Rich tradition of faculty priests, nuns at ND, SMC wanes

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

Catholic universities rely on lay professors

The number of priests and nuns teaching at Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s has been slowly decreasing in recent years—a trend that applies to other Catholic universities as well. This year, Notre Dame has 19 Catholic clerics serving as full-time instructional faculty, said Jean Ann Linney, vice president and associate provost.

Ten years ago, that number was 30. The decrease is according to the Office of Institutional Research. This statistic does not include clerics who hold administrative positions, such as University President Father Edward Malloy and University President-elect Father John Jenkins, Linney said. And while the percentage of clerical compared to lay faculty has dropped significantly in the past 20 years that does not account for the overall increase in hiring, she added.

The drop in the number of clerics was minuscule compared to the expansion of the faculty in governance, Linney said. Twenty years ago, clerics made up 4.9 percent of Notre Dame’s full-time instructional faculty, while last year they made up 2.4 percent, according to data provided by the Office of Institutional Research. The University has gained 253 total faculty members during that time, from 530 to 783.

The hiring of priests, however, has not kept pace with the hiring of lay faculty, Linney said. She speculated among the 254 total faculty members hired per year, on average, only one is a priest.

“I wouldn’t say that it’s any more difficult now [to attract priest-professors]—it’s just that there are so few,” Linney said.

The dwindling ranks of priest-professors can be attributed to the stable or declining number of priests completing seminary, Linney said, as well as to the added task of obtaining a Ph.D. While Linney could not speak directly about Notre Dame’s recruitment practices, she said the viewpoint of the Holy Cross places emphasis on drawing new Academic Affairs Vijay Ramanan, while experienced, admitted their history of direct involvement in student government is not as long as the others. However, they said their accomplishments will easily match up.

“Charlie Weis didn’t get hired just because he spent some time in the NFL. He got hired because he has two Super Bowl rings, because the fact that he’s had success before makes us believe that he will have more in the future,” Brede said. “Some of the other candidates have spent a long time in student government, but the true test is, ‘What have you done with it?’ In that sense, our lead­ership experience far out­classes our opponents.”

Another missed ticket is that of SUB director of program­ming Mark Healy and fresh­man Bob Costa. Costa indi­cated his success at bringing big­name bands to his Philadelphia high school— as chronicled in the book “Wonderland: A Year in the Life of an American High School”— as a more valu­able asset than an official title. The ticket of Alec White and Sorin senator Erik Powers brushed off the importance of student gov­ernment experience, high­lighting instead the benefits of a fresher perspective.

“We’re kind of young pups compared to some of the other tickets,” White said. “But we like to view democ­racy as a trip to the pond for a new dog—people like puppies, and Old Yeller was crazy before he had to be put down.”

The freshman ticket of Will Marra and Peter Karger riied movies like “Independence Day” and “Air Force One” as training enough to handle a ticket.

College Park conflict continues

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

In late December 2004, water pipes burst at College Park apart­ment complex, unleashing water into the eight units directly below and damaging the homes of 23 Notre Dame students. Nearly one month later, a prolonged legal and vocal conflict has emerged between College Park management, the student tenants and their families.

“Initially I was hoping we could work this out and come to some sort of agreement, but they haven’t been agreeable at all,” said Kevin Reed, a senior whose apartment was affected by the incident. “We’re planning on pursu­ing a lawsuit for myself and my roommates.”

On Jan. 2, Paramount Management property manager Patty Russwurm notified the affected residents of the damage done to their apartments. In a Jan. 12 article in The Observer, Russwurm said the damage’s cause was the tenants’ failure to turn off the heat. However, an inspection report by a local plumber showed otherwise.

Mac Trench, a master plumber in the South Bend area, complet­ed an inspection for Boyd and her roommates. He was hired by Boyd’s father, a real estate profes­sional who had been growing increasingly suspicious since the incident.

“Russwurm was trying to bully the students into thinking it was their fault for this,” said Boyd’s assistant, experience in student learning

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

Clergy members aid student learning

Despite being challenged with extra duties and complex roles, members of the clergy who teach at Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s say their professions are rewarding.

Father Patrick Gaffney, priest and anthropology professor, said that while some people question his choice of two occupations, from his perspective, it makes perfect sense.

“It’s not unusual to be a priest teaching— it’s where I belong,” Gaffney said, explaining that since the time of ancient monas­teries, priests have always been teachers.

Because of this tradition, having a double role as priest and teacher, according to Gaffney, is “something very old, not odd.”

Gaffney went on to explain that while priests teaching now — that’s “something very old, not odd.”

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INSIDE COLUMN

Buffalo's cold reality

Ah! Super Bowl season once again, a treasured time for sports fans. For me, however, this time of year brings a host of tortured memories.

Let me clarify. I'm from Buffalo. Besides wisecracks about the snow, Buffalo also has a history of athletic letdowns.

Nears Wire

Editor

Julie Bender

"I tried to sell my roommate." 

"My roommate tried to sell me!"

"No, I stick to the gambling business."

"Yes, my dignity ... not really. Just my guitar."

"No, I have nothing anyone wants."

"No, I would, but I don't know how."

QUESTION OF THE DAY: HAVE YOU EVER SOLD ANYTHING ON EBAY, AND IF SO, WHAT?

Christina Gallio

freshman

Lyons

Katie Mackin

freshman

Lyons

Patrick Nolan

freshman

Stanford

Eddie Villa

freshman

Alumni

Gina Venturelli

freshman

Lyons

Sean Sweany

sophomore

Kough Hall

A hawk warily eyes passers-by on South Quad Thursday afternoon, protecting its freshly slaughtered prey — an innocent squirrel.

OFFBEAT

Dogs audition for Broadway musical

NEW YORK — Two dozen dogs living in New York animal shelters got their shot at stardom on Friday with an audition for parts in a new Broadway musical and the chance to live out their days on a farm.

One hound mix and one collie warms parts in the upcoming "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," a stage musical of the popular movie to open on Broadway's new Hilton Theatre in April.

As part of their prize, the dogs will live on a Connecticut farm owned by the show's handler when the production closes.

An 8-month-old white-and-caramel hound mix called Fred, and a 10-month-old, 70-pound collie with a long and pointy snout called Arggie won the audition — and with it a dressing room, grooming and a secure retirement to Bill Berloni's farm.

Man incorrectly declared dead

RALEIGH, N.C. — A medical examiner studying a body in a morgue was startled when the man took a shallow breath.

Emergency medical technicians had declared 29-year-old Larry D. Green dead almost two hours earlier, after he was hit by a car.

"I had to look twice it was," Perdue said.

"Yes, my dignity ... not really. Just my guitar."

"No, I have nothing anyone wants."

"No, I would, but I don't know how."

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"No, I would, but I don't know how."

BRIAN CARMEAN/The Observer

In BRIEF

The film "The Incredibles" will be shown by the Student Union Board tonight from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. All shows are in 101 Deltarillo Hall. Tickets cost $3.

A performance of the French play "Les Fourberies de Scapin" by Moliere will be performed in the Philbin Studio theatre of the Deltarillo Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 p.m. tonight and Saturday night. The event is sponsored by the department of romance languages and literatures.

The Bridal Expo comes to the Joyce Center Saturday from 9:30 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 p.m.

A Race and Religion symposium will take place from 7 until 10 p.m. Saturday night in the LaFortune Ballroom. The event is sponsored by the Student Union Board.

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

CORRECTIONS

Due to incorrect information provided by the Judicial Council, an article in the Jan. 27 issue of The Observer stated that on the student body presidential ticket of Peter Harig and Will Marr, Harig was running for president and Marr was running for vice president. Actually, Marr is running for president and Harig is running for vice president.

The Observer regrets the error.
School of Architecture awards $100,000 prize

Sorin addressed need for post office

University founder’s vision brought campus benefits through the years

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

Friday, January 28, 2005

The third postal facility again opened in 1934, on a site just south of the campus. Among the early projects on which Sorin took charge was the petition for a U.S. post office on the University’s grounds — with him, of course, as postmaster. Beyond the convenience factor, Sorin knew there were many other benefits associated with having a federal facility on the campus, including the opportunity to generate revenue, the inclusion of Notre Dame on all official government maps, and the assurance that roads leading to the campus would be better maintained.

Given Notre Dame’s proximity to South Bend, U.S. postal officials said there was no need for a separate office on campus and rejected Sorin’s request in early 1850. Acquiescing to getting his way, the French priest then turned to Henry Clay, the well-known and respected U.S. Senator from Kentucky, for assistance. How or why Sorin and Clay knew each other is a mystery, but the extra clout proved effective, and a post office was officially established at Notre Dame on Jan. 6, 1851. Sorin was appointed postmaster, a position he held until his death in 1893.

The post office was a modest operation in its first year of existence. There was no separate building and postal receipts amounted to just $36.02, according to an article published by the Northern Indiana Philatelic Society. Business gradually grew, however, and the University first post office building — a small, brick structure — was constructed in 1856 on the east side of Notre Dame Avenue near the current site of the Law School.

The University’s second post office building, at twice the size of Notre Dame Avenue Avenue, was constructed in 1914. It was in service for 20 years, during which time more than 200,000 pounds of published material alone were processed annually, a postal business equal to a city of 12,000 people.

The third postal facility again doubled the size of the previous when it was opened Nov. 16, 1934, on a site just south of the campus grounds was on Notre Dame Avenue.

Wabash Hall adjacent to the present-day Coleman-Morse building. Designed to blend with other campus architecture, the building now serves as home to the Notre Dame chapter of the Knights of Columbus. From 1967 to 2005, the University’s postal services were operated on Notre Dame Avenue, a location more accessible to the general public.

The new building on Holy Cross Drive is about the same size as the previous facility, but has numerous conveniences, such as a 24-hour lobby, and is even more accessible to the greater community, including 12 parking spaces.

got poetry? got songs?

The Notre Dame Lit Festival is looking for performers of the written and spoken word for its ND UNPLUGGED Night. As part of this year’s festival, scads of talent will be unleashed on Wed Feb 16 from 7 pm - 10 pm.

Submit a sample of your original work to the Student Government Office in Lafortune 201 before February 01. Individual segments can run from 10-15 min, but we’re flexible!

please visit sub.nd.edu to find out about the Notre Dame Literary Festival & other sub events! brought to you by the student union board.
Priests continued from page 1

The average person, Gaffney said his schedule is manageable. "It takes some practice. There's just a lot to do," Gaffney said. "You have to figure out how much you can manage and adjust your schedule to do it as well as you can."

Gaffney, who also serves as a chaplain at University Village, said he is not limited in his work to the religious side or the academic side. "I come to the academic world as a priest," he said. "My whole professional life is woven into this. I have to continually imagine functioning independently of that."

Despite this, Gaffney's role as a priest has a powerful impact on his teaching. "I can't help but think the way I approach teaching has everything to do with my religious background," he said.

According to Gaffney, his religious background also prevents him from becoming a "one-dimensional scholar" and leads him to being more involved in students' lives and the community than an ordinary professor might.

"There are many ways to be involved in teaching at the University. One is to involve yourself in students' interests and life stories — but for a priest, this is part of our life's work," Gaffney said.

"I'm always trying to juggle my responsibilities as priest and professor," diocesan priest and theology professor Father Michael Driscoll said.

Driscoll said his religious background overlapped with being a professor in liturgical studies, and that teaching is a part of his religious duty and role as a priest.

"Otherwise, you become an ivory tower liturgist," Driscoll said.

Although Driscoll must balance the two different occupations of teaching and leading masses, he sees no difficulty or contradiction in his work.

"Everybody has to juggle their own life, figure out how to spend their time," he said.

Father Mark Thesing, Keenan rector and business ethics instructor, said teaching a class while managing issues in Keenan is a perpetual challenge.

Thesing said that while teaching is very structured and runs on a set schedule, being a rector is about being flexible and responding immediately to the needs of the 290 men living in Keenan. He describes the latter job he describes as "the most multifaceted I've ever had."

Commenting on priests living in dorms, Thesing said, "There's a rector's job is to live with the students, to be an example to the students, but also, just as importantly, to give them an opportunity to investigate their own spiritual life and relationship with God," he said.

According to Thesing, the nature of his religious occupation alone can impact students taking his course.

"To stand up and teach a group of students business ethics as a priest kind of says something different than a lay professor," Thesing said, referring to a societal perception of business as "ivory tower liturgist," Driscoll said.

"Sometimes students come in saying, 'What difference does it make?'" Thesing said. "It helps me in terms of day-to-day teaching, they bring problems, I have to solve them."

According to Church of Georgetown University's theology department, also stressed the difficulties in obtaining priests.

Sister Jane Kleen, nun and English professor at Saint Mary's College, said students approach her differently than they would a lay professor.

"It helps me in terms of day-to-day teaching," she said. "Sometimes students come in who want to have an abortion, and we talk through that," she said. "I am aware of the issues, and they're aware of mine."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhannah@nd.edu

The University of Notre Dame

INNSBRUCK PROGRAM

Is accepting applications for the 2005-2006 Academic Year

Extended application deadline: February 1, 2005

Applications Available www/nd.edu/~intlstud

Questions? - Weber.15@nd.edu
Friday, January 28, 2005

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. begins security operation

BAGHDAD — U.S. troops packed extra uniforms and ammunition before moving out of their main base Thursday to take up positions around Baghdad, part of a massive security operation to protect voters during weekend elections that insurgents have vowed to disrupt.

Iraqi police and soldiers will play the more visible role, running checkpoints and securing the poles — many of which have already been bombarded and rocketed by insurgents ahead of this weekend's vote.

American troops will be around, nonetheless — backing up the Iraqis in the event the Iraqi police can't handle U.S. and Iraqi commanders said.

The U.S. presence could make American troops easier targets, and it also has raised concerns the United States might be seen as orchestrating the elections.

insurgents launch attacks

More than 20 insurgents stepped up attacks Thursday against polling centers across Iraq, killing at least a dozen people, including 11 U.S. Marines in the rebel campaign to frighten Iraqis away from participating in this weekend's election.

As part of an intensifying campaign of intimidation, an al-Qaida affiliate led by Jordanian terrorist mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarqawi posted a videotape on the Internet showing the murder of a candidate from the party of interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi.

The tape included a warning to Allawi personally: "You traitor, wait for the angel of death."

WASHINGTON — Condoleezza Rice worked the phones on her first day on the job as America's top diplomat Thursday, reaching out to European allies and partners in the war on terrorism and echoing President Bush's inaugural charge to promote liberty across the globe.

"The president has set forth a really bold agenda for American foreign policy," Rice said in a brief address to State Department employees whom she addressed as she arrived. "It is a vision of the kind of a better world than than to say that America will stand for freedom and for liberty, that America will stand with those whose aspirations met for liberty and freedom.

Blake's daughter testifies

BAGHDAD — Blake's daughter, Holly Gawron, told the jury that while living in Arkansas with Blake, he recalled, "I never imagined I would outline Hitler or survive World War II." Soviet troops liberated Auschwitz and the neighboring camp at Birkenau, or Brzezinka in Polish, on Jan. 27, 1945. Some 1.5 million people, most of them Jews, had died at the two camps from gassing, starvation, exhaustion, beating and disease.

"We think of the suffering of all of our brothers, of the special ones that link us, Poles, with the Jewish nation," said Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, a survivor who later became Poland's foreign minister. "Patin compared the Nazis with the terrorists of today.

"Today we shall not only remember the past but also be aware of all the threats of the modern world," he said. "Terrorism is among them, and it is no less dangerous and cunning than fascism."

The leaders placed candles, in blue glass holders, on a memorial as they left. New Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko made the sign of the cross after gently setting his down.

Earlier in Krakow, Cheney noted that the Holocaust did not happen in some far-off place but "in the heart of the civilized world."

"The story of the camps shows that evil is real and must be called by its name and must be confronted."

Train wreck suspect faces charges

GLENDALE, Calif. — The suicidal man who authorities say caused the crash that killed 11 people has been charged with multiple counts of murder and could face the death penalty, the district attorney said Thursday.

Juan Manuel Alvarez, 25, left his sport utility vehicle on a railroad track Wednesday after bằnging his mind about committing suicide, authorities said. He was held with out bail at a hospital's jail ward after apparently slitting his own wrists and stabbing himself in the chest.

In addition to the 11 dead, nearly 200 people were injured. The last person reported missing was accounted for Thursday and fire fighters ended recovery efforts. All but one of the dead had been identified.

Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley said prosecutors filed charges late Wednesday for 10 counts of murder with "special circumstances" of committing murder through a train derailment.

Cooley stressed however that the case were still being evaluated. Under state law, special circum stances allegations could make a defendant eligible for the death penalty.

Cooley said the complaint would be amended to add another count to refer to the 11th victim, found in the wreckage late Wednesday night. And he said the defendant's suicidal intent didn't make any differ ence to him.

"He's not going to engage my sympathy because he was despondent. His despondency doesn't move me," the district attorney told The Associated Press.

Arrangement was initially planned for Thursday afternoon but was put off until Friday because of Alvarez's medical condition.

LOCAL NEWS

More flu vaccine available

INDIANAPOLIS — Flu shots in Indiana are now available to anyone who wants a vaccination, regardless of age or health conditions, as local health officials today gave the OK for eliminating restrictions and state and county public health officials agreed to recommend the vaccination within hours.

Visiting Nurse Service, generally the largest source of flu shots in central Indiana, scheduled eight first come, first-served clinics for the general public beginning Feb. 6.

Leaders remember victims

Ceremony in Poland honors victims and survivors of Auschwitz death camp

Associated Press

BRZEWZINKA, Poland — As candles flickered in the snowy forest Thursday, world leaders and Auschwitz survivors Thursday remembered the 60th anniversary of the Holocaust on the site of the nation's death camp.

The ceremony, which opened with the recorded rumble of an approaching train, was held on the spot where new arrivals were brought in by rail to the vast camp and put through "selection" — meaning those few who were deemed able to work were separated from the rest who were taken immediately to the gas chambers.

"It seems if you try hard enough, you can still hear the outcry of horror of the murdered Jews," Israeli President Moshe Katsav said. "When I walk the grounds of the gasation camps, I fear that I am walking on the ashes of the victims."

Joining in the commemo ration were Vice President Dick Cheney, and presidents Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland, Vladimir Putin of Russia, and Jacques Chirac of France.

German President Horst Kohl said on the platform without speakers, and recognizing his country's responsibility for the Holocaust, in which 6 million Jews died during World War II.

Barricade and brick barricades stretched as far as the eyes could see. The ruined crematoriums burned nearby, all covered with a layer of fresh snow. The giant women's and children's camp were dubbed the "death camp" by reportage, in which 1.5 million people, most of them Jews, had died at the two camps from gassing, starvation, exhaustion, beating and disease.

Other victims included Soviet prisoners of war, Poles, Gypsies, homosexuals and political opponents of the Nazis.

"We think of the suffering of our brothers, of the special ties that link us, Poles, with the Jewish nation," said Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, a survivor who later became Poland's foreign minister. "It's not the same as in the heart of the civilized world."

"The story of the camps shows that evil is real and must be called by its name and must be confronted."

Silvio Berlusconi, Prime Minister of Italy, sets a candle on the memorial in the former Nazi concentration camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau during the commemoration.

"Today we shall not only remember the past but also be aware of all the threats of the modern world," he said. "Terrorism is among them, and it is no less dangerous and cunning than fascism."

For Thursday afternoon but was put off until Friday because of Alvarez's medical condition.

Train wreck suspect faces charges
Damage (continued from page 1)

father, Gregg. "Once she found the leak, the professional plumber came to look at everything, she stopped threating us seriously," Trench noted. Russwurm did not respond to repeated requests from The Observer for comment for this article. According to Trench, the cause of the damage was not in fact that the heat was turned off though court documents claim (and was indeed left on), but rather negligence on the part of management to correct a flaw in the piping system that caused a similar situation several years ago.

In the inspection report given to Gregg Boyd, Trench wrote due to repair work that had already been performed, he "could not see any damaged piping." Instead, "the pipes were in an open chase that was opened to the attic... these pipes will freeze again if not corrected properly," Trench noted. "Insulation will not solve the problem." "Trench told us, 'I was the plans were completed and handed over to the contractor...I could not see any damage,'" Russwurm said. "To the tenants, it's impossible."

But now the tenants are seeking an explanation for why their furniture, now covered in drywall, was not removed from the apartments before the repairs were made.

Local general contractor Philip Mosby refused to hire the drywall in the apartments, grounds Paramount, commenting the company's professionalism and practicality. "I did suggest that it would be a good idea to move the furniture out before I began working, but they [management] told me that they couldn't move the furniture because the students had to be there to give them the okay," Mosby said.

Gregg Boyd and his daughter, however, maintain a different story. In a document Gregg Boyd compiled of complaints he has encountered with Paramount, he wrote, "Paramount refused to pay the fees required to move out the furnishings of the tenants. Thus, they were piled up in the middle of the rooms, left wet, wet, get mildewed." Amid all the controversy, other students living in the damaged apartments are seeking a peaceful reconciliation. "I would just like to move on and just make sure everything is covered," said Boyd's neighbor, senior Conner O'Keefe. "But as far as my anger is toward Paramount, I'm still disappointed in the way they handled it."

For the Boyds, filing a lawsuit is the next step. "The suit would be against all the parties that have been involved," Gregg Boyd said. "They have been persecuting these students that have been devastated by something that did not need to happen," Russwurm told The Observer for the Jan. 12 article that Paramount did not intend to file lawsuits against the student tenants.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

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Tickets (continued from page 1)

patriot. They also claim to be free of the "greed, vice and corruption" they said plagued student government.

The fact that half of the candidates have worked side by side on some of this year's hot-button issues has led to similar platforms—focusing on points like putting a student on the Board of Trustees, securing a concrete endowment and finding a new process for ticket distribution—but they all indicated the solutions they offer are what set each ticket apart.

"We all respect each other, but at the same time have different ways to approaching issues, which is why many of us are running," Leito said.

As the Notre Dame student body proved last year after selecting Adam Isvain and Karla Bell, relative newcomers to the student government scene, experience is not the ultimate measuring stick. "The candidates agreed, calling a working knowledge of the student government useful in accomplishing goals, but indicated the need for a deeper motivation."

"Experience is no doubt a benefit in terms of knowing the system, relating to administrators and trustees, and mobilizing the student body. However, experience will only take a president and vice president so far," Baron said. "It takes integrity and resourcefulness to make real changes happen."

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu

Italy

Country begins 2006 Olympic preparation

Tickets

Continued from page 1

TURIN — Figure skaters glide across the freshly laid ice at the renovated Palavela arena. Short-track speedskating is a big hit with the locals. Ski and bobsled races come off without a hitch in the sur­rounding Alps.

One year before the 2006 Winter Olympics, TURIN, the Piedmont region of northwestern Italy are getting a taste of the real thing.

So far, so good.

Despite continuing budget, sponsorship and housing problems, a series of successful test events has eased concerns over the state of preparations for the Feb. 10-26, 2006, showcase — the first Winter Games in Italy since Cortina d'Ampezzo in 1956.

"I don't want any triumphalism. We're aware that we still have a lot of work to do," organizing committee chief Valentino Castellani said. But we don't have delays or emer­gencies.

A few months ago, Turin's preparations were being compared to Athens' frenzied, last-minute race to get ready for the 2004 Summer Olympics. Now there's a sense of relative calm among local organizers and International Olympic Committee officials.

"I don't think there is any possible comparison between the Winter Olympics and the Athens Games," said Gilbert Felli, the IOC's executive direc­tor for the Olympic Games. "The venue for figure skating is ready. The venues for cross-country, ski jumping and all the Alpine skiing are ready, so there is nothing to compare with Athens. They are on track."

Felli spoke after attending this week's opening of the European Figure Skating Championships at the 8,500-seat Palavela, featuring an unusual cream-colored roof resembling a billowing sail.

Workers were still painting and tending to wires before the event, but completed the job just in time. The Palavela also hosted the European short-track speedskating championships this month, drawing full crowds for a sport with little following in Italy.

Cross-country ski races took place Jan. 22-23 in Pragelato. Bobsled and skeleton events were held Jan. 20-23 and huge events are scheduled for Feb. 5-6 in Cesana-Pariol. In December, the World Cup ski circuit made its annual stop in Sestriere, a resort founded by Fiat's Agnelli family that will be the center for Alpine events during the 2006 Olympic Games.

Ice sports will be in downtown Turin and snow events in Sestriere and surrounding villages, about 62 miles from the city. There will be three Olympic villages — one in Turin for 2,500 athletes and coaches; two more in the mountains for an equal number of com­petitors. Housing problems in the latter village for fans, media and others.

"Relationships: Adversity to Acceptance"

Join us for dinner and a great discussion!!

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Feb. 2, 2005 Coleman Morse Lounge

Please R.S.V.P. to MFS Press (1-6841) by 5 pm, Monday, Jan. 31, 2005

Co-Sponsored by Student Senate
**Ford recalls trucks and SUVs**

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration opened an investigation into the defect in November after receiving 36 reports of fires. All of the incidents occurred when the vehicle was parked and the ignition was turned off. No injuries were reported.

**Midway to become ATA’s focus**

The leader of ATA’s flight attendants reported Thursday that the airline would end 44 of its daily flights out of Indianapolis by April 10, leaving fewer customers and doing business at its hometown hub and instead dramatically cut the percent of its daily flights out of Indianapolis.

**Bank agrees to $16 million fine**

The Justice Department has been investigating the bank executives’ handling of some foreigners’ accounts, including those held by Saudi diplomats in Washington. The Chupin’s regimen in Equatorial Guinea.

**British journal retracts report**

The British Medical Journal issued an apology and correction Thursday to a report that said Eli Lilly and Co. had retracted a report that said Eli Lilly and Co. had retracted a report that said Eli Lilly and Co. would issue a record $25 million civil fine against the company.

**IN BRIEF**

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**Ford recalls trucks and SUVs**

The recall covers approximately 792,000 Ford F-150 pickups, Ford Expedition and Lincoln Navigator versions from the 2000 model year. Also included are 2001 F-Series Supercrew trucks made at the same time.

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Charity is not a competition

In the tragic and confusing aftermath of the Dec. 26 tsunami, some of the world’s leaders lost sight of that fact. During the post-Soviet era, many of the world’s leaders, starting as a noble and empathetic act, took on the ugly improvisation of a bidding war.

But Notre Dame’s leaders knew better. Their efforts were communal from the beginning.

First, Campus Ministry announced that all money from collections taken at the two Basilica Masses and all residence hall Masses the week students returned from winter break — bringing the campus community to full size and strength — would go towards relief efforts. Then other student and administrative leaders joined in, representations from Student Government, International Student Services and Activities, the Athletic Department and the Office of Student Affairs chose to work together to organize various collections and fundraisers, from basketball games to benefit dinners. In recognizing that they could do more together than apart, the tsunami Relief Drive’s planners acted with savvy, generosity and perspective.

Notre Dame’s response to the tragedy was not only remarkably collaborative, but also unmistakably Catholic. University President Father Edward Malloy immediately offered his prayers, and urged others at “Our Lady,” University to “be worthy vessels of God’s grace, helping to alleviate suffering, and for our whole world.” The first Basilica Mass was specifically offered for the dead and suffering, and for those aiding them. Furthermore, it was decided that all donations collected through campus offices, such as the Campus Ministry, the Athletic Department and the Office of Student Affairs, would be given directly to the Salvation Army, reflecting the University’s commitment to the Church’s charitable mission.

In all, an expression of grief and compassion from the Notre Dame community during the past two weeks — enough to make a difference in rebuilding hundreds of homes — is a significant civic act. A similar amount of money could very well have come from individual donations. Any money is all the same to the victims. But the fact that Notre Dame’s relief efforts were staked on strong understandings of cooperation and compassion — not merely the University’s admirable public example.

And the best part is that it wasn’t trying to be.

Combating ‘senioritis’

For the soon-to-be graduating class of 2005, January brings the beginning of the end of what is commonly referred to as “the Notre Dame experience.”* Most seniors, this writer included, morph into an unrecognizable creature, a creature of existence during their final few months on campus. It is a condition uniquely defined as “senioritis.” But while many symptoms, some unique only to certain individuals:

The Board of Trustees eventually cures seniorsitis each spring by conferring degrees upon them. Although peculiar symptoms may linger long after some matriculized students physically depart campus, to adequately understand the atmosphere that has just presently begun to fade, it is necessary to choose commencement speaker and work backwards through time.

Graduating classes take on the character of their commencement speakers and honorary degree recipients. Each class strives for the most globally prestigious marque of speakers, often times hoping for a president on the dais, and certainly seeking anyone affiliated with Notre Dame. This year, as the twin marks of death headlines the Iraqi war and a tsunami in the Far East, the atmosphere begs for a speaker who epitomizes the qualities of humility and sacrifice. The logical choice is Notre Dame Professor Emeritus Gil Loescher, the world’s foremost authority on refugees, displaced persons and persons forced migration due to famine and war. In 2003, Loescher was the sole survivor of the huge blast that leveled the United Nations headquarters.

As a result of his ordeal, Professor Loescher is a double amputee. His is a story of survival, of a fallen veteran and civilian in the bloody conflict. Notre Dame’s Loescher is the living embodiment of the character of every fallen veteran and civilian in the bloody Iraqi conflict. His insight would leave me dry in the Convocation Center.

We eyes and aching hearts are obvious symptoms of senioritis. Sometimes eyes on our day of departure, but many times eyes swell when each task is finished, regardless of whether or not we asked, gain a further sense of community for having attended Notre Dame. Ultimately, time catches up with every senior who is thrust into the final year, the year of saying goodbye to losing their friends, moving their surrounding and changing their lifestyles. Ready or not, senioritis sets into their consciousness.

The best way to combat early January senioritis is to slow time by savoring each moment of the final year. Graduation seniors are attracted to a higher call and are not the victims. Graduates are attracted to a higher call of service, the University’s response to the tragedy was not only remarkable collaboration, but also unmistakably Catholic. University President Father Edward Malloy immediately offered his prayers, and urged others at “Our Lady,” University to “be worthy vessels of God’s grace, helping to alleviate suffering, and for our whole world.” The first Basilica Mass was specifically offered for the dead and suffering, and for those aiding them. Furthermore, it was decided that all donations collected through campus offices, such as the Campus Ministry, the Athletic Department and the Office of Student Affairs, would be given directly to the Salvation Army, reflecting the University’s commitment to the Church’s charitable mission.

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When I returned to my room after class Wednesday I had a voicemail from my mom. She wanted me to read the society page of the local newspaper. That's not really my thing. I would have preferred to talk about something new, something different. I thought about the president of Harvard, science and engineering, and the impact they have on my life. What I heard in that article blew my mind.

Had the president of Harvard University really stated that women are not succeeding in the highest levels of math and science because they lack "innate ability"?

The article went on to point out that throughout the country, women account for nearly half the bachelor's degrees earned in chemistry and math but only about 10 percent of the faculty. Or how about the fact that the number of female faculty members were offered tenure last year? I have seen similar studies to the Chicago Tribune conducted by Notre Dame faculty members indicating that Notre Dame also needed to strive for more women in tenure and administrative positions. This is nothing new, nothing new at all. But what really caught me off guard was that there are still highly educated people in positions of authority who might think there are innate differences in the ability of men versus women to achieve academically.

Even worser than that is market star, Larry Summers, is supposed to represent the face of premier higher education in America. His statement made a clear mockery of every woman who has devoted her life to science or math. Women who have aspirations to do so. He used an excuse, a bad excuse, to explain why there are not more female top-level female researchers and he dismissed the struggles that tenure-track female faculty inevitably face.

Every career-minded, woman in science and beyond, must deal with the issue of a demanding work schedule and the prospects of an advancing career. However, I would like to suggest to Summers, and anyone who really agree with him, that it is attitudes and society that are inadequate, not the scientific aptitude of women.

Even more disheartening is that women who are entering the science programs are eventually finding themselves disillusioned with the environment, tired of searching for understanding mentors and are ultimately pursuing career options with the government or industry in order to avoid the struggle of climbing the faculty ladder.

The bottom line is that as a female college student navigating through the rigors of a science-based curriculum at a top university, I do not appreciate a former economist and the man I think of 0 the same way.

Larry Summers suggested his theory of innate differences appears as a direct parallel to racism (rightly so). I would be earlier this semester with African-American Studies Harvard faculty, and worse, his high rank almost lends itself to substantiating that myth as some kind of fact for anyone who wants to believe that women may be just a little bit dumber by nature.

Nadie Bennett
junior
Howard Hall
Jan. 27

Call to all 'real' basketball fans

Support their team against a rabid UConn squad. This letter is a petition to all Irish fans to pack the JACC early on Sunday. Not only did UConn students camp out for Guinness remedies. It is perfectly easy to grab a seat in the bleachers.

Thomas Hogan
WVU
Michael Hake
Duke Hall
Jan. 27

United States the victim of political correctness

Poor SpongeBob. It's hard enough going through life in a pair of SquarePants. Now he has to suffer through a video that some conservatives call "pro-gay propaganda." Makers of the video deny the claim, instead pointing out the video promotes unity and cooperation. But a spokesman for the conservative group Focus on the Family, which is behind the video, said it is "manipulating and potentially brainwashing kids."

People, when a cartoon sponge is no longer politically correct, it’s time for some cultural soul-searching.

Not long ago, political correctness was a relatively harmless (if highly irritating) practice reserved largely for liberals. A "chairperson," a "female poet," a "poetess." Although often annoying, these changes in how we talk were intended to make the English language more diverse and inclusive as America.

But liberals no longer hold the monopoly on political correctness — and PC no longer means diversity and inclusiveness. Since the days immediately after Sept. 11, 2001, when the White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer warned Americans "you need to watch what they say and watch what they do," it seems it is conservative groups that have more and more frequently found a way how to talk, how we act and what we see.

This past Veteran's Day, for example, ABC wanted to replace the battle cry of "God bless our troops" with "God bless our hero" for a program on PBS. ABC also asked people not to use the word "Serving" in association with the military. The reason? "Serving Private Ryan" offended, but several affiliates refused to air it despite having done so in past years. The conservative group American Family Association applauded the move. Why? The movie has bad language.

And that brings us back to the unfortunate Mr. SquarePants. It's hard enough that elements of our society hypocritically deny rights like marriage to homosexuals while simultaneously using them for entertainment, enjoying shows like "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" and "Will and Grace." But when their views are misrepresented by their religious support this new political correctness, in criticizing SpongeBob for even suggesting homosexuality (because he often holds hands with another male character), we're now offended not just by gay rights, but by the slightest hint of potentially gay manure.

Which brings us to the all-important question: Where does that leave the Smiths? I mean, you can't tell me that in a whole village with only one female, there wasn't at least a little locker-room experimentation going on. A joke, of course, but if this craze of conservative-style political correctness doesn't subside, what else is at risk? Will we apply it to literature, as well? In Tolkien's "Lord of the Rings," for example, Frodo and Sam frequently held hands (never mind that Sam goes on to marry and have children). Potentially brainwashing kids.

This column originally appeared on Jan. 27 in the Northern Star, the daily publication at the Northern Illinois University.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Slam poets examine issues of race and religion

Story by Christie Bolsen

The vast majority of Notre Dame students don't know what it's like to be wrongfully arrested, or how it feels to face the world as a Jew or skinhead.

It's not that easy to get an inside look into a world with so many differences from what's familiar. But at the Race and Religion Symposium, students may get a chance to see a world very different from the one they know uncovered.

Three spoken word artists will bring their experiences and backgrounds to a political and socially charged night of poetry and engaging dialogue. The event appropriately falls between the last week's focus groups that opened discussion on issues like homosexuality and the upcoming diversity awareness week. Several events also are scheduled around the symposium, including Thursday night's Acoustical, which featured performances by Notre Dame's own student slam poets Jelani McElwen, Bryonn Bain, and Matt Wertz.

Bryonn Bain, a Harvard law student, became a national focus of racial discussion when he was handcuffed and thrown in jail for a night by the NYPD when he and his friends were leaving a nightclub in New York. Bain wrote an essay called "The Bill of Rights for Black Men" after the incident that became a cover story for Harvard Law's Village Voice.

"By bringing in a Jewish person to talk about his experiences, it can help people realize what it's like for someone of a different religion to grow up in a predominantly Christian nation," Nealon said. Workshops run by the visiting poets, such as the one on Social Entrepreneurship from 5 to 6 p.m. in the McNeil Room today, will give students a chance to further explore issues.

The Race and Religion Symposium will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom. The symposium will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

Contact Christie Bolsen at cbolsen@nd.edu

Banda Rika and Matt Wertz hit Legends

Stories by Becca Saunders

Matt Wertz did not begin his life with aspirations of becoming a songwriter and performer. In fact, earlier in his life his aspiration was actually to become a shoe designer. Fortunately for Matt and the crowd that will be at Legends Saturday, Matt left those dreams behind after he began writing songs during his freshman year of college.

The acoustic guitar player claims on his Web site that originally, "When I began writing songs, I never intended for anyone to hear them . . . it was simply the natural outpouring of my heart." Fans of Wertz across the country are grateful his songs, comparable to the likes of John Mayer and Jack Johnson, have come out and met the receptive fan base Wertz has started to create for himself through national touring in the last year and a half.

Wertz's show is sure to be light and engaging. Matt Wertz will be preceded by Notre Dame senior Kevin Leicht who is also a poet. Leicht will begin playing at 10 p.m. at the club side of Legends. If an enjoyable and laid back show is what your Saturday night needs, then Legends will most probably be the place for you.

Contact Becca Saunders at rssaunder@nd.edu

Photo courtesy of www.globaltalentassoc.com

Bryonn Bain will speak regarding his experiences with police and racial discrimination.
Irish Ambassadors

The world-famous Chieftains bring their premier Irish music to Notre Dame

Since its creation, the group has enjoyed the luxury of an appreciative audience. The band first garnered acclaim in Ireland and England, when it maintained a semi-professional, part-time aspect to its work. The band broke out internationally with its scoring of the 1975 film "Barry Lyndon." After a four-decade long career, the Chieftains have released 44 albums, with the group's next album, a tribute to departed member Derek Lowe, due in stores Feb. 22.

The Chieftains also set several performance milestones for Western music, becoming the first Western music group to tour China in 1983 (a tour that included a performance on the Great Wall of China), and breaking worldwide concert records with a 1979 concert in Dublin before 1.35 million people including Pope John Paul II. The band's current tour takes it throughout the United States up until late March, and includes performances at Orchestra Hall in Chicago and the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

So great is the Chieftains' reputation for traditional Irish music that in 1989 the Republic of Ireland appointed them the official ambassadors for Ireland. Even so, the band has proved to not only be a driving force through Irish music, but through the popular music culture as a whole. Its work has received 10 Grammy nominations, and it won the award multiple times throughout the 1990s. Its "Barry Lyndon" scoring was awarded with an Oscar, and it has provided music for numerous film, television and stage productions.

The Chieftains take the stage at the Leighton Concert Hall Sunday at 8 p.m.

Contact Brandon Hollihan at bhollihan@nd.edu
The Observer • CLASSIFIEDS
Friday, January 28, 2005

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"When he's in the zone, I don't think there's anybody better," tight end Christian Fauria said.

The charismatic star has made such an impression that his teammates hear about it at home. Troy Brown tells me his little kid says I'm his favorite player," Brady said. "So when you hear stuff like that from your own teammates you get the biggest kick out of it."
After slow start, Bulls begin to pick up steam

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago Bulls coach Scott Skiles gets paid a lot to make sure the glass always looks half-full. Anybody else who says they saw the Chicago Bulls in the playoff hunt midway through this season is either lying or had better have a doctor’s note explaining they’re both schizophrenic.

The reason has little to do with the speed of the Bulls’ turnaround or the lack of precedent. The NBA’s mantra, after all, is “everybody makes a run,” and just last season, the Miami Heat stumbled 0-7 leaving the gate and still managed to close in a respectable 42-40 and make the playoffs. So why not the Bulls? Before we tackle that question, a word from Skiles.

“Not only do the owners have a shot,” said Skiles, “we’re a better team than they were last year,” said Skiles, who pitched the past seven seasons for the Mets. “With the considerable movement of players in the NL East, it’s up for grabs. No disrespect to the Braves, but there’s a sense that everybody has a shot.”

NBA

After slow start, Bulls begin to pick up steam

Associated Press

MIAMI — Carlos Delgado and the Florida Marlins finalized their $52 million, four-year contract Thursday, a move that could change the balance of power in the NL East.

Delgado, who hit at least 30 home runs each of the past eight seasons with Toronto, passed his physical Wednesday and was introduced at a news conference.

“I want to put myself on a team that has a chance to win, and that’s the Florida Marlins,” Delgado said. “I can’t wait to meet the guys.”

Florida won out over the New York Mets, who also offered $52 million, and Baltimore and Texas, which each offered $48 million.

“I think this is the best fit for me to have a chance to win,” Delgado said. “And the fact that it’s in the South gives the fact that it’s only two hours from Puerto Rico, yeah, it’s very nice as well. It’s very close and I can feel at home.”

There’s no assurance the Marlins will be better than last year after losing ace Carl Pavano (18-8) and closer Armando Benitez (47 saves) to free agency.

General manager Larry Baeta is hoping Delgado is ready to take Pavano’s spot in the rotation. Guillermo Mota is slated to become a first-time closer as part of a revamped bullpen.

A left-handed power hitter has topped McKeon’s wish list ever since he became manager in 2003. Delgado’s one of the best.

“Jack, I guess now you know you’ve got the left-handed hitter that you want,” Loria told McKeon, seated near him at Thursday’s hiring press conference.

“About time,” McKeon quickly responded.

Delgado has already started to earn his keep. The Marlins sold $100,000 worth of season tickets Wednesday, five times their daily norm.

“This ballclub has a very good lineup, a very good pitching staff and a very good chance to make it to the playoffs,” Delgado said.

Delgado is the city’s newest Latin celebrity but hardly the Marlins’ lone star. He’ll be one of seven regulars to have signed this winter. And the rotation, the team’s strength the past two seasons, still includes Josh Beckett, A.J.

Burnett and Dontrelle Willis.

“The Marlins were good before Delgado, and now they’re a better team than they were last year,” said Leiter, who had出任 the past seven seasons for the Mets. “With the considerable movement of players in the NL East, it’s up for grabs. No disrespect to the Braves, but there’s a sense that everybody has a shot.”

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Spartans defeat Wolverines 64-53

Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — When Michigan State met at halftime, the Spartans talked about going home. Michigan had the lead after halftime, scoring the last five points of the second half.

They did.

Maurice Ager scored 18 points and No. 15 Michigan State started the second half strong before coasting to a victory over the Wolverines on Thursday night.

"That was huge," Ager said of scoring the first eight points after halftime. "We got a lot of energy out of that. Guys got after it and, got on the floor. You can't help but go on a run.

The Spartans (13-3, 5-1 Big Ten) won for the first time in 12 of their last 12, and 12 of against Michigan (12-8, 3-3). Michigan State plays No. 1 Illinois on Tuesday at home after a nonconference tune-up against Oakland on Saturday.

The Spartans were subdued in the locker room after handling their rivals easily because they knew, a slight advantage against the Fighting Illini would lead to a loss, hurting their Big Ten title hopes.

"That's just kind of a sign of where we are and that we don't have a good idea of the big picture," guard Chris Hill said.

Dion Harris and Courtney Sims each had 12 points for the Wolverines, who were without standout point guard Daniel Horton. He was suspended indefinitely after being charged with domestic violence on Monday and without him, Michigan had 23 turnovers against the Spartans' pressure defense.

Harris said the Wolverines missed Horton a lot.

"I think we just broke down offensively and defensively," Harris said. "We had five turnovers. They pressured me every time I got the ball, they had too many opportunities to get back in the game.


Related Content


NBA Balanced scoring lifts Pistons over Pacers

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Chauncey Billups scored 20 points and Tim Duncan added 16 points and 11 rebounds as the San Antonio Spurs then went on an 8-0 run as Robert Horry made three free throws, Bruce Bowen hit a 3-pointer and Duncan worked inside for a layup over Miller.

Sacromento shot 5-for-8 to lead with 4:49 left in the first quarter. Kings coach Rick Adelman said his team held its own, but that San Antonio executed better down the stretch.

"Obviously they are the best team in the league right now," Adelman said. "They hurt us getting to the basket — Parker in the first half and then Ginobili in the second half."
**NBA**

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

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**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

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**TENNIS**

**Top-seeded Roger Federer tosses his racket after losing a point to fourth-seeded Marat Safin in the semifinal round of the Australian Open. Federer's 26-match winning streak ended after a five-set epic battle.**

**Federer, Sharapova fall in Aussie Open**

Melbourne — Roger Federer was on his hands and knees, his racket gone after he tumbled chasing a shot. All he could do was watch as Marat Safin tagged a gentle forehand into an open court to cap a thrilling 4-1/2-hour Australian Open semifinal and end the top-ranked Federer's 26-match winning streak.

Safin foiled off a match point in the fourth set, then needed seven match points of his own before pulling off a 5-7, 4-6, 7-6 (10), 7-6 (7-5) upset of defending champion Federer and advancing to his third Australian Open final in four years.

"It's always going to hurt, no matter how great the match was," Federer said. "But at least you can leave the place feeling good about yourself, because I gave it all I had." The fourth-seeded Safin next meets No. 2 Andy Roddick or No. 3 Lleyton Hewitt, whose semifinal is Friday.

The women's final is set, featuring past champions Serena Williams and Lindsay Davenport. Williams' 2-6, 7-5, 8-6 victory over Maria Sharapova in a rematch of last year's Wimbledon final proved about as much drama as Federer-Safin. Williams saved three match points, then leaped three times after ending it with a winner.

The top-ranked Dav­ enport, who contemplated retiring in 2004, came back to beat No. 19 Nathalie Dechy of France 6-4, 6-3, 6-4. Davenport also reached the doubles final, pairing with Corina Morariu to face Svetlana Kuznetsova and Alicia Molik for that title.

With Federer trailing 8-2 in the fifth set and serving on match point, he lunged to retrieve a deep shot wide to his far backhand side. He swatted back a desperation shot, but slipped and dropped his racket. Safin converted the putaway.

"It's like a brain fight. It's more mental than physical against Roger," said Safin, who smashed his racket to the court two points before he lost the third set and later held a ball into the stands.

The mercurial Russian, whose lone major title came at the 2000 U.S. Open, showed that it is possible to frustrate Federer. The Swiss star won four of the previous six Slams.

**In Brief**

**Rocks revamp roster, frustrate fans**

Denver — The Colorado Rockies have tried winning with pitching, hitting and speed. They've thrown money at free agents, rebuilt through minor league deals and gone after players with high character.

None of it has worked and the Rockies are asking fans to stay patient as they change tactics yet again.

Teaming apart the roster and starting from scratch with top prospects might be the best plan yet, but some fans are growing weary of an organization that seems to switch philosophies like a runaway model goes through clothes.

"If I would have known a couple of months earlier what I know now, I would have dropped out," said Joe Garofalo, a season-ticket holder from Fort Collins. "It seems like the owners and GM are depleting the team. They are making it into a minor league team at major league prices."

**Federer struggles to find support, funds for '06 Winter Olympics**

TURIN, Italy — It seemed like a perfect match: Fiat and the Olympics.

The Turin-based carmaker and its flamboyant ski-loving chairman, Gianni Agnelli, would ensure the financial security of the 2006 Winter Games in the Piedmont capital and surrounding Alps.

It hasn't worked out that way.

With just over a year to go before the opening ceremony, Turin is scrambling to line up sponsors, over­ come a $196 million budget shortfall and drum up national support.

Fiat, meanwhile, is in deep financ­ ial trouble due to dwindling car sales and has gone through five CEOs in less than two years. Agnelli died in 2002 and his brother, Umberto, died last May.

Fiat companies are contributing only $22 million to Turin's overall $1.5 billion Olympic budget, much of it in payment-in-kind services such as 3,000 cars and 300 buses.

**Karl debuts against former team**

DENVER — George Karl had been involved with basketball since the seventh grade, so not having it in his life for nearly two years left him feeling empty.

Now that he's headed back to the NBA, Karl has a greater appreciation for what the game has meant to him.

Out of the NBA since the Bucks fired him in 2003, Karl was back in Milwaukee on Thursday to take over as coach of the underachieving Denver Nuggets. He's expected to be on the bench Friday night, making his debut with the Nuggets against his former team.

"The last 18 months was the first time I was not with a basketball team for 38 years," Karl said. "I now realize how fun and what a privilege it is to be with a basketball team."

The Nuggets hope his enthusiasm rubs off.
By JUSTIN SCHUVER
AssocSports Editor

While they may be in last place in the CCHA at this point in the season, the Irish have certainly not outlasted postseason contention. Currently, Notre Dame sits in 12th place with 10 points, with the sixth-place team, Bowling Green, only six points ahead. That's just a three-win difference, and as Irish coach Dave Poulin knows, Notre Dame still has a chance to have a hot streak heading into the last 10 games of the year.

"We can do whatever we want to do," he said. "I talked to our guys and told them that every team I've been associated with here at Notre Dame has had a role where things happen for you, and you get that confidence roll and your energy level picks up.

"That hasn't happened for us over a stretch of time, yet, and I think it's ahead of us for this final stretch." Notre Dame will hope to start a winning streak this weekend as they take on Bowling Green in two games this weekend, with the Irish meeting the Falcons Friday at 7:05 p.m. in Bowling Green and returning home to the Joyce Center to close out the series Saturday night.

The Irish are currently mired in a six-game losing streak, dating back to a 2-1 victory against Rensselaer on Jan. 2. Notre Dame has also failed to score a single goal in its last 156 minutes, 59 seconds — dropping two 2-0 shutouts to No. 5 Wisconsin last weekend.

On the season, the Irish are averaging just 1.50 goals per game, the second worst average in all of Division I (Army is last with a 1.39 goals per-game average). In the 26 games Notre Dame has played thus far, the Irish have scored one goal or fewer in 15 of them.

"We're trying to focus on the simplicity of not talking about goals," Poulin said. "We're trying to talk about completing a pass, completing two passes in the neutral zone, getting our feet moving, being in better position for our teammates.

"We've sort of gone back to the fundamentals of hockey and not focused so much on the topic of goal scoring." If the Irish can manage to get a few goals per game, they should have a good chance of finishing the season on a high note. Notre Dame's goalkeeping has been phenomenal thus far; if the final records don't show it, Irish senior goalie Morgan Geoy has been strong all season, but especially in the month of January, where he has a 2.23 goals against average and a .928 save percentage. His record during that month was just 1-6-1 however.

"Our defense has been really good all season," Poulin said. "Our goaltenders played well down the stretch, but our defense has been really strong. Three of the four goals were rush goals, and Wisconsin has some guys that can finish plays.

"We did play well defensively in that series and we have to keep that up over the last part of the season." Notre Dame has already faced Bowling Green this season, losing to the Falcons 3-1 on Nov. 4 and tying 4-4 on Nov. 5. That tie was perhaps the most offensive output all season for the Irish, with the team putting 54 shots on goal. Against Bowling Green, 10 goals were scored, and as Irish senior goalie Jordan Sigala said, the four goals are also a season high.

"This is a team that we've had 50 shots against this year, and that's the kind of effort it's going to take against one of the top goalies in the country," Poulin said.

Notre Dame faces off against Bowling Green Friday at 7:05 p.m. in Bowling Green, and Saturday at 7:05 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu
**Men's Swimming**

No. 21 Irish look to bounce back on road trip

By ANN LOUGHERY

Swimmers excited for rematch with No. 13 Michigan

By MIKE TENNANT

**ND Women's Swimming**

The Observer • SPORTS

Friday, January 28, 2005

*Wolverines were in South Bend*

Dame 209-170 en route to a first January. Both teams also traveled to the Caribbean for their second meet of the month of January. The Irish also took at least two of the three top places in 10 of the 14 individual events. Sophomore Tim Kellogg, who ranks fifth in Division I this season in the 100-yard fly, garnered the only two swimming victories for the Irish with a time of 1 minute, 52.28 seconds in the 200-yard fly and 49.28 in the 100-yard fly.

Cleveland State will also bring a hard nosed attitude on the road today. The Vikings are on a six-week winning streak and led by senior backstroker Pieter Pelser. Maryland's Rolfs Aquatic Center.

True, last weekend's loss to No. 23 Northwestern (6-3) Saturday at 12 p.m.

Last weekend, host Notre Dame fell to Northwestern (4-4) in a 163.3-134.3 decision. Although the Wildcats broke four pool records, they were unable to secure the win until the last event.

Notre Dame defeated the Wildcats 28-8 in the two diving events. Sophomore Scott O'Leary finished. Two weeks ago, the Irish took a number of lessons away from the competition. Junior Tim Randolph emphasized what a crucial role intensity plays in winning a race.

"When you race, you just have to know that you can't just give up one inch to the competition, no matter how long the race is or who you're going up against," Randolph said.

Notre Dame will take that hard-earned attitude on the road this weekend, facing Cleveland State State (0-8) today at 3:30 p.m.

"We've got a lot of kids who are going to swim well," Bailey Weathers Irish coach

**Irish Athletics "Be There" Weekend**

Saturday, January 29th
Men's Hockey vs. Bowling Green
7:05 p.m.
Joyce Center Pavilion

*First 500 fans receive Trading Cards of the Irish Juniors sponsored by Chevy*

**Monday**

Chevrolet

**Tuesday**

All three of these events are Gold Games! The first 100 fans to each event will receive a Gold Games t-shirt sponsored by South Bend Orthopaedics.

**Wednesday**

Stick around after the game to get autographs from the Irish Juniors!

**Thursday**

Contact Ann Loughery at lougher@nd.edu

*Contact Mike Tennant at mttennant@nd.edu*

**Friday, January 28, 2005**

The Observer • SPORTS

*The No. 21 Irish find themselves in familiar waters today against," Randolph said.

Junior Tim Randolph emphasized what a crucial role intensity plays in winning a race.

"We've got a lot of kids who are going to swim well," Bailey Weathers Irish coach

Contact Ann Loughery at lougher@nd.edu

*Contact Mike Tennant at mttennant@nd.edu*

**Saturday, January 29th**

Men's Hockey vs. Bowling Green

7:05 p.m.

Joyce Center Pavilion

*First 500 fans receive Trading Cards of the Irish Juniors sponsored by Chevy*

**Chevrolet**

**Saturday, January 29th**

Men's Tennis vs. North Carolina 2 p.m.

Eck Tennis Pavilion

**Saturday, January 29th**

#2/#4 Fencing Notre Dame Duals 11:00 a.m.

Joyce Center Pavilion

**Saturday, January 29th**

#10 Track and Field Notre Dame Invitational Noon Loftus Center

**Sunday, January 30th**

Men's Basketball vs. #13 UCONN 3:45 p.m.

Joyce Center

This game sponsored by Papa John's and one lucky fan will win pizza for a year!

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**Gold Games**

The first 100 fans to each event will receive a Gold Games t-shirt sponsored by South Bend Orthopaedics.

*Stick around after the game to get autographs from the Irish Juniors!*

**Patton Davis swims in the Notre Dame Invitational in December. The Irish have two meets this weekend.**
Wednesday's win over St. John's.

place, behind Connecticut, Boston
Texas. Houston gave Notre Dame
Week the past two weeks after a
rebounds, and shoots 56.5 per­
Ann Strother. The 6-foot-2 guard
women's epee champ
ing this game especially important
who averages 12.4 points per
East performer Barbara Turner,
scorer and second team All-Big

n and 2003
State comes with 2002 and
Non pata t P anchan and 2003
women's epee champ
katarina Trapezk competing for the Nittany Lions.

Irish forward Megan Duffy looks for the pass in a game against Purdue Jan. 16. Magraw said, "They've been dominant in the Big East. They're a tandem that beat again, the No. 1 team, and a team that's playing with a lot of confi­
Notre Dame escaped Wednesday against deficits. In fact, the only defending
NCAA champion not competing in the event is men's epee modalist Arpad Horvath of St. John's.

The Notre Dame Duals will also feature new equipment that has also altered the way matches are scored and approached. The International
Fencing Association (IFA) recently made changes to the way points are scored, shortening the interval of time that double points can be scored to 35 hundredths of a second. Also, the IFA lengthened the period of time that a full match must be played while making an opponent's 20-minute clock run as a point. As scoring is electronic, the new equipment, which was just installed over winter break, are calibrated to be sensitive
these new specifications. Because of these new rule changes, the Irish have been working extensively on tech­
niques that will help them adjust to the new regulations.

"The kids have had problems adjusting to the new situa­tion," Bednarski said. "But we don't have too much work, and it's a good idea because it's not easy to change machines.

Despite the changes and the
toughness of their competition, the Irish are eager to test themselves against the best teams out there, both familiar and new.

"We know the value of Ohio State," Bednarski said. "'Now it's another rival [Penn State], who is close to national cham­
ion, and we want to see how strong they are."

Contact Eric Renter at
cerrer@nd.edu

The Observer • SPORTS

Friday, January 28, 2005

Bayliss

continued from page 20

ways to go in doubles, but
we're better than we were a year ago, and we're making some progress.

The doubles point is of par­

cular concern for Bayliss.

"We certainly are concerned about all our doubles," he said. "Getting the level of teams we're going to be playing now, that's not going to be good enough.

North Carolina will provide
Notre Dame with its biggest test in the season so far.

"North Carolina is a very
well-balanced team with a lot of aggressive baseliners who really, really make you play," Bayliss said. "They play great doubles — I think the match Saturday is going to be very hotly contested and a great match."

The team has worked to pre­
pare for the talent that the Tar Heels will bring to the match.

"I had a chance to watch them practice a little bit," Bayliss said. "They really do hit their ground strokes with authority.

Sunday's match will not prove any easier, as Bayliss calls the Seminoles a potential top-20 team "loaded with tal­
ent." The team did not change their practice strategy, although Bayliss and his play­
ers are focused on the impor­tant weekend ahead.

"We tried to keep the prac­tices a little more compact and specific knowing that we've got two very, very tough teams back to back," Bayliss said.

The team is also sponsoring a dorm challenge event, where dorms with the most students coming to matches will receive a prize. This weekend, Seigfried, Pasquerilla West, and Lewis will be the dorms competing at Saturday's match, with Koit, Pasquerilla East and Welch Family living for the prize on Sunday.

Regardless of the contest, however, fans this weekend can expect to see a high cal­
iber of play at the Eick Tennis Pavillon.

"We're healthy, everyone's looked good in practice, there's no reason to think we won't play well," Bayliss said. "I'm excited because I know we've come a long way, and we either need to ace that we've really achieved a lot or find out what we need to do to get bet­
ter and we're going to find out."

Contact Kate Gales at
kgales@nd.edu

Doubles

continued from page 20

However, both Penn State and Ohio State come armed with a champion in each. Penn State comes with 2002 and
2003 women's epee champ
Caitlin Thompson and 2003
women's sabre champ
Lauren Connelly. The

Irish will be facing a fourth
champion, Notre Dame's

Elizabeth Exon and Nina Yaftali.

At No. 2 for the Irish will be
sophomore Catrina Thompson will be playing
at No. 3 for the Irish will be
junior Elizabeth Exon and Nina Yaftali.

Buck and junior

Lauren Connelly.

In singles, No. 6
ranked American Jacqueline Batteast
said. "It's been that way
for you," she said.

"We are so supportive of each
other, especially when you're the

best and everyone is tough and everyone
can't look at rankings because
too lightly."

"Nobody's really given them a


It was warning Bellamy and
Caitrina and Christian Thompson. They will face the No. 33-ranked team of
Katarzyna Trapezk and Ashlee Davis.

At No. 2 for the Irish will be
freshman Brook
Buck and junior
sabre champ
Junior Kiki
Stastny and
Sara Jane
Connelly will be playing a
different组合
and are coming off an impressive
win at Michigan's
in singles. No. 69-ranked
Caitrin Thompson will be playing No. 1 for the Irish. She will be fol­

lowed by No. 85-ranked

Buck. Playing No. 3 for the Irish will be

Christian Thompson. The rest of
the line-up includes Lauren
Trapezk and Nina Yaftali.

Although the Irish will be head­
ing into the match with a higher ranking overall, Notre Dame is not taking the contest lightly.

"They may be ranked 30th, but
they are definitely a top-20 team," Connelly said. "They are deep and the kids
at the top of their lineup are tough. They will be in the top-20 before the end of the season.

Doubles: Notre Dame's No. 1 doubles team of Lauren Connelly and Sara Jane Connelly

So far, the only Irish doubles team that
Notre Dame has been able to bring into its line-up includes Lauren
Trapezk and Nina Yaftali.

"We're healthy, everyone's
looking good in practice, there's
no reason to think we won't
play well," Bayliss said. "I'm
excited because I know we've
come a long way, and we either
definitely need to ace that we've
really achieved a lot or find out
what we need to do to get bet­
ter and we're going to find out."

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**ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Time for redemption**

No. 9 Connecticut used a win over the Irish earlier this year to turn around its season

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

No. 9 Connecticut saved its season Jan. 12, when it beat Notre Dame 67-50 at home. Senior Ashley Battle called it a “turning point” at the time, and that it has been.

Since that game, the Huskies have been red-hot, winning four straight, including a 73-57 defeat of No. 15 Texas and three straight Big East wins, leaving them undefeated in the conference.

Sunday, No. 6 Notre Dame (17-3, 5-2 Big East) looks to end this winning streak as the Irish travel to Hartford to face Connecticut for the second time in less than a month.

“They’re on a roll right now,” Irish coach Muffin McGraw said. “I think we put them on a roll. The win over us really got their confidence back.”

The lost confidence came after the Huskies (13-4, 6-0 Big East) dropped four of their first 12 games, losing at No. 12 North Carolina and Arizona State and losing at home to No. 11 Michigan State and No. 5 Tennessee.

And Connecticut will be even more red-hot, winning four straight, including a 73-57 defeat of No. 15 Texas and three straight Big East wins, leaving them undefeated in the conference.

**ND WOMEN’S TENNIS**

Irish set to face No. 30 Wake Forest

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

Thrashing their way to a 7-2 start, the Irish are ready for some tougher competition — and this weekend’s matches against No. 18 North Carolina and No. 41 Florida State will provide just that.

Top teams? Of course. But coach Bobby Bayliss is ready for a challenge.

“I feel pretty good about our team,” he said. “I think we’ve grown and its time to take on a big challenge and it’s here — so let’s get it on.”

After compiling a 4-0 record, including last weekend’s wins over Indiana and Wisconsin, the team is seasoned and making the in-season adjustments necessary to success.

“We had two matches over the weekend, so the first thing we did was to make sure we had a day off and kind of regrouped,” Bayliss said. “I was pretty pleased with the singles last weekend, and we’ve still got a tough,” junior Liz Donohue said.

“After last season’s loss, we know they are going to be strong. To achieve this feat, Notre Dame is looking to start the meet strong.

“Afer last season’s loss, we know they are going to be tough,” junior Liz Donohue said. “So we are going to have to make the most of our home-court advantage and play like we have nothing to lose.”

The Irish are hoping to set the tone early in the contest by winning the crucial doubles point.

**FENCING**

Ohio State and Penn State come to Duals

13-team field set to face off at the JACC

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

First looks, second chances and three national title contenders are descending on South Bend.

The Irish have a very busy and important weekend ahead of them, as they compete against Northwestern, Penn State and top-ranked Ohio State. The Buckeyes topped both the women’s and men’s teams last weekend at the NYU duals.

In addition to these teams, a host of other combatants in a 13-team field will be fitting the Irish JACC this weekend to face the Irish and each other in the Notre Dame Duals which beings Saturday at 8 a.m.

Both Irish squads will be trying to answer for their defeats from last weekend, including a 14-13 thriller between the women’s squads.

“We would like to get revenge and try to beat them on the women’s side and improve our performance on the men’s side,” Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said.

The Duals will feature more than a season’s worth of NCAA individual champions who will look to defend their claim to their 13 collective titles. Three of these champions, senior foilist Alicja Krczalo, senior epeeist Kerry Walton and sophomore sabre Valerie Providenza, will be competing for the Irish, giving the squad more individual titlists than any of their competitors.

Top teams? Of course. But coach Bobby Bayliss is ready for a challenge.

“I feel pretty good about our team,” he said. “I think we’ve grown and its time to take on a big challenge and it’s here — so let’s get it on.”

After compiling a 4-0 record, including last weekend’s wins over Indiana and Wisconsin, the team is seasoned and making the in-season adjustments necessary to success.

“The lost confidence came after the Huskies (13-4, 6-0 Big East) dropped four of their first 12 games, losing at No. 12 North Carolina and Arizona State and losing at home to No. 11 Michigan State and No. 5 Tennessee.

**ND WOMEN’S TRACK**

Irish into this weekend’s meet

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

Kurt Benninger leads the Irish into this weekend’s meet

**MEN’S TRACK**

Irish into this weekend’s meet

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

Kurt Benninger leads the Irish into this weekend’s meet

**HOCKEY**

At Bowling Green, Tonight, 7:05 p.m.

Despite sitting in last place in the CCHA, Notre Dame still has a chance of making the postseason with 10 games remaining in the season.

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

Sophomore twins Catrina, right, and Christian Thompson walk off the courts during a match in the fall season. The Thompsons are currently ranked No. 2 in the nation in doubles.

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

This Sunday, the No. 21 Irish (2-1) are looking to avenge last weekend’s 7-0 loss to currently ranked No. 30 Wake Forest (2-0).

To achieve this feat, Notre Dame is looking to start the meet strong.

"After last season’s loss, we know they are going to be tough," junior Liz Donohue said. "So we are going to have to make the most of our home-court advantage and play like we have nothing to lose.”

The Irish are hoping to set the tone early in the contest by winning the crucial doubles point.

**HOCKEY**

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DEFENSE AND ATTITUDE
MAKE JORDAN CORNETTE A LEADER
Survival necessary during tough 4-game stretch

The Irish have four games, against teams with a combined 62-9 record, to determine what type of team they are.

"Going up against some of the top teams in the nation, it shows you where you're at as a basketball team," Chris Quinn said. "We have to take it one game at a time, stay focused and go from there."

If the Irish can tread water — by going 2-2 — they'll be 14-7 and 6-5 in the Big East with two very, very good wins over teams that are not only going to qualify for the NCAA tournament, but are legitimate contenders to be playing on the second weekend.

Anything better is cause for celebration. Anything worse, we'll get to take care of next week.

For now for the reason this murderer's row of opponents even exists.

COACHING

Notre Dame

Brey has been struggling to find what lineups and rotations work for this deep Irish squad. In these types of games, Brey likes experienced players and shortening his bench to seven or eight.

Calhoun has had to deal with the loss of two juniors to knee surgery and a highly-recruited freshman to illness. This team is young and Calhoun is still looking for its identity.

STYLE OF PLAY

A big focus in the off-season was to play better defense. Usually Brey likes his team to score 80 points a game, but this team is struggling from the inside to do that consistently.

Not surprisingly, the Huskies lead the Big East in scoring per game. They are notorious for trying to get out and run. Sunday will be no different.

POST PLAYERS

Simply put, Francis and Lafayatte are struggling. Neither of them can get in a rhythm for 40 minutes or carry the Irish when the 3-point shooting goes cold.

The Huskies have young post players in Boone and Villanueva, but the two of them have unlimited potential. Both are close to having a double-double and are major factors the Huskies lead the conference in rebounding.

Perimeter Players

The Huskies have nine players averaging double-digit minutes, and all nine will get into the game on Sunday. Calhoun needs a deep bench to use his fast-paced style.

Bench

The Irish need this game. They haven't played well in big games at the ACC, so confidence has to be an issue. A national television win to start this difficult four-game stretch would do a lot for the team's psyche.

INTANGIBLES

The Huskies don't want to lose their third game this early in the Big East schedule. Calhoun always has his team at the top of the Big East by the end of the year, but three losses would be crippling.

The Irish start a stretch of four games in 14 days against top-20 opponents Sunday when they host Connecticut.

Three games in four days will be a test for both Brey and Calhoun. Both teams need this game. If the Irish had a better track record of playing well at the ACC, they would get the edge. But no one honestly can say which Irish team will show up Sunday.
Leading by example

Jordan Cornette does the little things to keep the Irish together

By PAT LEONARD

Leading by example

Jordan Cornette walked, uniformed and right middle finger taped, down the hallway and into a dark Joyce Center arena. He had practiced that day and lifted weights. Now, he would be in front of the camera.

It was time for a photo shoot. The newspaper needed a shot of the Notre Dame senior for an upcoming issue, and the only lights in the arena glowed across the front of the scorer’s table: “Big East Conference.” “Notre Dame” they read. They were words that told a story in progress.

But the photographer needed the main arena lights to complete the day’s work. Cornette, who had spent the past three hours in the gym and weight room, obliged to help.

“Really basketball becomes your life when you’re here for these four years playing ball,” he would say later.

Walking casually with a smile on his face, the senior asked a passing security guard to help with the situation. “You’ve been here four years and you don’t know how to turn the lights on,” the security guard jeered.

“Heard it a lot,” Cornette said. “They’re always on when we come in.

How appropriate that Cornette did not know, considering the lights are never turned off.

How ironic that the senior could not do the simple task himself. During the course of the past four years, his coaches have asked him to do everything else.

The little things

When the buzzer sounded on Notre Dame’s 67-66 win over St. John’s Jan. 15, Jordan Cornette finished with nine points, seven rebounds, four assists, three blocks and one steal.

One of the blocks — a last-second swat of Red Storm guard Darryl Hill’s potential game-winner — sealed the Big East victory.

“One can only win and losing, as you can see through our season so far,” Cornette said. “There are going to be close games, and it’s going to come down to ... making the right decision at the end and grabbing that loose ball.”

What makes this senior so valuable to the Irish, his coach said, is his knowledge and desire to do both.

“He really knows his role and how to fit in with our group,” Irish coach Mike Brey said.

Cornette brings a confident presence when he is on the floor. While he has started 12 of 17 games this season, the senior has insisted playing time due to depth and match up issues with opponents.

In the St. John’s win, Cornette played 14 of a total 40 minutes. One week later against Georgetown, he played just 22. But Cornette — whose left bicep tape proclaims the nickname “Jay-C” — insists his unselfishness and attitude are not unique.

“I think I’m no different from any of the other guys on this team in terms of whether it’s playing five minutes or playing 40 minutes,” Cornette said. “If the team’s winning then you’re happy.”

With Connecticut, Syracuse, Boston College and Pittsburgh awaiting on the upcoming conference schedule, being happy demands the obvious things — fouls, strong defense, good shooting. But most importantly, the Irish need a leader who has been through these stretches before.

Nothing new

Since Jordan Cornette has averaged 3.9 points and 4.5 rebounds during his four-year career, his name often gets skipped over in discussions of players to watch. Mention leadership, however, and “Jay-C” seems synonymous with the term.

“I definitely feel comfortable in that [leadership] role,” Cornette said. “From sophomore year through I’ve had that type of role. So it’s nothing new.”

Cornette has played on different teams with different fates, but his attitude has remained consistent.

In his freshman season, the Irish lost a near upset of No. 1 Duke when Cornette’s classmate Chris Thomas was already seeing playing time at point guard. But a 22.11 scoring average, 36 minutes going up to almost 40 during the 2002-03 season, the Irish went 24-10.

Notre Dame reached the Sweet 16 of the NCAA tournament that season, but in 2000-01 the Irish failed to make the NCAA’s, earning a bid to the National Invitation Tournament and losing in the third round to Oregon.

Cornette, who has been a constant through the ups and downs of a rising Notre Dame program under Brey, appreciated the fast response to his team’s showing last season.

“Last year we ended up playing in the NIT, and a lot of people looked at the season as a throwaway,” Cornette said. “Just having those types of standards shows how far this program has come.”

As the Irish make a run at returning to the Big East, Cornette is balancing the two responsibilities for setting the tone and guiding their teammates through the mid-season warm season that are Big East games and tournament battles.

But Cornette — vocal leader, loose-ball chaser and shutdown blocker — is the do-it-all, selfless player that encompasses what being a senior is all about.

Identify

Heading into Wednesday’s game against Villanova, Cornette’s 188 career blocks were 13 away from breaking LaPhonso Ellis (1988-92) career mark at Notre Dame.

“He’s also late­ly our anchor defensively,” Brey said. “He does such a great job defending. He not only guards his man, but a lot of times he is also guarding the other four guys, too.”

Though Cornette has stepped out and knocked down the occasional 3-pointer as his role on the team has evolved from big man to swing man, he established his reputation — and maintains it — on the defensive end.

Cornette’s defensive is indicative of the overall intangible strength he provides for the Irish.

“We know he can block shots,” Brey said. “The interesting thing about his blocked shots is they never go out of bounds. They are always in play for us to pick up and go to the other end.”

Whether Cornette does this consciously or unintentionally, he is constantly aware of being the face and the voice of Notre Dame basketball in his senior season — and he plays it like he does.

“Your role becomes increased in a lot of different areas,” he said. “You’ve got to be one of the voices speaking up a strong representa­tion of the team.”

That is why, over the course of his four years, Cornette has learned from the best to try and become the best at what he does lead.

“If I watched[T] Matty Carroll, who was just the all-around guy,” Cornette said. “He just bred the attitude of a winner. You look at mature guys like Ryan Humphrey, who are very business-like, who know what they takes and who will do whatever it takes.”

He continued.

Then you look at [Harold] Swanagan, who just ... bats his butt everyday at practice and gives all his all to the point he can’t give any more,” he said. “Then you look at a guy like Torrian Jones, who is vocal and always talking the team up.”

Beginning next year, players will look at Cornette — and they won’t need lights to see the example he has set.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu
Free throw line becoming just that for the Irish

Big East leaders have seen the importance in conference play

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

They're called free throws for a reason.

The Irish are taking full advantage of that generosity. Sitting at the top of the Big East, and in the best 10 percent of the country with a 74.7 free throw percentage, the Irish have kept themselves in games with their success from the stripe.

That mark improves to 82.1 percent when only Big East games are factored into the equation.

Likewise, it's been an even bigger factor in their conference play.

Go back to the home win over Villanova. The Irish made all 19 of their free throws en route to a 78-72 victory over the Wildcats. Then move forward to the St. John's game where in trying to pull the upset at the Joyce Center, the Red Storm only made 10-of-22 free throws. That inability to cash in from the line allowed the Irish to stay close and gave Chris Thomas the opportunity to make the game-winning 3-pointer.

Thomas, Chris Quinn and Colin Falls are leading the team. Thomas shoots 90.5 percent from the line, Quinn 85.2 and Falls 93.2. With those three, it's more of a shock when they miss. Torin Francis and Dennis Lalimore, the team's two big men with the most free throw attempts, are shooting 63.6 and 62.1 percent — not impressive, but not bad for post players.

Using those numbers and taking a look at the box score in the loss to Georgetown has made Irish coach Mike Brey emphasize the game-winning 3-pointer. Yes, the Irish have a plethora of long-range shooters, so it's natural to think they should be successful from the line.

Breaking it down, it's even simpler. They practice it.

"We shoot free throws at the end of every practice — make 10-of-13, make 4 in a row as a team," Thomas said. "We do it as a team because you can put your best free throw shooters up there at the end of practice, and get out of practice quickly. It's not going to benefit the team if just your best free throw shooters are up there in game situations in practice."

"It's a weapon that we have and want to continue to use."

Mike Brey
Irish coach

That mark improves to 82.1 percent when only Big East games are factored into the equation.

"One of the things against Georgetown I didn't get to do this year is the bonus at the end of the game," Brey said. "A couple of hand checks puts Chris, Chris or Colin on the line and that's a huge weapon for us. We've got to do a better job of driving the ball and getting out big guys touches where they get fouls.

'I know we're leading the league, it's a weapon that we have and want to continue to use it.'

In this next stretch of high-profile games, later in the Big East tournament and if they qualify for the NCAA tournament, solid free-throw shooting is an overlooked aspect of college basketball, but it's a weapon the Irish have.

Thomas brought up the fact that Wake Forest hit a 3-pointer to tie its game against Florida State with 4 seconds remaining, and had the opportunity for a rare four-point play. As a team, the Demon Deacons had made a NCAA record 50 consecutive free throws. But Torrin Downey, Wake Forest's best free throw shooter, missed.

The Demon Deacons lost in overtime, their only conference loss this season.

"Free throw shooting is huge for any team," Thomas said. "It's such a crucial part of the game that you can't take it for granted and have to work on it every day."

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Race & Religion Symposium
January 29th
7pm-9pm in LaFortune ballroom
Reception to follow

Slam poets Kevin Coval, Bryonn Bain, and Jason Carney

Slam poetry on issues dealing with interrace and interfaith awareness, followed by a discussion with the audience on the poet's experiences.

*Symposium is first come, first serve
**Valid ND, SMC, or HC id required
***ND Faculty and Staff welcome if space permits