Mitros, Mcllduff win presidential election

By ANGELA SAOUD
Assistant News Editor

After days spent canvassing the dining hall, and nights spent traveling door-to-door, junior Kellye Mitros and sophomore Susan Mcllduff were named the next president and vice president of Saint Mary's student body voting, named the next president and vice president of Saint Mary's.

The presidential and vice presidential candidates include junior Dave Baron from Morrissey and sophomore Lizzie Shappell from Hesburgh, juniors Craig Grebe and Vijay Ramanan, both from Alumni, freshmen Peter Harrig and Will Marrs, both from Zahm, sophomore Mark Healy and freshman Bob Costa, both from Zahm, juniors James Leito from Siegfried and Jordan Bongiovanni from Cavanaugh and sophomore Alec White and junior Erik Powers, both from Sorin.

Procedural reforms required by the Senate amendment passed in the Senate meeting. Six tickets — up from the four that ran last year — will appear on the Feb. 7 ballot, with a wide range of ages and experience.

The presidential candidacy includes junior Lauren Siegel, Mcllduff, and sophomore Michelle Fitzgerald. The vice presidential candidacy includes junior Michelle Fitzgerald and sophomore Lauren Siegel.

Kellye Mitros & Susan Mcllduff receive 59.4 percent of the vote while juniors Michelle Fitzgerald and Lauren Siegel received 33.3 percent of the vote.

Saint Mary's Student Body President

ELECTION RESULTS

59.4%

33.3%

Kellye Mitros & Susan Mcllduff

Michelle Fitzgerald & Lauren Siegel

Professor Mary Wong Daniels teaches a new College Seminar, which replaced the old CORE program.

By KATE ANTONACCI
Assistant News Editor

One semester after Notre Dame replaced the Core class with the new one-semester College Seminar, professors and students are calling the new program a success.

This past fall, the College Seminar replaced Core, a two semester, sophomore-level course in existence for more than 25 years. Both courses have been required for Arts and Letters majors.

The University decided to make the change after complaints from professors about the course's reading material and student dissatisfaction.

Currently, the College of Arts and Letters is evaluating its success and comparing it to the old Core.

George Howard, director of the College Seminar and of the former Core program, said the Office of Institutional Research was completing a formal evaluation on the new program.

"The evaluation [they're] doing is comparing last year's Core course with this past fall's college seminar," Howard said.

However, Howard said the success of the College Seminar has already been clear.

"Core was a continual headache of faculty liking some material in the course and not liking others," Howard said. "In College Seminar, the faculty is responsible for picking.

Howard said students have also helped to provide opinions about the new seminar. The Core Congress, an advisory group composed of students, has been changed to the College Seminar Congress.

"With Core, the reaction was always mixed. That kind of reaction was true for the last several years that we had Core Congress," Howard said. "We had College Seminar Congress this fall and it was overwhelmingly positive.

Students have responded positively inside the classroom as well.

"The students responded in an extraordinary way. I felt the course was the most successful one I have ever taught, for the quality of the students' work and research, their engagement with the subject, the liveliness and intensity of class discussions, and the atmosphere we generated in the classroom," said Christian Movers, who taught a "Dante: Poetry, Arts, Politics" seminar.

Howard expects College Seminar to be with us for a number of years to come.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Just don’t say...

Students in South Bend often complain about the virtually nonexistent dating scene. As a long-time people-watcher who has seen it all, I feel I might be able to shed some light on the situation and offer some advice to those of you who just can’t seem to meet new people. There is an old universal standby that just does not seem to work in this little corner of the world, and avoiding it might just save your social life.

The pick-up line. Often used, often laughed at, it seems to be a staple of today’s social scene. Personally, I think they’re hilarious — ladies and gentlemen, do you seriously think a line like “I’m writing a telephone book; can I have your number?” will work on that gorgeous member of the opposite sex you noticed at the bar? Let me tell you now, if you don’t already know. It won’t.

Sure, they’re fun, they’re cheesy, but pick-up lines are very rarely useful in reality. In a real-life situation, this is how the pick-up line is received:

guy: I couldn’t help but notice I was staring at you.
girl: Get away from me, freak.

Well, to be fair, a polite girl might just give you a dirty look and walk away. But that’s what she is thinking. Trust me. That girl will go home with her friends and laugh at you for using such a stupid line. Save yourself the trouble, and don’t do it.

I think the problem is people see a pick-up line as an entity all its own. Too much certainty and nervous energy is placed in that one line — people think if the first line bombs, you are a failure, and if it is great you have made. This is simply bad logic.

The initial introduction between two people should be nothing more than a good start to an interesting conversation. The pick-up line should not stand alone. If you bank all your hopes on one line and do not have anything to follow it up with, you may as well not try. The initial line is the means to an end, and the desired end should be a good conversation both of you will remember the next day.

Keeping this purpose in mind, when you next get your friend to set you up with someone this weekend, try injecting your introduction with some of your funny personalitv — be it your intelligence, sense of comic timing — or simply the fact that you are really ridiculously good looking. Remember that about yourself and approach your object of desire with confidence in yourself. Just don’t start with “I’m not drunk, I’m just intoxicated by you.”

Contact Nicole Zook at zoom8928@saintmarys.edu. The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

IN BRIEF

The Office of Human Resources is hosting cholesterol screenings today as part of its WorkLife Program. The screenings are available to ND faculty and staff from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. in Grace Hall. A 12-hour fast is required.

The Marian Anderson String Quartet will perform today at 7:30 p.m. at the Deboartolo box office. The concert is free but tickets are required. Call the Debartolo box office for information. A “meet the artists” reception will follow.

The film “I (Heart) Huckabees” will be shown Friday at 7:30 p.m. and 10:15 p.m. in the Browning Family Cinema. The event is sponsored by the department of film, television and theatre.

The department of romance languages and literatures is sponsoring a showing of “Les Foueheires de Capin” tonight at 7:30 in the Philbin Studio Theatre. For tickets call the Debartolo box office.

The Bridal Expo comes to the Joyce Center Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be fashion shows at 10 a.m., noon and 3 p.m. Tickets are $3 at the door and free from many local retailers.

The men’s tennis team will face off against North Carolina Saturday at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. Matches begin at 2:00 p.m.

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

CORRECTIONS

An article in the Jan. 26 edition of The Observer incorrectly stated that University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh stepped down from the Notre Dame presidency in 1987 and that Father Uehlein delivered the principal address at that year’s commencement ceremony. Hesburgh stepped down in 1987. Derek Boh, the president of Harvard University at the time, delivered the commencement address that year. The Observer regrets these errors.

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY  TONIGHT  FRIDAY  SATURDAY  SUNDAY  MONDAY

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Late Night Olympics raises $8,659
Funds collected at event exceed last year’s total by more than $500

By KATIE PERRY
New Wins

After tallying scores and tabulating donations, organizers for this past weekend’s Late Night Olympics said the RecSports-sponsored event raised $8,659 for the St. Joseph County Special Olympics.

Funds raised exceeded last year’s total by more than $500, said Bill Reagan, assistant director of instruction, special events and family programs for RecSports. The Welsh Family-Kough team was the overall winner.

Revenue for the event was produced through a variety of means, including a Penny War, raffle, front door donation and open skate at the Joyce Center ice rink. Most proceeds, however, came from the required entry fees alone.

One dorm student team with comparable unity and organization is the MBA team. The West Quad halls proved their dynasty status by claiming the overall Late Night Olympics championship for the 4th straight year.

With a total points score of 2,514 the Keough-Welsh Family team edged the MBA team by less than 100 points. Kough-Welsh Family won more than a third of the 17 events.

Kough Hall athletic commissioner Pat Schaefer said that the team’s past successes have spurred a widespread desire to perform well at the event.

“Both hall councils [Kough and Welsh Family] emphasize that we are somewhat of a dynasty now and we want to continue that tradition,” Schaefer said. “The dorms are committed to LNO from everybody from the top down.”

However, large-scale participation was not a success enjoyed only by the event’s victors. After dropping in 2004, overall LNO participation saw an increase as this year more than 1,200 students participated.

Schaefer attributes the large number of participants to their genuine desire to partake in the event.

“I think that a lot of our success comes from the people in the dorms who participate and really want to be there,” Schaefer said. “This great attitude toward LNO helps us get a lot of good teams together.”

Aside from a few minor injuries and scheduling mishaps, the event ran well.

“I think the MBA group has set an example for dorm students as far as overall team organization,” Reagan said.

Bill Reagan
Assistant Director
RecSports

“I think the MBA group has set an example for dorm students as far as overall team organization.”

Funds collected at event exceed last year’s total by more than $500

Students flock to Winter Career Fair

By JOHN EVERETT
News Writer

Students flocked to the Joyce Center Wednesday afternoon to talk with recruiters from about 150 businesses and organizations at the annual Winter Career and Internship Fair.

Sophomore Jim Thies said he was especially impressed with the selection.

“To have a government agency like the CIA here is great, and ESPN, with the way they’ve expanded into a global company, that they’d recruit undergrads here is impressive,” Thies said.

Sophomore finance major Justine O’Hearn was also pleased with the presenters. She cited General Electric and Proctor and Gamble as companies he was interested in.

“It’s a very good fair – lots of great companies here and it’s a great chance to network,” he said.

Chris Lesley, coordinator for the event, said she was pleased with the turnout.

“The flow of students hasn’t stopped since we opened the doors. The students are all dressed professionally and they look great,” Rees said.

Big name companies attracted the largest crowds, as crowds of eager students awaited the chance to talk to a representative from ESPN, Time, Inc., the CIA and Merrill-Lynch.

Contact Writer at kjeverett@nd.edu

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Contact Writer at kjeverett@nd.edu

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**Hand**

**Humor Artists of ND**

10 PM.

Ocean’s Eleven Midnight.

**Thurday**

**Banda Rika**

**FRIDAY**

10 PM.

Salsa Nightclub.

Midnight.

**Student Back-to-Back**


10 PM.

**Nightclub**

After the Concert.

opener

Kevin Leicht

campus favorite

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**THIS WEEK AT LEGENDS**

**SATURDAY**

**Matt Wertz**


10 PM.

**Nightclub**

After the Concert.
Eleventh Annual GLB Retreat
FEBRUARY 4-5
A 24-hour retreat for questioning, bisexual, lesbian and gay students and their friends.

Sign up in 114 Co-Mo or online at campusministry.nd.edu by Jan. 31

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

QUESTIONS? EMAIL AMAGEE@ND.EDU OR DZIMLICH@ND.EDU

SPONSORED BY: CAMPUS MINISTRY
SECRETARY will get a chance to advance in the General Assembly.

Agency onsite coordinator Art Smith. The win approval in the Senate this session.

lead to a state constitutional ban on gay marriage ban to go to assembly.

nities in northern Kentucky rely on for their

its 42-7 passage in the chamber last year, proposal in about two weeks. He said he

in the area.

Oil spill threatens drinking water

Hussein. The senior AU political officer for Sudan, lean Baptiste Natama.

bombed village in South Darfur on

began to fill out.

in blood and soot, his legs and arms apparently broken.

Oil spill threatens drinking water

Caballero, Ky. — A pipeline broke and spilled an estimated 63,000 gallons of crude oil into the Kentucky River early Wednesday, creating a 10-mile slick that crews were racing to contain to keep it from contaminating drinking water.

by afternoon the oil spill had crept within five miles of the Ohio River, which several communities in northern Kentucky rely on for their water supplies, said Environmental Protection Agency onsite coordinator Art Smith. The Kentucky River is not used for drinking water in the area.

local News

Gay marriage ban to go to assembly

But he said it was a war of terror. He said it was a war of terror.

In Baghdad, the military said.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld leaves a press conference regarding the military helicopter that crashed in Iraq Wednesday killing 31 soldiers.

Iraq 37 troops die on deadliest day in Iraq

Helicopter crash and insurgent ambushes result in heavy casualties, injuries

Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq U.S. forces were crashed in a desert sandstorm in the early morning darkness Wednesday, killing the 30 Marines and one Navy sailor. Six other troops died in insurgent ambushes in the deadliest day for Americans since the Iraq war began nearly two years ago.

Only days before Iraq's crucial elections Sunday, militants set off at least eight car bombings that killed 13 people and injured 40 others, including 11 Americans. The government also carried out a string of attacks nationwide against schools that will serve as polling centers.

in Washington, President Bush called on Iraqis to defy insurgents and go to the polls despite relentless insurgent attacks. He said it was a "very discouraging" day when an U.S. death toll for the war rose above 1,400.

The CH-53E Super Stallion was carrying personnel from the 1st Marine Division on a security mission in support of the election, and went down about 1:20 a.m. near the town of Habbaniya, about 250 miles west of Baghdad, the military said.

The crash occurred during severe weather, but its cause was still under investigation, said Army Gen. John Abizaid, chief of U.S. Central Command. An Aercorweather map showed sand storms that Wednesday in the western region stretching near the Jordanian border where the crash took place.

A security and rescue team was at the site. The victims were 30 Marines and one sailor, said Lt. Gen. John Sattler, the top Marine commander in Iraq - the most American service members to die in a single incident since the March 2003 invasion of Iraq. The deadliest previous incident for U.S. troops was also a helicopter crash: a November 2004 collision of two Black Hawk helicopters that killed 17. Before Wednesday's bloodshed, the most Americans killed in one day came on the invasion's third day - March 23, 2003 - when 28 troops were killed during the U.S. military drive to take Baghdad and topple Saddam Hussein.

The U.S. military has not seen such a high loss of life in one day in 15 years - since an explosion ripped through a gun turret on the USS Iowa during a training exercise in the Caribbean in April 1989, killing 47 sailors.

Iraqi security forces and civilians have borne the brunt of violence in Iraq, with bombings often killing scores of people at a time. More than 180 people were killed on March 2, 2004, during a string of suicide attacks at Shi'ite shrines in Kirkula and Baghdad. A Shi'ite group has only increased ahead of Sunday's election, which will create a 275-member National Assembly and regional legislatures.

Moreover, Western forces have threatened to sabotage the election, and go to the polls despite insurgent attacks. "Oh people, be careful. Be careful not to be near the centers of infidelity and vice, the polling centers... Don't blame us but blame yourself, too," he said.

In addition to Wednesday's crash deaths, four Marines were killed in fighting in Iraq's Anbar province, the military said.

Rice confirmed as Secretary of State

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Condoleezza Rice won confirmation as secretary of state Wednesday despite blistering criticism from Senate Democrats who accused her of misleading statements on Iraq.

And accused her of misleading statements and said she must share the blame for mistakes and war deaths in Iraq.

the war in Iraq.

Rice's national security advis­er for four years and perhaps his closest adviser on the war and terror­ism issues that dominated his first term, becomes the first black woman to be America's top diplomat. She succeeds Colin Powell, a former Army general who crashed privately with some of the strongest hawks in Bush's inner circle.

Although Rice's nomination was never in doubt, Democrats mounted a lengthy and bitter protest that showed they would not immediately match Powell's collegial relationship with Capitol Hill.

Democratic senators denuclearized Rice's job performance and truthfulness. Most criticism focused on Rice's rule planning for war and explaining the threat posed by Saddam Hussein. Some accused her of avoiding accountability for the absence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.
Seminar continued from page 1

The Seminar of the new program to add to its success.

"With Core, we [the Core Department] determined 80 percent of the content," Howard said. "I [the College Seminar] faculty members to determine the content.

Many professors agreed that College Seminar ran similarly to Core, but was structured differently and gave them more freedom.

"College Seminar is a greater challenge, particularly because of the oral intensive nature of the course.

"College Seminar was an experiment for me — it made me consider designing a course based on oral performance," said Moews. "I decided to take the challenge, and made my seminar 100 percent based oral performance.

There are, however, certain requirements for the seminar: College Seminar professor must meet.

"It has to represent the three main areas of Arts and Humanities: humanities, social sciences, fine and performing arts," said Howard.

Though these three areas need to be balanced, they did not have to be taught by each professor, the College Seminar focuses more on an oral intensive environment.

"The College Seminar reflects the crucial role of oral and specia
tization and away from a general education and skills for citizenship, and personal identity in an increasingly shrinking world," said Howard, from the College Seminar Department.

There are currently 23 College Seminar courses offered and there were 33 full sections in the fall. College Seminar focuses on answering big questions, with topics including folk tales, the point of Arts and Letters, spiritual education and blacks in Russian literature.

The variety of topics and the emphasis on learning of absentminded program has sparked further interest in the program.

College Seminar are capped at 17 students, with a few exceptions, and focuses on oral participation.

Because of the oral-intensive nature of the class, many professors graded students based on class participation, oral presentations and oral exams.

"I did oral exams, which I felt worked better and were fairer and more accurate, than written exams," said Moews. "One aim was to help students become more articulate and polished in speaking, in thinking and in their feet. — ND students don't get much training in this in their normal coursework.

Howard added that professors have been eager to teach College Seminar courses.

"We've had no problem whatsoever getting people to teach them and this is in stark contrast to Core where we would beg and plead and we would beg and plead to get them," Howard said.

Though the fully-year long course did have advantages, the College Seminar Department is confident that shift from Core to Seminar has positive effect.

"The oral pedagogical gain in Core was that second semester is when major student empowerment occurred," said Weigert.

"Thus, the College Seminar is not a replacement for a yearlong seminar, but it is round for those students who are still in the program and want to continue in the oral intensive nature of the course.

"I think these women will be a breath of fresh," said Fitzgerald. The seminar for students in the program has sparked further interest.

"We are happy that our peers have entrusted us with these roles and look forward with great anticipation to serving the amazing women of the College Seminar," said Melfiff. Melfiff said while many students are already applying for the health and wellness commissioner spot her administration plans to create, they intend to begin planning now.

"I would like to thank all the students who kindly wel
tomed us into their residence halls. As our students were exhausted and opened our hearts to tell us why they love our College," Melfiff said. "Talking to our colleagues about their vision for the school was an experi
cence like none other."

Fitzgerald and Siegel said they are up for the, but would like College to prevail.

Fitzgerald said she and Siegel are ready to move on to bigger and better things, but was disappointed with poor student turn out.

"Only 38 percent of the students have voted so far and I don't really know if the whole student body was rep
presented," Fitzgerald said. "However, we ran a good race, and wish Kelly and Susan the best."

The buzz on campus is one of anticipation for what is going to come at the College Seminar Department.

Senior Meredith Gramann said she feels the future of Saint Mary's is in good hands. 

"I think these women will be a breath of fresh," she said. "They seem interested in the student body and I think they will do a good job as president and vice-presi
dent."

Now, Mitros and Melfiff are focusing on the future and preparing to take office.

"I hope we are able to con
tinue in the spirit of open dialogue throughout the com
ing years," Mitros said. "We look forward to leveraging our new roles and we want to thank the women of Saint Mary's for giving us this tremendous opportunity."
Wall Street silent on Social Security

Bush's new privatized proposal has investors, big firms unsure of how to act

Associated Press

NEW YORK — There's been a curious silence on Wall Street since President Bush proposed that Social Security be privatized. It might seem that securities firms would be in for a windfall under the plan — the billions of dollars that would pour into private investment accounts would be immense. Yet millions of dollars in new fees and commissions. But the big Wall Street firms haven't been publicly supportive of the idea, probably because they're not sure how profitable those accounts will be.

"The industry as a whole is going to be very quiet about this," said Greg Vallerie, who strategized at the Stanford Washington Research Group, the policy arm of Stanford Group Financial Services. "People might look at this and see some kind of sweetheart deal and that's not the case at all. The industry itself is split, and nobody wants the attention." 

The ambivalent camp includes some of Wall Street's biggest names. Morgan Stanley, Merrill Lynch & Co., and JP Morgan Chase & Co., for example. Publicly, these and other Wall Street institutions have little to say, other than to reiterate their desire for a Social Security system that pays benefits and remains financially responsible.

Private Social Security accounts are expected to look a lot like factory retirement plans or 529 college savings plans, they will be small holdings, built with minimal due diligence every now and then offering low fees for the companies that run them. And that, for the largest Wall Street firms, is the problem.

"Sources at the big companies, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that getting in on personal investment accounts isn't in their business plan. They invest on a much larger scale, handing individual accounts that at minimum have balances in the tens of thousands of dollars. "Small money" accounts like the proposed Social Security accounts require big investments in infrastructure and personnel, since investors must be able to reimburse their investments at any given time — although the vast majority of individual investors never do.

"I don't see this standing out on anybody's income statement," said Lincoln Anderson, chief investment officer at LPL Financial Services, an economic adviser in the Reagan Administration. "It doesn't seem to jump out as a high profit margin business. People put their money in and leave it in, so there's not a lot of big activity that goes along with these accounts. And that means little or no fees."

The firms most interested in privatization, then, will be those who already specialize in managing small money, such as Fidelity Investments, State Street Global Advisors or The Vanguard Group. The top three 401(k) companies in terms of assets under management. They already made the investment in the infrastructure and have experience in managing small individual accounts.

Even then, profits are likely to remain small.

"Is anyone going to make a lot of money on this por se? The answer is probably no," Vallerie said. "These accounts would be expensive to manage, so they would charge a couple dollars to manage a $50,000 account."

Congress would make sure nobody made a nickel.

Demonstrators protest privatizing Social Security outside the offices of Charles Schwab in San Francisco, Wednesday. Mixed reaction to Bush's proposal has caused reluctance amongst the big Wall Street firms.

Hip hop label's founder arrested

Associated Press

NEW YORK — In an industry built on tough talk, the hip-hop label Murder Inc. made hundreds of millions of dollars as it blurred the line between the studio and the street.

Founder Irv "Gotti" Lorenzo named his company a crime syndicate. He borrowed his nickname from a Mafia don. And the impresario behind platinum-selling superstars Ja Rule and Ashanti made no secret of his friendship with the gangsters of New York's most notorious drug lords.

Prosecutors charged Wednesday that the criminal image was all too real. Gotti was led from the FBI's Manhattan office in handcuffs as he was charged with laundering more than $1 million in drug profits from Kenneth "Supreme" McGriff's multi-state crack and heroin operation.

"They don't call it gangster rap for nothing," said Frederick Snellings, special agent-in-charge of the FBI's New York criminal division. "It's pretty clear that the image isn't accidental."

McGriff, already in prison on a gun violation, was charged in the indictment. Ja Rule's "O.P.P.," which debuted atop the box office list two weeks ago.

The company, owned partly by Def Jam, a subsidiary of Universal Music, has made about $20 million since it was founded in 1997, according to the back office list charges would be considerable. And if this actually happened, Congress would make sure nobody made a nickel.
Cheney supports Ukraine

*Bush to Iran: stay out of Iraq*

Associated Press

Thursday, January 27, 2005

**ISRAEL**

**Israelis, Palestinians resume contact**

The two countries diplomatically converged after a two-week freeze

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**POLAND**

Cheney supports Ukraine

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**LEBANON**

Bush to Iran: stay out of Iraq

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**RAW TEXT**

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**THE OBSERVER • INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

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**POLAND**

Cheney supports Ukraine

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**LEBANON**

Bush to Iran: stay out of Iraq
Bush asks for Americans' patience

The President pleads for Iraqis to defy terrorism, vote in election

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush pleaded for Americans' patience Wednesday on what he conceded was "a very discouraging day" of death and violence for U.S. troops in Iraq. He urged Iraqis to defy terrorist threats and vote in Sunday's elections.

Bush held a White House news conference hours after more than 30 American troops perished in a helicopter crash in western Iraq and insurgents killed five others in the dead­

ly day yet for U.S. forces. The deaths pushed the American toll above 3,400.

Unanswering in the course he has set, Bush pledged: "We'll have the troop levels necessary to complete the mission. And that mission is to defend herself from terrorists — homegrown or terrorists that come in from outside of the country." He made clear that Iraq is nowhere near ready to handle its own securi­

ty, and he talked about U.S. involvement over the next year.

Four days before Iraq's elec­
tions and a week before his own State of the Union address, the president grap­

ed with pointed questions about the war's heavy price and growing doubts that a sta­

ble, democratic Iraq will ever evolve.

"The enemy would like noth­
more than the United States to precipitously pull out and withdraw before the Iraqis are prepared to defend them­

selves." It was the 18th full­blown news conference of Bush's presidency and the first of his second term, covering issues ranging from Social Security to questions raised by his busi­

ness address. Bush made these points:

■ He recognizes that some people are worried about the political risks and financial costs of overhauling Social Security by creating private investment accounts, a step that could cost $1 trillion to $2 trillion in transition costs. "What you're hearing a little bit is whether or not it is worth the political price. I think it is," he said. He pledged to lead a battle in Congress and travel across the country to convince Americans the system is in trouble.

■ He's an early address prom­

ising to spread freedom and end tyranny around the world was not intended as a state­

ment of new policy but rather a reflection of the strategy he pursued in his first term. Even some of his supporters have been nervous that it signaled plans for global U.S. interven­

tion. Bush said he will be direct with Russia's Vladimir Putin when they meet next month in Slovakia. "I will remind him that if he intends to continue to look West, we in the West believe in Western values," Bush said.

■ The Education Department was wrong to pay conservative commentator Armstrong Williams $240,000 to plug its policies. "I expect my Cabinet secretaries to make sure that that practice doesn't go for­

ward," the president said.

The bushed in Iraq and Sunday's elections framed much of the questions of Bush's news conference.

He said he lacked details about the helicopter crash in Iraq's western desert. "The story today is going to be very discouraging to the American people," Bush said. "I understand that this is the long­
term objective that is vital, and that is to spread freedom." Bush said he has raised the issue, but "there are no answers yet. It's not working near as well as I would like because the insurgents..." and others met for dinner.

Associated Press

NORRISTOWN, Pa. — A prose­
cut investigator founding allega­
tion against Bill Cosby said Wed­
day that the accuser's yearning delay was coming for­
ward, and their contact in the past year, weighed in the comedi­

an's favor.

Authorities interviewed Cosby on Wednesday and expect to know in two weeks whether they will bring charges in response to the allegation that he fondled the woman in his suburban Philadelphia home, Bruce L. Castor Jr., the Montgomery County district attorney, said at a news conference.

"I think that factors such as failure to disclose in a timely manner and contacts with the alleged perpetra­

tor after the event are factors that weigh toward Mr. Cosby," Castor said.

The woman went to Canadian authorities Jan. 13, contending that Cosby had given her some medication and later fondled her in his Cheltenham Township mansion a year earlier, after they met for dinner.

The woman's attorney, Dolores M. Troiani, issued a strongly worded statement Wednesday defending the reporting delay and saying: "Our client is the vic­

tim. Our client speak to the A P. It is the R. Warner because she wanted to do it," she said.

Troiani said she thought Cosby was "looking for a little publicity" and that the woman still blaming the victim." He said she lacked details about the helicopter crash in Iraq's western desert. "The story today is going to be very discouraging to the American people," Bush said. "I understand that this is the long­
term objective that is vital, and that is to spread freedom." Bush said he has raised the issue, but "there are no answers yet. It's not working near as well as I would like because the insurgents..." and others met for dinner.

Associated Press

Cosby, 67, is a Temple alumnus who meets campus events. The woman said the Philadelphia Inquirer for a story Wednesday that she came for­

ward because she wanted to do the right thing.

"What would you do? I did what I thought was right," she was quoted as saying from her home in Ontario.

Troiani said she thought Cosby and the woman had seen each other one last time in the inter­

weighing year, and that Cosby had met her parents in Canada.

Troiani said Cosby said the woman met her parents in Canada and saying: "Our client is the vic­

ting our case a mistake or doing something foolish," Castor said.

The district attorney added that Cosby and his attorney, Walter M. Phillips Jr., "have been fully cooperative without delay or hesitation.

Phillips said he and Cosby met with Pennsylvania investigators for about 90 minutes. The meet­

took place outside the state, but he declined to say where.

"I feel hopeful, even optimistic, that no criminal charges will be filed," Phillips said.

The woman, a former basketball standout at the University of Arizona, worked at Temple University and in Philadelphia for several years before returning to her native Canada to attend mas­

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age school.

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Oh, it was a fine, fine day on South Quad. A day perfect for leisurely strolling or making daisy-chains. But alas, there were papers to turn in. What to do, what to do?
The Bellateria char­
ter was packed to the
gills. The building
manager of O' Shag
still stood silently stu­
p­ped, wondering
where his computer
lounge had gone. Yes,
for young Bob, the world
had turned upside
down. He felt further and further
away from WebLife by the
minute.
Dear reader, this is all very true and
all very, very remarkable, as you’ ll soon
see. While pondering how to print my
semester-ending research paper last
month, I stood outside of Bond Hall and
watched as an "archie" ran by. With his
deep-depressed eyes twitching and North
Face jacket twirling, I heard the archie
say to himself "the blueprints are late!
The blueprints are late!"
Thinking he was on to something, I,
the good English major, followed him
down the architecture hole. It was to
find out, of course, that this "hole" was
actually the side door to Bond I.
"Kind archie, please, could you direct
me to a computer lab?" I politely
im­
pled. But no sooner did I speak the
words, than did the archie disappear.
To be more precise, it was rather
more of a decreasing than a disappear­
ing. To my astonishment, I had grown
10 times as tall as I had been on South
Quad. As I gazed around the increas­
ingly smaller room, I happened upon a
peculiar bottle. It was a Mountain Dew
Code Red with a now reading "Drink Me"
attracted. I quickly imbibed this
favorite drink of the architecture stu­
dent and returned to a normal height.
Suddenly, coming into focus before me
was a door. Being the perfect height
now to enter, I snuck in. As I walked out
into the next curious world, I saw two
men standing with their arms around
each other’s neck. I read the name tags
on their Adidas warm-up jackets to dis­
cover that they were brothers, Tweedle­
Ty and Tweedle-Davie. What in the
world were they doing here?
"South quad isn't any fun!," said
Tweedle-Davie. "All people want to talk
about are Bowl games."
"supposedly," added Tweedle-Ty.
"Please don’t tell anyone we’re here. If
you keep our secret, we’ll turn your
paper in for you." I couldn’t hear to stay with them. Just
then, out of the corner of my eye, I saw
a most remarkable apparition. It was a
big, body-less sprite and I passed to
hear it laugh. As I listened, its body
came into focus. It was the
Chesire Accountant.
"Find a job yet, artsy?" The
Chesire Accountant asked.
"I’ve been offered a consultant position
with a leading investment
firm. And you?"
I certainly didn’t feel
the need to chat with
this ever-so-annoying
creature. Luckily for
me, it faded away as
quickly as it had
appeared, but not before suggesting I con­tinue my
adventure in architecture
land by visiting the Mad
Dissertater.
Taking a break from footnoting his
der­sition, I found the Mad
Dissertater drinking tea with
the Hookah Smoking Graduate Student.
Noticing me noticing them, the pair
spoke at once.
"You, boy, quickly. Compare Plato with
Heidegger."
"I can’t. I answered.
"No, not Kant!" The Graduate Student
belled, the hookah falling from his
mouthed. The Mad Dissertater
didn’t move his eyes from his research.
He merely offered a smirky chuckle
and went back to the Penguin Classic Edition
he was highlighting. I saw their atten­
tion turn. The tiny radio on their tea
service was tuned to NPR and a brand
new "Talk of the Nation" was about to
air. I took the opportunity to scurry
away but not before I began to lose
all hope of ever printing out my paper.
It got curiouser and curiouser from
there. I chanced to come upon my
perfect printing hole, the Bond Hall cluster.
But, as my luck would have it, the
ResLife Queen had converted it into a
human chess board.
I heard cruel cries of "off with his
head! Twenty hours of service!" I made
it to the print release station but
pawns and rooks quickly sur­
ronded me, their accusing
eyes discovering I was not
an architecture student. I was
a stranger to a strange, strange
land. But wait. What was
that I had in my pockets? Yes, it was everyone’s
carriable drinking hel­
test, a spacy sea nugget. I took a nible
and I grew even larger
than before.
With my tiny paper
pouring off the printer and
into my hands, I burst
through the ceiling and
escaped to the safety of
O’bagg, far, far away from archi­
tecture land.
Before I left, I glanced back into that
strange world. There, Tweedle-Twy.
He was looking a flight to Seattle.
Curious indeed.
Bob Masters is a senior English major. He can be reached at amaster@nd.edu.
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those
of The Observer.
Reclaiming the debate

It's almost February, month of that venerable Notre Dame tradition, the annual debate over The Vagina Monologues. For the benefit of the freshmen here is how it works. On Feb. 14 if most of the letters published on the Viewpoint page denounce the Monologues then there will be six more weeks of winter, whereas if the majority of letters defend the play there will still be six more weeks of winter because, well, that's just how things are in Northern Indiana.

According to protocol, the first barrage of letters will alternate between spherical cri ses that the play is offensive to men, demeaning to women, and a direct attack on Notre Dame's Catholic heritage on the one hand, and a series of high-minded claims that it is a celebration of women's voices on the other. The latter are often accompanied by the unmistakable suggestion that anyone who doubts this is probably repressed, with hang-ups about women's bodies, and possibly women's suffrage.

Next someone will write in to point out that Mary had a vagina, which in the reader's view is a point well made. Finally the case for the defense will settle into two lines of argument; the Experience Alibi and the Dialogue Gambit.

The Experience Alibi is the suggestion that since the play is based upon interviews with real women, criticism of the play is tantamount to an attack on those women. As a previous director of the play wrote in these pages, "To condemn this collection of stories is to condemn these women and the truth of their lives."

Let's bring the rhetoric back down to Earth. Eve Ensler's Monologues is a show about vaginas. It's a show about women — all sorts of women — and the truth of their lives.

The other argument which recurs with liturgical regularity is the Dialogue Gambit. Each year, after the first few letters have been penned, the first barrage of the play will proceed to The Observer and courtesy thank by name the authors of some of the angry letters for las Lindsey Horvath put it two years ago "continuing a dialogue that increases awareness in order to stop the violence."

It is essential to make a distinction between the women who wish to stop violence and those who simply wish to talk about vaginas. The former are tireless in their efforts to make the world a better place, whereas the latter use the platform of the Monologues to sensationalize the violence that occurs on a daily basis. Some women wish to use the Monologues as a tool to educate the public about the experiences of women around the world, while others use it as a means to promote their own agenda.

The effect of the Monologues is to create a dialogue that is often unproductive and ultimately futile. It is important to remember that the Monologues are not a solution to the problem of violence against women, but rather a means to raise awareness about the issue. It is crucial to focus on the real issues at hand and work towards creating a world where women are free from violence and discrimination.
Dylan’s ‘Tracks’ is a timeless classic

By JULIE BENDER
Scene Music Critic

“Blood on the Tracks” is often considered one of Dylan’s best, along side “Bringing It All Back Home,” “Highway 61 Revisited” and “Blonde on Blonde.”

Folk strumming, and later electric guitars, had characterized his earlier albums of the sixties generation, describing their world with its words. Through this, he had managed to keep his own world intensely private, maintaining a barrier between himself and the public.

When “Blood on the Tracks” hit the shelves in January of 1975, this barrier began to crumble — only for a moment. Each song contains a story and created immortal characters that amble in memory long after musical strings die out. Who can forget “the old man with broken teeth stranded without love” or the “lack of Heart.”

The most unforgettable character, however, is Dylan himself. Unlike his earlier albums, when Dylan sings “I” on “Blood on the Tracks,” there is the sense that he truly is singing about himself. There is an irresistible vulnerability in songs like “Simple Twist of Fate.”

By MATTHEW SOLARKSI
Scene Music Critic

“Thank You Good Night Sold Out” seeks to encapsulate The Dears’ off-gushed-about live show, currently approaching legendary status in its native Canada, on one tiny piece of iridescent plastic. And shine it does!

On this fabulous record, listeners are treated to classic and soon-to-be-classic Dears songs, eight in all, comprising nearly 70 continuous minutes of music and melodrama. This is hardly your standard, affected “All My Children” melodrama, however — it is Eugene O’Neill at his dramatic best: epic, sprawling, tortured and tortured.

Massive guitars courtesy of Martin Pollend and Patrick Krief clash and conspire with keyboard and synthesizer strings, provided by the sextet’s electric-violin slide, Valerie Jadein-Kean and Natalia Yanchak. Drummer George Donoso III keeps superb pace with the many moods of The Dears, lending a practiced sense of rhythm to the brooding build-ups to the apocalyptic crash-downs that characterize the typical Dears track.

Frontman and principal songwriter Murray Lightburn rises above all the drama, chaos and occasional bombast of gnarled guitars and cinematic synth strings with his unmistakable, effervescent croon. As a self-possessed acolyte of Morrissey, the influence of the former Smiths singer on Lightburn can be heard in nearly every line. Dylan sings about his own life, but his struggles unmistakably mirror the universal effort to cope with existence: “the one-eyed undertaker, he blows a futile horn. ‘Come in,’ he said, ‘I’ll give you shelter from the storm.’”

From the wandering tale of break up to “Dr. Bash and Up in Blue,” the pleading “You’re a Big Girl Now,” Dylan covers it all. He touches on the sweetness of new love in “You’re Gonna Make Me Lonesome When You Go,” and meets with the blues in “Meet Me in the Morning.”

Leaving no emotion unchecked, “Blood on the Tracks” is both personal and universal. It remains, in the opinion of many, Dylan’s masterpiece, along side “Bringing It All Back Home,” “Highway 61 Revisited” and “Blonde on Blonde.”

The only way to do the album justice is to put it on and let the songs speak for themselves, even 30 years after they were written.

Contact Julie Bender at jbender@nd.edu

“Thank You” opens slowly, with the tense, almost foreboding instrumental introduction of “Autonomy,” Murray’s vocals do not rise to the fore until nearly four minutes into the track, which broods and boils until unleashing what the opening chords portend: a relentless guitar-driven assault, punctuating Lightburn’s excited laments.

Following this ten-minute epic (and after some lusty in the crowd vocalises his profound love for The Dears) is the significantly sunnier “C’était Pour la Passion,” a track from the first Dears record whose widespread success and seduce the ever-skittish boi polloi, for now, “Thank You” stands as a perfect testament to an act that may some day prove legendary. Even beyond this, the Dears still have a few kinks to work out before they can achieve widespread success and seduce the ever-skittish boi polloi, for now, “Thank You” stands as a perfect testament to an act that may some day prove legendary. Even beyond
The fur is still flying over Halle Berry's action flop "Catwoman." The self-important actress, who was one of the worst performers in the worst picture, was blasted by the critics for the heroine of the year award.

"Catwoman" led all films with six Razzie nominations, including worst picture. Wilson said that while "Fahrenheit 9/11" was a good film, and supporter for the network. The network ordered the scene cut out, reasoning that "we don't need that," said CBS Chairman Leslie Moonves.

CBS is refusing to pay the FCC's $550,000 fine imposed last fall for Jackson's famed wardrobe malfunction. "What we're saying to our producers is, 'Guys, let's not be stupid about this,'" Mooyes said. "Clearly, there's a change in how the FCC is looking at us. We're not changing our content. But by the same token, we have to be aware of what the world is out there.'"

A PBS executive said last weekend that the network is altering a scene in the upcoming movie "Dirty War," which is being shown on the Public Broadcasting Service next month after a run on HBO, that shows a naked woman being scratched down after a fictional chemical attack. An outcome will be shown that the woman at a nude exercise.

"We don't want to be irresponsible and it is difficult," Fox's Berman said. "But as a regulatory body, the FCC responds to complaints and individual circumstances, said Gene Kimmolman, director of public policy for Consumers Union and a close monitor of the federal agency."

"The FCC can't bail them out" Asking the FCC for guidelines is like asking a court, before a crime is committed, whether it would be murder or manslaughter, he said.

"The FCC can't bail them out,'" he said. "They're not going to give them a wink and a nod as to what programing is acceptable."
Maryland crushes Marquette; College Board edges Providence; Northwestern upends Iowa with buzzer beater
**NBA**

**Jackson rejoins team after 30-game suspension**

Associated Press

**BOSTON** — Stephen Jackson is still trying to control his emotions.

"Today is a great day for me," the Indiana Pacers forward said Wednesday night before returning from a 30-game suspension to play the Boston Celtics. "This is up there with my championship moment." Jackson, who won an NBA title with San Antonio in 2003, has not played since a Nov. 19 brawl in Auburn Hills, Mich., that was one of the most violent fights ever between players and U.S. sports fans. Jackson went to the aid of teammate Ron Artest, who went into the stands to fight with Detroit fans after getting hit in the face with a cup. But instead of pulling Artest out of the fight, Jackson went in swinging wildly.

Commissioner David Stern suspended Artest for the rest of the season, Jackson for 30 games and Jermaine O'Neal for 15, a penalty that was reduced by an arbitrator to 15.

"I think we've learned from it, and I think guys from both teams and everyone else have learned from it," Pacers guard Michael Correy said. "Hopefully, that never occurs again. But we've put closure on it, and now it's a matter of getting guys back on the court and finding a rhythm again." Pacers coach Rick Carlisle said before Wednesday night's game that he would monitor Jackson early on to make sure he wasn't winded. Jackson was in the starting lineup against the Celtics.

"It has been a long time for him. I'm excited for him to have the opportunity to rejoin us," Carlisle said. "On the other hand, I know it's going to be kind of emotional for him. I know that when you go a long period of time without playing, there can be an adjustment period." Jackson said he's learned his lesson.

"I have to show people there's more to Stephen Jackson than what they see on TV," he said. "It just feels like a lot of pressure off my shoulders." Jackson said he couldn't sleep Tuesday night because he was thinking about returning to the court. He stayed up late watching sports highlights on television, like he usually does.

"But now I'm watching, knowing I'm going to the game," he said. "I have to show people there's more to Stephen Jackson than what they see on TV," he said. "It just feels like a lot of pressure off my shoulders." Jackson said he couldn't sleep Tuesday night because he was thinking about returning to the court. He stayed up late watching sports highlights on television, like he usually does.

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Super Bowl XXXIX

Eagles and Patriots present tight matchups

Key position battles exist between Super Bowl opponents

Associated Press

How the New England Patriots (16-2) and the Philadelphia Eagles (15-3) match up in the Super Bowl:

When the Patriots have the ball:

Unlike in their previous two Super Bowl wins this decade, the Patriots have a stud running back, Corey Dillon. Although the Eagles easily handled Atlanta's top-ranked rushing attack in the NFC title game, they'll be hard-pressed to hold Dillon in check because of what quarterback Tom Brady can do as a complement.

Not that Brady, the MVP of the last two Super Bowls and 4-0 in the postseason, can be considered anything but a star. But New England will seek to minimize Philadelphia's superb secondary by regularly shaking Dillon at the defense. If Dillon forces All-Pro safety Brian Dawkins and the other defensive backs to crowd the line, then Brady will turn to the deep, receiving corps in the league: Troy Brown, Deion Branch, David Givens, David Patten and speedster Bethel Johnson.

Philadephia has played the Patriots yet. Donovan McNabb has matured into one of the league's best quarterbacks and leaders. He's fait the Eagles with some bad decisions in big games in the past, but this isn't that kind of game. McNabb has been dynamic in every facet.

Now, though, he faces the mysteries of the New England defense, where anyone can pop up anywhere at any time. Just ask Peyton Manning and Ben Roethlisberger.

While All-Pro defensive tackle Richard Seymour might be a factor, he's hardly been missed. Linebackers Tedy Bruschi, Ted Johnson, Mike Vrabel and Rosevelt Colvin, linemen Willie McGinest and Ty Warren, and safeties Rodney Harrison and Eugene Wilson head the big-play defense that has more looks than even a veteran like McNabb can imagine.

Unlike against NFC opponents, running back Brian Westbrook will not be a matchup problem as a receiver. He should, however, find some running room behind offensive tackle Tom Thoma and center Hank Fraley.

Philadelphia's ordinary group of supporting receivers for T.O. has played well in the postseason, particularly Freddie Mitchell and the emerging Greg Lewis, a deep threat. The loss of TE Chad Lewis will hurt, meaning second-year player L.J. Smith must step in.

Special teams:

The biggest edge is at place-kicker, but only because Adam Vinatieri has made so many pressure-packed kicks, including two to win Super Bowls. His range is not much longer than even a veteran like Vinatieri, but All-Pro Vinatieri simply doesn't miss important kicks.

New England's Josh Miller and Phil's Dirk Johnson (8) are middle-of-the-road punters. The Eagles did not score on a punt returnback, nor did they allow a punt return TD.

Their coverage teams are excellent and held Atlanta's dangerous Allen Rossum in check in the conference championship game. New England has had some problems with punt coverage.

Bethel Johnson had the Patriots' only kickoff return for a score; the Eagles had none.

Intangibles:

Philadelphia has been trying so hard to get here. Now that the Eagles are in the Super Bowl, will they be satisfied with the trip, or will they be loose and confident and play their best football?

Andy Reid has turned around this franchise and the Eagles have been the NFC's best in this decade — until late January, at least. They are over that hump because Reid never panicked, never wavered from his approach. Players appreciate and respond to that.

An Eagles victory would be their first in a Super Bowl and Philly's first NFL title since 1960. New England has a slightly different resume.

The Patriots seek their third Super Bowl championship in four years, something only the Dallas of the early 1990s managed. Such a feat would mean up with the greatest in sports because of the difficulty of keeping a roster together in the current NFL.

Bill Belichick is a mastermind, and even with a string of injuries to his defense, he's never backed off. The subs simply come in and play well, as he expects.

Belichick is losing offensive coordinator Charlie Weis to Notre Dame and probably will see defensive coordinator Romeo Crennel get the head coaching job in Cleveland, where Belichick himself once was head man. Will the Patriots give him a championship sendoff?

Philadelphia Eagles linebacker Jeremiah Trotter celebrates a stop during a playoff victory over the Minnesota Vikings.

Eagles (15-3) match up in the NFC title game. New England will seek to minimize Philadelphia's superb secondary by regularly shaking Dillon at the defense. If Dillon forces All-Pro safety Brian Dawkins and the other defensive backs to crowd the line, then Brady will turn to the deep, receiving corps in the league: Troy Brown, Deion Branch, David Givens, David Patten and speedster Bethel Johnson.

New England Patriots' Ty Warren, left, and Mike Vrabel react during a regular season game against the Cincinnati Bengals.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY SERIES
ON PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

The Wolper Organization (winner of 2 Oscars, 50 Emmys, 5 Peabodys, 7 Golden Globes) is producing a thirteen-part television documentary series on the challenging choices a young man faces in becoming a Catholic priest.

If you are seriously trying to decide whether to become a priest—and you are willing to share this important decision-making process in a television documentary—please contact Neal Konstantin immediately at:

nealkosta@hotmail.com

818.667.4500

Those selected to participate in this series will receive a fee/donation for sharing their vocational journey.
NFL

Owens wants to return despite doctor's orders

Eagles trainer says receiver plans to play in Super Bowl

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Terrell Owens is treating his doctor's orders the way he deals with pesky cornerbacks: slugging them off and forging ahead.

Philadelphia Eagles head trainer Rick Burkholder said Wednesday that Owens started jogging and plans to continue rehabbing his injured ankle in an attempt to play in the Super Bowl.

Dr. Mark Myerson, the surgeon who operated on the All-Pro receiver in December, said Tuesday he would not clear Owens to suit up against the New England Patriots on Feb. 6.

"We understand Dr. Myerson's point of view. It's just that our risk-reward is different than his risk-reward," Burkholder said. "He has great risk in clearing Terrell to play and no reward. We think there's some risk and we think there's great reward, so right now we're going to progress with his rehab.

The final decision on Owens' status will come down to the player, coach Andy Reid and the team's medical staff.

"We're never going to put Terrell at risk," Reid said. "Owens was at the Eagles' practice facility for rehab work Wednesday, but the team said he wouldn't be made available to reporters until next week's mandatory media day at the Super Bowl.

On Monday, before hearing Myerson's bad news, Owens said: "Spiritually I've been healed and I believe that I'll be out there on that field Sunday, regardless of what anybody says."

Owens was told after surgery that he wouldn't be made available to reporters until next week's mandatory media day at the Super Bowl.

"He's a big factor in there," Oaks said of Terrell. "Even the man who signs the check isn't immune from Douglas' shenanigans.

Douglas returned to Philadelphia last summer to bolster the pass rush and provide depth on the defensive line. His biggest contribution for the NFC champions has been keeping everyone loose in the locker room with his playful personality.

"He's a big factor in there," Eagles coach Andy Reid said of the team's top prankster and comedian. "Everybody respects the heck out of him, just for the great person he is and has been. He's got that personality that is contagious and it kind of catches everybody in that locker room with his playful personality.

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Without his pass rush, the defense didn't look the same, and if there's any anxiety, he loosens it up right away. He eases everybody loose in the locker room with his playful personality.
Mientkiewicz traded from Red Sox to Mets

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Doug Mientkiewicz is bringing his good glove to the New York Mets. The ball is another story.

The Mets acquired the former Gold Glove first baseman from the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday for minor leaguer, first baseman Ian Bladergroen.

Mientkiewicz came off the 15-day disabled list Wednesday and is expected to play in Thursday's home opener against the Chicago Cubs.

The 30-year-old Mientkiewicz won the 2001 AL Gold Glove with the Red Sox since 1998 and was the right thing to do to put him in a position where they could get a chance to play every day.

"The ball issue was never a factor in this trade or in this negotiation process," Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein said. "I know that others in the organization were talking to Doug and either have reached a satisfactory resolution or are very, very close to doing so."

Mets general manager Omar Minaya didn't take a position on the issue.

"When I talk to him, we may have to negotiate the ball part, too," Minaya said, jokingly. "With the Red Sox, Mientkiewicz was used in the post-season as a late-game replacement for Kevin Millar, the exasperated first baseman whom Epstein called "an integral part of our clubhouse chemistry."

"Both guys are everyday, winning first basemen in my mind," Epstein said. "I wish you could combine them. But in the end, I think to be fair to both guys it was the right thing to do to put them in a position where they could get a chance to play every day."

New York thinks Mientkiewicz will help his young infield, which includes third baseman David Wright, stopgap Jose Reyes and second baseman Karim Rasul.

"It just makes our defense that much better," Minaya said. "I think that others in the organization were talking to Doug and either have reached a satisfactory resolution or are very, very close to doing so."

Mientkiewicz came up to the major leagues with Minnesota in 1998 and was traded to the Red Sox last July 31. A career .272 hitter, he slumped to a combined .238 with six homers and 35 RBIs last year for the Twins and Red Sox.

"He really didn't play every day, and that's a possibility why he didn't produce," Minaya said.

Mientkiewicz, who probably will be backed up by Andruw Garcia, agreed last February to a $7 million, two-year contract that calls for a $3.75 million salary this year. The deal includes a $4 million team option for 2006 with a $50,000 buy-out.

As part of the trade, the Red Sox agreed to pay the buyout if the Mets decline the option.

With Delgado heading to Florida, Minaya sounded uncertain how hard to push to sign free-agent outfielder Magglio Ordonez, coming off two knee operations.

"We have talked about him. There's no doubt he's a great hitter. We've explored that? We'll probably just explore it."

New York's projected starting outfield has Carlos Beltran in center, banked by Cliff Floyd in left and Mike Cameron in right.

NHL Labor talks conclude with promise of another meeting

Few details revealed concerning success of league discussions

Associated Press

There is no secret that time is running out to save the hockey season. How the NHL and the players' association are working to prevent that has become a very big mystery.

Representatives from both sides met for about 1 1/2 hours in small groups for the third time in a week on Wednesday. All that is known about the meeting is that it took place somewhere in Toronto. The location was kept secret, and neither side would reveal what was discussed or if any progress was made.

The only news that came out was that more talks will be held soon.

"We will meet again this weekend," NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly said. "We have no further comment at this time."

No time or place for the next meeting was set by Wednesday night, but both sides were leaning to a New York session on either Thursday or Friday.

Daly told The Associated Press on Tuesday that discussions were at a critical stage and that only days remained to reach a deal that would save the season. The fact that more talks have been set up provided at least a glimmer of hope that the NHL won't become the first North American professional sports league to lose a season to labor disputes.

The lockout reached its 133rd day Wednesday and has wiped out 713 of the 1,230 regular-season games, plus the 2005 All-Star game.

The small-group format began last week with the hope that the sides could find common ground that would lead to a new collective bargaining agreement. All three sessions were held without commissioner Gary Bettman and union chief Donald Fehr.

During a two-day meeting last week in Chicago and Toronto, the sides tried to get together in secrecy but were unsuccessful. Both parties believe they will have a better chance of getting something accomplished if they can talk out of the public eye.

"After meeting today, we have agreed to continue discussions and will not be making any further comment at this time," players' association senior director Ted Saskin said.

Although no details were immediately available, neither side planned to make a new proposal on Wednesday because the participants wanted to generate ideas through an open dialogue instead of working on a formal proposal.

"I think the setup of these meetings is what's important in terms of the small-group dynamic, the open discussion and dialogue," Daly told the AP on Tuesday night. "It's less formal or structured than the meetings we've had in the past, and I think that's helpful to the process."

But time is running short to make a deal and save the season.

"We're in a critical stage, and that means we're down to days," Daly said. "We'll try to move the process forward and try to get a resolution."

It was Vancouver center Trevor Linden who came up with the idea last week to talk with just six people in the room: Linden, the NHLPA president, invited Harley Hotchkiss — the chairman of the owners' board of governors — and the league's executives.

The structure was successful in producing discussion, but it did nothing to close the gap in the philosophical differences.

The NHL still wants cost certainty, a link between player costs and team revenues. The players' association wants a free-market system.

The same group that met last week gathered again: Linden, Sakson and outside counsel John McCarwith as well as Daly, Hotchkiss — a part-owner of the Calgary Flames — and outside counsel Bob Battarman.

The only change was the addition of New Jersey Devils general manager Lou Lamoriello, a member of the NHL board of governors, who joined the league side for the meeting.

No proposals have been made since early December, when the players offered a 24 percent rollback on existing contracts as part of a luxury-tax and revenue-sharing system. The NHL turned that down and made a counterproposal five days later that was rejected in a matter of hours.

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Thursday, January 27, 2005

CSCAA Top 25

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MIAA Women's Basketball

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ATLANTA — Baltimore Ravens running back Jamal Lewis was sentenced to four months in prison Wednesday for using a cell phone to try to set up a cocaine deal about 4 1/2 years ago.

The penalty, worked out with prosecutors in October, should allow Lewis to return to the Ravens before the start of the 2005 season. At most, he could miss the opening of training camp. He also will spend two months in a halfway house and perform 500 hours of community service following his prison term.

Lewis pleaded guilty to trying to set up the drug deal a few months after the Ravens chose him No. 5 overall in the 2000 NFL draft. No drugs ever exchanged hands.

Prosecutors agreed to drop more serious drug conspiracy and attempted cocaine possession charges.

"I'm truly sorry for what I did," Lewis said to U.S. District Judge Drbecca Evans.

Explaining the short sentence, the judge said the government didn't have a strong case and noted the only witness against Lewis was an informant with a lengthy criminal record.

Evans said she was also giving Lewis "credit for stepping up to the bar" and admitting his guilt.

The football player has until Feb. 4 to surrender to allow him time to have a cast removed from his right ankle, the judge said. Lewis recently had surgery on the foot.

Evans said she will recommend that Lewis serve his time at a federal prison camp at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala. The community confinement will be served at a halfway house in Atlanta.

If Lewis reports on time, he was sentenced to four months in prison for a drug conspiracy charge from more than four years ago.

In Brief

Cassell returns after missing 10 games with injury

MINNEAPOLIS — Sam Cassell returned to the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday night after missing 10 games due to a strained right hamstring.

Cassell, injured in a victory over Philadelphia on Jan. 7, entered the Wolves' game against Atlanta to a standing ovation with 8:47 left in the second quarter. He quickly hit a 12-footer before forcing a turnover on the Hawks' ensuing possession. Cassell had five assists in his first eight minutes on the floor.

The Wolves are 5-2 without Cassell in the lineup.

Coach Flip Saunders missed Cassell's return because he was home with the flu. Saunders, in his 10th season with the Wolves, had never missed a game due to illness while posting a 466-319 record.

Assistant coach Randy Wittman, who compiled a 62-102 record coaching the Cleveland Cavaliers from 1999-2001, took Saunders' place.

Former high school coach testifies he took payoffs

MINNEAPOLIS — A former high school coach told a federal jury Wednesday that he got offers of money and a job and free law school for his wife before he accepted a $150,000 payoff to steer his best player to sign with Alabama.

Lynn Lang, the former head coach at Trezevant High School, testified for the second day at the trial of Logan Young, a Memphis millionaire who is on trial on federal bribery and money laundering charges.

Lang is awaiting sentencing on a guilty plea to racketeering conspiracy. He said he took the money to convince defensive lineman Albert Means to sign with the Crimson Tide in 2000.

In testimony Tuesday in U.S. District Court, Lang said that coaches at two other Southeastern Conference schools, Kentucky and Georgia, gave him money. He also testified that Tennessee, Mississippi, Michigan State and Arkansas offered money for Means but never paid.

Waldorf, others lead Bob Hope Classic

LA QUINTA, Calif. — Duffy Waldorf rolled in eight birdie putts, didn't make a bogey and still had lots of company atop the leaderboard.

Waldorf's 8-under 64 in Wednesday's opening round of the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic was only good enough to put him in a five-way tie for the lead.

Fred Funk, Robert Damron, Ted Purdy and Joe Ogilvie also opened the two-day tournament with 64s.

Fred Couples, the 1998 champion, was the only serious challenger with Tuesday's 66 and was five shots back. Couples was back after missing the cut in the desert tournament where he was Colonial player of the year in 1997.

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Nova continued from page 24

final minute because the Wildcats were almost as cold from the field as the Irish. The Wildcats had a 59-54 lead when Chris Thomas drove to the hoop and was fouled to bring the Irish within two after converting the three-point play. That was Notre Dame’s first field goal in 5:10.

After a wide-open layup miss by Will Sheridan and one free throw from Randy Foye, Thomas almost made a great play to bring the Irish within one.

But his shot off the glass went halfway down and rimmed out. The Wildcats made enough free throws down the stretch to close out their second straight win and their first over the Irish since Jan. 6, 2002.

Foye led all scorers with 22 points on 7-of-20 shooting. Villanova guard Allan Ray scored 21.

Torin Francis — who looked as comfortable as he has all season in the post — paced the Irish with 17 points. Chris Quinn scored 13 points, 10 coming in the first half.

Thomas finished with 12 points, eight rebounds and six assists.

The Irish couldn’t find their rhythm early in the first half, falling behind 23-13. Brey called a timeout and the Irish eventually clawed themselves back into the game. After a Mike Nardi layup put the Wildcats ahead 25-24, the Irish 18-0 run to build a seven-point lead they would carry into the locker room.

The Irish return to the court Sunday when they host Connecticut in a national television contest.

NOTRE DAME 65,
Villanova 60 at the WACHOVIA CENTER

NOTRE DAME (12-5, 4-3)
Thomas 4-14 3-3 12, Cornette 2-8 0-0 4, Francis 7-11 1-2 17, Quinn 4-9 2-3 13, Falls 1-5 1-2 3, Latimore 1-5 0-0 2, Cornett 2-3 0-2, Carter 1-1 0-0 2
Villanova (11-4, 3-3)
Foye 7-20 6-8 22, Ray 8-16 1-2 21, Sumpter 4-11 2-4 11, Nardi 2-10 2-2 6, Sheridan 1-3 0-0 2, Charles 0-0 0-0 0, Austin 0-0 0-0
NOTRE DAME 37 23 60
Villanova 30 35 65
3-point goals: Notre Dame 6-19 (Quinn 3-6, Carter 1-1, Thomas 1-3, Falls 1-4, Cornette 0-5), Villanova 7-15 (Ray 4-6, Foye 2-3, Sumpter 1-2, Nardi 0-5). Fouled out: Falls (ND).

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

Villanova’s Mike Nardi and Notre Dame’s Chris Thomas fight for a loose ball at the Wachovia Center.

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We're playing catch-up for the remainder of the game, with 10 points at the break. It was the first time since December of 1995 that three Notre Dame players tallied double-doubles. St. John's 65-50 in the second half.
ND Women's Basketball

Erwin’s intensity must become contagious

After three straight wins, two of which were over top-20 teams, Notre Dame was a prime candidate for a letdown, and St. John’s appeared to be the worthy opponent. For a while, that was the case. The Irish played poor defense, struggled on offense and showed little emotion despite coming away with a 72-65 win over St. John’s.

The closest margin of victory ever for Notre Dame over St. John’s could have been worse for Notre Dame. Behind 18 points from Kia Wright, the Red Storm led 35-27 at halftime.

The Irish came from Lauran Hoegarden, Sports Editor.

The Observer. Thursday, January 27, 2005.

All-American Jacqueline Batiste couldn’t get shots in the first half. She took just three, making one. She rebounded well, especially defensively, but Notre Dame simply couldn’t get her the ball. Megan Duffy shot just 3-for-14 from the field, including 1-for-8 in the first half. The Irish were struggling against someone they shouldn’t have been.

But amidst the chaos for Notre Dame was sophomore forward Crystal Erwin. Erwin was all over the place from the get-go. She hustled, rebounded, got her fair share of shots in the paint. When a shot went up, Erwin was around the ball. The sophomore has played well since entering the starting lineup in December, and Wednesday night was no different.

When she wasn’t in the game, Notre Dame struggled to rebound. When she was, they didn’t.

She finished with a career-high 10 rebounds to go along with 14 points on 6-for-10 shooting. Erwin was the difference in the game. She knew that Notre Dame needed to rebound to win, and she took it to heart.

“We focus as a team to rebound,” Erwin said. “That was my main focus going into the game was to rebound. I know that’s what we need to do in order to win, and I just try to do what we need to do that.”

The 6-foot-1 forward played just 25 minutes, but her presence was seemingly felt for much longer. Seven of her 10 rebounds were on the offensive end, accounting for almost half of Notre Dame’s 20 offensive rebounds.

“I thought Crystal did a great job on the offensive boards,” McGraw said. “She really did a nice job staying after the ball and being aggressive.”

But with Erwin, it’s not just the numbers. It’s the way she goes about it.

She is the player Notre Dame didn’t have last year. Erwin plays with an attitude — the good kind. The kind this team was missing in the first half.

Erwin has become the player that Notre Dame can count on for every game. The little things. On Wednesday night, they were the most important things.

And so, the all-time record stands — Notre Dame 15, St. John’s 0.

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

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvahoeg@nd.edu.

Recycle The Observer.
DILBERT

I JUST FIRED OFF A SCATHING LETTER TO A COLUMNIST FOR MIS- USING THE WORD "DONGLE."

SCOTT ADAMS

I'M INTOXICATED WITH THE FEELING OF VERBAL SUPERIORITY. MY SAD LIFE HAS MEANING. I FEEL ALIVE!

THE COLUMNIST

DEAR NUTBAG,

THANKS FOR THE INPUT. HERE'S A LINK TO A DICTIONARY. I WAIT YOUR APOLOGY.

CHARLES SCHULZ

I DON'T RECALL SAYING THAT YOU COULD SHARE THIS BLANKET....

PEANUTS

BUT I GUESS ANIMALS HAVE RIGHTS, TOO, DON'T THEY?

JULIUS

FROM THE DAY THE WORLD BEGAN

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

NOW arrange the crowded letters to form four ordinary words.

GEALL

GNAAAP

DAILIN

AREETA

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter in each, to form four ordinary words.

Irish start slow, finish strong to defeat St. John's

Team drops second straight conference game on road

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

This is not the way Muffet McGraw and the Irish prefer to win basketball games. For the second straight game, Notre Dame played a sloppy first half only to bounce back with a much-improved second half on route to another victory—this time 72-63, over visiting St. John’s.

“We’re trying to play great every night,” McGraw said. “We didn’t do that tonight.”

On Sunday, the Irish trailed Rutgers by 11 at halftime but outscored the Scarlet Knights 43-16 in the second half on their way to a convincing victory. On Wednesday against St. John’s, Notre Dame couldn’t find its rhythm early and

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

Call it an ugly end to a disappointing road trip.

Scoring six points in the last 8 minutes, 24 seconds, the Irish (12-5, 4-3 Big East) lost 65-60 to Villanova (11-4, 3-3) Wednesday night at the Wachovia Center.

The Irish finished their three game road trip 1-2.

The Wildcats used three straight 3-pointers to turn that six-point deficit into a 55-52 lead. They were never able to close the game out until the

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

Bridge Litke was not going down without a fight.

The Saint Mary’s sophomore point guard dove onto the floor for a loose ball, charged down the court, scrambled for her own rebound and drew a foul all in about a 10 second span of the second half of Wednesday night’s contest against the Albion Britons at the Angela Athletic Center.

In the end, Litke’s hustle went unrewarded, as the Belles fought gallantly but were overpowered by the bigger, faster, and fresher Britons, 72-59.

Saint Mary’s (9-10, 4-6 in the MIAA) had only one day to rest after a 93-87 win over Tri-State earlier in the season.

The Belles coach Suzanne Beilina was well aware of when designing the Britons’ game plan.

“They knew we played Tri-State on Monday, a team that Stastny bested Elizabeth Exon and Debra Streifler, 8-2.

Streifler, 8-2.

In singles, Donohue was first off the court in an impressive 6-1, 6-2 victory against Streifler at No. 6. This win came after two close losses in her previous two matches.

“After two tough matches, I just had the mentality to just get out there and start of strong,” Donohue said. “I just got on a roll early on.”

The Belles will get a much needed rest this weekend before playing Calvin in Grand Rapids next week.

“Their strategy was to play us, and they ran us,“ Bellina coach Suzanne Bellina said. “Usually they walk the ball up, but they were running it up every time.”

The Belles went a zone defense for most of the game, using their size advantage and holding Litke and fellow guard Alison Kessler to only five points combined.

“A lot of Albion’s players are bigger than us, so it’s hard to get a shot over them,” Bellina said.

Junior Lauren Connelly and freshman Brook Buck played at No. 2 for Notre Dame, topping Leanne Rutherford and Debra Streifler, 8-2.

At No. 3, senior Sarah Jane Connolly and junior Kristina Stastny bested Elizabeth Exon and Nina Yafiuli 8-5.

Once the talent-laden Irish secured the vital doubles point, it was only a matter of remaining calm as they headed into the singles matches.

“Every time you win the doubles point, you only need three more points so everybody is a little more relaxed,” junior Liz Donohue said.

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Belles fall below .500 with loss

By KELLY HIGGINS /The Observer

Freshman guard Alison Kessler makes a move to the basket against Tri-State earlier in the season.

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“I think we were exhausted against Albion,” Bellina said. “We have a bye this weekend, which we really need.”

The Britons also effectively used their bench. Eleven different players put tallies in the scoring ledger.