Student Center opens to public

SMC building contains more than a dozen offices, bookstore, convenience store and cafe

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's students returning from spring break this weekend had at least one good thing to look forward to — a new Student Center. The Student Center, which opened Sunday evening after months of anticipation, is the new home for more than a dozen offices at the college including the Shaheen Bookstore, First Source Bank, campus ministry and student government. Student and faculty eagerly welcomed the new building throughout Sunday evening and into Monday, asking questions of Student Activities Director George Rosenbush. Rosenbush coordinated the switch to the new building, undertaking that spanned several months. Even Saint Mary's President Carol Mooney stopped by and poked her head into some of the conference rooms and offices.

Golden dome to shine even brighter

By KATE ANTONACCI
Assistant News Editor

One spot on Notre Dame's campus often shines above all the rest — the historic golden dome, which, starting March 7, began the process of being regilded for the tenth time in school history.

A scaffolding system, which takes about three weeks to complete, is currently being installed. The regilding process consists of applying 3,500 square feet of 23.9-karat gold leaf. This process will begin after the scaffolding is finished and once weather conditions are optimal, said Dennis Brown, associate director of news and information.

The regilding process is done by hand and the material, which includes eight ounces of gold, can only be applied on dry days without wind, Brown said.

According to a University press release, Conrad Schmitt Studios of New Berlin, Wis. is handling the regilding, which will cost $300,000.

"Money for the regilding is coming from the general fund, though a benefactor is being sought for the project," Brown said.

Though the golden dome is part of Notre Dame history, some students think the price is a bit

Scaffolding surrounds the golden dome as workers begin the regilding process, which will continue until this summer. The dome has not been regilded since 1988.

Disability awareness month kicks off

Coordinators hope events will increase understanding

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

A musician with Down Syndrome and Irish head football coach Charlie Weis might not seem to have much in common, but in the coming weeks the two will highlight Notre Dame's Disability Awareness Month.

Disability Awareness Month is an extended version of the Disability Awareness Weeks that have been held on campus since 1997. Marissa Bunkle of the Logan Center has coordinated most of the efforts along with Kathleen Nobles, co-president of Best Buddies and the College Buddy Director.

The first scheduled event is a performance by Sujee Desai, a 23-year-old man who was born with Down Syndrome. He will play the piano, clarinet and violin in a concert held at 7 p.m. tonight in Washington Hall.

A graduate of the Berkshire Music Academy, Desai has also earned a black belt in Tae Kwon Do and won gold and silver medals swimming in the Special Olympics World Games.

"He has really pushed himself to work so hard. His older brother, who does not have special needs, has served as a real inspiration to him," Bunkle said. "Tomorrow [at the concert] there will be a lot of children who have Down Syndrome, and he is one of their idols."

The concert by Desai is touted by the organizers as one of the highlights of Disabilities Awareness Month.

Senator proposes purchasing seniors' book-buying site

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

The Council of Representatives focused its discussion Monday on the need to create a more affordable way for Notre Dame students to buy and sell class textbook.

Fisher senator Sujal Pandya spoke to representatives about three possible solutions to help alleviate the financial burden textbook prices place on students. Pandya said collaborating with an online book company or creating a new Web site could solve the problem.

But Pandya believed his third solution — a proposal that would require student government to purchase an already-established student-operated book exchange Web site — was the most feasible.

"I believe the third solution is the one we need to pursue. Student government would buy NDBay. We would buy the name and the owners are not sure yet if they will continue running the site after graduation." Representatives questioned Pandya about the feasibility of the project and the amount of effort required to maintain the Web site.

According to Pandya, the NDBay website is currently run by two seniors living off-campus, and the owners are not sure yet if they will continue running the site after graduation.

"I want to know the type of investment is needed on our part — like time and people, do we have the manpower? What if the system crashes?" Student Union Board manager Jimmy Finberg asked.

Pandya assured representatives that the effort required to purchase the site is minimal. According to Pandya, the NDBay website is currently run by two seniors living off-campus, and the owners are not sure yet if they will continue running the site after graduation.

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Psyc' ed for St. Pat's.

I love St. Patrick's Day. I might even go as far to say it's my favorite holiday after Christmas. There's just something about the cheery shamrocks and traditions that make St. Patrick's Day something to look forward to each year.

Unlike other holidays, St. Patrick's Day offers people the opportunity to celebrate the characteristics that epitomize the Irish spirit — a sense of pride, camaraderie and love of life.

March 1 is the official start to St. Patrick's Day in our home. That's the day my mom unwraps the leprechaun window stickers and the shamrock cookie cutters.

Decorating for St. Patrick's Day with my family has sort of become an official event in our house. My mom and I pull out the cookie sheets and bread pans to make shamrock sugar cookies and my grandma's famous Irish soda bread.

My dad carefully selects decorating music — usually the Dubliners and leers with my brothers and sister to hang shamrock garland and an Irish flag outside our door. Everyone has found their own way to add something to the celebration.

And when all the work is done, our house shines.

When I was in high school, I loved pulling up to the driveway and seeing the cute leprechaun and shamrock cutouts in our window. I remembered how my mom stood on tiptoes putting up the shamrocks in the top window and how, when we were finished, we stood back and admired our work.

Those decorations also helped brighten up our yard on a gloomy, snowy day and reminded me that spring and St. Patrick's Day were on their way.

Looking down the block this year during spring break, I couldn't help but smile as I glanced out the car window to see my neighbors decorating their homes for St. Patrick's Day and heard my friends' plans for the holiday.

Whether Irish or not, nearly everyone has found his or her own way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Some choose to serve corned beef and cabbage with Green River. Others choose to take a trip to a local Irish pub and, among other things, enjoy the fun-loving Irish bands that frequent the restaurants.

Taking a break from their fast-paced lives, people have the chance to catch up with friends and share stories.

Regardless, the holiday has become more of a reason to anticipate and celebrate in the midst of dreary winter days.

So for whatever reason and in whatever way you choose to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, have a great time — I know I will.

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

Contact Ann Loughery at aloughery@nd.edu

Correction

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, apologize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

INSIDE COLUMN

Psyched for St. Pat's

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QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE BACK ON CAMPUS?

Allison Wilems junior Ignos

"Awesome, because it's disability awareness month."

Andy MacKrell freshman Dillon

"It's nice to be back with my cuddle buddies."

Matt Barcus freshman Dillon

"It's great to be back. I get to spend with this guy."

Ted Lawless sophomore Knott

"It feels great! I was away from the dining hall for way too long."

Mary Dubon junior Walsh Family

"Great, I found this balloon."

Kat Roblez junior Breen Phillips

"I'd say I spent the last week in the Bahamas."

IN BRIEF

Bryan Bayer will be giving the lecture "Orthopedic Trauma" in the Mini-Medical School Lecture series from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday, March 3 at the DeBartolo Hall. For more information, call Judy at 574-631-5274. The lecture is presented by the South Bend Center for Medical Education.

Sujjett Desai, an accomplished musician who was born with Down Syndrome, will play the clarinet, piano and violin from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. tonight in Washington Hall. Admission is free. The event is part of Disability Awareness Month.

Bei Dao, an exiled Chinese poet and human rights activist, will give a poetry reading from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday in the Eck Visitors' Center. A reception will follow. The event is sponsored by the Creative Writing Program.

The Notre Dame Schola Musicorum will perform a concert entitled "Abend-Musik XV" from 8 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. Wednesday in Reyes Organ and Choral Hall. The concert is presented by the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. The concert is free but tickets are required. Please call the DeBartolo box office at 574-631-2800.

Bishop Gregorio Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, will give a Roman keynote lecture entitled "Archbishop Romero; A Bishop for the New Millennium" from 8 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Wednesday in the McNulty Hall auditorium.

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

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY TONIGHT WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

HIGH 36 35 38 40 38 37
LOW 24 24 22 28 28 29

Proposed election changes debated

By MADDEE HANNA

The Campus Life Council discussed both the difficulty in synchronizing hall election dates and the possibility of creating a new task force to combat violence against women at Monday's meeting.

A resolution regarding election deadline compliance was presented, which requested greater assistance from the Office of Student Affairs and residence hall rectors in ensuring a smooth transition between student government administrations. The resolution also stressed the necessity of increased communication between the Judicial Council and each hall staff regarding the election dates.

After Council members reviewed the resolution, voting was postponed due to concerns surrounding next year's still undetermined election dates. "I would rather have a date by which they (the elections) need to be done, and the later, the better," said Dillon rector Father Paul Doyle. Doyle expressed concerns that the proposed March 1 election date would prevent those rising seniors who apply for, but do not receive, resident assistant positions from participating in hall elections.

"I don't see any compelling reason to do it (hold elections) at the same time in every dorm," Doyle said. "I'm not asking you to push the date after spring break — I just want a chance to engage the upper class."

Judicial Council president Brin Anderson and student body president-elect Dave Baron said the March 1 date had been proposed because it would allow for a longer transition period. "March 1 was selected so senators can go to meetings and other transition meetings," Baron said, noting these other meetings will be set up in the near future with the Office of Student Activities.

Cavanaugh rector Sister Pat Dearbaugh agreed with Doyle, saying she did not see the point of synchronizing the election dates.

"March 1 is way too early to do all this, when we have 8A decisions to make, and to expect people to take over that early," Dearbaugh said.

Cavanaugh senator Jordan Bongiovanni said increasing senior involvement in hall government, a concern of several Council members who mentioned the growing trend toward younger hall presidents, should be separated from the election date issue.

"I think we're trying to solve two different problems here," Bongiovanni said. "I think it's student government's job as a whole to encourage older leadership, if they see fit."

Howard rector Kathy Brannock said another complication with the early election dates was the study abroad notification date.

"I would hate to have a student elected president get accepted to London and then withdraw as president," Brannock said.

Baron acknowledged the problem and offered the possibility of putting the question of asking to table their decision to next week's meeting. Student body president Sarah Catherine White said that members felt they needed to seek a more informed perspective in order to make a decision.

"We understand that our decision with this club, as with every club, is to review how this club supports our mission and represents our students," White said.

BOG members recognized the benefits SAGA could bring to the inclusiveness, support and education of the student body but also discussed concerns that could grow among alumni, prospective students and the overall reputation of Saint Mary's as an all-women's Catholic college.

"By researching and taking time to decide, we're not letting fear get in the way," White said. "The primary focus is not what the reaction will be, but what these people represent believe in.

Contact Kelly Bale at kbale@stmarys.edu
NDBay continued from page 1

run the Web site would be minimal. "The current owners told me they spend one to two hours per week facilitating the site. It will require minimum support. We already have the capacity to run it," Pandya said.

After other members questioned the cost of the Web site and the need for continuous advertising, chief executive assistant and student body president-elect Dave Baron acknowledged that purchasing NDBay might not be the most efficient measure to take. Instead, Baron said student clubs could take on the task.

"We've looked into the house a great deal. But the cost to buy it seems too much. The Entrepreneurial Club has expressed interest in creating a new Web site. That, to me, seems like a better option," Baron said.

Student body president Adam Istvan then closed the meeting to the press to discuss the actual price of purchasing the site.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

Dome continued from page 1

executive.

"I think it's a wonderful idea, but I think there are better places the school could use the money," said sophomore Sarah Micelli. The last regilding took place in 1988, and, contrary to what some may believe, the dome is not required to be regilded after a certain number of years.

"It's not automatic," Brown said. "An evaluation was made by the University architect and others in his office, just as they do with other buildings on campus." Because regilding is a very delicate process and will take place over the next few months and into the summer, the dome will not be its golden self for graduation, which may be distressing to some. "I'm sure some students will be disappointed, but because the regilding process is dependent upon calm weather conditions, the scaffolding needs to go up now so that the work can begin as soon as weather permits," Brown said.

However, with the amount of attention the dome receives, the University believes it is important to keep it in good shape.

"The number-one tourist attraction in Indiana provides exposure that is cheap at any price," said Sophomore Preston Carter. Brown said that Notre Dame also plans to make additional repairs to the outside of the Main Building and to paint parts of the drum on which the dome stands while the scaffolding is taking place.

The dome, which was added to the Main Building in 1882, caused much controversy because administrators thought the gold plating would be extravagant and suggested that yellow be used instead. Brown said. However, Notre Dame founder Father Edward Sorin insisted that the dome be painted gold and, after topping it with a 16-foot-tall statue of Mary, succeeded.

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonacci@nd.edu

Disabilities Awareness Month is sponsored by the Logan Center and the Best Buddies Club of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, as well as the Center for Social Concerns, the Social Interests Club, Hyperlib, the Office for Students with Disabilities, the Senior Class Council and the Elna K. Miller Foundation.

"We definitely want everyone to come to all of the events," Roblez said. "The carnival is going to be fun, and it would be a great time for students who have not had contact with people with disabilities to come here and play games with them in a laid back atmosphere. It's a great opportunity for people who are interested to come and see what it's like to interact with people who have disabilities."

Contact Karen Langley at klangley10@nd.edu
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Inmates surrender after jailbreak

MANILA, Philippines — Muslim-extremist inmates accused of committing some of the Philippines’ worst terrorist attacks agreed to surrender Monday after a botched jailbreak left more than two dozen inmates dead, but the deal broke down when the inmates demanded food, authorities said.

Early Tuesday, authorities threatened to shoot the inmates if they did not surrender. Police were giving them 15 minutes to surrender their firearms or else they will take the option of arrest.

“We have directed the ground commander to take the action that we are giving them 15 minutes to surrender their firearms or we will take the option of arrest,” Police Chief Secretary Angelo Reyes told reporters.

Creek troops, many of them U.S.-trained, and SWAT teams backed by two armored personnel carriers surrounded the maximum-security facility at Manila’s Camp Bagong Diwa.

Chechen leader’s house blown up

BORD Tak DON, Russia — Russian authorities said Monday they blew up the Chechen rebel leader Aslan Maskhadov was killed last week because they feared booby traps but criticized the move.

Col.-Gen. Arkady Yedelev, chief of the federal headquarters for the campaign in Chechnya, said demolition experts inspecting the bunker had discovered and detonated a box that contained documents and was filled with explosives.

“The team of investigators decided to blow up the entire house to avoid such surprises in the future,” Yedelev said in a statement.

Rights activists and government critics, however, suggested the blast could have been meant as punishment for the family.

NEW YORK — A federal judge ruled Monday there is not enough evidence to charge six other people for the 1999 bombing of the Centennial Olympic Park in Atlanta. The explosion injured 111 people and killed two.

Associated Press

LEBANON

Thousands march against Syrian troops

Protest is largest since the assassination of former prime minister one month ago

Judge rules on fate of gay marriage

“Today’s ruling is an important step toward a more fair and just California that rejects discrimination and affirms family values for all California families,” San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera said.

Kramer wrote.

The ruling came in response to lawsuits filed by the city of San Francisco and a dozen gay couples a year ago after the California Supreme Court halted a four-week same-sex marriage spree started by Mayor Gavin Newsom.

The opinion had been eagerly awaited because of San Francisco’s historical role as a gay rights battle-ground.

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Judge ruled on fate of gay marriage Monday and said that withholding marriage licenses from same-sex couples trespasses on their civil rights.

If upheld on appeal, the ruling would open the way for the nation’s most populous state to follow Massachusetts in allowing same-sex couples to wed.

In his ruling, Kramer likened the ban to laws requiring racial segregation in schools, and said there appears to be “no rational purpose” for denying marriage to gay couples.

“Those who proctected denial of equal protection cannot be justified simply because such constitutional violation has become traditional,” Kramer wrote.

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Calls tell horror of church slayings

Associated Press

Nelly visit devoid of protests

Associated Press

Notre Dame Disability Awareness Month
March 2005

Tuesday, 3/15
Sujeet Desai will be playing the violin, clarinet and piano. He graduated from the Berkshire Music Academy and was born with Down syndrome.
7p.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

2005
Arts & Letters Majors and Program Fair
Wednesday, March 16, 2005
4:30-6:00pm
Library Concourse

Advisors from most Majors, Minors and Area Studies Programs will be available to provide information and answer questions for all students.
suit alleges health insurance fraud

LOS ANGELES — Michael Eisner, the chairman of The Walt Disney Co., will step down a year earlier than expected, handing over the reins to Robert Iger and closing a tumultuous stint at the entertainment giant. Stuck in low-end sales, Disney weighed Eisner's successor. Pixar CEO Steve Jobs has already won praise from the Weinsteins in a deal that might give Disney and Gold. The two reporters sought a protective ruling, insisting that all journalists as reporters in mainstream newsrooms. Among those are protections afforded under California’s “shield” law, which is meant to protect journalists and encourage the public to provide information in the public’s interest. "I think probably Bob has better success doing something that could benefit the Disney shareholders," Haverly said. Pixar CEO Steve Jobs has already won praise from Iger's successor. Pixar has one more film to deliver under its current Disney deal. Iger, who was named president in 2000, has already won praise from Miramax Films co-chairman Harvey Weinstein. Eisner has repeatedly clashed with brothers Bob and Harvey Weinstein since Disney bought the independent studio in 1993. Disney is close to ending its 12-year relationship with the Weinsteins in a deal that will see Disney keep the Miramax name and library while the Weinsteins leave to form their own company. On Sunday, Harvey Weinstein praised Iger's choice, though it will not change the outcome of the talks. "I've had a great working relationship with Bob Iger and think he's a terrific choice," Weinstein said. Iger's people skills will be tested when it comes to dis­ sident shareholders Roy Disney and Gold. The two criticized Disney's board Sunday and hinted they might lead another share­ holder revolt. "We find it incomprehensible that the board of directors of Disney failed to find a single external candi­ date interested in the job and thus handed Bob Iger the job by default," the two men said in a statement. "The need for the Walt Disney Company to have a clean break from the prior regime and to change the leadership culture has been glaringly obvious." Stanely Gold, right, and Roy Disney participate in a March 2 news conference about the search for a new Walt Disney Co. CEO. Robert Iger has been selected to replace Michael Eisner, who will step down from the post in October. Eisner to step down early at Disney

Company president and chief operating officer will assume CEO role October 1

Associated Press

Bloggers may have to reveal sources

Free speech advocates and attor­ neys for the reporters criticized the ruling, insisting that all journalists should enjoy the same legal protec­ tions as reporters in mainstream newsrooms. Among those are protections afforded under California’s “shield” law, which is meant to protect journalists and encourage the publication of information in the public’s interest. "This opinion should be concerning to all reporters of all stripes, especially those who report in the financial or trade press and are routinely report­ ing about companies and their prod­ ucts," said Electronic Frontier Foundation attorney Kurt Opsahl, who represented the reporters.

Tuesday, March 15, 2005
ISRAEL

Route of barrier will enclose disputed land

Claimed area includes Palestine's intended capital, large Jewish settlement in West Bank

Revised barrier approved

A revised plan for the Israeli barrier around Jerusalem will encompass some lands claimed by the Palestinians.

Jerusalem — The final route of Israel's separation barrier around Jerusalem will encompass large areas claimed by the Palestinians, including their intended capital and the biggest Jewish settlement in the West Bank, Israeli officials confirmed Monday.

The route would also place a holy site in the Palestinian town of Bethlehem on the Israeli side of the barrier, while leaving a Palestinian refugee camp in Jerusalem encircled by a separate fence, the officials said.

Late Monday, Israeli and Palestinian Cabinet ministers agreed again on a handover of the West Bank town of Jericho to Palestinian security control. Earlier agreements fell through over details about roadblocks.

Israeli officials said the handover is set for Wednesday, to be followed two or three days later by Tulkarem, then Qalqilia.

Two other towns are to be handed over details about roadblocks.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon convened a meeting of senior Cabinet ministers late Sunday to discuss the route of the barrier, which got Cabinet approval last month.

Under the plan, the West Bank settlement of Maaleh Adumim, which lies five miles east of Jerusalem, would be on the Israeli side of the barrier, Israeli officials said. About 30,000 Israelis live in Maaleh Adumim, the largest Jewish settlement.

"Does anyone have even the slightest doubt that Maaleh Adumim is an integral part of Israel?" said Israeli Vice Premier Ehud Olmert, who heads a ministerial committee on the Jerusalem barrier.

A senior Israeli official said the committee is planning 11 crossings to allow access from the West Bank.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said construction is to be completed by year's end and no major changes in the route are expected.

A number of legal challenges filed by Palestinian villagers are pending in Israeli courts.

The Palestinian refugee camp of Shuafat, which straddles the Jerusalem municipal boundary, will remain on the Israeli side of the barrier. It will be encircled by a separate fence, with a crossing into the city.

The bustling streets of Shuafat — sandwiched between two Jewish neighborhoods — were buzzing with speculation Monday about the planned fence.

"Jerusalem is considered to be this camp like the heart to the body," said Mohammed Omar, a 50-year-old teacher in Shuafat. "All their [residents'] activities are in Jerusalem."

According to the United Nations, 11,250 people live in the camp, a maze of narrow, dusty streets and densely packed gray concrete buildings. Israeli officials said the camp has been used as a launching point by Palestinian attackers, and the fence is needed for security.

In Bethlehem, the barrier will divide Rachel's Tomb, a Jewish shrine, from the rest of the city. Concrete slabs already have virtually cut off Bethlehem from Jerusalem.

The College of Arts and Letters invites

Student Nominations

for

Kaneb Teaching Awards

Each year Kaneb Teaching Awards recognize approximately 25 Arts and Letters faculty for excellence in undergraduate teaching.

Tenured faculty as well as professional specialist and adjunct faculty who have taught at least five years are eligible.

Take advantage of this opportunity to have a voice in the selection of these recipients by nominating one of your outstanding teachers for this award.

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
Ronan Tynan — the world’s most acclaimed Irish tenor — on St. Patrick’s Day. Virtuosi Emanuel Ax and Yefim Bronfman, performing classical piano for four hands. Ladysmith Black Mambazo, the voice of South African music since Paul Simon’s Graceland. And they’re all here, at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

And Win a Free iPod mini

Buy a ticket for any of these three shows, mention this ad, and get in a drawing for an iPod Mini on March 21. We’ll notify the winner by e-mail.

Tickets: 574.631.2800  http://performingarts.nd.edu

GUEST ARTISTS

Ronan Tynan in Concert
This Year, Saint Patrick’s Day at Notre Dame Will Be More Irish Than Ever
Thursday, March 17 at 8 pm
Tickets: $75 preferred seating, $50 general public, $40 faculty/staff, $37 seniors, $20 all students

Emanuel Ax and Yefim Bronfman
Friday, March 18 at 8 pm
Tickets: $48, $38 faculty/staff, $36 seniors, $15 all students

Ladysmith Black Mambazo
Sunday, March 20 at 8 pm
Tickets: $35, $28 faculty/staff, $26 seniors, $15 all students

Natalie MacMaster
Friday, April 8 at 8 pm
Tickets $35, $28 faculty/staff, $26 seniors, $15 all students

Alton
Friday, April 15 at 8 pm
Tickets $35, $28 faculty/staff, $26 seniors, $15 all students

Emerson String Quartet
Saturday, April 16 at 8 pm
Tickets $35, $28 faculty/staff, $26 seniors, $15 all students

FILM

Browning Cinema
Tickets $6, $5 faculty/staff, $4 seniors, $3 all students
Tickets go on sale each Monday before the screenings. For more information about these films, please visit http://performingarts.nd.edu.

Rosenstrasse (2004)
Sponsored by the Nanovic Institute for European Studies
Thursday, March 17 at 7 pm and 10 pm

King of Kings (1961)
Friday, March 18 at 7 pm

Trouble in Paradise (1932)
PAC Classic 100
Saturday, March 19 at 3 pm

Barabbas (1962)
Saturday, March 19 at 7 pm

DANCE

The Sleeping Beauty
Presented by Southold Dance Theater
Dacie Mainstage Theatre
Tickets: $25, $19 seniors, $12 all students
Friday, April 29 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, April 30 at 2 and 7:30 pm

MUSIC

Notre Dame Schola Musicorum
Abend-Musique XXIV
Wednesday, March 16 at 8 pm
Rayes Organ and Choral Hall
Free and open to the public; tickets required

The Notre Dame Glee Club
Saturday, March 19 at 8 pm
Leighton Concert Hall
Tickets: $6, $5 faculty/staff, $4 seniors, $3 all students

The Notre Dame Chamber Players
Thursday, March 31 at 8 pm
Leighton Concert Hall
Tickets: $10, $8 faculty/staff, $6 seniors, $3 all students
Jackson accuser told dean nothing happened

Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — The boy who says Michael Jackson molested him acknowledged under cross-examination Monday that he told an administrator at his school the pop star “didn’t do anything to me.”

The teenager was asked about conversations he had with Jeffrey Alpert, the dean at John Burroughs Middle School in Los Angeles, where the boy had a history of acting up in class. “I told Dean Alpert he didn’t do anything to me,” the boy said under questioning by Jackson attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr. “I told him twice.”

Prosecutors allege Jackson, 46, plied the boy, a cancer survivor, with alcohol and molested him at his Neverland Ranch in 2003. The pop star, who was threatened with arrest when he failed to show up in court on time Thursday, arrived on schedule Monday. Unlike last time, when a disheveled Jackson finally arrived in a T-shirt and pajama bottoms, he wore a smart red jacket with a black armband and black slacks. His parents escorted him inside.

Mesereau, during his cross-examination of the boy, quoted Alpert as telling the youngster: “Look at me, look at me. . .I can’t help you unless you tell me the truth — did any of this happen?”

When asked when the conversation occurred, the boy said: “I believe it was after I came back from Neverland.”

It was not clear in court why the dean asked the boy about Jackson. However, when a television documentary on Jackson aired in 2003, the boy was shown in it.

Mesereau confronted the teenager with school records that showed nine teachers had complained about the boy’s disruptive behavior, events the boy acknowledged.

“Of one teacher, he said, ‘I felt as if he didn’t desire respect as a teacher. I didn’t respect him as a person.” He complained on the witness stand about the teaching methods of virtually every teacher mentioned.

“When I would stand up to teachers the other students would congratulate me,” he said. He added: “I was argumentative at times. I didn’t like the way they taught me. I wasn’t learning anything.”

Later in the day, Los Angeles television attorney Thomas Flicker Forsyth said in an interview he was representing a potential witness who “was part of the school administration at the time he had contact with the victim.”

He said his client met with prosecution and defense attorneys Saturday, and that he believed his client would be called as a witness.

Mesereau attempted to attack the heart of the conspiracy case by showing the so-called “rebuttal video,” stopping it at points where the boy speaks and asking if he was telling the truth. In most instances the boy said he was.

The boy said he, his mother and brother did not discuss any plan to lie in the video, although he said at times his mother said things suggested to her by Jackson associate Dieter Wiesner.

Prosecutors allege that Jackson’s associates had the boy’s family make the video after the broad cast of the documentary, in which Jackson said he allowed the boy to sleep in his bed while he slept on the floor. The prosecution claims the rebuttal video was staged and scripted. Mesereau also elicited testimony to amplify defense contentions the boy developed a grudge against Jackson and was troublesome at Neverland.

The boy acknowledged he felt Jackson abandoned him after his career went into remission. He said an STV given to the family was taken back by Jackson’s staff for repairs and was never returned. Similarly, he said a computer was taken back for repairs and never returned.

Mesereau also cross-examined the accuser about similarities between a statement he testified Jackson made about masturbation and an earlier statement the boy attributed to his grandmother.

On Thursday, the boy testified Thursday that Jackson told him if men do not masturbate, they might rape women. Mesereau noted the boy told sheriff’s investigators in an interview that his grandmother had told him the same thing.

“My grandmother was telling me it was OK to do it, and Michael was saying you have to do it,” the boy said.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16TH

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Visit the Student Activities website to fill out a nomination:

Student leadership

All Notre Dame Community Members are encouraged to

submit nominations. A student may nominate another

student, but no self-nominations will be accepted.

Visit the Student Activities website to fill out a nomination:

www.sao.nd.edu

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16TH

for the 2005

Student Leadership

Awards

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exemplify the spirit of Notre Dame in social, recreational,

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Monday Night Football’

intro ruled not indecent

berg.

The segment that aired last

November showed Sheridan in

a locker room wearing only a

towel and provocatively asking

the Philadelphia Eagles wide

receiver to skip the game for

her. She then dropped the towel

and leaped into Owens’ arms.

Only the upper back of the

“Desperate Housewives” star

was exposed and no foul lan-
guage was used — in fact, the

scene was no racier than what’s

routinely seen on soap operas.

But ABC said it received com-

plaints from viewers who

thought it was inappropriate.

While agreeing with the deci-

sion, Democratic Commissioner

Michael Copps criticized ABC for

airing the segment at a time

— 9 p.m. EST — when many

children were watching.

“There wasn’t much self-disci-

pline in this particular promo-

tion,” he said. “As stewards of

the airwaves, broadcasters can

and should do better.”

Federal law bars nonsatellite

radio stations and noncable tel-

evision channels from airing

certain references to sexual and

excretory functions between 6

a.m. and 10 p.m., when chil-

dren are most likely being tuned

in.

While the federal indecency

statute has been on the books

for many years, the FCC has

considerably boosted enforce-

ment in the last 18 months. The

watershed event came in

February 2004 when Janet

Jackson’s right breast was

brieﬂy exposed during the

Super Bowl halftime show.

The FCC wound up proposing

a $550,000 ﬁne against CBS, which

broadcast the Super Bowl.

The network is appealing.

After the Jackson incident,

some networks began using a

broadcast delay on live pro-

grams to catch any offensive

material before it aired.

Congress is considering dra-

matically boosting ﬁnes for

indecency. The House last

month overwhelmingly passed a

bill to raise the maximum ﬁne

from $32,500 to $500,000. A

similar bill has been introduced

in the Senate but has not had a

hearing.

Stamos plays ladies

man in ABC comedy

NEW YORK — Consider “Jake

in Progress” the latest example of

how things can come in threes.

After a preview last Sunday,

the new John Stamos comedy

arrives on its regular night,

Thursday, with back-to-back

episodes airing 8 p.m. EST. Its

network, ABC, which already has

enjoyed a Lazarus-like recovery

with “Lost” and “Desperate

Housewives,” is hoping “Jake in

Progress” will add to the success

of its current hit series.

“I knew the character I wanted

to play,” says Stamos, thinking

back to when the show first

began to take shape. “It’s a guy

who can make everyone else

seem like they have their act

together — but he doesn’t. His

life is in shambles.”

Well, maybe not in shambles.

Jake has his hang-ups —

sweaty palms when he gets nerv-

ous; issues about age (he’s

observed his 32nd birthday the

past three years); a grass-is-

greener fixation, whether it’s

for the supermodel across the

room who seems sexier than the

girl he’s with, or for the latest model

cell phone in somebody else’s

hand that makes him instantly

unhappy with the one he owns.

A spokesman for ABC sports,

Mark Mandel, said the company

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thought it was inappropriate.

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girl he’s with, or for the latest model

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hand that makes him instantly

unhappy with the one he owns.
A tale of two grassroots movements

Hunger strike protects others

On March 16, students from Notre Dame will join thousands of citizens from across the nation in the largest one-day hunger strike in U.S. history. The hunger strike is intended to demonstrate solidarity with the people of Darfur, to grieve over enervated solutions in Sudan and to generate enough media attention and political will to address the crisis in Darfur. The situation in Darfur continues to deteriorate. It is estimated that more than 300,000 people have died since conflict between rebel groups and government forces began in February 2003. Since that time, the government-supported Janjaweed militia have indiscriminately attacked civilians and villages in the Darfur region in a campaign that the United States government has called genocide.

The genocide in Sudan is a preventable conflict. Millions of lives can be saved by a little political will and a smart action by Western nations. Next week, Congress will consider passing the Darfur Accountability Act of 2005. The legislation calls on the United States to support the expansion of the African peacekeeping force, to impose focused sanctions on the government of Sudan and to press the United Nations Security Council to impose sanctions on "perpetrators of crimes against humanity in Darfur." It is essential for the protection of the people of Darfur that this bill passes.

As citizens living in an increasingly interconnected world, we have a responsibility to protect the people of Darfur because the Sudanese government is unwilling or unable. The hunger strike on Wednesday is one way for concerned citizens to urge policy makers to take action in Darfur. If you would like to join in the national movement, please take the time to sign up at www.darfurgenocide.org/MarchStrike.html.

We have the duty to urge policy makers to pass legislation that will save thousands of lives in a preventable crisis. It is right that we do this and everything in our power towards that end.

Letter to the Editor

Submit a Letter to the Editor at www.ndsmcobserver.com

Do you already have an internship for the summer?

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at www.ndsmcobserver.com

Tuesday, March 15, 2005
Dear President Bush,

In your second inaugural address in January, you spoke of the way America speaks anew to the peoples of the world. All who live in tyranny and hopelessness can now know the United States will not ignore our oppressors and will not support our aggressors. When you stand for our freedom, we will stand with you.

When I first heard those words I believed myself highly cynical. While the language of "freedom" has certainly been a priority of your administration post-Sept. 11, I find our continued and even strengthened alliances with nations such as Pakistan, Colombia, Saudi Arabia and Israel to be quite hypocritical. Not to mention that I cannot believe we have not already been the less than freedom-guided

Yet while I continue to struggle on the means, I do believe, Mr. President, that you are committed to the end of a world of freedom. Thus, I am encouraged to live up to the words you proclaimed in January. In the country of Uganda, the United States has an opportunity to stand for democracy and freedom. We must seize this moment.

In Uganda, the Parliament is currently debating an omnibus constitutional amendment bill, which will eliminate the established two-term limit for the presidential office.

Advocates for the so-called Kisinga (the symbol to end the term limits) argue that President Yoweri Museveni, the president of Uganda since 1986, has done much good for the country and he needs to continue to bring prosperity to the country. It is indisputable that Museveni has done much good during his tenure, but he is also indisputable that the removal of term limits will be a massive blow in constitutionalism, democracy and rule of law in the "pearl of Africa.

Since the debate began almost a year ago, Museveni and the so-called Movement (M) party that controls the country and military power in Uganda have been using tactics of suppression, propaganda and fear to gain the support of the population. They have repressed opposition groups and parties to such an extent that the army beat up five opposition supporters when they attempted to visit camps in the north for internally displaced peoples. The newspapers here have reported that Museveni gave up five million Uganda shillings to every member of Parliament who promised to support the constitutional amendment. The country is also openly funding and training military youth brigades to work in the campaign.

Tactics of corruption and intimidation also scandalized the parliamentary debate, basically ensuring that Museveni and his supporters get what they seek. The people of Uganda, still recovering from the violent dictatorships of Milton Obote and Idi Amin in the 1960s and 1970s, choose stability and security over corruption and rule of law. When Museveni’s followers frame the debate in terms of whether people are better off than they were 18 years ago, he will always win out of politics of fear.

On the surface, a repeal of the term limits is harmonious, especially if in all actuality a popularly-supported ruler to remain in power, the dark narrows of African elections of elected rulers overshadowing their rule and becoming violent dictators is too viable.

Repealing the accountability mechanism into the constitution will only further weaken a delicate system of constitutional checks and balances.

Many argue that Museveni’s hold on power has exaggerated the conflict in northern Uganda, a violent war that has killed more than 1.6 million people displaced hundreds of thousands, killed, raped and abducted. Just this past week, Uganda and Ugandans voted to open the political space for multipartyism, hoping the political system would evolve into a culture of pluralism and transparency. The governance crises highlighted by the Kisinga debate show that Uganda is far from such a political culture.

Many believe that Uganda, with its blatant regional inequalities, stands at a precarious moment with mass violence lurking in the future.

If this constitutional amendment passes, I believe that this tragedy can be averted if international donors, whose donations make up more than 20 percent of Uganda’s revenue, utilize their power to pressure the government. The United States as a major donor in Uganda has a rare opportunity to exercise its power in the name of freedom— not through bombastic rhetoric but through intense diplomatic and economic clout.

In this age, we have to recognize the resounding effects that a myriad actions and inactions by the United States have throughout the world, including putting our representatives to demand action, can stand for liberty and justice in Uganda. By applying our power in positive ways, the United States can truly be a voice against suppression and injustice in Uganda.

Here in Uganda, many are daring to stand for liberty. President Bush, we will fulfill your pledge that the United States’ reserve will stand with them. I certainly hope so.

Peter Quaranto is a junior political science and peace studies major. He writes from Kampala, Uganda, where he is studying development studies this semester at Makerere University. He also runs commentary from Uganda at www.peterquaranto.blogspot.com. Contact him at Peter@quaranto.com.

Remaining open-minded

Thirty years ago as a student at Notre Dame, I was a deeply-obsessed young man, but a man who worried about the University’s respect for academic freedom and liberal exploration of all ideas, even those that did not conform to Catholic teaching, made the University a college a refuge where I was able to search for dreams for love, compassion and sacrifice that the Church, and certainly an academic institution like Notre Dame, should never condemn.

I lile is turning the focus away from our social compact for the protection of the elderly, orphans and the disabled by encouraging everyone to ask, “what’s in it for me?” Insurance plans are judged not on individual outcomes but on outcome and on cost.

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American R&B legend Ray Charles (Jamie Foxx) performs one of his signature songs in "Ray," the biographical drama detailing the singer's life.

Contact Brandon Hollihan at bhollihan@nd.edu
**Hotel Rwanda**

**Director:** Terry George  
**Writers:** Keir Pearson and Terry George  
**Starring:** Don Cheadle, Sophie Okonedo, Desmond Dube, Nick Nolte and Joaquin Phoenix

The film "Hotel Rwanda" aims to be a true story of Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel manager in Rwanda who saved thousands of people from the genocide. The film is praised for its emotionally charged portrayal, with Don Cheadle's performance being particularly noted.

**The Pacifier**

**Director:** Adam Shankman  
**Writers:** Thomas Lennon and Ben Garant  
**Starring:** Vin Diesel, Lauren Graham, Brad Garrett and Tate Donovan

The film "The Pacifier" is a family comedy about a retired Marine who becomes a babysitter for the Plummer family. The film is praised for its family-friendly content and the performance of Vin Diesel, who plays the character Shane Wolfe.

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Heat blows out Bucks 110-71 as Wade scores 29

Associated Press

MIAMI — Scoring the top seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs appears to be little more than a formality. Now, Dwyane Wade and the Miami Heat are focused on the best record in the NBA.

Wade scored 29 points on 10-12 shooting in just 26 minutes, Shaquille O'Neal added 21 points and the Heat led by as many as 24 points in their 110-71 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Monday night — a win that moved Miami into a virtual tie with Phoenix and San Antonio for the league's top overall record.

It was the largest victory margin of the season for Miami (49-16), which has won a league-best nine straight overall and 13 in a row at home. Phoenix and San Antonio are both 48-15.

The Heat have held six of their seven opponents scoreless for at least 20 minutes and 13 overall games this season. San Antonio is 48-16 overall and 16-2 in the Western Conference.

The Heat currently hold the top seed in the Eastern Conference and are 11 of 12 in Miami's points during the burst, an average of nearly 17.6 points.

Eddie Jones had 10 for the Heat, 8.1/2 games ahead of Detroit in the East race. Michael Redd had 14 points for Milwaukee, which loss for the eighth time in its last 10 road games.

Rasheed Wallace added 15 points and the Heat scored 11 of Miami's points during the burst, an average of nearly 17.6 points.

The Pistons bounced back from the worst-lossing game in franchise history, beating the Atlanta Hawks 114-108 in overtime Monday night.

Rashheed Wallace scored a season-best 28 points for the Heat, hitting nearly 52 percent from the field. The Hawks lost for the 15th time in 16 games since winning their season-high 37 points.

Atlanta shot better than 49 percent and far eclipsed the normal output against the Pistons, who were allowing just 88.8 points a game. In the season opener, Tony Gugliotta hit a 3-pointer for the Hawks with 6.4 seconds left in the fourth quarter to send the game to overtime.

"They were making shots and we were making shots," Prince said. "We didn't establish our defense at the beginning of the game. We didn't defend like we should have.

Just one night earlier, the Pistons failed to make a field goal in the fourth quarter and held on for a 64-62 victory over the Heat in Detroit. The game was a repeat of each franchise for the game, and the teams combined for an overall record 37 points in the final period.

The Grizzlies, who snapped a four-game road losing streak, rebounded with their second straight victory, a season-best by 117-116 victory over Charlotte in late November. The Grizzlies were 2-12 in the final period, the first time at Charlotte since 1961. By contrast, the Lakers are 44-20 in the paint.

"It's one we definitely wanted," Arenas said. "We executed the top of the key and swished the 3.

Gugliotta said. "We executed pretty well and got the shots we wanted. So some good things came out of it."

Detroit rebounded quickly, beginning the fourth with a 17-4 spurt. Wallace scored nine of the Pistons' first 11 points in the final 77-72 lead to the fourth.

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Tennessee Basketball

Tennessee fires Peterson

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Buzz Peterson was fired Monday as Tennessee's basketball coach after the Volunteers failed to make the NCAA tournament during his four years at the school.

The Vols finished 14-17 overall and 6-10 in the Southeastern Conference this season after losing to Kentucky in the second round of the league tournament.

It was Peterson's second losing season in Knoxville, leaving him with a 61-59 record in his four years.

"Buzz has many of the characteristics we looked for in a coach, but we were found lacking in the area of wins and losses in a business that measures its success according to such parameters," athletic director Mike Hamilton said at a news conference Monday.

Hamilton informed Peterson of his decision Sunday evening.

Peterson seemed somewhat surprised but handled the news in a "first-class" manner, Hamilton said.

Peterson did not immediately return calls seeking comment.

With the return of every starter from last year, Tennessee hoped to reach the NCAAs for the first time under Peterson this season.

Peterson, whose contract is worth $769,500 a year and runs through the 2006-09 season, was the fourth coach at Tennessee since Don DeVoe was fired in 1989.

"Everybody in this profession knows how volatile it can be and Buzz certainly understood that," Fulmer said.

Hamilton declined to specify a timetable for making a hire, saying the search will take as long as needed to find the right coach.

Peterson met with Hamilton and university president John Petersen Feb. 28, and Hamilton said then he would announce a decision on the coach after the season.

In the following weeks, Hamilton was contacted by Peterson supporters, including former star Tennessee athletes Peyton Manning and Todd Helton.

Lady Vols coach Pat Summit, North Carolina coach Roy Williams and Peterson's college coach, Dean Smith.

Football coach Phillip Fulmer said he spoke with Peterson on Monday.

Peterson was fired Monday as a precaution, Fulmer said.

The Vols finished 14-17 overall and 6-10 in the Southeastern Conference this season after losing to Kentucky in the second round of the league tournament.

It was Peterson's second losing season in Knoxville, leaving him with a 61-59 record in his four years.

"Buzz has many of the characteristics we have looked for in a coach, but we were found lacking in the area of wins and losses in a business that measures its success according to such parameters," athletic director Mike Hamilton said at a news conference Monday.

Hamilton informed Peterson of his decision Sunday evening.

Peterson seemed somewhat surprised but handled the news in a "first-class" manner, Hamilton said.

Peterson did not immediately return calls seeking comment.

With the return of every starter from last year, Tennessee hoped to reach the NCAAs for the first time under Peterson this season.

Peterson, whose contract is worth $769,500 a year and runs through the 2006-09 season, was the fourth coach at Tennessee since Don DeVoe was fired in 1989.

"Everybody in this profession knows how volatile it can be and Buzz certainly understood that," Fulmer said.

Hamilton declined to specify a timetable for making a hire, saying the search will take as long as needed to find the right coach.

Peterson came to Tennessee after one season at Tulsa, where he went 26-11 and won the NIT.

MLB

Prior sidelined due to right elbow pain

Associated Press

Mark Prior sidelines due to right elbow pain

Mark Prior sidelines due to right elbow pain

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**NCAA Men's Division I Tennis Rankings**

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<th>Team</th>
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<td>Louisiana</td>
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<td>Baylor</td>
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<td>Illinois</td>
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**NCAA Women's Division I Tennis Rankings**

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**Fencing Coaches' Association Rankings**

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<td>10 Duke</td>
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**MLB**

MLB commissioner Bud Selig watches a spring training game between the San Francisco Giants and the Chicago Cubs. Selig is willing to testify on steroid use before the House Government Reform Committee.

**Selig, Schilling, Canseco offer to testify**

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball gave a congressional committee about 400 pages of documents on drug testing and said commissioner Bud Selig was willing to testify at Thursday's hearing on steroid use.

Lawyers for Jason Giambi, Frank Thomas and Rafael Palmeiro asked the committee to withdraw subpoenas for their clients, and lawyers for players and the commissioner's office continued to negotiate with committee staff Monday, trying to narrow the scope of questioning. Bob DuPuy, baseball's chief operating officer, and Rob Manfred, the executive vice president in charge of labor relations, were in Washington to meet with the committee staff.

Just three days before the hearing, it remained unclear whether Mark McGwire, Giambi, Curt Schilling and other current and former stars would testify before the House Government Reform Committee.

Former AL MVP Jose Canseco and Schilling are the only players who have said they are willing to appear in Washington on Thursday. Selig, who initially offered a top aide as a substitute, reversed course Monday and offered to appear.

"I am proud of the progress baseball has made on the subject of steroids and performance-enhancing drugs and look forward to sharing this information with the committee," he said in a statement. "The players stepped up this past January for an even stricter drug policy beginning this season demonstrating that all of us in baseball are committed to reaching zero tolerance."

Sammy Sosa, Thomas and Palmeiro were subpoenaed last week along with Canseco, whose recent book alleged several top players used steroids. Union head Donald Fehr also summorned along with Manfred, baseball executive vice president Sandy Alderson and San Diego general manager Kevin Towers.

Canseco has asked for immunity in order to speak more freely. The committee consulted the Justice Department but didn't expect to hear back until Tuesday evening, according to Canseco's lawyer, Robert Sau Bose.

Sau Bose said players were unsure whether the committee had power to grant immunity from both federal and state prosecution.

**In Brief**

Browns release third No. 1 pick since 1999

Cleveland released defensive end Courtney Brown on Monday, yet another former first-round pick who failed to make it with the team.

Brown, the first overall pick in 2000, was due to receive a $2.5 million roster bonus Tuesday. With Brown out, the first three No. 1 picks that Cleveland took after it returned to the league in 1999 are gone.

The Illini were No. 1 for the 15th straight week and past January for an even 15th straight week Monday — and unanimously.

Chanev returns to Temple bench for NIT

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**MLB spring training**

Angels at White Sox, 3:05 p.m, ESPN

NBA Lakers at 76ers, 7 p.m, ESPN

SuperSonics at Bulls, 8:30 p.m, Comcast

Magic at Kings, 10 p.m, Comcast

**Men's Basketball NCAA**

Oakland at #15 Michigan St, 11 p.m, ESPN

#14 Men's Basketball NIT

Holy Cross at Notre Dame, 7 p.m, EPSN

DePaul at Missouri, 9 p.m, ESPN

**around the dial**

Illinois remains No. 1 for 15th straight week

Illinois won the poll. Now it's a matter of winning the tournament. The Illini were No. 1 for the 15th straight week Monday — and unanimous, too — in the final Associated Press college basketball poll of the season.

Kansas was the last to do it, in 1996-97, and the Jayhawks didn't even make the Final Four. Kansas also reigned for the last 15 weeks of the season and was the last unanimous No. 1 in the final poll but lost to eventual champion Arizona in the third round of the NCAA tournament.

And last year's final No. 1, Stanford, lost to Arizona in the second round of the NCAA. Illinois' last unbeaten No. 1 had been a unanimous No. 1 for five straight weeks until its first loss of the season.
Despite the opening three losses of spring break, Mainieri remained upbeat. “I’m not discouraged. We just need to start playing a little bit better,” he said. “It’s early in the year, and I think our best days are ahead of us; there’s no question about that. We’re going to have to start pitching better.”

After the first round loss, the better days began.

The Irish defeated Southwest Missouri State 6-4, snapping the five-game losing streak. Notre Dame used a sharp performance from right-hander Jeff Samardzija (2-0) and home runs from Edwards and Craig Cooper. Edwards’ eighth-inning shot to left-field was his fourth round-tripper of the season.

Friday the Irish took the field against Oral Roberts for the continuation from page 28.

Irish coach Paul Mainieri takes an optimistic outlook. “It’s funny that the first day he pitched he had a good inning, and I thought he threw the ball really well,” Mainieri said. Catcher Sean Gaston also connected for three hits. Despite the 6-7 record after a month of April, “I think we did a lot of good things offensively and defensively, but we just need to continue to improve there. I feel good about the future for our team,” Mainieri said.

Junior Steve Andres takes a cut against St. John’s last April at Frank Eck Stadium.

Irish pitcher Jeff Samardzija winds up against St. John’s last April when the Irish split two games with the Red Storm.
Last season, Notre Dame (2-1) entered the game as the No. 2 overall team in the nation, rattling off a 9-0 victory over the Fighting Irish at the Comodore Stadium in Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt's Jennifer Tapscott scored the first of her three goals with 8:30 remaining in the first half, turning the slimmest of margins 8-7 and squandering a late second-half rally in the game's final minutes. Big Red sophomore goalie Chip Ryan chipped in a career-high 16 saves, including four before half time to build a 7-2 advantage and effectively put the game out of reach.

"It was big to get the win [over North Carolina]," Coyne said. "We played hard the whole game and were not able to convert in the final seconds."

While goals by O'Donnell and Fox put the Irish within striking distance, the Commodores were able to muscle their way to victory. The victory came just one week after Notre Dame lost 11-10 to the Tar Heels last year, forcing the Irish to start the game. Kemp blocked 65 percent of the shots he faced as the Irish averaged a 14-11 defeat at the hands of the Tar Heels last year. "It was a big game," Kemp said. "It was our national ranking, last season's head-to-head game, the Irish were slow to start the game. Kemp shines in 1st career start

SIGNAL CRISIS

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The victory came just one week after Notre Dame lost 11-10 to the Tar Heels on the road. "It was big to get the win [over North Carolina]," Coyne said. "We played hard the whole game and were not able to convert in the final seconds.

"Sensing an Irish comeback, Cornell took control of the game and drained the clock for over three minutes. Big Red sophomore goalie Mitchell then hustled the winning goal— and the first of his career — into the back of the net.

Contact Matt Puglisi at
mpuglisi@nd.edu

MEN'S LACROSSE

Kemp shines in 1st career start

By MIKE GILLOON

Kemp, who has been a key player for the Irish in recent years, had a career-high 16 saves in the victory over New Hampshire. "I think the defense against Vanderbilt was the most effective it has been in a long time," Kemp said. "We came out of the gate strong and never looked back.

However, unlike the Cornell contest where the Irish were never able to get back in the game, Notre Dame responded. Midfielder Justin Fox scored the first of her three goals with just over 10 minutes remaining in the first half to kick a streak that saw the Irish net four of their last five goals to pull within a tally of 5-3 at halftime.

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ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish get hot with 35-stroke win at St. Croix

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

Things really heated up for the Notre Dame women's golf team during spring break. The Irish headed south to the Virgin Islands and won the St. Croix Collegiate Classic by an impressive 35 shots.

Notre Dame finished the tournament with a three-day total of 919. The Irish closed strong, shooting a 15-over par 307 in Sunday's final round. The team recorded scores of 307 and 309 on Friday and Saturday, respectively. Xavier, the tournament's host school, finished second with a score of 764.

Coach Debbie King expected her teams would rebound from a disappointing 13th-place finish in February's Central District Championship. "We knew it was a semi-weak field," King said. "We knew we were the favorites, so we had to set our goals.

"But we really did it on Friday. While the team was pleased with its victory, the Irish also see room for improvement.

"A win is a win. We are definitely excited to take it. But as far as our overall performance, we know that we can definitely do better," Brophy said.

"Kirsten Palombo was proud of how well the team performed. "We played a few close matches that we wish we could have pulled out," she said.

"But we gelled as a team, and that's what it really was all about. I feel we didn't lose anything from our first collegiate spring break, but still did a good job and raised the team's expectations."

"The doubles really improved," she said. "The tournament really helped us get into better shape than we thought we would.

Despite the team's rapid development and growth, the Belles can still improve. "We lost two matches 4-5. We need to find another gear and dig deeper to win those matches," Mikulyuk said.

"Overall, we must continue to persevere through seven competitions in six days, requiring multiple matches per day from the players."

"We had some bad luck. One girl caught the stomach flu and another blew out her knee. Others suffered from severe blisters," she said.

Moreover, the Belles had to persevere through seven competitions in six days, requiring multiple matches per day from the players.

Ultimately, the Belles had a productive week, acquiring experience, fortitude and experience.

"We're going to be an underdog. I can guarantee you that," said Travis Ford, whose three-headed Eastern Kentucky squad goes up against No. 2 seed Kentucky on Thursday.

"Be fair to us. We know we have to upset somebody," said Ford. "We're going to be an underdog. I can guarantee you that.

No 16th seed has ever beaten a No 1 seed. We have had a great chance to play a good conference play. We don't have a match this week, so we have lots of time to do some drills and clean up some shots.

The Belles' new challenge will be March 23 with a home contest against Olivet College.

Contact Patrick McCabe at pmccabe@nd.edu

SMC TENNIS

Belles finish trip to Florida 3-4

By PATRICK MCCABE
Sports Writer

The defending MIAA champion Belles opened their season in Orlando and finished 3-4 against a grueling slate of six teams in six days. The Belles defeated King's College 9-0, Rochester 5-4 and Ursinus 9-0.

But the team fell to Division II-level St. Cloud State 4-5, Wittenberg 3-4, Carnegie-Mellon 0-9 and Wheaton 9-0.

"We played several really difficult teams. But it was nice to be challenged and get some confidence," junior co-captain Kristen Palombo said. "The team performed really well and really stepped up. Half of the players were on their first collegiate spring break, but still did a good job and raised the team's expectations."

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Contact Patrick McCabe at pmccabe@nd.edu

Carmen Miramontes and Carla Maloy and Tara O'Brien and Mar Beth Pavela.

"The biggest thing was our doubles. Getting to know personnel is important. They learned one another's strengths and got a better idea of weak points," Mikulyuk said. "During the tournament, they worked out the kinks." Palombo agreed.

"The doubles really improved," she said. "The tournament really helped us get into better shape than we thought we would be."

Delighted by a third round one-under-par 71.

Freshman Jane Lee also contributed to the Notre Dame victory. On Saturday, Lee shot an Irish team record 66 from May 20, her first ever collegiate round under par. Her performance, combined with those of Brown and Nakazaki, under-scored the strides being made by the young members of the Irish.

"It's definitely evident that coach has gotten really strong recruiting classes in the past years," Brophy said. "They're not only good golfers, but they are really good teammates and people. It's really easy to be on a team with them."

While the team was pleased with its victory, the Irish also see room for improvement.

"A win is a win. We are definitely excited to take it. But as far as our overall performance, we know that we can definitely do better," Brophy said.

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BENGAL BOUTS
Activities Night
choose a wise one
By KATE GALES - Sports Writer
Would it be the computer club? The philosophy club? The Israeli club?
Lucky for the men’s boxing club, Nathan Lohmeyer stopped at their table during his first Activities Night.
“It was freshman year,” he said. “I guess my friend and I were just walking around the Activities Night, where you have all the clubs set up. We kind of walked by the boxing stand, and he was like ‘I bet I could kick your butt’ and I was like no way.

The friendly challenge turned into a commitment that would last Lohmeyer, a fighter in the 150-pound weight class and two-time Bengal Bouts captain, through his time at Notre Dame.
“We both signed up and from there, it’s grown into something I’ve enjoyed over four years,” he said.

The Missouri native, who spent three years in O’Neill Hall before moving off-campus, had never boxed before.
“I ran track and played soccer in high school, so more of the not-as-much-contact sports,” Lohmeyer explained.
Initially, he got involved with Bengal Bouts to stay active after high school. The workouts are geared toward conditioning, and as a junior and senior cap-
tain, he works with novice box-
ers on technique.
“It’s like 250 push-ups a day, 500 sit-ups, 750 jumping-jacks, ideally,” he said.
“Your basic warmup. Then we basically knock it down and teach them a new technique — a jab, parry, power-block, whatever ... and finish up with more jumping jacks.
Lohmeyer estimates a two-
hour practice being 70 percent physical conditioning, with the rest “teaching [boxers] what it takes to not get killed.” This is especially important for first-
time boxers, who are trained by the captains.
“All the novice boxers — people who have never boxed before — come in in the fall, we start in the middle of October and we train for about six to eight weeks during the fall,” he explained.

Having a leadership role changed Lohmeyer’s time com-
mittment to Bengal Bouts, but the senior finance major looks back with pride.
“It’s just kind of fun,” he said.
“When you’re a freshman, you look up there and you see the guys who are leading the show, and you’re like oh, those guys are on top of things, they know exactly what’s going on, they’re not worried about taking a shot.

Captains are also responsible for much of the administrative work that goes into Bengal Bouts.
“You’re chosen by the cap-
tains previous to you, so it was nice to step into that role,” said Lohmeyer.
“There’s a lot of stuff that goes on behind the scenes.
Money from the Bouts’ ticket sales, programs, advertising and merchandise sales goes to the Holy Cross Missions in Bangladesh. The four finance majors were able to keep the financial side of the boxing club in order, and Lohmeyer will work for a consulting firm in Chicago in May.
Lohmeyer, nicknamed “The Banan Klitz,” has advanced to the semi-finals in the 150-
pound weight class. Although fans are rare, he encourages students to attend all the fights.
“People should come out just because they’re really, really fun to watch,” he said.
“It’s the guys you see in physics class or accounting just going at it, toe-to-toe ... and it’s really enter-
taining to watch.
It’s more of a spectator sport than most of the other featured clubs at Activities Night, any-
way.
Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

LIVE MUSIC!!!
St. PATRICK’S DAY,
Thursday Mar 17th
Come enjoy a night of Progressive Rock and Bluegrass with:
‘Octagandhi’ and
‘Jazzy Grass’
Two bands for the price of one!!!
Join us at The State Theatre,
214 S. Michigan St,
Downtown South Bend

COLIN FALLS DREAMWORKS PICTURES
OPENING IN THEATRES MARCH 18TH
Fear comes full circle.

Rutgers upsets Irish in first round
Loss crushes Notre Dame’s NCAA Tournament hopes
By PAT LEONARD - Sports Writer
NEW YORK — Notre Dame needed one more conference win to solidify a spot in the NCAA tournament, and in the opening round of the Big East Tournament, the Irish couldn’t get it.
Torin Francis scored a sea-
son-high 21 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, but No. 11 seed Rutgers shot 46 percent from the floor and responded at the right times as the Scarlet Knights defeated the No. 6 seed Irish 72-65 in Madison Square Garden Wednesday night.
Rutgers senior guard Ricky Shields led his team with 21 points on 9-for-18 shooting. The Scarlet Knights (10-18) also made 7-of-17 shots from the three-point range, a significant improvement from a 3-of-15 effort exactly a week before in the only previous meeting between the two teams.
In that game on March 2, Notre Dame beat Rutgers 66-56 at the Joyce Center. The win came after a ten-point loss three days earlier to UCLA. After falling at home to Pittsburgh in the final game of the regular season, the Irish (17-11) did not obtain a bye in the first round of the confer-
ence tournament and ended up paying the price.
“We fought our way back and gave ourselves a chance to win it,” Irish coach Mike Brey said following the Rutgers loss.

The Observer ◆ SPORTS Tuesday, March 15, 2005

BY GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Collin Falls defends Antonio Graves at the Joyce Center March 5.

Two bands for the price of one!!!
Join us at The State Theatre,
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son-high 21 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, but No. 11 seed Rutgers shot 46 percent from the floor and responded at the right times as the Scarlet Knights defeated the No. 6 seed Irish 72-65 in Madison Square Garden Wednesday night.
Rutgers senior guard Ricky Shields led his team with 21 points on 9-for-18 shooting. The Scarlet Knights (10-18) also made 7-of-17 shots from the three-point range, a significant improvement from a 3-of-15 effort exactly a week before in the only previous meeting between the two teams.
In that game on March 2, Notre Dame beat Rutgers 66-56 at the Joyce Center. The win came after a ten-point loss three days earlier to UCLA. After falling at home to Pittsburgh in the final game of the regular season, the Irish (17-11) did not obtain a bye in the first round of the confer-
ence tournament and ended up paying the price.
“We fought our way back and gave ourselves a chance to win it,” Irish coach Mike Brey said following the Rutgers loss.

The Observer ◆ SPORTS Tuesday, March 15, 2005

BY GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Collin Falls defends Antonio Graves at the Joyce Center March 5.
By NATE DYER
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's track team capped off a great indoor season last weekend, as five Irish athletes earned All-American status at the NCAA Indoor Championships. The Championships were held in Fayetteville, Arkansas at the University of Arkansas.

Decorated senior Irish hurdler Selim Nurudeen collected his first-ever All-American honor Friday, posting a time of 4:02.24 in the one-mile final, earning fourth place overall and All-American status. This was his second trip to an NCAA meet.

"Yesterday I just wanted to go out and race as best as I could to make it to the finals," Benninger said on Saturday. "I also wanted to do whatever I could to get the job done in the distance medley relay." Benninger led the men's distance medley relay team, which also consisted of seniors Eric Morrison, Trevor McClain-Duer and freshman Adam Currie, in a six-place finish with an overall time of 9:36.67. The finish was good enough to earn All-American honors for the team, the first such honor for each runner.

However, it was the hometown Arkansas Razorbacks squad who took home the overall championship, winning their 40th national championship and 18th in the indoors. The Razorbacks finished with an overall score of 56 points, with Florida (46) and Wisconsin (43) finishing in second and third, respectively.

Sophomore Kurt Benninger Irish sophomore

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Kurt Benninger Irish sophomore

Men's Track

5 earn All-American honors

By NATE DYER
Sports Writer

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Women's Track

Phone call comes late, but not too late

Madia finishes 12th in 3,000 meters at NCAAs

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

Last Thursday, junior Stephanie Madia had not qualified to compete in the NCAA Indoor Championships. But a phone call later that night informed her of a late scratch and called for an early morning flight on Friday.

Having run the 20th best time at the 3,000-meter distance in the NCAA this season, Madia found herself one position out of the field of 19 runners, or exactly 1.6 seconds behind the next fastest runner. She was informed late Thursday, however, that there was a late scratch, opening a place for her in the field. The junior boarded the first plane out Friday morning and was on the track Saturday morning in Fayetteville, Ark., earning a 12th place finish, running a time of 9:36.67.

Irish coach Tim Connelly was pleased that Madia had the opportunity to run and was very impressed with her result.

"She was the last runner in, so for her to beat anyone was an accomplishment. She didn't think she was running in the weekend, so she had a high mileage week with significant weight training. For her to run that well on tired legs was quite an accomplishment," Connelly said.

This weekend's performance comes as part of a mid-season resurgence for Madia, who ran extremely well in four events at the Big East Championships and ran a season best time of 9:22.50 at the Alex Wilson Invitational a week ago.

"She showed she can compete with the best in the country — she just faded in the last 800, and that can be attributed to the intense training early in the week," Connelly said.

The only other athlete to represent the Irish women at the NCAA's was junior high jumper Stacey Cowan. Making her second NCAA appearance, Cowan struggled to a 19th place finish, clearing 5.73 meters (18.77 feet), three inches short of her season best.

"In the technical events, you have to be in sync to succeed. Stacey for whatever reason seemed out of sync over the weekend," Connelly said.

Cowan will use her NCAA experience as she rejoins her teammates for the first outdoor meet of the season, the Willie Williams Invitational, Friday and Saturday in Tucson, Ariz.

Contact Ryan Kiefer at kiefer1@nd.edu

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RecSports 2005-06 Summer Staff

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going to let his career end on such a down note, and he proved it Saturday by turning in a nearly-perfect performance.

"That game Saturday was basically just like Morgan's entire career," Irish coach Dave Poulin said. "He gave us an opportunity to win, and it was a great rebound from Friday for both him and the rest of the team."

Michigan's decisive goal came at the 2:03 mark of overtime when defenseman Eric Werner flipped a rebound of a David Moss shot over Cey. Cey, forward Cory McLean and Joe Zurenko — the three members of Notre Dame's senior class — failed to advance to Joe Louis Arena for the first time in their Irish careers.

"It was very difficult for our three seniors to realize they wouldn't be going to Detroit this year," Poulin said. "But I was very impressed with the way they finished their careers and know they'll be successful in the future."

The loss Saturday capped off the worst season in Notre Dame's 38-year history, as the Irish finished the year with a record of 8-27-6.

"It's been the most difficult year that I've coached at Notre Dame," Poulin said. "You look at most of our games and they were either one-goal or two- goal losses, and usually during the course of the season you'll get a few breaks that will help you in those close games.

"It really seemed like this year we just didn't get any of those breaks."

Michigan 30, Notre Dame 1

The Irish took an early 1-0 lead Friday, but that would be all the Notre Dame offense would muster in a 10-1 loss to the fourth-ranked Wolverines.

Michigan blew the game open in the second period, scoring seven goals and chasing Cey. Irish freshman forward Evan Rankin scored the first goal of the game at the 15:38 mark of the first period as he punched on a rebound left by Michigan goalie Al Montoya. Rankin stuffed the puck through Montoya's pads for his fifth goal of the season.

Michigan got goals from Eric Syslrom, Jeff Tambellini, Michael Woodford, Milan Gajic (twice), Braden Rogers (two), Chad Kolurik (two) and Kevin Porter. Montoya made 14 saves.

"We had a difficult line change early in the start of the second period and had to take a penalty," Poulin said. "Michigan scored on that power play and got on one of their typical rolls. (Berenson, the Michigan coach) said in his interview after the game that everything they were shooting was going in for them."

Michigan State 2, Notre Dame 1

Cey made 35 saves in his final game at the Joyce Center, but he and his fellow seniors fell short on Senior Night as the Spartans eked out a 2-1 victory over the Irish March 6.

Michigan State drew first blood in the game, with Jim Slater scoring on the power play at the 16:09 mark of the first period.

Notre Dame's Tim Wallace — who set a new Irish record by playing in his 115th consecutive game — tied the game with a power play goal of his own at 8:59 of the second period. Forward Mike Walsh took a hard shot that squirted through Spartan goalie Dominic Vicari. As the puck lay in the crease, Wallace took advantage of the opportunity and poked the free puck home.

But the Spartans would score the game-winner just three minutes later, with Jim Mekonnen flipping a rebound of a Colton Fretter shot over a sprawling Cey.

Michigan State 3, Notre Dame 2

After two periods it looked like Notre Dame's 12-game winless streak would come to an end, but Jim Slater had other ideas.

The Irish took a 2-0 lead into the third period March 5, but the talented Slater scored one goal and assisted on two others as Michigan State rallied for a 3-2 victory over Notre Dame in East Lansing, Mich.

Chris Trick and Tim Wallace scored the two goals for Notre Dame, while Drew Miller,二季度和 Chris Trick. The Michigan State squad got a goal from Brent Blum and a point from Steve Kvitek.

Vicari made 17 saves in the victory, while Brown made 26 stops in the losing effort.

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Men's Golf

Final round surge puts Irish in 2nd

By STEVE COVER
Sports Writer

A strong push in the final round secured a second place finish for the Irish in the last day of the General Jim Hacket Invitational.

The Irish moved into fourth place Sunday to put the team 11 strokes off the pace of tournament host Coastal Carolina.

With a final team score of 891, the Irish more than cut that lead in half Monday to finish only five shots behind Coastal Carolina at 886.

"We're coming very close to becoming a very good team," Notre Dame head coach Jim Kubinski said. "We just have to keep gaining more confidence in ourselves and keep getting put into the fire of these high-quality tournaments."

Sophomore Shane Sigbee led the Irish squad with a second place finish overall and an individual score of 212. In his first start this season, Sigbee came into the third round in a three way tie for first and fell only one stroke behind the leader.

"Shane (Sigbee) was really the star for us, playing some super golf," Kubinski said after the second round Sunday.

Junior Mark Baldwin shot consistently to place 14th overall with a score of 225 after being in 28th place on Sunday. Freshman Greg Rodgers surged in a 22nd place finish after being locked at 33rd after the second round.

The Irish placed ahead of all five teams ranked in the top 50 Golfweek/Sagarin squad.

According to Kubinski, the key to success in these tournaments has been the team's confidence against any competition.

"You've got to believe in yourself... and have that confidence that we're going to go into tournaments (knowing) we're going to beat these guys," Kubinski said.

The Irish will resume action April 2 when they compete in the Augusta State Invitational.

Contact Steve Cover at scoyer@nd.edu

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from a Rutgers big man and breathed for the corner. Thomas stepped back, gathered himself and fired a meaningless 3-pointer with four seconds to go.

Airball.

Thus goes Notre Dame’s sea­son, and thus has gone Thomas’ career. It had started well with a 24-point, 11-assist, 11­steal explosion in his first home game in an Irish uniform, a 95­ 53 drubbing of New Hampshire on Nov. 16, 2001. It was now ending in a game in which he scored as many points as he attempted shots (17) and in which he turned the ball over as often as he assisted mis­­

kets (5).

Thomas has taken Notre Dame to new levels and created a new set of expectations for the program. He has scored over 2,000 points and dished more than 800 assists, only the third player in Division-I history to do so along with Sherman Douglas and Gary Payton.

Unfortunately, in his final two seasons as an Irish point guard, Thomas’ individual success was tied directly to the fate of the team as a whole. And in his junior and senior seasons, Thomas—who will go down as one of the most statistically productive players in Notre Dame basketball his­tory—missed the NCAA tour­

ament. It was

“Losing—it’s never been ingrained with basketball to me, especially when you lose like this,” Thomas said, visibly struggling with his team’s defeat. “Losing—it’s never been a factor in my life, it’s never been ingrained with me, especially when you lose like this.”

Notre Dame has shown how far it can go with Thomas at the helm. But it had been an uphill climb. At the press conference following the 72-65 heart­breaker to Rutgers, it was Thomas who deferred to his coach.

“Chris, how do you come to grips that you may never play again in an NCAA tour­

ament?” the reporter asked.

“T think tournament ques­tions are directed towards Coach,” he said.

But all so subtly and all so swiftly, the changing of the guard for Notre Dame basket­

ball had taken place in the makeshift press room at Madison Square Garden.

Thomas, the player Brey deferred to throughout the season and the senior Brey has trusted as the team’s leader, had completely deferred to his head coach.

Brey took the microphone and took the lead—for better or for worse, reluctantly or simply out of duty—because at that moment, the team had trusted Thomas era, full of extreme highs and disappointing lows, was officially over.

Notre Dame is now Mike Brey’s team.

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.
Women
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network, while No. 5 Arizona State (22-9) opposes No. 12 Eastern Kentucky (23-7) in the other matchup with the two winners meeting Monday for a chance at the Sweet 16 in Tempe, Ariz. After initially rejecting at being in the Tempe region, the Irish players admitted frustration with not earning a higher seed. Notre Dame had seven wins against Top-25 teams, went 13-3 in conference and had an RPI of 6. McGraw said her 2001 national championship squad had a six RPI and were the No. 1 seed in that tournament.

"I guess the number this year was 23-7," Jacqueline Batteast said. "Maybe if we would have lost a couple more games, we would have gotten a higher seed. ... This year we only had five losses and last year we had 11 losses and we were a five seed." Raina Clark referring to Minnesota (24-7), Connecticut (23-7) and Texas (21-8) — all teams that earned No. 3 seeds despite worse records than the Irish. Ohio State and Duke, two teams that had similar records to Notre Dame and who both lost to the Irish earlier this season, gained No. 2 seeds, while 19-10 Penn State got a No. 4 seed as well.

"We thought we'd be around a three, that was our prediction," guard Megan Duffy said. "A four's fine, we're in good shape. We can't control the seed, we can only control how we play."

Three Notre Dame players have lived in California, including Courtney LaVere, Crystal Erwin and Tyylah Gaines. Those three were especially excited to return to their roots and play in front of family and friends. "Fresno is in my back yard, even though it's three hours away from my house," LaVere said. "But it's definitely going to be good to have some home court advantage for our team. A lot of my family would be able to come and I'll feel good too.

"Fresno is in my back yard, even though it's three hours away from my house," LaVere said. "But it's definitely going to be good to have some home court advantage for our team. A lot of my family would be able to come and I'll feel good too." (Breaon Gray from Nevada) and Tyylah and all those on the West Coast."

"We can't control the seed, we can only control how we play," guard Megan Duffy said.

"Once in Fresno, Notre Dame will face a strong Santa Barbara squad. Led by senior guard Kristen Mann, the Gauchos won the Big West regular season and tournament titles and haven't lost since March 3. They faced Notre Dame just once before, an early November game in which the Gauchos won.

"Santa Barbara will be a very, very tough game," McGraw said. "Kristen Mann is one of the best players in the country, and she's up for a lot of the awards. (Batteast) is up for it. She's very talented."

The rest of the higher seeds in the Tempe bracket unfolded as follows: No. 1 North Carolina, No. 2 Baylor, No. 3 Minnesota, No. 6 Virginia, No. 7 Texas Christian and No. 8 Mississippi.

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Huskies get revenge 67-54
By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

HARTFORD, Conn. — A little more than a month after Notre Dame dominated Connecticut in the paint on route to a win, the Huskies returned the favor. No. 13 Connecticut knocked No. 10 Notre Dame in the Big East Tournament March 7, with a convincing 67-54 victory at the Hartford Civic Center in the semifinal game.

"I think the game speaks for itself," Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma said.

Barbara Turner had 18 points, eight rebounds, five assists, three blocks and two steals in just 28 minutes to lead the Huskies, who went on to win the Big East Tournament and the Big East's 67-51 win over No. 9 Rutgers. "I thought they were reallyphysically with us inside," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They completely dominated us on the block.

The Irish were dominated early and often by the Huskies, who came out with an intensity the Irish never really matched. Connecticut outscored the Irish 32-22 in the paint, and had 27 second-chance points to the Irish's six.

"We're a post-oriented team and we couldn't get anything going today," McGraw said. "They outworked us, they outrebounded us. They did everything they needed to do to win."

The game was fairly close for the majority of the first half, but with 11:41 to play and the Irish up 11-9, the Huskies erupted with a 26-6 run, powered by two 3-pointers. By the end of the quarter, Connecticut went up 29-17 and the Irish could never recover, as the East Player of the Year, Jackie Rutledge, was ineffective. Batteast with 11-11 in the opening half, contributing to Notre Dame's poor first-half shooting, as the Irish went 26 percent from the field.

To start the second half, however, the Irish honored poise to make a comeback. Batteast scored eight points to lead the Irish on a 10-4 run to start the half, and cut the lead to 34-31. But that was as close as they would come once again.

"They made it more difficult to get the ball," Batteast said. "They were really pressuring us and screening, and so they made it hard to get the ball."

During the run, the Huskies were led by Brother, who had 10 points, including two 3-pointers. The Irish were scoreless for about seven minutes during that stretch, with Batteast ineffective. She didn't get good looks, and the ones she had didn't go.

"When we cut it to 34-31, I thought we had a chance," McGraw said. "And we just hit a drought."

This point guard Megan Duffy credited the Huskies defense during the run.

"After we made our run, they really buckled down and played some tremendous defense," Duffy said. "I felt like every time we drove in the lane there were three people there and there was nowhere to kick it out."

"We had to be able to execute better, I think that's when we have to set better screens, do the little things," Batteast said.

Duffy had 21 points for the Irish, but 16 of them came under five minutes to play in the game. Any game you have has the biggest heart of any I've ever coached — even going to the Sweet 16," she said.

Notre Dame 70, West Virginia 59
Before this year's tournament, the Irish had never won at the Hartford Civic Center. They quickly changed that March 6, making quick work of West Virginia (17-9), scoring 15 points in 5-6-shoot ing, and dishing out nine assists to lead Notre Dame.

The Irish found a different offensive spark in the first half, however, in Breona Gray. Gray, who averaged just 5.6 points coming into the game, had six first-half points and finished with 11 to give the Irish a boost out of the gate.

"I was really pleased with the way she came out," McGraw said. "I told her after the game, she really set the tone for the game. She was running the floor; she was scoring points."

Batteast, after struggling early, finished with 16 points and five rebounds to lead the Irish. Allen added 11 points off the bench.

Notes:
Batteast, who was the preseason Big East Player of the Year, was named the Big East Player of the Year and was first team all Big East for the second straight year. She was named the Big East Most Outstanding Tournament Player for the first time in her career, one year after she was named Big East Most Outstanding Player. Allen was named to the first team Big East All-Tournament team. Honors were announced March 4 in Hartford, Conn.

Battiest, who named the Big East Tournament Most Outstanding Player for the first time, was named the Big East Player of the Year, first team all-Big East, and won the Big East Most Outstanding Tournament Player.

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Notre Dame and Saint Mary's have never faced each other before. McGraw's team is expecting a game on Wednesday at Loyola that may have been coached by the former...
**ND BASKETBALL**

**Mix of emotions on Selection Sunday**

Irish return to NIT, host Holy Cross in first round tonight

By MATT LOZAR Staff Writer

For the second Selection Sunday in a row, Notre Dame was on the NCAA tournament bubble. And for the second year in a row, the Irish aren't going to go to a postseason tournament they were hoping for. After not hearing its name called for the field of 68, Notre Dame (17-11) returns to the National Invitation Tournament (24-6) and hosts Holy Cross tonight at 7 p.m.

"I was prepared for the NIT, and that's how I prepared the team," Brey said Sunday. "We aren't going to go to a postseason tournament we weren't hoping for."

It was the worst thing that could have happened, but it was also the most appropriate. The game was all but over. Down five with 31.9 seconds to go, Notre Dame's NCAA tournament hopes began ticking away with the remaining seconds. Jordan Gornette missed a jump shot and the Irish fouled. Rutgers missed a free throw and the Irish got the ball back.

Then, off a Russell Carter miss with time winding down, Chris Thomas moved in. Notre Dame's senior point guard forgot to signal a timeout, ripped the rebound back up andSomething to remember him of their best-of-three series fell 1-0 in overtime to Michigan in the second game Friday by a score of 10-1, with Cey starting in net and having a less-than-memorable performance — allowing 10 goals on 19 shots before being pulled in favor of backup Jeff Marzinkiewicz.

The senior goaltender gave Irish fans a fine performance in his last game on 19 shots before being pulled in favor of back-up his effort as the Irish defense got hot, pitching the Irish to a 3-2 victory over the Aggies and sending Irish to the spring break.

Morgan Cey gave Irish fans something to remember him of their best-of-three series fell 1-0 in overtime to Michigan in the second game Friday by a score of 10-1, with Cey starting in net and having a less-than-memorable performance — allowing 10 goals on 19 shots before being pulled in favor of back-up his effort as the Irish defense got hot, pitching the Irish to a 3-2 victory over the Aggies and sending Irish to the spring break.

**HOCKEY**

Sweep at Michigan ends year

By JUSTIN SCHUVER Staff Writer

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