Students anticipate Bush's visit

Air Force One not expected to disrupt spring break flights

By MADDIE HANNA
Assistant News Editor

While some students are vying for tickets to President Bush's speech at the Joyce Center Friday, and others are preparing to protest outside, still others are worrying about the prospect of spring break flight delays out of South Bend Regional Airport due to the arrival of Air Force One.

However, the only delays will occur during the 15 minutes before Bush's arrival and the 15 minutes after his departure, airport executive director John Schalliol said.

The White House issued a media release Wednesday that included arrival and departure times for Air Force One, but asked news agencies to keep the information confidential for security reasons. Local television stations WNDU and WSBT, however, broke the story.

Roughly 1500 identification cards swiped in five-hour distribution of lottery numbers

By KATE ANTONACCI
Assistant News Editor

Students lined up outside the Dooley Room in the LaFortune Student Center Wednesday to enter a lottery for the 200 available tickets to President Bush's visit to the Joyce Athletic Center Complex (JACC) Friday.

"I don't have an exact number, but our rough estimate is that around 1500 identification cards were swiped," said Jimmy Flaherty, Student Union Board (SUB) manager.

SUB was asked to conduct a lottery Tuesday evening and put together a distribution similar to the one used for away football games, which usually takes a few weeks to plan. Flaherty credited the hard work of SUB members for the efficiency of the last-minute event.

"People were actually really excited," said Flaherty. "People kind of knew what to expect from a SUB lottery — that they are well run and organized."

SUB was the organizer of the event, but Student Government, mainly the Student Senate, was asked to assist in the ticket distribution. Student government officers said students took advantage of the opportunity to put their name in the lottery.

"Both my conservative and liberal friends are trying to get tickets, which is also positive," said Nick Coleman, Senate Diversity Committee Chair. "I could also notice that the students were disappointed that only 200 students will have the opportunity to see President Bush from this lottery."

Many students expressed excitement at the chance to see the president, whether or not their political beliefs are consistent with those of the current administration.

"I was interested in hearing our president speak, especially since I'm a Bush supporter. I'd be interesting in seeing what he has to say," said junior Johnny Mospan.

"It'd be cool. Not everyone gets to hear a president speak in person."

However, for students concerned about Social Security, it is open to the greater South Bend community, as well as to Notre Dame, but tickets are short in supply.

Death penalty talk gets personal

Exonerated inmate, others discuss firsthand experiences in panel

By KARIN LANGLEY
News Writer

While the issue of capital punishment typically generates debate, few discussions involve individuals from as many perspectives as did Wednesday night's panel entitled "National Debate on the Death Penalty."

The first panel member to speak was Richard Dieter, the executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based Death Penalty Information Center. Dieter stressed the presence of the death penalty in American history while referring to Tuesday's Supreme Court ruling that the Constitution bars capital punishment for juveniles.

"What happened yesterday was an amazing turnaround for the Court. The Supreme Court took on this issue 15 years ago, but in 1989 there was a sense that the death penalty was permissible under our constitution," Dieter said.

"Even when the death penalty was permissible under our constitution, it was not because executing humans was deemed cruel or unusual, but because capital punishment laws at that time were very arbitrary," Dieter described the subsequent shift in public opinion away from the death penalty, attributing this move to the establishment of DNA technology as an accepted means of identifying individuals as did Wednesday's debate, few discussions involve individuals from as many perspectives as did Wednesday night's panel entitled "National Debate on the Death Penalty."

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INSIDE COLUMN

Spring break... serenity?

Unlike a lot of my classmates, I'm not going on vacation for spring break. Sure, a cruise in the Caribbean or spending the day relaxing on a beach in Mexico would be nice. But what's so great about a week in a tropical paradise full of sand and sun? Instead of all that, I'm heading back to my hometown of Omaha. That's right. Instead of travelling to Cabo, I'm spending my spring break "someplace in middle America."

And I can't wait. I can't wait to hang out with a few of my old friends. But not to party all night long. I just want to relax on the couch in my buddy's basement. Watch some Seinfeld re-runs and recall the time our friend Morgan's pen exploded in his mouth during sophomore theology class. I can't wait to pick up a late-night Frasty at Woody's and cruise the streets with the windows down as Bob Segar's voice seeps through the classic rock station on the radio. I can't wait to stop for lunch at King Kong Grues, where everyone speaks clear English, except for the guy taking your order. His Greek accent is the only thing thicker than the half-pound burgers they serve. I can't wait to shoot hoops in the driveway with my sisters, using the same Notre Dame basketball I got when I was 11. I can't wait to knock off and the Leprechaun is gone, but it still works for a game of knock-out.

I can't wait to sleep in my bunk bed, the same one I've slept in since I was eight-year old. It creeps a little bit and my bodyigg hang over the edge. But it's cozy and the sheets are a lot warmer than my dorm room.

I can't wait to drive past Bosenhall Stadium, the home of the College World Series. I'll look forward to the second week of June, when I can sit with my friends in the sun-soaked stands all day long and watch the top college baseball teams in America. Tickets are only five bucks, just two dollars less than the chicken fingers.

I can't wait to head over to Homer's Music, the best record store in town. The CDs aren't as cheap as at Best Buy, but the atmosphere is incomparable. There are only two cash registers, and the people behind them look like they are in a contest to see who can dress more like Jerry Garcia. I can't wait to go again. And if I got bored? Well, I'll just turn on MTV and see how much fun everyone's having at spring break.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu.

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: IF YOU WERE ON IRISH IDOL, WHAT SONG WOULD YOU SING, AND WHY?

Brendan DuBree  senior  Stanford  "That 'Numa-Numa-tet' song because that dancing fat guy is just awesome."

Andy Carter  freshman  Fisher  "School's Out for the Summer because we all wish it was."

Zac Liptak  freshman  Zahm  "Call On Me. We all know why."

Eric Natke  freshman  Dillon  "Hmmm... 'Jefferson Starship' because it's awesome."

Grsel Ruiz  senior  Off-campus  "If I did sing, which I cant, I would sing something romantic, like Whitney Houston."

IN BRIEF

There will be a poetry reading entitled "Notes from the Divided Country" today from 7 p.m. to 8 in the Hospitality Room of South Dining Hall.

The Higgins Labor Research Center is sponsoring a viewing of the film "In and Out" today at 4 p.m. in the Moose Krause Center.

The women's lacrosse team face Northwestern today at 4:30 p.m. at the Moose Krause Field.

The film "Bad Education" will be shown at 2 p.m. and 10 in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. For tickets, call the DeBartolo box office at 1-2800.

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

MEMBERS OF ARMY ROTC SPENT PART OF THE DAY WEDNESDAY IN THE SNOW ON SOUTH QUAD PRACTICING THE SKILL OF LAND NAVIGATION. USING ONLY A COMPASS AND COUNTING STEPS, THEY WERE ABLE TO CALCULATE HOW FAR THEY WERE TRAVELING.

OFFBEAT

Man sets off nuclear alert detector on fire engine

ESCONDIDO, Calif. — A man who recently had received radiation treatment for a medical condition set off a nuclear alert detector on a fire engine, prompting police to close down a roadway in Escondido while authorities searched for a nuclear weapon.

The Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District engine crew's radiation monitor sounded Tuesday when the man and his friend walked past the crew on their way to fill a gas can. The Nuke Alert monitor sounded again as the men walked back to their vehicle.

Firefighters notified the San Diego County Sheriff's Department after they drove my crim e research and on three continents," Gaitan at his sentencing on Tuesday. "But there are some things about crime I've learned from the prison."

As part of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Awareness Week, the film "In and Out" will be shown today at 6 p.m. in the LaForte Ballroom. There will be free pizza and soda at the event.

Frank Connolly, professor of mathematics, will be featured in the workshop "How to Prepare Undergraduates for Graduate Work and Graduate Fellowship Competitions" Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 5 in the Notre Dame Room of LaForte Center. The event is open to all Notre Dame faculty.

Men's and women's track will be competing in the Alex Wilson Invitational from 7 p.m. to 9:30 in the Loftes Sports Center on Friday. The meet continues Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Members of Army ROTC spent part of the day Wednesday in the snow on South Quad practicing the skill of land navigation. Using only a compass and counting their steps, they were able to calculate how far they traveled.

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In brief

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CORRECTION

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Members discuss newspaper, printer pilot programs

By AMANDA MICHAELS
New Notre Dame

Pilot programs took the wheel at Wednesday night's meeting of the Student Senate, where senators were given updates on the progress of both the Course Readership and dorm printer pilot programs.

Traci Sexton of the USA Today today addressed the Senate during podium time, giving a review of the College Readership Program's progress and answering any questions senators might have.

The four-week long pilot program, which ends Friday, is a free trial period during which the newspaper needs to assess the value of paying for the service full time.

Sexton said that over a three-week period, 26,889 newspapers circulated through Notre Dame's students and faculty.

"The consumption was awesome here; it's probably one of the strongest consumption patterns we've seen at any school," Sexton said.

She reported that 900 copies of The New York Times and USA Today and 800 copies of the Chicago Tribune are now being distributed to campus locations — more than doubling the 400 handed out each day when the program first started.

Affirming that everything "went very well," Sexton explained that they will consider the surveys taken by students Wednesday and begin to work out the most viable program for next year.

Sexton then questioned the cost of the service, Sexton declined to give a number, saying they have to get through the process of analysis and discussion before they can outline a realistic budget.

Vijay Ramanan, chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs, which spearheaded the program, said his committee is looking into sources of funding, and plans to send letters to academic departments asking for contributions to help balance out the cost.

Chris Harris, Carroll Student Senator and member of the Committee on A and S M e d ic e Affairs, then updated the group on the status of the dorm printer pilot program, which installed printers in five dorms in hopes of determining whether putting a printer in every dorm room would be both feasible and necessary.

Harris said he was told that 1,500 to 2,000 pages were printed off in the trial dorms each week, and that an expansion to all the dorms is being considered. The cost of doing so, however, must be factored into the University's budget before it can be approved.

Sending the senators off on a lighter note, Sorin senator Erik Powers and his former presidential running mate Alde White presented a resolution to change the name of spring break at Notre Dame to "Spring Week of Awesomeness."

The pair expressed concern about a number of issues that affect the University "socially, physically, emotionally and epidemically," as Powers said.

While protested the misnomer of "Spring Break," pointing out that the vacation is two weeks before the Vernal Equinox that officially ushers in the spring season, and the violence committed by the word "break" itself.

He suggested changing its title to, among other things, "A Temporary Restraining Order from Our Lady.

They also objected to the prevalence of fake tans on the campus, proposing that the University line the sidewalk with full sheets so students would get a tan while walking to class.

Also in question was the enforcement of purdahs over regular clothes.

"We suggest giving each student an anklet that can detect the hormone levels in the room and run on a universal clock, so if there's too much of the wrong hormone in a room after midnight or two, you get a little shuck," White said.

They also proposed that students write a one-page report on their vacation experiences, and that a booth with pin-up crucifixes be set up in a LaFontaine so everyone can see the rooms the stay in over break have one.

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichaels@nd.edu

Bomber had sketch of Grand Central Station

NEW YORK — A crude sketch said to be from the Bomber Terminal was found at the home of a suspect in the Madrid train bombings, but was not considered cause for alarm, New York City's police commissioner said Wednesday.

The one-page, hand-drawn document "was a very basic schematic," Commissioner Raymond Kelly said. "It's not an operational plan. It's not something for the Bomber had..."

The Spanish newspaper El Mundo reported that the drawing and other data were on a computer disk seized about two weeks after the train bombings in Madrid that killed 191 people on March 11, 2004. Spanish police turned the disk over to the FBI and CIA in December.

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"I used to this," said James Wong, a tourist from England who was passing through the station. "We're used to tight security in the subway and at train stations. Those measures were in place long before the city received word of the sketch."

This is not something I think people should be panicked about, Mayor Michael Bloomberg said. "We took the appropriate steps and we do not think that in that particular case there was a real plan to attack Grand Central."

Representatives listen as Vijay Ramanan, chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs, discusses the possible sources of funding for the dorm printer program, such as academic departments.

"The consumption was awesome here; it's probably one of the strongest consumption patterns we've seen at any school." --Traci Sexton USA Today

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On further details regarding the last for just 15 minutes. "But we have those kinds of delays anyway, so it's not a problem," he said.

Schalliol did not expect major travel difficulties. "There should be no serious ramifications," Schalliol said, explaining that, in normal circumstances, there were standard procedures when a President travels by plane.

Professor Fredrich said he didn't think she could change her flight, even after opening a secret door he found in the pyramid, which last year banned "conspicuous religious symbols" such as head scarves from state schools. He said individuals should decide what to wear in appropriate dress.

"I have no idea what's going on," said Darrin Albers, a junior studying the Delta Web site frequently for any updates.

"That's kind of annoying, but it's Bush, so what can you do," Fredrich said.

Students also said they were confused and had no idea what would happen while Bush was here. "I have no idea what's going on," said Darrin Albers, who will be flying out on a chartered plane Friday afternoon with the women's Big East trip.

"That would be kind of annoying," freshman Betty Kuykendall said. "But we have those kinds of measures ever, reported the president Wednesday, after a more than two-year legal battle.

Assimilating Muslim students is a sensitive political issue in Europe, especially in France, which last year banned "conspicuous religious symbols" such as head scarves from state schools, in order to preserve their identity and values despite prejudice and bigotry.

"It is amazing that in the so-called free world I have to fight to wear this attire," she said.

Lottery continued from page 1

"I think it might be the only chance for some to hear the president speak," said junior Mark Cartonick. "It's an important time in history. I'd like to be a part of it however possible." Some students have delayed their spring break plans due to the President's visit. "I personally am driving to Florida Friday and our carpool has decided to wait until Bush speaks, providing some of us win tickets, to leave," Coleman said. "I have heard some of the same reactions from people eager to hear him speak and from people who are guarding to protest."

Students received a ticket stub from the lottery distribution. The 100 winning numbers were posted on the door of the SUB office in 201 LaFortune Wednesday evening.

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonacci@nd.edu

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Send a brief letter indicating what is special or significant about this instructor to:

Hugh Page, Associate Dean
105 O'Shaughnessy Hall

Deadline
Friday, March 18, 2005
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Palestinian leader Abbas visits EU
BRUSSELS, Belgium — Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas told the European Union on Wednesday that he wants Palestinian statehood "as soon as possible." Abbas made his first visit to EU headquarters to drum up support from the 25-nation bloc for his reforms to prepare for statehood. "We will continue to work for this as soon as possible," he said.

Workers for the tribunal killed
BAGHDAD, Iraq — Damen killed a judge and lawyer working for the tribunal that will try Saddam Hussein and members of his former regime, a day after the secret court referred five of the ousted dictator's aides to trial. Leaked cases against humanity, officials and a relative of the slain men said Wednesday.

Tensions increase in the House
WASHINGTON — Partisan tensions ran high Tuesday in the Indiana House on Tuesday with representatives of the 25-nation bloc for his reforms to prepare for statehood. "We will continue to work for this as soon as possible," he said.

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan takes his seat before the start of a Senate Banking Committee hearing on Feb. 16 in Washington.

Greenspan warned that every year of delay would make fixing the problem harder, especially after the baby boomers begin retiring.

Bush's proposal for private accounts has proved to be a hard sell.

"This is the mother of all issues," House Majority Leader Tom DeLay said Tuesday, as Republican congressional leaders conceded that they may not be able to win congressional approval of it this year.

Senator Majority Leader Bill Frist said Bush will have to take a lead in building support for private accounts, especially "when a lot of political figures want to run and hide and when you have a lot of people who say there's no problem."

Greenspan said that switching to the private accounts would be a way to bolster the nation's low savings rate.

In his prepared testimony, Greenspan did not report the cautionary message he sent last month. Creation of the accounts should be done slowly to gauge the impact of increased borrowing that will be needed to raise salaries in financial markets.

Israel

Gaza settlements could create jobs

JERUSALEM — Israel is negotiating to hand over greenhouses in Gaza settlements to Palestinians after its planned withdrawal in the summer, an official said Wednesday, and the military has already concluded a preliminary plan to dig a deep, wide moat along the Gaza-Egypt border.

Yoram Bassi, head of Israel's Disengagement Authority, told reporters that peppers and tomatoes could help feed the 1.3 million Palestinians packed into the narrow coastal strip.

Associated Press

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Grants

continued from page 1

al studies.

According to Bonnie Bazata, director of grants management for CWIL, this is the first time a grant has been offered specifically for CWIL's television program, the "Imagen Latino," about contributing to the community. She was approached in the fall by political science professor Marc Belanger and Jesusa Rodriguez, director of "Imagen Latino," about contributing to the show.

The program, which airs Thursday and Sunday afternoons at 5:30 p.m. on Comcast channel 99, is targeted at the local Hispanic population and has a viewing capacity of 80,000 people. Content includes practical information such as changes in immigration laws and how to survive the cold weather. "It was bridging with the community and I had been looking for a way to work with the community," Sanchez said.

Sanchez seized the "Imagen Latino" opportunity "phenomenal" and said the experience is gaining invaluable. As part of her work with the television program, she recently presented a grant proposal to the South Bend Partnership for a community communication development project. The goal of the grant is to provide training to important people in the child's life so they can provide language training through the program.

The departments "give (the students) a wonderful opportunity to work in schools and in hospitals ... but what is always missing is the parent's perspective," said Latham.

Latham and participating students are using connections the social work program already has with students in the community to enter homes and assess the needs of parents, she said.

Bazata said these programs are "evidence in American courts. The numbers of convicts on death row are dropping," he said. "We're not sure who is innocent and who is guilty anymore." Bill Pelke, whose grandmother was murdered, spoke on his personal experiences with the issue. In 1985, Pelke's grandmother was stabbed 33 times when a group of high school girls entered her home under the pretense of seeking Bible lessons, Leaky explained. One of the girls, Paula Cooper, was 15 years old at the time of the murder. At 16, she became the youngest death row inmate in the United States.

"About three and a half months after she was sentenced, I began to reflect on my grandmother's life and death. My mind went back to the courtroom on the day that Paula Cooper had been sentenced to death," Pelke said. "As the judge sentenced Paula, I thought of how my grandmother's life would sacrifice a person for the color of my skin, how I would execute me for a crime I did not commit," Pelke said.

Pelke described his reflections about his grandmother and her killer. "I worry, for example, about my grandmother's Christian faith. I thought of my grandmother's love for God to give me compassion for Paula Cooper, who I no longer wanted her to die. I learned the most important lesson in the prison: the lesson of the healing power of forgiveness." Pelke said these programs are "an organization of murder victims' family members committed to promoting forgiveness and abolishing the death penalty. He is also the president of the board of directors of the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty and sits on the board of directors of Murder Victims' Families for Human Rights.

The third speaker, Madison Hobley, said he survived a fire that killed his wife, son and five others — only to be arrested and tor­ rified by four Chicago police officers. The policemen went on to provide the testimony that led to Hobley's conviction for the fire and his subsequent death sentence. Hobley spent three years in prison and 14 years on death row until Illinois Governor George Ryan pardoned him in 2003.

"It is sad that we put our trust in the criminal justice system to secure a person's liberty. Our justice system is man-made," Pelke said.

Bazata said these programs are proof that the grant will bring many more original project propos­ als to CWIL and the community than she could develop alone. "I'm thrilled [with the proposals so far]. They are the best and far better than I could have come up with just sitting here," she said. "The program must include, among other things, an inter-cultural approach so that the American public would have its fill of the death penalty.

"We are looking for a creative idea, committed partners and something feasible within the time frame of the school year," she said.

According to Bazata, the project idea usually starts with one individual who must then approach potential partners.

"It has to be triangulated," Bazata said. "There has to be a student involved, there has to be a faculty member involved and there has to be a community member involved.

"The end of the year so those who worked on projects can meet and interact with one another.

Contact Megan O'Neil at oneill99@stmarys.edu

Scholastic is taking applications for

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scholarship

Notre Dame Disability Awareness Month

March 2005

Sujeet Desai will be playing the violin, clarinet and piano. He graduated from the Berklee Music Academy and was born with Down syndrome.

7 p.m. Washington Hall, Free Admission

Saturday, 3/19

Come to the Best Buddies Friendship Games and interact with children and adults with special needs 12 noon-2p.m. Logan Center Gym

Monday, 3/21

Head Football Coach Charlie Weis, 9p.m. DeBartolo 102

Coach Weis will be speaking about disability awareness.

Tuesday, 3/29

Students with Disabilities Discussion, 8p.m. Legends www.nd.edu/~bbuddies
Prosecutors analyze corruption

WorldCom's Bernard Ebbers' combination of money and power led to fraud

Bernard Ebbers, former CEO of WorldCom, enters Manhattan federal court Friday after two days in which he continued to change his story about his role in the scheme.

Sullivan, who testified as the star prosecution witness, claimed Ebbers pressured him into committing the fraud. He said he repeatedly told Ebbers it was wrong, but Ebbers insisted that WorldCom must "hit our numbers."

Prosecutors say the remark was an indication thatEbbers, worried about $400 million in personal loans that were backed by his WorldCom stock, was desperate for the company to meet Wall Street estimates.

In a daylong cross-examination Tuesday, Ebbers said he "just didn't see" glaring irregularities in internal financial papers that he reviewed while the company's $11 billion fraud was under way.

Ebbers was presented with a WorldCom budget report that showed so-called line cost expenses at $732 million in September 2000, only half the $1.4 billion budgeted by the company.

The report was documented, reflecting adjustments made by WorldCom accountants to cover up line costs that were much higher than the summer budget, prosecutors say.

Federal prosecutor David Anders asked Ebbers whether he noticed the gap.

"If I would have noticed that, we would not be here today," Ebbers responded. The former CEO said he paid more attention to other expenses in the document, such as administrative costs.

Ebbers is charged with fraud, conspiracy and making false filings to the Securities and Exchange Commission. The charges carry up to 65 years in prison.

Sullivan, who testified for the government earlier in the case, claims Ebbers was disabled by hitting Wall Street earnings and revenue targets and pressured him each quarter into committing the fraud.

The former finance chief said Ebbers attended a meeting during the spring of 2001 in Ashburn, Va., in which he was told that line costs were spiraling out of control.

Disabled workers see decline in pay

"We are not losing customers because we are hitting Wall Street targets," Benedum told The Star Press for a Wednesday story. "Now, it has changed."

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"As a result, we have had to adjust our business plan."

The settlement comes before New York consumers would face a $2.50 monthly "administrative fee" beginning May 18.

Simon agreed not to charge the fee unless the company has to pay for the investigation. Similar legal battles in other states have been settled.

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In retrospect, it is clear that the Queer Film Festival and The Vagina Monologues were not what they claimed to be. Their message is conveyed by the repeated killing of women. The雀er Monologues, however, is so inconsistent with that purpose that it could almost qualify as a spoof. Two ways, the play promotes violence against women. First, the proceedings of The Vagina Monologues went to Sex Offense Services, the rape crisis center and to the St. Joseph County YWCA. Both entities provide information on abortion access to pregnant women. Second, in its context, The Vagina Monologues promotes violence against women by glorifying the depersonalization that constitutes such violence. The human person, as Pope John Paul II said, is "a unified totality" of body and spiritual soul. The Vagina Monologues fragments that unity of the woman's person in two ways, by personalizing a part of her body and by identifying the woman herself with that body part.

Various monologues present the vagina as an entity with which the woman can, and should, establish a "conscious relationship." I share the reader the abundant details believe it—you should think twice. The monologues include such literary gems as, "If your vagina got dressed, what would it wear?" and "If your vagina could talk, what would it say, in two words?" One monologue recasts a group manifestation in a workshop run by "a woman who believes in vaginas." This introduces the Notre Dame community to the concept of orgonality, the derection of a body part. The decisive moment in that monologue came when the workshop participant thought, "I didn't have to find it. I had to be it. Be it. Be my clitoris. Be my clitoris. ... My vagina, my vagina, me." There, the person is reduced to, and equated to, her body part. This fragmentation and objectification of the person facilitates violence against women.

The Vagina Monologues includes a monologue, "The Little Cloud of Shame That Could," a detailed recounting of the lesbian seduction of a 16-year-old by a 24-year-old. This seduction is described by the victim as "my ... salvation." This monologue is abominable in a "Catholic" university in light of the sex abuse crisis in the American Church. The great majority of such cases involves seduction of a teen-aged boy by a homosexual priest, the mirror image of the lesbian seduction portrayed as a "salvation" for the victim in the monologue.

Another monologue consists of the repeated utterance of a four-letter explicit used to describe a body part. Other monologues, I guarantee, are better left unmentioned. The intellectual content of the text would suffer by comparison with the transcript of a town meeting of "Idiot Village." Maybe you have to be politically correct academicians or administrators to take such matters seriously.

"Ex Corde Ecclesiae," the Apostolic Constitution on the Catholic University, lists as one of the "essential characteristics" of the Catholic university:

"Fidelity to the Christian message as it comes to us through the Church." As Bishop John D'Arcy said in his statement, "Ex Corde," guarantees academic freedom within the parameters of "truth and the common good." Bishop D'Arcy concluded that The Vagina Monologues violate not only the common good but also "the truth about women; the truth about sexuality; the truth about male and female; and the truth about the human body."

Notre Dame is subservient to the NCA, accrediting agencies and many other entities. The one entity it will not obey is the Catholic Church, not even to the limited extent required by "Ex Corde." The University's concept of academic freedom is no different from that at Michigan State, Stanford, etc. In short, Notre Dame's claim to be Catholic violates the principle of truth-in-labeling.

The effect of the Queer Film Festival and The Vagina Monologues was to hijack the reputation of Notre Dame in support of an agenda at war with the Catholic Church. Our leaders who permitted this repeated exploitation of Notre Dame ought to be more than embarrassed. They ought to be ashamed of themselves.

Professor Emeritus Rice is on the Law School Faculty. His columns are published every other Thursday. He can be contacted at plaieck@nd.edu.

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

Molly Acker
Nobody Likes A Dumb Blonde

Million dollar blunder

If you have not seen the Oscar-winning movie "Million Dollar Baby," stop reading this article right now because I am about to blow the ending for you.

All of the rich layers of storyline, the one layer that elicited the most profound soul searching on my part showed itself at the very end of the film when the plot of the original (unabridged) rights to Maggie’s (Hilary Swank) desire to remove her breathing tube in order to let her family know she is dying. Maggie wishes for death instead of living the life she has inherited. Frankie at first showed its effect on him. Frankie at first showed itself at the very end of the film when I first showed myself in awe in the presence of this holy man. Frankie at first showed its effect on me.

Marshall University

John Allan
Instant messenger lingo a-go-go

LiveScience.com claims a new study has found that college students typing on instant messaging systems like AIM, Instant Messenger, Yahoo! Messenger and the like are surprisingly formal. You may think he is too conservative when it comes to other political issues, but there is no doubt that John Paul II has visited 110 parishes outside Italy, not to mention the 146 in the United States and 317 in Rome. Among the people he has met, he especially tried to connect with those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Kings of Leon keeps rock shaking

By BECCA SAUNDERS
Assistant Scene Editor

Many American rock fans have at least heard of Kings of Leon, but the band's popularity in the States is miniscule compared to the success the band has experienced in Great Britain, where its first album, "Youth and Young Manhood," has almost reached double platinum. While Kings of Leon experienced a great deal of critical acclaim on both sides of the Atlantic, something about these homegrown rural American boys did not pick up in their homeland.

All this may be about to change. "Aha Shake Heartbreak," the second major release for Kings of Leon, is a darker follow-up to 2003's "Youth and Young Manhood." The Kings of Leon Web site explains the difference between the two albums, saying, "If 'Youth and Young Manhood' was the party, 'Aha Shake Heartbreak' is the hangover." Although the album is definitely one of a much darker mood and tone, "Aha Shake Heartbreak" has a great many strengths of its own. The story of the Kings of Leon is not in any sense a tradition's tale of rock star formation. Three of the members of the band, singer-guitarist Caleb Followill, bass guitarist Jared Followill and drummer Nathan Followill are brothers. And the fourth member is hardly excluded from the family, as the Followill brothers' first cousin—Matthew Followill—plays guitar.

The three brothers grew up in a fundamentalist Christian family, led by their father who was a traveling evangelist. The boys spent a great deal of time on the road with their father going from city to city throughout the southern U.S. to spread the good news.

The subject matter of the majority of "Aha Shake Heartbreak" hardly reflects this upbringing. For the most part, the album covers the wild life that the members of the band have experienced in their rise to fame in the past year and a half. Many of the songs are strong enough for the album to gain a parental caution sticker and the lyrics seem to tell the true life of future rock and roll icons. Nathan Followill explains this subtle change and their personal relation to the lyrics of "Aha Shake Heartbreak," saying, "On our first album, I'd say about 30 percent of what we were writing about was autobiographical and 70 percent was wishful thinking. We were writing about things we hadn't seen yet. On this album, 90 percent of what we were writing about are things we've experienced, things we've had. There's still that other 10 percent though..."

The "Aha Shake Heartbreak" experience does not end at the meaning behind the lyrics — the music also shows the growth of Kings of Leon as artists. Many different types of songs are featured throughout "Aha Shake Heartbreak." The slower "My Generation" and "Slow Nights, So Long" are matched in quality to the more upbeat pace of "The Bucket" and "Taper Jean Girl." Caleb Followill's vocals are distinctive throughout the album and it seems that Kings of Leon on the whole has captured its own unique sound.

While "Aha Shake Heartbreak" is not as groundbreaking as "Youth and Young Manhood," it is a little easier to listen to and relate to musically. This album sets the Kings of Leon up for a spectacular third album where the originality of "Youth and Young Manhood" can be combined with the musical maturity of "Aha Shake Heartbreak." Overall, "Aha Shake Heartbreak" is a terrific rock album that proves the Kings of Leon deserve and probably will receive recognition on both sides of the Atlantic.

Contact Becca Saunders at rsaunder@nd.edu

# # # # #

Set Yourself on Fire
Stars

By MATTHEW SOLARSKI
Scene Music Critic

Stars, a Montreal-based electro-pop band, by nature possess a multitude of extraordinary properties. In the fine tradition of Pixies, Liars, Panthers, Oxes and Owls, defy the definitive article. The quartet, comprised of vocalist/keyboardist, Torquil Campbell, vocalist/guitarist Amy Millan and multi-instrumentalists Evan Cranley and Chris Seligman, seems to shine exponentially brighter with each successive release. "Set Yourself on Fire" proves to be the combo's most accomplished release to date, brimming with the warmth of harmonies, the most infectious of melodies and near peerless production. Stars entrance. Beginning with the mesmerizing opener, "Your Ex-Lover is Dead," Stars exerts a hold over the listener and holds the room in trance for all of its four glorious minutes.

Stars illuminate. The lyrical leap made by Campbell and company since their 2001 debut "Nightsongs" is easily their most stunning advancement. Here, Campbell and Millan deftly illustrate the proverbial its and outs of love, life and current affairs with impeccable flair and sensitivity. On the down-tempo duet "The Big Fight," the two trade vocals in a bedside dialogue, then align in lovely harmony. The charming "The First Five Times" is a wistful account of just that — the "first time," euphemistically speaking, and the four thereafter, until "Finally we rested."

Venture too close and Stars is apt to burn, as on the chilling "I Lied About Death," a scathing invective against the shallow, superficial consumer. This jaw-dropping number showcases Stars at its most fiercely political, at one point making the man in question as the "shadow of fear." Perhaps more succinctly, "Celebrate Five Years," which trades on the cruel irony inherent in the titular phrase. Here, Millan asks, "How will you know your enemy? By their color or your fear?" to the tune of pensive strings and percussion made to sound like cannon fire. Of war's casualties, she probes, "are the beating drums / celebration guns / the thunder and the laughter / the last thing they remembered?"

Amusingly, Stars too embody many of the same qualities commonly associated with stars of the sort born in Hollywood. The personalitites of Campbell and Millan impress themselves indifferently upon the listener. The songs here exude an unmistakable charisma, and manage to be instantly catchy while begging repeat listens—indeed, only then do these pop confections reveal their true sophistication.

Stars' star is one that continues to rise. The quartet just garnered a Juno nomination for "Set Yourself on Fire" (the Junos being even more bastille than its stateside counterpart, the Grammys), and "The OC" and "Cosmo Girl" invariably loom on the horizon for some more exposure. For now, Stars has light-years of warmth to share with the lovelorn who gaze perennially skyward.

Contact Matthew Solarски at mslarsk@nd.edu

WSND-FM TOP 5 SPINS OF THE WEEK: 1) IRON AND WINE · Woman King [EP] 2) BRIGHT EYES · Digital Ash In A Digital U

THE OBSERVER
Thursday, March 3, 2005

SCENE

ALBUM REVIEWS

While Kings of Leon has become quite popular in Great Britain, the band has yet to match that popularity in the United States.

Aha Shake Heartbreak
Kings of Leon
RCA

Stars ablaze on stellar third record
More Than Just Numbers
Four years later, seniors represent new identity

When you first think about it, the question seems obvious: it shouldn’t need an answer. On the other hand, the question is so loaded that most people would opt not to answer at all. Which is why the question, full of history and drama and significance beyond even words, needs to be asked.

What will Notre Dame basketball be without Chris Thomas? Thomas, the first team senior on every team graduates seniors and every program moves on, this year’s Notre Dame team seems different. Comparing the state of the program four years ago to its status today, one answer to the question becomes clear.

It will not be the same. Amid heavy criticism from fans and under the spotlight of national media, Thomas has accomplished what he set out to do: the entire team, especially, will need the senior leader more than ever. The Irish need the leadership, especially, because of who the seniors are.

Thomas recently joined Sherman Douglas and Gary Payton (from Whitten) as the third Division-I player to register 2,000 points and 800 assists during a career. Maybe he set the bar too high when he notch a triple-double in his first game as a freshman, and all of the fans that gave him a hard time felt they had the right to compare his play to that of the Irish legend.

But while criticism is justified for Thomas’ play on occasion, the Irish point guard can do a large number of things the Notre Dame program has not seen for a while down in a single player. The most important of those things is that Thomas can win consistently. And Notre Dame, under Thomas’ lead, for the most part has done that.

This senior class has value even down to the walk-ons, who the four general says has everything to do with his success in games.

“I told [senior walk-on Greg Troutman in leading] this about a month ago, people don’t realize the impact he has on our team,” Thomas said. “They don’t get any PT [playing time], but their importance in practice, knowing other teams game plans has been a huge part of our success this season.”

On Saturday, Thomas will walk with Cornette and Bost onto the floor to face Pittsburgh on Senior Day, their final home game at the Joyce Center. It’s going to be a culmination of great experiences, big moments, the emergence of Notre Dame basketball back on the map. Thomas said. “It’s definitely going to be an emotional time, but it will be a great motivator for us going into the tournament and finishing the season strong.”

Thomas and Cornette deserve a deep NCAA tournament run. Four years ago, such a statement would not logically attach itself to Notre Dame basketball. But now, Thomas more than anyone deserves a memorable postseason to put an ideal finishing touch on a statistically and historically amazing career.

What will Notre Dame basketball be without Chris Thomas?

The Irish hope they don’t find out until April.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

**Four years later, seniors represent new identity**

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**Notre Dame**

With his team facing a place on the NCAA tournament bubble, Thomas got the Panthers to play their best so long as the season in the 22-point destruction of Boston College at the Conte Forum Monday night.

Pittsburgh continues to be a typical Big East team — back down in the post and playing in their face defense. After allowing more than 70 points during their three losses, the Panthers allowed just 50 against the Eagles.

This is the strength of the Panthers. Troutman has been their most consistent player, while Taft has been frustrating for Dixon. But Taft joined Troutman in leading big win Monday night.

Krauser has been making big-time shots of late, especially against the Irish and in the comeback win at Syracuse Feb. 14. Graves has started 22 games and can fill it up from behind the arc.

The Panthers have nine players getting minutes, but those minutes are needed with starters like he did with Taft in the first meeting against the Irish.

**Irish senior Jordan Cornette rejects a shot against DePaul Dec. 11. Cornette, Chris Thomas and Greg Bost will be honored Saturday afternoon on Senior Day.**

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**Pittsburgh**

Brey’s been experimenting more with lineups this season, the resurgence of Notre Dame basketball back on the map. Monday night. Brey’s experiment has seen a lot of time and looks more confident every night. Carter’s been stuck in the backcourt logjam but provides instant offensive off the bench.

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**Analysis**

**Notre Dame**

With his team facing a place on the NCAA tournament bubble, Thomas got the Panthers to play their best so long as the season in the 22-point destruction of Boston College at the Conte Forum Monday night.

Brey has more experience, but both of these teams have struggled to get on a roll during the stretch. This is when any team, especially our team, needs the senior leader.

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**Notre Dame**

Pat Leonard
Associate Sports Editor

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End of an era
Chris Thomas plays his last home game Saturday against Pittsburgh

By MATT LOZAR
Senior Staff Writer

Mike Brey pointed out his office window. It wasn't at the Blizzard blanketing the Notre Dame campus Tuesday.

He was pointing at Notre Dame Stadium. Why? To describe Chris Thomas.

"I think he's really been the poster boy for the program," Brey said. "Quite frankly, he's been the highest profile athlete [at Notre Dame] as well. More than any of the guys over there, because he's been the guy, and I think he's been the guy he wanted to be.

Forget about Thomas' name being all over the Notre Dame record book. Forget about the accolades and awards decorating his biography. Forget about the expectations coming from being Mr. Indiana or his opening-night triple double. What Brey indicated by simply raising his left arm was something that made him the No. 1 seed in Thomas' eyes when he came to Notre Dame.

It didn't affect Thomas until his first collegiate game. "I think I kind of wanted to write my own story," Thomas said. "I think I wanted to have the ability to get a good grade and get playing time and really do something nobody has ever done. That was a huge part of the decision.

But after one season in South Bend, the former North Carolina player for alma mater when the head coach position opened up in Chapel Hill. Doherty didn't even call Thomas or Jordan Cornette, who were at a Nike Camp in Indianapolis, until the next day to let them know.

However, when he got the Irish job, Brey called Cornette "right away" and asked the Indianapolis native to come visit the campus in early August, spend some time with the new coaching staff and see if it was still going to be a fit.

"I think he before me, when I was on the phone with him in July, he was about 90 percent back to stay, "Brey said. "I thought I would do that about him as a kid — talk about a loyalty in a university.

Setting the bar high

Thomas became the first Irish freshman in ND history to have over the point guard position four seasons ago — earning numerous freshman made for the team.

"I think it was a motivator, a wake-up call," Brey said. "I think it was kind of a turning point in my life, in my career.

Becoming a leader

Brey pointed out his office window.

"I think it was a motivator, a wake-up call," Brey said. "I think it was kind of a turning point in my life, in my career. I think I have it pretty well.

Brey then talked about Thomas' success by filling out the NBA record, not CT did this.

That's a huge testament. Brey just trade everything aside for the betterment of the team. That's selflessness.

Thomas could have taken the easy road and followed the rest of the top players from Indiana and stayed at a state school. He could have thought about his bank account and left for the NBA after either of his first two seasons.

"I just look at the wins and losses over the last four years," Thomas said. "I just look at the wins and losses after every game before the quarterfinal run in the NIT.

But for four years, Thomas hasn't put himself first. "I think that was my main goal, and I feel like I've accomplished it pretty well."

Thomas has one more home game and the Big East tournament to prepare for an NCAA tournament run, the tournament he came to Notre Dame for.

"It's been almost a whole year since we've been back," Thomas said. "Even though you're in postseason tournament play, it's a totally different atmosphere," Thomas said. "Your program's not nitwitted about it, and when we went south, more years, it was the biggest thing to come around for a long time.

The biggest thing to come around, that is, Chris Thomas.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

Christ Thomas by the numbers

| consecutive starts made by Thomas — Notre Dame record and every Irish game since he arrived on campus | 125 |
| years-two-time-state-champion at Pike High School has been named an Associated Press honorable mention All-American | 2 |
| days the former McDonald's All-American spent flirting with the NBA Draft after declaring himself eligible following his sophomore season | 6 |
| point guards in college basketball history with 2,000 career points and 800 career assists | 3 |
| minutes played by Thomas as a freshman in a 116-111 quadruple-overtime win at Georgetown | 60 |
| triple-doubles in Notre Dame history. Thomas recorded 24 points, 11 assists and 11 steals against New Hampshire Nov. 19, 2001 in his first collegiate game | 1 |
The Office of Student Affairs is now accepting nominations for the Denny Moore Award For Excellence in Journalism

Candidates must be seniors who exemplify the qualities for which Denny Moore was known, including personal integrity and character, commitment to Notre Dame, and writing ability.

Candidates may be nominated by faculty, staff, or fellow students.

For a nomination form, please visit our website at: http://osa.nd.edu

Nominations are due by Friday, March 4, 2005.

Brey mixes and matches with deep bench

By PAT LEONARD
 Associate Sports Editor

At the beginning of the season, Mike Brey boasted he had nine or 10 players ready to see the court and make significant contributions.

Twenty-six games into the 2004-05 campaign, the Irish coach is using the depth he talked so highly of early in the season.

Juggling six players through three combinations of starting lineups, Brey also has found strengths in reserve players Russell Carter, Rick Cornett and Omari Isreal.

"Everyone knows during the course of the game that anyone could be playing from Chris Thomas to our last walk-on," Carter said. "Not just me, but everybody — coach Brey tells everyone to be ready.

Cornett, a 6-foot-6, 226-pound junior, has played the most prominent role off the bench this season, often substituting for center Turin Francis down low. At first permanently relegated to the bench behind a healthy Francis and Arizona transfer Dennis Latimore, Cornett played his way into a 9.5 minutes per game average — he scored four points in six minutes and anchored a 2-3 zone in the huddle Assembly Hall early in the season.

On the other hand, sophomores Carter and Isreal have shown in later emergences they may be able to contribute just as much in a back-up role as Cornett.

"I just play," Carter said. "I know I can play. And I just go out there and show what I can do." What Carter can do is score. The sophomore is shooting 48.7 percent from the field and averages 1.8 assists per game as a senior. This season, while demonstrating his scoring ability, the sophomore is close to becoming a major factor.

Cornette said. "Now he's getting the opportunity to show his stuff. Carter, Cornett and Isreal have all taken a mature approach to their roles, preparing for each game as if they will see the floor even more than they did the game before.

"On any given night, I can get 10 minutes or no minutes," Carter said. "It's mental toughness."
for the musically-educated listener, it is a tough listen for single-genre-minded folk.

On the whole, the tracks from the more popular acts are good — but not great. Many Taking Back Sunday and MySpace fans might find their bands cut slightly disappointing. While Taking Back’s “Number Five with a Bullet” gets extra credit for its “High Fidelity” reference, the track is not up to the band’s usual standards. The song is a good emotionally driven rock song, no doubt, but it is not up to the group’s standards set by its breakthrough album “Tell All Your Friends.”

The Motion City Soundtrack cut “1090 Paper Cranes” also falls along the same lines. While not as well known as Taking Back or Blink, the band does have a loyal following. And the majority of them know it has better songs. Again, the song is not bad by any means. It offers a jumpy style of post-punk complete with a well-incorporated moog. The drums rock the listener along, and by the end you very well could be jumping up and down. But they have even better songs that are not on display here. However, Blink’s cut “Not Now” proves the exception to the rule, as the veteran punk trio puts forth a quality tune. Musically, the song demonstrates the maturation of the band’s style. This is also demonstrated in the lyrics, as Mark Hoppus and Tom DeLonge sing as though they are laying on their deathbeds coming to grips with their mortality.

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At the time, 50 Cent was inside speaking on the radio — the interview ended abruptly as security people escorted the rapper out of the building, a spokesman for the radio station said.

“No one from Hot 97 witnessed this incident,” said Alex Dudley, the Hot 97 of a second shooting incident about two hours later outside a building where the unidentified, 24-year-old Los Angeles rapper out the building, a spokesman said two men fired eight shots through the window. Witnesses named Violator — has offices. Witnesses said two men fired eight shots through the building’s front door, then fled. One man was injured.

Representatives for 50 had no comment when contacted by The Associated Press on Tuesday.

All this comes as 50 prepares to release the album “The Massacre” on Thursday. It’s the follow-up to 2003’s “Get Rich or Die Tryin’,” which not only made the bullets-scared, brush rapper an international superstar, but also an empire.

The rapper’s debut sold more than 8 million copies, and his G-Unit umbrella has launched the careers of three top-rappers — The Game, Young Buck and Lloyd Banks. In addition, there’s a G-Unit fashion line and other enterprises.

“The Massacre” was scheduled for release March 8, but was moved up to Thursday because it is so hot anticipated. The first single from the album, “Candy Shop,” is already No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

Elliot Wilson, the editor in chief of the hip-hop magazine XXL, says the publicist will give a boost to what is already expected to be a blockbuster album. “It helps him obviously in terms of exposure. You can’t ask for better promotion. Now he’s literally making history by briefing with his own artist,” Wilson said. “This is more the boss of the clique dismissing his own artist.”

Eminem and Dr. Dre, who are both affiliates of G-Unit, built much of his stature on feats — his battle with Ja Rule helped ride 50 Cent built much of his stature on feats — his battle with Ja Rule helped

Eminem is one of my friends, and Ja Rule has been more a part of G-Unit and claimed responsibility for his success. “Every record he’s selling is based on the Tupac spiral, like me against the world. You bring more people wanting to see him being on his record with him,” he said.

In the short-term, 50’s presence on his album may end up hurting The Game, who brings about his affiliation with G-Unit in songs like “How We Do.” But ultimately, Wilson said the feud may end up boosting his career by showing he’s not a 50 puppet.

“I think that Game obviously feels like he’s his own man already,” said Wilson. As for 50 Cent, Wilson said all the drama surrounding the star may turn into a negative. It has certainly caused some waves for both 50 and The Game’s parent label, Interscope — and for Eminem and Dr. Dre, who are both affiliated with The Game (Dr. Dre produced much of the album).

Still, Wilson said, “You definitely feel like he is doing too much of a downer anyway. Overall, the album has a depressing feel to it. Taking Back Sunday sings about dying miserable and alone, while Blink singers lament on their deathbeds. Death Cab for Cutie then see nothing hopeful about New Year’s. The Game is a shining example of the world of music that flows through the majority of the bands on display, but it proves to be a downer anyway.

While some of the song selections might be subpar, the diamonds in the rough make “Dragging the Lake Vol. 3” worth the listen.

Contact Mike Tennant at mtennan@vcu.edu

Associated Press

Another day, another feud for 50 Cent. This time, he’s beefing with his own protege, the best-selling rapper The Game.

Actually, make that former protege. In an interview on hip-hop radio station Hot 97 on Sunday night, 50 announced that he was kicking The Game out of his G-Unit clique because of its disloyalty — for refusing to take 50’s side in his latest battles with high-profile rappers. Then a shooting occurred outside the radio station, wounding one man, police said.

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Contact Mike Tennant at mtennan@vcu.edu

Third Atticus compilation worth a look

by Mike Tennant

Acme Music Clinic

Atticus is back again with its third rendition of the “Dragging the Lake” compilation. The album contains some newer and somewhat harder to find tracks from well-established and popular bands, such as Blink 182 and Taking Back Sunday. And just like its predecessors, Atticus submits a number of unfamiliar sounds for the listener’s approval.

While the previous Atticus discs are easier to classify under the punk or emo categories, the third chapter contains much more of a mishmash of genres and styles. While this is great for the musically-educated listener, it is a tough listen for single-genre-minded folk.

On the whole, the tracks from the more popular acts are good — but not great. Many Taking Back Sunday and MySpace fans might find their bands cut slightly disappointing. While Taking Back’s “Number Five with a Bullet” gets extra credit for its “High Fidelity” reference, the track is not up to the band’s usual standards. The song is a good emotionally driven rock song, no doubt, but it is not up to the group’s standards set by its breakthrough album “Tell All Your Friends.”

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While the majority of the lesser-known acts on the album tend to blend together in a big mesh cloak of...
Associated Press

OLAND, Fla. – Steve Francis and the Orlando Magic had a difficult time holding off the first-place Timberwolves. Francis had 29 points and 10 assists as the Magic scored 12 of their final 18 points in a three-game losing streak with a victory over the Kings.

"We had a lot of chemistry going back to playing after losing our previous three," Orlando coach Johnny Davis said. "Our mission is to make this the standard for how we play every night."

Francis had eight points in the fourth quarter, including a dunk that gave the Magic a seemingly safe 114-105 lead with 48 seconds left. But the Kings’ Cuttino Mobley and Mike Bibby hit consecutive 3-pointers to cut it to 114-111 with 30 seconds to play.

The Kings, playing their eighth road game in a nine-game span, had a final chance with 3.3 seconds to play, but Peja Stojakovic’s 2-pointer at the buzzer was just long.

"It felt pretty good when I released the ball," Stojakovic said. "An inch shorter and maybe it goes in, but we gave it a good effort." Stojakovic led Sacramento with 24 points after missing seven games because of a hamstring injury. Bibby had 26 points and seven assists.

"It’s great to be back on the court," Stojakovic said. "I was worried about my injury, but it felt good and I’m going to take a couple of days to get back to normal."

Sacramento lost for the second straight night without center Brad Miller, sidelined by a calf injury. That, combined with trade of Chris Webber to Philadelphia, added to the Kings’ problems.

Nets 96, 76ers 93

Vince Carter’s transition to a new team is going much smoother than the Webber’s. Carter scored 26 of his 32 points in the second half and Clifford Robinson added 18, leading the New Jersey Nets to a victory over the Philadelphia 76ers.

Allen Iverson had 37 points and Webber scored 10 in his worst performance in three games for the 76ers. The Philipsphere has lost three of four since acquiring Webber from Sacramento last week.

"I don’t know what to say," Webber said. "Anything you say is an excuse. You just have to do it. Everybody knows what type of player I am. Obviously, I have to make adjustments. It’s frustrating." The Nets have won three straight to tie for first place with 1 1/2 games of Philadelphia, which trails first-place Boston by 1 1/2 games in the Atlantic Division.

"There’s got to be a grace period for the guy," Nets coach Lawrence Frank said of Webber.

Carter has fit in well with the Nets since coming into a New Jersey in a trade with Toronto on Dec. 17. He has scored 20 or more in 12 of his 33 games with the Nets, who are 19-15 since the trade.

After a three-point play by Bibby cut New Jersey’s lead to 85-82 with 2:36 left, Carter and Bibby traded 2-pointers. Carter added a pair of free throws, giving the Nets a 90-85 lead, and the 76ers couldn’t get any closer.

"We were able to maintain when they made their runs," Carter said. "We tried to take advantage and get them to shoot and get other guys involved."

Wizards 101, Rockets 98

Larry Hughes stunned his teammates, his coach and the fans with 10 points in his first game back from a broken thumb. To hear him talk, it was his game plan all along.

Hughes didn’t ease himself back into the lineup after missing seven games because of a thumb injury. He had 14 in the third quarter, including a spill on his thumb, he showed no ill effects from the injury as he resumed his back-court chemistry with Gilbert Arenas, who finished with 13 points, eight rebounds and five assists.

"A lot of players that get injured, it takes them three or four games to get a swagger back," Arenas said. "But it was like he didn’t miss a beat.

Hughes credited his success in his successful return to the lineup to waiting until he was properly cleared by doctors. "I’ve been around in this league, and I know that you just have to keep practicing," Hughes said. "It’s just a matter of time."

"Gentlemen, anybody with basketball questions, gentlemen?" Pressed a few minutes later for comment, he repeated his no-comment and Lakers spokeswoman Allison Bogli said, "Basketball questions only.

"After a few more questions about the team’s troubles, Bryn was asked if he might be able to comment on his own. "I know you came all the way down from New York," he told a TV reporter, "but you know I was just here in my off time."

Paul Pierce had 29 points and nine rebounds, Ricky Davis scored 29 points and Antoine Walker had 16 points and 13 rebounds in his first game back in Boston since being reacquired at the trading deadline. The rejuvenated Celtics have won three straight since then and six straight at home overall.

Warriors 99, Timberwolves 93

The Minnesota Timberwolves are looking more and more like a lottery team.

Derek Fisher had 23 points and nine assists to lead the Golden State Warriors to just their sixth road victory of the season, a win over the Timberwolves.

The Warriors trailed by as many as 11 points in the third quarter, but opened the fourth with a 16-2 run to snap a three-game losing streak and hand the Timberwolves a crushing home loss.

Kevin Garnett had 28 points and 13 rebounds for the Timberwolves, who remain one game behind the Los Angeles Lakers for the eighth and final playoff spot in the West after advancing to the Western Conference finals a year ago.

With home games against the Warriors and Milwaukee and a game at Boston this week, the Timberwolves were hoping to "make some hay" as new coach Kevin McHale put it and gain some ground on the Los Angeles Lakers, who lost to Boston on Wednesday night.

But the Warriors had other ideas.

After scoring just 13 points in the fourth quarter of a loss to Memphis on Tuesday night, the Golden State ripped off 31 against Minnesota, coming up with every big shot down the stretch to stave off the desperate Timberwolves.

Mike Dunleavy’s 3-pointer gave Golden State a 90-79 lead with 3:12 to go, but the Timberwolves responded with a 7-2 run to pull within 90-86 with 1:12 to go.
Ravens sign former Titans wide receiver Mason

Moss trade to Oakland becomes official; Redskins come to terms with Sauls

Associated Press

The Washington Redskins did it again, jumping Wednesday to sign the first free agent of the season.

But the Baltimore Ravens landed the biggest prize of the first day of free agency, signing wide receiver Derrick Mason, whose 76 catches for Tennessee last season led all NFL wide receivers.

And the Cleveland Browns traded defensive tackle Gerard Warren, the third overall pick in the 2001 draft, to Denver. It was an overall net loss for Cleveland — the Browns will get just a fourth-round draft choice for the underachieving Warren.

The 31-year-old Mason, one of six Titans cut last month in a salary cap purge, will join a team whose leading receiver had just 35 catches a year ago.

"We were high on his list, and he was high on our list," Ravens general manager Ozzie Newsome said. "He was really the only receiver we have had any active discussions with thus far. What this does is, we bring in a veteran receiver who has the type of attitude and type of personality that we look for in a football player."

St. Louis, meanwhile, signed 32-year-old linebacker Dexter Coakley, one day after he was released by Dallas.

Washington's catch was a former Raven, center Casey Rabach, who joined a team with the most popular sports stars in the world.

But more significant for the Redskins, who went wildly after high-priced free agents on the first day the last two years, was keeping one of their own — left tackle Chris Samuels, whose contract was redone to provide more salary cap room.

Those were the major free agents to sign on Day 1 of free agency. Oakland also made an expected splash by officially completing the deal for Randy Moss, a trade made last week with Minnesota.

As for Rabach, who played at Michigan, he will probably play with the initials "CR, " — Cory and Romie.

A strong sense of déjà vu was expected when Rabach signed with the Raiders during the offseason after being cut by the Titans.

"If Moss is not the best, he's certainly one of the best."

Kerry Collins
Raiders quarterback

Washington's catch was a former Raven, center Casey Rabach, who joined a team that has spent millions in the early days of free agency the last two seasons. But more significant for the Redskins, who went wildly after high-priced free agents on the first day the last two years, was keeping one of their own — left tackle Chris Samuels, whose contract was redone to provide more salary cap room.

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Moss may not be the only significant addition to the Raiders' offense.

They appeared close to signing running back Lamont Jordan, who spent four years as Curtis Martin's backup with the New York Jets. He averaged 4.9 yards per carry in part-time duty but has never been a full-time back.

Jordan should help, but Moss teamed with the re-signed Jerry Porter is the seemingly perfect combination for the team ed with the re-signed

"If he's not the best, he's certainly one of the best," he said of Moss. "You can make a strong argument. Everybody has their own opinions. But ask any quarterback around the league which receiver they'd want, and I think most would say Randy Moss."

As for Rabach, who played at Wisconsin, he will probably replace another former Badger with the initials "CR, " — Cary Raymer in the middle of the line.

With Jon Jansen back from injury at right tackle and Samuels on the left side, the Washington offense should be stronger than last year's unit, which scored just 240 points, second fewest in the NFL.

In other developments:

♦ Philadelphia re-signed running back Correll Buckhalter, who missed all of last season with a knee injury.

♦ New Harvard star Andruzzi, a starter on all three of New England's Super Bowl winners, was in Cleveland talking to the Browns, coached by former Patriots' defensive coordinator Romeo Crennel.

HORSE RACING

Smarty Jones' jockey detained by customs

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Kentucky Derby winning jockey Stewart Elliott was en route back from an overseas trip when his past caught up with him again. Elliott, a Canadian citizen who won the Derby and Preakness aboard Smarty Jones last year, was taken into custody Tuesday and detained by customs agents in connection with a guilty plea to felony assault four years ago, the Department of Homeland Security said Wednesday.

The 40-year-old Toronto native was returning from a trip to Hong Kong late last year when federal agents interviewed him at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, but let him go on his way, said Homeland Security spokesman Manny Van Pelt.

He was arrested and released shortly after 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, said Kelly Wietsma, a spokeswoman for Elliott. The jockey was expected to appeal before a federal judge Thursday.

"This was an unfortunate situation. The arrest was many years ago. I served my probation and paid the fine," Elliott said in statement released by Wietsma. "I thought this was all behind me."

Elliott's criminal history became public during Smarty Jones' bid for the Triple Crown, which fell short when he lost to Birdstone by a length at the Belmont Stakes in June. But federal officials said they weren't aware of it until recently.

"It takes time for court records to get entered," Van Pelt said Wednesday. "There are tens of thousands of convictions that occur in the United States every year."

Under federal immigration law, aliens with felony convictions are subject to removal from the United States. Van Pelt declined to comment on Elliott's immigration status specifically, but said that he "is a Canadian citizen who won the Kentucky Derby and Preakness aboard Smarty Jones last year."

A lawyer for Elliott said her client voluntarily appeared before the immigration court Tuesday.
BROOKLYN, Ore. — For all his popularity among the players and the fans, Portland Trail Blazers coach Maurice Cheeks ultimately didn’t have the wins.

Cheeks was fired Wednesday morning, after the Blazers had lost seven of their last nine and tumbled to 22-33.

“Our players liked Mo a great deal, but sometimes a fresh voice might ignite them to go in a different direction,” Blazers general manager John Nash said.

With Portland’s chances of making the playoffs dwindling, the Blazers appointed Kevin Pritchard, the team’s director of player personnel, as interim head coach.

While not entirely giving up on the playoffs, Pritchard’s appointment indicated the Blazers were going to focus on evaluating their younger players.

“I’m not going to mislead anybody. It’s a long uphill battle to get to the playoffs from where we’re at — 11 games under .500,” Blazers President Steve Patterson said.

The Blazers are in 12th place in the Western Conference, six games back of the Los Angeles Lakers for the eighth and final playoff spot. They went 41-41 last season, missing the playoffs for the first time in 22 years.

With the loss to the Nuggets, Cheeks leaves the Blazers with a 162-139 record. He was in the final year of a four-year contract worth an estimated $12 million.

Cheeks, who played in the NBA for 15 seasons, was hired by Portland in 2001 to replace Mike Dunleavy, who was also fired.

The Blazers hardly made a smooth transition — or off the court.

There were several players cited for marijuana possession, and forward Oryol Waddell was investigated in a dog fighting scandal.

Former Blazer forward Rasheed Wallace also drew unwanted attention to the team two seasons ago when he threatened a game official on the leading dock of the Rose Garden.

Cheeks never shied away from questions about his team’s misbehavior, bringing him the respect of fans and reporters who covered the team.

He endeared himself to many in April 2003 when he came to the rescue of a 13-year-old girl, Natalie Gilbert, who forgot the words to the national anthem before a playoff game against the Dallas Mavericks.

Cheeks went to her side and helped her with the words.

NBA

Los Angeles Lakers’ Kobe Bryant, center, looks to pass with pressure from Portland Trail Blazers’ Theo Ratliff in a Feb. 23 game. Blazers coach Maurice Cheeks was fired yesterday after his team fell to 22-33.

Associated Press

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The Blazers are in 12th place in the Western Conference, six games back of the Los Angeles Lakers for the eighth and final playoff spot. They went 41-41 last season, missing the playoffs for the first time in 22 years.

With the loss to the Nuggets, Cheeks leaves the Blazers with a 162-139 record. He was in the final year of a four-year contract worth an estimated $12 million.

Cheeks, who played in the NBA for 15 seasons, was hired by Portland in 2001 to replace Mike Dunleavy, who was also fired.

The Blazers hardly made a smooth transition — or off the court.

There were several players cited for marijuana possession, and forward Oryol Waddell was investigated in a dog fighting scandal.

Former Blazer forward Rasheed Wallace also drew unwanted attention to the team two seasons ago when he threatened a game official on the leading dock of the Rose Garden.

Cheeks never shied away from questions about his team’s misbehavior, bringing him the respect of fans and reporters who covered the team.

He endeared himself to many in April 2003 when he came to the rescue of a 13-year-old girl, Natalie Gilbert, who forgot the words to the national anthem before a playoff game against the Dallas Mavericks.

Cheeks went to her side and helped her with the words.

NBA

Los Angeles Lakers’ Kobe Bryant, center, looks to pass with pressure from Portland Trail Blazers’ Theo Ratliff in a Feb. 23 game. Blazers coach Maurice Cheeks was fired yesterday after his team fell to 22-33.

Associated Press

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The Office of Student Affairs is now accepting nominations for the
Denny Moore Award
For Excellence in Journalism

Candidates must be seniors who exemplify the qualities for which Denny Moore was known, including personal integrity and character, commitment to Notre Dame, and writing ability.

Candidates may be nominated by faculty, staff, or fellow students.

For a nomination form, please visit our website at:
http://osa.nd.edu

Nominations are due by Friday, March 4, 2005.

The Observer ● SPORTS
Squash team reaches finals in national championship

Men's volleyball falls in first round of Hoosier-Illini Classic

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame made an auspicious start to its 2004 season with a weekend sweep of the Squash Association national championships in Cambridge, Mass. The Irish halted a five-year title streak by Princeton in the first match of the championship.

Playing in the emerging team division, the Irish reached the finals in their first participation in this prestigious event.

Trinity won its seventh consecutive national championship, defeating Harvard in the finals. Forty-eight teams, most of them varsity, were entered in six divisions.

The Irish opened quarterfinal play with a 3-0 blanking of Hard Ball College. All five Irish players won in straight games.

The Irish, still unseeded, defeated Ernie Zipp, 9-6, 4-6, 6-4, Washington, at No. 2; and Ethan Cordell, 9-2, 9-1; at No. 3; Phil Moss handled Tony Phillips, 9-3, 9-2, 9-4; Mike McConnell defeated Andrew Heredia at No. 4, 9-0, 9-0, 9-1; and Jose Policomo whitewashed Dan Manis, 9-0, 9-0, 9-0.

In the semifinals, coach Geoff McCuen's Irish again blanked their opponent, Brown College, 3-0. The Irish defeated Eric Zipp, 9-2, 9-0, 9-0; Ethan Cordell, 9-0, 9-2, 9-1; and Ethan Cordell, 9-0, 9-2, 9-1; at No. 3; and Potatoe won a close match over T J Eule, 10-9, 10-8, 9-2, to set up the showdown with Washington in the finals.

Washington had also swept two matches at the round of 16, knocking off Kenyon, as the two squads proved to be the most dominant in the division. The final, played at Harvard's Muir Gym, was contested between the University of Michigan and the Irish. Michigan proved the better squad. Zhang lost at No. 1 to Sawahl Ghandi, 9-6, 9-5, 9-6; Gelinas claimed the only point for the Irish at No. 5, 10-8, 9-1, 6-9, 9-5; Moss fell at No. 3 to Norman Wilson, 9-0, 9-3, 9-0; and Policomo dropped the No. 4 match to Ryan Antonio, 9-1, 9-0, 9-4.

Gelinas was unable to sustain his early momentum, falling at No. 5 to Ritu Kerialis, 9-3, 9-4, 9-6, 10-9, 9-7. USC won the losers bracket to finish third in the division.

Men's Volleyball

The Irish men's club volleyball team participated in the largest regular season tournament in the Midwest over the weekend, attending the Fort Wayne Invitational-Illini Classic at Indiana University. Forty total teams were there including 12 of the top 25 teams in the country.

The Irish won the first match 25-16, 25-10, 25-18 against the Wildcats of Kentucky, 25-21, 25-18, but struggled mightily for the next few weeks. The next few days should provide a relaxed, yet competitive, atmosphere for the Irish as they prepare for the season's stretch run. The team will conclude the weekend with a dual match against St. Joseph's at noon on March 6.

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at rgottumukkala@nd.edu

Irish travel west for tourney

Irish travel west for tourney

Pacific Coast Doubles Championships should give team good practice

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA

The forecast for the next few days is sunny and 70 degrees — a welcome respite for the men's tennis team, which heads out to La Jolla, Calif., to take part in the Pacific Coast Doubles Championships March 4-6.

For the seventh time in the last eight years, Notre Dame will compete in this annual doubles competition, one of the oldest and most prestigious tennis tournaments in the nation. The names of winners at the event feature a who's who of tennis greats, including John McEnroe and Stan Smith.

While the competition features a few professionals and a few junior players, the field consists primarily of college players. Because there are non-collegiate players in the event, the results do not count in the college rankings and should provide valuable practice opportunities for the Irish.

"It's something that we look forward to very much," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "It gives us an opportunity to make the transition to outdoors. This tournament allows us to do this where the results don't hurt us and yet the level of competition is as close as we'll have all year, including the NCAA Championships.

Among the slated teams entered in the event are Stanford, UCLA, USC and Pepperdine — all top 20 teams. The Irish may also enter some of their nationally-ranked doubles teams in the tournament, providing plenty of chances for the Irish to test themselves against Notre Dame's own tennis duo.

"It's hard not to improve because you're surrounded by some of the top doubles teams in the world," Bayliss said. "You're forced to meet that level of competition so all our guys benefit from being here."

The Irish will enter four doubles teams into the competition this year. The first three duos have seen plenty of doubles play already this season. Playing at the No. 1 slot will be senior captains Brent D'Amico and sophomore Ryan Kockley.

The No. 2 team has had some real bright spots this year but also some poor matches," Bayliss said. "But they've played extremely well and it looks like they're beginning to gel, just in time for this stretch run here at the last half of the season."

Junior Eric Langenkamp and freshman Sheeva Parbhu comprise the No. 2 team and sophomore Stephen Bass and Barry King will play as the No. 3 team. Junior Patrick Buchanan and sophomore Irackl Akhilevians will round out the Irish duos entered in the event.

"Eric and Sheeva have been a little more consistent, but they've had a couple matches in a row that they didn't play well," Bayliss said. "So it was great to see them rebound against Virginia. The biggest concern is at No. 3. We have good tennis players who can do different things well — some serve well, some return well and some volley well — but we're looking for the whole package."

Notre Dame has been busy with dual match play in the last few weeks. The next few days should provide a relaxed, yet competitive, atmosphere for the Irish as they prepare for the season's stretch run. The team will conclude the weekend with a dual match against St. Joseph's at noon on March 6.

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STUDENT LIFE
up at all.

On Wednesday, the Irish shot 53.9 percent from the field and held Rutgers to 29.5 percent from the floor.

"We knew that we were going to have an edge about us because of how we practiced this whole week," point guard Chris Thomas said.

When Notre Dame players showed up for practice Monday afternoon, they were not allowed in the locker room. But Thomas said the motivational tactics of coach Mike Brey were not negative.

"We haven't been on punishment," he said. "His theme was we have to get back to playing like how people respect us. We really don't get any respect.

Thomas scored 10 points and dished a respectable 12 assists while committing only one turnover, while Colin Falls scored a team-high 18 points and Chris Quinn added 17.

Quinn limped off the court towards the middle of the second half and did not return. Coach Mike Brey said Quinn's status for Saturday as of now is questionable.

Thomas, meanwhile, did not force much on offense and squandered scoring in the second half.

"I was pretty much being a decoy on offense the whole game and just waiting to pick my spots," Thomas said.

With under 11 minutes remaining, the Irish were up 49-41, but the Scarlet Knights rattled off three straight buckets to cut the lead to two. When Rich Cornett dunked but then Rutgers' Quincy Douby (19 points) canned two free throws out of a timeout, Thomas answered with two pull-up jumpers to hold the Notre Dame lead.

"I think I forced a couple threes early just trying to get going and coach told me to let the game come to me, and I had some open looks there in the second half," Thomas said.

A Thomas bucket with 5:51 left put the Irish up 55-49. After a few Rutgers misses and some Irish free throws, Notre Dame gained its largest lead of 12 (66-54) before earning the 10-point victory.

Those teams at the bottom of our league don't have a lot of wins," Brey said. "But I don't think of them as teams at the bottom of our league." Brey said he did underestimate Rutgers because he knows how the Irish battled against other "bottom" teams in three one-point conference wins.


Notre Dame led 30-29 at the half, despite shooting 52.4 percent from the floor.

The Scarlet Knights scored the first basket of the game on a Marquis Webb 3-pointer. Douby scored 13 points in the first half, including two free throws to make the score 26-25 just before the 3:54 television timeout.

The Scarlet Knights' center Jimmie Inglis canned two free throws to make the score 27-26 Rutgers, but Torin Francis followed with a bucket to give the Irish a 28-27 lead in the fourth lead change of the half.

Thomas scored his first points of the game on two foul shots with 57.5 seconds remaining in the first half, and Notre Dame went into halftime with the lead.

Contact Pat Leonard at plonard@nd.edu

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Academic
continued from page 20
points are earned. Heisler said that because of the students' average status of the APR is the relevancy of the numbers.
"We've all used to dealing with the graduation rates that have not been completely up to date because of the length of time they permit for the graduation to take place for the the graduation process," he said. "In some cases, you're talking about people who ended up going on 10 years ago, where this is a completely up-to-date measurement for the most recent academic year."
Heisler said that in order for the APR to take full effect, there is going to be a learning process for all NCAA schools.
"It is a learning experience for everyone to have an appreciation for what the numbers mean, and in the case of anybody who falls short of the 3.0 mark, how does that happen?" Heisler said. "It's going to take a while for everyone to appreciate exactly what it is that causes you not to receive the full complement of points."

The lowest numbers at Notre Dame came in football, where the Irish scored a 934. But Heisler said this number can be deceiving because of the unique way Notre Dame handles fifth-year seniors in the program.
At Notre Dame, fifth year seniors are often eligible in the second semester of their fifth year per the NCAA standards because they are not taking the minimum number of credits.
"There is a little bit of difference in philosophy in terms of the computation that was probably affected to some effect by some fifth year people," Heisler said. "That may be the kind of thing that you go back to the drawing board and explain a little about how each sport works."

Despite the fact that the APR will be used to compare all schools in the NCAA, Heisler said the number doesn't necessarily tell the whole story of student-athletes at their respective schools. Different schools have different standards for student-athletes, as the NCAA allows them to, and this could distort the APR to an extent. For example, at Notre Dame, student-athletes have to maintain a 2.0 grade-point average, a standard enforced by the University, not the NCAA.
"In some cases, our numbers are a reflection of our own eligibility standards, which are not necessarily the same as other people's," Heisler said. "In some cases, you're not always comparing apples to apples, because what the NCAA requires is a one-time per year certification of an athlete in terms of their eligibility. So once that certification takes place, the NCAA doesn't worry how that person has done academically until the time comes to certify everybody again."

Heisler also expressed concern that at Notre Dame, the numbers might not always accurately reflect a school's progress in academics.
"In some cases, our numbers may reflect that our student-athletes are being held to higher standards," he said. As far as the overarching effect of APR, Heisler said it will reinforce to schools that they need to bring in student-athletes that can make it in it to the classroom as well as to the athletic realm.
"I think it's probably going to make coaches in particular think twice about anybody that they recruit and their ability to be successful academically, because your program could be penalized if you are recruiting and giving scholarships to people that aren't going to make it," Heisler said.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvangoeg@nd.edu

Paniza
continued from page 20
After missing the Bouts his sophomore year due to a case of mono, Panzica slugged his way to the finals of the 155 lb. weight class his junior season. Once there, he
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"It's a great group of guys who respect the other captains for what they've done," Panzica said. "I definitely admire and respect the other captains for the amount of work they put into boxing." Panzica said. "It's a great group of guys and we just keep each other going." Panzica is a finance major and will be working in the real estate business next summer.
"I usually try to get in practice 45 minutes to one hour early just to work on some individual things," Panzica said.

Spending all that time in the boxing room, Panzica has formed a close bond with many of the 127 club members, but especially with the four other captains.
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Thursday, March 3, 2005

THE OBSERVER

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1. Ayepor (11)
2. K plus competitor (5)
7. Promulgates (5)
10. Help the crew (5)
11. Paprika- poached serving (5)
15. One song choices and balances? (3, 3)
16. Election day: Abbr (5)
17. "Not true!" (5)
18. TV cartoon dog (5)
19. Stan (5)
21. Bicycle maker since 1895 (5)
25. Some sports cars, for short (5)
28. "Out of Africa" (5)
33. Make compact, with "up" (5)
34. Bicycle maker balances? (5)
36. Make compact, with "up" (5)
37. Paprika- powdered (5)
38. Rudiments (5)
39. Some sports (5)
40. Election day: Abbr (5)
41. Time for one (5)
42. Kitty (5)
43. Some pot (5)
44. Quechua- language -S 22 (5)
45. Check and (5)
46. Father (5)
47. "We lost our last (5)
48. "D o Diddy (5)
49. Hearts (5)
50. Gossipy group (5)
51. "Yay, team!" (5)
52. Groups on (5)
53. D with 50% off (5)
54. "O nce you master these two qualities you will have everyone eating out of your hand. *** (5)
55. "Don't get angry - get moving. You have to ask yourself what you want and go after it. (5)
56. Number of one- letter to each square, to form your ordinary words (5)

DOWN
1. Gallery event (5)
2. Tense verse (5)
3. Like; alphabetically (5)
4. Where to order takis maxi (5)
5. Like (5)
6. Some dips (5)
7. Newspaper publisher who launched the United Press (5)
8. Bring along (5)
9. Most pale (5)
10. Bealit ou, out of the city (5)
11. Not needing a prescription Abbr (5)
12. Not needing a prescription Abbr (5)
13. Tweaked (5)
14. Reassured laugh (5)
20. Some are wild (5)
22. You're going too fast for me (5)
23. "Hegaton's Heretic" (5)
24. Meteor path (5)
30. Letters in Icelandian (5)
31. "Say, learn!" (5)
32. Pamphletizes, as a restaurant (5)
33. Make compact, with "up" (5)
35. Groups on horseshoe (5)
36. Parking place (5)
40. Paprika- fluid density symbols (5)
44. Quechua- speaking (5)
46. Neither this nor that, in Peru (5)
47. Frio Revier's father (5)
51. Chair (5)
52. Change (5)
53. Don't get angry - get moving. You have to ask yourself what you want and go after it. (5)
54. "We lost our last (5)
55. "D o Diddy (5)
56. Number of one- letter to each square, to form your ordinary words (5)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

2. 10.32.21 11.23.38 12.6.25
3. 31.19.26 14.36.23 15.20.25
4. 16.29.26 24.1.34 25.36.21

WILL SHORTZ

32. Opposite of endo
33. Upper body: Abbr
34. Occasional, e.g
35. Harassers
36. Ready for anything
37. No one at the track
38. A dash, maybe
39. Kitty
40. Time for one doing time
41. Words of emphasis
42. Some pot scrubbers
43. Acropolis figure
44. Acropolis figure
45. Pointer's target
46. The New Yorker cartoonist
47. Mainenbad, for one
48. One with 50% off
56. Number of one-letter words in this puzzle

For answers, call 1-900-385-5056, $1.29 a minute, or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

Horoscope

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jane Bell Box, 43; Lauren Newman, 23; John Boykill, 63; Jennifer Jones, 86

Happy Birthday! Everything is beginning to fall into place. Times are changing but the changes are good. Get rid of all that's unnecessary from the past and clean the way for bigger and better things. Take on new projects, learn new skills and make a promise to yourself that you will remember to fill feelings about what's over and done with. Your numbers are 1, 16, 19, 28, 33.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't get angry - get moving. You have to ask yourself what you want and go after it. Filling upset with someone who tries to criticize you is a sign of some trouble. Rear up any conflict. ***

Taurus (April 20-May 20): It's not about what you get but how you show what you can turn an otherwise passive into a sitting and talking position. Everyone knows you will open your eyes to something you considered.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Nothing should stand in your way as long as you're getting your work or duties out of the way. You may not be thinking straight, so don't check everything you do. Someone is likely to let you down. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Use your charm to get what you want. Someone you trust may take a serious step away. You will find out nothing about your back ground that will make a difference in your future. Love is apparent. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Something isn't right but you can't put your finger on it. Don't learn anything to change. Especially, it involves a contract, a legal in financial matter or anything to do with your home and family. You have to be very sure of any step on things.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can have all this ability by standing up and pushing for what you believe. Partnerships may be fine at first, but as the days progress you should be able to smooth things over. An energetic approach to everything you do will bring results.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your nose should be on what to do in terms of work, money and getting ahead. Don't think too far or you will miss out on an opportunity that has a great potential for longevity. Don't be too big a guy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can't go wrong as long as you take the initiative and make those development phones. Your career chart is rising so take advantage of the ideas that pop into your head. Short trips will lead to new opportunities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can't see everything that is going on around you. Someone may try to take advantage of you by plotting to steal. If you push too hard, the chances are good that they will come to you. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You've got everything going your way as long as you don't take too much. The key will be moderation and common sense. Once you master these qualities you will have everyone coming out of your hair.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus on work and learning and forget about what's going to go around you at an emotional level. As long as you prefer yourself to distance people you will do just fine. Put your feet and work toward a better future.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Love, romance and partnerships are looking good. Your outgoing approach to everything you do will bring you a lot of attention. You will be in tune with people with whom, knowing exactly how to manipulate the situation to get what you want. ***

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative, artistic and imaginative. You are involved in anything that is peculiar or unusual. You are sensitive, loving and kind.

Check out Examiner's Web sites at: www.examiner.com and Examiner.com

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARBORION

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, then order to each square, to form your ordinary words.

Answer:

TOIDI

NIFSFS

ARQUEF

PERUSH

Answer:

It's your turn to form the secret answer as sympathetic to the above chart.

Yesterdays: Aided Plaid (Weaken Author)

Charles Adams

CHARLES SCHULZ

PEANUTS

I REMEMBER NOW WHEN WE LOST OUR LAST GAME! I SLAMMED MY GLOVE ON THE GROUND!

Then I kicked it across the field! And there it is right where I left it! Rats! I couldn't crawl fast enough.

DI LBERT

SCOTT ADAMS

The Observer

P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Check out Examiner's Web sites at: www.examiner.com and Examiner.com
NCAA ATHLETICS

Notre Dame passes NCAA's first academic test

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN

New academic progress rate information shows Irish above minimum requirements for Division I teams

Notre Dame downs Rutgers Wednesday at the Joyce Center

By PAT LEONARD

Notre Dame is one win away from earning a bye in the Big East Tournament. Needing wins in its final two conference games to secure the No. 3 seed, the Irish took care of half the battle by beating Rutgers (9-17, 2-13 Big East), 66-56, at the Joyce Center Wednesday night.

Notre Dame (17-9, 9-6) had lost its previous two contests to UCLA and Connecticut, games in which the Irish defense played subpar or did not show maximum points a team can earn is 1,000, and the NCAA minimum is 925 — the number the NCAA says is equivalent to a 50 percent graduation rate.

"I think this is a little bit of a learning experience, an educational process for probably everybody involved," Notre Dame senior associate athletic director John Hinder said. "The fact that this is a different way of going about measuring academics and graduation rates, and it's a more current set of criteria that what's been available in the past."

With the new standard, a team could register two points per player, per year. If a player transfers or leaves early for a professional draft, he or she earns one point. But if that same athlete leaves because he or she is academically ineligible, then zero

MEN'S BASKETBALL

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BENGAL BOUTS

Senior captain ready for hard work to pay off

By MIKE GILLOON

Mike Panzica has been scared only once in a boxing ring. He was a freshman at the time and climbed inside the ropes to face the top-seeded senior in his weight class. Ten seconds, two punches and one dazed look after the second-round fight started, Panzica knew he had a long way to go if he wanted to be a Bengal Bouts champion.

Four years later, Panzica is close to reaching his goal. He's a senior and one of the top seeds in the 155 lb. weight class and has hopes of capturing his first Bengal Bout title when the finals take place on March 19.

"A championship would definitely be a great end to these four years of boxing," Panzica said. "It would pretty much make everything worthwhile all the effort."

The first step on the final leg of his journey begins tonight as he faces Bryan Grissinger in a Bengal Bouts quarterfinal fight beginning at 6 p.m., in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse.

Panzica joined the boxing club his freshman year and first heard about the Bengal Bouts from a friend who attended Notre Dame before him.

"My older sister would tell me how cool it was to watch the fights," Panzica, a team captain, said. "Initially I was just looking for a regular workout. But after doing it every day, I got to meet a lot of great guys and a lot of good friends."

see PANZICA/page 18

SPORTS

Goodknight

Above, Colin Falls, left, controls the ball. At right, Omari Isreal goes up for a put-back dunk.

PHOTOS BY FRANCESCA SETA

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SPORTS