Seniors, administrators still divided over dome

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

Though his office in the Main Building is located just a few floors below the statue of Mary and his name carries with it the title of executive vice president, John Affleck-Graves sat at his desk Tuesday afternoon and said that he can do nothing to remove the scaffolding surrounding the golden dome, despite the intense backlash of the senior class.

"If there was any way to do the process faster, we would do it. We realize this is a disappointment to the senior class," Affleck-Graves said.

Senior opposition has grown since the process began on March 7.

"When I came back from spring break and they had already started, I felt the administration pulled a fast one. They could have polled student voices to gauge the impact before beginning the process," senior Rob Van Gorder said.

Affleck-Graves apologized for the lack of communication and admitted that it was his mistake that the information was not released to students earlier.

"I'll take the blame for it," he said. "Honestly, I did not anticipate the huge reaction from the class. Other times the Dome has been re-gilded the students have not been so upset."

In the last few weeks, student government has stepped in to try and stop the gilding process. Senior class president Darrell Scott told members of the Council of Representatives at their meeting March 21 that he would be presenting a resolution to the board. "It's on the board," he said.

Campus employment factors into financial aid packages offered

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

Sophomore Adam Cummins works the cash register in The Huddle Tuesday. Students fill thousands of on-campus positions at the University.

While the University employs 3,611 in various positions, students at Notre Dame are known for their hard work and dedication in the classroom. However, the University also recognizes them as hard workers outside of class -- in on-campus jobs ranging from secretary to sandwich artist.

Joyce Yates, the assistant student employment coordinator for the Office of Student Employment, said from the interest shown on the University Job Board, Notre Dame students seem anxious to work.

"As soon as we post a new position on the board, it's gone," she said. The online resource has been in use for about three years and is touted as the best place to start looking for an on-campus job.

For some students, employment is a necessity, a reason campus jobs are highly sought.

Senior Joni Kealy has three jobs under work-study.

"Crews have been pulling out loose mortar between the bricks and stones, while also power-washing the exterior of the building. Dillon, rector Father Paul Doyle said.

"This is loud work. The men have been very understanding. I tried to give the men an explanation before each step of this process," Doyle said.

"As of tonight or tomorrow night they will have power-washed all of Dillon Hall except the courtyard facing Alumni. Noise is over with for the men of..."
INSIDE COLUMN

Dome letdown

Acting on emotion rarely results in a positive outcome. Since the administration's letter reiterating the regilding and repairs to the Dome wouldn't halt the scaffolding that surrounds the Dome, I've come to what bothers me most with the scaffolding that will continue to surround the University's landmark on arguably our most important day at Notre Dame.

It has to do with disappointment stemming from the way this situation has been handled by the administration. My problem goes further than sneaking the beginning of this project past students who were on spring break when the last thing on our mind was the Dome as a background. I refuse to drink the Kool-Aid being handed out by the administration insisting the schedule for this project can't be changed. I understand the repairs and regilding need to be done, that's indisputable. But why can't the schedule be changed?

Tell the senior class the project's cost increases too much if overtime or other changes are made? Tell them the project can't be started in the spring?

I've come to what I'm asking for — something believable, credible and legitimate. It has to deal with disappointment stemming from the way this situation has been handled by the administration. My problem goes further than sneaking the beginning of this project past students who were on spring break when the last thing on our mind was the Dome as a background. I refuse to drink the Kool-Aid being handed out by the administration insisting the schedule for this project can't be changed. I understand the repairs and regilding need to be done, that's indisputable. But why can't the schedule be changed?

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Progressive Student Alliance enjoys success of agreement
Taco Bell Corp. to pay penny-per-pound surcharges, raise farm labor standards, ending three-year-long boycott

By KATIE PERRY  
News Writer

Actions taken last spring by the Progressive Student Alliance (PSA) reached a large-scale level earlier this month when Taco Bell presented a large labor organization with groundbreaking plans to reform the conditions and pay of its workers.

A March 8 agreement between Taco Bell Corp., a division of Yum! Brands, and the Florida-based Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) proved successful as the Mexican fast-food powerhouse served up an order deemed sufficient by the labor activist group.

The CIW officially ended its three-year boycott of Taco Bell, asserting the deal "sets a new standard of social responsibility for the fast-food industry." Taco Bell has agreed to pay a penny-per-pound surcharge to workers and "raise farm labor standards" by adding new clauses to the company Code of Conduct and strictly adhering to current laws.

"It's an amazing feeling to be a part of something so large like this boycott and to see the group achieve this level of unprecedented success," Lachiondo said.

"It's our time for corporate to follow the impressive example finally put forth by Taco Bell."

The PSA will "continue to support the CIW in its causes" because of its strong belief in the group's fundamental mission, Lachiondo said. By using their purchasing power as a metaphorical vote, PSA members will strive to voice concerns to other companies through economic means.

"It is our belief that someone needs to take responsibility for the conditions throughout the food supply chain; if the corporations won't do it, we will through the power of our purchasing choices," Lachiondo said.

Contact Katie Perry at kperry5@nd.edu

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The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS 
Wednesday, March 30, 2005 

poster.jpg
Dome
continued from page 1

intended to pursue measures to halt or delay the process until after graduation.

Last Wednesday, Scott, along with student body president Adam Ixvan and third-year law student Adam Russ, met with Affleck-Graves and presented what Scott referred to as a "hypothetical contract" that would allow for the Dome to be temporarily uncovered for graduation.

Their proposal called for the re-gilding to continue through the month of April. Then, one week before graduation the scaffolding would be taken down, allowing the Dome to be visible for commencement. The following day, the scaffolding could be rebuilt, and the process would continue on as planned.

After speaking with contractors, Scott estimated that his proposal would add two weeks to the re-gilding process but would still allow for the project to be completed by the mandatory deadline of Oct. 1, when frost will become a factor.

"Mr. Affleck-Graves was sincere and committed to making an arrangement. I was optimistic going to bed Wednesday night that our compromise was feasible," Scott said.

Affleck-Graves said he was impressed with Scott, Istvan and Russ's enthusiasm.

"Darrell had a really good idea. I thought, We wanted to do something anything we could to make the best out of the situation," Affleck-Graves said.

But to the disappointment of Scott and the rest of the senior class, the proposal was not approved after Affleck-Graves sent it to Conrad Schmidt and learned that the process of taking down and rebuilding the scaffolding would push the completion date beyond the deadline of Oct. 1.

"The contractors told me it was not possible," Affleck-Graves said.

This will be the 11th time the dome has been re-gilded — 17 years since the last touch-up.

"If you look at the Dome from the front, it looks fine. But if you look at the back of Mary, you can see it is in need," Affleck-Graves said.

As a result, this year's process will be especially long. Instead of painting over the old paint, the workers are going to strip the dome of all the previous layers and apply a brand new coat. Also, structural work will be done to maintain the integrity of the inside of the building, Affleck-Graves said.

"Now we have to strip 12 layers of paint. We have to prime and re-paint, and that is what takes time. It is going to be stripped down to bare metal," Affleck-Graves said.

But knowing the logistics of the procedure does little for Joe Tan, whose aunt and uncle will be taking a 24-hour flight from Singapore to see Notre Dame for the first time.

"If all the time to be re-gilding, why before graduation? It's disappointing that something like this would take place, to my aunt and uncle who are looking forward to seeing campus," Tan said.

Affleck-Graves said he understands how the students and parents are feeling, since he has had two children graduate from the University. But he also knows that the best memories of graduation are not about the dome itself, but the spirit of the graduates underneath it.

"Graduation is not about the physical dome. You don't remember standing in front of it getting your picture taken. It's about the proud parents and being part of mass. There could be no dome and it would be a fabulous time," Affleck-Graves said.

Many students have insisted that the University's refusal to change the re-gilding plans shows a lack of respect for its students.

"This is just another example that students really do not have a voice at this campus. If our own class president can't sit down and talk and have something come of it, then certainly a common student won't be able to," senior Sarah Bates said.

Yet Affleck-Graves insisted that undergraduates are his top priority.

"We care more about undergraduates than anybody else. We care about creating a religious and educational foundation for them. Hopefully that is more important to them than buildings," Affleck-Graves said.

Affleck-Graves promised that he will do all he can to make up for the eyesore of a scaffold-covered golden dome.

Affleck-Graves and other members of the administration have begun exploring other possibilities to keep graduation special for this year's class. Affleck-Graves said he would consider any suggestions the students put forth, such as a new location for professional photos or special access to places like the stadium press box or the 14th floor of the library.

"If seniors have suggestions, we will entertain everything. We want the students' initiative and suggestions," Affleck-Graves said. "But I know the seniors are paying a price, plan can go on, and we can never fully compensate for this."

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

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Akayev promises resignation
BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan — Outsted President Askar Akayev surfaced in Russia after fleeing this Central Asian nation and said Tuesday he would resign if given legal protections — the first sign he is willing to yield power.

Akmayev, who fled after protesters seized government headquarters last week, also accused his foes of plotting his overthrow for months. "I'm not a traitor," Karmankul. But, he said, the storming of the government headquarters was never planned, and he called for new elections.

In an interview with Russia's state-run Channel One television, Akayev emphasized he is Kyrgyzstan's legitimate leader and suggested he would keep a hand in its fragile politics.

Asked whether he was prepared to step down, Akayev replied: "Of course, of course — if an offer is given."

Joe Biden, the Democratic presidential candidate, was invited by Schiavo's parents to meet with activists outside Schiavo's hospice. His arrival was greeted by some applause and cries of "This is about civil rights!"

"I feel so passionate about this injustice being done to Terri," he said. "I do not feel her. I feel her feed her. I feel theparl."

"This is a momentous time when it transcends politics and family disputes." 

Jackson offered a emotional boost to Schiavo's husband and parents, who have maintained that Schiavo would want to live. "I am encouraged. I've found my way to move on," he said.

The chief sponsor of the measure, state Sen. Daniel Webster, said he knew of no changed votes and that Jackson's efforts may have come too late.

"If he could sway votes — and I'm certain he may be able to — it would have been helpful if he had done that a little earlier," said Webster, a Republican. "We're running out of time. To do it now is not as timely as a couple of weeks ago would have been."

Bob Schindler described his daughter as "falling" following his visit Tuesday. "She still looks pretty darn good under the circumstances," Schindler said. "You can see the impact of no food and water for 12 days. Her bodily functions are still working. We still have her.

During Jackson's visit, a man was tackled to the ground by officers when he tried to storm into the hospice, police said. He became the 47th protester arrested since the feeding tube was removed March 18. The man had two batons.

Human fetus stolen from exhibit

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Two women stole a preserved 13-week-old fetus from an acclaimed exhibit at the California Science Center, authorities said Tuesday.

The fetus, covered in a red cloth, was stolen from a display case on the third floor early Saturday during the round-the-clock closing weekend of the exhibit, police said.

The fetus, donated by a woman who had an abortion, is a valuable and irreplaceable specimen, said Angela Whalley, director of "Body Worlds," which displayed the fetus.

"It's a tragedy for those of us who have been working to protect human remains and bodies," she said.

World & Nation

Compiled from the Observer's wire services

POLITICIAN'S PRAYERS LIFT SPIRITS

Rea. Jesse Jackson visits Terri Schiavo's parents on day 12 without food, water

Associated Press

Bob Schindler, right, walks with son-in-law Michael Vitadamo Tuesday after visiting his daughter Terri Schiavo. Schindler wants Schiavo's feeding tube to be reinserted.

A surveillance camera captured two women stealing the fetus, its tissues infused with polymers in a process called plastination to prevent decay indefinitely, was part of a traveling display, "Body Worlds 2: The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies."

"A surveillance camera captured the women removing the fetus from an unlabeled display case on the third floor early Saturday during the round-the-clock closing weekend of the exhibit, police Detective Jimmy Miller added.

"There's no indication at this time but they may not have been aware of the theft, "he said. "There's no indication that at this time that the motives behind the stealing of the plasmented fetus," Bender said. "There had been no threats."

"There was the first ever involving "Body Worlds" displays, which have been seen by millions of people worldwide.

"We are deeply concerned and disappointed by the theft of this invaluable and irreplaceable specimen, said Angeline Whalley, director of the Institute for Plastination, said in a statement.

"Although it is a tragedy that the fetus never made it to life, it is a teaching treasure and educational tool which we preserved for the benefit of public knowledge," she said.

"Body Worlds 2" and its predecessor, "Body Worlds," use plastinated human bodies and organs to provide information on human anatomy, illnesses and issues such as smoking and obesity. The displays, featuring bodies in natural poses, have drawn critical and public praise.

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Jobs continued from page 1

tant to the alumni newsletter editor and works on editing and mailings.

Kealy said her office job pays $6.50 an hour, but she also receives income from being an Academic Services tutor at the Writing Center and the Office for Students with Disabilities.

Yates said that a position like Kealy’s in the Alumni Association is coveted.

“Students would like to work in an office-type setting,” Yates said. “There’s a lot of competition for those jobs. The thought of working in a dining hall is torturous, especially for freshmen.”

While he does not have an office job, freshman Brogan Ryan said working at Subway is a good experience. “I would say that Subway is not the best job on campus, but if you work with the right people, it can be fun,” he said.

“The perk of working at Subway is the free sub at the end of the shift,” Ryan also said the on-campus location was an added advantage to his job, despite his comparatively low earnings.

“I think [the wage rate for University payroll jobs] is pretty fair, for working on campus,” he said. “There is no doubt I could be making more money off campus, but that wouldn’t work.”

Currently, there are 3,611 students on the University payroll. Yates estimates about half of all these students work for Food Services. Academic Services is the second largest employer, providing about 500 jobs.

However, not many businesses are allowed onto Notre Dame’s closed campus, some-what limiting the variety of jobs available for the 40 percent of undergraduate students employed by the University. Students must make an effort to get the available jobs — whether they are ideal positions or not.

“There are no perks for working in the dining hall beyond getting paid,” said freshman Zach El-Sawaf, a Food Services employee at South Dining Hall. Food Services jobs typically begin pay with an unskilled wage of $6.45 an hour.

El-Sawaf is one of the 602 freshmen with jobs on campus. There is typically an increase of about 300 University payroll job recipients, usually about 600 to 900, from freshman to sophomore year, Yates said. Seniors constitute the highest number of students employed by class. “Freshmen are trying to adjust, and working is just not an option for some,” Yates said.

She said that as time goes by, students become more organized, begin seeking work experience and are generally more available as course loads lessen and as requirements are fulfilled.

Students who love their jobs tend to remain in their positions throughout their years on campus.

“I’d definitely say I have one of the best jobs on campus,” junior and Writing Center tutor Curtis Leghorn said.

“Flexible hours, human interaction and good pay” are all positives for working at the Writing Center, he said. Tutors start at the skill of $7.35 an hour.

Leghorn has worked at the Writing Center for two years and will continue working there until he graduates.

Contact Lisa Schulz at lschultz@nd.edu

Aid continued from page 1

Aid

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Joyce Yates

student employment coordinator

Yates said.

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Cattle from Darrel Sweet's Livermore, Calif., ranch are shown on Tuesday. California ranchers are affected by both Japanese and U.S. mad cow restrictions.

Associated Press

"No Late Fees" causes confusion

PORTLAND, Ore. — Blockbuster Inc. has agreed to make refunds to customers — and pay an additional $360,000 — to settle allegations the nation's largest video rental chain deceived people with its "No Late Fees" campaign.

The settlement was announced Tuesday between Blockbuster and 47 states and the District of Columbia.

Many customers were angry to discover that despite the "No Late Fees" policy, it was never really free. If they were several days late with a movie or a game, they owned it; their credit card accounts were automatically billed for the purchase price. If they then tried to return it, they were refunded the purchase price but were charged a $1.25 restocking fee.

Under the settlement, Dallas-based Blockbuster must make refunds to customers who claim the campaign misled them into thinking they could keep the video or DVD as long as they liked.

Also, Blockbuster agreed to pay the states about $360,000 to reimburse them for the costs of their investigations into consumer complaints.

In addition, the rental chain will have to change its advertising to ease any confusion. Blockbuster spokesman Randy Hargrove said that the cost of refunding the consumers is expected to be small, because fewer than 4 percent of Blockbuster customers kept the video or DVD beyond the seven-day window. Customers who feel they were misled must fill out a form available at Blockbuster stores.

Blockbuster spokeswoman Karen Raskopf said that the "no late fees" program will continue but that signs will be added to stores to better explain the fine print.

"We think our original communications were very clear, but we're happy to do whatever we can to add additional communication to better inform our customers," she said.

Blockbuster launched the no-late-fees program at its 4,600 U.S. stores on Jan. 1. The states that were not part of the settlement are New Jersey, which is pursuing a separate lawsuit, Vermont and New Hampshire.

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MARKET Recap

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New York — Verizon has won the bidding for MCI Inc., a second time, agreeing to pay $1 billion more for the long-distance telephone company, and yet still considerably less than its rival bid from Qwest.

Investors don't seem convinced. Qwest Communications International Inc. will admit defeat, however. MCI stock shot higher after the $7.64 billion deal was announced, surpassing the $23.50 price per share Verizon Communications Inc. has agreed to pay.

The new agreement increases the amount of cash MCI stockholders will receive for their shares while guaranteeing a minimum value for the Verizon shares that they'll get as the balance of the payment.

Quint, the smallest of the nation's four big local phone companies, said it will renege the situation, but reiterated its position that its offer of $8.45 billion, or $26 per share, is superior.

Court debates cable monopoly

Washington — The Supreme Court on Tuesday questioned the light control cable companies hold over high-speed Internet serv-

r Download Composite Volume 1,061 136 3,221,014/10 |

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THE OBSERVER

Wednesday, March 30, 2005

JAPAN

Progress made in beef trade

Japan food panel complies to request for relaxed testing standards on U.S. cows

Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's food safety panel on Monday recommended the government set testing levels on mad cow disease, a step toward allowing U.S. beef to be eligible for import after a 15-month ban. Japan then decided to import U.S. beef in December 2003 after the United States found its first mad cow case. Tokyo, seeking to soothe worries at home about a domestic mad cow outbreak, has refused to reopen its market to U.S. beef products until Washington adopted blanket testing for the disease.

However, the Food Safety Commission's scientific experts said research has shown that some protein linked to the disease don't show up in tests on cattle younger than 21 months, and that easing the testing standards wouldn't put consumers at risk.

"We have concluded that the risk of excluding cows younger than 21 months old from inspections is negligible or extremely small," Yasuhiro Yoshikawa, who heads the scientific panel, told reporters.

Since discovering its first case of mad cow disease in 2001, Japan has tested every cow slaughtered as food for the bovine illness in order to reassure consumers. Now, Tokyo has found 16 animals with the disease, most recently a Holstein cow on Monday.

Japanese experts have the right to begin debating standards for U.S. beef imports. However, the Japanese experts didn't discuss U.S. beef on Monday.

But the Japanese panel also acknowledged that not enough is known about the disease, formally called bovine spongiform encephalopathy, to rule out all risk.

Eating beef from an infected cow is thought to cause the fatal human variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

During her March 19 visit to Tokyo, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice pressed Japan to end the costly ban. Before the ban, Japan was American beef's most lucrative overseas market, estimated at $1.7 billion a year.

Recently, Washington has intensified pressure on Tokyo over the issue, with some U.S. lawmakers threatening possible sanctions if the ban isn't lifted soon. U.S. officials called Monday's development a step in the right direction, but Japanese officials should hasten the process.

"It's a very small step. But we still think the Japanese process is going far too slow, and it's unnecessarily cumbersome. We would like to see it accelerated," said J.B. Penn, undersecretary of the Agriculture Department's Foreign Agricultural Service.

The two sides tentatively agreed in October to restart imports of U.S. beef products from young cows considered low at risk for the disease, but discussions stalled over how to confirm the age of cattle.

Washington then proposed that Tokyo relax testing standards as a first step toward dropping its ban on American beef.

For months, Japan rejected the proposal and insisted that the United States abide by the same testing restrictions for Japanese beef.
Alumni done, so they knew the fall. Last year, due to disignificantly bigger building”


“They’ll just take out the cur­rent windows which are in very, very bad shape.” Doyle said.

Alumni Hall received new windows last summer, and, according to Doyle, it was a stretch to finish in those few months.

“It was a photo finish getting Alumni done, so they knew they couldn’t get it [Dillon] done in the window between graduation and [freshmen or­ientation],” Doyle said. “Alumni should have been done first because it’s the first one you see when you come onto cam­pus.”

Doyle said that Dillon “is a significantly bigger building” and the University wanted to ensure that all of the work was done properly and finished for the fall. Last year, due to dis­coloration of window frames due to power-washing, a few windows had to be replaced on Alumni at the last minute, Doyle said.

“The University learned from the experience last summer to stay well ahead of the power-washing.”

During the summer months, the crew works in all four of the dorm’s large bath­rooms, two on each floor, will be completely redone. “The plumbing is old; it works, but there are problems from time to time. New porcelain will come in and new pipes will be put in the wall,” Doyle said. “That’s a major outlay. Obviously the dorm is not going to be used this summer for high school sports camps and such.”

A washer and dryer room will also be put in the basement of Dillon, Doyle said.

“Not one student has complained about this, which is a real credit to them.” Father Paul Doyle Dillon rector

“Not one student has complained about this, which is a real credit to them. They understand where we’re head­ed!” Doyle said. “Maybe some people feel put out, but noth­ing has come to the [president assistants] or me.”

Doyle has worked with the construction crews to make the whole situation more accommodating for students. For example, the crew begins work each day at around 9 a.m., as opposed to 7 a.m. as they would with other projects.

Workers are trying to keep the major inconveniences at a minimum,” Doyle said. “They come in and ask for input from me once every 3 or 4 days.”

“The biggest issue with the work on Dillon thus far has been the noise caused by the power-washing.”

“There certainly has been noise during the day but I think people are just putting it up with it during the day. They know it is for a good reason because it will be really nice in the end,” said Brian HammeI, assistant rector of Dillon.

Some students have found the noise disturbing amidst attempts to study, sleep and live in the rooms.

“They’ve been working on the windows for about a month now, they’re like power-washing all of them to try to make them look a little better, but I haven’t really noticed a difference and it’s really loud and annoying, especially when they start work at about 8:30 outside my window,” freshman Scott Hagan said.

Many students, however, recognize that the final product will be a positive addition to Dillon.

“They have a lot of work to do still this summer, and Dillon definitely needs new windows,” said freshman Tyler Elson. “It’s a bit of noise, but we could all stand to get an earlier start to our day any­way.”

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

Notre Dame Law School

...is honored to host an open meeting of the

NATIONAL PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION COMMISSION

March 31, 2005
1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
McKenna Hall Auditorium

The Commission will discuss the problem of sexual assault in prisons.

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Notre Dame Journal of Legislation
Symposium on the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003
Law School Courtroom

IRAQ

New parliament faces stormy beginnings

Lawmakers argue, fail to choose speaker

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — They argued. They wrangled. They pulled the plug on the live TV feed and kicked out reporters. And some of them later walked out themselves.

The second meeting ever of Iraq’s parliament was its stormiest — as lawmakers failed Tuesday to choose a speaker in an impasse that exposed tensions among Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds.

The turmoil in the National Assembly, two months after landmark elections, raised concerns about Iraq’s efforts to build a new government.

Some politicians argued the delay could force them to request a six-month extension to the Aug. 15 deadline for drafting a permanent constitution — a vital step in organizing the next round of elections. “I think the time won’t be enough. We might need an extension,” said Ali al-Dabagh, a member of the Shitte-led United Iraqi Alliance.

The Sunni Arab minority — dominant under former dictator Saddam Hussein and believed to be the back­bone of the insurgency — was given until Sunday to come up with a candidate to serve as speaker of the 275-seat parliament.

The United Iraqi Alliance and the Kurdish coalition want a Sunni Arab to hold the position as a way of heal­ing rifts with the Sunnis, many of whom boycotted the Jan. 30 elections or simply feared attacks at the polls.

“We saw that things were confused today, so we gave [the Sunnis] a last chance,” said Hossein al-Sudie, a Shiite cleric and member of interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi’s coalition. “We expect the United Arab brothers to nom­i­nate their candidate. Otherwise, we will vote on a candidate on Sunday.”

More meetings were scheduled for this week.

“There’s a consensus that the talks should continue tonight and in the coming days so that Sunday’s session will be better,” Alliance negotiator Abdul Karim al­Anzi said.

Iraqis, already frustrated with draw-down negotiations, were angered by the meet­

Notre Dame Journal of Legislation

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The Observer • NATIONAL NEWS

Commission’s WMD report to criticize U.S. agencies

WASHINGTON — President Bush’s commission on weapons of mass destruction will castigate U.S. intelligence agencies for their continued failure to share information after numerous reforms aimed at improving coordination, federal officials said Tuesday.

One official familiar with the commission’s workings, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the report also goes into great detail about Iraq’s weapons programs and that Iraq had active weapons of mass destruction programs — is lacking.

"Human intelligence" — the work of actual operatives on the ground — is lacking.

In the three years since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the U.S. intelligence apparatus has been revamped. At Congress’ direction, the government is establishing a new intelligence chief — a director of national intelligence — and new centers to focus on counterterrorism and counterproliferation.

Yet the nine-member panel has found that there’s more to be done to improve the coordination among the 15 agencies that comprise the intelligence community. The commission will blame an officials who spoke on condition of anonymity. A lesson learned from the report is that the information belongs to the entire government, not one agency, the officials said. That will require people — not just better technologies — to find improved methods of sharing and coordination.

"The report will stress the importance of management and leadership, officials said, as well as a renewed emphasis on questioning assumptions in intelligence analysis. Even before the report, intelligence analysis were faulted for rejecting information that contradicted presumptions that Iraq had active weapons of mass destruction programs before the 2003 invasion.

The report took more than a year of work, and the White House has taken pains to signal it is taking the panel’s findings seriously. The White House spokesman Scott McClellan said Bush would discuss the report with Cabinet members on Thursday, immediately after the president meets with the full commission.

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Catholic schools' enrollment drops

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Enrollment in Roman Catholic schools dipped again this school year, continuing a trend that has seen the student population drop from 2.6 million in 2000 to 2.4 million in 2004-05, according to the National Catholic Education Association.

The association, meeting in Philadelphia this week, said, in a new report that a nation's enrollment decreased 2.6 percent from the 2003-04 school year to 2004-05, as 173 schools closed or consolidated and 37 new schools opened.

Sustaining (the schools) has been a struggle, but in the last four or five years it has become a very different at- titude," Michael J. Giarr a said Tuesday. "We don't want to lose these folks. We don't want to serve only those who can afford the bill."

Cost has been a significant fac- tor in the enrollment drop, Giarr a said. A top American official in the Vatican, Archbishop John P. Foley, said Tuesday, the conference that leaders are trying to hold on to the church sex abuse cri- sis of the past several years has played any role in the enroll- ment decline.

W h i l e schools are being closed in Chicago, B r o o k l y n and St. Louis, more than one-third of the nation's 7,799 Catholic school s reported hav- ing waiting lists, the NCEA said.

Schools are located in Atlanta, Minneapolis and Austin, Texas.

"All businesses and charita- ble organizations also are trying to help make Catholic education more affordable for low- to mod- erate-income families," Greggory P. Clarmont, executive director of Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools, said his group has helped raise $5 million for schools in the Philadelphia region in the past year, with most of the money going to families for tuition sub- sidies.

"Because other funding is dry- ing up," he said. "businesses are going to have to step up to finance an affordable, quality Catholic education for every child."

The average cost of tuition for ninth grade at Catholic schools was $5,670 in 2003-04 or a 37 per- cent increase from five years earlier, according to NCEA fig- ures.

NCEA spokeswoman Barbara Keel er said the group does not believe fallout from the clergy sex abuse cri- sis of the past several years has played any role in the enroll- ment decline.

"I have personally observed that as Catholics have become relatively more prosperous, they have become proportionately less generous. We must, must, must find ways to finance an affordable, quality Catholic education for every child," John Foley, archbishop of Philadelphia said.

"We don't want to lose these folks. We don't want to serve only those who can afford the bill."

Associated Press

Science doesn't trump miracles

ND Protestant philosopher makes intellectual room for miracles

SOUTH REND, Ind. — In a scientific era, it is still possible to believe in God and such events as the Easter miracle of Jesus' resurrection from the grave.

A common rational person see God as both all-powerful and omnipotent despite the seeming disasters that are occurring in the world.

From the perspective of philosopher Alvin Plantinga the answers are emphatically yes and yes.

A Protestant professor at the University of Notre Dame, Plantinga applies modern ana- lytic philosophy to the age-old questions about God and the universe. While he's little known outside his specialty, an assessment in Christianity Today magazine called him not just the best Christian philoso- pher of his time but the most important philosopher of any stripe.

Even atheist opponents rec- ognize his importance. William Rowe of Purdue University and Michael Tooley of the University of Colorado—who is co-authoring a book with Plantinga— each consider him among the top two or three defenses of traditional belief in God.

A tongue-in-cheek lexicon edited by skeptic Daniel Dennett also included Plantinga a couple of backhanded com- ments, "Alvinizing" as "to use 20th-century fertilizer to encourage new shoots from 11th-century ideas which everyone thought had gone to seed."

Meanwhile to "alvinize" something is "to stimulate pro- tracted discussion by making a bizarre claim."

Plantinga's best work is clear but hardly popular fare, it's filled with modal logic and let- ter formulas that summarize the steps in his rigorous argu- ments.

It may seem odd, but modern philosophy ponders how we know things like this: that other people exist with thoughts and feelings like our own, that material objects we observe are real; that the world existed more than five minutes ago; that the fourth dimension will resemble the past or that we can rely upon our minds.

Plantinga argues that com- mon sense and science know that such things are true — and that they employ personal sympathy, memory, perception and intuition in the process. Applying complex formulas, Plantinga asserts that belief in God is equally reasonable.

It's heavy stuff, but the philosopher tries to lighten the mood as much as he can.

He imagines Henry Kissinger swimming across the Atlantic in one text, a possible world where Raquel Welch is married and others where there never was a Raquel Welch. The actress, he notes, "enjoys very little greatness in those worlds in which she does not exist.

Plantinga's Roman Catholic campus, which decades ago hired no Protestant philoso- phers, provides congenial sur- roundings for his work. Notre Dame boasts the nation's largest philosophy faculty, and scholars surveyed by Philosophical Gourmet.com rate it first in the English-speaking world for graduate study in the philosophy of religion.

Plantinga long led its graduate center in that field. Chatting about faith's perennial puzzles, the bearded philosopher turns out to be a cheerful, plainspoken and seemingly well-groomed Midwesterner. At age 72, he still takes an hour or more to get his work done before 9 a.m. in shape for his chief avocation, rock climbing.

Back in 1951, Plantinga was a Harvard University scholar- ship student surrounded by scoffers when sometime he even experienced a "persecution and conviction that the Lord was really there and was all I had thought."

Shortly thereafter, he trans- ferred to Michigan's faith-affirming Calvin College, affilia- ted with his lifelong denomina- tion, the Christian Reformed Church. "As a good decision as 'I've ever made," he says, He then did graduate work at Yale and Michigan and taught at Calvin before moving to Notre Dame in 1982.

In his student days "every- body was predicting and giving lots of learned reasons for Christianity dying out."

"Christianity didn't have any future in the academy," he said, recalling what he himself felt at the time. "It seemed the thing to think."

But now, "in philosophy, at least Christianity is doing vast- ly better than it did 40 or 50 years ago and that's probably true in academia in general," he said, adding what he himself felt at the time. "It seemed the thing to think."

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Sex and Ivy League isn’t an oxymoron

‘Chloe Does Yale’ depicts confused college girl trying to balance ambition with having fun

Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — They soon will be doctors or diplomats, but right now they’re hopped up on hormones and cheap beer and on the proof for a temporary mate. Sex and the Ivy League. It’s no different from sex in any college campus, says Natalie Krinsky, a 22-year-old Yale University graduate whose recent novel, “Chloe Does Yale,” invites readers along for drunk on bookbags, naked parties and sex toy shopping.

Krinsky should know. As an undergraduate, she wrote a popular sex column for the student-run Yale Daily News and showed that even the super smart can be downright clueless when it comes to the opposite sex.

Sure, the SATs were a snap, but how do you hide after a dance floor is packed? You computer sex toy shopping.

After your date? Your computer sex toy shopping.

Soon will be doctors or diplomats or Yale Daily News and showed that even the super smart can be run Yale Daily News and showed that even the super smart can be.

The setting is the star. “Chloe, Chloe, Chloe. The allure is Yale,” Krinsky said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. “Yale and Harvard and Princeton as institutions are very much revered as serious centers of a democracy, which they are. But there’s also the other side. And it’s exciting and fun to see that other side.”

Baring that other side is sure to get noticed. Harvard University drew international attention when its students launched a sex magazine. H Bomb, last year. And the mere suggestion that President Bush’s daughter, Barbara, may have attended a Yale naked party was enough to garner national media attention and an $1 million reward for evidence by Hudson publisher Larry Flynt.

It’s a combination of the interest in these bastions of American privilege and the taboo nature of sex,” said Elizabeth Ehrenberg, a senior at Vassar College, where she is community relations director for the periodical. The Art of Campus Sex. Krinsky’s book has received mixed reviews, at best, from out-right slams to just OK. And as of Tuesday, the book was only ranked 3,665 on Amazon.com. However, the Yale Bookstore reported that the novel was a strong seller on campus, with 160 copies selling since Krinsky came to speak there in February.

“Most people seem to think it’s pretty thinly veiled nonfiction,” Jessica Feinstein, features editor for the Yale Daily News, said. “People, knew from reading Krinsky’s column what to expect from the book and weren’t surprised by its contents, she said.

“A lot of the shocking details are people are over it.”

Chloe, Chloe’s alter-ego, is a sex columnist who bumbles through relationships with all the panache expected of a college undergrad. She’s definitely an overachiever (she consoled herself with a copy of “Anna Karenina”), but like the rest of her peers, she’s trying to balance that drive to succeed with her drive to have fun.

“I don’t think they have to be mutually exclusive,” said Krinsky, who now lives in New York. “You can still have a great, fun exciting youth. Look at our parents, with their relationship could “Eat it!”

Lisa Marie dishes on ex-husband Jackson

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Lisa Marie Presley aired her “dirty laundry” on “Oprah.”

In the first of a two-part interview on “The Oprah Winfrey Show” to promote her new album, Presley spoke Monday about her brief marriage to Michael Jackson, who is on trial in Santa Maria, Calif., on child molestation charges.

She told Winfrey that her marriage to Jackson, which lasted from 1996 to 1999, was real. “The thing that you think he loved you as much as he could? The talk-show host asked.

“You’re a new person as you was capable of loving somebody,” Presley replied. They famously opened the 1994 MTV Video Music Awards by exchanging a long kiss.

In a “PrimeTime Live” interview with the couple in 1995, Presley told ABC’s Diane Sawyer that Jackson had used her while promoting his album, Presley said Monday on “Oprah.” “I don’t want to bash him. I don’t want to bash him, I don’t have any of that going on.”

What’s the Future of this Relationship?

Please join us for an afternoon of reflection and discussion designed for dating couples who are discerning the next stage of a relationship commitment.

What’s next for our relationship after graduation?

What are some challenges involved in long distance dating?

What’s involved in making a healthy decisions about a relationship?

*Sunday, April 3rd* 2:00-5:00 p.m.
Room 330 Coleman-Morse Center

*Susanne* recommends you for an afternoon of reflection and discussion designed for dating couples who are discerning the next stage of a relationship commitment.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

Agent Smith was defeated, and with some limits, while the who can freely enter the Matrix forward.

"You can't really hold everybody's attention on the same spot at the same time, so you've got to spray story at them from four different directions." — Paul Chadwick, writer

"When we last saw Neo, aka The Machines, the Exiles or residents of Zion for control of the new city full of superheroes, but most sense of cool," Chadwick said. "One thing we can offer is a reality of 'The Matrix Online,'" he said. "It's not all greyness, though, there are plenty of opportunities for aspiring fashion designers, says lead game design­er Toby Raguni. Once you enter the Matrix, players can fully customize their char­acters, selecting gender, hair style, body shape, tattoos and clothing. Lots and lots of clothing. There's gotta garb galore, with snake skin body suits, reflective sunglasses, and the trademark black trench coats. But one thing we can offer is a sense of cool," Chadwick said. "Another game in the so-called "massively multiplayer" genre, "City of Heroes," takes place in a world full of superheroes, but most are sword and sorcery epics filled with dungeons and drag­ons. Like its competitors, "The Matrix Online" is PC only, cost­filled with dungeons and drag­ons. But, he said, that's how people talk to one another.

"If you're writing a story about a five-alarm fire next door, you'd say something like, 'a roaring five-alarm fire driven by 40 mile-per-hour winds burned its way through a building.' That's how it would read in a newspaper," he said.

After months of testing and application deadline for Puebla, Dublin and Toledo is April 1st. Applications available at www.nd.edu/~intlstud

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"That's fine. You're putting all the facts up where people can absorb it. If you walked into the newroom, the first thing you'd say is, 'there's this big fire next door. Have you heard about it?'" When Schieffer asked Byron Pitts, stationed in Baghdad, about what it felt like to be there, Pitts responded by say­ing he prayed before leaving his room each morning and prayed again when he got back safely.

That's far more memorable than giving the day's casualty report, he said. There are still growing pains, since some correspond­ents are plainly more com­fortable with the off-the-cuff conversations than others. "I wanted a show that fit what he does best," executive producer Jim Murphy said of Schieffer, a courtly Texan used to cutting through rhetoric on "Face the Nation" each week.

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"I wanted a show that fit what he does best," executive producer Jim Murphy said of Schieffer, a courtly Texan used to cutting through rhetoric on "Face the Nation" each week.

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Natalie MacMaster
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Altan
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

ND Presents: Live at the Morris

Opera Verdi Europa performs La Traviata
Morris Performing Arts Center, downtown South Bend
Monday, April 4 at 7:30 pm
Prices range from $45 to $20
For this show, tickets must be purchased from the Morris:
Call (574) 235-9190, (800) 537-6415, or order online at
www.MorrisCenter.org

Arcadia
by Tom Stoppard
Decio Mainstage Theatre
Tuesday, April 12 through Saturday, April 23
(see website for time details)
Tickets: $12, $10 faculty/staff, $10 seniors, $8 all students

Music

The Notre Dame Chamber Players
Thursday, March 31 at 8 pm
Leighton Concert Hall
Tickets: $10, $8 faculty/staff, $6 seniors, $3 all students

ND Collegium Musicum
Friday, April 1 at 8 pm
Leighton Concert Hall
Free and open to the public; tickets required

Dance

The Sleeping Beauty
Presented by Southold Dance Theater
Decio 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

Film

Browning Cinema
Tickets $6, $5 faculty/staff, $4 seniors, $3 all students

Captains of April
Thursday, March 31 at 7 pm and 10 pm
Sponsored by the Nanovic Institute for European Studies

Hotel Rwanda
Friday, April 1 at 7 pm and 10 pm

Lawrence of Arabia
Saturday, April 2 at 2 pm

Divine Intervention
Saturday, April 2 at 7 pm and 10 pm
Inject potency into American protests

In recent decades, protests as a form of political expression in America have become more common, important social gatherings. The typical modern demonstration crowds in a police- permitted area to listen to speeches they already agree with, observing the usual protest hymns and perhaps a walking march — sure not to bother traffic. And for protests at Notre Dame, add substitute a prayer vigil and a candlelight march. While these events are valuable at times in rallying activists, they have overwhelmingly become spineless, trivial vehicles for true political and social change.

Last week, I found myself in the middle of Uganda’s first non-repressed opposition protest in twenty years. I have been to my share of demonstrations in recent years, but this one had a very different feel from the typical American rally. To begin, the hundreds of people that gathered at Constitutional Square faced the very real risk of being repressed, imprisoned and even shot by police. In recent history, the police have shot at crowds gathered to protest against the Ugandan government.

The demonstration Thursday was organized by the Popular Resistance Coalition, a youth coalition of the different opposition groups here working to stop a constitutional amendment bill that will repeal presidential term limits. Posters at the rally read, “Time out for Dictator in Africa.” I recall, to the days of the American rally, the demonstration of the different opposition groups here working to stop a constitutional amendment bill that will repeal presidential term limits. Posters at the rally read, “Time out for Dictator in Africa.”

And “We are fighting for a transparent, non-corrupt government, No to Third Term.” Of course, the latter is particularly interesting, read, “Bush, why are you quiet?”

The rally began with speeches at the square, followed by a march to Parliament down the main roads of Kampala, blocking traffic for almost an hour. The hundreds marched, danced and sang in the streets, while many bystanders stopped and the sidewalk cheers. They marched to Parliament, where they were greeted by a number of parliamentarians from opposition parties.

At the rally, the passion and zeal of the participants was palpable. Their very presence at the protest in such a repressive political climate is a testament to their willingness to sacrifice for their beliefs. One protestor told me they were not afraid of the police. One organizer of the rally whom I interviewed told me, “We have a program of two years to change this government democratically, but if they repress us, we will lose patience and we will be forced to storm Parliament and stage a revolution.”

Witnessing this event, I was inspired by the courage of the protesters. By taking to the streets, they were sending a clear, loud message to the political establishment that their demands could not be ignored. And those holding power and even the general public, witnessing the individual sacrifices of the action, cannot disregard such resolve.

The difference between the typical modern American protest and those happening in poor repressive nations throughout the world is that the latter requires individual sacrifice. From Zimbabwe to Cambodia to China, patriots are risking their own lives, daring to face the barrel of the gun as they stand for freedom and justice. This is not to praise those nations, but to praise the activists who dare to defy in such repressive cultures. In the United States and many other rich nations, it has become too easy to protest. Consequently, the efficacy of protests has become paltry.

Throughout the history of United States, effective protests have played a critical role, dating back to the days of the American Revolution when a few brave Bostonians dared to throw tea over a ship. That history runs through movements for women’s suffrage, workers’ rights, civil rights and more. In the case of those movements that we now celebrate, protest actions played such an important role.

Yet today, when more than five hundred thousand in the United States and ten million people throughout the world took to the streets on February 15, 2003 to protest against the Iraq war, President Bush was easily able to dismiss the gatherings as a “Terrorist group.” While it is great that America has become a less repressive political atmosphere that allows protests, a major casualty has been that protests have become trivial in our times.

Activists have failed to intelligently adapt and organize demonstrations to challenge power structures. Even more, concerned citizens have lacked the courage to take risks for their convictions. As result, politicians and the elite have been able to act manipulatively and coercively under the cloak of an open political space. Which is worse: an environment that allows political expression but does not take it seriously, or an environment that simply suppresses political action?

Of course, the latter is worse because people die for holding signs or wearing shirts, but the question challenges us to reevaluate the role of protests as a tool of real political action in our nation. If we are serious about changing problems that exist, we have to be serious about the actions we take to challenge them and the systems that entrench them.

This can even begin at Notre Dame, where activist groups have become far too content with prayer vigils or filling South Quad with crosses. In the late 1960s, students took to the administration building, blocked traffic and took other acts of civil disobedience for their convictions. Why can such high-risk, high-sacrifice actions not happen today? They must if we are to see real change.

Peter Quaranto is a junior political science and international peace studies major. He writes from Kampala, Uganda, where he is studying development studies this semester at Makerere University. Read his running comments from Uganda, where he is studying development studies this semester at Makerere University. Read his running comments from Uganda, where he is studying development studies at www.peterquaranto.blogspot.com. Contact Peter at peterquaranto.blogspot.com. Contact Peter at peterquaranto.blogspot.com. Contact Peter at peterquaranto.blogspot.com.
I have yet to encounter an individual who is even partly satisfied with the events surrounding the last days of Terri Schiavo. Proponents and protesters, who traditionally agree on nothing, together admit that there is neither satisfaction nor closure in this case. And while many of us have at least tried to measure the collective frustration and anger, there is no common ground by recollecting all of the things we did not learn from Terri Schiavo.

We did not learn whether the unusual actions of Congress were constitutional. This is not the first time that Congress has exercised its legislative powers to deal with a state issue, but the magnanimity of the action makes it unlikely that Congress will try this method again. We did not learn what death is. At the core of the Schiavo case is a question of soul, which never entered into the public debate. Death is difficult enough to define without the question of soul and humanity entering into it. But when does the soul leave the body? For nothing else is death, this is. If a person is dead, but not living, why do we need to have any regard for that body at all? If a body without a soul can hardly be called human, except in a relational sense, if we are people who believe in soul, we must say that the death of Terri Schiavo is only our soul, which already gone. This, in effect, is what is being argued with talk of "persistent vegetative state." Do we tie the soul into the life of the body? Suppose I remove a single cell from your body and keep it alive, destroying the rest of you. Are you alive? Alternatively, if I remove every cell from your body, keeping each alive, and scatter them over the country, and then simulate each with a computer program, switching back and forth between each, such that it believes it is still in your body, are you alive? And if I destroy the brain and replace it with a computer program, making it believe it is still your body and maintain it fully, are you alive now?

But tying the soul into the life of the mind is not necessarily less than binding it to the life of the body. You cannot do this and be strictly anti-abortion, for example, since there are stages where a fetus has no mind. And what of people who have less consciousness than the rest of us? Are hydrocephalic children born with no souls, for they do not, in general, have much of a mind? Indeed, I have met people who have almost no mind at all, yet I would be loath to say that they have no soul, human, nor soulless. And anyway, if we wish to tie the soul to consciousness, we run into old problems: we cannot even say what consciousness is, or whether it is there or not. There is no legal benefit in making an untestable claim. We also did not learn the limits of power. For many people, this may be the most painful aspect of the case. There is common, but unspoken, belief among us that power exists for right, and that if a wrong is being done, power should be exercised to stop it.

We are not used to a wrong tand furthermore, a legal wrong that those in authority are powerless to stop and people really called for Governor Jeb Bush, for example, to stop up and seize custody over Ms. Schiavo under the authority of power exists for the preservation of the good. This is the root of tyranny, but it is also the root of political greatness. The ideal of power unfilled.

We did not learn what an activist judge is. The federal judges in the Schiavo case strung not one inch from the letter of the law, yet they were still branded. Perhaps the definition of an activist judge is a judge who does what a conservative pundits dislikes.

Almost the only thing that we did learn from this unsatisfactory affair was a lesson in media sensationalism. The Schiavo case managed to swallow the news cycle whole, and the news cycle was just another story behind the story that it knew what is happening in Iraq these days. It took the threat of a second tsunami to divert the attention of the cable news networks, but now that it is gone, the Schiavo case has become next to nothing. It remains collection of questions with no satisfactory answers.

Lance Gallop is a fifth year senior majoring in computer science, philosophy and theology. He welcomes questions and comments and can be contacted at lgallop@fordham.edu.

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

Greg Ruehlmann works in the office of Campus Ministry. He can be contacted at ruehlmann@fordham.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Far from original, but still entertaining

By COURTNEY WILSON
Scene Writer

Simon Green, played by Ashton Kutcher, and his girlfriend Theresa Jones, played by Zoe Saldana, are lovebirds who plan to announce their engagement on the same weekend by the presump­tuous personali­ty of his soon-to-be father-in-law.

To make mat­ters worse, Simon has just quit his job. For the sake of impressing Theresa's parents, he deals with the uncom­fortable task of concealing this secret till the end of the weekend.

If this plot sounds as familiar, it might be because "Guess Who," intended to be a satiric version of the original classic "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner," starring Spencer Tracy and Katherine Hepburn. Keep in mind, however, that a reverse story line and comedic plot makes it much different from the first.

Hoping for more laughs, the movie depends heavily on the personalities of Bernie Mac and Ashton Kutcher. Mac plays the police detective, the disenchanted father previously played by Spencer Tracy, while Kutcher accordingly plays Sidney Poitier's role as the distrusted boyfriend.

Dynamic duo Mac and Kutcher seem like they are essentially playing themselves in this movie. Like most of his roles, Mac plays the sarcastic and out­wardly unfriendly man who is actually just a big cuddly teddy bear on the inside. And Kutcher does a great job at playing the silly and amusing man that he has played from his "That 70s Show" and "Punk'd."

It is obvious that the film is carried almost entirely by the chemistry between the two stars; in fact, the best scenes in the movie feature witty back and forth taunting games and disagreements between the two. When they attempt to settle each other in a series of activities, including go-cart racing and tango dancing, their collaboration is very humorous. Fans of either actor will absolutely love the two together.

While the movie jokes a lot about interracial dating, it also prompts viewers to recognize that prejudice and stereotypes are still relevant today. One scene in particular involves Kutcher — after much instigation from Mac — telling a series of inappropriate jokes in front of the entire family. Overall, the race talk is light and presented in an appropriate viewer-friendly manner. One should not find the sub­ject overwhelming.

Simon's overbearing desire to impress his girlfriend's father, however, makes the movie appear to be more reminiscent of "Meet the Parents" than any other previous film. In a series of scenes concocted by the character, Simon finds himself in a series of slippery sit­uations involving his employment and athletic capabilities. Likewise, Percy acts as the arrogant and overprotective father, also familiar to "Meet the Parents."

Although the movie is actually quite similar to many movies before it, it still maintains an individual kind of comedic appeal. But be forewarned to not go in expecting an Oscar-winning performance found in the original version of "Guess Who."

Contact Courtney Wilson at cwilson6@nd.edu

Ashton Kutcher, left, plays a boyfriend continually trying to impress his girl­friend's overprotective and suspicious father, played by Bernie Mac.

The Parr family becomes "The Incredibles" as they bring their powers together to fight the forces of the evil enemy Syndrome on his secret island.

By EMILY IAROCCI
Scene Writer

Ever imagined what it would be like to be part of a Super Hero family? Many people certainly did as a child, as there are so many cherish­able animated pictures, praised by children and adults alike.

"The Incredibles" depicts Bird's version of the attempted "normal" life of the Parr family, all of whom possess superpowers. Bird's writing/direction, along with several readily identifiable character voices including Craig T. Nelson, Samuel L. Jackson and Judy Greer, created a memor­able animated picture, praised by children and adults alike.

The Parr family, all of whom possess superpowers, are the center of the movie. Helen and Bob then started a family and had three super­hero children. Violet, the oldest child, has the power to become invisible and also to create protective force fields. Dash, the troublemaking middle child, has superhuman speed. Marco, the baby, Jack Jack, does not have any obvious powers until the end of the movie.

Shortly after the introduction of the family, Bob (Craig T. Nelson) is fired from his job and is recruited to com­plete a secret superhero mission. His wife, Helen (Holly Hunter), assumes the role of the old "Glory Days," as he calls them, compels him to take the secret mission. He lies to Helen (Holly Hunter) about the mission to hide his involvement in this superhero activity from his protective wife.

Helen begins to get suspicious about his behavior and is afraid that he is having an affair. She eventually discov­ers that he had left for a mission, located his whereabouts and sets out to find him.

The children, Jack Jack, stow away in Helen's transport­ation and the three find themselves caught in the middle of a sticky situation. They find that they must save Bob from Syndrome (Jason Lee). Syndrome is a disgruntled, self-made superhero, who at one point in his life, was Mr. Incredible's number one fan. Mr. Incredible dismissed Syndrome as a young boy, and since then he has been looking for revenge against Bob.

The remainder of the film is a show­case of the family's powers and their cooperation throughout the mission. Pixar Studios left the end of the film wide open, so it is entirely possible that a sequel may be created sometime in the near future, which will no doubt, be well-received.

This two-disc edition of "The Incredibles" is full of extra features. Two animated shorts are found on the second disc, one called "Jack Jack Attack," which shows the baby display­ing his superpowers to his unsuspec­tive babysitter. The second is a Pixar original short that was shown before the feature film in the theaters, called "Boundin.'" Both short films are hilar­i­ous.

There are behind the scenes features, all sorts of commentary from the crew, a series of interviews and other features on the second disc.

The Parr family becomes "The Incredibles" as they bring their powers together to fight the forces of the evil enemy Syndrome on his secret island.

Contact Emily Iarocci at eiarocci@nd.edu

"The Incredibles" writer/director Brad Bird.

Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

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The Notebook
New Line Platinum Series
New Line

By JULIE HYNES
Scene Observer

The Notebook" proves to be a classic

Quotes from "The Notebook" pervade AIM profiles and often are listed as quotations on the facebook.com. On those rare uneventful nights at Notre Dame, it is not uncommon to see away messages that read "watching "The Notebook" or "Ryan Gosling, please father my children."

But what is this craze all about? What is it about "The Notebook" that seems to have tugged at the heartstrings of so many?

It only costs a meager $2.99 worth of Flex Points to find out, but hopefully by the end of this review the choice between this instant classic and a Subway sandwich will be a no-brainer.

"The Notebook" is the film adaptation of the bestselling novel by Nicholas Sparks, a Notre Dame graduate whose other work includes "A Walk to Remember" and "Message in a Bottle."

The movie begins with an adorable elderly man reading to his wife, who is afflicted with Alzheimer's, from a worn old notebook. Although his wife Allie is completely unaware of the history of their relationship, it soon becomes apparent that the narrative Noah is reading to her is, in fact, of their own enduring love story from years past. And what a torrid love affair it is.

Allie (Rachel McAdams, better known for her role as the unforgettable Regina in "Mean Girls") comes from a very wealthy and high-class background. She is spending her summer in North Carolina where she meets Noah (Ryan Gosling of "Murder by Numbers").

Noah is a local teen from modest roots who dares to challenge her to take risks and make decisions for herself, free from the influence of her overbearing — and at times harsh and judgmental — parents. The two lovebirds spend a memorable summer together — full of many terrific experiences — which comes to an abrupt halt with a dramatic exit initiated by Allie's disapproving parents.

Allie is eventually able to move Noah out of the forefront of her mind and begins a new relationship with an army officer during World War II. The soldier is a successful businessman named Lon (James Marsden, best known for his work as Cyclops in "X-Men").

This relationship eventually proposes to Allie, who accepts to the great delight of her parents. However, she soon realizes that she must see her first love one last time before taking the plunge. It quickly becomes evident that the sizzling flame, which once burned strongly between them, is nowhere near extinguished. Allie must make the difficult choice between a safe bet and an unbridled passion.

The movie follows the book reasonably closely and the onscreen chemistry between up-and-coming actors Gosling and McAdams does justice to the arduous expertly articulated by Sparks in his tumultuous novel. Several twists enrich the plot and leave the audience at the edge of their seats wondering how the movie will end.

"The Notebook" mania hit Americans of all ages and genders and tells of the widespread desire for hearing drama in one's own life. Unfortunately for many students, it often proves a challenge just to find the time to sleep and perhaps dream of such searing passion with the rampant never-ending reading assignments and excruciatingly lengthy and tedious science labs.

For those who know what I am talking about, live vicariously through the characters of "The Notebook." After all, "The O.C." is a rerun this week.

Contact Julie Hynes at jhynes@nd.edu

Kate Winslet, left, and Jim Carrey star in "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," an original and uniquely compelling love story.

Universal and Focus Features released "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" on DVD late in 2004 in a single-disc edition. Then, almost without warning, they released a two-disc edition at the tail end of the year. This wouldn't have been so upsetting to fans of "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" if Universal Studios had announced both editions simultaneously, but fans would have to know both the single-disc and wait for the forthcoming double-disc edition. This alarming business practice of putting the single edition on the shelves only weeks before the newest and more complex edition is announced seems to be happening with disheartening regularity. The first disc of the two-disc version is identical to the single-disc of the single-disc edition, and it's a fine DVD. The anamorphic widescreen presentation preserves the theatrical ratio of 1.85:1 and looks quite good. Much of this film has a low-budget appearance, so the picture quality is exactly what one expects. Sound is either 5.1 digital or DTS and both tracks sound great, but this is, for the most part, a dialogue-driven film. The DTS soundstage is slightly more comfortable with each other. Both offer an immersive experience. There are also forced menus at the start of the DVD, but these can thankfully be skipped.

The extras are numerous and occasionally insightful, but sometimes seem a bit fluffy. The featurettes are sometimes cursory and fail to delve deep into the making of the picture. The best feature before the commentary track by Gondry and Kaufman, who sound relaxed and comfortable with each other. Both offer interesting anecdotes and observations about the film. Sadly, the trailer is absent, as are any other advertising promotions. The second disc of extras offers just over an hour of material, so it's not really enough to warrant an upgrade if the single-disc edition has already been purchased.

The packaging, which is smugly self-congratulatory, screams "award promotion." The box is plastered with words like "unforgettable, profound, real, brilliant, wondrous." The booklet is also a waste, filled with blurbs from reviews praising the film's wonderful qualities. We know it's wonderful — that's why we bought it.

This is a good DVD of one of the best pictures of 2004. It could've been better, but the feature film is the main reason to buy, and it's in fine shape. The two-disc edition is recommended, but it's not worth upgrading if you already own the single-disc version.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdos1@nd.edu

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Kate Winslet, left, and Jim Carrey star in "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," an original and uniquely compelling love story.
NBA

Sonics overpowers Grizzlies 102-99 for playoff berth

Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — After a two-game absence, the Seattle SuperSonics are in the Western Conference playoffs again.

The SuperSonics clinched a playoff berth with a victory over the Memphis Grizzlies, led by Ray Allen and Jerome James with 22 points each, James shooting 11 of 19.

"This is a big win to come on the road in this situation and find a way to win like that is pretty impressive for our team," said Ray Allen, 29, and second-year forward Danny Fortson, who is recovering from a left ankle sprain.

"We won a game that a lot of people thought we could win," said Seattle coach Nate McMillan, whose team leads the Northwest Division by 1 1/2 games over Dallas.

Gasol, in his best performance of the series, scored 20 points and grabbed 13 rebounds and kept Seattle in the game as the Sonics recovered from a left ankle injury, and reserve forward Bonzi Wells scored 12 points for Seattle, while reserve Besiragic finished with 15 each in the second half.

"We were playing hard and for the most part I thought we had a chance to win the game," said Peterson. "When some- thing like that happens, (it's) your emotions that take charge. I got the short end of the stick." Mitchell was thrown out with 1:11 left and was helped off the floor.

"He fouled me pretty hard and after the play, he fouled me again," said Wade. "I let him know, pretty much, that you can't do that."

Wade was called for one tech- nical; Peterson for two, drawing the second after his shoving.

"We still had a chance to win the game," said Peterson. "But it was a difficult time for us because of the two technical fouls.

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"I got the short end of the stick," said O'Neal. "It's hard to lose at home. We have to let a sore left ankle, lack of sleep and blow out affect us."

James hit two key 3-pointers down the stretch and scored 22 points to lead the Cleveland Cavaliers past the Los Angeles Clippers 94-84 Tuesday night.

"I thought we would be a lot more tired," said James, who got treatment on his ankle before the game and shot just 9-of-22 from the floor and 10-of-11 from the foul line.

"We're right there. We have to keep winning," said Brendan Malone, 3-2 since replacing the fired Paul Silas as Cavaliers coach. "We pushed the ball and ran off our defense. Our defense was very good."


Suicide

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This past Easter Vigil, 12 members of our Notre Dame community were fully initiated into the Catholic Church. At this liturgy, the 12 received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Please join us in congratulating them and welcoming them into our faith community.

Fabian Udoh, Godfather
Richard Austin

Matthew Payroch, Godfather
Ryan Brennan

Vinnie Verwag, Godfather
Milo Dodson

Joshua Smoxim, Godfather
Nikki Dorough

John Fady, Godfather
Jared Galvan

Karen Cattanaugh, Godmother
Amy Guimaraes

Patrick Russell, Godfather
Brent Mitchell

Shane Finkle, Godfather
Mindi Odle

Brian Borone, Godfather
Adam Russ

Karen Chun, Godmother
Philip Snowberger

Nathan Borley, C.S.C., Godfather
Michael Torres

Anne Vorhes, Godmother
Marilyn Villarreal
Sharapova outlasts Henin-Hardenne in Nasdaq 100 Open

Wimbledon champion is set to face one of Williams sisters next

Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Maria Sharapova started strong and finished fast, while Justine Henin-Hardenne was feisty but rusty.

Henin-Hardenne, playing her first tournament in seven months, staged a gallant comeback Tuesday but lost to Sharapova 6-1, 6-7 (6), 6-2 in the quarterfinals of the Nasdaq-100 Open.

"She has been a top player," Sharapova said. "I was expecting a really tough match. It came out to be really tough."

Sharapova, seeded second, failed to convert three match points in the second set but finally closed out the victory an hour and 10 minutes. She quickly regrouped in the final set, taking a 3-0 lead and give Sharapova a battle.

"It's pretty amazing," the three-time Grand Slam champion said. "I couldn't imagine before coming to Miami that I would play at this level. I did a good job, so it's good for my confidence."

Against Sharapova, Henin-Hardenne dug in after a poor start. She shanked several shots and dumped the ball into the net on the final point of the opening set, which lasted 85 minutes.

Two Spaniards made the men's final eight. Rafael Nadal, an 18-year-old left-hander with two titles already this year, beat No. 13-seeded Ivan Ljubicic 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-3. Unseeded David Ferrer rallied past countryman Juan Carlos Ferrero 6-7 (7), 6-3, 7-5.

No. 26 Dominik Hrbaty, who upset Marat Safin in the third round, eliminated 18-year-old Gael Monfils 6-3, 6-3. Henin-Hardenne, coming back from a virus and knee injury, was pleased to win three matches and give Sharapova a battle.

"She was playing unbelievable tennis," Henin-Hardenne said. "It's pretty amazing."
Three Panthers investigated for steroids

Sauerbrun, Mitchell, Steussie had steroid prescriptions filled

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Carolina Panthers Todd Sauerbrun and Jeff Mitchell and former player Todd Steussie had steroid prescriptions filled by a West Columbia, S.C., doctor now under investigation by federal authorities, according to a "60 Minutes" Wednesday report.

In a release Tuesday, the CBS News show said the players had prescriptions for testosterone cream filled within two weeks of the Panthers' appearance in the 2004 Super Bowl.

In addition to the cream, which is banned by the NFL, Sauerbrun — one of the league's top punters — also had obtained syringes and the injectable steroid Stanazolol, which is also banned by the league.

The prescriptions were reportedly written by Dr. James Shortt, who is the subject of a Drug Enforcement Administration probe for allegedly prescribing steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs.

Mitchell, a center, filled a testosterone prescription seven times, while Sauerbrun, an offensive lineman now with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, obtained 11 refills over an eight-month period in 2004, CBS reported.

"We've heard rumers and speculation about what was going to be in the CBS report, but this is the first time we've heard the specific allegations," Panthers general manager Marty Hurney said. "Obviously, any time there is a possible connection with alleged activity that violates NFL rules and policy it concerns us greatly."

"We are dealing with allegations right now and we will continue to cooperate with the NFL and law enforcement in this matter."

The Panthers have been cooperating with a federal subpoena that sought contact information for several players as part of the probe of Shortt. Hurney has stressed that none of the team's players have tested positive for steroids.

According to a report last month in The State of Columbia, Shortt has been under investigation since May.

In September, authorities raided Shortt's Health Dimensions Pain and Spine Care and Congaree Pharmacy near the Columbia Metropolitan Airport. State and federal agents seized computer data, medical and pharmaceutical records and 256 audio cassettes, the paper reported.

Bryant Jackson was the only other player charged with a felony for their alleged role in the Nov. 19 melee during an Atlanta Hawks-Detroit Pistons game at The Palace.

Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Bar-lee Chatb said Jackson was indicted for a six-count grand jury. The court proceedings were triggered by a "mob mentality," the judge said.

"It's been reported to me that he is otherwise a productive member of society. He has a job, he has a family, he has kids, and he supports them," Chatb said.

Assistant county prosecutor Paul Waterman said his office would request a sentence of one year in jail — in part because Jackson has a prior conviction for fleeing a traffic violation.

Jackson said he was targeted because of his size and his role in the brawl participants. "They do not consider him to be one of the 13 players and fans who were charged with a felony for their actions as they left the court area."

"It's been reported to me that Bryant Jackson was the only one of the 13 players and fans who was charged with a felony for their actions and noted that Jackson's actions endangered children who were among the fans at The Palace."

"These are adults," he said of the brawl participants. "They should be able to control themselves. If they can't control themselves, they should be in jail."

Jackson and his attorney, Christopher McGrath, declined to comment after the hearing.

In a 27-year-old resident of Genesee County's Musky Township, is accused of dislodging a chair and heaving it over his head, hitting several people. He is also accused of throwing a drink at the Pacers as they left the court area.

Jackson denied no contest to one count of felony assault and one count of misdemeanor assault and battery. A no contest plea is not an admission of guilt but is treated as such for sentencing purposes. McGrath said Jackson is contesting the charges.

"I wanted to contest in instead of pleading guilty because of civil liability issues," he said.

If Chatb, declines, after reviewing the case in more detail that 90 days in jail is insufficient for Jackson's actions, he could sentenced to up to six years behind bars.

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Pearl to take on Volunteers' coaching position

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Bruce Pearl plans to stay at Tennessee for a while. After leading 12th-seeded Wisconsin-Milwaukee on a surprising run through the NCAA tournament, Pearl was introduced as the Volunteers' sixth basketball coach in 16 years.

"The one thing about coaching that is the most challenging is that it is nomadic in nature," Pearl said Monday. "If you win, they are packing your bags. There just doesn't seem to be anything in between." Pearl has done some moving around. The 45-year-old coach won a national championship during nine seasons at Division II Southern Indiana before moving to Wisconsin-Milwaukee four years ago.

"This is my dream to be able to run a program like this," he said. "And because I am built that way, I am digging in." University president John Petersen appreciated the sentiment. He gave Pearl a Tennessee jersey with the No. 14, marking his 14th season as a coach, and expressed hope that he would be presenting Pearl with another one — a No. 24 — in 18 years as Petersen retires.

Pearl took Wisconsin-Milwaukee to the round of 16 this year for the first time, beating Alabama and Boston College before falling to top-seeded Illinois. The Vols haven't been in the tournament since 2001 and missed it in all four years under the fired Buzz Peterson.

Pancratz said. "Success is always a double-edged sword in our business," he said. Pearl told the UWM players Sunday night about his decision.

"To be honest, I guess I'm a little surprised that he went to Tennessee as far as it being as it being his first offer," guard Mark Panzer said.

Pancratz said. Pearl wants the Tennessee men to play up to the reputation of the university's other nationally ranked programs, notably the football team and the women's basketball program. "It's time for us to hold our end up," Pearl said, with football coach Phillip Fulmer looking on.

Tennessee women's coach Pat Summitt, whose name often comes up as a candidate to be the men's coach, said she has heard "great things" about Pearl.

Pearl huddled with Tennessee players Monday before the official announcement. Players said they liked what they heard. "I feel a lot better that we have a coach and he wants to play the style of play that I like to play," junior guard C.J. Watson said.

Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Joel Tucker shoots over Boston College's Sean Williams in the NCAA tournament this season.
AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, March 30, 2005

Compiled from The Observer's Wire Service

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Baseball America College Top 25

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ND WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame suffers a heartbreaking 10-9 loss

By MATT PUGLISI
 Associate Sports Editor

The calendar may have said "Easter" this weekend, but it was more like "Groundhog Day" for Notre Dame.

For the second time this season, the Irish (15-5, 6-1 conference) rallied to tie the contest in the game's waning minutes, only to fall in overtime as the Notre Dame dropped a 10-9 heartbreaker to Boston College in its Big East opener in Waltham, Mass., Saturday afternoon.

"I don't want to take anything away from Boston College, but I definitely felt like there were things that we did in our lack of execution that they were able to capitalize on," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "It was more our own mistakes." 

Trailing 9-8 with just 1:07 on the clock, standout Irish attack Crysti Foote beat Eagle goalie Mary Mallon (Norco, Calif.) for her only goal of the game to even the game at 9-9 and send it to overtime.

"To be here it's nice, first of all, that it's close to home, so her parents can come down, but just to be here at Notre Dame, with everyone around, I think she's really excited about that," Coyne said.

Schrad

...
**MEN'S LACROSSE**

**No. 9 Notre Dame enjoys its share of success**

Irish defeat Hofstra, Villanova; improve their record to 5-1

By BOBBY GRIFFIN  
Associate Sports Editor

The Easter weekend was a productive one for Notre Dame, as the Irish continued to show why they deserve to be the No. 9 ranked team in the country.

The Irish defeated Hofstra 9-8 in double overtime on Saturday and then came back to defeat Villanova 11-7 on Monday, improving their overall record to 5-1 on the season.

Hofstra rallied from a two goal deficit with two minutes remaining to tie the score at eight, forcing the overtime against Notre Dame.

The Irish prevailed when Pat Walsh scored his sixth goal of the game to break the stalemate.

Walsh, who hails from Long Island, NY, also contributed an assist to commemorate his homecoming.

"I think we played really well at times. We played hard and we played gritty, and we played with determination down the stretch," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said.

Corrigan gave credit to his team for being able to fight back after giving up the game tying goal and win in overtime.

"Things are tough. You are on the road in front of 4500 people and they scored the last three goals to tie it up and it's a perfect opportunity to fold if that's what you are made of, but our guys didn't do that and found a way to win the game.

The Villanova game was a make up date from the March 8th contest, which was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Nevertheless, the two teams had to deal with Mother Nature anyway, as conditions were not much better this time around.

"It was a little warmer, but there was a torrential downpour the whole game. I've never been in conditions like that for the entire game," Corrigan said.

In the midst of the rain, Jim Morrison led the Irish with four goals to keep the momentum in Notre Dame's favor. Colin Faitt and Matt Ryan also scored two goals each.

The Irish jumped to a 8-2 lead to start the game, but were outscored 5-3 down the stretch.

"We've got to be more consistent. Coming out of the weekend I think that's the thing we have to realize, you're got to be consistent over 60 minutes. You've got to continue to adjust throughout games because people adjust to you," Corrigan had mixed feelings about the team's performance.

"There were times when we played really, really well," Corrigan said.

"I thought most of the first half we were outstanding. In the second half, I think we might have felt a little bit like the game was done and we can't afford to relax.

Playing with consistency is something that Corrigan has stressed the importance of all season.

The Irish have plenty of talent, but carrying the same amount of intensity throughout a game is something that their coach maintains still needs improvement.

"We've got to be more consistent. Coming out of the weekend I think that's the thing we have to realize, you've got to be consistent over 60 minutes.

"You've got to continue to adjust throughout games because people adjust to you." Coming into the game, Villanova had a 14-game winning streak at home.

The Irish will travel to Hanover, New Hampshire this weekend to take on Dartmouth. The game will start at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffi3@nd.edu
Madia wins the 5,000 meter race and Erigha records personal bests

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

Two meets, one victory and—most importantly—six NCAA regional qualifications.

Madia, rounding out an impressive season, triumphed over a field of 26 runners to win the 5,000 meter race. Her time was the eighth best in the United States this season. Madia realized the significance of her accomplishment and is rescheduled for the NCAA regional meet with their times.

The Irish distance runner qualified for the NCAA regional meet with one of the best weekends of the year for the squad. The Irish sent their best distance runners to Palo Alto, Calif., this weekend to compete in the Stanford Invitational, widely considered one of the premier events on the collegiate track slate.

"Winning that race tells me I’m in good shape at this point in the season. It was good to post a time this early in the year.\" Stephanie Madia
Irish distance runner

Madia commented on the team's performance and her personal success. "We are really looking forward to just playing. They weren't seeded last year, so they are eager to get points for the team and get some wins under their belt.\" Katie DeRusso
Sports Writer

"We had a really good training partner and a great friend. I think that since we run together everyday, we'll be able to push each other to reach our goals.\" Katie DeRusso
also qualified for the NCAA regional meet with a third-place finish.

Sophomore sprinter Maryann Erigha once again strove for the Irish. A week after winning the 200 meters at the Willie Williams Invitational, the sophomore turned in personal best times in both the 100 and 200 meters. Her marks earned her a second- and third-place finish, respectively, and qualified her for the regional meet in both events. The Irish now move on, relishing their success this weekend, but also keeping in mind long-term goals. After her race, Madia was asked about goals for herself and the team this season. Her response showed the determination she and the rest of the Irish possess.

"We want to win the Big East and qualify as many girls as we can for NCAAs," she said. "Last year I ran NCAAs but didn't run my best, partly because I felt like I didn't belong. This year, I want to feel like I belong at the championships, and we as a team belong there.\" Contact Ryan Kiefer at rkiefere@nd.edu

Belles anticipate crucial match against Chicago

Win over Maroons may earn team an invite to the Midwestern Meet

By KATE SERYAK
Sports Writer

This afternoon the Belles will take on the University of Chicago Maroons in an important non-conference match.

The Belles are looking for an invitation to the Midwestern Meet next weekend, and defeating Chicago could play an important role in the committee's decision.

Earlier this season, Chicago defeated Kalamazoo, a prime conference opponent for the Belles.

If the Belles win today, they will add a decisive win to their record and will have indirectly defeated Kalamazoo, an opponent they will not face until the end of the regular season.

Last year, the Belles beat Chicago in a close match. "We are really looking forward to playing. They will be really good competition," captain Kristen Palombo said.

The Belles haven't played any matches since spring break, when they traveled to Florida for a preseason tournament.

Their match last week was cancelled due to weather conditions and is rescheduled for Thursday of this week. "We can't wait to play a match, we only hope that the good weather persists," Palombo said.

"We have been doing a lot of conditioning training since spring break because it's hard to get indoor court time and we can't play in 30-degree weather. So we are really looking forward to just playing." Although this Belles team is young, with sophomores holding the No. 3-6 singles seeds, players have risen to the challenge by starting the season off with a record of 3-4.

"The match experience in Florida really helped the sophomores," Palombo said.

"They are ready to go and anxious to play. They weren't seeded last year, so they are eager to get points for the team and get some wins under their belt." Contact Kate Seryak at kseryak@nd.edu

SMC TENNIS

Women's Tennis

Belles anticipate crucial match against Chicago

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or in 220 Main Building and are due April 8th.

Questions?
Contact Jill or Gabe at 631-7505

Fig. 1
Home season opens with 2-1 Irish victory

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Sports Staff Writer

Carrie Wisen showed she can win games with her bat as well as with her arm.

With the Irish down to their final two outs and behind 1-0 against Western Michigan, Wisen knocked home a two-run double to give Notre Dame (14-8) a thrilling come-from-behind victory in its home opener Friday.

"That was an interesting game. I think we made it more interesting than it should have been," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "[Wisen] has really stepped up with the bat this year. She hits the ball right on the nose."

Wisen, who has made several appearances this season as a relief pitcher, helped take advantage of a two-base error earlier in the inning.

Bronco starter Tricia Vanderslik led off the bottom of the seventh inning with no further damage, Stenglein worked out of the inning with no further damage, but not before Laing's single in the top of the inning. Vanderslik only allowed four hits to the Irish, striking out two batters.

"Vanderslik did a nice job of keeping the ball and hitting her spots," Gumpf said. "Early in the game, we didn't take advantage of our opportunities and would hit it right at people."

"But she had a good change-up working and really did a nice job of keeping us off balance."

Steffany Stenglein pitched the first three innings of the game for the Irish, allowing one run and three hits before being replaced by Heather Booth. Booth entered the game and shut down the Broncos the rest of the way, allowing just two hits in her four innings of work.

"Stenglein was giving up more hits than she usually does and was getting called for some debatable illegal pitches, so I wanted to do something to change up the momentum," Gumpf said.

Pinch runner Nicole Wicks replaced Hartmann at second base, and both Wicks and Laing came around to score after Wisen drilled a line-drive double down the left field line that just stayed fair — landing on the chalk line and rolling into the corner.

Wisen's walk-off double spoiled an impressive pitching performance for Vanderslik, who had retired 10 consecutive batters before Laing's single in the seventh. Vanderslik only allowed four hits to the Irish, striking out two batters.

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**Men's Tennis**

Irish knock off pair of Big Ten teams

By Rama Gottumukkala
Sports Writer

One loss to a Big Ten team is quite enough, think you. Bouncing back from a tough loss to Illinois in their last match, the Irish made plenty of noise over the Easter weekend at the expense of two other Big Ten teams.

After clinching a 5-2 victory against No. 56 Michigan (10-6) at home on Saturday, No. 20 Notre Dame (15-5) brushed past No. 68 Purdue (3-9) with a 7-0 sweep in West Lafayette on Monday.

After this weekend’s action, Notre Dame improved to 6-1 against Big Ten opponents on the season. Their sole defeat came at West Lafayette on Monday.

For now, the Irish are looking ahead, and seem optimistic about the future.

“I really enjoyed ND a lot, I really loved the kids I had an opportunity to coach,” Weathers said Tuesday night. “I look forward to watching them do well in the future.”

For now, the Irish are looking ahead, and seem optimistic about the future.

“I think that people definitely are looking forward to a change to bring some new life and change to the team,” Healey said.

There is no word yet as to a Weathers would not confirm further on the reasoning behind his decision when contacted by The Observer Tuesday night. However, several swimmers had their own opinions on the matter.

“The morale hadn’t been what it was in the past, and I think the athletic directors noticed that,” Carroll said.

Sophomore Jess Stephens echoed Carroll’s thoughts on the team’s morale this year. “If this is what’s best for the team as a whole then this is what needs to happen,” Carroll said.

“Weathers’ fate with the team was shocking that it came right now,” Carroll said.

Weathers would not comment further on the reasoning behind his decision when contacted by The Observer Tuesday night.

However, several swimmers had their own opinions on the matter.

“The morale hadn’t been what it was in the past, and I think the athletic directors noticed that,” Carroll said.

Sophomore Jess Stephens echoed Carroll’s thoughts on the team’s morale this year. “If this is what’s best for the team as a whole then this is what needs to happen,” Stephens said.

While the announcement came as a shock to some, some swimmers acknowledged hearing rumors about Weathers’ fate with the University.

“We kind of saw it coming,” senior Georgia Healey said. “Bailey had mentioned something about it, and there were rumors about it, but no one was completely sure.”

“I think he needed something different in his life to inspire him,” Healey added. “I think he was under a lot of pressure, and the 24th place finish in this year’s NCAA Championships wasn’t really cutting it.”

“Of the things [Athletic Director] Kevin White said to us as freshmen was that he wanted all of our teams to be No. 1 at the end of every year Weathers was at the helm.

Weathers had previously coached two seasons at Southern Illinois and three at South Carolina. While with the Gamecocks, Weathers was a three-time Metro Conference Coach of the Year. But Notre Dame will always be special to the coach.

“I really enjoyed ND a lot, I really loved the kids I had an opportunity to coach,” Weathers said Tuesday night. “I look forward to watching them do well in the future.”

For now, the Irish are looking ahead, and seem optimistic about the future.

“I think that people definitely are looking forward to a change to bring some new life and change to the team,” Healey said.

There is no word yet as to a replacement for Weathers, but in some eyes he might not ever be replaced.

“I know that we [the team] wish him well. We only hope for the best for him, and we know that’s what he wants for us,” Carroll said.

Contact Mike Tennant at mtennant@nd.edu

*The Observer* • *SPORTS*
Wednesday, March 30, 2005

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Edwards

continued from page 32

run). I think the wind helped it a little bit," said Edwards, who has nine home runs and 35 RBI in 22 games this season. "I was pretty sure the other two were good." Edwards hit a solo blast in the first to give the Irish a 1-0 lead. His next bomb was a two-run shot in the third before he added insurance runs with a three-run smash in the seventh that cleared the "Frank Eck Stadium" sign in left field.

"You can watch a lot of games in baseball and never see a guy blooped in that way," Notre Dame coach Paul Mainieri said.

Freshman left-hander Wade Korpi threw five quality innings to earn his second victory of the season, yielding just a three-run homer in the fourth to the Broncos' Tony Scheffler. Korpi struck out three, walked two and allowed just six base hits.

"I thought Wade Korpi was phenomenal," Mainieri said. "That was the Wade Korpi we recruited. He changed speeds great, and he got heat up in the strike zone."

Dan Kapala pitched 2 2/3 innings and gave up two runs. Mike Dury added zero runs in 1/3 inning and Ryan Doherty closed the door on Western Michigan with a scoreless ninth.

Western Michigan starter Derek Schlecker took the loss after pitching three innings and surrendering four earned runs. The Broncos, who have been a home game yet this season, dropped to 5-11.

Leading 1-0 in the third, the Irish took command of the game with a three-run inning. Shortstop Greg Lopez and centerfield Alex Neity both single to put men on the corners with zero outs.

Freshman second baseman Brett Lilly fell behind two strikeouts before chomping a grounder to the right side of the infield, which scored Lopez and advanced Neity into scoring position. Edwards then blasted home run No. 2 to give the Irish a 4-0 advantage.

After Scheffler's home run in the top of the fourth, the Irish added a run in the bottom of the fifth. Down in the count 0-2, Neity was hit by a pitch and advanced to second on Lilly's fielder's choice. Edwards was intentionally walked before Matt Bransfield smoked a sharp single through the left side, scoring Neity and putting Notre Dame ahead 5-3.

Neity added an RBI single in the ninth and finished with two hits, three runs and an RBI.

With the victory, Notre Dame has now won five of its last six, including four in a row.

"I feel like we're playing better baseball," Mainieri said. "The pitching is better, which is the big thing. We've been pretty efficient."

The Irish face a dreadful 0-24 Chicago State squad at 5:05 p.m. today at Frank Eck Stadium.

Freshman Joey Williamson, who has six appearances this season, up from six hit, has a hitless four-year college career start for Notre Dame.

Contact Joe Hetler at jheltler@nd.edu

Irish wide receiver Jeff Samardzija believes the team will respond well to head coach Charlie Weis' high expectations this spring.

Spring

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raise their expectations because it just isn't good enough. They get the message, and I think that's the important thing.

Some sophomore wide receiver Jeff Samardzija fully expects the Irish to deliver on Weis' demands.

"It's a straightforward guy - he tells you what he thinks, and he tells you what he wants," Samardzija said. "He expects to get it from his players, and we expect to give that to him."

While practice may have started on the wrong foot, Weis was ultimately encouraged by the new coaching staff has started on the right foot, Weis said.

"He's a straightforward guy who you see out there," Weis said. "I felt that the guys after some work and hard times and a number of offensive players provided cause for optimism."

However, Weis cautioned that spring practice - especially the first day - was a little different than Saturday afternoon.

"There were several skills guys that I was both intrigued by and excited about that I've seen out there," Weis said. "But this is in shorts without pads on, so I'm trying not to do cartwheels."

If there was one major source of disappointment for Weis, it was the lack of relatively unknown players that stepped up and made the coaching staff take notice Tuesday.

"The biggest problem I had today was not seeing enough people that I don't know that much about making statements for themselves," Weis said. "I think that's going to have open door policy where everyone has a fair chance to make a name for themselves, you'd like some people to stand out."

"That bar is a little low right now, but with the kids' attitudes and expectations, I think we can raise it up each and every day we go out to practice."

Weis said that Ron Powlus, the director of personnel development, will be substituting for assistant head coach David Cutcliffe during spring practice.

"As of this time, they're not participating with us for violating team rules - that's as far as I'm going to go with that subject," Weis said. "We'll see how that goes at a later date."

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With Notre Dame spring practice officially underway, the next step is simply to build on what has been accomplished the day before.

"We set the bar, and now we have a long ways to go," Irish offensive coordinator Michael Haywood said. "That bar is a little low right now, but with the kids' attitudes and expectations, I think we can raise it up each and every day we go out to practice."

Notes

- Three Irish players - running back Justin Hoskins, defensive end Ronald Taylor and offensive guard James Honelli - did not participate Tuesday.

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu
was the first time he had run the 4:12,” Piane said.
and Todd Mobley finished behind him at the Stanford meet.
attain NCAA regional qualifying marks at the Texas Tech meet.
lent to roughly 3.1 miles.
Dame record by two seconds.
33.05 seconds was made even more incredible by the fact that it was the first time he had run the 5,000 meters.
Beningning won the race with a six-second cushion over his nearest competitor and broke Luke Watson's old Notre Dame record.
Head Coach Joe Piane was understandably impressed.
"It was wonderful. He was under control the whole time. He ran the first two miles in 4.24 each and then ran the third in 4.12," Piane said.
The 5,000-meter run is equivalent to roughly 3.1 miles.
In addition to Benninger, the Irish men saw several others attain NCAA regional qualifying marks at the Sanford meet.
Kaleb Van Orte won the 30,000 meters in 28:59.35. Tim Moore and Todd Motley finished behind Van Orte in the 10,000 but also posted times that qualified for the regional meet. Todd Pianek and Ryan Johnson also qualified for the 3,000-meter steeplechase.
Senior Sefir Nurudeen got a rare opportunity for a student-athlete — the chance to go home over Easter break as he competed in the Dr. Pepper Invitational at Baylor University in Waco, Texas.
Nurudeen, who is from Friendswood, Texas, won the 110-meter high hurdles in 13.92 seconds and finished third in the 200-meter dash in 21.53.
Coach Piane said that he was satisfied with the number of qualifying times his team achieved this weekend, but stressed that there was work to be done, saying that he hoped the team would qualify around 25 athletes for the regionals. He was, however, pleased with what he saw this weekend.
"There were a lot of guys that ran well — it was a very exciting day," he said.
Friday and Saturday the Irish will be competing at the Indiana Relays in Bloomington on the campus of Indiana University.
Contact John Everett at jeverson@nd.edu

Zeller
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Plymouth in the Indiana Class 3A state championship game, 74-72.
Zeller is one of 24 players selected to participate in the 28th annual McDonald's All-American Game at Notre Dame's Joyce Center tonight (8 p.m., ESPN). He will compete on the West team.
"It will be great to have him as a representative for us on our floor," Notre Dame coach Mike Brey said.

The other representative for the state of Indiana is Josh McRoberts, a 6-foot-10, 235-pound power forward from Carmel High School in Carmel, Ind., headed for Duke University.
Three college teams (Duke, Kansas and North Carolina) are tied for the most future players on the McDonald's All-American Team with three each, Oklahoma State and Washington both have two recruits on the team.
Jack Keifer of Lawrence North High School in Indianapolis, Ind., will coach the East team.

Al Rhodes of Loganport, Ind., High School coach Zeller's West squad.
The Irish recruit will headline the team after completing a near-triple-double performance at Canseco Fieldhouse of 27 points, nine rebounds and a State Finals-record 11 assists.
The Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSSA) also gave the 6-foot-11, 240-pound center the Arthur L. Trester mental attitude award.
Brey had the opportunity to watch his recruit play in the Semi-state round on March 19, when Zeller faced another Irish prospect — committed football recruit and defensive lineman Patrick Kuntz.
Brey said he was more than satisfied with what he saw in a 51-46 Washingtonтон win over Roncalli High School.
"It's a four-and-a-half hour drive back from Seymour, Indiana," Brey said. "But I was smiling the whole way home."

Kenneth Woodward
Contributing Editor at Newsweek

Wednesday, March 30, 2005, 7:30 p.m.
Stapleton Lounge, Le Mans Hall
Saint Mary's College Campus
Free and open to the public

A lecture co-sponsored by the Center for Spirituality and the Department of Communication Studies, Dance, and Theatre
FOOTBALL

A fresh start
Weis aggressive as Irish begin spring practice drills

By MATT PUGLISI
Associate Sports Editor

Reflecting the optimism that accompanied both unusually warm weather and the start of a new season, Notre Dame football officially kicked off its 2005 campaign with its first spring practice Tuesday afternoon at Carter Field.

It didn't take long for the demanding style characteristic of new Irish head coach Charlie Weis to emerge — the first group ran the first play of the afternoon three consecutive times before Weis was satisfied.

"I thought we started out slow — I think that the effort level was very good, but my expectations for execution early on are very high," Weis said. "Right from the beginning, if you just let a rep go by without trying to correct it, you're sending the wrong message."

Weis stressed that while he asks a lot from his players — even on the first day of spring practice — the players understand the intentions behind the aggressive approach.

"I think that the number one thing is for the players to know that you're not being condescending and demeaning," Weis said. "I think that's important that they know when you're getting on them, you're getting on them to improve yourself other reasons to be joyful for.

"I'm ready for a different challenge and I think the timing is right for Notre Dame's third baseman finisher 3-for-3 with three home runs, six RBIs and two intentional walks in leading the Irish (12-10) past Western Michigan 9-5 at Frank Eck Stadium."

"I just missed the first home game the last decade, and now I think it's time for something new, both for me and for the program," Weathers said in a press release.

"We've had a nice run for the last decade, and now I think it's time for something new, both for me and for the program," Weathers said in the release. "I'm ready for a different challenge and I think the timing is right for some new faces to come in and see where they can take the Irish in 9-5 win

BASEBALL

Third baseman hits three home runs to pace ND in 9-5 win

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

Matt Edwards’ first home run Tuesday against Western Michigan needed a gusting wind to clear the left center-field fence.

Credit his next two to pure power. "Notre Dame's third baseman continues to impress at home" page 27

See Also
"Team aims to

MEN’S TRACK

Benninger sets new 5K record
Sophomore runs race in third-fastest time worldwide this year

By JOHN EVERETT
Sports Writer

While most students were celebrating the Easter holiday and the four-day weekend it provided, the Irish were giving themselves other reasons to be joyful while competing in two separate meets in different areas of the country.

The most exciting performance by a Notre Dame runner was at the Stanford Invitational, where sophomore Kurt Benninger not only broke the Notre Dame record in the 5,000 meters, but also recorded the third-fastest time worldwide in the event this season.

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"Team aims to

MEN’S TENNIS

McDonald’s All-American Games
All-stars descend on Joyce Center

Notre Dame recruit Zeller named to the East team’s roster

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Common knowledge says the McDonald’s All-American High School Basketball Game is an annual national stage for the country’s elite high school players to showcase their skills. If common knowledge holds true, then Luke Zeller should have the option of sitting this one out.

One of four recruits committed to Notre Dame for next fall, Zeller already showcased his skills last weekend. The Washington High School senior canned a buzzer-beating 3-pointer from just inside half court Saturday night to beat Vincennes Lincoln.

Weathers resigns as head coach

By MIKE TENNANT
Sports Writer

Head women’s swimming coach Bailey Weathers recently resigned after ten years at the helm of the Irish program following 10 winning seasons and nine straight Big East titles.

In a press release issued Tuesday by the Notre Dame Sports Information Department, Weathers cited both his and the University’s need for a change.

"We’ve had a nice run for the last decade, and now I think it’s time for something new, both for me and for the program," Weathers said in the release.

"It’s just the right time for some new faces to come in and see where they can take the Irish in 9-5 win."

"Team aims to

ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING

Weathers resigns as head coach

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