ground, with an iron bridge spanning the Euphrates River.

"The people of Fallujah hung some of the bodies on the old bridge like slaugh­tered sheep," resident Abdul Aziz Mohammed said. Some corpses were dismembered, he said.

The White House blamed terrorists and remnants of Saddam Hussein's former regime for the "horrific attacks" on the American contractors.

"It is offensive, it is despi­cable the way these indivi­duals have been treated," White House press secre­tary Frank McClellan said. Referring to the planned June 30 transfer of sover­eignty to Iraqis, McClellan said "the best way to honor those that lost their lives" is to continue with efforts to bring democracy to Iraq.

State Department official Adam Ereli said the contractors, all men, "were trying to make a difference and to help others."

U.S. officials did not iden­tify the dead or the nature of their work because the ex­cess of kid had not yet been notified.

However, early evidence indicated they worked for Blackwater USA Security Consulting, a company based in Moyock, N.C., the company said in a state­ment. The security firm hired former military mem­bers from the United States and other countries to pro­vide security training and guard services. In Iraq, they too.

The company was hired by the Pentagon to provide securi­ty for convoys that deliv­ered food in the Fallujah area, the company state­ment said.

The abuse and mutilation of the contractors was similar to the scene more than a decade ago in Somalia, when a mob dragged corpses of U.S. sol­diers through the streets of Mogadishu, eventually leading to the American withdrawal from the African nation. The images were broadcast worldwide, and became the subject of the book and movie "Black Hawk Down."

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"Crowd mutilates U.S. bodies

Four U.S. civilian workers killed by roadside bomb, burned, strung from bridge

Associated Press

An Iraq throws a rock at a burning car in Fallujah on Wednesday. Angry residents mutilated the charred bodies of four U.S. civilians killed by a roadside bomb. A crowd dragged the bodies through the streets before hanging them from a bridge.

"Sesame Street" grew out of the Great Society programs," says execu­tive producer Lewis Bernstein, refer­ring to the Johnson administration's social initiatives. "That was a period when politics, educational needs and the social milieu all converged to say, 'You influence kids at an early age and you can give them the skills they need to navigate their way through school and in life."

And, with the civil rights movement at full throttle, racial equality became another part of the show's message.

"When I first came here in 1967, there were a lot of ex-cooks working here with a spirit of 'Let's Change the World. Maybe we can cut our hair.'" Bernstein says with a chuckle, "but the passion hasn't changed."

Early on, the "Sesame Street" brand of passion pervaded the way to many of the programs that grew into the integrated cast, the inner-city setting, the fast-paced, bite-sized structure of each episode.
Priest continued from page 1

begin construction of the university within five years. The proposed university will serve the needs of Mexico City's middle and lower class residents, many of whom don't have access to Catholic higher education. At the same time, it will be open to all people regardless of their economic status.

Chávez is unsure how the university will be funded but added that he is confident everything will come together: "I don't know (about money) but I know Our Lady of Guadalupe and God will help us," he said.

Chávez also credited his visit to Notre Dame and meeting with Malloy — a man he praised for his sense of humility — for providing him with a vision. "For me this University is an inspiration," he said. "We need the big vision and we need to go step by step... with a good sense of vision."

Chávez also described his work on the canonization process of Juan Diego, a 16th century Native American who claimed to have witnessed visions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Jesus' mother Mary, on a hill in Mexico City. Later, Church officials researched the historical Juan Diego and extensively investigated one miracle in particular that helped propel Juan Diego to sainthood.

On May 3, 1990 a young man in Mexico City decided to end his life by jumping off a three story balcony. His frantic mother tried unsuccessfully to pull him away but the man plunged head first into the pavement thirty feet below, Chávez said.

As her son was falling, the woman cried out to Juan Diego to save him. The young man remained conscious after the fall and started walking around. As he sat down, he began hemorrhaging and was rushed to the hospital via ambulance.

Doctors at the hospital, including expert neurologists, concluded that the man's condition was terminal and placed him in a non-critical care hospital ward, presumably to die. Chávez said. A few days later while Juan Diego was being beaufied by Pope John Paul II at the Basilica of Santa Maria de Guadalupe, doctors discovered that the man's cranial had almost healed. Three days later he walked out of the hospital, never having received treatment.

Father Eduardo Chávez poses in front of a painting depicting Our Lady of Guadalupe Wednesday.

"It wasn't anything beautiful," Chávez said. "Most miracles are experiences people want to tell everyone (about) but he was ashamed because he (had) wanted to commit suicide."

Chávez' position as postulant also allowed him to get to know the Pope, a man he described as having a certain magnetism about him. "When (His Holiness) smiles he looks right into your eyes and your whole soul is moved," he said, praising the Pope for his devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe whose image adorns his office and bedroom.

Chávez flies back to Mexico this afternoon after a four day visit to Notre Dame.

Contact Andrew Thagard athagard@nd.edu

SUB continued from page 1

interest has already been encouraging, as the Board has seen a large turnout of over 40 applicants for programming positions on various committees. He added that students who are not directly involved with SUB will also be sought out for input through various surveys, beginning with a campus-wide survey through the Office of Information Technologies that Flaherty said would be sent out by the end of the semester.

He stressed that the Board's use of creative marketing strategies, such as working closely with the Hall Presidents' Council and improving the SUB website, will be essential in increasing communication and capturing attention.

Outgoing board members expressed confidence in their successors' training and abilities.

"Flaherty has a lot of qualities like me," said former board manager Charlie Ebersol. "He's going to make a good leader."

Former programming director Ty Romero said that the new executive board would benefit from "paid experience," as McCarthy and Kinnings both held the same positions last year and Flaherty and Meacham worked within SUB extensively.

"I think as an outgoing board we're pleased by the fact that we had so many people applying to stay on, and also that people who have been able to watch our successes and our failures are going to be able to work on (SUB) next year," she said.

Flaherty said that after accountability, the Board intends to stress consistency and enthusiasm as its key values.

"We want to get consistency with programming — it's not the quantity but the quality we bring in," he said. "We don't want to bring in one big thing and then not be able to bring anything else."

SUB plans to split its big-name concert budget for two shows, with 60 percent spent in the fall and 40 percent in the spring. Flaherty said that a high-profile speaker is also a goal for spring semester, as are smaller year-round events such as comedians, hypnotists and continuing concerts at Legends.

While he praised the programming that last year's Board brought in, especially in the spring, Flaherty said that both Ebersol and Romero have assured the new Board that more can be done.

"Ebersol and (Romero) have been very helpful in the transition," Flaherty said. "We really want to try to continue and build on that success — understanding what they've done well, what this office can do better on, and how we can implement the changes that they've started.”

Flaherty reiterated the need for the Board's core principles to be applied to all events in order to fulfill student expectations.

"If we stick to these ideas of accountability, consistency and enthusiasm in all of our programming we're going to have a lot of success next year," he said.

Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu

OXFORD PROGRAM

MONDAY, APRIL 5

6:30 pm
102 DeBartolo

FOR FIRST YEAR A & L AND SCIENCE COLLEGE INTENTS
Share, for the fourth quarter ending Feb. 28, earnings on Wednesday, but only one of them for the same period last year.

"There's one for you, nineteen for me."

But that's not the case for students in accountancy, especially for those at Wittenbach's course on taxation. The course, required of accounting majors in the Mendoza College of Business, teaches students about individual and corporate tax policies.

Federal Taxation, or just "Tax," as the course is known to students, emphasizes the role tax considerations play in business decisions. Wittenbach said students are able to immediately apply what they learn in the class.

"Everyone has to do a tax return," Wittenbach said. "Someone's got a neighbor that needs help."

Students like senior Kelly Smith, said Wittenbach is adept at bringing realism to the classroom.

"He makes it really relevant to the business world," Smith said. "Plus he's a really nice guy."

Wittenbach said that relevance drew him into the tax field, despite his encouragement that factory orders managed to recover some ground last month.

Demand for "durable" goods — costly manufactured items that promise long-term use — increased by a modest 0.3 percent last month, compared with a drop of 0.9 percent in January.

Although February's rebound wasn't as strong as the 1.5 percent increase economists expected, it was still encouraging that factory orders managed to recover some ground last month.

Stewart attorney seeks new trial

NEW YORK — Martha Stewart asked for a new trial Wednesday, saying one of the jurors had lied about her arrest on assault charges.

Stewart lawyer Robert Morvillo said in papers filed in federal court that he would have sought to strike Juror Chappell Hartidge had he known about her past.

"These facts, in and of themselves, establish that Ms. Stewart is entitled to a new trial," Morvillo wrote.

Big box retailers post Q4 gains

MINNEAPOLIS — The country's two largest electronics retailers reported strong quarterly earnings on Wednesday, with both of them finding that their Internet chat rooms.

Best Buy earned $469 million, or $1.42 per share, for the fourth quarter ending Feb. 28, up from $311 million, or 96 cents per share, for the same period last year.

CORPORATE SCANDAL

Tyco jurors focus on theft charges

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jurors in the Tyco International corporate-looting trial, their deliberations on track after being fed another bag of evidence, reviewed testimony Wednesday about millions of dollars in bonuses and forgiven loans to the company's former top officers.

Jurors had asked last week to review testimony by Mark Swartz, Tyco's former chief financial officer, but Judge Kevin Thomas Jr. ruled that deliberations suffered a rancorous collapse that threatened to cause a mistrial.

Readback of Swartz's testimony began under the circumstances Tuesday, with two court reporters reading from a thick stack of court transcripts. The jurors then began their 10th day of deliberations.

In his testimony, Swartz told of conversations with Dennis Kozlowski, Tyco's former chief executive, about $37 million in forgiven loans and $72 million in bonuses they received.

Swartz says a Tyco board member asked him and Kozlowski to accept the loan forgiveness in partial payment of bonuses they were supposed to receive.

Swartz, the trial's only defense witness, testified that he and Kozlowski accepted the offer. He also said he and Kozlowski did nothing illegal and had received many Tyco benefits at informal board meetings at which no minutes were kept.

"I have never asked a juror to say they are innocent but I have asked them not to believe the evidence," said District Attorney Robert Morgenthau.

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Prosecutors focus on theft in Nichols trial

Associated Press

MCALESTER, Okla — Prosecutors at the murder trial of Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols used a drill bit Wednesday to try to connect him to the theft of blasting caps and detonation cord from a rock quarry.

Two expert witnesses testified that a bit seized from Nichols' home after the April 19, 1995, bombing matched the distinctive markings found in a drill bit in a padlock at the quarry near Marion, Kan.

"That was the drill that was used," said James Cadigan, a retired FBI tool-mark examiner.

A variety of explosives, including detonation cord and blasting caps, were stolen from the quarry less than seven months before the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

"I'm sure that taxpayers everywhere would be disgusted to know that every time they go to the pump and fill up their tank, they're funding projects like this," said Rep. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz.

"Improving the student union will always be an ongoing process," Lao said.

Contact Matt Bramanti at mbramanti@nd.edu

GOP discord sidelines highway bill

WASHINGTON — A major highway and transit spending bill temporarily stalled Wednesday in the House as Republican leaders of the chamber, meeting in a closed-door session, were divided over whether to amend the legislation with any of a number of proposals that House Democrats were pushing.

The Senate passed the bill in February. The administration has proposed spending $256 billion, up from $214 billion in the previous six-year period.

The status of the bill is "very, very tentative right now," said Deborah Pryce, R-Ohio, who chairs the House Republican Conference, after a two-hour afternoon meeting where GOP Representatives expressed a variety of interests that would expand the scope of projects covered by the current legislation.

Young said he doubted that they would rewrite anything in the bill in the face of the presidential veto.

"I don't listen to the president," Young said. "I just don't know what the president is going to do. He has to speak for himself.

Young and other members of the committee sought a much larger bill, of $375 billion, but the White House rejected his proposal to pay for it by raising gas tax by about five cents. His committee said a bill of that magnitude would sustain 1.7 million new jobs over the six-year period.

On the other side, fiscal conservatives condemned the special interest projects in the bill that they said would cost billions and taxpayers for Common Sense said the bill was "paved with pork," with 3,200 designated projects, for horse trails, auto museums, pedestrian walkways and parking, worth $9.7 billion.

"I'm sure that taxpayers everywhere would be disgusted to know that every time they go to the pump and fill up their tank, they're funding projects like this," said Rep. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz.

House Democrats, while not involved in the negotiations, were generally supportive of the $275 billion bill, said Jim Bberger, D-Minn., for Rep. James Oberstar of Minnesota, top Democrat on the Transportation Committee.
Associated Press

Thursday, April 1, 2004
The Observer • NATIONAL NEWS

UW student found in marsh

Associated Press

The Observer • NATIONAL NEWS

Georgia ban on gay marriage approved

Associated Press

ATLANTA — The Georgia House voted Wednesday to put a gay marriage ban in the state constitution.

The 122-52 vote gave final approval to an amendment that will appear on the state ballot this fall. If voters agree, the state constitution would say Georgia will not recognize same-sex unions, even if they're performed in other states.

Gay marriage is already illegal in Georgia, but the matter is not addressed in its constitution. Amendment supporters said the law would not prevent a judge from allowing same-sex couples to marry.

“We cannot let judges in Boston, or officials in San Francisco, define marriage for the people of Georgia,” said GOP Rep. Bill Hembree, the amendment’s sponsor, referring to hotspots in the national debate over gay marriage.

The amendment was narrowly defeated by the Democratic House last month after being approved by the Republican-controlled Senate earlier this year.

Last time, nearly all black lawmakers opposed the amendment, comparing the gay rights debate to the civil rights struggle. A few of those opponents voted yes, giving the amendment the needed two-thirds majority.

One opponent of the measure called Wednesday’s yes votes “unacceptable.”

“This limited the freedom of people. That’s unacceptable for a member of the minority caucus to be limiting freedom of another minority,” said Ron Sailor, a minister from Decatur.

But another black lawmaker, Democrat Rep. Randall Mangham, afterward said, "I voted yes, because I believe in the first vote, voted for the amendment this time.

"I don’t appreciate having to explain to my 9-year-old why two big husky guys are kissing," Mangham said, then added: "Good discrimination against the act, but he loves the person. I will continue to protect people who live that lifestyle."

In Rhode Island, meanwhile, the debate over same-sex marriage has been a hot topic in the House majority leader of the minority party: "unacceptable."

"I don’t appreciate having to explain to my 9-year-old why two big husky guys are kissing," Mangham said, then added: "Good discrimination against the act, but he loves the person. I will continue to protect people who live that lifestyle."

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Georgia ban on gay marriage approved
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Thursday, April 1, 2004

Campus Ministry

The Observer

A 25 minute presentation on the Sunday Scripture focal points for reflection on the Scripture.

Lenten Reflection
following 11:45 a.m., McKenna Hall
Return 12 noon on Sunday

Mass for Peace
5:35 p.m.
Basilica of the Sacred Heart
Followed by
First Friday
Dinner & Discussion
Join us after Mass in the Coleman-Morse Lounge for a conversation led by Professor George Lopez about the role of international organizations. Pizza & drinks will be provided.

Wednesday 04.07
Interfaith Christian Night Prayer
Holy Week Taize Prayer service 10:00 p.m.
Coleman-Morse Lounge
Theology on Tap
Stump the Priests
10:00 p.m. -11:30 p.m.
Legends

Find the latest on upcoming retreat glimpses, mass schedules and special campus events at campusministry.nd.edu

Lenten Reflection

A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR PRAYER
for faculty, staff and students
DURING THE REMAINING DAYS OF LENT

An invitation to understand the depth of God's love and the call to discipleship

A 25 minute presentation on the Sunday Scripture followed by twenty minutes of private prayer based on points for reflection on the Scripture.

with Professor Robin Darling Young

Coleman-Morse Chapel
6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m

Mass Schedule

Basilica of the Sacred Heart
Saturday Vigil Mass
5:00 p.m.
Rev. Tom Eckert, C.S.C
Sunday
6:00 a.m.
Rev. Tom Eckert, C.S.C
11:45 a.m.
Rev. Peter Rocca, C.S.C

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Around Campus (every Sunday)

NO Spanish Mass this week
7:00 p.m.
MBA Mass
Mendoza CCB
Faculty Lounge

Spring Break. For 40 of us at Notre Dame, Spring Break took us to Rome Italy! It was not my first time to Rome but it still stands as one of the most memorable for several reasons.

Our group was fortunate to have a Scavi tour scheduled during our stay in Rome. The Scavi tour takes us underground the Basilica of St. Peter's and talks us back 2000 years to the site where St. Peter was hung upside down on a cross. Our tour guides were seminarians who encouraged us to treat the 75 minute tour as a 'miniature pilgrimage.' We began this pilgrimage with scripture: "Amen, I say to you [Peter], when you were younger, you used to dress yourself and go where you wanted; but when you grew old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go" John 21:18.

Under the Basilica of St. Peter's, pre-Christian tombs are revealed; the ancient walls of the Basilica that Emperor Constantine had built are unearthed; Christian heroes and popes are buried; and most impressive to me lies the bones where the Church has always maintained St. Peter the apostle was buried. During World War II, with much strife and unrest in Europe, scientists and other professionals studied these bones and determined that they belong to a robust man from the first century. We believe these bones to be the remains of the Prince of the Apostles, St. Peter! It's difficult to describe the experience of being huddled in small rooms reliving history of the Church and of Rome. In the last small room, with the help of a red laser-pointer, our pilgrims were able to gaze on the bones of St. Peter. The seminarian read: "And I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." Mt 16:18. Chills went up and down my arm at these words; God is still with us - God continues to protect us from evil and guide us back towards holiness!

There has been much unrest in the American Church these past years. Differing opinions about how the Church should be governed, what our moral norms should be, and even scandal from some who are supposed to be trusted shepherds. As a priest who was ordained just months before the sexual abuse cases reached newspapers across the world, I feared that the gates of the netherworld might have an upper-hand. The peacefulness and reassurance I felt at St. Peter's bones have given me hope and confidence that God indeed still provides.

Next week is Holy Week which leads us to Easter. The Saturday after Easter is the annual ordination date for the Congregation of Holy Cross. Six men who are brothers to me will be commissioned by the Church minister in the name of Jesus Christ. They will be told to preach the gospel, celebrate the sacraments, reach out to those who are marginalized, and to be faithful men of prayer devoted to their community.

God continues to build his Church in extraordinary ways through ordinary people like those men preparing for ordination. While we all can spend a lot of time resume-building in other aspects of our lives, we all tend to underestimate our capacities when it comes to living as a disciple of Jesus. Each of us is called like Peter to be a 'rock' in the Church. How is God using YOU to build tomorrow's Church? What is untreasured in your heart as you listen to God's call?
The search continues

Notre Dame still looking for top VP

By WOO KARES
New WNDU

The University has encountered never-before-seen difficulties in hiring a new executive vice president to replace Father Jim Sully, who resigned from the post in May. Sully resigned after University President Punk Polloy told the Board of Trustees he would leave if the search didn’t go well. Sully also was involved in several confrontations, including an incident where he allegedly assaulted WNDU reporter Connie Strickler who was on campus to cover a Mass for a missing student and made the nearly-fatal mistake of parking in Sully’s reserved space in the South Dining Hall.

“It has been very difficult to find a candidate who will work well with Polloy, is a tea-toaller and can control his temper,” search committee chair Wei Mei said.

No one has been able to pin down exactly who has performed Sully’s duties since May. However, South Bend pet stores did report that University Human Resources officials were purchasing unusually high numbers of gerbils.

Since resigning, Sully has spent much of his spare time in Chile, where he has helped bring democracy to the country.

“Why should I come back to Notre Dame? Nobody likes me there and in Chile people are nice to me,” Sully said as he sucked his thumb and clung to a bottle of Jack Daniels.

In an effort to invigorate the search process, Mei said he has been in contact with members of the magazine, the

Stan and Billy Bob, shown above, are the two candidates the University is considering for executive vice president. There is a chance that both could share the position.

Scholastic. According to Mei, Scholastic, which bills itself as a bi-weekly magazine, only publishes about once a month.

“They’ve obviously figured out something there,” he said.

“We’ve never been able to get our work done like that so we want to know what their secret is,” Mei said.

Mei said that he was also impressed with the leadership Scholastic showed when selecting its new Editor-in-Chief. Unable to choose just one candidate, Scholastic chose two, neither of which are presently in the country.

“This is a wonderful idea,” Mei said.

“We would like our executive vice president to fulfill a role similar to Vice President Dick Cheney, always being in an undisclosed location. Scholastic seems to have found a way to run their publication from abroad — or find a schmuck that will do it for a few months and then step down — so we need to capitalize on that.”

In other resignation news:

Sully’s resignation was not the only high-profile priest who left campus last year. Father Slam Smickfadden, former rector of Sorin Hall, left campus in disgrace after it was revealed he had a sexual relationship with a student. Smickfadden was banned from Notre Dame’s campus, but has been reassigned to minister to a home for wayward girls in Wisconsin.

“We figured that he couldn’t screw them up anymore than they already were,” Smickfadden’s superior, who declined to be named, said.

Contact Woo Kares at wkares@nd.edu

COBA acquires ND in $2 billion deal

Punk Polloy fired as Dean Who assumes DomeCorp presidency

By ADMIN STOGE
New WNDU

In an unprecedented $2 billion deal, the Mendoza College of Business has acquired the University, Dean Marilyn Who announced Wednesday. The new organization, to be called DomeCorp, will be run by Michael Bendovza.

Who said current University president Punk Polloy will be dismissed for what she called “financial incompetence.”

“We have to face facts,” Who said.

“This guy pisses away money like a drunken sailor.”

“If approved by federal regulators, the deal will mark the nation’s first acquisition of a university by a subordinating division.”

Who said the acquisition will usher in massive changes at the university, which had been under non-COBA control for the last 162 years.

“We’ve already launched thorough audits of every depart­ment,” she said. “We expect to turn quite a bit of fat.”

Several academic departments have already been impacted by the acquisition. Effective today, the Department of Liberal Studies will be put to work in sweatshops, manufacturing. In a role similar to Vice President Dick Cheney, who guards the exits to the dining hall, these are the same guys who let a priest smack our students in the Nuclear Radiation Center to develop alternative sources of revenue.

NASA astronaut instructor Buzz Machtien likewise doubted the station’s ability to pull off the mission, which carries an estimated price tag of $110 billion.

“I don’t think anyone at that station has ‘the right stuff’ for the rigors of space flight,” Machien said. “I mean, these are the same guys who let a priest smack them around.”

Even some WNDU employees were not convinced about the wisdom of the mission.

“Now we can possibly compete if we don’t have the only news helicopt­er in Michiana,” cameraman A r c h e r T h a m a s o n asked. “Now we possibly we possibly

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Guarantee is going to rip us a new one.”

However, students praised the mission, which will send Schickfadden about 80 mil­lion miles for an exclusive interview with the leader of the Martian race.

“I’m really excited about it,” junior Katie-Maureen O’McFigt said, gazing skyward. “[Smickfadden] isn’t coming back, right?”

Contact Beat Spumante at spu.20@nd.edu
The Absurder

Band seeks cool status from almighty Senate

By ACCORDION STYLIST

The Student Senate rejected a petition from a group of marching band members asking for the Senate to pass a resolution acknowledging that the band was cool.

"Look, our whole lives we've been shoved in trash cans and made fun of because we go to band camp," trumpeter Ima Doork said. "Now that we're at college, can't we get this behind us and be cool like everybody else?"

"No," student body president Kong Pao said.

Band members pointed to the fact that they throw parties just like everybody else and get sent to ResLife like everybody else as reasons why they should be able to, as Doork said, "fit in."

But senators, who alternated between shooting looks of pity at the less cool and shooting looks of derision at the cool party-goers, criticized the band's party-throwing skills.

"Look, I went to one of your parties once," O'Neill senator I.P Freely said. "You wimps were only serving Amaretto once," O'Neill senator I.P Freely said.

"Well, that's because we're so cool," Pangborn senator E.Z. Lei said. "Sure, we'll stop the nuke stuff. But it's called being cool.

"Then, when all those fans cheer, we'll give them a break."

"We're working with the PA announcer to explain how Rally in the Valley is the coolest!" trumpeter Ima Doork said. 

Contact Accordion Stylist at astylist@nd.edu

Nukes

continued from page 1

sleep. The alcohol policy, he said, was just the first step of cracking down.

"Nothing like dropping a low-yield nuclear device in a crowded room to get those damn kids to shut up," vice president for student affairs Bark Boreman said. He added that officials were trying to evaluate excuses to explain how "Rally in the Valley" was broken up with a well timed mushroom cloud.

To date, inspectors haven't found any rocket devices that could be used to deploy nukes across the globe. But they cautiously added that they found it suspicious that the statue of Mary on top of the Dome was replaced with a "missile-type" device.

University officials said they plan to appeal the sanctions, which include a ban on future nuclear research and the elimination of Steppe Center. "Yeah, we know that building has nothing to do with their program," Nukem said. "But it's damn ugly."

The report also calls for Notre Dame to reduce tuition to pre-Industrial Revolution levels. "The only way those kids can attend this school in the future is if their parents are princes of oil-rich countries," Nukem said. "Oh wait, I guess some already are."

The University plans appeal.

"Sure, we'll stop the nuke stuff — we got most of the partiers out of here anyway," Policy said. "But we still need that extra tuition money."

"What am I going to do when I need money to throw a keg party?" he continued. "I know, the Board of Trustees is going to kill me if I bring Natty Light again to our next meeting. And I'm still holding out hope I can get a statue of me on campus somewhere."

Contact Radioactive Leader at rleader@nd.edu

RecSports is expanding it's control on ND Athletics and is looking for students to fill the following positions:

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UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
Excise, Posse bust underagers at Legends

By FALLON LEFLOOR
News Writer

Thursday, April 1, 2004

The lights came on and the music screeched to a halt. Excise police had swooped in on another bar frequented by underage students. But this one wasn’t owned by a shady businessman: it was owned by the University.

Less than one year after being opened, Legends was busted by members of Excise Police and the St. Joseph County Sheriff’s Posse, who cited 45 students for “Minor in a Lame-Ass Tavern” and 16 students for Public Intoxication.

While students were used to dealing with Excise Police for previous infractions, few had ever been arrested by a deputy on a horse.

One particularly intoxicated student attempted to mount a horse, thinking he was back on his farm on Montana. He got pushed off into a pile of horse manure.

“What the hell is this?” he asked. “I want my mommy.”

Deputy Bow Rider, on his horse Hung, commented that one officer on horseback can control up to 12 people.

“We didn’t know what we’d encounter here, we didn’t know what kind of people would frequent Legends underage,” he said. “We wanted to prepare for any skull-duggery that those damn kids would present to us.”

II. Gotta Bustem of the Michigan City division of the Indiana State Excise Police explained that the “Minor in a Lame-Ass Tavern” citations are rarely issued, but are reserved in a situation like this where a minor attempts to drink at a respective bar instead of the dive establishments they usually frequent.

“We can’t understand it,” Bustem said. “Usually underagers go out to get drunk, not to have just a beer and hook up on University property.”

Students generally agreed with this sentiment.

“Man, if I knew that I was going to get busted, I would have just gone to Boat Club,” he said. “I thought I could drink safely at Legends, but I should have just got wasted at Boat and taken my chances walking back.”

Excise had been planning the raid for months with the cooperation of University officials.

“I really shouldn’t be telling you this, but the University thought that by busting something on their property students would think that they didn’t have anything to do with the other busts,” he said.

Bustem said that the University could face a wide variety of penalties for the bust, including the loss of its liquor license or a large fine.

“I really don’t see it as a huge loss,” he said. “The University charged too much anyways, so we are just really saving these guys from being sucker punched by the bartender if you want to get drunk, go get some Mad Dog.”

Contact Fallon Lefloor at lefloor.l@nd.edu.
A&L students must play hippie sports

Students play hacky-sack on the South Quad. Students in the College of Arts and Letters are now required to take an additional physical education requirement, such as this.

By ARTSY FARTSY
News Writer

Reflecting the preferences of its students, the College of Arts and Letters announced Wednesday that students will be required to take an additional physical education course in either Ultimate Frisbee or hacky-sack.

Dean Mark Roachclip said he expects students will embrace the new requirement.

"Let's face it, students who major in PLD or peace studies already know their way around a Frisbee," Roachclip said. "We might as well give them a few easy hours."

Gender studies major Moonbeam Johnson praised the new classes.

"Wow, that's pretty far out," Johnson said through flabby dreads. "I haven't been this fired up since that Ralph Nader rally."

"I haven't been this fired up since that Ralph Nader rally," Moonbeam Johnson  
Gender Studies major

However, some students, like architecture major Jim Vesuvius, criticized the new PE classes as 'frakkin' nuthy.'

"You have got to be kidding me," Vesuvius said from his windowless cubicle in the basement of Bond Hall. "What's the matter, are those interpretive dance classes just too tough?"

Vesuvius, brandishing an X-Acto knife, had to be physically restrained by his fellow architecture majors.

Roachclip also said other changes are on the horizon for the college. Notre Dame's largest educational research shows that music can be an effective pedagogical tool, so we're issuing Phish boxed sets to every undergraduate, Roachclip said. "Oh man, it's gonna be awesome."

Some business students said the changes will further hurt Arts and Letters students' job prospects.

"As if those long-hairs needed any help finding the unemployment line," accounting student Anthony Deloitte said. 

But not everyone in the college was quite so enthusiastic. The emphasis on physical activity is just another example of our racist, homophobic, philo-locutus culture," said anthropology major Tamika Gutierrez-McGoldstein. "I'm going to request this to the ombudsman... I mean ombudsperson..."

And some students, like English major Patty O'Phournachure, appeared not to take the changes.

"Hub?" O'Phournachure said as she lit an enormous tie-dye-colored bong.

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Judge grills doctor on fetus pain

Associated Press

NEW YORK — In questioning that at times turned graphic, a judge deciding the constitutionality of a new ban on some abortions grilled a doctor Wednesday on whether a fetus feels pain during the procedures.

The inquiry came in U.S. District Court in Manhattan after lawyers on both sides had finished questioning Dr. Timothy Johnson, a plaintiff in one of three lawsuits brought to stop enforcement of the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act.

"Does the fetus feel pain?" Judge Richard C. Casey asked Johnson about whether physicians warn women that a fetus is dismembered during an abortion.

"No," Johnson answered.

The exchange touched a key element of the government's argument that the ban blocks a particularly gruesome type of abortion that causes pain to the fetus and is not needed to protect a woman's health because alternatives are safer.

Abortion-rights advocates and their physician-witnesses say the procedure in which the fetus is partially outside the woman's body before the abortion is completed is sometimes the safest option and often protects a woman's health rather than harms it.

The constitutionality of the law, signed by President Bush in November after eight years of litigation, is being decided in simultaneous trials in New York, San Francisco and Lincoln, Neb. Before the start of the New York trial this week, Casey declined to exclude evidence about fetal pain.

Casey also questioned Johnson about whether physicians warn women that a fetus is dismembered during an abortion.

"Do you tell her the arms and legs are pulled off?" Casey asked.

"I mean, that's what I want to know. Do you tell her?" Casey also questioned Casey.

"We tell her the baby, the fetus, is dismembered as part of the procedure, yes," answered Johnson, a University of Michigan professor and research scientist at the school's Center for Human Growth and Development.

Casey asked Johnson if doctors tell women that the abortion procedure they might use includes "sucking the brain out of the skull."

"I don't think we would use those terms," Johnson said. "I think we would probably use a term like decompression of the skull or reducing the contents of the skull."

Publisher sentenced for spying on Iraqis

Associated Press

CHICAGO — A suburban Chicago newspaper publisher convicted of spying on Iraqi dissidents for Saddam Hussein was sentenced Wednesday to three years and 10 months in federal prison.

Khaled Abdel-Latif Dumeisi, 61, is expected to be deported after he finishes his prison term.

U.S. District Judge Suzanne B. Cotten also said he may not re-enter the United States without permission from the attorney general.

Dumeisi was convicted of failing to register as a foreign agent, conspiring to fail to register, lying to a federal grand jury and lying to an immigration agent. He was not convicted of espionage, which involves theft of defense secrets, nor was there any allegation the case involved terrorism.

"I don't think anyone at the trial would conclude that Mr. Dumeisi was a sophisticated spy," the judge said, characterizing his offense as more like fraud.

Witnesses said Dumeisi spied on Iraqi dissidents living in the United States who were opposed to Saddam Hussein and that he forwarded his information to Iraqi intelligence agents who worked at that country's U.N. mission under the guise of diplomats.

His tiny suburban newspaper, Al Majhar, was full of articles critical of U.S. Middle East policy and praising the Iraqi dictator.

During his weeklong trial in January, prosecutors presented evidence including a videotape of Dumeisi giving an anti-American speech on Saddam's birthday in which he called the Iraqi dictator "our great leader" and praised missile attacks on Israel during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.
We are a generation in the making. During these young days in college and in the years soon after, many of us will make pivotal decisions that will set the course for our generation and the next one that we will give birth to. These decisions play particularly in relationships and family life. Yet, we are inheriting a world from our parents’ generation that is marked with high rates of divorce. Here, our community can assert its power to promote the values that lead to lasting relationships and families.

There is a definite place for developing family values here at Holy Cross College, Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame. These values are consonant with the highest ideals of the Catholic tradition. If we choose to make a difference, then we will stoke our community’s relationships and families.

I asked Dean Ava Preacher in the College of Arts and Letters about role of marriage and families. She championed the concept saying, “Higher education is not just about teaching values in the abstract, but how to incorporate those values into everyday experience.”

Our community already has the values that create a strong family atmosphere. But do our student perceptions of the values that students specifically lead to good long-term relationships and families? Wouldn’t now in community be an opportunity to discuss a little more deliberately what has successfully worked and failed in our different family experiences?

In the wake of unprecedented rates of failed marriages and split families among our parents’ generation, I have hope for what our generation can do. Many of us have felt the sting of our parents’ failure. Our hearts break at the depths of our soul: “Never again, never again.”

Paul Hornung’s recent comments about admissions standards for athletes should be denounced by everyone within the Notre Dame community. While the partially insensitive tone of those remarks is certainly despicable, I wish to respond to the idea that we have to lower our academic standards if we want to succeed in athletics.

Although Hornung would have our finite University compromise its integrity in order to win more football games, I personally believe that Notre Dame has always stood for certain principles, including academic excellence. To diminish that aspect of our University would be to shame a tradition upon which Notre Dame was built. Athletics is a major source of pride for this community and one which I celebrate often. I can also appreciate the revenue generated by the athletic program and fighting fans, but we must not forget that this is an institution of higher learning first and foremost. While Hornung did not have to rely on a degree for his profession, he is the exception rather than the rule. In fact, most of our fine athletes will not become professional athletes. Like all other students they will rely on their education once they graduate. Perhaps it is easy for someone in Hornung’s unique position to lose sight of the bigger picture. But the students of Notre Dame need hard work. They work hard not only to earn their degree, but also to earn the opportunity to come here. To lower admissions standards would devalue all of our hard work. Moreover, our pride in athletics comes not just from winning, but also from the fact that we win the right way. National Championships at places like Notre Dame and Stanford mean so much more because of that commitment to academics.

I wish to respond to the idea that we need to lower our academic standards. That sentiment will never be the case. As we get older, it becomes easier to rediscover a relationship with our parents as peers. This means finding out more about our parents than they wanted us to know in the past and learning from their successes and failures.

We are a generation in the making. We can walk our parents’ and grandparents’ footsteps more about their stories. As we get older, it becomes easier to rediscover a relationship with our parents as peers. This means finding out more about our parents than they wanted us to know in the past and learning from their successes and failures.

We can drastically mistake the early euphoria in a relationship for everlasting love. We can feel so much that we think too little. We can make choices in a relationship that commit more than we really intend to give, only to realize our mistake far too late.

Passionate feelings and physical attraction do have a role; they are a must for around theme of dating, marriage or raising a family. Preacher notes that events with this theme, like Theology on Tap discussions have had a huge draw in the past. More events like this could also combat the negative dating karma associated with our community.

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I am writing in response to Casey Station's March 30 letter to the Observer. Casey Station assumed that by taking a moral and religious objection to homosexual conduct, Catholicism does not love those who are inclined to homosexual behavior. We should love all people, black, white, hetero- sexual, homosexual, Catholic, Protestant or Jewish. But that does not mean that we must condone and support lifestyles that are inconsistent with the Catholic Church, nor do we need to facilitate people to continue their way.

Yes, ultimately, God will be the judge of all things and he will not judge each other, but neither should we help, encourage or facilitate others to commit sin. By giving approval based on the theory of a student homosexual organization, the University would be doing so.

Catholics should not give minority groups carte blanche and should not allowship couples to live in their homes, pay for women to live off-campus, etc. None of these things support the Church. In the last few months, we have seen the Notre Dame administration wobble in its truly Catholic stance by allowing the Vista Monologues, Queer Film Festival and non-Christian prayer events to invade this campus. At least on this issue, the University has chosen correctly. One can only pray that the University realizes this is but the first step to return our Lady's University to its Catholic character and mission.

Celeste Lee Tinney
Law School
March 31

Defining partisanship

Mike Marchand's March 29 column falls short of condemning partisan attacks, well short. Despite the obvious puns on Dick Cheney's name, he demonstrates his ownIGHT into partisanship.

How do I define partisanship? Those that utilize their university titles or their majority opinion in an activity. At least on this issue, the University has chosen correctly. One can only pray that the University realizes this is but the first step to return our Lady's University to its Catholic character and mission.

After hearing all 2 hours and 40 minutes of Clarke's testimony before the 9/11 commission, numerous interviews including "60 Minutes" and "Meet the Press" and reading the transcripts of the White House assassination campaign, I conclude -- that an illness extends even to our very own Observer -- the things the University is doing is wrong. I am sure Clarke truly believes in love and he sincerely supports the University but he is just not as supportive of the Church. At least on this issue, the University has chosen correctly. One can only pray that the University realizes this is but the first step to return our Lady's University to its Catholic character and mission.

Mike Marchand, a first-year student in engineering.

Showing compassion

I think in the whole homosexuality debate, we have missed an entire group of people: those with unwanted homosexual tendencies. Many people struggle silently about anyone knowing what they experience. Maybe he or she lives in your dorm, down the hall, next door. How are these people affected by all this talk about homosexuality? Chances are, they have an equal say to deal with the issue, just like we all do when we face big problems. We try to put off confronting them because it's painful. My point is two-fold. First, these "taboo" tendencies make those who struggle with them about as no different than anyone else on this campus. We all struggle with various issues, and in that sense we are all united — unified in that we struggle and unite despite our diverse struggles. Most importantly, though, we are united as children of a merciful and loving God, who gives us these struggles that we might use them to increase our virtue and eventually emerge from them victorious.

The second point is that we need to realize that homosexuality is an issue that can't just be dealt with in terms of right and wrong. OK, the Catholic Church teaches — and I believe — that homosexual sex is mortally sinful and that homosexual tendencies are not sinned yet still objectively disordered. Some of you disagree. This letter is not going to change your mind.

I would ask you, whatever your position to understand that there are people out there, I know some — who have these tendencies and who despise them. They deal with this issue in the light of their faith, and they need our support. What they don't need is people yelling at them from all sides telling them it's OK, it's not bad, whatever. That's just confusing, I applaud the University for refusing United in Diversity (UID) club status, but the University to be consistent and more vocal in proclaiming the Church's stance on homosexuality.

The Observer ran a series of articles about gender and balance in the different colleges and the main source for these articles has been data gathered by the Office of Institutional Research. However, these stories have only been covering half the issue. Numbers only tell one side of the story, an objective side. By using these numbers to attempt to make a more subjective comment about gender balance, the series of stories has done an injustice to reality. The stories are filled with quotes from students enrolled in the particular colleges telling why they want to be there. That's fine. But why didn't the Observer ask what they would do if they did not choose one college or if they must do what the students want to? How can anyone label a 30-year-old government bureaucrat an opportunist pariah? It's been said that when you have nothing to say, say something. Clarke had something to say and we should listen — his position and experience warrant an issue of that.

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ALBUM REVIEW

Christian release urges listeners to get ‘Happy’

By REBECCA SAUNDERS
Features, Music Crit.

Happiness is not quite a virtue, but Matthew West would probably think that it should be. West is a new, up-and-coming Christian singer/songwriter who’s single “More” is topping Christian charts all over the country. The Chicago singer has been writing songs since college and touring for years, but has not yet experienced the success he has found with his new album Happy. With an album cover displaying his feet next to a pair of feet in clown shoes, West seems to be a genuinely happy guy. His silly nature shines through in his album and his song’s messages, yet an incredibly deep spirituality is also apparent.

Happy
Matthew West
Universal South Records

The album is a good mix of slow, fast, serious and “happy” songs. Happy has some good songs, a couple of great songs and a couple of less than good songs, but there is not a below mediocre song on the album. One of the strongest points of the album is the hit single “More.” “More” is a huge ballad that sounds like a Christian hit, and that is exactly what it has become. With strong and beautiful lyrics throughout the song, “More” is a definitive Christian song. “More” sings of the unconditional and infinite nature of God’s love. West sings, “I love you more than the sun and the stars / that I taught to shine / you are mine and you shine for me too.” There are not many ways to say that more eloquently or beautifully, and West certainly sounds great singing it.

Another huge high point on the album is “Every Second,” another Christian ballad, but with a bit more of a rock flavor. “Every Second” could be interpreted as a love song, or a love song to God, either way it is a beautiful song that proclaims, “I don’t want to let this moment fade away / I want to soak up every single second / I just want to fall in love along the way / I just want to soak up every single second / In your presence.”

Happy also has a good deal of faster, more upbeat songs. “The Lie” is an impressive, somewhat rock-infused track that talks about the lies that people tell you, betrayals by friends, etc. “I Can’t Hear You” is also a great track that hits even closer to the rock genre. “The End” is another song of the same type with a hint of folk paired with hopeful lyrics. West sings about how bad situations aren’t “The End,” but instead, “Sometimes it rains all over your parade / It’s like reaching for the sun and landing in the shade / But it’s not the end, the end of the world.” Overall Happy, Matthew West’s newest album, is a good listen with some great songs. The lyrics are excellent and worth listening for. The hit “More” is the best part of the album. Happy is not going to blow many away, but it just may make them a bit “happier.”

Contact Rebecca Saunders at rsaunder@nd.edu

ALBUM REVIEW

Notre Dame’s own gets ‘Shagnasty’

By EMILY TUMBRINK
Assistant Scene Editor

A far cry from other notable “fair-skinned” rappers, including Vanilla Ice, Eminem and Bubba Sparx, Notre Dame’s own Brian “B Shags” Shaughnessey, a resident assistant in Stanford Hall, has already established his reputation through regular Acousticafe performances. Fans raving more of this unique artist no longer have to wait patiently for Thursday nights. B Shags has now released his debut album, Stream of Conscience, on his very own label, Tight Yo Records, and has a new album in the works tentatively titled Shaggyrock. Though Stream of Conscience cannot quite compare to the overall experience of Shags’ live performances — just a sign of Shags’ chops as an entertainer — it is a solid effort from an aspiring rapper.

With the help of producer J. Dizzy, a friend from Indianapolis, and armed with beats downloaded from the Internet, Shags recorded Stream of Conscience by covering his head with a towel to block out any background noise while saying his rhymes into a mic connected to his computer. On the first track of the album, “Stream of Conscience,” B Shags invites listeners to “come spend a day in the shoes that [he’s] stepping in,” in order to better understand whom he is and why he rhymes. Escaping the stereotypes set by other rap artists, B Shags acknowledges that he is not a thug, and claims instead that “God sent (him) here to love and not to judge.” This introductory track gives listeners a good sense of who Shags is and separates him from the herd of other rappers who try to protect their “tough-guy” images.

However, after his relatively wholesome introduction, Shags urges us to get “Shagnasty,” with a more upbeat and traditional pop-rap track. Describing his music as a “Midwest thang,” B Shags displays qualities of more radio-friendly rappers, including lyrics about “sippin’ on for- ties” and cars rolling on “dubs,” while also maintaining his own unique (read: preppy white guy) personas.

“All I Need” shows a softer and more spiritual side of B Shags, and is akin in many ways to “Stream of Conscience.” These two tracks display more honesty than any of the other songs, and reveal B Shags’ own personality and values rather than the emphasis on alcohol, sex and money found in the lyrics of many of the other tracks. In this track, Shags thanks to God and his family for helping him throughout his life, and urging him to be the best person he can be. “What’s your life goals? / I was told to set the bar high / I’m trying to reach the sky and make the stars shine / but only so I can pass ‘em along / on to y’all in gratitude for making me.

B Shags debut album, Stream of Conscience, possesses many qualities of the average Domer. Containing elements of intelligence, spirituality and preppiness with a measure of mild illegal activity all wrapped up in a wannabe thug exterior, the album could easily be a candidate for “Best All Around.”

Contact Emily Tumbrink at etumbrin@nd.edu
Ed Graham plays drums for The Darkness whose debut album Permission to Land currently sits at No. 42 on the Billboard Top 200 charts and whose first American headlining tour is completely sold out.

By BRIAN FOY
Scene Writer

Are you surprised by your success back in the United Kingdom?

Ed Graham, drummer for the band, told Scene that The Darkness will likely debut some new songs it has been working on for its next album during the tour.

Riding the success of its hit debut album Permission to Land, The Darkness is about to embark on its first American tour, which is currently sold out. Ed Graham, drummer for the band, told Scene that The Darkness will likely debut some new songs it has been working on for its next album during the tour.

The thing that surprised us is selling out capacity venues on our first proper tour of the United States. I think once you do the hard work in the United Kingdom then it definitely helped us here because when we started to do the hard work here we were already starting at a high level.

When you recorded Permission to Land and "I Believe in a Thing Called Love" specifically, did you know the album was going to be well received and the single was going to be a smash hit? Did you know after you recorded those that you had a hit on your hands?

I think when we finished the album and looked at it we thought we had something that could be very successful. But that particular single "I Believe in a Thing Called Love" was one of the very first things recorded on the album — actually in a different session. So I think when we recorded that on our own in a different studio we probably didn't realize how big it was going to be.

Can you explain the concept behind the video for "I Believe in a Thing Called Love"?

It's really sort of to interpret it as you like. No really, we just like to have fun with the video and say "let's have a spaceship," "let's have a crash." I don't think there's any real hidden meaning. We do work with the director and come up with all these stupid ideas and then he tries to sort of make sense of them and make stuff happen.

Your second video in the United States for "Love is Only a Feeling" seems to be a totally different kind of video. What was the thinking for making a more laid back, video?

I think because it was quite a very serious and sensitive song really with the words, and people felt that a really crazy video wouldn't fit right with it. Are you surprised at the press given to non-musical aspects of the band?

No, not really. That's exactly what we heard in the United Kingdom when we first started. It seems to be first reaction how we look or the unusual aspects of Justin's voice.

Then further down the line people tend to look a bit deeper and comment on other things.

How do you go about writing music?

Well I'd say Dan and Justin were the main song-writers, but me and Frankie have a contribution. We've actually been in a country house in England writing. Dan will often come along with a riff or a piece of music and Justin tries to come up with melody ideas over it. Then we'd all sit together or play live together and arrange it.

Permission to Land is such an eclectic sounding album, what do you attribute that to?

That's not really planned, that's what comes out. I think in the future it could be even more diverse. People stereotype and say a lot of things about us, but on the actual record it's actually quite diverse. There's different styles of rock music and I think we're capable of coming up with stuff that's more diverse than that.

Your EP, which contained a few of the songs off Permission to Land, came out two years ago. Can we expect to hear any new songs on the American tour?

Possibly, just before we came to America we've been writing. We've got some new songs and for us all the songs on the record we played live for months and months before we recorded them. For us that's the best way to work out if it's a good song or not to play it live. So you might well hear a few new songs on this tour.

For your follow-up to Permission to Land do you feel any pressure or do you just let it fly and see what happens?

I wouldn't say we've felt pressure. We are aware of the fact that it has to be really good because it's the second album. More so in the United Kingdom — the cynical attitude of people. Rather than being happy for you, people in the United Kingdom are waiting for you to fall. We're all aware that the next album has to be really, really good, but then again we wouldn't release it unless we thought it was really good anyway. I wouldn't say we felt under pressure.

Contact Brian Foy at bfoy@ud.edu

Photo courtesy of mtv.com
Guard finishes game with 29 points

Ginobili leads Spurs to 107-89 win versus Kings

SAN ANTONIO — Whether he was slashing to the inside or pulling up outside, Manu Ginobili just couldn’t miss.

San Antonio’s reserve guard made his first nine shots in the second half and finished with 29 points to lead the Spurs to a 107-89 win over the Western Conference-leading Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday night.

The victory allowed the Spurs to remain in the hunt for the top spot in the Midwest Division-leading Minnesota, which defeated Seattle on Wednesday. San Antonio has seven games remaining, while Minnesota has six.

“I just got the game under me and when I was open, I shot,” said Ginobili, who had only six points in the first half. “I feel like I’m playing well right now.”

He made all three of his shots in the third quarter. In his first six attempts in the fourth, the last on a three-point basket bank shot that stopped a late Kings rally.

“He was off the charts,” San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said of Ginobili. “It was obvious early on that he did good.

Tim Duncan added 19 points for the Spurs, and Bruce Bowen threw down a spectacular dunk that started a late Kings rally.

Ginobili, who was also top scorer in Monday’s win over Cleveland, said the Spurs have been correcting their opponents by diversifying an offense that had long centered on Duncan.

“The other team can’t focus on just one or two things,” Ginobili said. “We’ve had plenty of players that can hit shots and beat you.”

Duncan scored 12 after three quarters. Sacramento closed the game at 94-87 on a 3-pointer by Peja Stojakovic with 4:21 left in the game.

Ginobili answered with his final basket of the night, the off-balance 23-foot bank shot that stopped a late Kings rally.

“We’re not playing a team – we’re playing ourselves, so to speak,” Spurs said. “We’ve got to go out, play hard and try to win games. We know what the situation is.”

The Timberwolves (52-24), who lead the Spurs by 1 1/2 games and trail the Sacramento Kings by one game in the Western Conference playoffs, set a franchise record with 27 three-pointers. Having six of eight and three in a row, Minnesota appears close to becoming cured of its recent struggles.

“Absolutely we’re going to push it right now,” said Scottie Pippen, who added 25 points and six rebounds. “Golden State coach Flip Saunders said, “Offensively and defensively, the team seems to take his personality a lot.”

Garnett had 27 points, 10 rebounds and six assists for Minnesota, which maintained its position over Antonio in the Western Division and remained in the hunt for the top seed in the Western Conference playoffs.

“We’re not playing a team – we’re playing ourselves, so to speak,” Spurs said. “We’ve got to go out, play hard and try to win games. We know what the situation is.”

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Spurs, by no coincidence, has been playing better lately, too.

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To our January 24th boys, Love, Meg and Greg

Um, you think you could change your name? It would make things a lot easier. Thanks.

Happy Birthday, Jennifer!
Faye Harrison, Lindsay Young Professor of Cultural Anthropology
University of Tennessee at Knoxville

"Building Anti-Racist Alliances for Human Rights: Women of Color Organizing on Global Terrain in the US South"

April 7, 2004
4:30 p.m.

Hesburgh Center Auditorium

4:00 p.m. Reception
Free and open to the public

The closing lecture will analyze the intersecting roles of African American, Afro-Latin American, and Caribbean activists. Professor Harrison defines herself as a political anthropologist interested in culture, politics, and political economy as they relate to forms of social inequality. Her approach emphasizes race, gender, class, and (trans)national identity as interlocking dimensions of difference, inequality, and power. She has done extensive ethnographic and documentary research in the United States, Great Britain, and the Caribbean. Among her numerous publications are "Facing Racism and the Moral Responsibility of Human Rights Knowledge," Annals of the New York Academy of Science, and "Global Apartheid, Foreign Policy, and Human Rights," Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society. She is presently working on a book, entitled "From the Outside Within: A Critical Project for Reworking Anthropology" (University of Illinois Press), on remaking anthropology from an African diasporic subject position.

The lecture series on Race in the Americas is jointly sponsored by the African and African American Studies Program and the Institute for Latino Studies and cosponsored by Gender Studies, the Kellogg Institute for International Studies, the College of Arts and Letters, the College of Engineering, the College of Science, the Mendoza College of Business, the Office of the Vice-President for Student Affairs, and the Office of the Provost.
MLB

Yankees demonstrate ‘traditional domination’

N.Y. overwhelms Tampa Bay 12-1 in second Tokyo game

Associated Press

TOKYO — Hideki Matsui stood at home plate, received a samurai helmet from the Kabuto, and raised the gold-and-red armor high, for the crowd to see. The New York Yankees ‘traditional domination’ had been restored.

Matsui rocked the Tokyo Dome with a two-run homer, thrilling the Japanese fans who worship him. Jorge Posada hit three-run shots from both sides of the plate, Kevin Brown won his first start in pinstripes and the Yankees calmed their jittery supporters back home by routing the Tampa Bay Devil Rays 12-1 Wednesday morning.

"Hopefully, we can have many more games like this," Matsui told the cheering crowd from a podium near home plate after the game.

After a listless 8-3 loss on opening day, fans back home who got up at 5 a.m. had been infuriated, expecting greatness from their heroes, not grogginess. And then the Yankees fell behind in the first inning when Aubrey Huff hit an RBI single.

"I was in there saying, 'I'm the last one without a hit,'" he remembered.

Matsui had another chance to come up big in the seventh when he batted with the bases loaded, but he struck out against Trever Miller.

Posada, meanwhile, homered right-handed off Damon Moore in the fifth and left-handed against Jorgen Sons in the seventh. It was the fifth time he homered from both sides in the same game, the first since June 28, 2002, against the New York Mets.

He thought ahead to the 7,250-mile flight back to spring training in Florida. The Yankees were due to land at home just after midnight, ending a 38-hour day caused by the time difference.

"Now," Posada said, "we can talk on the plane.

Tampa Bay, coming off six straight last-place finishes, was pretty much overlooked during its five days in Japan.

ROWING

Team ranked 20th

Special to the Observer

After a strong showing this past weekend at the Michigan Regatta, the Notre Dame women's rowing team is ranked 20th in the first USRowing-Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association (CRCA) poll of the season. The Irish were unranked in the preseason poll released three weeks ago but had an impressive showing on Saturday against Michigan with its five days in Japan.
U.S. shuts out Poland 1-0 in exhibition game

Associated Press

POLAND — The United States tuned up for World Cup qualifying by beating Poland 1-0 in an exhibition game Wednesday in DaMarcus Beasley's goal, ending the hosts' seven-game winning streak.

Goalkeeper Brad Friedel had a shutout in his first national team game in nearly two years for the United States, which lost to Poland 3-1 in the first round of the 2005 World Cup.

The Americans, who went on to reach the quarterfinals of that tournament, open their road to the 2006 edition with a qualifier against Grenada in Columbus, Ohio, on June 13.

This was coach Bruce Arena's first win in seven tries in seven-game winning streak.

Arena said. "It's comforting having a quality goalie like Brad Friedel out there."

The U.S. team had many more scoring chances. In the 26th minute, Reyna flicked a pass to Chicago Fire midfielder Beasley, who pushed the ball past goalie Jerzy Dudek without breaking stride. It was Beasley's fifth goal in a U.S. uniform.

Josh Wolff posed the Americans' first threat in the 15th minute, forcing Dudek to charge out of net and smother the shot. In the 53rd minute, Conor Casey had his foot on 'Bobby Convey's pass right in front of goal, but a defender kicked it away at the last minute.

In the 64th, Clint Mathis had a clear look, but took too long to warm up for this summer's European Championship.

Rohdie Keane squared in injury time to give Ireland a 2-1 victory over the Czech Republic, which had been unbeaten in 20 games.

Poland's Euzebiusz Smolarek and DaMarcus Beasley of the United States compete for the ball during an exhibition match.

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STORRS, Conn. — Just when Connecticut's All-America center Emeka Okafor seemed to be getting sharp, he took another jolt Wednesday.

Huskies coach Jim Calhoun said Okafor was bumped hard in practice. Calhoun said the injury was similar to the stinger Okafor got against Alabama in the Phoenix Regional final, when a hard foul jarred his neck and sent a stinging pain down his arm.

"We fully expect that he may take it easier tomorrow, but will fully practice again on Friday," Calhoun said.

Okafor was hit with about eight minutes left in the work-out. Calhoun raved that until then Okafor was dunking and looking "much better than he has been, I would say, for almost a month." Okafor missed three games, two in the Big East tournament, because of spasms in the muscles around a small stress fracture in his back.

"Someone actually hit his arm, which got his shoulder to move a little bit," Calhoun said. "I think with a little bit of ice, TIC, talk, he'll be just fine."

Okafor, a 6-foot-9, 252-pound junior who will graduate in May, averaged 18.1 points, 11.7 rebounds and a nation-best 4.3 blocks this season.

Okafor injured again

Associated Press

STORRS, Conn. — Just when Connecticut's All-America center Emeka Okafor seemed to be getting sharp, he took another jolt Wednesday.

Huskies coach Jim Calhoun said Okafor was bumped hard in practice. Calhoun said the injury was similar to the stinger Okafor got against Alabama in the Phoenix Regional final, when a hard foul jarred his neck and sent a stinging pain down his arm.

"We fully expect that he may take it easier tomorrow, but will fully practice again on Friday," Calhoun said.

Okafor was hit with about eight minutes left in the work-out. Calhoun raved that until then Okafor was dunking and looking "much better than he has been, I would say, for almost a month." Okafor missed three games, two in the Big East tournament, because of spasms in the muscles around a small stress fracture in his back.

Calhoun joked that whoever hit Okafor this time wouldn't be traveling to San Antonio for the Final Four. The team left Wednesday evening. Connecticut plays Duke in a national semifinal Saturday night.

"Someone actually hit his arm, which got his shoulder to move a little bit," Calhoun said. "I think with a little bit of ice, TIC, talk, he'll be just fine."

Okafor, a 6-foot-9, 252-pound junior who will graduate in May, averaged 18.1 points, 11.7 rebounds and a nation-best 4.3 blocks this season.
NFL

New rule changes to lengthen games

Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. — The NFL's new emphasis on improving offense will come with a cost: longer games.

The league wrapped up its annual spring meeting Wednesday with several expected moves, including the approval of some new rules and setting out to make sure existing ones are enforced properly.

They include adding a 15-yard penalty for Terrell Owens/Joe Horn type demonstrations, especially when they are orchestrated by groups of players. The penalties will be in addition to fines already in place for such penalties will be in addition to fines already in place for such penalties.

That means more penalties, many of them for illegal contact on passing plays passing yardage was at an 11-year low last season — 202 yards per team compared to 212 in 2002.

"Yes, games will probably get a little longer," said Rich McKay, co-chairman of the competition committee. "You're always conscious of the length of games. It's not something you want to encourage. But we felt we had to do something about passing yardage going down."

McKay said he believed games would come down once players made adjustments.

Of far more long-term consequence was the possibility of the new NFL Network televising live games. Commissioner Paul Tagliabue said they were aiming higher.

"Ten years from now, who knows what will happen with the Internet, who knows what will happen with pay per view?" he said.

At 5:30 p.m.

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"An Evening of Prayer from Around the World"

Thursday, April 22, 7:00 p.m.
Dementieva defeats Williams

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Tape took care of Venus Williams' sprained right foot. There was no remedy for the shaky serve and late fade.

Williams was injured during the second set Wednesday, but sloppy shotmaking hurt her more, and she lost to Elena Dementieva 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 (3) in the quarterfinals of the Nasdaq-100 Open.

A three-time champion at Key Biscayne, Williams came up short in her bid to reach a semifinal for the first time since Wimbledon in July. Dementieva survived a match point and erratic play of her own to win the tense but unusually 1 1/2-hour duel.

"It was a very difficult, long, but I think interesting match," the No. 5-seeded Russian said.

The upset had all the characteristics of a Venus loss: She double-faulted 11 times, committed 51 unforced errors and played hurt.

Slowed by injuries since last summer, Williams has slipped to No. 17 in the rankings and has beyond the quarterfinals. Seeded 14, she had made the decision after discussions with her husband and defense team.

Williams is charged in the February 2002 shooting death of a limousine driver at his Hunterdon County mansion.

The trial, now in its eighth week, is to resume Thursday with prosecution rebuttal witnesses. Coleman told jurors that closing arguments could begin as early as Tuesday.

The defense attempted to show that Williams was not aware that the driver, Costas "Gus" Christofi, 55, was in the bedroom with him while he was giving a tour of his mansion to friends and members of the Harlem Globetrotters. Williams picked up a shotgun, snapped it shut and it fired, killing Christofi.

Williams, 36, faces eight charges, the most serious of which is aggravated manslaughter. Collectively, they carry up to 55 years in prison. The least of the charges carries a penalty of up to 18 months in prison, but would likely result in probation.

In addition to manslaughter, Williams is charged with attempting to make the shooting look like a suicide and with persuading others to lie that they were downstairs when Christofi shot himself.

The defense concluded its case after presenting five witnesses, including weapons experts who testified that Williams' shotgun was old and prone to misfire. However, both conceded under cross-examination that they couldn't get the gun to fire without pulling the trigger.

The prosecution presented 136 witnesses, two of whom said they heard Williams utter profanities at the driver before the gun fired.

Williams had gone with friends to see a Harlem Globetrotters game in Bethlehem, Pa. Christofi had driven four Globetrotters from the game to a restaurant near the Williams estate for dinner with Williams and most of the group. They then went to the mansion in Alexandria Township.

"I just said to myself, 'She's just like you, you know, she can be nervous,"' Dementieva said with a laugh.

There were other missed chances by Williams. She held a match point at 6-5 but sailed a forehand long, then committed five unforced errors in the tiebreaker.

Slowly by injuries since last summer, Williams has slipped to No. 17 in the rankings and has played only 10 matches in four events this year, never advancing beyond the quarterfinals. Seeded second at Key Biscayne, she was unable to take advantage of a field missing the world's five highest-ranked players, including No. 1 Justine Henin-Hardenne.

Asked to assess the state of her game, a subdued Williams said: "Just on the up and up.

In men's play, No. 3-seeded Guillermo Coria became the first semifinalist by beating unseeded Nicolas Kiefer 6-3, 6-3. Coria will play Friday against No. 21 Fernando Gonzalez or unseeded Andrei Pavel.

Williams' defeat spoiled a potential renewal of her sibling rivalry with younger sister Serena in the final Saturday. Instead, Dementieva advanced to the semifinals, where she'll play fellow Russian Nadia Petrova, seeded eighth.

Petrova beat No. 21 Nathalie Dechy 6-2, 6-2.

Top-seeded Serena Williams will play No. 25 Eleni Daniilidou in the other semifinal.

Venus Williams returns the ball to Russia's Elena Dementieva during their Nasdaq-100 Open match.
Outfielder hasn’t played a full season since joining Reds
Associated Press

SARASOTA, Fla. — A commercial for a video baseball game came on the clubhouse television, showing sluggers launching balls deep into the seats with ease.

“Hey, that used to be yours — when you were healthy,” the pinch-hitter said, kidding the All-Century player seated nearby.

Ken Griffey Jr. just grinned and went on talking to Cincinnati Reds teammates around the folding table. For once, he didn’t have a ready comeback for a good-natured tease.

“What could he say?”

Since his triumphant homecoming in 2000, Griffey’s career has been a terrible disappointment for himself and everyone else. A wave of injuries transformed him from All-Century to all-but-forgotten.

Nowadays, A-Rod, Sammy Sosa and Jeter are the big names, the superstars. Griffey, at age 34, is just a pinch-hitter said, joking the Associated Press.

“I was just taught at an early age to never give up,” Griffey said. “That goes with anything he’s been planning on for a long time.”

A healthy Griffey also could silence fans who turned on him. When he dislocated his shoulder while diving for a ball last season, fans in the outfield jeered as he rolled on the field in pain.

Griffey plagued by injuries since homecoming

He played in only 111 games in 2001, when he tore the same hamstring in a different spot. He made only 70 games the next year, when he tore a knee tendon. Last year, he played in a career-low 53 games because of a dislocated shoulder and torn ankle tendon.

He has spent the last three years rehabilitating injuries, only to get hurt again. Teammates have marveled at his resilience.

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SARASOTA, Fla. — A commercial for a video baseball game came on the clubhouse television, showing sluggers launching balls deep into the seats with ease.

“You know the anguish he’s had to go through, then all of a sudden it happens again,” first baseman Sean Casey said. “It’s been one thing after another. Hopefully this is the end of the injuries and he can do some things he’s been planning on for a long time.”

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Calvin Murphy, right, a former guard for the Houston Rockets, leaves the courtroom March 31 with his attorney, Rusty Hardin. Murphy pleaded not guilty to charges that he molested his five daughters over a decade ago.

**Hall of Famer Murphy pleads not guilty**

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Tears streaming down his face after appearing in a courtroom Wednesday, former Houston Rockets star Calvin Murphy declared he is innocent of charges he molested five of his daughters.

"I am not guilty of these charges," Murphy said, at times blotting tears with a white hand towel. "I can't emphasize that enough."

Murphy, 55, was a guard for the Rockets from 1970 to 1983 and was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1993. He has taken a leave of absence from his analyst duties on Rockets telecasts while he fights three charges of indecency with a child and three charges of aggravated sexual assault of a child.

"Obviously, I am missing being the flamboyant commentator that I was before all this happened, but that is not important right now," he said. "What is important right now is what I am doing — to defend myself, try to get myself exonerated and put my family back together."

Murphy has 10 daughters and four sons with nine women, Harris County prosecutor Lance Long said.

You have got to remember this involves my family — the family that I so dearly love — and to be put in a situation like this, and to have a lot of time to think about what has occurred is a travesty for my family," Murphy said.

The five daughters, now adults, claim the abuse occurred from 1988-91, according to an affidavit filed by the Texas Rangers.

Murphy contends the claims by his daughters stem from family discord related to a battle over money.

"My heart aches — of course for me because I am in the spotlight — but it really aches for my daughters, because there are reasons behind this kind of thing that will be brought out later," he said.

Long said at least one daughter said she was as young as 6 when Murphy took her to a hotel room and performed oral sex on her. On another occasion, Long said, Murphy fondled one of the girls after she had moved in with him following her stepfather's death.

Long said he plans to take the case to a grand jury to secure the formal indictment needed to send the case to trial, but wasn't sure how soon the case would be presented. Murphy's next court date is April 27.

In Brief

GarciaParra out at least three weeks

FORT MYERS, Fla. — Red Sox second baseman Mike GalCarparrap will start the season on the disabled list with an injured right Achilles' tendon and is expected to be out at least three weeks.

The All-Star slugger said Wednesday in Florida by Mark Sweeney, an ankle and foot specialist from New England Baptist Hospital.

GarciaParra was examined Wednesday in Florida by Mark Sweeney, an ankle and foot specialist.

No structural damage was found in the tendon, but the injury was diagnosed as a bruise in the cartilage that covers the tendon. The treatment right now is rest.

GarciaParra was injured March 5 when he was hit by a ball during batting practice. He has been limited to just eight at-bats in spring training.

Childress to declare for draft

Stanford forward Josh Childress will declare himself eligible for the NBA draft but still leave open the option of returning for his senior season.

"I plan on putting my name in and testing it out, testing the waters," Childress said in a telephone interview Wednesday. "I don't plan on hiring an agent right now, just from the standpoint of coming back if I need to.

On Tuesday, the All-American forward told coach Mike Montgomery his decision.

Montgomery had said after the season he expected his leading scorer to return. Stanford, ranked No. 1 in the nation at the time, was knocked out in the second round of the NCAA Tournament by Alabama.

Childress missed the season's first nine games with a left foot injury, then averaged 15.7 points, 7.5 rebounds and 1.6 blocks the rest of the year and earned Pac-10 Player of the Year honors.
Western continued from page 28

Our Dame is coming off a first-place finish at the Hoosier Invitational in Bloomington last weekend. The Irish defeated St. Louis, Indiana, and Western Kentucky.

Two individuals reaped the rewards of the team's recent play, as Steffany Stenglein was named Big East pitcher of the week and Meagan Ruthrauff was named the offensive player of the week. Stenglein's award-winning week began when she collected her second career perfect game in a six-inning 9-0 victory over Valparaiso on March 23. She also threw seven consecutive innings against St. Louis, finishing with a combined 22 strikeouts in 13 innings pitched over the two games.

"Steffany has really made a commitment to be more consistent," Gumpf said. "She's done a great job of being more under control. When she gets ahead of hitters, she's a much better pitcher.

Ruthrauff batted 7-for-12 in the games at Valparaiso and the Hoosier Invitational. She collected three home runs and 10 RBIs during that span.

"Meaghan has been great for us all year," Gumpf said. "She's proving to be an excellent player for the team day-in and day-out."

Western Michigan is coming off a home-opening two-game sweep of Oakland Tuesday, in which its pitchers allowed three hits and no runs.

Pitcher Laura Stewart threw a no-hitter in the first game. She had hit .229 this season.

While the Broncos have had good pitching all season, the offense has not been able to keep up, resulting in the team's losing record so far this year. As a team, Western Michigan has only hit .229 this season.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles split with league foe Albion

By BOBBY GRIFFIN '07, Sports Writer

Coming off their sweep of Tri-State, the Belles split league games with Albion Wednesday, dropping the first game 4-3 before bouncing back with a 1-0 win in the second half of the doubleheader.

In the first game, Albion took the lead after three scoreless innings with a run in the bottom of the fourth on an RBI single, but Albion retook the lead with two runs in the bottom of the inning.

The Belles once again tied the score at three in the top of the sixth inning thanks to a wild pitch and a walk. Albion responded in the bottom of the sixth, however, this time taking the lead for good.

Kate Sajewich threw six solid innings for the Belles, giving up one earned run on seven hits and striking out three batters.

The Belles committed three errors in the game, which proved to be the difference.

In the second game, the two teams played six scoreless innings before Saint Mary's broke the tie in the bottom of the seventh with an RBI double by Sullivan with runners on first and second. Sullivan was 2-for-4 in the game with the hit.

Saint Mary's responded with a groundout by Sarah Caskey.

Erin Sullivan RBI sin gle, but Saint Mary's responded with a run scored.

"She had just lined a shot down the right field line, and [the pitcher came right back] with a fastball and Erin just crushed it to the fence," coach Anna Welsh said. "(The hit was) definitely very clutch for us."

Libby Wiltzmy pitched well for the Belles, giving up four hits in seven scoreless innings, striking out two and walking one.

"She threw very well," Welsh said. "(Our) pitching is ready for conference play. We have to give our pitchers some runs."

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffin@nd.edu

NOW SUMMONING

The topic at the next Irish Inquisition, April 21, will be "What do you expect will become of you after you die?"

Now it's your turn. Whom do you want summoned to speak to this topic? Nominations are being taken all this week at the Inquisition's website, www.nd.edu/~inquisit

You can put in a request for any non-student Notre Dame employee—a professor, administrator, rector, coach, sandwich artist, anyone.

Confused? You should be. For enlightenment, seek ye the website or write to inquisit@nd.edu.

THE IRISH INQUISITION

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The Irish Inquisition is sponsored nominally by the Office of Student Activities, Monika College of Business, College of Arts and Letters, Student Services, Notre Dame Magazine, The Center for Social Concerns, and Outback Steakhouse.

50th Anniversary of Brown V. Board of Education

Monday, April 5th, 7:00-9:00 pm
ETS Theater in McKenna Hall (CCE Basement)
Screening of The Road to Brown followed by a panel discussion, "The Legacy of Brown"

Rhonda Brown, Director, Office of the Institutional Equity
William Carbonaro, Assistant Professor of Sociology
Walter F. Pratt, Associate Dean, Law School
Richard Pierce, Carl E Koch Chair of History

Tuesday, April 6th, 7:00-8:30 pm
Coleman-Morse Lounge (1st Floor)
Panel discussion led by Notre Dame students: "Desegregation and the South Bend Schools"
Frankie Beecroft, Christian McNamara, Mary Murphy, Shanida Sharp and Sarah Wear

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Offense continued from page 28

Jess Stewart a comfortable 4-0 cushion.

Mainieri said. "He's much as a pitcher as he has the infield and struck out two working three perfect innings in the next four innings to put three straight outs to end the inning.

Notre Dame's lead in half as seniors Matt Howell and Dan Berger both scored goals. The Notre Dame rally gave them a 7-3 advantage heading into the fourth quarter.

But the Irish were unable to hold off the Ohio State offense for the final quarter. The Buckeyes went on to score four consecutive goals which gave them an 8-7 advantage, their first lead of the game.

"It was disappointing when we found ourselves behind for the first time," midfielder Brian Hubschmann said. "We saw that they were playing the full sixty minutes and that is where we were falling short."

Hubschmann was able to respond for the Irish with 28 seconds left to tie the match 8-8, but the Buckeyes responded with 12 seconds remaining to give them the 9-8 victory.

Notable figures in Wednesday night's game were Hubschmann, who had two goals and four ground balls, and Steve Elgass, who led the team in ground balls with seven.

Eric Shipley was the starter on the mound for Notre Dame.

Notes:

The 17 hits recorded against Western Michigan were the most for the Irish since a 20-hit performance in a 12-11 victory over Southern Illinois March 6.

Contact Chris Federico at cfederico@nd.edu

Buckeyes continued from page 28

Duced two goals. The drive continued until halftime as the Irish found themselves with a slim 4-3 lead.

"We were playing well defensively and knew that a couple of their goals came from penalties," Peters said. "We wanted to come back in the second half and take over."

The Buckeyes regained focus and came out with intensity in the second half as seniors Matt Howell and Dan Berger both scored goals. The Notre Dame rally gave them a 7-3 advantage heading into the fourth quarter.

Leading scorer with four goals and four ground balls. Josh Lesko led the team with seven.

This is the second consecutive win for Ohio State against Notre Dame.

The Buckeyes defeated the Irish 11-5 last season. Ohio State is now 6-2 after its fifth straight victory.

Notable figures in Wednesday night's game were Hubschmann, who had two goals and two ground balls, and Steve Elgass, who led the team in ground balls with seven.

Tom Bandit was Ohio State's

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HILLARY THORNTON/The Observer
Irish midfielder Matt Ryan tries to avoid an Ohio State defender as attackman Dan Berger looks on.
**FOOTBALL**

**Hornung apologizes for comments**

By PAT LEONARD  
Associate Sports Editor

Former Heisman Trophy winner Paul Hornung apologized Wednesday for controversial comments he made concerning Notre Dame's admission of athletes during a radio interview last Thursday. Hornung told WXYT-AM — an ESPN-radio affiliate — that Notre Dame must "tune it up a bit" when considering its admission of athletes, especially African-Americans.

"We can't stay as strict as we are as far as the academic structure is concerned because we've got to get the black athlete," he said in the interview. "We must get the black athlete if we want to compete."  

On Wednesday, Hornung expressed regret in a telephone interview with the Associated Press. "I was wrong," he said. "What I should have said is for all athletes it is really tough to get into Notre Dame."  

According to the Associated Press, Hornung initially defended his comments. He apologized after receiving heavy amounts of phone calls and negative response.  

Matt Storin, a University spokesperson, called Hornung an "illustrious alumnus" of the school but spoke against the former player's comments. "Paul Hornung ... in no way represents what Notre Dame stands for. We strongly disagree with the thesis of his remarks," Storin said. "They are generally insensitive and specifically insulting to our past and current African-American student athletes."  

Notre Dame went 5-7 for the 2003 season, its third losing season in the last five years. According to the Associated Press, Hornung said he believes Notre Dame lowered admission standards in the late 1980s, when the Irish won their last national championship.

"What I should have said is for all athletes it is really tough to get into Notre Dame. They are generally insensitive and specifically insulting to our past and current African-American student athletes," Storin said in response. "Our records show that admission requirement for athletes have remained constant over those years in which we had both great success and occasional disappointments with our football program."  

Hornung played quarterback for Notre Dame under coach Terry Brennan and won the Heisman Trophy in 1956. He is now the play-by-play radio announcer during Notre Dame football games.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

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**BASEBALL**

**Irish batter buck Broncos, 12-3**

Team garners 17 hits as offense erupts on Western Michigan

By CHRIS FEDERICO  
Senior Staff Writer

The Irish bats stormed back to life Wednesday night, and No. 5 Notre Dame (18-3) put runs on the board in six straight innings to beat Western Michigan (8-12) at Frank Eck Stadium. The Irish batters collected 17 hits and scored a dozen runs to cruise to a 12-3 victory over the Broncos.

"I thought today was one of our better games really," Irish coach Paul Mainieri said. "I met with our hitters the other day in practice, and I really challenged them. Here we are 17-3, and they've got a coach that isn't satisfied."  

In the last couple of weeks, Mainieri worried about a lack of hitting from several of Notre Dame's big batters. "I challenged the team to get a little bit of that swagger back when they go up to the plate in clutch hitting situations," he said. "The Irish hitlers responded well as second baseman Steve Sollmann went 3-for-5 against the Broncos. The junior, who struggled out of the gates to a .227 batting average before a 5-for-11 week end against West Virginia and a 3-for-5 night Wednesday, now has his average back up to .280 and says he is starting to get back into a rhythm at the plate. "You go through ups and downs in baseball," Sollmann said. "The one thing you have to do is just keep your confidence. I'm seeing the ball better. I'm keeping things simple and not thinking too much at the plate."

The Irish jumped out to a good start Wednesday, plating four runs in the second inning and giving freshman pitcher Matt Macri the Irish accounted for 17 hits Wednesday, the highest total since a 20-hit performance March 4.

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**WOMEN'S TENNIS**

**Western Michigan awaits**

Irish having more 'complete' season as weather abides

By JUSTIN SCHUVER  
Associate Sports Editor

What a difference a year makes.

Last season, inclement weather and other factors led to the cancellation of nearly half of Notre Dame's schedule. According to coach Deanna Gumpf, this year's Irish have played about 10 more games than the team had played at this point last season.

"I can't tell you how much of a difference it's been this year," she said. "We have had 10 more games to get our team to improve through the season. We've played 32 games so far, and we've won 23 of those over the year. Thirty of those games have been on the road, so we're really looking forward to getting back home and taking advantage of playing on our own field."

The Irish (23-9) still have a few road games before they return to Ivy Field. The team heads to Kalamazoo to face Western Michigan (12-15) today before returning home to face Connecticut in the team's Big East opener Friday afternoon.

Both series are doubleheaders. So far this season, the Irish are batting .266 as a team, with an ERA of 1.13 in 32 games.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu

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**MEN'S LACROSSE**

Goal with 12 seconds remaining stuns Irish

By DAN TAPETILLO  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame and Ohio State each had spurts of momentum on Wednesday at the Moose Krause Stadium. But the Buckeyes had the final spurt, as the Irish fell 9-8 to Ohio State in their first Great Western Lacrosse League game of the season.

Despite establishing a 3-0 lead and holding a 7-4 margin going into the fourth quarter, the Irish fell thanks to a late 5-1 Ohio State surge. The loss marks Notre Dame's fourth in its last five games.

The early barrage of Irish goals was similar to the four-goal onslaught to open a victory over Hofstra last Wednesday. Players knew even after the goals, however, that a victory over Ohio State would not be easy. 

"We felt confident after the first quarter, but we knew that we had to keep it up," midfield Drew Peters said. "Three goals is not much in lacrosse."

The Buckeyes fought back in the final minutes of the first quarter and pro "see BUCKEYES page 26"