Bush set for second inaugural celebration

Country, Notre Dame still divided

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

As President Bush begins his second term in office today, national polls as well as Notre Dame professors and students find the nation just as politically divided as it was during November’s contentious election.

A Pew Research Center poll for Jan. 8-9 cited Bush’s approval rating at 50 percent and disapproval rating as 43 percent, which political science professor David Campbell described as “historically low grades in some areas, ND ranks high in athletic categories

By KATIE PERRY
News Writer

This year, Notre Dame was one of the most-featured colleges in the Princeton Review’s “Best 357 Colleges” book listings, appearing in 10 of the 64 total categories. While much of the attention following the rankings’ release was dominated by the University’s controversial first-place ranking in the category of “Alternative lifestyles Not an Alternative,” many of its other top finishes never got a second look.

The annual rankings provide direction and information for many-college-bound high school students and their parents. To rank the schools, the Princeton Review selects what they consider to be the top schools — 357 made the cut this year — and categorizes them into top-20 lists focusing on different criteria.

According to the Princeton Review’s website, rankings are based on approximately 300 surveys administered either electronically online or via paper over a period of three years. In a pledge posted on their website, the Princeton Review vows to deliver an “unbiased and unencouraged view” of the featured universities and adds that rankings are generated from “the real experts” — current college students.

Among the University’s favorable rankings, one-third directly involved athletics. Notre Dame took top honors in the categories “Everyone Plays Intramural Sports” and “Camps, Clinics, and All-Sports Camps.”

Ceremony stands out historically

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

President Bush’s inauguration today will mark the official beginning of his second four years in office, placing him in the growing — and challenging — category of second-term presidents.

“The inauguration is a reminder that this change is part of a broad transition. It’s really important to do this,” film, television and theatre professor Susan Ohmer said.

According to Ohmer, the inauguration’s ritual and ceremony send the message that.

Despite negative rankings in some categories, Notre Dame earns high marks from the Princeton Review for athletics.

CLARE KELLEY/The Observer

Despite negative rankings in some categories, Princeton rankings not all bad

Building collapses on CJ’s Pub

Nearby demolition causes problem

By KATI ANTONACCI
Assistant News Editor

Three employees of CJ’s Pub on North Michigan Street were unharm ed Wednesday afternoon when demolition on the Gateway apartment complex next door went wrong, causing part of the six-story building to collapse onto the roof of the pub.

Though CJ’s has long been a popular restaurant and bar for Notre Dame students, only a cook, waitress and bartender were inside at the time of the collapse.

“We’d been working with a demolition company on the

see CJS/page 4

Due to demolition problems with a nearby building, part of the

see CJS/page 4

STUDENT SENATE

Members strive for African solidarity

Effort made to bring Bono to University

By AMANDA MICHAELS
Assistant News Editor

The Student Senate was focused on the “call to solidarity” with Africa at Wednesday’s meeting, as presenters urged them to support plans for an “Africa Week” and endorse a letter to Bono, lead singer of U2, requesting a U2 benefit concert.

Emily Chin, Laura Feeley and Meghan Hanzlick asked Senate to back their efforts to continue the mission of raising the awareness about

Africa started last year when a group traveled to Nigeria with “The Call to Solidarity.” They showed a video with clips from the Nigeria trip, set to a rack version of “Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” featuring Africans speaking in the importance of different cultures joining together in brotherhood.

Hanzlick then explained the purpose of Africa Week tentatively set for mid-April.

“It’d be about bringing the

see SENATE/page 6

see REVIEW/page 4
A day in the life

From the time I was five, I've known I wanted to be a teacher. I was the child who always wanted to "play school." In real time — even the moment my older brother left the house for the bus — until the second he came home, I made sure to play all the important subjects — coloring, snapping, stapling and occasionally, the alphabet. I loved playing school. And then last week, it was time for me to give up my childhood vision of school and face reality as a student teacher.

Arming myself with novels and poems, newspaper articles and movie clips, I marched into Washington High School in South Bend last Monday thinking I was ready to teach. And I am, but it takes a lot of work.

It's a little known fact that after all we left our high school classrooms, our teachers actually had to do work. And not just a little work. A lot of work.

Student teaching means planning lessons for five different periods, waiting in line to use the photocopier to make handouts, writing tests and quizzes (something I always hated) and trying to devise thought provoking lessons that will really help my students to learn something about English and about themselves.

While my friends are getting ready to take their Wednesday night nap before hitting State, I'm already in my pajamas, looking to Shakespeare's insipiration or discovering ways to entice my students into writing a research paper.

The task is daunting to say the least. I feel as though I have more pressure placed on me now than I have ever felt before — because if I make a mistake this time, I'm letting down 125 high school seniors and myself.

And as my friends sleep in late, and my presence on campus diminishes, I wonder if I'm doing the right thing. It is only true one smile from a student in the hallway, one "Hey Miss S" to let me know my heart is in the classroom with my students — although it occasionally slips away to my new life.

To say my life has changed this semester would be a vast underestimate. I'm in the classroom every day, leaving me a lot less time to be on campus and with my friends. But when a student writes something amazingly insightful in an essay question or says something so profound I wish I had thought of it, I get a feeling inside that I've yet to feel anywhere else — a feeling that says no matter how much work I have, or how little sleep I get or that if my social life becomes non-existent, it's not going to matter.

And when I walk into the classroom next Monday, I'm ready to teach for the entire day, I'm going to be more than ready.

Because when I'm teaching, I am home.

Contact Angela Saoud at saoud@IOsaintmarys.edu

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

IN BRIEF

RecSports will sponsor its 19th annual Late Night Olympics. The all-night fundraiser, starting Saturday at 6 p.m. and lasting until Sunday at 4 a.m., will benefit the St. Joseph County Special Olympics.

The Notre Dame Student Film Festival will take place tonight, Friday and Saturday. Each showing, one from 7 to 9 p.m. and one from 10 p.m. to midnight, includes 18 student features and takes place at the Browning Family Cinema of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

University of Michigan economics professor will present a lecture on "The Boomers Approach Retirement: Policies to Prepare for Growing Old in an Aging America." Friday from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

Notice Dame men's and women's track teams will host their home opener Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Loftus Sports Center.

Organist Chris Cramer will present a concert tonight from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Reyes Organ and Choral Hall of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. Free tickets are required.

The Harlem Globetrotters will play at the Joyce Center Arena Friday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the Joyce Center ticket office.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews الط.
Saint Mary’s anticipates opening of new Student Center

Building will include space for student government, campus publications, theater, new bookstore, Internet cafe

By NICOLE ZOOK
Assistant News Editor

For months, Saint Mary’s students have been wondering what exactly lies beyond the brick walls of the new Student Center. They have seen the driveway pass, brass fittings and a clock put outside, and have even been able to lift the sheet separating the dining hall and the new lobby to get a quick look at the unfinished building.

According to facilities director John DeLee, they will find out soon.

“It’s scheduled for a February completion,” DeLee said. “It should all be done by the 25th of February, and right now we’re planning to move Student Activities, etc. into over break.

The building’s three levels will hold offices, meeting rooms and conference rooms for Student Activities as well as several other student groups such as student government, the Blue Muzzle and a work area for The Observer. Space is also set aside for Campus student groups such as student Activities, etc. over break.

DeLee expects the Student Center to be well used and said students will not be disappointed when the facility finally opens after break.

"There’s not going to be any part of it students won’t like," she said.

DeLee gave it a beginning," Rosenbush said. "This is where the students have bigger events and dinners in there as well," Rosenbush said. "We’ll have an off-campus kitchen area that will be a full kitchen for their lunch."

Senior Robin Blume said she was especially pleased Saint Mary’s was aiding students who choose not to live in the dorms.

"I’m thrilled that something on this campus is for off-campus students too," she said.

The President’s Dining Room will have space for dining with about 60 visiting dignitaries and guests, a preparation area for catering, and a terrace.

"We’ll still have the west wing to have bigger events and dinners in there as well," Rosenbush said. "We’ll have an off-campus kitchen area that will be a full kitchen for their lunch."

"I thought there was a bigger need for a new academic hall before a new dining hall was built," senior Candace Schmidt said. "However, I think the student center was needed to fulfill SMC student, faculty, and staff needs."

DeLee expects the Student Center to be well used and said students will not be disappointed when the facility finally opens after break.

"There’s not going to be any part of it students won’t like," she said.

Rosenbush said the move from Haggar to the new building would help Saint Mary’s feel more like a campus.

"I think the students are going to be very excited about it," she said. "I think it’s also going to be a place that they’re going to take a lot of ownership for, because it is called ‘Student Center.’"

Rosenbush emphasized the Haggar College Center remains an important part of the College’s history, and it will still be used for various functions. However, Rosenbush also said she feels the new Student Center will become a place of union for the campus and its future students.

"Haggar is a wonderful gift of the Haggar family, and for 22 years it gave the students a spot, gave it a beginning," Rosenbush said. "This is where the students are going. I see that as a tribute to the leadership on our campus and the impact they have had on our campus."

Contact Nicole Zook at Zook8928@saintmarys.edu
"Students Pack the Stadiums," and ranked fourth among the "Jock Schools.

Richard O'Leary, director of intramurals and club sports, attributed the widespread student involvement in interhall athletics to the organizational efforts of RecSports, as well as the general enthusiasm of the student body.

"The Athletic Department has always supported the athletic interests of the entire student body," O'Leary said. "We are blessed with a student body that requires us to provide well-rounded and complete recreational offerings."

Sophomore Ryan Ritter, an active member of intramural sports from Sorin hall, agreed that both the students and opportunities provided by the University itself play crucial roles in the popularity of intercollegiate athletics at Notre Dame.

"I think it's mainly the students that fuel the popularity of our intramurals, but thankfully RecSports has given the students plenty of opportunity to do so," Ritter said.

"Our intramural program may be filling a competitive desire that has been carried over from their high school days," he said.

Ritter argued that Notre Dame can allow formerly competitive students to rediscover a sometimes overlooked outlook on sports.

"Interhall sports have done more than just fill a void," Ritter said. "I've found that they also bring back the reason most of us started playing in the first place - having fun."

The importance of dorm life also lends itself to the popularity of intramural sports at Notre Dame, as students band with their hall communities rather than self or randomly-assembled teams. Dorm pride helps to fuel competition.

Because many Notre Dame students are athletes themselves, they have a marked appreciation for intercollegiate athletics. The University's first-place ranking in the category of "Students Pack the Stadiums" shows that students enjoy playing the role of athlete as well as that of spectator.

The athletic history of many Notre Dame students allows them to recognize the importance of fan support at athletic events.

"I feel a certain responsibility and desire to do whatever I can to help our sports teams because I've played on many teams myself, and I know full well that fans play a large role in any game," freshman Kyle Meade said.

The large number of intramural athletics participants and varsity sports attendees helped Notre Dame rank among the top five "Jock Schools" in the nation.

Another category in which Notre Dame stood out from the top 10 was "Students Pray on a Regular Basis." Junior Amanda Murillo of Brebeuf Hall said Notre Dame provides ample opportunity for students themselves who drive the religious devoutness on campus.

"There are so many opportunities to become involved in religious activities, and students at Notre Dame are eager to grow in their faith," Murillo said. "They encourage each other and support one another to grow spiritually.

Numerous clubs, organizations and retreats organized through Campus Ministry and other religious programs at Notre Dame offer opportunities for personal religious reflection for the students of Notre Dame. Murillo is an active member of many of these programs, including Society of the Holy Cross — which studies the theology of the body — and Eucharistic Adoration.

"I try to be involved in things that will encourage growth in my prayer life," Murillo said.

Other categories featuring Notre Dame in the top 20 include "More to Do On Campus" and "Great Campus Food."

Contact Katie Perry at kpperry@nd.edu

"There are so many opportunities to become involved in religious activities."

Amanda Murillo junior

CJ's continued from page 1

CJ's building) and this was kind of a surprise this afternoon," said Ruth Linster, media relations manager for Memorial Hospital and Health Systems, which owned Gateway and hired Warner and Sons, Inc. of Elkhart to tear down the building.

"I had gone by about five minutes before this thing happened and everything looked like it was going smoothly," she said. "I don't know the total damage, but I understand that CJ's is not functioning right now. We're looking into it and trying to figure out what happened with that demolition crew."

Rick Medick, owner of CJ's Pub, spoke with WNDU after the incident.

"It sounded like a bomb was going off," he said. "I was just walking into the building. I missed the whole collapse by about 10 seconds."

The Observer was unable to reach Medick on Wednesday.

Following the accident, a crew began clearing the rubble and removing excess debris. The total damage will be evaluated once the cause of the collapse is determined.

Memorial Hospital released a statement Wednesday afternoon saying that they will be working with a contractor and an insurance company to investigate the accident and determine how to best restore CJ's, Linster said.

Memorial Health System was liaising with the university with the intention of putting new buildings up in the space in the future.

"It had been a hotel and apartment building years ago. Sometime in the 80s it was converted into office space," Linster said. "We've owned it for the past few years and there was just too much that needed to be done to rehab it for our uses so we'd been planning on taking it down and temporarily using it as a parking lot.

"It was bizarre because we had just had a news conference about a different building we were going to put up and we knew this was coming down at the same time, but not in the way we did," Linster said.

"I would imagine that this has an effect on students."

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

Write for news.
Call Claire at 1-5323.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Palestinians promise quick action

Gaza City, Gaza Strip — The top Palestinian security commander said Wednesday he will deploy forces on Gaza’s border with Israel to prevent rocket attacks, the first concrete step in a plan in militants since Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas took office over the weekend.

Later, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon decided to resume security talks with the Palestinians — lashing a threat to retaliate for an attack last week that killed six Israeli civilians at a Gaza checkpoint.

Security officials from the two sides were to meet later Wednesday to discuss ways of stopping Palestinian rocket fire in the northern Gaza Strip, Israeli officials said. Pain officials Wednesday to be on the lookout for any attacks.

U.N. calls for new warning system

KOBE, Japan — With multiple nations putting forward projects for a tsunami-warning system, the United Nations said Wednesday it should set up a global system and extend it globally, but the United States voiced doubts about the U.N. ability to run such a program. The Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami demonstrated with terrifying power the need for an alert system in the Indian Ocean and other parts of the world, but the outpouring of support to build one has generated a plethora of overlapping proposals.

Amid the confusion, U.N. officials at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan, called Wednesday for coordination of efforts — and insisted on their own central role in marshaling the expertise and setting up the system.

National News

FBI alerts Boston police of suspects

BOSTON — The FBI notified law enforcement officials Wednesday to be on the lookout for four Chinese nationals described as possible terror suspects who may be headed to Massachusetts later Wednesday.

Several federal cases are challenging the Defense of Marriage Act, attorneys said Wednesday’s ruling was the first by a federal judge on a direct challenge to the law.

Moodily sided with former Attorney General John Ashcroft, who argued in court filings that the government has a legitimate interest in allowing states to ban same-sex marriage, namely to encourage "stability, family traditions" for the rearing of children by both biological and adopted parents.

The Justice Department did not immediately comment on the ruling.

The plaintiffs argued that the Defense of Marriage Act was unconstitutional because it was discriminatory on the basis of sex and violated their fundamental rights.

Bush eager to start second term

WASHINGTON — In a city brimming with pageantry under the threat of security, President Bush looked ahead Wednesday to more international耷lating to forge unity in a nation divided by political differences. "I am eager," he said. "I am looking ahead." Bush declared.

In his inaugural address, Thursday, Bush will tell the country that events and common sense have led him to one conclusion: "The survival of liberty in our land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other lands. The best hope for peace in our world is in the expansion of freedom in all the world.

The White House on Wednesday night released excerpts of the Bush will give after his swearing-in at the Capitol.

The threat of terrorism prompted what authorities promised would be the lightest inaugural security ever deployed. A half-million people were expected to throng the city for the swearing-in and the traditional parade along Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol to the White House.

The thunder of fireworks on the ellipse began an inauguration-even night of pageantry and parties for Bush, his wife, Laura, Vice President Dick Cheney and his wife, Lynne. With a fresh snow blanket ground, the Bushes and Cheneys sat outdoors on a heated stage at a musical extravaganza called "A Celebration of Freedom.”

This is the cause that unites our country, and gives hope to the world, and will lead us to a future of peace," Bush told the crowd. "We have a calling from beyond the stars to stand for freedom, and America will always be faithful to that cause."

Inauguration is a time of unity for our country, the president said.
**Speech continued from page 1**

"We’re still here, we’ve overcome difficulties and we’re still here," Buick said.

But the inauguration also signaled Bush’s transition into his second term, which has proved problematic for many politicians.

Second-term presidencies, historically in the last 20 centuries, have been very disappointing and crisis-ridden," said political science professor Peri Arnold said, noting the troublesome second terms of F.D.R., Nixon, Johnson, and Reagan.

"They look like the voters who enter the second term full of hubris ... [and find] that the candidate they thought they had was not a reality," Arnold said.

The number of second-term presidents in recent years points to a tendency, Arnold said. "For the most part, these are the four most recent presidents, three have been reelected, and Americans have come to expect it," said Arnold.

If you read a second term as stability, we’ve had a remarkable continuity in the last quarter century," which could mislead people into considering two terms the norm for a presidency, Ohmer said.

"When people don’t get reelected in the future, will that become troubling to us?" she asked.

The prevalence of second terms has also allowed the media to gain influence over the public’s perception of a presidency, and that the leverage of policies and proposals can often center on comparisons between the two terms, Ohmer pointed out.

"The extent to which [the media does] that can influence how we see the second term," she said.

Even the president himself can see the nation through a different lens during his second term than he did during his first. Ohmer said a greater awareness of the office and the country comes with a second term.

"When a president has a second term, he’s walking around with an understanding of broader trends," she said. "Once a president has grown in terms of one, you have a bigger picture, a stronger sense of history.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna11@nd.edu

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**Bush continued from page 1**

"There’s nothing Bush can do—except not be Bush." Peri Arnold political science professor

A lot of people do still feel that opposition," Buick said. Though Bunick acknowledged that some members of the general public are "put off and tired" after the intensity of the election, many liberals still have energy and a desire to push for reform.

"The more we’re talking about the left and trying to spark Bono’s interest in Africa Week, the more we’re trying to want to do something about it, the more stuff hasn’t changed, it’s still going on," she said, referring to issues like funding for”

Reflecting upon the Senate’s stance, Arnold said that polarization was not based just on party, but also on Bush himself.

"George Bush is a lightning rod," he said. "Liberal Democrats see Bush as an objectionable politician, because of his style, open invocations of appeals to a measured rhetoric, a veiled appearance and religiosity, no understanding of the senatorial process, no independence, no∘

Regarding public opinion, "nothing’s changed" since the election, American Studies professor Tom Guglielmo.

"The extent to which [the figures have been]”

Regarding public opinion, "nothing’s changed" since the election, American Studies professor Tom Guglielmo.

"The extent to which [the figures have been]”

Concerning the upcoming midterm in November, many liberals still have energy and a desire to push for reform.

"But the exact opposite happened," Campbell said. "Bush signaled publicly that he considers himself to have a mandate.

"Bush is going to have a Republican Congress during his second term, it is unclear how much he will have to enact significant change. It will be possible, but difficult to sign all Republicans onto any issue. The public think his chances are less than a coin toss," Arnold said.

"I am excited to see what he wants to accomplish with the new dynamics," she said. "I wish Bush didn’t have a mandate, but he should certainly feel confident that the majority of the nation supports his leadership," said Gallagano.

"I am sure he will stand firm on his beliefs. But we’ll nominate competent judges who not only lack the experience, but understand the Constitution as it was intended to be read by our Founding Fathers," she said.

"Bush has a mandate," Buick said, "though we do have a mandate," Buick said.

"But the exact opposite happened," Campbell said. "Bush signaled publicly that he considers himself to have a mandate."
WORLD BUSINESS

Thursday, January 20, 2005

MARKET RECAP

<table>
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**Company** | **% CHANGE** | **$GAIN** | **PRICE**
---|-------------|-----------|------|
SMI Satellite (DR) | -0.43 | 5.81 |
NASDAQ 100 TR (IQQQ) | -0.65 | 38.08 |
ASTRONOMIC (ASTM) | -0.70 | 4.05 |
CISCO SYSC (CSCO) | -0.35 | 18.15 |
INTL CP (NNT) | -0.48 | 22.60 |

**Treasuries** |
3-YEAR RENEW | | 0.20 | 46.69 |
10-YEAR NOTE | | -0.19 | 48.67 |
5-YEAR NOTE | | 0.00 | 31.71 |
30-YEAR BOND | | -0.43 | 22.77 |

**Commodities** |
LIGHT CRUDE ($/bbl) | -0.62 | 47.86 |
GOLD ($/oz) | -0.20 | 433.20 |
POURABLES (soybean) | -0.55 | 93.93 |

**Exchange Rates** |
TEN | 102.8400 |
EURO | 0.7686 |
POLAND | 0.5346 |
CANADIAN | 1.2271 |

The Observer

IN BRIEF

**GM to launch new China models:** Shoppers stop in China — Boosting its lineup in an increasingly competitive market, General Motors Corp. announced Tuesday that it will launch a new series of made-in-China Chevrolet next month.

The new small and mid-size models will roll out in late February and will be sold through a network of 100 dealerships to be set up across China to sell and service the vehicles, the world's largest automaker said in a statement.

GM has invested more than $2 billion in China since 1997 in joint ventures that now make domestic brands as well as Buick sedans, Chevrolet Blazers, minivans and other models. It controls about 8 percent share of China's vehicle market.

GM China expanded its import lineup in 2004 to meet strong demand for premium and luxury vehicles. It introduced the Saab brand in May and Cadillac a month later.

**DuPont to close its Indiana plant:** A career for the DuPont Photomasks Inc., one of the world's top makers of photomasks for the computer-chip industry, Tuesday said it will cut about 100 jobs, or about 6 percent of its workforce, as it moves to close a photomask factory in Indiana in an effort to save money.

The plant, in Kokomo, Ind., is DuPont Photomasks' oldest factory. The company expects it to shut down in the quarter ending June 30.

Photomasks, a key component of semiconductor production, are etched plates of glass used by chip makers to transfer circuit patterns onto silicon wafers.

DuPont Photomasks spokesman Tom Blake said the plant was making photomasks for several customers and is becoming increasingly obsolete. Major customers such as Texas Instruments Inc. are shifting to the smaller photomask standard of 130 nanometers or less.

DuPont Photomasks, which is based in Round Rock, will be left with eight factories located in customers' semiconductor fabrication and chip-design centers.

Five of the plants will focus on manufacturing the leading-edge photomasks, and the others will concentrate on making the older products, Blake said.

**Chrysler in bankruptcy:** A report to remain positive in coming months.

"Looking ahead, managers expected conditions to remain positive in coming months," the survey noted.

"The report is dubbed the Beige Book for the Beige Book for the fact that it sent anything but dross. These indicators of an improving economy will be discussed when Fed policymakers meet for the first time this year, on Feb. 1-2.

Economic analysts are predicting that the Fed probably will boost a key short-term interest rate by one-quarter percentage point — to 2.50 percent — at that time.

The Fed report suggests that "the idea of measured tightening remains the order of the day," said Stuart Hoffman, chief economist at ACC Financial Services Group.

"The Beige Book didn't signal more concern about inflation or about the economy. That's a perfect recipe for another quarter-point rate hike," he said.

Fed policy-makers raised rates five times in 2004, with each increase by a quarter-point. It was part of a campaign that started in June to move rates from what had been an extraordinarily low level to a more normal one now that the economy has recovered from the 2001 recession and terrorist attacks.

The Fed survey said that "consumer spending increased in most districts" since its last survey released in early December. Consumer spending is important because it accounts for roughly two-thirds of all economic activity in the United States.

"Sales of luxury goods were strong in the Kansas City, Philadelphia and San Francisco districts, while retailers in the Atlanta, Chicago and Kansas City districts reported that electronics and jewelry sold well during the holiday season," the report said.

Gift cards sold briskly in some markets, although sales of automobiles were mixed, the survey noted.

"Adding to the strength in household spending was an increase in tourism in several districts," the report said.

Hotel occupancy rates were up in the Fed districts of Boston as well as San Francisco, where the number of Japanese visitors to Hawaii has returned to pre-September 11, 2001, levels, the report said.

In the New York region, "tourist activity was higher both upstate and in New York City, where Broadway theaters set a box-office record during the last week of the year." In the Atlanta district, tourism also was strong. "Central Florida theme parks were filled with capacity," the survey noted.

On the manufacturing front, factory activity generally strengthened. "Looking ahead, managers expected conditions to remain positive in coming months," the survey noted.

"Most districts reported that manufacturer expected to increase their capital spending in 2005." If that happens, that could boost up for stronger hiring in the months ahead.

**Shoppers cluster outside a Toys 'R' Us in Burlington Township, N.J., in December.**

Growing retail sales and job numbers in recent months indicate a recovering economy.

**United pilots agree on new contract:**

United Airlines and its pilots' union reached tentative agreement on a revised new contract Tuesday, 11 days after a judge dismissed the previous deal as unfair to other unions.

The pilots' union leadership endorsed the agreement and sent it to the approximately 6,400 United pilots for ratification. Balloting is to begin Thursday and run through Jan. 31.

Neither the company nor union would release details, but United said the savings were similar to those outlined in the previous deal, in which pilots had agreed to a 15 percent pay cut. The pilots planned to discuss the new contract on Wednesday.

If approved, the latest agreement will help United in its push to rewrite all its labor contracts to save costs for the second time in its 25-month bankruptcy. The Elk Grove Village, Ill.-based airline says it needs to cut wages and benefits by $725 million annually — on top of the $2.5 billion in annual reductions made in 2003 and eliminate defined-benefit pensions.

The previous contract would have provided United with $180 million in annual savings and paved the way for it to terminate the traditional pensions. Pilots agreed not to fight the pension move in exchange for additional financial considerations.

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If approved, the latest agreement will help United in its push to rewrite all its labor contracts to save costs for the second time in its 25-month bankruptcy. The Elk Grove Village, Ill.-based airline says it needs to cut wages and benefits by $725 million annually — on top of the $2.5 billion in annual reductions made in 2003 and eliminate defined-benefit pensions.

The previous contract would have provided United with $180 million in annual savings and paved the way for it to terminate the traditional pensions. Pilots agreed not to fight the pension move in exchange for additional financial considerations.

**Shoppers cluster outside a Toys 'R' Us in Burlington Township, N.J., in December.**

Growing retail sales and job numbers in recent months indicate a recovering economy.

**United pilots agree on new contract:**

United Airlines and its pilots' union reached tentative agreement on a revised new contract Tuesday, 11 days after a judge dismissed the previous deal as unfair to other unions.

The pilots' union leadership endorsed the agreement and sent it to the approximately 6,400 United pilots for ratification. Balloting is to begin Thursday and run through Jan. 31.

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If the trial judge approves the jury’s recommendation, Scott Peterson will die for the murder of his wife, Laci, and their unborn son, Conner. But don’t expect Peterson to check out too soon. The 641 juries on California’s death row wait an average of 16 years to die. Some die of old age rather than lethal injection. If the Catholic Church had its way, none of them would ever be executed.

Question: Why is the Church so protective of murderers, even of one like Peterson?

The “primary aim” of punishment is “redressing the disorder introduced by the offense.” Catechism, no. 2266. This is retribution, restoring the balance of justice. Other purposes are rehabilitation of the offender and deterrence of the offender and of others.

Pope John Paul II, in Evangelium Vitae (EV) and the Catechism, affirmed the traditional teaching that the state has authority to impose the death penalty and that retribution remains the “primary aim” of punishment. But he has developed the teaching on the use of that penalty, so that neither retribution nor any other purpose will create heaven and earth.” ST., I, II, Q. 113, art. 9.

Whether execution is such an “absolute necessity” depends on the ability of the prison system to confine this prisoner securely. That involves a prudent judgment. But John Paul’s development of the teaching on the use of the death penalty is a universal, and not a prudential, criterion. It applies everywhere and to all states. Even under this teaching, one could still argue for the death penalty in some cases, for example, if a life inmate, already in maximum security, murders another inmate; or if the state is unable to confine inmates securely.

EV and the Catechism discuss the death penalty in the context of “preventing crime,” and the “system of justice.” 2268. Is retribution, restoring the balance of justice still a valid purpose for executing prisoners and, of course, abortion. Scott Peterson could die as a result of killing the unborn Conner. But Laci could have legally killed him to solve a problem or for no reason. John Paul instead appeals “to each and every person, in the name of God, reason, providence, love and serve life, every human life!” Even the life of a guy like Scott Peterson.

Professor Emeritus Rice is on the Law School faculty. His column appears every other Thursday. He can be contacted at plauevi@nd.edu.

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

**EDITORIAL CARTOON**

Miss X, save the bowler-seat bond. www.callforpeace.org

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

“Leadership to me means duty, honor, country. It means character, and it means listening from time to time.”

George W. Bush
President
A child this was always one of my favorite times of year. Although winter was not my favorite season, I loved how the world would transform into a snowy wonderland. As a child, I remember getting excited for the winter holidays. I loved how the Christmas trees would be decorated beautifully with lights and ornaments, creating a magical atmosphere.

During winter, our family would go out to see the snow-covered landscape. We would build snowmen, have snowball fights, and ski down the snowy hills. It was a time of pure joy and wonder. I remember how we would laugh and play, and how the cold air felt refreshing on our skin.

As I grew older, my perspective on winter changed. I realized that not everyone enjoys the cold weather, and that it can be challenging for some. However, I still hold a special place in my heart for the magic of winter, and I look forward to the snowy days and the cozy evenings spent indoors.

Hats off to hats

Why a hatless America started

As a child this was always one of my favorite times of year. Although winter was not my favorite season, I loved how the world would transform into a snowy wonderland. As a child, I remember getting excited for the winter holidays. I loved how the Christmas trees would be decorated beautifully with lights and ornaments, creating a magical atmosphere.

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At this point in his career, rap veteran Nas will probably never be able to eclipse his arch-rival Jay-Z in both fame and success, but his new double album, "Street Disciple," shows he still has something left in the tank.

In 1994, Nas came out with his stunning rap debut, "Illmatic" — an instant classic that immediately catapulted him to the top of the rap game. But in the years since, Nas' stock has wavered greatly, for while he has shown flashes of brilliance over the years and is undoubtedly a very talented rapper, he has never been able to duplicate the power and skill of his debut. As a result, in many people's eyes he has always been somewhat of a disappointment in hip-hop, much like what Derrick Coleman is to the NBA. The recently released Detroit Piston was the first overall pick in the draft by the New Jersey Nets in 1990, and although he turned out to be a very good player, he never became the huge star everyone thought he would be.

Although Nas still does not have the esteemed status he once had, he has managed to revitalize his career over the past three years due to increased media attention from his feud with Jay-Z and improved material on his last two albums, "Stillmatic" and "God's Son." While both albums were far from perfect, they had their share of highlights, proving Nas could still flow with the best of them. "Street Disciple" continues this positive streak of albums, and while it is not on par with "Illmatic" by any means, it is a solid release.

Not surprisingly, like all hip-hop double-disc albums, "Street Disciple" has too much filler and lags at times, but overall the good outweighs the bad. For the most part, Nas avoids making concessions to the pop market by generally avoiding catchy pop hooks, allowing Nas to put himself to the forefront and showcase his rapping talents. Sazam Biemi, Chuck D, Thompson and E.S. handle the production with the exception of a few beats done by Nas himself, and the results, while not stunning, are diverse and refreshing.

Lyrical, Nas keeps things fresh by going all across the board, rapping about politics, sexual exploits, racism, his childhood, past musical influences and marriage, among other things. He takes shots at several people throughout the album, like Condomoelle Ice on "American Way," where he raps, "Tell [Hic] if she ever really cared about poor schools / About poor children, then she gotta prove / that she ain't just another con Uncle Tom fool." In contrast to this, he is less serious on other songs, like the catchy party jam, "Virgo," (featuring Ludacris and Doug E. Fresh) with the chorus, "Hey girl, just come and hold my hand / Won't you come and just chill with the Virgo." Nas also shows he still has plenty of fire in his rhymes too, as shown by his attacks on "Suicide Bounce." It's obvious you don't know how I react / Like, I don't know where the party's at / You're founin' at the mouth, losin' breath / Like a cardiac arrest, but I ain't impressed." Nas may never be able to match the potential he once showed 10 years ago, but he is still an excellent rapper that likely still has a few more albums left in him. "Street Disciple" would be a stronger album if it was cut down to one disc, but it is still an impressive release in and of itself. Nas may not rule the New York rap scene anymore, but he is still about as solid a rapper as they come these days.

Nouvelle Vague an exquisite mixture of genres, eras

By MATTHEW SOLARKSI
Scene Music Critic

Some concepts are born in heaven. Indeed, whatever had the brilliant idea of marrying the French chanteuse with the iconic songs of punk, new wave and goth (hence the French for "new wave"), set about recruiting France's finest artists of punk, new wave and goth (henceforth collectively referred to as simply "new wave"). And while not stunning, a re diverse and refreshing. A literal wave is of course never actually coming to a white-sanded shore to caress the airwaves. Nouvelle Vague does, however, seek to transcend and mesmerize with the songs sung in their original English.

New wave/household names are present and accounted for: The Cure, Joy Division, The Clash and Depeche Mode all experience rebirth in shimmery lounge-pop renditions. Other acts Nouvelle Vague tackles include XTC, Tuxedomoon, The Undertones, P.I.L. and The Specials. The record's crowning moment, however, would have to be its centerpiece, a cover of a song by the Dead Kennedys, 'Heroes', singer Camille attempts to fill the shapely shoes of Jello Biafra, several times nearly wraping into a fit of giggles. By the end Camille is uttering exclamations in her native French, and the whole track carries this same endearing spontaneity. Camille is in fact the belle of this ball, dressing her warm, evocative vocalizes over four of the album's 13 tracks, including a cover of the Clash's "Guns of Brixton" that in many ways rivals the original. Also exceptional is Marina Celeste's try at "A Forest," originally performed by The Cure.

One quirk in particular allows Nouvelle Vague to work its wonder: Collin and Liube, when enlisting their female fatales, took special care to match singers and songs on the basis of unfamiliarity. What results are unique and often-striking interpretations of classic songs, vaguely recognizable and yet imbued with a fresh newness. On the cover of Modern English's "I Melt With You," singer Silla transforms the famous bridge "the future is open wide" into a sort of salty come-on, slowing the words and shifting her speech rhythmically. The chanteuse Camille, once again, adds a new dimension of melancholy to "Making Plans For Nigel" by XTC, with her dynamic vocals.

Collin and Liube underscore several of the songs with ambient recordings, lending these tracks a satisfying sense of atmosphere. With Joy Division's "Love Will Tear Us Apart," they incorporate the pitter-patter of rain and the quiet cackle of children playing to compliment the song's balmy, carefree arrangement. The cover of Killing Joke's "Psychic," featuring the vocals of Sir Algy, is embellished by the eerie din of insects and other creatures of the night.

A literal wave is of course never actually new; it instead brings the same waters that have splashed the shoreline time and time again, it carves the airwaves. Nouvelle Vague has called the existing musical waters for the very best bits and carried them deftly to a white-sanded shore to caress the airwaves. Nouvelle Vague does lounge-pop renditions of famous new wave bands like The Cure, Joy Division, The Clash and Depeche Mode, other creatures of the night.

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A literal wave is of course never actually new; it instead brings the same waters that have splashed the shoreline time and time before. In much the same way, Nouvelle Vague has called the existing musical waters for the very best bits and carried them deftly to a white-sanded shore to caress the airwaves.
Willie Nelson is a country music legend, and apparently he’s "always will be." Nelson’s latest album, "It Always Will Be," is yet another solid release. "No matter how many times I’ve heard it, I still love it," he said. Nelson is known for his distinct voice, which has been described as both "pathetic but cute" and "swathes in original expression," by The Observer. Nelson’s voice has been compared to that of a woman whose nervous tic caused her to trail off at the ends of sentences, leaving Merritt guessing at the questions. Nelson’s music has been described as "inimitable," with his "deadpan voice, against a yearning melody." His music is "a winsome smile and wickedly low-key cliche." Nelson’s music is "always will be," and it is still a solid album.

**It Always Will Be**

**Willie Nelson**

*Lost Highway*

**By BECCA SAUNDERS**

*Assistant Scene Editor*

Willie Nelson is a country music legend, and apparently he’s "always will be." Nelson’s latest album, "It Always Will Be," is yet another solid release. "No matter how many times I’ve heard it, I still love it," he said. Nelson is known for his distinct voice, which has been described as both "pathetic but cute" and "swathes in original expression," by The Observer. Nelson’s voice has been compared to that of a woman whose nervous tic caused her to trail off at the ends of sentences, leaving Merritt guessing at the questions. Nelson’s music has been described as "inimitable," with his "deadpan voice, against a yearning melody." His music is "a winsome smile and wickedly low-key cliche." Nelson’s music is "always will be," and it is still a solid album.

**Stephin Merritt and his beautiful music**

**Associated Press**

Stephin Merritt usually has a song cycling through his head. Makes sense, given that he’s one of the more captivating and eccentric singer-songwriters around, heading such bands as The Magnetic Fields and creating music for movies, Chinese opera adaptations and the Lemony Snicket audio books. But Merritt doesn’t always live up to his creative output. During an interview with The Associated Press, for example, it was Peter, Paul and Mary’s "Lemon Tree." "So, you could see why I’d want to have other music playing while I write," Merritt offered, explaining his creative process with a sad little smile. "I certainly don’t want to write a song like ‘Lemon Tree’ and then have to sing it. What if it’s really good and I have to sing it for decades? What if it’s a hit, and I have to sing it every day for decades?"

Such are the perils of popular music. Others include too much time in airports and unsolicited demos from "pathetic but cute" teenagers. Having just toured Europe and North America following the spring release of the Fields’ latest album, "1," Merritt has had to confront plenty of both. The album marks the band’s first on Nonesuch, home to such pop luminaries as Joni Mitchell, Brian Wilson and Wilco. After more than a decade with Merge Records, the quartet (with Sam Dinki, Claudia Gonson and John Woo) signed on a variety of hand-played string instruments has signed a two-album deal with Warner Bros. Records.

"I think of Stephin as one of the great songwriters of his era," said David Bliober, senior vice president at Nonesuch. "He has that singular voice we’re always looking for. It was an easy marriage." The synthesizer-free "1" is the follow up to 1999’s "69 Love Songs," a three-disc set that greatly expanded the band’s non-mainstream fan base and earned near-universal adoration from critics for its variety-style blend of genres and for Merritt’s ingenious lyrics. A simple form from "I Don’t Want to Get Over You," on the first album: "I could dress in black and read Camus / smoke close cigarettes and drink vermouth / like I was 17 / that I would be a scream / but I don’t want to get you." Merritt enjoys concepts and paradoxes, and "1" combines both. All 14 songs begin with the letter "I," a silly concept that gave Merritt writing parameters and allowed him to poke fun at the ludicrous task he set himself in writing 69 songs about love. The reviews were favorable, but did not match the reception given "69 Love Songs." "I was aware that every review was going to begin. It’s no ‘69 Love Songs, but...’" Merritt said. "I was expecting a bigger backlash—I didn’t realize that the backlash was going to be against me, rather than the music.

**Musing on music**

The Fields’ new album, "1," features 14 tracks that all begin with the letter "I." Merritt has had an easy time of it. "It’s an absolute joy, running the gamut from ‘inimitating’ to ‘rude.’ Some of this Merritt blames on writers not wanting to be seen as gushing. If they attack him, he reasons, they’re free to wax rhaptdic about his music. But he also cites some singularly incompetent interviewers, such as a woman whose nervous tic caused her to trail off midway through her sentences, leaving Merritt guessing at the questions. "She would trail off literally at the ends of sentences in which she was saying something I wanted them to trail off at the ends of sentences," Merritt remembered. "She was very nice which is not subduing but engaging. It’s just delightful. It’s just delightful. It’s just possible to be funny as a kind, unimmitating, generous, intelligent interviewee under those circumstances.

On this day, battling a pernicious cold picked up on tour, Merritt was subdued but engaged. Swathed in baseball cap, puffy jacket and tummy brown scarf, he moved on topics ranging from trying not to appear original in popular music to how many times one could hang out in a hotel lobby before being thrown out. A slight man with dark, intense eyes, a winsome smile and wickedly low-key sense of humor, Merritt is not so much ungenerous as transparently weary of having to deal with the same silly questions ad nauseam task ‘Why ‘69 Love Songs?’ ‘If you really want to ruin his day.

"Stephin is not socially gregarious," bandmate Gossin said. "His voice is very low and his hearing is spotty and he doesn’t suffer fools gladly. But he’s an absolutely lovely person.”

"That’s true when it comes to apologizing to the tape recorder after a particularly loud cough or fondly remembering Fred Flinstone vitamins — but ask Merritt if he considers himself a romantic, and you’re in for it. "What do you people mean when you ask me that?" came the exasperated response after a longer-thanusual pause. “I don’t know. It’s not part of my world view.

**The challenge of popular music**

"But isn’t everywhere in his songs, for which Merritt writes all the parts. He favors singers and musicians with "pathetic but cute" voices. He peppers his songs with pyrotechnics to obscure his sophisticated bland of wit and emotion, as Merle Travis’s piano troupes and cliches to delicious effect. In "I Wish I Had an Evil Twin," he sets gloriously nasty lyrics, delivered in his deadpan voice, against a yearning melody. "My evil twin would lie and steal! And he would sink of sex appeal! All men would write / beneath his syke’s."

"In theater it’s a cliché that the post-modern song of every musical is an ‘I Wish’ song," Merritt explained. "I probably wrote with that in mind, because I was thinking of doing a musical about doublegangers, an adaptation of ‘Invasion of the Body Snatchers.”

At another point in the conversation, while discussing "Love Tree," he pointed to the "war film cliché of a quiet, irrelevant song playing during a scene of violence."

Merritt embraces such off-the-wall cliches. "Part of the advantage of being hideous is that I feel free to use cliches, rather than feeling compelled to seek out original expression," he explained. "The quandary in popular music is more about how to sound like enough other people that it is popular music... while still making something identifiably new."
NBA

Celtics, Pierce snatch Bulls win streak with 92-83 victory

James leads Cavaliers over Trail Blazers 107-101, becomes youngest NBA player in history to record a triple-double

Associated Press

BOSTON — Al Jefferson, scared to find himself on the floor in crunch time, kept his wits long enough to guide Boston to a victory over Portland.

Paul Pierce had 28 points and 11 rebounds, while Jefferson added a career-high 19 — including a pair of key baskets down the stretch — to lead the Boston Celtics past the Bulls, snapping Chicago's seven-game winning streak.

Jefferson led the charge as the Celtics pulled off a 6-deficit with a 12-2 run midway through the fourth quarter.

Jefferson was second in the first quarter since early in the third quarter. He finished with 17 points and 10 rebounds, and the Celtics had 13 points and 16 assists, including a pair of 2-pointer, as the shot clock expired, that put the Celtics up 84-77 with 5.65 left.

"I was scared, I expired, that put the Celtics up with a pair of baskets, including a floater as the shot clock expired, that put the Celtics up 84-77 with 5.65 left.

"I felt great. It's not about the statistic, it's the wins," said James, who also had four Steals.

Washington led 21 points and 11 rebounds, and the Cavaliers lost 16 as many as 29 points. Cleveland is now 2-2-1 in the midst of a six-game road trip, with 12 games remaining in games coming up Thursday night.

Scotty Pierson had 18 points, while Portland's Stoudmire had 27.

When the Blazers came with 95-87 late in the game, James hit a 3-pointer to slow Portland's momentum.

Portland was finally home after a grueling six-game, 10-day road trip, during which they managed just one win. But even the comforts of home couldn't prevent them from dropping a game.

Forwards Zach Randolph missed his fourth game with a sore right knee. Already short on perimeter players (left knee surgery) and Shareef Abdur-Rahim (right elbow surgery), the Blazers also had lockdowns on Patterson and Theo Ratliff during the game.

Ratliff, usually a center, made his first start at forward Wednesday in the game against the 113-107 overtime loss in Sacramento. Although fighting a stomach virus, he started Wednesday's game but left a short time later after getting two quick fouls and did not return.

The Blazers led 32-26 midway through the first half, but the Cavaliers took over on a 23-6 run to go up 51-38 on Sasha Pavlovic's layup.

Stokes, 107, Bobcats 105

LeBron James, 27, finally won the battle, letting the clock run down before he attempted what could have been the game-winning basket.

Only his shot didn't come close in the win, a 24-second violation was called, and Portland had to sweat out its victory over the Charlotte Bobcats.

"I didn't get the free throw," Iverson said of his final attempt. "Everybody on my team was screaming it was a foul." The Bobcats can relax.

After Iverson's miss, the Bobcats had a chance to go for the tie or the win. Jason Hart got the call, driving the ball toward the basket as time expired. His shot also missed. And just like Iverson, he thought he was fouled.

"I wanted to make the ref call something," Hart said. "So I went into the hole and got contact. But there was no call."

Instead, the game ended with the ball in Iverson's hands. The NBA's leading scorer with 28.3 points a game, Iverson scored 24 points to lead the 76ers but was held to just six points in the second half.

I'd rather play bad and we win the game then play great and we lose," he said.

But his poor second half left him to Kyle Korver, Corliss Williamson and Marc Jackson to carry the Xers.

Korver made consecutive baskets, including a 3-pointer, to give Philadelphia a 103-98 lead, and Williamson scored eight of his 14 points in the fourth quarter.

Denver's Carmelo Anthony, who scores 25 or more points in a game-high 16 rebounds, for Atlanta, which dropped its seventh straight road game and lost for only the fourth time in 17 games overall. Jason Collier added 17 points.

Miami, the NBA's best shooting team connected on 51.9 percent of its field-goal attempts. O'Neal made 11 of 20 shots and scored 25 or more points for the eighth straight game, extending his team record.

How many popes apply?

Wash girls are amazing.

Have a great half birthday Mal.

Did anyone was enjoy American at the dinner thing?
Mickelson makes 2005-06 debut at the Buick Invite

SAN DIEGO — Vijay Singh is fresh off a victory in Hawaii, and still one of the last guys to leave the range. Tiger Woods had a close call at Kapalua, and Ernie Els is kicking himself for two chances that got away.

As for Phil Mickelson? "A little rusty, as usual," Mickelson said Wednesday. He is the only PGA Tour player among the top 15 in the world who has not played this year, waiting until the Buick Invitational in his hometown to make his 2005 debut.

Mickelson has a tough act to follow in many respects. For one thing, his last competitive round was a 59 in the PGA Grand Slam of Golf in Hawaii. "That's going to be tough to do out here," Mickelson said with a sly grin, realizing that the South Course at Torrey Pines, where he plays his first round of the year on Thursday, will hold the U.S. Open in three years.

He also is coming off a magical year in which he won his first major at the Masters, was a combined five shots away from winning all four majors, and was in Sunday contention at every tournament through early May. "My expectations are certainly higher because I came so close last year," he said. "I was in contention at all four, and I had a great opportunity on the 18th hole to win them."

But there's no time to waste. Singh, Woods and Els — known these days as "The Big Three" — already are off to a great start.

"I think what makes it so exciting is that we have so many guys now that are playing well, and so many guys that are challenging to win tournaments," Mickelson said. "It makes the journey and the challenge of winning tournaments tougher, but it's more rewarding if you can accomplish it."

The strongest and deepest field of the year has all the trappings of a big tournament, unusual for this early in the season. Then again, this is the earliest the PGA Tour has come to Torrey Pines since 1962, when Bob Goalby held off a late charge by Gay Brewer.

Open House for 2005-06 School Year at the Early Childhood Development Center at Saint Mary's College

Come and see our program and meet the ECDC-SMC teachers:
Sun., Jan. 23, 2005 ...... 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 20, 2005 ...... 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Sun., March 20, 2005 ...... 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

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Friday, January 21st at 8 pm Joyce Center Fieldhouse
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Follow the Irish to the Windy City of Chicago!

Only $15 for students! Price includes transportation to game, food on the bus, and your ticket to the game!
**MEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

**AP Top 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Points</th>
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**WOMEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

**AP Top 25**

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**CCHA CONFERENCE HOCKEY STANDINGS**

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<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>12-2-1</td>
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<td>Nebraska-Omaha</td>
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**WACAR FOREST**

WACAR Forest ends free-throw record in loss

WACAR Forest’s NCAA free-throw record ended at a most inopportune time.

After getting fouled while making an off-balance 3-pointer with 4 seconds left, Taron Downey had the Demon Deacons’ first missed free throw in 51 attempts and No. 3 Wake Forest went on to lose to Florida State 91-83 in overtime Tuesday night.

Todd Gallaway scored nine straight points in overtime and finished with a career-high 21 to help Florida State snap Wake Forest’s 10-game winning streak.

“It felt good when it left my hand,” said Gallaway, the Deacons’ best free-throw shooter. “But you know, it happens like that sometimes.”

Wake Forest (13-2, 4-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) made 32 straight Saturday in a 95-82 win over North Carolina and its first 18 on Tuesday night before Downey’s miss. Wake Forest’s 50 straight free throws eclipsed the mark of 49 set in 1991 by Indiana State.

Roncalli running back plans to play at Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS — Tim Sergi, who rushed for more than 2,500 yards last year but missed most of his senior season with a knee injury, has made an oral commitment to play football at Indiana.

The 6-foot-3, 198-pound running back is the second Indiana native, announced this week, to join the Hoosiers for fall practice this season. Teammate Patrick Kuzma, a two-time All-State defensive lineman, also said he would enroll at Notre Dame.

Sergi, who was a first-team All-Stater in 2005, is a Hermitage High School junior.

Roncalli running back plans to play at Indiana

**IN BRIEF**

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Roncalli running back plans to play at Indiana

**NHL**

NHL plans to begin labor negotiations

The bid to jump-start NHL labor negotiations appears to have been a success.

Union president Trevor Linden and NHL board of directors chairman Harley Hotchkiss spoke Wednesday at Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport, and the sides are planning another meeting in an effort to save the season.

The session lasted about five hours, including several breaks so each three-man negotiating group could huddle. It was just the third time the league and its players have had face-to-face talks in the four months since the lockout was imposed Sept. 15.

“We engaged in good dialogue today and will continue our discussions in the near future,” Linden said. “We will not make any further comment at this time.”

More than half of the regular season — 462 of 1,230 games through Wednesday — has been wiped out so far, plus the All-Star game.

If Wednesday’s meeting does represent a key step forward in the negotiations, it might be worth noting who was not present: NHL commissioner Gary Bettman and union chief Bob Goodrerm.

Linden reached out to the owners and invited Hotchkiss to talk. The center for the Vancouver Canucks hoped that by holding talks without the two leaders, some of the acrimony could be removed from the negotiating process.

“We credit Trevor Linden’s initiative in requesting this session, which was informal, open and professional and which resulted in a constructive exchange of viewpoints,” Hotchkiss said.

Linden didn’t have a new proposal, and he wasn’t looking for attention. Indeed, it wasn’t until late Tuesday that word filtered out where the meeting would be.

These were the first talks since Dec. 14. That was when the sides broke three months of silence by sitting down for the second time in six days, but any optimism was lost quickly. Since then, other than rhetoric, there had been silence.

If the next round of talks doesn’t move the sides to a settlement, the season probably would be lost. That would mean the Stanley Cup would not be awarded for the first time since 1919.

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**AROUND THE NATION**

**COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES**

**Thursday, January 20, 2005**
Roethlisberger will try to beat Patriots barehanded

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Ben Roethlisberger is issuing this warning to the Patriots: The gloves are coming off for the AFC championship game.

Roethlisberger is one victory away from becoming the first rookie quarterback to take a team to the Super Bowl. But since he threw two interceptions in a playoff victory over the Jets while wearing gloves, Roethlisberger's handwear has become Pittsburgh's No. 1 topic of debate.

So a city that grew accustomed to the tough-guy Super Bowl Steelers of the 1970s, who played in bare sleeves no matter the weather, it was unsettling to watch a quarterback in gloves.

With snow showers forecast for Sunday night and the likelihood of a wet, sloppy field, Roethlisberger plans to discard the gloves. That should please many things, throw so many interceptions — during a nearly flawless performance Oct. 31 in a 34-20 Pittsburgh victory that ended New England's 21-game winning streak.

"I didn't think anybody could stop the Colts," Roethlisberger said. "Their offense is so powerful in what they do, but New England obviously finds a way. They do so many things, throw so many things at you. If they can slow down that offense, who knows what they can do to ours?"

To keep the pressure off Roethlisberger, the Steelers probably will try to pound the ball from the start with powerful backs Jerome Bettis and Duce Staley, who split time this season carrying the big loads while wearing gloves, that led to Jets kicker Doug Brien's failed game-winning field goal try to end the fourth quarter.

Roethlisberger recovered to lead a decisive scoring drive in overtime as Pittsburgh escaped with a that-was-close 20-17 victory.

Steelers coach Bill Cowher isn't necessarily treating his prized rookie with kid gloves, but he was careful to not be too critical despite the near-escape against the Jets.

"We wouldn't be sitting here today if he hadn't done some of the things that he's done, let's not lose sight of that," Cowher said. "I'm not going to overanalyze it. Certainly there were some choices he made he would like to have back, but we overcame it and we're moving on."

"If the guy's open, just throw it to him," Cowher said, passing on the advice he offered Roethlisberger. "Whatever that entails, you wear."

Roethlisberger nearly did throw an interception that was returned for a touchdown that led to Jets kicker Doug Brien's failed game-winning field goal try to end the fourth quarter.

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Ben Roethlisberger
Steelers quarterback

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With snow showers forecast for Sunday night and the likelihood of a wet, sloppy field, Roethlisberger plans to discard the gloves. That should please...
Robbins charged with attempted murder

MIAMI — Former Oakland Raiders center Barret Robbins was charged Wednesday with three counts of attempted felony murder, less than a week after being shot during a furious struggle with three police officers investigating a burglary call.

Robbins is best remembered for missing team meetings the night before the 2003 Super Bowl in San Diego. He spent Super Bowl Sunday in a hospital after being shot during a fight with Muley. He was wounded Saturday night after Miami Beach police found him inside a women’s restroom in a building housing a pub, a gym and a jewelry store. The pub owner called police after Robbins forced his way inside the building and refused to leave, a police report said.

Robbins, 31, of Englewood, Colo., growled, snarled and “was heard laughing through the attack,” the report said. According to the report, Robbins head Officer Colin Pfrogner to the floor, picked up Detective Mark Schoenfeld and slammed him into one wall and then another, then grabbed Detective Mike Muley by the face and rammed his head into a corner.

Robbins then grabbed Muley’s firearms, and Muley shot Robbins twice in the torso, the report said. The former player dropped to his knees, grabbed his chest, snarled and growled again, swore at the officers and slapped Muley’s gun out of his hand.

Robbins was critically injured and remains in a Miami hospital jail unit, Griffith said. Muley shot Robbins twice in the torso, the report said. The three counts he faces cover the three felony murder attempts, Griffith said.

A charge of attempted felony murder can be filed when someone is injured during a felony. It carries a possible 30-year prison sentence. The three counts he faces cover the three officers involved in his arrest, said Ed Griffith, spokesman for the Miami-Dade County state attorney’s office.

Arraignment was set for Feb. 9.

Robbins was critically injured and remains in a Miami hospital jail unit, Griffith said. Muley received hospital treatment for a concussion.

NFL

Robbins charged with attempted murder

Associated Press

WANTED

Resident Advisors

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE PREPARATION PROGRAM

The Northwestern University College Preparation Program is looking for resident advisors to help guide high school students through a summer of learning and fun at Northwestern. Earn salary, including room and board; work with bright, motivated high school students from around the country and abroad; plan exciting events and gain valuable experience while enjoying Northwestern campus life and exploring Chicago this summer!

Apply by February 11, 2005!

For information and to request an application, contact Shannon Sparks at 847-491-6703 or s-sparks@northwestern.edu.

Gala 2005

Greencroft Senior Center Benefit

Featuring comedian Mark Russell

Sat., March 19, 2005
6:00 p.m.
Goshen College
Music Center
Tickets are $35.
On sale at Goshen College
Welcome Center, 1700 S. and Main, Goshen
(574) 535-7566.

WANT TO WORK FOR SPORTS?
CALL 1-4543.
Kuntz continued from page 20

defensive tackle for the Irish. Kuntz had been recruited by some schools as a defensive end but Frank expects him to play on the inside of the line as well.

Kuntz said he was attracted to Notre Dame for many reasons, one being the coaching staff.

"I love all the coaches," Kuntz said. "They want nasty football players, and I'm an old-school guy. I'm the type of guy who will go in there and punch you in the face."

Kuntz, who along with Hand received a three-star rating from Scout.com, also raved about the traditions at Notre Dame.

"The tradition there is unlike anywhere else," Kuntz said. "It's such a prestigious school, not only athletically but academically. A degree from there opens up a lot of doors for you."

Frank agreed that Kuntz, who racked up 116 tackles, 14 sacks and 27 tackles for loss during his senior season at Roncalli High School, will fit nicely with Weis' aggressive style.

"He's the type of guy you can build a team around," Frank said. "He's one of those lunch pail guys that are going to work hard."

With the interior defensive line covered for 2005, Irish coaches are looking to sign at least one defensive end.

Lawrence Wilson, a defensive end from Akron, Ohio, had verbally committed to Notre Dame but uncommitted when Tyrone Willingham was fired as head coach.

"Wilson is a big-time player and he's going to take a visit to Michigan this weekend," Frank said. "He's also looking at Ohio State and Florida but Notre Dame still has a shot."

Another player on the Irish radar is Youngstown, Ohio quarterback/defensive back Kyle McGrath. Notre Dame just offered him a scholarship on Wednesday and Frank expects the two-way star to accept.

"He is taking a visit to campus this weekend," Frank said. "He has a brother [who doesn't play football] who is a junior at Notre Dame. He's really excited about his visit and I expect he'll commit to us pretty soon here."

One player who could be the jewel of the Irish class is New Jersey linbacker Brian Cushing. The Scout.com five-star player was leaning towards Southern California but lately has been reconsidering his decision.

"Now I don't think he'll go to USC," Frank said about Cushing, who made 120 tackles, 9.5 sacks and 7 interceptions his senior season at Bergen Catholic High School. "So is just too far and I don't think his parents want him to go so far from home."

Cushing is now looking at Notre Dame along with Miami, Florida, Penn State, Louisville and Virginia.

Irish receive second commitment

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame women's golf team received a commitment from Courtney Sullivan for the 2005-06 season. Sullivan hails from Gresham, Ore. and joins Lisa Manu, who committed in November, as the class of 2009 for the Irish.

The Irish are coming off a 2004 fall campaign, which included two tournament victories. Sullivan is a standout at Sam Barlow High School, where she has had a strong career at the scholastic level and on the junior golf circuit. She is the top-ranked player in the state of Oregon, and 47th nationally, in the class of 2009 according to the Junior Golf Scoreboard.

Sullivan, who has been playing competitively for over five years, possesses a 4.0 GPA and is first out of 434 students in her class.

She collected two varsity letters while playing at Sam Barlow. Sullivan has won a combined seven tournament championships locally and across the Northwest throughout her career and placed third at the 4A state high school championships in 2003. Courtney is the daughter of Lisa and Jerry Sullivan.

"We fell in love with Courtney's heart for the game," said Notre Dame head coach Debby King, who is in her fourth year at the helm of the Notre Dame program. "She has a great determination and work ethic. One of her strengths is her desire to be the best that she can be."

NCAA Football

Leinart remains confident in choice

Associated Press

Still no swelled head for the big man on USC campus.

Five days after taking what might be the biggest risk in sports history, here is the short list of things Matt Leinart still does not have:

Millions in the bank.

A new car in the driveway.

"So," he added, "I just did what was best for me."

The guys who run the NFL aren't used to hearing "No." Even though Leinart brought the Heisman Trophy back to USC and then tied the bow on a second straight national championship, you'd think the biggest man on campus would be even bigger.
continued from page 20

Boyece

deon, I look up, and we’re down by four,” Bellco coach Suzanne Beilina said. “Riley’s foul trouble definitely gave us a huge lift.”

Allison Kessler drew three fouls in the paint during the final six minutes, and she hit all eight of her free throws on the night, improving her on the MIAA-best 90 percent free-throw percentage.

In fact, Kessler leads Division III in free throw percentage among those with at least 60 attempts on the season.

Emily Creachburn was 2-for-2 from the charity stripe to give Notre Dame a 60-58 lead with 8.9 seconds remaining, but Kessler made sure Notre Dame made the free throw to seal the game.

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The Observer

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

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The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

DILBERT

TINA TRAINS HER BOSS

YOU’LL FIND ME IN THIS CHAIR, DOING REAL WORK.

Observer in your home.

Peanuts

WHEN I WAS LITTLE AND I DIDN’T FEEL WELL, MOM WAS ALWAYS THERE.

I NEVER SHOULD HAVE LEFT HOME. HOW CAN I TELL MOM NOW THAT MY STOMACH HURTS?

Charles Schulz

JUMBLE

That scrambled word game

by Harri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Horoscope

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Judge Sweeney, 23; Sharon Osbourne, 34; Wendy Messer, 36; Janet Street, 66.

Happy Birthday: You have everything under control, but that doesn’t mean you won’t stretch yourself to the limit this year! You can make it much easier on yourself by controlling how much you spend and how much you promise others.

Keep things on a small scale and you will end up with a lot more. This is a great time for you as long as you are thrifty, cautious and very precise in your dealings. Your numbers are 6, 18, 23, 30, 38, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Family problems will escalate, but if you work hard and concentrate on getting ahead financially, you can rise above some of the unfavorable gossip on your own back yard. Avoid arguments. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You should be following your own plan today, not somebody else’s. You have the ideas and the wherewithal to do whatever you set your mind to. Social events will lead to love. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take care of money matters today. You stand to make gains if you are quick to respond to an offer being made. You should fix up your living quarters so they suit your needs better. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Everything you do to help someone out will contribute to the way other people look at you. You are in a high cycle regarding love and romance, so don’t miss out by setting home alone. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do the best job possible today and you will surpass your biggest career expectations. If you let your work slip, others will definitely have you answer for your business. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Nothing should stand in your way if you are adamant about getting things done. You will be a little accident prone, so be cautious. The best news is that this is a great day for love. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The action appears to be at home, but you may want to keep a low profile. Someone is likely to be on the rampage. You need peace and quiet today to find a quiet spot.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Friends and family will bend over backwards to help you today. Love is looking good, and getting out and mingling will certainly be to your benefit. Short trips will pay off. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You’ll be all worked up and anxious to get things done. You can find the perfect outlet for your energy by pushing hard to complete tasks that will appear in monotonous ways.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can lose if you put your heart into what you do. You will be competitive and welcome any challenge that’s offered. It’s a chance to prove your value and impress someone you love. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don’t lose anyone out, or you will hear about it from someone who matters to you. Do whatever you can to please. Improve your home by adding comfort and more entertainment. ****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Love, friendship and partnership should be your concern today. Getting together with others to fight a cause will lead to an interesting connection that will influence your future. *****

Birthday Baby: You are dedicated and will always make sure that everyone around you is taken care of. You are a loyal friend, and you have strong convictions. You will never back down from anything or anyone.

Check out Eugenia’s Web site at astro advisor.com or eugenialast.com.

Crossword

ACROSS
1. Subject of this puzzle
2. James of Hollywood
3. Game in which jacks are always highest trump
4. Noodle, perhaps
5. Menu, former Italian
6. Don’t do it. Var.
7. Coffee maker’s accessory
8. With 25-, 42- and 55- Across, a definition of 1-Across, according to Dennis Miller
9. Sat down, slantly
10. Escow home cooking
11. Score just before winning a game

DOWN
1. [Crossword]
2. Donald Duck, to his nephews
3. [Crossword]
4. First line of “Meaty”
5. Make content
6. Prefix with graphic
7. City where El Greco died
8. Shakespearean title character
9. [Crossword]
10. Island, N.Y.
11. Big belt
12. Ben Adhem
13. Feature of many a bird
19. Goes on strike
21. Hacket
25. Defender of City
26. Hobbling
27. Enlighten
28. Dance with wand and music accompaniment
29. Subject of a pioneering 1965 MoMA show
30. Elusive one of children’s books
34. “See yaf”
36. Directly opposed
37. Stadium in Queens
38. Modern jargon word for complete nonsense

Crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

Horoscope溶

Answer: A round belly can be the result of too many — SQUARE MEALS

The Observer P.O. Box 779 Notre Dame, IN 46556

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Observer in your home.

Observer in your home.
ND BASKETBALL

Strong start, finish

Falls scores 19 points in 70-57 win over the Mountaineers

By PAT LEONARD
Associated Press Writer

Troy Murphy should watch his heels.
Chris Thomas had 16 points and Colin Falls led all scorers with 19 as the Irish beat West Virginia at its own game in a career point, becoming only Va. Wednesday night.

Batteast scores 19 points in 74-61 victory

By HEATHER VAN HOGARDEN
Sports Editor

After a big win against No. 24 Purdue, Notre Dame wasn't quite ready for a letdown Wednesday.

Despite a slow start, the No. 13 Irish were able to pull away for a 74-61 win over Syracuse in the Carrier Dome on Sunday.

Jacqueline Batteast had 19 points on 7-for-15 shooting for the Irish (11-3, 3-2 Big East), who snapped their two-game Big East losing streak with the win.

"I am really pleased with our offense, and I think we're improving," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "But I would just like to see us play a little better defense." 

Syracuse led in the first half by Courtney LaVere, who played 35 minutes off the bench. LaVere scored 13 points on 6-for-7 shooting, all in the first half, to spark the Irish. She even hit the one shot she took from beyond the arc.

"I thought Courtney gave us a great lift off the bench," McGraw said. "She was ready to play. She did a great job attacking. I thought that was just a great performance for her."

LaVere also pulled down 10 rebounds for her second double-double of the year.

"I think she was just a little more comfortable (without the ball) for Notre Dame."

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Belles move to fourth in MIAA with 64-63 win

By LEE HANSON
Sports Writer

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Courtney Sullivan becomes Notre Dame's second commitment for the 2005-06 season.

By HAMPTON WATERS
Associate Sports Writer

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles move to fourth in MIAA with 64-63 win

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Belles guard Bridget Boyce had a roller-coaster finale during Wednesday night's contest against MIAA foe Kalamazoo.

With the Belles trailing with 32.8 seconds left in the contest, Boyce scored five unanswered points to lead the Belles to the 64-63 win.

Saint Mary's trailed 27-26 at the half and was behind for most of the second after losing its momentum.

Belles guard Alison Kessler created a great opportunity for Saint Mary's to take the lead into the break with a steal and drive, but she was called for a charging foul with 6.7 seconds remaining in the half.

The call seemed to weigh heavily on the Belles, as the Hornets staked out a 10-point lead with a 21-12 run to begin the second. The Belles trailed by 10 with 8:45 remaining, but Hornets' center Ashley Riley accumulated her fourth foul with 6:37 remaining, giving the Belles just the break they needed to slice into the lead. "It seemed like we were down by 10 and all of a sudden..." see BOYCE/page 18