Logan construction set to begin

University acquires current site for planned redevelopment

By ANDREW THAGARD
Senior Staff Writer

The Logan Center, a resource facility for people with disabilities located across from Notre Dame on Eddy Street, announced plans for a groundbreaking ceremony for its new building on Monday. The ceremony, scheduled for May 27, will mark the beginning of construction on the new building that is set to open in July 2005.

The Logan Center opened at its current location in the 1960s as a school for people with disabilities. Over the years, the center's mission became oriented more toward adults as special education programming was introduced into public schools for children.

The new facility will better accommodate the center's programs and clients but is located farther from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's and the students who volunteer from there.

The new building will be constructed on a portion of the 7.5 acres on Jefferson Boulevard that was formerly occupied by the Saint Mary's Hospital building. While it contains less square footage than the current building, it

Committee readies 'The Show'

By JANICE FLYNN
News Writer

While most students are focused on impending exams and their summer plans, members on the Executive Board of "The Show" are thinking ahead to next fall's concert.

Last year's concert featuring Black Eyed Peas and Guster drew a record 4,000 students from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's and Holy Cross to the Joyce Center.

Members of the committee are aiming for 6,000 students for "The Show, Version 3.0," to be held Friday, Aug. 27th.

"We really want to build upon last year's success to solidify this as a campus tradition," said Jimmy Flaherty, Chairman of "The Show."

The committee is looking at a variety of bands, from rock to hip-hop, country to top 40. A survey will be sent out within the next week asking students for their input on the band selection.

Flaherty hopes this will enable "The Show" to appeal to students' varied tastes, as well as boost attendance.

"Last year's show was extremely diverse in genre with the Black Eyed Peas and then Guster," said Flaherty. "I think NDSSMC/FCC students showed their enthusiasm for that bill with a record attendance."

The committee will select the bands by July 1. They will be posted on the website of "The Show," www.nd.edu/~theshow.

Plans for "The Show" have been well underway for several months.

Marine Corps program trains future officers

By NICOLE ZOOK
News Writer

The Marines truly are the few and the proud on Notre Dame's campus. However, Captain John H. Williams III doesn't seem to mind.

"I've always felt welcome at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's," he said. "I think Notre Dame has been very supportive of my mission to find qualified candidates for the Marine Corps, and I think Notre Dame has a lot of qualified students. And whether they are pursuing or not pursuing the program, they have been professional."

Williams visits the two campuses on a regular basis. As the Officer Selection Officer for the West Lafayette area, his job is to contact and contract students who are interested in pursuing a career as an officer in the United States Marine Corps. Officer candidates can contact at any grade level to join the program. Training takes place during either two six-week or one ten-week period during the summer at Officer Candidates School in Quantico, Va.

Williams says that summer training is key to the program.

"This program is focused for a student to remain in school without interruption. You can pursue the program to see if

Board approves $250K for clubs

By MATT BRAMANTI
Senior Staff Writer

Members of the Council of Representatives gathered Monday evening in LaFortune to approve the allocation of over $250,000 among more than 150 student clubs.

Club Coordination Council president J.R. Garcia said his organization faced a difficult task in allocating funds because there were more requests than available resources. He said CCC division representatives gave recommendations for funding, but these recommendations were subject to financial constraints, including the maintenance of a reserve fund.

"The recommendation is [for representatives] to give clubs in a perfect world," Garcia said. "We like to reserve [money] for appeals and emergency funds."

He said this year's reserve fund total $25,000. Garcia also said that the amount of money to be allocated — the "hardline" number — fell about 6 percent this year, from about $266,300 to about $251,500.

According to a copy of the allocation budget obtained by The Observer, allocations changed drastically last year. Four divisions — cultural, performing arts, social service, and education — were subject to financial constraints, including the maintenance of a reserve fund.

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INSIDE COLUMN
Conclusions at the beginning
My last week's and experiences at ND could easily have been the topics of this article. For instance I could have said: useless campus buildings are being erected at a rapid pace, the career center is my favorite group, Martin's overpriced meals rock, hard alcohol is clearly the root of all dorm problems. Tollection in 25 years at a 4.5 percent rate increase will be $114,000 a year, my kids will not go here because of the last fact and there are places other than Chicago to live after college. However, I want to speak to you about my conclusions at the beginning of something far more important — baseball season. 2004 begins with the notions that the Cubs and Red Sox will ultimately meet in the Series. There has certainly been no other season in recent history that has started with such hope for these teams. I am here to respect and question this notion. As a Phillies fan, I approach the season with pessimism and disbelief at every loss and each win. Philadelphia has a love/hate affair with its teams that no city can compare. Cubs' fans supported their pathetic team during the 1990's as did Phillis fans with one glaring difference. Cubs' fans cheer no matter what, Phillis fans boo no matter what. Players know when they fail in Philly, they're coddled in Chicago. Thus, in this circular logic, I have reached my conclusion that by supporting failure, the Cubs shall fall victim. I will cheer against their superior pitching. Mark Prior DL till 2005, I say. Wild card? It's Phillies. It's certainly been no other season in the 1900's as did Phillies fans with one exception. Mark Prior has more money than George, but not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Matt Lutz at mlutz@nd.edu.


OFFBEAT
Woman accused of claiming to be a princess
CHESTER, Pa. — The government is suing a cafe- teria worker who received a $2.1 million tax refund by claiming to be a Hawaiian princess and heir to a billion-dollar estate, authorities said.
The money that the Internal Revenue Service sent last month to Abigail Roberts, 61, who works in Widener University's cafeteria, came from funds the real princess had on deposit with the IRS, according to court documents. Federal authorities say Roberts fooled the IRS by using the social security number of the genuine heiress, Abigail Kinoki Kishida Kawanawakazaka, on her tax form.

Board of Governance

Group reviews new Constitution

By NICOLE ZOOK
News Writer

The Saint Mary's Board of Governance has homework over the summer. At Monday's meeting, the last of the year, the board looked over the newly revised constitution. All members of BOG will receive a copy to read thoroughly over the summer to finalize the revisions.

Student Trustee Sarah Brown and Michelle Fitzgerald served as the Constitution Committee. Brown said the constitution is meant to provide guidelines for student government.

"The goal of the constitution is the rules of student government," she said. "It should also have all the policies, such as how do we approve things? How do we hold elections?"

The constitution was last updated in 2000. Fitzgerald said that it was "a mess."

"We moved, structured, and clarified," she said. "We want it to be a long time before someone needs to do another major restructuring."

The committee added a table of contents and page numbers, making the new constitution double-sided and much more readable. They also cut the number of articles from ten to six and the number of appendices from 33 to six.

"We just combined a lot of them for simplicity," Fitzgerald said.

The articles contain an introduction, purpose, the association structure, executive board and elections information and amendments. The appendices cover the mission statement, descriptions of the BOG commissioners' jobs, the Student Diversity Board and Residence Hall Association constitutions and the co-sponsorship application.

Brown said that the committee did not change much policy and that the new constitution was meant to serve as "an overall basic guideline.

"The only things we changed content-wise were to write a policy for impeachment — there was no way to do that before — and to clear up the amendment policy," Brown said. "It needs to be timeless."

In other BOG news:

- The campus shuttle will keep the same weekday schedule next year, with stops at the Hesburgh Library, McCandless, Reinas and LeMans Halls, and the Groto. There will be an extra cycle on Friday and Saturday night to accommodate partisans.

- Donna Lobbers, elections commissioner, is setting dates for elections next year. She will be forming the elections board shortly.

- The BOG committee assignments for 2004-05 have been released. The executive board and budget committee is composed of Sarah Catherine White, student body president; Mary Pauline Moran, student body vice president; Susan McIlcluff, chief of staff; Molly Welton, executive treasurer; Martha Hasensteen, RHA president; Lauren Fabina, student body treasurer; and Susan Kowal, student body vice president. There is also a finance committee.

Contact Nicole Zook at zook929@stmarys.edu

Jensen to be president of taxonomists

By KELLY MEEHAN
News Writer

Saint Mary's biology professor Richard Jensen was named president-elect of the American Society of Taxonomists, an international organization with members throughout the United States and more than 35 other countries.

Jensen has been a member of the Society since 1976, and has since then served as treasurer, council member and associate editor for the society's quarterly journal, "Systemic Biology." He believes it was his interest in and willingness to work for the society that led to him being asked to run for President.

"I felt honored to be asked to stand for election," said Jensen. "Being elected was an additional honor, and a bit of a surprise. I approach my new responsibilities with great enthusiasm, largely because I know the people I will be working with can be counted on to work for the best of the Society."

As president-elect Jensen will have many specific responsibilities, including presenting the formal address at the end-of-year meeting and appointing members to serve on various Society committees.

Jensen's obligations to the American Society of Plant Taxonomists are things he does in addition to his responsibilities as a teacher, advisor and member of the College community. His involvement in the society fulfills the expectations of Saint Mary's faculty to be involved in various scholarly pursuits.

Jensen said being named president-elect is one of his biggest honors, out of the many he has received.

He said he is most proud of receiving the 1997 Saint Mary's College Maria Pietra Award for Outstanding Teaching. In 1996 he also received an award for Outstanding Service from the American Society of Plant Taxonomists. He was the only the second person in the society to receive such an award.

"I think all of us are flattered when we receive special recognition for the things we do, especially when we have not set out to earn such recognition. My teaching and scholarly work happen to be things I enjoy doing; I want to do them well because I know others are relying on me to do just that."

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeeha1@stmarys.edu

ATTENTION GRADUATING SENIORS!!

Notre Dame's Office of Undergraduate Admissions is accepting applications for three Admissions Counselor positions!

As part of the Undergraduate Admissions staff, the counselor is expected to make an important contribution to the recruitment and selection of the first-year class by managing relations with the prospective applicant, their parents, high school personnel and alumni in an assigned geographic area.

Responsibilities include extensive planning, travel, communications within the geographic area, assessment and evaluation of applications and conducting group/individual information sessions on campus.

"One position will be an understood one-year assignment with the possibility of permanent employment should a staff opening occur in 2005. (114)"

"One position will include the additional responsibility for recruitment efforts for African American students. (115)"

"One position will likely include the responsibility for recruitment efforts for international students. (116)"

Candidates should possess a bachelor's degree and familiarity with all aspects of student life at Notre Dame.

Essential qualities include strong communication and organizational skills, enthusiasm, diplomacy and the willingness to work long hours including many evenings and Saturday mornings.

Preferred start date is July 1, 2004.

Apply on-line via Human Resources website or submit resume, cover letter and reference information by

Tuesday, April 27, 2004 to:

Admissions Counselor
Job Numbers: 4007-114, 4007-115, 4007-116
Department of Human Resources
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556
Templeton said. "They have the Assistant in the West Lafayette date. These candidates go to Platoon Leaders Class program four years ago as a program provides.ience will be like.

"It's the path to a commission- ing a college town development on this lot."

While Notre Dame's interest just isn't there for the center, it was not the deciding factor in the organization's decision to move, according to Lagomarcino. "We needed a new facility and we knew Notre Dame was keenly interested," she said. "We knew when it came time to expand they would be the first buyer we would approach. The timing worked out in our favor because the University's interest in expanding didn't impact our decision."

The new building will be funded by a $2 million capital campaign drive that will also cover move-in costs and furniture and equipment for the facility. So far, the center has raised $3.7 million, pledged mostly from foundations and grass. In its second phase of fundraising, the center plans to appeal to individual donors.

"We're just now getting into the public phase," Lagomarcino said. "A lot of it at this point has been from larger donors." Although the new facility may mean new opportunities for the center, its further location from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's may introduce complications in coordinating volunteers from the two campuses.

"We knew we needed a new facility and we always knew Notre Dame was keenly interested."

Ann Lagomarcino head of marketing

Contact Nicole Zook at zook8926@saintmarys.edu.

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Marines continued from page 1

and can choose to accept a commission as a Second Lieutenant after graduation. He says that he enjoyed his time in the Officer Candidates School. It is the worst time that you will ever go back to, laugh at. For multiple reasons it is the closest you will get to hell," Laubacher said. "But it's worth it. It's a challenge, an adventure, like none you will ever face. You're pushed to your ultimate limit — and then you exceed it."

Candidates are trained rigorously in leadership, academics and physical acumen while at OCS. Saint Mary's senior Jessica Millanes says that Williams and Templeton were crucial to her preparation process.

"Captain Williams and Gunny work at Purdue — they live down there — but they drive up here all the time to train with us. They're very dedicated to what they do," she said. "Last summer when I went I was definitely in shape in perform, and I took a lot of mental preparation to prepare for that second summer. But you know what it means to exceed, and it means to exceed greatly."

Williams admits that preparation for the challenge is key.

"This program and the Marine Corps itself is not for everyone, but it definitely will allow you to assess your own abilities, your own mental and physical capabilities," he said. "This program is a good program for that, because the Marine Corps will push you past your known limits. You do far harder things than you can imagine in as little as six weeks."

While challenging, the program offers candidates many benefits. Candidates have the opportunity to learn careers in law and aviation, and chances for travel. Financial benefits are also available, as students can receive a stipend to help pay for school. Some candidates also jump at the chance for a commission, opting to serve as officers in the Marine Corps.

"It's the path to a commission," Williams said. "Starring off early gives you the chance to really think about it. What do you want to do with your life after graduation? Commissionings are great. You have the chance for a commissioning once, and it's the chance for a bright future."

Williams, who has been in the West Lafayette station for just three years, has commissioned sixteen officers. Twelve officers from his office have been commissioned after OCS graduation, and eight more — including Laubacher and Millanes — will become lieutenants this summer.

After three years as a candidate, Millanes says she looks back and realizes how ready she is for this. "Captains Williams and Gunny are outstanding — they lead by example and we've all learned so many lessons from them. They proved to us what Notre Dame was keenly interested," she said. "We knew when it came time to expand they would be the first buyer we would approach. The timing worked out in our favor because the University's interest in expanding didn't impact our decision."

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LOGAN

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will boast state-of-the-art handicapping accessibility and "Cafe Logan Center," an area that will house a library with internet access, meeting space and food service. The new building will also have room for a center devoted to autism.

"This (current) building was built as a school many years ago," said Aron Lagomarcino, head of marketing for the center. "There will be space designed (specifically) for our curriculum."

The center sold its current building and the land it occupies to Notre Dame. The University's Campus Plan introduced in 2002 calls for realigning Edison Road and constructing a college town development on this lot.

While Notre Dame's interest just isn't there, it was a benefit for the center, it was not the deciding factor in the organization's decision to move, according to Lagomarcino. "We needed a new facility and we always knew Notre Dame was keenly interested," she said. "We knew when it came time to expand they would be the first buyer we would approach. The timing worked out in our favor because the University's interest in expanding didn't impact our decision."

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**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Israel IDs newest Hamas leader

JERUSALEM — Mahmoud Zahar, a 53-year-old Egyptian-trained physician whose sons won praise for their service in Israeli airstrike, was identified by Israel Monday as the new Hamas leader in the Gaza Strip. Israeli officials signaled he would be targeted for death if the militant group halts suicide attacks.

Hamas, however, refused to reveal the name of its leader for four he will be assassinated like his two predecessors.

Last month, two Palestinians were killed in an incident near the Mughzali refugee camp in central Gaza. Palestinian security sources said the attackers were Hamas terrorists killed by machine gun fire. First reports said the two were killed when a rocket they were setting off exploded prematurely. The Israeli military said it had no forces in the area.

China nixes Hong Kong elections

HONG KONG — Mainland China dealt a crushing blow to Hong Kong’s hopes for full democracy when it said Monday that the current legislative panel ruled the territory won’t have direct elections for its next leader or for all its lawmakers in 2008.

Many people in Hong Kong have been demanding the right to elect a successor to their chief executive, Tung Chee-hwa, a former shipping tycoon chosen by his predecessor as the chief executive, Tung Chee-hwa, a former shipping tycoon

Groups slam ‘dirty gold’ mining

WASHINGTON — Conservative critics have questioned Bush’s policy of allowing the mining of minerals from big polluters.

‘Dirty gold’ mining may cost a lot more than you think, environmentalists say.

**IRAQ**

**Blast levels suspected from site**

Explosion kills two U.S. soldiers; Americans refrain from attacking Fallujah

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A suspected chemical weapons warehouse exploded Sunday morning after U.S. troops broke into it, killing two soldiers and wounding five. Jubilant Iraqis warmed to the Americans’ charmed Humvees, waving looted machine guns, a handbaule and a helmet.

In Fallujah, U.S. troops came under a heavy insurgent attack after a day of U.S. officials decided to exceed a cease-fire rather than...
Show 
continued from page 1

"The committee was hired in early February after receiving record applications in January," said Flaherty. "Since then we have been meeting weekly, making decisions on logos, name lists, surveys, and fundraising."

The focus will be on creative advertising, especially in Notre Dame dorms and at freshman orientation. The new location will be on the east coast, making Notre Dame a convenient stop for major tour routes.

Recruiting bands depends on both timing and finances. Flaherty says that it is much cheaper and easier to get bands who are touring in the area at the time.

Funding for "The Show" comes primarily from the Notre Dame Office of Student Affairs and Notre Dame Student Activities Office. This year, the committee has been restructured to increase efficiency and outreach abilities.

Three vice-chairmen oversee groups of finance, marketing and production and liaisons from Saint Mary's and Holy Cross represent their respective student bodies.

The support of the schools' administrations is also vital to the concert's success. "I can't speak enough about the administration's support," said Flaherty. "Dr. Moss and Brian Grubin, on behalf of their respective offices, have full faith in this event."

"We have also had tremendous support from the Saint Mary's administration in the past and are looking forward to continuing that relationship this year as well as building one with Holy Cross." Next year marks the third year of "The Show," and the fourth concert of its kind. Flipstock 2001 was the first full concert, featuring SR-71, Nine Days and They Might Be Giants.

Pleased by the concert's success, Office of Student Affairs with the Student Activities Office assumed its production. In 2002, The Show featured Better than Ezra and The Parliament Funk. As a junior in high school, Haskins was invited to Washington to participate in a week-long forum, the NYLF on Defense, Intelligence & Diplomacy. As an alumnus of this program, he was invited to attend the International Missions and had a choice of going to China, Australia, Eastern Europe, Brazil or South Africa.

"I chose China," Haskins said, "because I felt that diplomatic relations within China are undergoing great changes in the economic, social and political environments." Her first time traveling abroad, Haskins will visit Beijing, the ancient city of Xi'an and Shanghai. Highlights will be meeting with a representative of the U.S. Embassy, Chinese Diplomats, the Vice Mayor of Shanghai and the former U.S. Consular General.

"This unique diplomatic and cultural exploration, I am sure, will be a life-changing experience that will fuel my ambition for years to come and give me a tremendous head start towards my professional career goals," Haskins said. "This trip is not only an invitation to China, but to Chinese culture, and has been planning for her trip by reading online stories about the cities she will visit, as well as becoming familiar with China's daily news, current events and history."

Haskins will meet with China's future diplomats at the China University of Foreign Affairs to discuss that country's place in world politics, and the important role of diplomacy plays in connecting cultures and creating trust between varying governments.

"Diplomacy has always interested me," said Haskins, "and I feel it is an honor to be invited, and I look forward to representing my country. I believe this is an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I hope to gain an understanding and knowledge of another culture and lifestyle as well as gain an insight that we are a global community. I know I will also gain an appreciation and tolerance for different views and ideologies."
**Business**

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

**MARKET RECAP**

| Dow Jones | 10,444.73 | -28.11 |

**COMMODITIES**

| Light Crude ($/bbl.) | +0.51 | 36.97 |

**Commercial Aircraft**

Boeing lands major jet order

*Japanese carrier agrees to purchase 50 new 7E7 Dreamliners beginning in 2008*

A model of a Boeing 7E7 Dreamliner passenger jet with an All Nippon Airways livery scheme. Boeing announced Monday that the Japanese airline has ordered 50 of the newly developed high-efficiency jets.

**COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT**

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**In Brief**

Computer Associates restates EPS

ISLANDIA, N.Y. — Hoping to move past an accounting scandal that forced its chief executive to resign, Computer Associates International Inc. restated financial results from 2000 and 2001 on Monday to reflect $2.2 billion in revenue that was improperly booked. The software maker also continued to shake up its management, confirming that director Kenneth Cron had been named interim chief executive and installing former CompUSA Co. board member Royce Clarke as chief operating officer.

New chairman Lewis Ranieri said Computer Associates has spent $30 million investigating its accounting practices and responding to inquiries from U.S. regulators and federal prosecutors.

High court to decide tax case

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court agreed Monday to review the government's way of resolving large tax disputes, accepting a challenge from New York City that aims to force the U.S. Treasury to dole out money to the city.

The court is considering a case that could affect some million-dollar judgments without knowing how the decision was reached.

The justices will hear a constitutional challenge to the technical process for people who fight government demands for taxes. At issue are the largest cases -— those involving more than $50,000, in which special judges hold trials rather than U.S. judges or federal prosecutors.

New home sales leap in March

WASHINGTON — Sales of new homes surged by 8.9 percent in March, the largest monthly increase in nine months, as mortgage rates bottomed out before starting to ascend.

The increase pushed sales of new, single family homes to a record seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.228 million last month. That was up from 1.126 in February, the Commerce Department reported Monday.

The monthly increase of 8.9 percent was the highest since June 2003.

By region, new home sales soared by 19.3 percent in the South, hitting a record rate of 613,000.

**Consumer Staples**

Americans cry over $4 milk prices

NEW YORK — An increase in the base price of milk is pushing the retail price of the staple to near $4 a gallon, causing some consumers to cut back, switch brands or seek out wholesalers.

"I stopped buying organic milk because it was so expensive," said Ashley Wetz, a designer, as she bought a pint of store brand milk for $1.15 at a grocery store on the east side in Manhattan. Now, Wetz is cringing at the price of what was once the cheapest milk on the shelf.

The rise in prices comes after the U.S. Agriculture Department announced Friday that it would raise the minimum price paid to dairy farmers by 50 cents -— taking the price to a record high of $1.69 per gallon. That doesn't include packaging, distribution and other costs.

As a result, the retail price per gallon of milk is set to reach more than $4 a gallon — its highest levels ever — in at least some areas, not adjusting for inflation.

Jim Rogers, president of the Albany-based Food Processors Institute of New York State, said the state approved an increase in the maximum price retailers can charge to $4.18 per gallon, the first time it crossed the $4 mark.

Prices can vary from the national average based on the region where the milk is produced and the type of milk sold, such as skim or whole.

On Monday, stores in New York were selling milk at least 20 cents higher than last week. At D'Agnostino Supermarkets, a gallon was priced at $3.69 while at The Food Emporium, a division of The Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, it was listed at $3.84.

At Costco branches throughout the country, milk was selling at about $2 a gallon but this will change next month, said the general merchandise manager for the wholesale retailer. "Dairy farmers may be able to hold prices for a week but after that, based on the industry news I have, the goal will be to push $4," he said.

"We have to pass the increase on to the customer otherwise we can't pay our bills," said John Catsimatidis, chairman and CEO of Gristedes Food Stores Inc., a grocery supermarket chain in New York.
IRELAND
The Vatican replaces Dublin Archbishop

HCC continued from page 1

faculties at Holy Cross.

The courses have gone well, but the situation could have been better, said Watson. "After all, our professors are both experts in their fields and dedicated to teaching, so coursework plays to HCC's strength; the faculty.

However, it has been more difficult than I envisioned the program in terms of making it distinct from the other four-year programs. "I expected that in the surrounding area. Watson said. One unique component of HCC's baccalaureate track is that enrolled students do not choose one major but instead receive a liberal arts education by taking the suite set of multidisciplinary courses with some electives. This standard set of courses is then supplemented with required participation in a study-abroad experience, an internship and a service-learning project.

What has been challenging are the aspects of our program that others might see as distinct, such as the emphasis on career development, internships and job opportunities." Watson noted. Watson said he has hired Tim Ryan to head the College's new Lilly Career Development Center.

Unfortunately, Holy Cross students have also found the addition of the baccalaureate program to be successful, but they welcome its further development. "Students who are in the four-year track are pleased with the new opportunities that are now available to them, and those earning associate degrees are looking forward to the new program with which the new program as been implemented."

The four-year program is a natural outgrowth of the two-year program, and I think this is what our student have most appreciated," Watson said. "The four-year program has many of the same positive attributes as does the two-year program, primarily faculdies and students who commit themselves to an active role in the individual lives of the College's students."

Holy Cross sophomores and newly elected student body president Joseph Lafferty is one of only five students who have been accepted to the baccalaureate program thus far. Lafferty said the application process is much more complex than it was for the Associates Degree because of the demanding nature of the four-year track. However, he looks forward to the new challenges with which he has been presented.

"I am always interested in hearing about Holy Cross becoming a four-year school since I was a freshmen, and when they (the Holy Cross administration) finally made the decision, I knew the program would be right for me," Lafferty said. Lafferty said Sophomore Michael Flaherty, who will be Vice Student Body President for the 2004-05 school year, has also been accepted to the program and is looking forward to taking part in it.

"When I enrolled in Holy Cross as a Freshman, I heard a rumor of a four-year program being created," Flaherty said. Flaherty added that the new program was exactly what he was looking for. Flaherty has friends who have gone to a four-year college and he was interested in hearing about such a program. He hopes to enroll in the program in the fall.

"Other students' reactions I am sure have been positive," Flaherty said. "We love it. Everyone just seems to see this school branching out and becoming bigger and better."

As for future goals for Holy Cross's program, Watson said that the number of admitted students will be kept small intentionally for the next few years, but that over time the program will expand and perhaps begin to lease the enrollment at the college.

HCC will present a baccalaureate program, but we will do it methodically and deliberately," Watson said. "The goal was never to simply increase our enrollment but to create a vibrant new program."
New drug replaces Cipro for treating STD

**Associated Press**

ATLANTA — The government is expected to recommend ceftriaxone, which is less convenient because it is injected, Klauser told The Associated Press. Another recommended drug, cefixime, is in pill form but is no longer made in the United States.

Director of STD prevention said Dr. Jeffrey Klauser, sexually transmitted disease, switch to another antibiotic Tuesday, April 27, 2004.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is expected to recommend ceftriaxone, which is less convenient because it is injected, Klauser told The Associated Press. Another recommended drug, cefixime, is in pill form but is no longer made in the United States.

**San Francisco**

**Associated Press**

Cipro has been used for at least four years to fight gonorrhea, including Cipro, is no longer effective against certain strains of the bacteria, said Dr. Jeffrey Klauser, deputy health officer and director of STD prevention for the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

In place of Cipro, administered as a pill, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is expected to recommend ceftriaxone, which is less convenient because it is injected, Klauser told The Associated Press. Another recommended drug, cefixime, is in pill form but is no longer made in the United States.

The class of antibiotics commonly used to treat gonorrhea, including Cipro, is no longer effective against certain strains of the bacteria, said Dr. Jeffrey Klauser, deputy health officer and director of STD prevention for the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

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Changing the world one semester at a time

Peter Quanzoro

A Call to Action

We live in times that try men and women's souls. Thomas Paine, the great American patriot, used these words 228 years ago to summon a people to action for freedom and justice. Through his call to action, Paine began a tradition of social change, deeply embedded in the heart of the American people, that has driven some of the greatest moments of American history: the women's suffrage movement, the labor movement for economic rights and the Civil Rights Movement. Beyond America, the course of human history is filled with stories of individuals creatively engaging the structures of their time in work for justice. Among the greatest of these was a man from Nazareth 2,000 years ago who preached truth and love to the fear that consumed the powerful. Today, we live in a world that deeply needs such inspiring words and action.

We need simply to open our eyes to recognize the need for change in our community, country and world. Individuals might disagree on the nature and scope of this change, but acceptance of the status quo is a fatal mistake. What we need is a man from Nazareth 2,000 years ago who preached truth and love to the fear that consumed the powerful.

In the United States today, 44 million Americans lack healthcare, and 34.6 million Americans live in poverty. Tonight, over 24,000 people around the world will die of hunger. Tomorrow, thousands of children will be abused, hundreds of thousands of women will face discrimination, and millions of workers will be exploited. To accept this situation as the best the system can do and turn our back on the rich tradition within American and human history of ordinary people creating change for the common good. We need change and we need it in the form of change created by people.
Recognizing the effects of Kerry's policies

This past weekend, presidential candidate John Kerry appeared at a small pro-life rally in West Virginia. Indicating that "the March for Women's Lives" and sponsored by Planned Parenthood and the National Organization for Women's Reproductive Action League (NARAL), Pro-Choice America, and the pro-life group "Hillbilly Feminists for Life," the march is an attempt to appeal to the antinuanced question that legalized abortion protects a woman's rights. Despite the fact that many women die from abortion procedures now than before its legalization, this title is also especially ironic. When at least half of all aborted children are male, but there are 41 million Americans in indentured servitude and extortion. In the US, 29 people were found guilty of conspiracy to hold workers - including all of the Immokalee workers - as slaves. Among the 25 years in jail, all the while claiming to be faithful Roman Catholic who publicly supports women's "right to choose." Kerry's eloquent stance on abortion prevention takes him beyond being merely a laissez-faire, "pro-choice" leader who promises to honor the so-called autonomy of those women who kill their unborn children. The man is extreme even among those who are pro-choice. Kerry unequivocally supports the pro-death policies of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and other international population control organizations that force abortion for economic gain by holding up their foreign policy reasons, thus sitting himself directly against the Church and against women. For example, Kerry has spoken out in praise of China's one-child policy. In China, to this very day, a woman without a permit to give birth to a second child can be drag out of her home in the middle of the night in order to have an abortion forced upon her — the woman's "choice" as a leader, Kerry does not even able by the deceptive euphemism of "pro-choice.

Furthermore, at a recent dinner host-ed by NARAL, co-sponsor of the pro-abortion march, Kerry received an ovation for his comment that there should be, "no more cutbacks on population control efforts around the world." The World Health Organization has estimated that over 50 million women are "missing" in China due to China's mandatory one-child policy which encourages families to abort every female child that comes along in order to secure a male. Kerry has spoken out in praise of China's one-child policy. In China, to this very day, a woman without a permit to give birth to a second child can be drag out of her home in the middle of the night in order to have an abortion forced upon her — the woman's "choice" as a leader, Kerry does not even able by the deceptive euphemism of "pro-choice.

Kerry wants to increase the amount of abortion funding in the US. Planned Parenthood, an organization which funds abortions both in America and overseas. Planned Parenthood has recently begun a new radio ad campaign targeting poor African-American neighborhoods with rap lyrics advising those with unplanned pregnancy to come on down to PP. This is an effort to help the African-American community to exploit their poverty and to impose what are essentially for-profit private healthcare measures as an alternative to a genuine solution to poverty in the United States. No other segment of the population has been as adversely affected by abortion — thanks largely to Planned Parenthood's aggressive efforts, nearly half of all pregnancies of African American women end in abortion. Planned Parenthood has been and currently is engaging in a systematic effort to undermine religion and Catholicism in Hispanic communities and aggressively there propogates its birth control and abortion message. It has called upon numerous traditionally Catholic nations to introduce Cuba's brutal one-child policy. It has endorsed the efforts of the "Women on Waves" Foundation, an abortion boat that sails to various Catholic and/or third world countries in order to take women to international clinics and kill their babies. The Dutch ship's first stop? Ireland.

Margaret Sanger, founder of Planned Parenthood, unabashedly advocated eugenics. In her writings in "Pest of Civilization," she contends, "Birth control itself, if demonstrated for what it is, the result of the operation of the natural law, is nothing more or less than the facilitation of the process of weeding out the unfit, preventing the birth of defectives or of those who will become defectives." While America does not have forced abortions like China, how many women here are "forced" in some way, through manipulation or circumstances, to abort their child? Does not the abortion and contraceptive agenda of PP undermine the commitment to women of males who feel justified in pointing their girl-friends to the abortuary? How many women are forced into choosing abortion because society believes that rather than supporting women who need emotional, financial, academic and/or social support, all she needs is the scaring experience of an abortion? Is this the "liberation" women deserve? No man has ever had to carry the traumatic experience of an abortion with him through the years? Is this equal?

If John Kerry should become president, he would increase funding to Planned Parenthood and their agenda of death and preventing life wherever possible. What we need, rather, is to empower women who want to keep their children by devoting our resources to the emotional, economic and social support they need to see their pregnancies through and to take care of their children and them­selves once they are born.

Brian Noonan law student April 25

Letters to the editor

Respect those who make a difference

Bill Binner's Apr. 23 Viewpoint column was callous and cowardly. After mocking the actions of the Aaboost group by describing his own hunger strike for his beloved Crystal Pepsi, Binner notes, "Call it the "pepsi" of an upper middle class kid who feels justified in pointing his girl-friend to the abortuary." Thanks for the biographical information, Bill, because after your insensitive letter earlier this week, I had you pegged as a "pro-choice" leader who promises to honor the so-called autonomy of those women who kill their unborn children. The man is extreme even among those who are pro-choice. Kerry unequivocally supports the pro-death policies of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and other international population control organizations that force abortion for economic gain by holding up their foreign policy reasons, thus sitting himself directly against the Church and against women. For example, Kerry has spoken out in praise of China's one-child policy. In China, to this very day, a woman without a permit to give birth to a second child can be drag out of her home in the middle of the night in order to have an abortion forced upon her — the woman's "choice" as a leader, Kerry does not even able by the deceptive euphemism of "pro-choice.

In his Apr. 23 article, Andrew Soukup correctly identifies the football pro­gram's poor performance as a decade-long malaise. In contrast, University spokes­men John Heisler and Dave Duerson trivialize alumni dissatisfaction as an overreaction to one bad season. If this is what Notre Dame's executives believe, the football program is in serious trouble. We have had unprecedented numbers of losing seasons and lopsided losses over the last 10 years. There is no need for the management of the pro­gram during that time. If we are doing the right things, we are not doing them very well. More likely, we are a victim of poor management practices, many easy to observe. For example:

- The compromised candidate list of replacements for Lou Holtz that resulted in hiring a first-time head coach who was not up to the job.
- Allowing Bob Davie's tenure to wind down without developing and vetting a list of qualified and interested replacements.
- The embarrassing search processes when replacing Bob Davie.
- The Joe Moreno lawsuit.
- The passive approach taken during the NCAA investigation of Kim Dunbar's relationship with the program, resulting in the absurd finding of a major infraction.

These are public examples of poor management. If public examples consist­ently display mismanagement, why would we believe that things are better behind closed doors?

Like other high level managers, Kevin White should have performance objectives, general parameters and constraints, and freedom to work within those constraints to achieve his objectives. When he has to work through a coaching search committee stacked with several members who have no experience in the business of college athletics and athletics administrative affairs. Affairs decisions deciding issues, it is hard to argue that Dr. White has the authority he needs to succeed. Such meddling in the business of athletics is as absurd as having the Athletics staff decide if the College has the ability to Engineering or writing research grant applications.

Kevin O'Neill

Kevin O'Neill

Class of 1976

April 26

Acknowledging football problems

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April 25
"Kill Bill: Vol. 2" proves to be a worthy sequel

By JACK WATKINS
Scene Movie Critic

"Kill Bill: Vol. 2" is the second half— not the sequel—to last fall's martial arts filled superaction extravaganza. For those who don't know, the story is fairly simple: The Bride (Uma Thurman) is a former member of the Deadly Viper Assassination Squad, or DVAS for short, who, after leaving the group, was a victim of an assassination attempt that left her in a coma for four years. Upon waking up, The Bride goes on "a roaring rampage of revenge," eliminating one-by-one, the "Death List Five"—O-ren Ishii (Lucy Liu), Vernita Green (Vivica A. Fox), Budd (Michael Madsen), Elle Driver (Daryl Hannah), and, of course, Bill himself (David Carradine). The Bride's mentor and former lover who led the DVAS. At the end of "Kill Bill: Vol. 1," The Bride and O-ren and Vernita had been taken care of, along with O-ren's "Crazy 88" bodyguards. There are not really eighty-eight people, as Bill explains early in Vol. 2, but fighters who call themselves that because "they thought it was cool.

The second movie contains less action than the first, relying more on suspense and Tarantino's trade-marked oddball dialogue, which manifests itself in (among other things) a discussion of the Superman mythology and what makes a good style dialogue ever. Despite the comedic touch that Tarantino always puts in his films, "Kill Bill: Vol. 2" is unlike its predecessor, demands that its audiences take it seriously.

Tarantino uses a theme of parent and child throughout the movie, developing what was begun in the first movie with the murdering of Vernita Green in front of her daughter and of O-ren Ishii's parents in front of her. This time, the children in question are The Bride's daughter, who she believed was killed by Bill, and The Bride herself. Since her own child has been raised by Bill, a twisted family is formed—Bill and The Bride are the literal and functional parents of the girl, named B.B., but Bill also serves as a father-figure to The Bride. This structure suggests the possibility of a father-son relationship, although it is not one that we see. The structure also adds to the complexity of the film, as it makes the audience question the validity of his status as the ultimate father-son relationship.

One great thing about the film is that it's an entirely different movie than the first, with new characters and new storylines. The imagery is darker and more surreal, and the action is more intense. The Bride is no savior, those moments when she soars into the sky and takes down her enemies are few and far between.

The explicit violence in "Vol. 1" is an entirely separate issue from the violence in "Vol. 2," and it needs to be true to Tarantino's vision, but it doesn't always come across as shocking to anticipated. Everyone seems to discuss the Crazy 88's sequence at the dining table, but it appears to merely be

"Matrix: Reloaded" with blood. Granted, the lighting, staging, and sound were brilliant, but ripping off the wire scheme from "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" didn't help matters. Despite this, Tarantino is highly acclaimed for his cinematography. His work deserves a look, but probably not on this particular DVD. The DVD is little more than an advertisement for "Kill Bill: Vol. 2," and it supports the argument that the entire series could have been completely told in a single film—but I understand how difficult it is to pass up on easy cash.

"Kill Bill" fans should be patient and wait until a two-disc or special edition version of the entire series is released at some point in the future. There is no need to quickly indulge yourself now.

Contact Jack Watkins at jwatkins1@nd.edu

DVD REVIEW

"Kill Bill: Vol. 1" slices its way onto DVD

By BRANDON HOLLJAN
Scene DVD Critic

What more can be said about the groundbreaking film of 2003 that captivated audiences with its flashy scenery and costume, state-of-the-art cinematic technique and gratuitous amounts of blood, shed from world-class, Samurai-inspired Yakuza gangsters?

Well, quite a bit, if you were one of those dissatisfied, or even disenchant-gangsters?

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Contact Brandon Hollihan at lhollihan@nd.edu
**Movie Review**

**Eternal Sunshine' spins an emotional tale**

By MARY SQUILLACE
Scene Movie Critic

In a market where films about relationships don't typically entail anything deeper than a passionate kiss on a busy street corner while a Van Morrison song rises up, Michel Gondry's "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" provides a refreshing and inventive break through the morass. Though writer Charlie Kaufman has already proved himself as the master of the modern-day fantasy with original movies like "Adaptation" and "Being John Malkovich," Kaufman turns a new corner with his most recent efforts, spinning an equally unique, but emotionally enriched story.

Upon discovering that his former girlfriend, Clementine (Kate Winslet), has, with the help of a team of skilled technicians, literally erased him from her memory, Joel (Jim Carrey) decides to go through the same process. However, as he undergoes the procedure and travels through memories of his failed relationship, Joel realizes he's not quite ready to let go. The film's cinematographic qualities are important, the success of the film hinges largely upon the actors' abilities to draw the viewers into this fantasy.

Fortunately, the cast, which include Jim Carrey, Kate Winslet, Elijah Wood, Kirsten Dunst and Tom Wilkinson, deliver high-quality performances of the procedure and reconcile with Clementine. Though the premise of the film is somewhat bizarre, its essence is rooted in reality. For this reason, it becomes a wonderfully poignant journey. Throughout the film, Kaufman maintains a very natural rhythm and flow of words. The dialogue between Joel and Clementine speaks particularly well to his audience, seeing as most people have experienced the ups and downs that come with being in a relationship.

Stylistically, the look of the film meets the needs of this quirky narrative. The shot selection is particularly engaging, and plays out like a moving surrealist painting. Gondry's precise use of color and raw-looking camera work both heighten the experience. However, because he makes rapid cuts and uses handheld shots consistently throughout the film, Gondry's approach might be slightly jarring to some viewers.

While the film's cinematographic qualities are important, the success of the film hinges largely upon the actors' abilities to draw the viewers into this fantasy.

Typically, due to his notoriety as a comedic actor, it is very difficult to watch Jim Carrey and believe he's anything other than Jim Carrey. In previous attempts at serious roles, Carrey either slips into his characteristic over-the-top humorous dramatizations or comes off as being corny. However, under the careful direction of Gondry, Carrey finds subtlety for the first time. Consequently, he is surprisingly effective in his role as Joel.

Kirsten Dunst proves to be another welcome actor who rises to this occasion, which is probably more of a reflection on the writing and directing than on her abilities. Though she plays a fairly small role as one of the technicians, she avoids disturbing Carrey's carefully constructed fantasy world.

Overall, "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" provides a true flight of the imagination blended with a moving look at relationships. In addition, it is unlike any other film at the box office right now, and, considering the stream of dime-a-dozen big-budget actions that will invade our theaters within the next month, probably unlike anything that will grace us until the end of summer.

Contact Mary Squillace at msquill@nd.edu

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**Movie Review**

**Good cast drives dark, violent comic book film**

By MARK REMENDER
Scene Movie Critic

Bad days come and go. Bad grade, bad date, bad illness. Almost everyone has experienced one of the aforementioned bad days. However, none of those are anything in comparison to Frank Castle's bad day.

The beginning of "The Punisher" is fairly obvious, especially because of the trailers marketing the film and the Punisher's preexisting comic book line. Frank Castle, the Punisher, has one of the worst days ever as vengeful gangsters kill his entire family, conveniently at his family reunion. That is the trigger for the two-hour action movie.

There are good performances from everyone in the cast, with each serving of righteous anger. This makes him more believable than a man who has an arsenal of weaponry, and a huge fortune, and Clementine speaks particularly well to his audience, seeing as most people have experienced the ups and downs that come with being in a relationship.

In the movie, the other tenants of the apartment building are constantly worried. In the movie, the other tenants of Frank's apartment building are constantly building. This may be changed for the already announced sequel as the first film's continuity is already established and Frank Castle can get right to punishing the bad guys.

Contact Mark Remender at mbender@nd.edu

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Photo courtesy of www.allmoviephoto.com
NBA PLAYOFFS

Hamilton leads Pistons to a 3-1 series lead

Associated Press

MIAMI — If the Detroit Pistons were this good on offense, more often they wouldn't have to rely so heavily on their throttling defense.

The Pistons shut 56.5 percent Miami at night and got 27 points from Richard Hamilton in taking a 3-1 lead with a 109-92 rout of the Miami Heat.

Neither team had shot better than 45 percent in the best-of-seven series that shifts to Auburn Hills, Mich., for Game 5 on Monday night.

Embraced by becoming the first team to lose at home in the playoffs this season, the Pistons used their defense to turn things around with a 95-85 win in Game 3 on Saturday.

On Monday night, they intensified their offense, in part thanks to the benching of big man Brian Skinner, a legalized fomite in the Bucks, who had hoped to add some offense with Keith Van Horn's first start of the postseason.

Van Horn scored 11 points on 5-of-13 shooting.

Rashheed Wallace added 20 points and 10 rebounds for Detroit, Chauncey Billups had 19 and Tayshaun Prince 15. Joe Smith had 15.

The Bucks were this good on offense more often they wouldn't have to defend in the first quarter, eight field goals, the second.

Vince Carter had 17 points and 10 assists and just one turnover for Milwaukee, which also got 17 points and 12 rebounds from Joe Smith.

Van Horn, who has been coming off the bench because of injuries since late March, averaged just six points as a sub in the first three games of this series. He had seven points in the first quarter, when the Bucks scored 27 points, their second-highest total in a quarter in the playoffs.

The Bucks knew they were giving up some defense with Van Horn but got hurt, he was our second-leading scorer," coach Terry Porter said before tip-off. "It gives us another shooter on the floor." Van Horn, however, picked up two quick fouls midway through the second quarter, the second coming after Ben Wallace stripped him of the ball underneath the Bucks' basket.

He sat out the final 6:50 of the first half, which ended with Smith's buzzer-beating jumper from the top of the key that pulled the Bucks to 52-49.

The Pistons never relinquished the lead from there.

Prince scored three baskets in a 10-2 run that put Detroit in control at 64-55 with 5:33 left in the third quarter. The Bucks missed their first five shots of the fourth quarter while the Pistons were going 4-of-5 to build an 82- 70 lead.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Peja Stojakovic capped his night of shooting slump just in time to send the Sacramento Kings home on the verge of closing out their first-round playoff series.

And on the game's final play, his defense helped, too.

Stojakovic, who felt so out of step in whatever the previous game that he took only one shot in the second half, missed 10 straight in the first half Monday night, then came back with five straight switches forSacramento, rolling to a victory over the Dallas Mavericks.

The Kings lead 3-1 with Game 5 in Sacramento on Thursday night.

"It was auserName to the floor."

Van Horn, who had played in 28 of 31 games this season, had a team-high 11 rebounds.

"It shows how that will fall that one is the na-

tist fails you’ll see and wanted to continue to play until we took him out of the game," said the backup point guard Troy Hudson, who’s expected to have surgery soon on a chronically sprained right ankle.

The Nuggets, meanwhile, will likely be without both key reserves for Game 4 on Tuesday night.

Nuggets coach Jeff Bzdelik said forward Rodney White is doubt-

ly at his ankle.

"It’s been an unlucky year," said Stojakovic, an All-Star for the Timberwolves in 2002, averaged 10.2 points in the first three games against Denver.

Minnesota also has played the first three games of the series without backup point guard Troy Hudson, who’s expected to have surgery soon on a chronically sprained right ankle.

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Mighty Casey’s homer leads Reds past Pirates

But Cincinnati loses Kearns to a broken bone in his forearm

By Ken Loo, Special to The Courier-Journal

PITTSBURGH — Sean Casey’s two-run homer backed Aaron Harang’s effective pitching, and the Cincinnati Reds beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 5-2 Monday night despite losing Austin Kearns indefinitely with a broken forearm.

Kearns, the Reds’ right fielder, was hit on the left arm and wrist by Ryan Vogelsong’s pitch two batters after Casey’s homer put Cincinnati up 2-0 in the first. Kearns played defense in the bottom of the first, but was lifted an inning later.

Kearns will return to Cincinnati on Tuesday to be examined by team doctors following his second significant injury in two seasons and is out indefinitely. He injured his right shoulder last May and missed about half of the 2003 season.

Harang (2-0) gave up two runs in six innings, including Craig Wilson’s solo homer in the sixth, but worked out of several jams to beat Pittsburgh for the second time in two starts. He gave up seven hits, struck out five and walked one.

Danny Graves pitched the ninth for his 10th save in 12 opportunities, and his third in the four-game series. John Riedling and Todd Jones preceded Graves with a scoreless inning each.

Ryan Freel, Kearns’ replacement, followed Casey’s walk with an RBI triple in the third. Freel had started every Reds game this season until being hit in the head by Jason Boyd’s pitch Saturday night, forcing him to sit out Sunday, but he returned to a utility role Monday when third baseman Brandon Phillips was activated from the disabled list.

The Pirates, 2-5 against the Reds, loaded the bases with two outs in the third, but Harang got Bob Mackowiak to fly out. Pittsburgh had two on with one out in the inning later, but pinch-hitter Bobby Hill struck out and Tike Redman grounded into a force play.

Vogelsong (1-3) walked six in four innings while losing his third in a row, giving up three runs and four hits. He has allowed 23 hits and 18 runs in 12 innings during his losing streak, which includes two losses to the Cubs in which he believes he might have tipped his pitches.

After Vogelsong left, Adam Dunn hit a two-run double in the seventh against reliever John Grabow. Pittsburgh scored in the fifth on Jack Wilson’s triple and finded ahead against Scott Rolen’s two-out error.

The first inning is usually Rolen’s worst, but he escaped unscathed. It was the third time he ran into trouble — three doubles in a span of four batters gave the Blue Jays a 2-0 lead.

**Thursday, April 29th 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.**

316 Coleman-Morse

The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal lunch and study break at the Co-Mo.

**Lunch and Conversation**

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

**Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.**

*Lunch will be served*
Without A-Rod, Rangers ruling the AL West

Quick starts leaves Texas atop AL West

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — After three straight last-place finishes in Texas, Alex Rodriguez wanted out. Now the American League MVP is tired for the AL West lead, while Rodriguez and the New York Yankees are struggling.

The Rangers, built around a core of young players, are trying after a three-game opening stretch of the season against division opponents. They’re even with Anaheim for first place — and Texas won five of seven against them.

“Us being young and everything said about us, we came out and just wanted to play well,” catcher Gerald Laird said after the opening stretch of the season. “Core of young players, are 11-8. It’s just chemistry. Our chemistry. Our team is really open and we like to have fun and do a good job.”

When Texas traded Rodriguez just before spring training, having already let go of sluggers Rafael Palmeiro and two-time AL MVP Juan Gonzalez, there were plenty of dire predictions of a 100-loss season.

Imagine the thoughts after the Rangers lost their first two games. But three weeks later, Texas tops the division after a three-game weekend sweep of the Seattle Mariners that culminated with a 14-4 win.

The Rangers are still scoring a lot of runs (5.8 per game) despite losing their core of hitting and lead the majors with a 3.15 batting average – the only team over .300. Their pitching staff, the worst in the majors three of the last four seasons, has a 4.34 ERA, fifth-best in the AL.

“We have a lot of confidence in our young guys,” manager Buck Showalter said. “I’m not intentionally low-keying. It’s reality. We’ve played 19 games out of a 162-game schedule. So far, so good.

Especially for a team coming off four straight last-place finishes.

During the three seasons with Rodriguez, the Rangers lost 270 games and were atop the division for only three days, one of those after winning last year’s season opener.

While Rodriguez is finally starting to shake his slump in New York, the Yankees were swept by Boston last weekend to drop to 5-11 and 4 1/2 games out in the AL East. The last time New York was three games under .500 this late in the season was 1997, the last season they didn’t finish first.

“It’s not going to get any easier. I’d rather go through this now than any other time,” Rodriguez said. “We will turn this around.”

The Rangers, whose last division title was in 1999, have sure turned it around without A-Rod.

The last time Texas was three games over .500 was at 30-27 in June 2000, the summer before Rodriguez arrived. The Rangers then lost eight in a row and spent most of the time since at the bottom of the AL West.

Things are much different this season. Not only their record, but the feeling surrounding the team. “We have a sense of direction. We talked about it all winter, and I think it was ultimately culminated with the trade,” general manager John Hart said. “We were going to commit to as many young players as we could. We also realize we do have holes, this is not a finished product.”

Olympic officials want help in banning drug cheaters

San Francisco — Worried they’re running out of time to keep drug cheaters out of the Olympic games, Olympic officials want some help from federal authorities.

They aren’t just going after athletes who have failed drug tests. Instead, they hope to use a clause in the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency’s rules to bar athletes who acknowledge the use of steroids and other banned substances, including in grand jury testimony.

The U.S. Olympic Committee wants to make sure it doesn’t have a PR disaster on its hands during the Aug. 13-29 games.

“Our image is going to be just fine if we send a clean team,” acting USOC president Bill Martin said Monday. “The last thing we want to happen is to select the wrong folks.”

Martin and other Olympic officials say they need assistance to keep out competitors using banned substances. They would love access to grand jury transcripts in the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative case involving the alleged distribution of steroids to top athletes.

While such grand jury proceedings are secret by law, the Senate Commerce Committee, chaired by Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., issued a subpoena for the BALCO testimony.

That could override the secrecy provision, according to Terry Little, Hastings College of the Law scholar and a former federal prosecutor. Little said it would be “highly unusual for the Department of Justice to be giving up grand jury material in the middle of an investigation.” But, even if the Justice Department challenged such a subpoena, Little said, a court could order that such documents be produced.

Justice Department spokesman Mark Corallo said he doesn’t know whether any material has been turned over to McCain’s committee. Rebecca Hanks, a spokeswoman for McCain, declined to comment.

“America does not want to send a dirty team to Athens, but the ball’s not in our hands right now,” Martin told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. “We’ve got just a little bit over 100 days left before those games, and time is truly of the essence.”

According to an AP poll released Monday, nine out of every 10 Americans believe the use of steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs by Olympic athletes is a problem.

Forty-three percent of those responding to the survey called it a major problem; another 49 percent see it as a minor problem. Only 6 percent don’t consider it a problem.

Craig Masback, the head of USA Track & Field, hopes federal and anti-doping authorities turn over any evidence of drug use as quickly as possible “so that the guilty will be punished and the innocent will be cleared of suspicion.”

“That is all we can do,” Masback said. “We didn’t do the tests, we didn’t test the samples. We did not do the federal investigation, we do not have the affidavits, we were not in the grand jury.”

Section 9 of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency’s protocol gives that agency the authority to bring a drug case against an athlete in lieu of a positive drug test when USADA has other reason to believe that a possible doping violation has occurred, such as admitted doping.

Over the weekend, two American track stars — Marion Jones and her boyfriend, Tim Montgomery — were connected in reports to BALCO founder Victor Conte. The San Francisco Chronicle and the San Jose Mercury News, quoting sources who requested anonymity, reported that Conte told federal agents he gave steroids to Jones and Montgomery.

Jones, who won five medals at the 2000 Olympics, and Montgomery, the world record-holder at 100 meters, repeatedly have denied steroid use. An attorney for Jones said she never received steroids from Conte. An attorney for Conte said he never provided steroids to Jones or Montgomery, and never gave such information to federal agents.

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NHL PLAYOFFS

Nabokov shuts out the Avs

Goalie turns away 33 in Sharks' 1-0 win

Associated Press

DENVER — Evgeni Nabokov's stinginess has the San Jose Sharks one win away from their first trip to the conference finals.

Nabokov stopped 33 shots for his second shutout of the playoffs and Vincent Damphousse banked in a shot off Colorado goalie David Aebischer midway through the third period, helping the Sharks beat the Avalanche 1-0 Monday night and take a 3-0 lead in the best-of-seven series.

San Jose won't offer Colorado's early rush, stuck to its puck-control offense and continued to ride Nabokov's playoff-long hot streak to set up a possible sweep Wednesday in Denver.

The Avalanche were much better defensively, limiting San Jose's chances and cutting down on the miscues that left Aebischer helpless at times in the first two games.

Colorado held San Jose to 17 shots — five in the third period — but continued to struggle finding the net against the stingy Sharks. The Avalanche have three goals against San Jose after scoring 19 in five games against Dallas in the first round.

San Jose didn't have a shot in the third period until Damphousse knocked in his own rebound off Aebischer's back with 11:01 left.

Aebischer blocked Damphousse's first attempt after Patrick Marleau's shot bounced hard off the boards, but Damphousse used Aebischer as a backboard to score inside the left post from behind the goal. After being outworked and outshot the first two games in San Jose, Colorado was intent on making sure that trend didn't go on once the series shifted to Denver.

The Avalanche had an extra man at times in the second period, but still couldn't solve Nabokov. He made 10 saves, including a glove save on Milian Hejduk after a nice drop pass from Peter Forsberg. Nabokov also got a break when John-Michael Liles' shot from the blue line hit the left post through traffic.

San Jose controlled the flow much better in the second period, keeping the puck in Colorado's end a good chunk of the time. The Sharks just didn't get many good scoring chances out of it, with just six shots.

Colorado added 12 more shots in the second period, but still couldn't solve Nabokov. He got a piece of Hejduk's open shot from the slot on a power play midway through, then dived back to cover after the puck ricocheted between him and Colorado's Dan Hinote on a rebound in the closing seconds.

San Jose goalie Evgeni Nabokov makes a save against Colorado winger Dan Hinote. The Sharks' win gives them a 3-series lead.

GOLF

Singh tastes victory at Houston Open

Records 4-under 68 in the final round

Associated Press

HUMBLE, Texas — Vijay Singh is usually unbeatable entering the final round of a tournament.

He proved it again Monday.

Singh shared the lead with John Huston in the rain-delayed Houston Open going into the last round, but he pulled away with a 4-under 68 for his sixth straight win when leading after three rounds.

Singh finished at 11-under 277 for a two-stroke victory over Scott Hoch. It was Singh's second victory in Houston, where he won two years ago.

"The last few times when I did go into the lead, I've been striking the ball well, so when you do that you don't feel threatened that someone else is going to overtake you," Singh said.

"You just let your game do the talking.

Hoch was second after a closing 67. Huston (71) was another shot back, followed by Stephen Ames (69) and Dudley Hart (70).

"Today was the best I've played in a long, long time," Singh said. "I struck the ball really solid from tee to green. Looking back, I'd like to play this way for the rest of my life."

He hasn't been far off all year. It was the second victory of 2004 for Singh and his 17th on the tour. In 11 events this year, he's finished in the top 10 six times.

John Daly and Hoch started the last round three shots back. Daly got to within one stroke of the lead before fading late. He finished with a 71, leaving him six strokes back for the tournament.

Weather problems interrupted play three consecutive days at the Redstone Golf Club and pushed the tournament into Monday, where third-round play was completed for most of the field earlier in the day.

Singh opened the event with a 74, but his second-round 66 equaled the low round of the tournament. He completed his third round earlier Monday, making an 84-foot chip for eagle at the 12th hole that gave him a 69 and a share of the lead with Huston after 54 holes at 7 under.

Singh began the final round after a short break and birdied two of the first three holes, rolling in a 20-foot putt at the par-3 No. 1.

At the 209-yard par-3 third hole, his tee shot stopped less than 2 1/2 feet from the pin. His putt for birdie gave him the lead outright at 9 under.

With Daly on the opposite end of the course making birdies, Singh had seven consecutive pars before a birdie at the par-4 No. 11, where he putted in from less than 10 feet.

As Hoch closed in, Singh coolly added a 10-foot birdie at No. 15.

San Jose goalie Evgeni Nabokov makes a save against Colorado winger Dan Hinote. The Sharks' win gives them a 3-series lead.

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NHL
Tampa Bay at Montreal, 8 p.m., ESPN2
Detroit at Calgary, 8 p.m., ESPN

MLB
Chicago at Arizona, 8:30 p.m., FOX Chicago
Atlanta at San Francisco, 9:15 p.m., TBS

SUPERCROSS
World Grand Prix, 3 p.m., ESPN2

Los Angeles Lakers' forward Kobe Bryant, right, is greeted by teammates Karl Malone and Devean George after being introduced before a game against the Golden State Warriors at Staples Center April 13.

Hearings continue in Bryant rape case

Associated Press

EAGLE, Colo. — Attorneys in the Kobe Bryant rape case opened a three-day hearing Monday with more closed-door arguments over whether the sex life of his 19-year-old accuser can be used against her at trial.

Defense lawyers say injuries found on the woman could have been caused by sex with multiple partners before and after her encounter with Bryant. The prosecution says her sexual history is irrelevant in determining whether the woman was assaulted.

Among those called to testify Monday were the woman's former boyfriend and an Eagle County sheriff's detective.

State District Judge Terry Ruckriegle has denied the prosecution's request to throw out evidence including the woman's recorded statements.

Ruckriegle held a separate hearing over a defense request to throw out the woman's sex life as evidence.

The judge reserved the defense request to throw out the woman's recorded statements.

Around the Nation

Tuesday, April 27, 2004

Baseball America Top 25

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Previous</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stanford</td>
<td>31-6</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
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<td></td>
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Women's Rowing Top 20

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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Virginia</td>
<td>273</td>
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<td>Michigan State</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
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<td>143</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern California</td>
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<td>81</td>
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<td>67</td>
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<td>Boston</td>
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Women's Softball Big East Standings

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<tr>
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<td>Virginia Tech</td>
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<td>39-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>9-0</td>
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<td>Georgia Tech</td>
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<td>Boston College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>6-10</td>
<td>23-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. John's</td>
<td>4-9</td>
<td>21-21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>4-9</td>
<td>21-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syracuse</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>19-23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
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<td>18-23</td>
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</table>

NBA

Tillman's body arrives at Dover Air Force Base

PHOENIX — The body of former Arizona Cardinals safety Pat Tillman arrived at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware on Monday, a military official said.

Tillman's family didn't release what funeral home the body would be taken to, said Shari Lawrence, a spokeswoman for the Army Human Resources Command.

Tillman, who gave up his NFL career to join the Army Rangers in 2002, was killed in combat Thursday in Afghanistan.

His brother, Spc. Kevin Tillman, also a Ranger with the 2nd Battalion of the 75th Ranger Regiment, was expected to accompany the body to the funeral home, Lawrence said.

His funeral arrangements were pending for the 27-year-old former Cardinals player who was a star at Arizona State before being drafted by Arizona.

Giaffone replaces Buhl on IRL team

INDIANAPOLIS — Former IRL rookie of the year Felipe Giaffone will drive for Dreyer & Reinbold Racing the rest of this season in place of Robbie Buhl.

Buhl, a co-owner of the Indianapolis team and one of the original drivers in the Indy Racing League, retired as a driver last week.

"Everything happened really fast, so I'm still learning with the team," Giaffone said Monday.

Giaffone started last and finished 10th in his rookie Indianapolis 500 in 2001. He was the IRL's top rookie that season, with 10 top-10 finishes in 13 starts. His only victory was at Kentucky Speedway in 2002.

His best finishes with Mo Nunn Racing last year were thirds at Phoenix and Japan, and he missed five races with a broken leg and pelvis from a crash at Kansas.

Kearsns out with broken forearm

PITTSBURGH — Austin Kearsns' left forearm was broken when he was hit by Ryan Vogelsong's pitch Monday night in Pittsburgh.

The Cincinnati Reds right fielder was hit while batting in the first inning.

The Reds did not immediately make a roster move to replace Kearsns, who is all but certain to go on the 15-day disabled list. He will be examined Tuesday in Cincinnati by Reds physician Timothy Krumwiek and will not accompany the team to Milwaukee.

Kearsns returned to the lineup after sitting out Sunday's 6-0 loss to Pittsburgh. He is in a 2-for-23 slump that dropped his average to .237.

This is the second injury in two seasons for Kearsns who finished third in NL Rookie of the Year voting in 2002.

In Brief

Air Force Fortgeschrittene Studienzentrum
Scott Irish ready for tournament

By KATE GALE

Two seemed to be the number defining the men's tennis team this year. One was the number they were seeded going into this year's Big East tournament, and two was the number of losses they had in the conference. Two was the number of doubles matches they struggled to win in each match, and two is the number of rivalries they are fighting in their last Big East tournament.

Two was the number of senior tri-captains on the squad.

And two is the number of years that have passed since the Irish last held the Big East title.

"We can prepare all we want and talk about it all we want ... but I don't think it's going to matter," said Matthew Scott, who played matches at No. 2 singles this year. "I just need to strap on the blue collar and get the job done." Scott and fellow senior tri-captain Lus Haddock, as well as senior Patrick Foster and junior tri-captain Brent D'Amico, tasted victory at the 2002 Big East tournament. They plan to leave Miami next weekend with nothing less.

"We've gone to Miami every year for the Big East," Haddock said. "We've had a good experience there. I'll have nothing else in mind except winning the tournament. Nothing else will make me happy."

The Irish depart early Wednesday morning, allowing almost two full days to adapt to winning the regular season for the first time in conference play.

Notre Dame and Miami have met in the finals every year since 1995-96, when the Irish joined the Big East. With an overall record of 13-8 and ranked No. 33 nationally, the Irish are the highest-ranked team in the tournament despite being No. 12 in conference play.

"It's the kind of thing you don't need to get yourself up for; you already are," said Scott of the Notre Dame/Miami rivalry. "It's a City 33 national something more to play for."

Miami and Virginia Tech — the Irish's two conference losses — leave the Big East next year.

"Having lost to both teams gives us a special inclination to do well," said coach Bobby Bayliss.

Although the departure of Miami and Virginia Tech will change the makeup of the league, he pointed out that incoming Louisville and South Florida have serious commitments to their tennis programs.

Bayliss was required to submit the roster in advance for the tournament, meaning that every-changing doubles lineups will play just for the formation Scott and Haddock will be the top doubles team.

"What these guys do together well is break their opponent down from two back," Bayliss said. "They're both pretty experienced and they have good chemistry."

"We played one match together when we were sophomores," Scott said.

"Which we won," Haddock was quick to point out. The two played together briefly in the fall as Brent D'Amico recovered from an injury and started playing together full-time in midseason.

"The best thing we do is our movement and court coverage," said Scott.

"I know exactly what shots he can hit and what shots he cannot hit," Haddock added. "They agreed that it was good to keep that: 'somebody has your back.'"

"That's probably why my back hurts so much," joked Haddock. Their easy banter was a constant reminder that these two chemistry.

As senior Paul Hidaka and juniors this year. "I just need to take it as far as they can ... I'm very appreciative of the chemistry."

"I have been a coach my whole life. I think when you are a coach you understand that once your young players and there's really no moreANGEL菈MAC

NBA

Celtics fire head coach Carroll

Associated Press

WAITHAM, Mass. — John Carroll got a job recommendation instead of a job from Danny Ainge.

"John Carroll did a fantastic job for our team based on the situation he was given," Ainge said Monday after announcing that Carroll would not be retained as the Celtics' coach.

"He did not get the opportunity to be retained by us," Carroll said Monday. "I am very appreciative of the responsibility that I was given."

Ainge said he is in no hurry to replace Carroll. The Celtics went 14-22 under Carroll this season, finishing the regular season 10 games below .500, but they still managed to edge out the last playoff berth in the Eastern Conference. They were swept in the first round by the Indiana Pacers.

Carroll left the team's practice facility before Ainge spoke to the media and was not available for comment. Players and owners were also not contacted for comment about the team's breakup meeting without comment.

But Carroll seemed to know what was coming.

"I have been a coach my whole life. I think when you are a coach you understand that once your young players and there's really no more

"I'm very versatile to be in one place for seven years here with the Celtics, and I'm very appreciative of the responsibility that I was given."

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Colts believe they've filled the missing gaps

Pick two linebackers, two corners in this year's draft

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Forget major changes.

Bill Polian and Tony Dungy figured all the Indianapolis Colts needed for a Super Bowl run was a little fine-tuning. Just add some more speed, a little depth and a new infusion of young talent.

Polian, the team president, and Dungy, the coach, believe that after taking a safety, two cornerbacks and two linebackers in this year's NFL draft, last weekend's mission was accomplished.

"I don't think so," said Polian, the team president, when asked if he'd look to fill any remaining holes with veteran free agents.

"The quarterback situation may be interesting, depending on who shakes free, but we like who we've drafted.

While the Colts got none of the big names, like a Dwight Freeney, who could have made a major impact next season, they didn't have much choice.

Picking 29th in the first round of a draft that was thin on defensive talent, the Colts did the next best thing — acquiring extra draft picks to throw more players into the mix.

Trading up would have been a little different.

That forced David Thornton, a second-year player, into the starting lineup. Many wondered how he would handle the job, and Thornton was consistently among the Colts' leading tacklers.

This year's philosophy seems a little different. By using three picks on defensive backs, the Colts seem to be counting on a deeper, faster secondary to carry the load.

That forced Polian to be creative with his choices. He traded down twice before selecting big-hitting safety Bob Sanders from Iowa, who will cost far less than the only safety taken ahead of him, Miami's Sean Taylor.

Yet Polian thinks Sanders gives the Colts' defense something it sorely needs — attitude.

"It energizes everybody," Polian said. "His coach, Kirk Ferentz, pointed it out in the fall when I talked to him. He said 'Bob does something very few players do. He makes the mentality of the defense different, tougher, because he strives.'

That's what the Colts must now bank on.

 Losing two key contributors at cornerback, Walt Harris and David Macklin, during the off-season depleted their depth in the secondary. But the loss of starting linebacker Marcus Washington to the Washington Redskins in free agency put a gaping hole in the Colts' defense.

Yes, they took Purdue's Gilbert Gardner and Florida State's Kendyll Pope in the third and fourth rounds, but there is no guarantee either will be ready to start this year. Both are small, fast linebackers, the kind that have thrived in Dungy's zone coverage through the years.

The only other options are second-year players Keyon Whiteside and Cato June and Jim Nelson.

When asked who would be the starter Friday when minicamp opens, Dungy did a double-take.

"I've not thought that far ahead," he said. "Normally, we do it by the seniority system, so it would probably be Jim Nelson.

Dungy has been here before, though. In 2003, the Colts let outside linebacker Mike Peterson depart via free agency.

That's what the Colts must now wait and hope that they've gotten enough help in the draft to make a run at New England, a team that beat the Colts twice last season on the way to its second Super Bowl title in three years.

"Well, I saw the ESPN commercial and they were talking about the two-time Super Bowl MVP picked in the sixth round," Dungy said, referring to New England quarterback Tom Brady. "Obviously, you're chances of getting an impact guy are greatest when you're in the top 10 picks."

But you've got to have confidence in them.
Howell has overcome injuries

Senior has developed into one of team’s best players this year

By DAN TAPETILLO

To avoid all the possible adjectives and superlatives, it’s best just to state: He’s back.

For the past two years, senior Matt Howell had been plagued by everything from a broken thumb to several knee surgeries. The latest injury came when Howell was stricken with mononucleosis. Which forced him to miss the second half of the 2002-03 season. By this time, he had already established himself as one of Notre Dame’s top offensive weapons. Howell led the team in scoring, and at one point, led the nation in assists.

But he did not let these setbacks get the best of him.

Last week, Howell was named the Great Western Lacrosse League Player of the Week in a culmination of the success he has found this season.

He received this honor after registering eight points against Fairfield, one shy of the school record. This season, Howell is second for the Irish in scoring (177), goals (20) and assists (17). He is currently tied for 18th nationally with 1.55 assists per game and has six multiple-goal games. Howell accomplished this feat six times prior to this year. Howell’s perseverance has become an inspiration for other members of the team.

“He just keeps going out there, and it shows us how much heart he has and how much he loves the game,” All-American Pat Walsh said.

It is not by coincidence that Howell received the player of the week honor. He previously won this accolade after the 2002 week honor. He previously won this accolade after the 2002 season opener, when the Irish defeated No. 16 Penn State 10-9.

Behind Howell’s leadership, the Irish are hoping to finish strong as they travel to face No. 3 Maryland this Saturday.

Pat Walsh

Irish All-American

“Although he is not a very vocal person, he is the type of leader that shows by example,” Walsh said. “He has had two or three surgeries but does not shy away from the rough hits in the game and just keeps coming back.”

And from the way his team mates have described him, Howell seems like every coach’s dream.

“He knows that his strong points are and does everything he can really well,” Walsh said. “He coordinates things, because he knows the offense so well and can create a lot for everybody.”

Howell and the Irish have won five consecutive matches and currently stand at 7-4.

Irish closer Ryan Doherty came on in the bottom of the inning and shut down the Pirates three-up, three-down to preserve the 4-3 Irish win for his seventh save of the season. Senior Joe Thaman got the win in relief for the Irish, and Chris Niesel got a no decision in the start for Notre Dame, allowing two earned runs over six innings.

“The second game was a great win for us, because it was really a tough environment,” Mainieri said. “We got the big home run by Rizzo in the ninth inning, and Dan Kapala came in and did a tremendous job in the bottom of the ninth inning.”

In the first game against Pittsburgh Sunday, the Irish fell into an early 5-0 hole after three innings due to some shaky defense and timely Panther hitting.

“We had one bad inning defensively early in the game, and we didn’t get [startar pitcher] Jeff Samardzija much defensive support,” Mainieri said.

But the Irish bats would come alive as Notre Dame mounted a comeback with a pair of runs in the fourth on a Bransfield home run and a sacrifice fly from catcher Javi Rizzo, and the Irish sophomore came on in the bottom of the ninth inning.

In the next inning, the Irish tied the game at 9-9 on consecutive RBI doubles from first baseman Matt Edwards and Bransfield and an RBI single from Bransfield. But that would be as close as Notre Dame would get, as Seton Hall put three runs on the board in the bottom half of the inning to go up 8-5. The Irish narrowed the lead to two runs on an RBI triple from third baseman Matt Macri in the next inning, but the Irish offense couldn’t manage another comeback, falling 6-5.

Matt Macri hits a home run against Toledo April 23.

The Irish struggled this weekend, dropping three of four games.

Samarzija was touched for eight runs over four innings in the loss to fall to 2-2 on the season.

Things got worse for the Irish in the first nightcap Sunday. Notre Dame came close to a 6-3 lead into the bottom of the ninth inning on the strength of three home runs from Macri, Walsh and left fielder Craig Conley.

But the 7-foot-1 Doherty was unable to keep the Panthers at bay in their last at bat, allowing four earned runs in 1/3 of an inning on three hits, two walks and one hit-by-pitch, as the Panthers won 7-6.

Freshman Dan Kapala actually came into the game after Doherty’s troubles with the bases loaded, just one out and the game tied 6-6.

Kapala struck out P.J. Huer for the second out and went ahead 1-2 on first baseman Tom Cashman before mixing up a pitch that inside and behind the plate got by Sanchez, allowing the winning run to score.

“In the bottom of the ninth, Ryan Doherty just had one bad game,” Mainieri said. “It’s the first bad game he’s had all season. I’ve been told that it came at that time, but that’s the life of a closer. When they have the bases loaded, they’ve got to get out the next guy.”

The Irish will be back in action this weekend with a 6 p.m. game against Ball State (20-16) at Frank Eck Stadium.

Notes:

- After losing three out of four games over the weekend, the Irish have dropped in all four baseball polls. They now rank eighth in the Collegiate Baseball Magazine poll, ninth in the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association poll and 11th in both the Baseball America and SportsWeekly/ESPN Coaches poll.

- The Irish have added a game with Manchester College Thursday to their schedule in order to make up for their cancelled game with Purdue that was rained out April 20. The NCAA allows baseball teams to play a maximum 56-game schedule in the regular season.

- Backup catcher Sean Gaetano did not make the trip to Seton Hall and Pittsburgh over the weekend, as the team was sidelined with mono-nausis.

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with the team weighed down by expectation. At the beginning of the season, Notre Dame had the freedom of being an underdog released from the manacles of expectation. And the underdog can be a reckless abandon, taking chances with impunity. Mistakes are expected from an underdog. This type of freedom is what allowed the Irish to beat some high-profile opponents early in the year. Duke, James Madison and Stanford all went down because the Irish had yet to establish themselves during the season.

But there's something about a 1-0 start and a No. 2 ranking that makes other teams pay more attention. And all of a sudden, Notre Dame's opponents seem to have a little extra adrenaline rush that the Irish had not seen before. It was the same adrenaline rush that they had experienced earlier in the season against a top-10 team.

Simon has just discovered something that happens to every successful underdog — they become the favorite. And the favorite has its own set of challenges completely different from those of the underdog. The favorite must battle the storms of complacency and a lack of motivation. It's tough to compete with a fearless attitude on a tightrope of success when there is nowhere to go but down. One slip and you hit the concrete. The pressure to win is too heavy for critics who don't want to help but demand to know why the heck you slipped.

But the great teams do compete fearlessly. Look at Princeton who has won back-to-back national championships. They are the best because they have transformed their fear into swagger. It is the earnest hope of every underdog going into a big game to walk onto the field and see fear in their opponents' eyes. That is what Rutgers saw against Notre Dame. That is why the Irish committed two crucial turnovers at the end of the game allowing the Scarlet Knights to score the game-winning goal in the closing minute.

To get into the Members Only group of teams, Notre Dame must get to the point where they are the intimidators. Like Princeton, they need to show they will not back down, especially against the likes of a mediocre team like Rutgers.

But an Irish recovery could be even more difficult. Now Notre Dame's opponents know they are down and know they are afraid. The Irish stand at a critical juncture of their season. With two big games against No. 13 Syracuse followed by tenth-ranked Rutgers in the coming days, the Irish can go one of two ways. They can stand up, embrace their success, and dominate opponents as they did early in the season.

DePaul
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pitching and really hold her composure well in all her games.

DePaul performed especially well in their final two victories this weekend over Big East opponents Villanova and Rutgers. She hit .643 in those games with four RBI, five runs, two doubles and one home run.

In the Big East, DePaul's teammatesretched control of first place in the Big East from Villanova Saturday, defeating the Wildcats by scores of 4-0 and 2-0. The triumph solidified the Big East title, taking two from Rutgers on Sunday by scores of 5-0 and 4-2.

"Going to play anyone in the Big East is never easy," Gumpf said. "That's one thing that's nice about being Notre Dame, is that everyone wants to beat us. The best thing, though, is that I think we can play even better than we did last weekend. Hopefully we can really start peaking here near the end of the season.

Stongkin took home three vic­tories last week en route to improving her record to 6-0 in the Big East. In 20 innings of work, she collected 24 strikeouts and allowed just two earned runs.

She is currently first in the Big East with a 0.58 ERA and six wins.

The Irish look to continue their impressive play over the last week as they take on DePaul in a non-conference doubleheader at Ivy Field today before coming back for a 4 p.m.

This is the last non-conference matchup of the regular season for Notre Dame, who comes out of schedule with eight suc­cessive Big East games. The trip is also a homecoming for the Irish, whose previous five games have all been on the road.

"I want us to use today's games to prepare for the Big East this weekend," Gumpf said.

The Blue Demons were ranked No. 12 in the preseason Fast-Pitch Coaches Association USA Today poll but have underachieved so far this year. DePaul (20-22-1) dropped off No. 9 in the latest polls being swept by Southern Mississippi in a double­header Saturday.

Head coach Eugene Lent! has called, "They're a lot better than their record to date and are definitely more defined.

"I was so excited at approximately 2:18 when coach called," Nakazaki said. "At the leading scorer of Notre Dame's best-ever team, Nakazaki certainly deserves the accolades. However, the freshman firmly believes her personal successes, no matter how great, are secondary to the team's accomplishments.

"It feels great when I'm the No. 1 (scorer) on the team," she said. "Without my team, I wouldn't be able to go to the NCAA's."
BASEBALL

Not so friendly confines
No. 8 Irish drop three of four Big East road games over weekend

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Senior Staff Writer

Notre Dame coach Paul Mainieri said before last Friday's games with Seton Hall that the upcoming Big East weekend would be an important one, as the top five teams in the conference standings were scheduled to play each other. Unfortunately for Mainieri, it was his Irish that suffered the most in their biggest conference weekend to date. No. 8 Notre Dame (32-8, 12-5 in the Big East) lost three of four over the weekend with a split in a Friday doubleheader at Seton Hall (12-26, 6-11) 2-4 and 4-3, followed by a two-game sweep at the hands of Pittsburgh (26-10, 10-4), 6-8 and 6-7.

"I've said often that this conference is a very tough conference, and I think people sometimes snicker at me when I say that," Mainieri said. "But I'll tell you that the 25 guys on our team will say how difficult it is to win games in our conference, particularly on the road." Notre Dame also losses to the Panthers marked only the fifth time in its eight-plus years in the league that the Irish have been swept in a Big East doubleheader.

"I know Seton Hall played with an awful lot of pep and vigor, and so did Pittsburgh, and Pittsburgh has an excellent team," Mainieri said. "They were all very tough games, and unfortunately we came up on the short end in three of the four." In the opener with the Pirates Friday, Notre Dame got out to an early 2-0 lead in the top of the first on a two-run double by designated hitter Matt Bransfield. But then the Irish batters ran into a brick wall in the form of Pirate pitcher Jake Haggerty.

After allowing the two Irish runs, the Seton Hall hurler buckled down and retired the next 19 Irish batters en route to his third victory on the season as the Pirates won 4-2.

"You tip your hat to their pitcher," Mainieri said. "He pitched a tremendous ball game. We got to him in the first inning there, and then we just couldn't do anything with him after that.

"He was hitting his spots well, and the ump was giving him a pretty wide strike zone. It seemed like every one of our hitters was behind in the count, and we just couldn't get anything going." Lefty Tom Thornton took the next 19 Irish batters en route to his third victory on the season as the Pirates won 4-2.

ND SOFTBALL
Team earns honors, returns home

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Assistant Sports Editor

After taking over first place in the Big East following a 4-0 weekend, the honors continued to pour in for the Irish.

Senior Nicole dePaul, who hit .588 over five games last week, was named Big East Player of the Week for the first time in her career. Junior Steffany Stenglein was named Big East Pitcher of the Week for the third time in her career, sharing the award with Boston College's Tekae Melandris.

"They both definitely deserved it," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "Nicole was on fire this weekend, and even when she didn't get a base hit she hit the ball hard somewhere. Steffany did exactly what the team needs. She gave us strong handling we look for a return to the NCAA tournament after missing it last year. But after a 1-0 start, expecta­tions soared. The team began filling out its applica­tion for the Members Only collegiate women's lacrosse. Yet there was still one test to pass. To become a member, a team must first learn to succeed despite the proverbial target now per­manently stamped to its back. And after four subse­quent losses — some good games, some not — the Irish are still trying to cope with that bullseye.

It wasn’t always like this,

see STRUGGLES/page 22

BASKETBALL

Irish not handling role well

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Senior Staff Writer

You know, the women's lacrosse team wasn't always the favorite. There was a time, way back in, oh say February, when they didn't have the cares they have now. They were just hop­ing for a return to the NCAA tourna­ment after missing it last year.

ND WOMEN'S GOLF
Irish finally make NCAA's

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame is now doing the only thing that would make the program's histo­ry-setting season better — making it longer.

A day after winning the Big East Women's tourna­ment for the second straight year, the Irish received an at-large bid to compete in the NCAA tour­nament for the first time in the 19-year history of the program.

"I'm really excited," coach Debby King said. "I'm really happy for the team." The tournament will take place on May 6-8 at the University Golf Course of Illinois State University in Normal, Ill. It will consist of three 18-hole rounds and will be played in the five-count-four format. Twenty-one teams including some familiar foes, five of whom received an at-large bid to compete in the NCAA tour­nament for the first time in the 19-year history of the program.

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