3,478 admitted from first-rate pool

956 minority students invited to class of 2009

By JULIE BENDER

Note Dame will be slightly smarter come enrollment time this August.

The prospective students for the class of 2009 — with the strongest applicant pool in terms of academics to date — have received their acceptance letters and are currently deciding whether or not Notre Dame is the place they want to spend the next four years of their lives.

"The applicant pool was clearly stronger than ever in terms of college prep courses, grades, rank-in-class and test scores," Dan Saracino, director of admissions at Notre Dame. Statistics prove Saracino's

The Church Women Want,

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"When she asked herself what she would like to see in the Catholic Church, Henold said there were several obvious answers including the ordination of women and the recognition of single, non-celibate women whom, she said, the church currently ignores."

Other responses, Henold said, took her by surprise and will take further thought to develop fully. "For my projects in mind, the College Readability Program is the "number one priority."

Outgoing chair of the Diversity Affairs Committee Nick Coleman noted last year's

Women gather to envision future for Catholic Church

Discussion ensues at Saint Mary's College

By MEGAN O'NEIL

Saint Mary's Editor

While members of the College of Cardinals gathered in Vatican City this week to bury Pope John Paul II and to appoint a new leader, a group of roughly equal size met in La Mans Hall at Saint Mary's to discuss hope for the future of the Catholic Church.

There were no television cameras present, and at the end of the night there would be no smoke, gray or white, wafting from the bell tower. But students and faculty talked with energy and sometimes emotion about issues ranging from the ordination of women to homosexuality to Terri Schiavo.

The discussion, entitled "The Church Women Want," began with opening comments from two church experts and five students and then continued in small groups. It was part of an ongoing dialogue at the college in relation to its official affiliation with the Catholic Common Ground Initiative, a movement founded by former Chicago Cardinal Joseph Bernardin.

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I'm not offended

One hazy night in London, I mistook a well-dressed bus number 23 for without my lovely roommates. When they realized back in Flat 16 that I was missing, they "organ-
ized" a makeshift "search party" consisting of them wandering around in a Strongbow-
induced stupor, asking randomly if anyone had seen "the Asian." 

Judging by the offended reaction of passers-by, we apparently find ethnic jokes a bit too funny. I must have the sensitivity of a rhinoceros when it comes to the fine nuances of the diversity debate, since it's okay for people to refer to me as "the Asian," or to make me keep the caps score because "my kind" is "good with numbers," or to tell me that we're only good at Little League and hot dog eating contests.

We're all careful about being politically correct, so saying you hate Asians in Scholastic is not received as humorous, and Latin Expressions comece are perceived as alienating non-Latinos. Is it really the people making good-natured jokes we should worry about, when we know for a fact that they are not at all racist? 

Let's rally our efforts instead against the hourly igno-
rant, like people who try to find out what kind of Asian you are by ask-
ning, "Where are you from?" If you really want to know what kind of Asian someone is, the effectiveness of this question is clearly dependent on the assumption that we all recently stepped off a plane from Asia. I'm from Ohio. Back off.

I don't know what the world is coming to when we can't all gather round and have a nice hearty laugh at an ethnic joke. Sure, Latin Expressions featured Latino pride, sometimes at the expense of white people. Maybe it went too far, I'm obviously one of the least qualified people to judge that, but isn't it better than the alternative of pre-
tending we are all the same? It's funny because it's true — when someone has a "you don't under-
stand us" attitude they're usually right. I don't know what it's like to feel uncomfortable around white people. As a kid a Mexican friend who expressed this senti-
ment, would have really liked to have an idea of what it's like to be the other race, and to under-
stand her situation. Let people have their harmless fun. So the next time someone makes an inappropriate joke about your pocket abacus, it's probably not because they're prejudiced or because they're trying to build up more barriers between ethnic groups. There's already underlying differ-
cences in place. It's pretty com-
mitting on them doesn't mean you created them, it means you can acknowl-
edge and maybe celebrate them. Discrimination is not funny; ridicu-
los stereotypes about minorities are.

But seriously, guys... stop mak-
ing me keep score.

Contact Christie Bolsen at cholsen@nd.edu

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
SMC-TV to provide campus information

By KELLY MAUS
News Writer

With the increasing number of obligations and responsibilities facing college students, it is often difficult to keep track of the many events happening in the world, let alone those on campus. Understanding a need for a new way of campus communication, members of Saint Mary’s Student Government and the Information Technology Resource Center have combined forces to launch SMC-TV — a closed-circuit campus cable channel for educational and communicative use on campus. Over 18 months in the making, SMC-TV will provide students, faculty and staff with a means for circulating information like campus news, upcoming events and national/world headlines.

On Monday night, Director of Information Technology Keith Fowlkes gave a presentation on what can be expected from this new project. "The campus needs a new and fresh information source for students and faculty," Fowlkes said.

In addition to campus news, Fowlkes said SMC-TV will also have to ability to broadcast other programs from talk shows to special interest programs. "As long as the proposed programming follows our slogan of 'creative, intelligent, and engaging', as well as the professional standards set by the advising committee, the sky’s the limit," Fowlkes said. "We believe SMC-TV will serve as a great innovative way for students to express themselves, as well as learn the skills needed to create and produce on-air performances."

One key point that was emphasized at Monday’s presentation was the great need for student involvement. It is planned that within two years, SMC-TV will be completely student-run and operated, from pitching ideas all the way to the time the program airs. Currently, SMC-TV is being funded through the Husking Foundation Grant received by the college several years ago. This summer, advisors hope to purchase new cameras and other equipment to begin training students in the fall. Once student management positions and independent production teams are filled, the faculty members and advisors involved hope to begin on-air programming beginning January or February 2006.

Contact Kelly Maus at kmhaus1@stmarys.edu

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2009
continued from page 1

The class of 2009 didn't fail to impress admissions officers in this area either, despite its outstanding academic records. "The students' extracurricular involvement was equally impressive this year," Saracino said. Diversity is another key area the class of 2009 excels in. This year saw a jump in the number of minority applicants to the University, a fact the Admissions Office looks on with pride. "We had a record number of ethnic minority students applying this year," Saracino said. "There were 2,028 minority applicants versus last year's high of 1,879." Of those minority students who applied to Notre Dame, about half were accepted into the incoming class.

"We admitted a record number of ethnic minority students for the class of 2009 — 956 versus 885 from last year," Saracino said. An increased number of applicants generally means a larger number of students will choose to enroll at the University, so predictions for the incoming class are high.

"Based upon previous years' yields on admitted students, we anticipate enrolling the largest number ever of ethnic minority students," Saracino said. "Twenty-three percent of the incoming class would be considered ethnic minority.

This year's applicants also exceeded expectations on the diversity of their geographical distribution. According to the Admission Office's statistics, all 50 states are represented in the admitted student pool, and 129 of the admitted students are international students.

Contact Julie Bender at jbender@nd.edu

Women
continued from page 1

"The reality for many of us who grew up in Vatican II's wake is that we never experienced that which made Catholicism truly distinctive, and so now there's a real hunger in my generation and younger for a vibrant Catholic culture," Henold said.

According to Henold, her position could be misconstrued as an argument to return to the days before the second Vatican Council. Instead, what she would like to see is a return to a teaching of Church history.

Senior Carolyn Madison said she has had many strong role models in her life, and her faith, particularly her mother and grandmother. These roles, however, are no longer sufficient in a modern Church, Madison said.

"There are many positions in which women can make a difference, can inspire others, can lead someone to a better union with Christ," Madison said. "However, these are positions in which women are restricted in their actions and therefore desire more."

Senior Sarah Brown recounted her most memorable childhood experiences as a Catholic, bringing the gifts up to the altar and being asked to serve as a cross bearer during mass. "These feelings of having been included and taken seriously in the Church are both what made me Catholic and what keeps me Catholic," Brown said.

Brown said that while she feels fortunate to have been given certain roles within the Church as a woman, the Church still fails to include them on an equal level.

"When I watch CNN interview members of the leadership of the Church on the significance of the death of the Pope and I see no women approached, I do not feel included," Brown said. "I do not feel as if my voice is being taken seriously."

Brown told the audience the Church must make a place for women in her desire more.

"The Church that I want, as a woman, is one that works to make women's voices and women's experiences included and taken seriously in every arena of the Church from carrying the gifts of the Eucharist during mass, to leading the Church in its decision making."

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Thursday, April 7, 2005
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Suspect acquired on terrorism charges

BERLIN — A Tunisian man accused of planning attacks in Germany for al-Qaida was acquitted of terrorism charges Wednesday but found guilty of illegal weapons possession and tax evasion. He was sentenced to three years, nine months in prison.

The district court marked another setback for the German government, which has had difficulty making charges stick in several post-Sept. 11, 2001, terror cases.

Federal prosecutors alleged that Ihsan Garnaoui, 34, planned attacks on American or Jewish targets to coincide with the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003. They had sought a six-year prison sentence on charges that included attempting to form a terrorist group.

Parliament elects Kurdish president

SANTA MARIA, Calif. — A former maid for Michael Jackson in the pop star's bedroom has been found guilty of molesting a boy.

After weeks of at times tense negotiations, the three candidates received 227 votes. Thirty ballots were left blank.

People gathered on the bridge Vittorio Emmanuel in Rome Wednesday to pay last respects to Pope John Paul II. Italian police closed the line to view the pope at 10 p.m.

White supremacist given 40 years

CHICAGO — Avowed white supremacist given 40 years.

NUCLEAR POWER

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Monaco

Prince Rainier III, the world's most decorated monarch, has died.

The 81-year-old former king of Monaco died at his home in the principality on April 6, 2005.

Rainier was survived by his wife, Princess Grace, and their two children, Prince Albert and Princess Caroline.

The Italian government has announced that it will hold a national mourning for Rainier on April 8.

Local News

State plans to close juvenile prison

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — The state plans to close its Bloomingdale Juvenile Correctional Center by April 27 because of a lack of funding and a感觉自己 of abundance of empty juvenile beds statewide.

The Indiana Department of Correction will move the 34 prisoners at the Bloomingdale site to other facilities, spokeswoman Java Ahmed said Tuesday.

DOC facilities statewide have space for more than 1,700 juvenile offenders but currently hold about 1,030.

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Church

continued from page 1

crisis and the revelation that many predatory priests had been raping young girls. Sullivan said this caused many Catholics to desire a greater voice in choosing local church leaders. The Vatican refused to change its policy.

Kaveny said the pope was a model of the unifying footsteps. The work of these priests has breathed new life into the priesthood, he said.

The Church’s views on such issues have not been a range of life issues,” Sullivan said. “Political data suggests a slight increase in the number of people toward the Church’s side.”

But the number of priests is shrinking. Worldwide, their ranks have dropped from more than 15,000 during John Paul II’s pontificate.

The shrinking is worldwide, it is not confined to United States,” Sullivan said. “It is a worldwide problem, it is not a standalone issue.”

The U.S. Church. The shrinking numbers are apparent all over the world and are not characteristic of Catholicism alone, Sullivan said.

“The decline in vocations is a worldwide problem, it is not confined to United States,” Sullivan said. “It is a worldwide problem, it is not a standalone issue.”

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Pope John Paul II’s firm stance on issues such as abortion, euthanasia and capital punishment sparked debate in the United States and encouraged more non-Catholics to give the Church a chance.

Residence Life chair Sarah Baines said the committee is working to ensure that the new 2005 summer session is a success.

For more information, contact Mr. Thomas Sullivan, director of the Summer Session, at (574) 631-6110 or tsullivan@nd.edu.
associated Press

BENNINGTON, Vt. — In a closely watched vote, residents decided against capping the size of big-box retailers to 75,000 square feet — an attempt to halt the expansion of the local Wal-Mart store.

"We're a bigger town than that," said Jessica Carson, 26, a mother of three and who is the mother of the station next door in the existing store.

The bylaw, enacted in December, was expected to produce a closer vote Tuesday but the cap was rejected, 2,189-1,278. The turnout was 40 percent of 9,650 registered voters — heavy for a special election.

Workers had distributed thousands of handbills urging residents to support the cap and put Wal-Mart's plans to increase its store to 112,000 square feet.

The victory for Wal-Mart Stores Inc. came after heavy advertising by Ohio-based real estate developer Redstone Investments.

"I'm very happy for the people of Bennington, Vermont," said Redstone partner Jonathan Levy. "They took on Town Hall and showed them what the whole thing.

The local Planning Commission and the state Board studied the issue at length when the manager of the store supported the cap. Then, opponents of a cap collected more than 1,000 signatures to put the question to a town-wide vote.

Alicia Romar of the pro-campaign Citizens for Responsible Growth Bennington said she wished the decision had been left up to elected officials.

"It's a special interest interfering with what's best for the community process, and I don't think that's really the best way to run a government," she said.

The political fight leading up to the vote brought out many of the familiar arguments about big-box retailers, with some voicing fears a larger Wal-Mart would drive the entire state of Vermont on its list of the "10 most endangered places," proclaiming the state was endangered by a phenomenon it called "Sprawl-Mart.

Wal-Mart has come under scrutiny around the country for its effects on everything from its labor practices to the health of other businesses in town and the traffic its stores generate. Last month, the company agreed to pay a record $11 million to settle federal allegations that used hundreds of illegal immigrants to clean the floors at its stores in 21 states.

In 1993, two years before the Bennington Wal-Mart opened, the National Trust For Historic Preservation put the state was endangered by a phenomenon it called "Invasion of the Big Box Stores." Vermont put the state on the list.

The vote in Bennington, a town of 16,000 in the southwest corner of the state, was closely watched by lawmakers in Montpelier, where a pending bill would limit retailers statewide to 50,000 square feet.

A close vote decides local Wal-Mart store can grow to 112,000 square feet

Jay Allen, second from left, senior vice-president of corporate affairs for Wal-Mart, and Bob McAdam, right, Wal-Mart's vice-president for community affairs, converse Tuesday.

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FDA to reconsider ban on breast implants

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government is coming up a ban on most silicone-gel breast implants, but federal scientists question whether there's enough evidence indicating how long the implants will last inside a woman's body — or what health risks may result if they break.

The Food and Drug Administration will consider the issue in a three-day meeting with its scientific advisers next week. The meeting is a key hurdle in determining whether the implants can enter the market. Since 1992, they have been available only to women enrolled in strictly controlled research studies because of fears they could cause major health problems.

The implants have been largely excoriated as causing such serious illnesses as cancer or lupus. But painful scar tissue that can form around the implants, breaks that require surgery to remove or replace implants, and other complications remain contentious. Last month, the FDA told manufacturers that it wouldn't lift restrictions on the implants unless it had more data about breakage in particular are settled.

The FDA posted documents on the controversy on its Web site Wednesday.

Competitors Inamed Corp. and Mentor Corp., believe they've met that requirement, arguing that breast implants, just like pacemakers or metal tentacles. Just 15 months ago, Associated Press tracked durability. Mentor cited manufacturers to use MRI scans to spot implants ruptured in 3.4 percent of women who had received them for breast enlargement patients — and in 20.5 percent of breast cancer patients who received implants after a mastectomy. The company attributed that higher rate to a particular implant model that is being redesigned.

But those studies tracked a small number of women for a short time, FDA scientists cautioned in preliminary analyses posted on the Web site.

"These data are of limited value" in determining how many years a woman can expect her implant to last, and what pain or other complications she might experience if it breaks and silicone gel oozes out, one FDA document concludes.

In a second document, FDA scientists estimated that up to three-quarters of the devices might rupture within 10 years of implantation, requiring women to undergo additional surgery to remove or replace the implants.

Moreover, additional documents suggest that if the FDA approved widespread implant sales, implant recipients would be encouraged to get regular exams, perhaps every year or two, to check for breakage. Those exams cost hundreds of dollars, and there's no way to ensure women would get them, said Diana Zuckerman of the National Research Center for Women and Families.

It's the second time in less than two years that the FDA is debating the silicone-gel implants. In October 2003, its advisors narrowly recommended allowing the implants to sell again, advising the agency declined to follow.

Next week, the debate again will pit woman against woman, patients who say the implants caused scars versus others who say the silicone-gel versions look and feel more natural than saline implants. The FDA has set aside an additional four days: from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Monday — to hear from the public.

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Gay civil unions bill approved

Unlike Vermont, no court pressure motivates Connecticut vote

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — The state Senate has approved a landmark bill that would make Connecticut the first state to recognize civil unions between same-sex couples without being pressured by the courts.

Senators debated for nearly four hours on Wednesday before voting 27-9 in favor of the bill, which would give gay and lesbian couples many of the same rights as married couples. Vermont has approved civil unions, but only after a lawsuit by same-sex couples.

"We stand today before a portal to history," said Democratic Sen. Andrew McDonald, one of a handful of openly gay lawmakers. "I ask you to pass through it."

Proponents say the legislation will likely clear the House of Representatives, possibly as early as next week. Republican Gov. M. Jodi Rell has not taken a stand on the bill, but has said she supports the concept of civil unions.

Brian Brown, executive director of the Family Institute of Connecticut, maintained that most voters do not support civil unions and same-sex marriage, and he called the vote a "slap in the face of democracy."

"This is same-sex marriage by a different name," Brown said.

The vote came a day after Kansas became the 18th state to pass a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage. Thirteen other states passed such prohibitions last year, while Alabama, South Dakota and Tennessee plan elections next year on constitutional bans.

Gay rights proponents originally hoped to pass a bill similar to the Massachusetts law that allows same-sex couples to marry. But legislative leaders determined there was no way to ensure that most voters do not support civil unions and same-sex marriage, and he called the vote a "slap in the face of democracy."

I believe that our most important and crucial job is to make sure the rights of all our citizens are protected where they exist and expanded where they don't exist," said Democratic Sen. Mary Ann Handley, who is part of a group of legislators who plan to press for gay marriage in Connecticut.

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Ya-Yas in Bloom by Rebecca Wells

YA-YAS IN BLOOM reveals the roots of the Ya-Yas’ friendship in the 1950s and roars with all the raw power of In-Aben Walker’s ’62 T-Bird through sixty years of marriage, child-raising, and hair-raising family secrets.

Breakdown Lane by Jacqueyn Mitchard

Written with Mitchard’s trademark poignancy, humor, and insight, The Breakdown Lane is her most moving, eloquent, and life-affirming work yet.

Hammes"
Mbeki helps warring factions agree on disarmament, new elections

CAPE TOWN — Ivory Coast's warring factions agreed Wednesday to end hostilities, warring factions agreed signed in Pretoria.

"The parties...hereby solemnly declare the immediate and final cessation of all hostilities and the end of the war through the national territory," said the agreement signed in Pretoria.

"In this regard, they unequivocally repudiate the use of force as a means to resolve differences among themselves," the accord said, acknowledging the "utmost misery and suffering" inflicted on the Ivorian people and the disastrous economic repercussions of the fighting.

Ivory Coast has been split between the rebel-held north and loyalist south since a failed coup attempt in 2002. A cease-fire reached in May of the same year was violated twice by Ivorian President Laurent Gbagbo, raising doubts about elections.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan welcomed the accord and urged both sides to follow through with their commitments, "promptly and in good faith," his spokesman Fred Eckhardt said in a statement.

The agreement commits the warring factions to "immediately proceed with the disarmament and dismantling of the militia throughout the entire national territory."

All sides said they were committed to holding presidential and parliamentary elections scheduled in October. On his return to Abidjan, the Ivorian capital, Gbagbo said disarmament would begin April 14 in the northern rebel headquarters at Bouake town.

A copy of the deal, which was signed by Mbeki, Gbagbo, Prime Minister Seydou Diarra, opposition leader Alpha Ouatara and rebel leader Guillaume Soro, was sent to The Associated Press in Cape Town.

Mbeki, who was mediating on behalf of the African Union, said all sides had agreed to the text after negotiations ran for two extra days.

To promote fairness and transparency, the agreement said the United Nations would be invited to participate in an Independent Electoral Commission comprising representatives of both the ruling party and rebels.

The accord also gave a more prominent role to the prime minister, who is regarded as much more moderate and conciliatory than Gbagbo.

However, the trickiest issue — the eligibility of presidential candidates — was not finalized. The current constitution contains a clause that all presidential candidates be second-generation Ivorians. As it stands, the clause effectively bars Ouattara — a former prime minister who is considered Gbagbo's main opponent — from running.

Mbeki said he was confident this could be sorted out within a week, according to the South African Press Association.

The U.N. Security Council on Monday extended the mandate of its peacekeeping mission in Ivory Coast for a month to give more time to mediation efforts. The council had threatened sanctions to compel the government to give up its arms in the desert, as the table was set.

The United Nations has 6,000 peacekeepers in the buffer zone between the two parts of the country, and France has an additional 4,000 soldiers.

The Pretoria talks marked the first face-to-face meeting of all the factions since violence flared in November, when Gbagbo sent his newly built-up air force on bombing runs in the north.

Treaty pacifies Ivory Coast

Civilian border guards slow illegal influx

AGUA PRIETA — The number of Mexican migrants trying to sneak into the United States through this border town has dropped by half since hundreds of U.S. civilians began guarding the area earlier this week, say Mexican officials assigned to protect their citizens.

But that doesn't mean the migrants have given up. Much more moderate and conciliatory than Gbagbo.

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The Observer

AFGHANISTAN

U.S. military copter crash kills 16 people

Associated Press

KABUL — A U.S. military helicopter returning from a mission smashed into the southern Afghan desert Wednesday, killing at least 16 people in the deadliest military crash since the fall of the Taliban in late 2001. An Afghan official said most of the dead appeared to be Americans.

The CH-47 Chinook was returning to the U.S. base at Bagram from a mission in the militant-plagued south when it went down near Ghazi city, 80 miles southwest of the capital, Kabul.

"Indications are it was bad weather and that there were no survivors," said a U.S. spokeswoman, Lt. Cindy Moore. An Afghan official said there were no signs the craft was shot down.

A U.S. military statement said 16 deaths had been confirmed and two other people listed on the flight manifest were "unaccounted for" when the recovery operation was suspended at nightfall.

U.S. officials said the four crew members killed were Americans, but declined to give the nationalities of the passengers. The names of the victims were being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Moore said the transport helicopter was returning from a "routine mission" when controllers lost radio contact. A second Chinook made it safely back to the sprawling base north of Kabul.

Associated Press Television News footage showed dozens of Afghan security forces and officials scurrying round burning wreckage. Strong winds that had whipped thick dust into the darkened sky fanned the flames.

Abdul Rahman Sarjang, the chief of police in Ghazi, said the helicopter crashed about 2:30 p.m. near a brick factory 3 miles outside the city and burst into flames. U.S. troops rushed to cordon off the area, he said.

Sarjang said he saw nine bodies. "They were all wearing American uniforms and they were all dead," he told The Associated Press by cell phone from the crash site.

Sarjang said that the weather was cloudy with strong winds and that witnesses reported one of the helicopter's two rotors looked damaged before it hit the ground. He said he saw no sign of enemy fire, and militants issued no immediate claim of responsibility.

According to U.S. Department of Defense statistics, at least 122 American soldiers had died before Wednesday's incident in and around Afghanistan since Operation Enduring Freedom, the U.S.-led war on terrorism, began after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

Accidents have proven almost as deadly as attacks from Taliban-led insurgents, including a string of helicopter crashes and explosions caused by mines and munitions left over from the country's long wars.

The previous worst incident in Afghanistan was an accidental explosion at an arms dump in Ghazi province that killed eight American soldiers in January 2004.

Most recently, four U.S. soldiers died when a land mine exploded under their vehicle south of Kabul on March 26.

Last November, six Americans — three civilian crew members and three U.S. soldiers — died when their plane crashed in the Hindu Kush mountains. The military's last fatal helicopter crash occurred a month earlier when a pilot was killed in the west of the country.

About 17,000 U.S. soldiers are in Afghanistan battling a Taliban-led insurgency and training a new Afghan army.

The top U.S. commander here, Lt. Gen. David Barno, told AP on Tuesday that the military would now train Afghan police and provide intelligence to Afghan forces battling the country's rampant drug industry.
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Celebrities attend Cochran’s funeral

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Johnnie Cochran Jr.’s most celebrated clients, O.J. Simpson and Michael Jackson, joined civil rights figures and Hollywood stars at the lawyer’s funeral Wednesday, remembering Cochran’s cunning legal skills and his commitment to the people he represented.

Cochran, 67, died March 29 of an inoperable brain tumor at his home in Los Angeles, which was diagnosed with the tumor in December 2003.

“He didn’t just love justice or admire justice — he did justice,” said Mayor James Hahn, the former city attorney and a Cochran friend.

The Rev. Al Sharpton drew applause from the packed West Angeles Cathedral — a throng that ranged from the Rev. Jesse Jackson to Michael Jackson — by describing the emotional aftermath of the Simpson trial.

“We didn’t clap when the acquittal of Simpson came for O.J.,” Sharpton said. “We were clapping for Johnnie.”

“We were clapping because for decades our brothers, our cousins, our uncles had to stand in the well with no one to stand up for them. And finally a black man came and said, ‘If it doesn’t fit — you must acquit.’”

Sharpton said, referring to Cochran’s famous quote from Simpson’s sensational trial about a glove found at the murder scene.

The line drew a roar from the crowd, which also heard from other figures in Cochran’s life, including two other members of the Simpson “dream team,” Peter Neufeld and Barry Scheck.

The line was on the back of “T-shirts being sold for $10 outside the church. The shirts had a picture of Cochran on the front with the words: ‘Freedom and Justice.’”

Colorful and eloquent, Cochran became a legal superstar after helping clear Simpson.

“Johnnie fought for his clients,” Simpson told reporters outside the cathedral. “He was just a good friend, a good Christian man and a great lawyer.”

Jesse Jackson called Cochran “the tallest tree in our legal forest.”

The national stage did not make Johnnie, it revealed him,”

The range of mourners reflected Cochran’s work in high-profile civil rights cases and high-profile trials. Also paying respects were such celebrities as Stevie Wonder and Ervin “Magic” Johnson.

Neufeld said Cochran’s real accomplishments were in civil rights and defending downtrodden clients: “Johnnie Cochran taught us the importance of doing well by doing good. He lived it and preached it, and the world is a better place for all of us.”

Percentage of primate species may disappear

Associated Press

CAPE TOWN, South Africa —

Human activities such as hunting and logging have driven nearly one quarter of the world’s primate species — man’s closest living relatives — to the brink of extinction, according to a new report.

Without concerted action, great apes such as the Sumatran orangutan of Indonesia and the Eastern gorillas of central Africa are at risk of disappearing, according to the report to be released Thursday by the World Conservation Union, the International Primatological Society and Conservation International.

It said Madagascar and Vietnam each have four primates on the list of 25 most endangered. Brazil and Indonesia have three. Sri Lanka and Tanzania have two each. Colombia, China, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Uganda, and Congo have one each.

“The situation for these primates is down to the wire in terms of extinction,” said Russell A. Mittermeier, president of Conservation International. “If you took all the individuals on the list and gave them a seat in a soccer stadium, they probably would…”

The thrill is especially per-:

The golden-headed langur of Vietnam and China’s Hainan gibbon number only in the dozens. The Horto Plains slender loris of Sri Lanka has been seen just four times since 1937. Perrier’s sifaka of Madagascar and the Tana River red colobus of Kenya are now restricted to tiny patches of tropical forest, leaving them vulnerable to rapid eradication, the report said.

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The threat is especially per-
Schiamo not to be overlooked

In the Roe v. Wade decision, the court ruled that a woman has the right to choose whether or not to continue a pregnancy. This decision has been debated and criticized by many, especially when it comes to the issue of abortion.

Schiamo, a prominent political figure, has recently voiced his opposition to abortion, stating that it is a violation of natural law and a moral wrong. His stance has caused significant controversy, with many arguing that it is a personal decision that should be left up to the individual and not decided by the government.

The issue of abortion is a complex one, with varying opinions across different cultures and religious beliefs. It is important to have an open and respectful dialogue on this topic, taking into account the different perspectives and beliefs.

The debate on abortion continues to be a topic of discussion, with various groups advocating for different positions. It is crucial to remember that each person's perspective is valid, and it is our responsibility to listen and learn from one another.
**Embrace the season**

The death of Pope John Paul II on Saturday has left the world mourning the loss of a great man and wonderer who will be selected to lead the Catholic Church at this critical time. Luckily for us Americans, however, we have been handed a welcome distraction from all of our sorrows: the start of baseball season. The first regular season game of the year took place last Saturday in the Bronx on Sunday night, when the Yankees upended their hated rivals, the Boston Red Sox. For most other teams, however, Monday afternoon marked the start of the 2005 campaign. Ballparks across the nation welcomed fans back to cheer on their favorite teams and partake in some of America’s most time-honored traditions.

It is rather appropriate that Major League Baseball raised its curtain on 2005 just as many of its fans found themselves in a state of grief. For over 150 years, baseball has provided Americans with welcomed relief during tumultuous times. Though the game is thought to have been invented during the 1840s, it was the Civil War that permitted it to flourish, when Union soldiers played the game as a way to pass the time during an otherwise grim period. Similarly, baseball provided relief on the home front during the Second World War. Although great players like Ted Williams had to abandon the game in order to defend the country, the major leagues gave Americans an opportunity to escape something other than troop movements and casualties in the morning newspapers. In addition, the war precipitated the formation of the first all-female league, which was immortalized in the Tom Hanks movie A League of Their Own.

Even when baseball was not distracting people from the horrors of war, it still provided people with a temporary escape from their daily lives. In order to appreciate baseball’s importance in American culture, one need not look any further than the way in which we have come to idolize those who play the game. Babe Ruth has long been considered a symbol of the fast-paced, excessive lifestyle of the 1920s, Lou Gehrig is looked upon as a source of courage and perseverance in the face of a hopeless situation, and Jackie Robinson’s emergence with the Brooklyn Dodgers is heralded as a key moment in the Civil Rights movement.

Nowadays people enjoy the games for the same reasons. Although overpaid players, elevated ticket prices, and stadium expansion have caused baseball fans to lose some of its innocence, millions of fans still eagerly anticipate hearing the umpire yell “Play ball” for the first time each year. In my hometown of Chicago, the beginning of the baseball season is always an exciting time, as the rivalry between the city’s two teams is renewed. True baseball fans in the windy City must choose between the White Sox and the Cubs, and simply “rooting for Chicago” is completely unacceptable. As a popular South Side song reiterates, “When it comes to baseball, we have two favorite clubs, the Go-Go White Sox and whoever plays the Cubs!”

As a White Sox fan, the onset of spring allows me the opportunity to trash talk some of my North-side rivals. I usually take some time to remind them that the Cubs have not won a World Series since the Roosevelt administration (Theodore Roosevelt that is). Also, I usually make sure that they are aware that Harrison Caray spent more seasons as the White Sox announcer than he did as the voice of the Cubs. Finally, I like to point out that, unlike those who flock to Wrigley Field to simply be weak and aimless, Sox fans actually go to baseball games in order to watch baseball.

In addition to some good natured Cubs-bashing, I also enjoy the story of baseball season because it allows me to become reacquainted with many of the institutions that have become a part of my White Sox experiences. Certainly, I always enjoy ballpark food, and U.S. Cellular Field has some of the best in baseball. In addition to staples such as hot dogs, pretzels and popcorn, “the Cell” also has great pizza, curvy fries and churros.

In addition to the great cuisine, I also look forward to hearing some of the ballpark organ. On the South Side, Nancy Faust has been the White Sox organist for several decades, and she has become a sort of local celebrity. In addition to the always familiar, “Take Me Out to the Ball Game,” she also plays classics such as “Rum and Sodomy,” “My Kind of Town” and “Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye,” which has been adopted as the unofficial fight song of the White Sox.

While the food and music always add to the ballpark experience, my favorite memory of a White Sox game is sadly no longer with us. From the 1960s until the 1990s, a man known as “Andy the Clown” became a fixture at the Friendly Confines. Andy was simply a fan who would attend every home game dressed in a cheap clown suit with a light-up nose, and a bowling hat. In addition to his festive appearance he would also kind of sing out his cheers. Even when I became my own person, my father always enjoyed Andy’s antics, others were not. When the Sox moved into a new stadium in 1991, management made it clear that he would no longer be welcome at home games. Andy died several years later, and South Side lore says that it was due to a broken heart.

I like to remember Andy’s legacy by wearing my Andy the Clown T-shirt to games. Not only is it the great conversation starter with the old timers at the park, but it also usually guarantees you at least one free beverage during the game. I am sure many of you have your own favorite institutions that come with baseball season when it helps bring your town’s cap or securing the paper for scores every day. Now that it is beginning to warm up it is high time we take advantage of what can be an incredibly rewarding distraction from the world around us. So while we are still in South Bend for the first time of the season, have fun and enjoy the game.

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

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

It could be worse

I am writing to respond to a letter written by Jonny Sue about alcohol and its effects on the student body. Jonny Sue talked about how students, or at least some of them, have become more open about their drinking habits. He also noted that drinking on campus has become an issue on several campuses. Jonny Sue wrote that the alcohol policy is not changing, but students should be acting responsibly. I agree with this, and I would like to add a few more points to this conversation.

Firstly, I am writing to respond to a letter written by Jonny Sue about alcohol and its effects on the student body. Jonny Sue wrote that the alcohol policy is not changing, but students should be acting responsibly. I agree with this, and I would like to add a few more points to this conversation.

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CONCERT REVIEW

Bob Dylan shines in Chicago

By JULIE BENDER
Scene Music Critic

"The poet laureate of rock 'n' roll. The voice of the promise of the '60s counter-culture. The guy who forced folk into bed with rock, who donned makeup in the '70s and disappeared into a haze of substance abuse, who emerged to 'End Jesus,' who was written off as a has-been by the end of the '80s, and who suddenly shifted gears and released some of the strongest music of his career in the '90s."

Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome Columbia recording artist Bob Dylan.

With these words, pop music critic Jeff Miers summed up the unpredictable life of Bob Dylan in a feature story that appeared in The Buffalo News in August 2002. A front-page Dylan liked this quick summation of his life so much, he now uses it as his introduction at every concert he performs — and he certainly performed.

Embracing on what has become known as his "Never-Ending Tour" in 1988, Dylan has played a constant stream of shows on and off throughout the world. This past week Dylan and his band — supplied with a fiddle and a pedal steel guitar — to shine through his repertoire, including a raucous version of "Don't Think Twice, It's Alright." A folk classic he penned in 1963, "Don't Think Twice" has a startling beauty with its sweet melody and bitter-tinted lyrics. On Sunday night, the band gave this normally sparse song a full instrumental backing, which — combined with Dylan's harmony — left the audience in silent awe.

For the remainder of the show, Dylan coursed through various components of his repertoire, including an appropriate rendition of "Highway 61 Revisited," the lovely "Shooting Star" and his protest-era classic, "A Hard Rain's A Gonna Fall."

As the concert came to its close, Dylan left the stage without a word only to return minutes later to deliver his encore. Delighting fans of his 1960s songs, Dylan nudged out into a gentle rendition of "I Shall Be Released." The song found a new meaning as Dylan's vocal became an aged wizened 73-some light come shining, from the west down to the east / Any day now, any day now, I shall be released.

Ending the night in true rock 'n' roll fashion was a song off the same album as the opener — "All Along the Watchtower." Although originally an instrumental number, Dylan took it back into fiddles, accordions, the piano and harmonica as the song and sent charged vibes through his haunting lyrics. Turning from grown to bowl by the ending chord, Dylan left the stage in Chicago to a standing ovation as though this was his last performance on a farewell tour.

Of course, with show dates lined up long into the future, fans know that fortunately, there is no end in sight for the original Song and Dan Reeman Man on his "Never-Ending Tour."

Contact Julie Bender at jlbender@nd.edu

ALBUM REVIEW

Nanook’s naivety a sincere delight

By MATTHEW SOLARSKI
Scene Music Critic

At the imaginary "37th Annual Concept Album Awards Ceremony in the Sky" (affectionately known as "The Tommies"), Nanook of the North’s The Taby Tapes would have glowered at the notion of recognition and more awards — bronzed miniature pinball machines, naturally — than there are blank words for snow. The Swedish act would have garnered "most overlooked concept," "most ridiculous concept that actually kinda works somehow," and most notably, "the Honorary Bono Award for Unabashed Idealism" for the endearingly naive track "Israel and Palestine — A Solution."

As far as concept records go, Nanook’s resides in a class all its own. Invoking the title character of Robert Flaherty’s celebrated 1922 quasi-documentary Nanook of the North, multi-instrumentalists Mattias Olsson and Olle Soderstrom weave a loose narrative around the tracks that "takes Nanook from the Canadian Arctic to the sterile Stockholm suburb Taby. Along the way, Nanook jotted down a few things, fought a dragon,卓出 the Camp Arandas, fights with several of Sweden’s finest female vocalists of the 1980s and debates the verity of love in postmodern suburbia. Bizarre! Certainly, Ridiculous? Perhaps. Entirely unique and oddly enchanting. Quite."

Nanook excels on the songcraft front. However outstanding the subject matter, the songs on "The Taby Tapes" remain fun and accessible and abound in a certain wistful wit. Olsson and Soderstrom utilize a smorgasbord of instruments, some of which are possibly made-up, including guitars, keyboards, accordions, trumpets, organ, omnichord, stylophone, and percussion. With such an impressive arsenal comes substantial risk of meandering, ennui-inducing arrangements or needless instrumentation. However, Nanook showcases crisp refinement throughout, with a refreshing hint of bite.

What distinguishes Nanook and makes "The Taby Tapes" so richly affecting, however, is the vocal interplay between Nanook and his cohort of female duet partners. Olsson and Soderstrom construct many of the lyrical passages in call-and-response fashion, leaving rather telling roles for the male and female voices and creating some often fascinating dialogue.

On "Karin Boye’s Grave," vocalist Camela Leierth embodies the ghost of a Swedish folk legend and Nanook alternate. We would have loved your style / I would have loved to be alive / I could have grown into hands / you can be played in our band and then harmony, proclaiming, "we could spread revolution through this land." Despite an upbeat arrangement, the conditional perfect tense lends this track an air of melancholy, along the lines of Hemingway’s famous "isn’t it pretty to think so?"

Also fabulously is "St. George and the Dragon," where Irma Schultz plays the misunderstood mythical beast to Nanook’s brazenly self-righteous St. George. "So you think I’m just the village moron?” the latter taunts, "we’ll ponder that when you go down." The song’s closing exchange reveals Nanook may not be so naive after all — "Nanook begins, with Schultz responding, "I’m bound to be a hero / but I am unarmed / easier for me then / but I’m just a girl / well, I will tell nothing of that to the world."

Nanook of the North’s many talents culminate and coalesce on "Forget it Jenny, Love is Just a Privilege for the Rich," the album’s final track. Here, Nanook becomes the judged postmodern lover who rationalizes the futility of love in sublimely wisty fashion: "love is just a privilege for the rich, you see / love requires time / and time is money." Vocalist Malin Olafsson retorts, "No! Love is universal to humanity / it gets to you no matter of economy. "Forget it" clicks in a chorus of la la la’s — a fittingly ambiguous conclusion to a record that proceeds on so many contradictory levels.

Contact Matthew Solarski at msolarsk@nd.edu

WSND-FM TOP 5 SPINS OF THE WEEK: 1) FIERY FURNACES - EP 2) BECK - Guero 3) YO LA TENGA - Prisoners of Love

Thursday, April 7, 2005
Songs 1984-2003

4) M A N D A  A N D  T H E  M A R B L E S - Angels with Dirty Faces
5) L C D  S O U N D S Y S T E M - LCD Soundsystem

suitors have dazzled for a brief time and
new single operate in very much the
subtle liking, which over time may evolve
into a mutual affinity, which in those few
full-fledged amore. When love works, it
rare and wonderful cases, blossoms into
into a mutual affinity, which in those few

Graciously, the other five songs on this
version ever sung. With a good mix of
upbeat and deeply soulful songs, "Everything's OK" makes for an album
that one can simply listen to again and
again.

There is no question that "Everything's OK" in the musical world of
the Reverend Al Green — everything is
terrific. Although the album is a bit
stacked with the best songs on the first
half of the track list, the entire album
shows the Reverend Al Green that fans and those
who do not know that they are fans yet
have waited more than 30 years for.
Thank the Lord — the Reverend is back.

Contact Becca Saunders at
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"Everything's OK" is a reminder of
what Al Green was and what he still is.

"Everything's OK" with Al Green

SINGLES ROUNDUP

Aberdeen’s heartfelt pop never dies

By MATTHEW SOLARSKI
Scene Music Editor

Few worthwhile romances begin in
whirlwind, Romeo-and-Juliet fashion.
Usually, a chance encounter will foster a
subtle liking, which over time may evolve
into a mutual affinity, which in those few
care and unrequited cases, blossoms into
full-fledged amore. When love works, it
is because the beloved in question gradu­
ally grow upon one another where other
suitors have dawdled for a brief time and
swiftly flapped. The songs on Aberdeen’s
new single operate in very much the
same manner as the love that works.
Whereas most pop has the tendency to
grate, achieving optimal potency around
the fourth or fifth listen and cawing
downhill forever thereafter, Aberdeen’s
brand of pop makes a dramatically dif­
erent ascent. The three songs on
"Florida" may strike the listener as
unexceptional at first — and this is good,
as successive listeners will reveal the
songs’ nuances and enduring qualities
that the casual pop aficionado may have
missed.

"Florida" opens with the title track, a
sophisticated number featuring the
voices of John Aberdeen’s press materi­
lis underpinned (as usual), that culmi­nates with an exalted “don’t fall in love /
don’t ever break my heart.” The second
song, “Late Bloomer,” finds John paired
with primary Aberdeen vocalist Beth.
The third and perhaps finest track draws
lyrical inspiration from Haruki Murakami’s “Norwegian Wood” and fea­tures Beth on vocals once again. She
asks, “Did it snow the day she left? /Cherry blossoms caught the blood that
fell,” lyrics that not only haunt the listener
long after the music has faded into obliv­
ion, retaining the same understated pull
as that lover who becomes som ething
different with the passing of time.

Aberdeen Fnal, reached its peak during the same late
90s that nearly swallowed Esthero for
time, a hackneyed diatribe against
all things, a hackneyed diatribe against
the bouncy piano-centered romp “Every­
thing’s Ok” opens the track list, the entire album
is produced by Willie Mitchell, a
first real soul artist. The two worked
early 70s when he earned his title as
a "Perfect to Me," and the
neo-nerd ballad “Heaven Sent.” The
latter saw an iza of MTV airplay thanks
in large part to its haunting video
inspired by Luis Buñuel and Salvador
Dali’s avant-garde milestone “Un Chien
Andalou.”

Fast-forward to late 2004, and Esthero
has resurfaced at long last to deliver, of
all things, a backhanded diatribe against
the sorry state of the music industry. On
“We R in Need of a Musical Revolution!”
the lady prattles, “I’m so sick and tired of
the bard music) on the radio / MTV they
only play the same thing / no matter
where I go I see Ashanti in the video / I
want something more.” Yet plera is
indeed valid, but such quality-mongering
production has never been better. Our
chanteuse should curb her frustration
and invest in an iPod.

Often considered the first great soul singer of the 70s, the Reverend Al Green
shows on “Everything’s OK” that he can still create great music to this day.

By BECCA SAUNDERS
Scene Editor

— according to many listeners — the
album, “Everything’s OK.” The latest
album, “Everything’s OK” suffers from no such
ailment. Green has officially risen
together on the early 70s when he was the
first real soul artist. The two worked
"Everything's OK" in the musical w orld
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MLB — AMERICAN LEAGUE

Koniker, Dye both homer as White Sox win second straight

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Bob Wickman was consistent: Pretty much everything he threw turned into a hit.

Paul Koniker and Jermaine Dye each drove in two runs off Wickman as the Chicago White Sox rallied from a 3-2 deficit in the ninth inning to tie the game 3-3. Rowand doubled and scored the winning run.

"We're not going to roll over," White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said. "I bet they can't wait for tomorrow to start."

Signed to a $7 million, one-year contract during the off-season, Millwood allowed four hits, struck out one and walked two as his fastball reached 94 mph. He was trying for his 12th career win, his first in the American League.

"Nothing was working a lot," Millwood said. "I didn't locate very well at all. It just seemed like I was able to make a pitch when I needed to, and that kind of got me through it."

Last season, he went 9-6 with a 4.85 ERA for Philadelphia, and on Friday night against his former club, he was a concern to the Indians, who put special clauses in his contract.

Freddy Garcia, acquired by Chicago from Seattle last season, gave up two runs and five hits in six innings, struck out six and walked three. He threw 109 pitches.

Cleveland went ahead in the seventh inning when Carlos Quentin singled and scored on a Ronnie Belliard double. Garcia walked Victor Martinez in the third, and he took third on Ben Broussard's double and scored on a balk.

Boston 7, NY Yankees 3

NEW YORK — The Boston Red Sox rallied off another comeback against Mariano Rivera, then turned their thoughts to Pedro Martinez.

Playing without their aging closer, the Red Sox rallied for five runs off Rivera in the ninth inning, helped by a 3-2 lead from the Boston bullpen — and beat New York to avoid a season-opening sweep. Francona was taken to a hospital in the morning with tightness in his chest. He was resting there comfortably awaiting test results, the team said.

"We're just concerned about Tito and what's going on," Mills said. "They're a great bunch of guys, a great bunch of coaches, and they did a great job."

Derek Jeter left the game after he was hit in the helmet by a pitch and was taken to a hospital for a precautionary CT scan. The team said Jeter was normal and Jeter was expected to play in Saturday's game against Baltimore, the Yankees said.

The teams play three more games next week at Fenway Park beginning with Boston's home opener Monday, when the Red Sox will receive their World Series rings.

"It was nice to get to watch the game," Boston knuckleballer Tim Wakefield said.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 304 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 5 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without inquiring.

White Sox outfielder Jermaine Dye, right, is congratulated by White Sox outfielder Aaron Rowand after Dye homered in the 9th inning to tie the game 3-3. Rowand doubled and scored the winning run.

He yielded Jason Varitek's tying homer in the ninth on Tuesday night, but aired it out Rivera with a game-winning homer in the bottom half.

"Yesterday's game had nothing to do with today," Rivera said.

Mike Timlin (1-0) got two outs for the win. His first pitch hit Jeter in the left shoulder and then deflected off his cheek flap, knocking Jeter's helmet off and sending him sprawling to the dirt.

He remained in the game to run the bases, but was replaced at shortstop by Roy Sanchez in the ninth.

"He heard some ringing in his ears. He felt a little wobbly," Torre said. "Timlin wasn't trying to hit him. He just was trying to rush a little, and his ball was all over the place."

The Red Sox got a strong outing from Wakefield, who allowed only three hits in 6 2-3 innings — including solo homers by Rodriguez and Martinez.

Making his first start of the year, Mike Mussina gave up nine hits but worked out of trouble. Helped by three double plays, he limited the Red Sox to two runs in six innings. Kevin Millar's two-run single gave Boston the lead in the second.

Dye homered for the Yankees, who went ahead in the eighth without a hit. Gary Sheffield drove in the tiebreaking run with a sacrifice fly.

Rivera entered in the ninth with a 3-2 lead for the second consecutive day and blew it again. He issued a leadoff walk to Bill Mueller before consecutive singles by Mark Bellhorn and Johnny Damon loaded the bases with none out.

"Even though I walked Mueller, I made my pitches," Rivera said. "After that, I was getting groundballs that were going through the holes. There's nothing you can do against that. I'm fine."

After Test Nixon struck out, Manny Ramirez hit a routine grounder to Rodriguez at third. He should have been able to get at least a force play at the plate and possibly a game-ending double play, but he bobbed the ball and the tying run scored.

"When I went down with two hands, I think I locked myself up," Rodriguez said. "I was going to go to second before the bubble. Then I know I still had Bill Mueller at home, but then I bobbled it again."

David Ortiz doubled to go ahead run with a dribbler to the right side, and Edgar Renteria made it 6-3 with a two-run single.

After walking Doug Mirabelli, Rivera wanted a rare sight. He walked off the mound to a healthy dose of boos, but he thought those must have come from Red Sox fans.

"I think it's irresponsible if the bosses were from Yankee fans because they wouldn't be crawling all over themselves to get into this ballpark if it wasn't for him," Rivera said.

New York manager Joe Torre said. Pitching coach Mel Stottlemyre had a similar reaction.

"I was very surprised by that. Everything he's done here and in this ballpark, I was shocked. That's New York," Stottlemyre said.

The final run scored on Felix Rodriguez's wild pitch.

Rivera (1-1) allowed five runs — one earned and three unearned — in two innings of an inning. He also gave up three hits and threw 38 pitches.

"Don't say he lost his cool, but he definitely lost his command," Stottlemyre said.

The All-Star closer has blown his last four save chances against the Red Sox, including two in the last two games, and is six opportunities in all against Boston since the start of last season.

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CLASSIFIEDS
Brewers thump Pirates for second straight day

Rightfielder Carlos Lee homers, drives in four runs in victory

Associated Press

PIZZBURGH — Brewers manager Ned Yost insisted all spring his offense is much improved, especially with Carlos Lee batting cleanup. Yost has some believers now, many in his own clubhouse.

Lee homered and drove in four runs in his first big game since an offseason trade and Doug Davis pitched effectively over six innings in the Brewers' second rout of the Pirates in as many games, a 10-2 decision Wednesday.

"So far, so good," Lee said after Milwaukee outscored Pittsburgh 19-4 in the two-game series. "We're doing a good job with defense, pitching and we're getting some key hits, big base hits, and that's the way we have to play."

The Brewers dealt popular leadoff hitter Scott Podsedski and reliever Luis Vizcaino to the White Sox for Lee in a deal that wasn't popular with some Brewers fans, but it probably looks a lot better to them now.

"That's why we got him, that's why he's in middle of lineup," Davis said. "(As a pitcher) you can't leave him there and expect him to get himself out. You take a look at our lineup, and it's totally different."

Lee hit a two-run double off Kip Wells (0-1) in a four-run first that had some of the 12,077 fans boosing even before Pittsburgh batted, then hit a solo homer leading off the fifth. Lee also had a run-scoring grounder in the sixth against reliever John Grabow.

If the Brewers were looking for a positive start after dropping 94 games during a 12th consecutive losing season in 2004, they got it in one of their least-favorite cities.

They went 6-12 against the Pirates last year and, going into the series, were 11-26 in Pittsburgh since PNC Park opened in 2001.

They hadn't won back-to-back since April 8-9, 2003, a span of 16 games, before following up Monday's 9-2 victory with an even more one-sided win.

"It's big to come in here and win a couple of games from those guys," said Junior Spivey, who had three extra-base hits after striking out four times Monday. "They have good pitchers, a good staff and a young team. It was good to get going against this team.

"The Pirates are 0-2 for the first time since 2000 and now seem as eager to get out of Pittsburgh as they were to get there following seven weeks of spring training."

They start a seven-game trip Thursday in San Diego.

"It's still only two games, and two games at the beginning don't count any more than two games at the end," Matt Lawton said. "When it starts to get deeper is when you start to press."

Manager Lloyd McClendon, who hoped a good start would elevate the confidence of his relatively young team, said, "You always want to play well here. But it's only two games, it's not the end of the world."

Wells, erratic during spring training, constantly left his pitches over the plate as five of the first seven Brewers batters reached base.

Spivey doubled and Lyle Overbay walked ahead of Lee's double in the first, and Russell Branyan followed three batters later with a two-run double. Spivey added a solo homer in the fourth and a double in the sixth.

To give them a 4-0 lead right out of the gate, I didn't give us much of a chance," Wells said.

Wells lasted five innings, giving up six hits and six runs while walking five.

"He wasn't very good," McClendon said. "He got his pitches up and it was not a good outing."

The left-handed hitting Branyan is expected to get the majority of starts at third base, but didn't start the opener so the right-handed hitting Jeff Keppinger could face Pirates left-hander Oliver Perez. Grillo responded with a double and homer.

Davis was much more effective than Wells, allowing two hits over five shutout innings ahead of Tike Redman's two-run homer in the sixth. Davis gave up four hits and two runs in 10 first-half innings over six.

Like opening-day starter Ben Sheets, Davis is expected to start three times in the Brewers' first 10 games because the team has three off-days during the first two weeks of the season.
Francona sent to hospital, misses game

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Chest pains forced Terry Francona into a hospital Wednesday. How soon the Boston manager returns to his team remains to be seen.

Francona was taken by ambulance to New York Weill-Cornell Medical Center in Manhattan after experiencing chest tightness in the morning. He underwent a variety of tests and then listened on the radio as the Red Sox rallied for a 7-3 victory over the Yankees, their first win of the season.

Red Sox spokesman Glenn Geffken said Francona, who turns 54 on April 22, was scheduled to be transferred Wednesday night to Boston, where he will remain under the supervision of team doctor Thomas Gill.

The Red Sox, meanwhile, were off to Toronto to open a series against the Blue Jays on Friday.

"Tito has meant so much to this whole team," center fielder Johnny Damon said. "He's the guy that would go to battle for you." The Red Sox would not specify what Francona was tested for or any results.

General manager Theo Epstein informed the team of Francona's situation in a very brief meeting after the second Red Sox bus arrived at Yankee Stadium around 10:30 a.m. He then went to the hospital and spent the game with Francona.

Francona came to Boston with a reputation for being too nice and letting players take advantage of him, but the Red Sox responded to his easygoing personality and gelled into a raucous bunch that brought Boston its first World Series title in 86 years.

With Francona in the hospital, the Red Sox bandied together in the collegial manner that made them champions.

"I almost needed a bed next to Tito," acting manager Brad Mills said jokingly in the tense game. "The win was a lot to do with the guys focused on what they have to accomplish." Damon said during the game players asked the trainers, including Jim Balsillie, who accompanied the manager and returned to the trainer's park, about Francona but they "didn't give us up until the game." The Red Sox were upbeat after their ninth-inning comeback, yet there was little of the boisterous revelry common from the team that dubbed themselves Idiots during the playoffs last season.

IN BRIEF

Myskina advances, Molik upset at Bausch & Lomb

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. — Anna Kournikova survived a three-set match with unseeded Shahar Peer of Israel to advance to the round of 16 Wednesday at the Bausch & Lomb Championships.

While the third-seeded Myskina advanced, Virginia Razzano posted an upset at Buhl Stadium.

Venus Williams defeated eighth-seeded Roberta Vinci of Italy, 6-4, 6-3.

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Tampa Bay outfields Carl Crawford leads home to finish an inside-the-park home run against the Blue Jays Wednesday.

Tampa Bay avoided its first 0-

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Tampa Bay Bay avoided its first 0-
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Andy Pettitte felt better than he had in a long time, going all the way back to his final game with the New York Yankees almost 18 months ago.

He pitched like it, too. Pettitte allowed only a solo homer to Reggie Sanders in a strong six-inning season debut, and Mike Lamb’s two-run triple in the bottom of the eighth sent the Houston Astros to a 4-1 win over the St. Louis Cardinals on Wednesday.

“It was great to go back out there and not pitch with a lot of pain,” Pettitte said. “I can’t tell you how happy I am to get out there and not hurt. It makes you appreciate your health.”

Chat Qualls pitched two perfect innings and Brad Lidge got three outs for a save in the bottom of the inning, leading the Nationals to a victory over the Philadelphia Phillies on Wednesday night.

It was Washington’s second game since moving during the offseason after 36 years as the Montreal Expos.

“It’s a special day to get the first victory,” Wilkinson said. Vinny Castilla was 4-for-5 with two doubles and one RBI for Washington, which hadn’t celebrated a victory by a major league team since the expansion Senators left for Toronto following the 1971 season.

The Nationals play their home opener at RFK Stadium on April 14 against Arizona.

“It’s nice to win your first game,” Nationals manager Frank Robinson said. “It’s a good feeling.”

Wilkinson was 4-for-4 with a walk and two RBIs, completing his cycle with a ground-rule double in the eighth against Aaron Falck. Wilkinson homered off Brett Myers in the third, singled off Myers in the fifth and tripled against Jhmae Cornel in the seventh. Wilkinson’s first cycle was against Pittsburgh on June 24, 2003.

He no longer is the most dominant pitcher.

Phil Mickelson is the defending champion when the 9th Masters begins Thursday, and many believe he is primed to join Woods, Nick Faldo and Jack Nicklaus as the only back-to-back winners of a green jacket.

His victory Monday in the BellSouth Classic was his third of the year. And his confidence is at an all-time high after driving down Magnolia Lane, walking upstairs to the champions locker room, being on a golf course where a year ago he birdied five of the last seven holes to capture his first major.

“I’m able to come through when I needed to gives me a little extra confidence,” Mickelson said.

Vijay Singh is No. 1 in the world, and has been for all but two weeks in March. And while his only victory this year came in the second week of the season, he is the only player who seems to be around the top of the leaderboard no matter where he plays.

And it was only a golf ball.

The guy who hit the tee shot some 50 yards off line — right of the trees, right of the gallery and into a small forest of Georgia pines — never showed up. A marshal eventually broke up the crowd and cleared the ball to Woods’ caddie.

Tiger Woods is used to this kind of state treatment at Augusta National, where he shattered scoring records as a 21-year-old and already had three green jackets by the time he was 26.

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Bulls outlast Magic, win in overtime 102-101

Chandler pulls down 22 rebounds in win

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Orlando Magic are running out of time to make a playoff push.

Kirk Hinrich scored 25 points, Tyson Chandler added 15 points and 22 rebounds and the Chicago Bulls beat Orlando 102-101 on Wednesday night to deal the Magic's postseason hopes a serious blow.

Combined with Philadelphia's win over Chicago, Orlando is 2 1/2 games out of the Eastern Conference's eighth and final playoff berth with seven games remaining. The Magic have lost three of four, and Grant Hill is out indefinitely with a sore left foot.

"It may look bleak, but I've seen stranger things happen," Orlando coach Chris Jent said. "But we can't keep saying that."

Hill, who has missed three straight games, underwent a CT scan earlier Wednesday and the team hopes to know the results Thursday.

Orlando general manager John Warden said the pain in the shin isn't related to the ankle woes that sidelined Hill for most of the previous three seasons.

The Bulls' victory came on the heels of a loss at Miami on Tuesday, which snapped their nine-game winning streak.

Chicago now has a one-game lead over the Los Angeles Clippers with 22 points and 22 percent and committed 22 turnovers.

Bulls center Tyson Chandler, right, attempts to block Magic guard DeShawn Stevenson in Chicago's overtime win Wednesday.

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Belles set to challenge MIAA-leading Hope

By KATE SERYAK
Sports Writer

On Thursday, the Belles will take on the Flying Dutch of Hope College in one of their most important conference matches.

Hope recently ended the 500 mark after a 9-0 shutout win over Olivet College on Tuesday and is currently tied with Albion College atop the MIAA conference at 3-0.

"Inside of our conference, this will be our first big challenge," Belles' coach Kristen Palombo said. "This match, how we play in it, will be a good indicator for the rest of the season.

"It will also be a good challenge for our doubles (pairs)," Mikulyak said. "Tuesday's match wasn't a good challenge for the doubles, but Hope is almost stronger in doubles than they are in singles so this will be a good challenge." 

"This doubles will be key in setting up the match tomorrow," Palombo said. "If we can go into the singles having won two out of the three doubles, I think we have a chance at winning the whole match. That would take the pressure off of the singles players — they would only have to win three out of the six singles matches.

This will be only the Belles' second conference match. Saint Mary's played Tri-State University on Tuesday and won with a 9-0 sweep, beginning their conference run at 1-0. Despite a strong start to the season, however, the Belles were not invited to the Midwestern Tournament in Wisconsin this year.

"I think its kind of hard to be judged so early in the season," Mikulyak said. "We've only played one conference match, whereas Hope and Albion have played three. I don't know what the criteria are to get invited to that match, I'm not sure its clear anyone.

The Belles, however, aren't fazed. Instead, they are looking forward to tomorrow's match.

"We're excited about the past few years, but they have always been close matches," Palombo said.

As of yet, it has not been determined where the match will be held. If it rains before 11 a.m., the match will be held in Hope's indoor facilities. If not, the match will be played at St. Mary's as originally scheduled.

"Tennis is mostly mental, and right now we don't even know where we are playing this match," Palombo said. "It will be tough if we have to sit in a van for two hours because your legs get cramped and it's hard to stay focused.

"Also, if we don't play at home we won't have as many fans, and Hope has the loudest and most obnoxious fans. I hope it doesn't rain tomorrow," Palombo said.

Contact Kasey Seryak at kaseyak@nd.edu

BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL XXXIV

The Moonshiners advance

Top seed U Got A Bad Draw wins but does not dominate

By JOHN EVERETT
Sports Writer

In a game that took a lot longer than it had to, the Moonshiners finally reached 21 points to put away Ghetto Fab, a squad of girls from Pasquerrilla West who showed up for the game in white tank-tops with messages written in marker. Ghetto Fab member Julie Opet said the messages were not meant to have a purpose.

"Although Ghetto Fab won the coin toss, it was The Moonshiners who got off to a fast start by forcing turnovers on each of Ghetto Fab's first two possessions and acquiting the break perfectly for a 2-0 lead.

At that point it appeared the game would be over quickly, but Eric Blevins of the Moonshiners decided to take a larger role in his team's offense.

Blevins made it abundantly clear that he did not mind shooting the ball. His first, from beyond the 3-point arc, cleared the back-board, hitting the metal pole behind it, and the second cleared everything. Blevins was heard, after each shot, saying, "That was pretty close."

If not for the efforts of Rob Gilmer it hard is to say whether this game would have ever ended. Gilmer, known as "The Awesome One," bought his name across his chest and his patented spin move down in the post, put up six points and eight rebounds to lead the way for the Moonshiners.

Opet led the way for Ghetto Fab, scoring three of the team's four points. After the game and her teammates were only mildly disappointed.

"We didn't plan on winning this game, but we hope this will help us do better in the women's tournament.

Team Awesome 21, We Go Down the Court 2

We Go Down the Court's Katie Grimes let her disapproval be known.

"Power, size, speed — I think we've got all three," Your said.

Along with Quinn, U Got A Bad Draw features offensive linemen Dan Stevenson (6-foot-6, 297 pounds) and offensive lineman Scott Harrison (6-foot-6, 315 pounds), who is playing in the place of Chinedum Nnukwe.

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ND SOFTBALL

Team looks to remain hot, extend win streak

By THOMAS BARR
Sports Writer

Notre Dame (21-8) hopes to remain hot as of late with a 10-game winning streak that is now into its third week. During this time, they have outscored opponents 53-7 and have recorded an impressive .337 batting average. After playing two doubleheaders in two days, the Irish were given yesterday off. This will be the first meeting between these two teams this season.

The Cardinals ended a four-game losing streak yesterday with an extra inning win at home in Muncie, Ind. Ball State defeated Indiana State in nine innings, 6-5. Pitchers Heather Booth (11-4) and Steffany Steinglem (9-4) are likely to split the game for the Irish.

Booth comes in with a 1.22 ERA while Steinglem is averaging 10.25 strikeouts per seven innings. The forecast calls for rain late tonight through early afternoon. The game is scheduled for 5 PM at Ivy Field.

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles struggle with errors, drop two games to Albion

By BRIAN CARDILE
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s (5-12, 0-4) dropped its eighth and ninth consecutive games today, falling 10-6 and 11-5 to conference foe Albion College.

The Belles offense showed signs of life, producing nine runs in each of the doubleheader’s two games, but the defense committed eight errors on the afternoon, allowing six unearned runs to cross the plate.

Saint Mary’s played well in the first game of the double dip and led 4-3 going into the sixth inning. But Briton Jessie Loegel singled in Jenelle Vleck — who had reached base earlier on an error — to tie the game at 6-6 after the sixth.

In the top of the eighth, the Britons pushed two across, taking a 6-4 lead. The Belles fought back, knotting the game at 6-6 after the seventh.

Mckenna Corrigan. The next two batters flew out, however, leaving Corrigan stranded at second.

The game went to a second extra frame, where the Britons pulled away, scoring four runs to make the final score 10-6.

The second half of the doubleheaders was promising beginning for Saint Mary’s. The Belles got on the board early, when Corrigan hit another RBI double in the first inning that scored Audrey Gajor. The hit would have netted two runs but Laura Heline was called out in a close play at home to end the inning and the threat.

Albion countered with four runs in its half of the inning, taking a lead the team would never relinquish.

Saint Mary’s pulled within one at 4-3 in the third inning, but the Britons scored the next five runs to pull away, eventually winning the game 11-5.

The six errors committed by the Saint Mary’s defense made any chance of a comeback near impossible.

The young Belles squad showed promise throughout the afternoon, but had trouble stringing together good innings, which allowed a very consistent Albion team to notch the two victories.

The wins were the first and second for the Britons in MIAA play. Saint Mary’s fell to 0-6 in the conference and will need to put forth a strong effort as the season progresses if they hope to make any noise in the conference.

The Belles play away this Saturday, meeting Adrian College. They return to Saint Mary’s April 14 for a double dip against Hope College.

Contact Brain Cardile at bcardile@nd.edu
Errors continued from page 28

Those lapses in defense — 13 errors in the past three games for the Irish is something Mainieri more than his pitching staff's struggles.

"That's eating at me more than anything else," Mainieri said. "Infield defense has been a concern and our base has been concerning this season. We have an Achilles' Heel all year. I've always taken great pride in our infield defense."

"I know we have the players. We just haven't done it."

Paul Mainieri
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Pitching and fielding

are costing Irish dearly

A year ago, Notre Dame's 12th loss was its last — a 7-6 defeat to Arizona in the NCAA tournament on June 6.

This season, the Irish surpassed that loss total Wednesday with a one-sided, 14-5 manhandling from Ball State at Frank Eck Stadium.

After being swept in a doubleheader for the seventh time in their Big East history with two losses Monday to Rutgers, the Irish stumbled again in uncharactertistic fashion.

They couldn't get any key hits. They couldn't score big numbers.

"It's obvious that we have some areas of our team that are not playing up to the level that we've grown accustomed to," Paul Mainieri
Irish coach

"It's obvious that we have some areas of our team that are not playing up to the level that we've grown accustomed to." - Paul Mainieri

"Our infield defense has been the biggest concern for me all year," Mainieri said. "It's been such an Achilles' Heel for us. I don't know what to say except that the infield has been a bigger concern than our pitching ... I really feel like we've got the players that can play, they just haven't played great defense yet."
The Observer • SPORTS

Hoops
continued from page 28
was one of the primary deciding factors in the win. "We took the game seriously," Vega said. "We came to win." Play High Score High 21, Rhodie 14 Captain Niklas Doebler's team entered its game Wednesday with high hopes in mind. But following its win over Rhodie, the team walked off the court with high expectations. Doebler's Play High Score High relied on its slight height advantage and solid rebounding on route to a 21-14 victory. Early on in the game, Alumni sophomore fan Nate Barbera predicted size would be the deciding factor in the matchup. "It has kind of been a back and forth game," Barbera said. "I think height might become a factor as the game goes on. [Rhodie] will get tired of jumping for the ball." Barbera's prediction proved correct. Rhodie jumped out to an early 9-7 advantage and appeared as if it would maintain that lead throughout the remainder of the game. But Play High Score High quickly surged back to narrow the lead at 9-9 over their visibly worn opponents just before the end of the half. From that point on, the team turned on its jets and played a much more offensively-minded game, scoring four consecutive points in the second half. "It just took us a while to get adjusted and used to the screen," off-campus senior Todd White said. "Once we got up 11-9, we never looked back." Doebler credited the team's positive attitude for the win. "We have taller guys, the other team is drunk (and) the other team smoked at halftime." Matt Goulet Baller fan

We have taller guys, the other team is drunk (and) the other team smoked at halftime.

Matt Goulet Baller fan

"We like to ... score as high as possible, just like our name says. We have high spirits and that's what helps us play at a high level." Seabiscuit 21, Number 1 13 In a game that pitted the all-male Seabiscuit team against the all-female Number 1 team, the matchup proved to be a battle of more than just the sexes. Wednesday night's game was one that set height against speed. Ultimately, Seabiscuit's height was the deciding factor in the team's 21-13 victory. "We couldn't stop them inside," Saint Mary's senior Katie Boyce of Number 1 said. "We just didn't have the height. I think if we had a chance to play them again, we would have used Caitlin Conaty more at the post and we would have alley-ooped Deirdre Mangan much more." Number 1 kept Seabiscuit racing up and down the court and played with an aggressive defense. With their strength lying in outside shooting, the Number 1's made the matchup more competitive than the score indicated. Saint Mary's senior Katie Boyce of Number 1 said she was proud of her teammates, saying they played with a lot of heart. "We were playing for every girl in America," Boyce said. But despite a hard-fought effort from Number 1, Seabiscuit secured a 14-11 advantage and kept their opponents at arm's length for the remainder of the game. "We came out flat in the second half, but after that we picked it up and pulled together," Stanford sophomore Kevin Fajii said. After their triumph over Number 1, the members of Seabiscuit walked off of the courts admittedly relieved. "We were just trying to retain our pride," Stanford senior Brandon McNee said. "They played really well." Stanford junior Tim Rohman agreed. "We had the luck of the Irish with us tonight," Rohman said. Peasant's quest 21, LA BAM 11 Sometimes the best offense is a good defense. Peasant's quest exemplified this mantra, capitalizing on their height advantage and dogged defense to create scoring opportunities. Peasant's quest utilized aggressive play and solid blocking to overcome their opponents' attempts at scoring. Although LA BAM showcased a solid passing game, they were unable to capitalize on their scoring opportunities. By half-time, Peasant's quest had the game in hand. The team jumped out to an early 15-5 advantage — a lead it never relinquished. Once Peasant's quest started making shots, they afforded LA BAM little opportunity for scoring. The team quickly gained control of the pace of the game to wear out their opponents. Fueled by an especially potent offense in the second half, Peasant's quest walked up to the courts with a 21-11 win to extend their Books to Books Basketball run.

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Interested in sports? Want to write for the Observer?

Call Mike at 1-4543.
Line
continued from page 28

Field come next fall.
"We got a lot of young guys on the d-line ... everybody's fighting for position," Leitko said. "For me, I want to be starting, I want to be out there on the d-line.
"It's all about making plays. I'm getting the defenses down, competing is the clear word here. The intensity in practice that Leitko and Frome have shown thus far battling for a starting spot come next season is not exclusive to the two.

There are a lot of players who have been working hard in order to both live up to expectations and earn playing time.

Justin Brown, a current 6-foot-3, 240-pound freshman defensive end/linebacker, has impressed defensive coordinator Rick Minter to the point where he is throwing his name out there with Leitko and Frome.

"We got Leitko and Frome competing right now, and they are both doing a good, solid, steady job," Minter said. "You've got Justin Brown (who's a little bit limited in terms of a minor injury. He's the youngest of that lot too, and that shows up, but he's got some promise. I like the way Brown is beginning to show up, he's just a pup.

A lot of questions regarding the defensive line will undoubtedly be answered as the spring practices progress.

But whatever happens, it will not be for lack of intensity or effort from the Irish players.

Charlie Weis
head coach

"The most important thing is for people to understand that nasty is not a negative, nasty is a positive."

Notes:
♦ After practice, Coach Charlie Weis addressed the issue of the "Get Nasty" wristbands that have been circulating around campus. He emphasized the connotation of the word nasty and also gave a little insight as to his son Charlie's thoughts on the matter.

"Somebody's making money off of me. My son called me up this morning and it was kinda funny, he goes, "Daddy, do you get a cut of that action?" and I said "No Charlie, I don't get a cut of that action," Weis said.

"I understand marketing and all that stuff, but I think the most important thing is for people to understand that nasty is not a negative, nasty is a positive."

♦ After practice on Monday, Weis spoke about how the offense was dominated by the defense. The team was coming off Sunday and Monday when they had not practiced.

The offense and defense broke out of their isolated drills early into practice Tuesday and lined up 11-on-11. Coach Weis was asked about why they had gone into that early in practice and Weis replied in a firm, matter of fact manner.

"We had 11-on-11 early today because I wasn't very happy about it yesterday," Weis said.

Field come next fall.
"We got a lot of young guys on the d-line ... everybody's fighting for position," Leitko said. "For me, I want to be starting, I want to be out there on the d-line.
"It's all about making plays. I'm getting the defenses down, competing is the clear word here. The intensity in practice that Leitko and Frome have shown thus far battling for a starting spot come next season is not exclusive to the two.

There are a lot of players who have been working hard in order to both live up to expectations and earn playing time.

Justin Brown, a current 6-foot-3, 240-pound freshman defensive end/linebacker, has impressed defensive coordinator Rick Minter to the point where he is throwing his name out there with Leitko and Frome.

"We got Leitko and Frome competing right now, and they are both doing a good, solid, steady job," Minter said. "You've got Justin Brown (who's a little bit limited in terms of a minor injury. He's the youngest of that lot too, and that shows up, but he's got some promise. I like the way Brown is beginning to show up, he's just a pup.

A lot of questions regarding the defensive line will undoubtedly be answered as the spring practices progress.

But whatever happens, it will not be for lack of intensity or effort from the Irish players.

Charlie Weis
head coach

"The most important thing is for people to understand that nasty is not a negative, nasty is a positive."

Notes:
♦ After practice, Coach Charlie Weis addressed the issue of the "Get Nasty" wristbands that have been circulating around campus. He emphasized the connotation of the word nasty and also gave a little insight as to his son Charlie's thoughts on the matter.

"Somebody's making money off of me. My son called me up this morning and it was kinda funny, he goes, "Daddy, do you get a cut of that action?" and I said "No Charlie, I don't get a cut of that action," Weis said.

"I understand marketing and all that stuff, but I think the most important thing is for people to understand that nasty is not a negative, nasty is a positive."

♦ After practice on Monday, Weis spoke about how the offense was dominated by the defense. The team was coming off Sunday and Monday when they had not practiced.

The offense and defense broke out of their isolated drills early into practice Tuesday and lined up 11-on-11. Coach Weis was asked about why they had gone into that early in practice and Weis replied in a firm, matter of fact manner.

"We had 11-on-11 early today because I wasn't very happy about it yesterday," Weis said.

2005 Nanovic Visiting European Lecturer

Louis-Jean Calvet

Tuesday, April 12, 5:00-6:30 pm
118 DeBartolo Hall

"Language Wars: Linguistic Politics and Globalization"

Professor Calvet is a leading scholar of sociolinguistics from the Université de Provence (Aix-Marseille).

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Denver
continued from page 28

All season, Corrigan has emphasized the Irish need to be consistent from start to finish in order to win. That consistency was not there against Dartmouth and will need to be there against Denver.

"We didn't play well at Dartmouth. If there was any consistency at Dartmouth, it was not on the positive side," Corrigan said. "[Denver] is one of those games — it's a league game that we need to win, and they need to win, frankly. So I think this is one of those games where you just find a way to get it done."

The Irish have only played one home game this season — a 22-6 romping of Butler — so the prospect of playing a game at Notre Dame tomorrow is exciting.

"In a year when we don't have a lot of home games, we're very excited to be home," Corrigan said. "[They're excited] to play in front of their friends and family here."

The game will begin at 4 p.m. at Moose Krause Stadium.

Contact Bobby Griffin
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THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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WHAT ELSE DOES THAT ARTICLE SAY?

IT SAYS "GIRLS OUTPERFORM "?

HOW IS YOUR PHILANTHROPY?

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE GOTTEN?

I TOLD YOU SO YOU BLOCKHEAD!

DILBERT

Peanuts

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Unlucky 13

Axford gives up six runs in one-third of an inning as Irish fall

By MATT LOZAR
Senior Staff Writer

Heading into Wednesday’s game against Ball State, Irish coach Paul Mainieri expected a wide range of possibilities for John Axford’s first start since 2003. Unfortunately for Mainieri and the Irish, Axford’s start came up on the disappointing end of the range.

Axford pitched 1/3 of an inning, walked five of the eight batters he faced and allowed six runs, five earned, as the Irish dug themselves too much of a hole in losing to the Cardinals 14-5 at Frank Eck Stadium.

“It’s just one of things where the kid needs to find his confidence again,” Mainieri said.

“I knew this was a possibility. He’s had some control issues in his whole career. Even when he was throwing great he had control issues.

“I knew the possibility existed that that could happen, but when it did it was just like for all he’s done for this program, I just needed to run him out there and give him a chance. Unfortunately, he just struggled like crazy. Once we got off to a bad start against a good ball club, it was an uphill battle.

“Just can’t give up on the kid,” Mainieri said.

Axford walked the first two he faced before a Brad Miller single scored Mike Sullivan to give Ball State its first run.

After two more walks, one of which forced in a run, Axford retired Chris Pesile on a foul pop out to Matt Edwards.

Then, Axford allowed another single and walked in another run before being removed for a pinch hitter.

Ross Brezovsky hits a line drive during Notre Dame’s game against Toledo Tuesday. The Irish lost to Ball State Wednesday.

“Definitely a blow out,” Axford said.

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

Irish hope to rebound from loss

Notre Dame takes on Denver in penultimate home game of season

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

It’s time to get serious.

“Time to,” Kevin Corrigan said.

Thad Matta confers with his players in the final moments of a win over Butler.

Deliver Thursday and Air Force Saturday.

The two games are imperative to Notre Dame’s chances of receiving an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament starting May 14.

If the Irish win out in their remaining four games, they will win the Great Western Lacrosse League and receive an automatic berth.

Before they worry about that, however, they will first have to defeat Denver 5-21, an extremely talented Great Western Lacrosse League team that has yet to play a league game.

“We’re going to face a real challenge,” Ahamiri said. “If we’re a good team too.”

The one-goal, 10-9 loss to Dartmouth was tough as the Irish allowed two goals in the final three minutes, but Corrigan is confident his team will be able to rebound.

“I think we’ll bounce back well,” Corrigan said. “I think that last weekend was a tough weekend, but I truly believe that our guys are excited.”

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LANCE MENGISTU/The Observer

Matt Malakoff delivers a pass downfield in the Irish’s 22-6 win over Butler in Loftus Sports Center on March 19.

Tournament in full swing on second day

Ballers crush Team 536; Seabiscuit also takes down Number 1

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

Fueled by an opportunistic offense and a patient defense, the Ballers overwhelmed Team 536, 21-11, Wednesday night.

Although the Ballers seemed a little unsure in the first minutes of the game, they quickly recovered and gained enough composure to pull ahead of their stumbling opponents, 6-3. From that point on, a win seemed certain as the Ballers extended their lead.

Off-campus junior fan Matt Goulet was quick to point out attributes that made the Ballers so successful.

“We have taller guys, the other team is drunk (and) the other team smoked at halftime,” Goulet said. “It’s pretty much a blowout.”

The Ballers combined a solid short game and a number of key steals to extend their lead.

“Righe now we got Chris Tuck. After all, it’s a new season,” Kim Corrigan said. “But I not sure how it’s going to be when the season comes around, but hopefully we’ll have a nice rotation going and keeping guys fresh in there.”

The emphasis then shifted secret to Letko, who expressed his own desire to be on the playing see LINE/page 26

BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL XXXIV

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MEN’S LACROSSE

Irish hope to rebound from loss

Notre Dame takes on Denver in penultimate home game of season

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

Now it’s time to build a new identity, and I’m trying to become one of the anchor points of the defensive line.

Turk’s absence has created a situation in which a number of players are vying for a chance to take his place.

As of now, Chris Frome and Travis Leitko appear to be the front-runners.

“Right now we got Chris Frome working on the right side, and we got Travis Leitko working on that side,” Irish defensive line coach Jappy Oliver said. “Those two are competing well, and I’ve been pleased with their progress right now.”

Ahamiri echoed his coach’s thoughts.

“We’re rotating a lot to see what kind of abilities everyone has, giving everybody equal chances,” Ahamiri said. “I’m not sure how it’s going to be when the season comes around, but hopefully we’ll have a nice rotation going and keeping guys fresh in there.”

The emphasis then shifted secret to Letko, who expressed his own desire to be on the playing see LINE/page 26

GREENS

BETHEL WEIRNE/THE OBSERVER

Marty Landres overwhelmed the Mt. St. Mary’s defense for a three-run win.