Lovitt granted clemency by Va. governor

Notre Dame students worked on death row case, met convict

By MADIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

Convicted murderer Robin Lovitt waited weeks of Notre Dame students’ come and go through the University’s Washington Program while cycles of legal appeals bought him time on death row — until the day before his scheduled execution, when Virginia Gov. Mark Warner, troubled by the destruction of DNA evidence granted Lovitt clemency.

See Also
“Va. governor spares man’s life” page 3

Lovitt was slated to be the 1000th person executed in the United States since the Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976, a distinction that drew national media coverage in recent weeks.

“In this case, the actions of an agent of the Commonwealth, in a manner contrary to the express direction of the law, comes at the expense of a defendant facing society’s most severe and final sanction,” Warner said in the statement.

“The Commonwealth must ensure that every time this ultimate sanction is carried out, it is done fairly.”

Approximately 40 Notre Dame students have met Lovitt — who was convicted in 1999 of murdering a man with a pair of scissors — while taking Professor Tom Kellenberg’s capital punishment litigation course in the Washington Program. Two of those students, seniors Christian O’Brien and Ryan Finlen, have been following Lovitt’s case closely since meeting him in fall 2004.

“I’m ecstatic,” O’Brien said. “I think it’s definitely the right decision. They worked tirelessly on that. He’s a great guy.”

Kirkland & Ellis, a D.C. law firm headed by double Domer Tom Yannucci, handled Lovitt’s defense, and so did former Whitewater independent counsel Ken Starr.

Finlen returned to D.C. this summer as an intern for Kirkland & Ellis, which spent 10 weeks working on Lovitt’s clemency petition. He had been at Kirkland & Ellis for slightly more than a month when the Supreme Court granted Lovitt a stay on July 11, his original execution date.

“Of course, I was extremely happy,” Finlen said of the July 11 decision, which came hours before the scheduled execution.

The Court’s Oct. 3 decision not to hear Lovitt’s case came

ND offers elective aviation course

By RYAN SYDLIK
News Writer

Posters publicizing Fundamentals of Aviation — a relatively unknown course offered through the Notre Dame Pilot Initiative — read “Fly Like a Champion Today” and encourage students to learn to fly for elective credit.

Though the University first offered a ground aviation course in 1973, the course ended in 1977 because no professor remained to teach it.

But in recent years, the course has returned, thanks to the efforts of former Notre Dame student and currently licensed pilots Joe Friel, Jeff Newcamp and Brian McCarthy.

While at Notre Dame, the men taught the undergraduate course, under the guidance of Air Force Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) professor Col. Michael Zerk.

The course is currently taught by Dillon senior Lauren Centioli.

“I got involved my freshman year when I saw the posters for NDPI,” Centioli said. “Since [Friel] was graduating that year, the course would have ceased to exist if I had not come around. He asked me if I would teach it and I said yes.”

Centioli, a certified commercial pilot, flight instructor and ground instructor, said the program is an advanced ground school.

“Other programs teach you just what you need to know to pass the private pilot’s exam,” he said. “This class goes above and beyond that. The scope is beyond that of simply passing the FAA test.”

The purpose of the course is to fulfill one of the major requirements for a pilot’s license, Centioli said. With Fundamentals of Aviation

Students begin planning for spring break

Anthony Travel books students early for vacation destinations

By LAURA BAUMGARTNER
News Writer

The holiday season has arrived and brought with it a cold, snowy South Bend winter — leaving many students dreaming of sun, sand, surf and 80-degree temperatures as they make spring break vacation plans.

Nearly 100 students have already booked vacations through Anthony Travel, said Kayleen Carr, leisure manager for the agency.

“Typically we see about 600 students book through us per year,” Carr said.

Carr said cruises and destinations in Mexico are usually the most popular vaca-

Anthony Travel, the travel agency located in LaFortune Student Center, already has planned spring break trips for nearly 300 students.

SEA seeks to lower emissions

Group joins Campus Climate Challenge

By JOE PIARULLI
News Writer

When it comes to Notre Dame, the word ‘admission’ holds much more bearing than the word ‘emission.’ But the Students for Environmental Action (SEA) are trying to give the latter more attention.

SEA co-president Nichole Mitchell recently decided to get Notre Dame involved in Campus Climate Challenge, a campaign through U.S. Public Interest Research Groups (PIRG), with the hope of reducing emissions on campus.

Greenhouse gases naturally occur in the atmosphere and include water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone. But certain human activities add to the levels of these gases in the atmosphere, which can contribute to the formation of greenhouse gases and — become the emissions the Campus Climate Challenge is aiming to control.

The goal of Campus Climate Challenge is to get over 200 universities to lower their emissions by 2 percent each year below their 2005 levels in order to eliminate global warming pollution. There are currently 139 campuses involved nationwide.

“Energy conservation is a worldwide initiative right now,” Mitchell said. “We’re involved in a very ambitious and intelligent student body and we could really make a big difference.”

Some schools have gone as far as switching to renewable energy sources, while others
I can still hear the warnings, the strict advice that I would receive every holiday season as a child. It came from my parents, teachers and virtually every adult I knew, and it was the art of getting everything you wanted from Santa. 

"If you are a bad girl, you will get nothing but coal from Santa," they scolded me. I could not even escape the questioning from the old man himself, for there is not a child in the world that sits on Santa's lap without him asking if they had, in fact, been a good boy or girl that year.

For the first seven years of my life, Santa Clause was pretty much equivalent to God in my mind. I was constantly told that he was watching every move, knowing if I had been bad or good. I sang songs about him, baked cookies for him, and even wrote long detailed letters to him. I was basically worshipping the man.

As the years passed, the letters stopped, I realized I cannot sing and I ate the Christmas cookies that I baked. I decided to paint my cows, decided to paint his cows, decided to paint his cows and his animals to stand out — and once I had the time to write a letter to Santa, what would I ask for?

For starters, nothing I want would come from Toys-R-Us.

I would probably ask for Albert Einstein or any other genius from the past few centuries to miraculously take my final exams for me.

Next would possibly be the relocation of South Bend to somewhere a little more exotic than Indiana ... perhaps Costa Rica?

And finally, I would ask for that blue Volkswagen Jetta I have desired for so long. My wish list is definitely nothing equivalent to God in my mind. I was basically worshipping the man.

In a Nov. 29 article, a broadcast journalism class was invited to Appleton to work on a public service announcement stemming from claims filed in the 1980s. The suspect told police that he was riding his bicycle when he lost control and fell from it, describing the incident in a way that would be admitted in court.

The Danse Company of Notre Dame will perform Thursday and Friday at 7 p.m. in Washington Hall. The performance, entitled "Souls," will feature various genres of dance, including jazz, lyrical and modern. General admission tickets are $5 and reserved seating is $5. Tickets are available at the door or in advance by contacting Ashley Lurceh at dance@nd.edu.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to observer@nd.edu.
Va. governor spares man's life

Lovitt, set to become 1,000th person executed in U.S., granted clemency

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. Virginia's governor on Tuesday spared the life of a convicted killer who would have been the 1,000th person executed in the United States since the Supreme Court allowed capital punishment to resume in 1976.

Robert Lovitt, set to become the 1,000th person executed in the United States since the Supreme Court allowed capital punishment to resume in 1976. (Associated Press)

RICHMOND, Va. Virginia's governor on Tuesday spared the life of a convicted killer who would have been the 1,000th person executed in the United States since the Supreme Court allowed capital punishment to resume in 1976.

Gov. Mark R. Warner, a Democrat, had never before granted clemency in a death row inmate during his four years in office. During that time, 11 men have been executed.

Virginia is one of the most active death penalty states, having executed 94 people since 1976.

The 999th execution since capital punishment resumed in 1976 was scheduled for Friday in North Carolina, where Kenneth Lee Boyd is slated to die for killing his estranged wife and her father.

The 1999th execution since capital punishment resumed a generation ago took place on Tuesday morning, when Ohio put to death John Hicks, who strangled his mother-in-law and suffocated his 5-year-old stepdaughter to cover up the crime.

Lovitt's lawyers, who include former independent counsel Kenneth Starr, and anti-death penalty advocates had argued that his life should be spared because a court clerk illegally destroyed the bloody scissors and other evidence, preventing DNA testing that they said could exonerate him.

Ashley Parrish, another ofLovitt's attorneys, called Warner's decision "entirely proper, given the extraordinary circumstances of Mr. Lovitt's case.

Lovitt was convicted in 1999 of murdering Clayton Dicks at an Arlington pool hall. Prosecutors said Dicks got Lovitt to open a cash register with the scissors, which police found in the woods between the pool hall and the home of Lovitt's cousin.

Lovitt admitted grabbing the cash box but insisted someone else killed Dicks. DNA tests on the scissors at the time of the trial were inconclusive. But more sophisticated DNA techniques are now available.

The governor, who is considered a possible Democratic presidential contender in 2008, said he was "acutely aware of the tragic loss experienced by the Dicks family.

"However, evidence in Mr. Lovitt's trial was destroyed by a court employee" before post-conviction DNA tests could be done, he said. "The actions of an agent of the commonwealth, in a manner contrary to the express direction of the law, comes at the expense of a defendant facing society's most severe and final sanction.

"I wish they spent their time and money elsewhere."

A message left at the home of Jeanine Nicarico's parents was not immediately returned.

After Cruz's acquittal, seven DuPage County prosecutors and law officers were charged in 1996 with lying and fabricating evidence against Cruz in what prosecutors described as a conspiracy to railroad him for the crime. All seven were cleared in 1999 after a high-profile trial.

Crucial murder convictions overturned

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. — Key murder convictions against a Chicago Convicted murderer indicited for '83 slaying

Associated Press

WHEATON, Ill. — A convicted murderer was indicted Tuesday for the 1983 beating death of a 10-year-old girl in the Chicago suburbs, the latest development in a case that put a spotlight on Illinois' capital punishment system.

Brian Dugan, 49, was charged with 15 counts in the killing of Jeanine Nicarico, whose slaying attracted national attention after two men were convicted and sent to death row, then freed later years.

"This is the result of a full and open-minded investigation of the facts and circumstances of this case," DuPage County State's Attorney Joseph Birkett said.

"I'm saddened but not surprised," McCulloch said of the indictment. "I think it's a terrible waste of time and energy. I wish they spent their time and money elsewhere."

A message left at the home of Jeanine Nicarico's parents was not immediately returned.

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Stop AIDS Keep the Promise.

Sponsored by Africa Faith and Justice Network, AIDS Awareness, Center for Asian Studies, Class of 2006, Class of 2007, College of Arts and Letters, Latin Studies, Preprofessional Studies, Preprofessional Society, Running Club, Sociology Department, Student Government, Theological Department
Challenge
continued from page 1
have focused on increasing environmental awareness. Since Notre Dame just joined the challenge, the pri-
mary focus this year will be on education, specifically in the dorms. "The Students for Environmental Action has had this ongoing competition between the dorms to reduce electricity, so whatever dorm wins gets some form of prize," Mitchell said. "That's been going on for a really long time but not many people know about it.
Part of the goal this year is to increase awareness of that competition, but in the follow-
ing years, SEA will need more large-scale projects to reduce emissions, Mitchell said.
While the students will be the ones actually working toward emission reductions, the SEA will need cooperation from others around campus. "Hopefully the teachers are going to be the ones who talk with me to administrators," Mitchell said. "That's who it really needs to go through, is administrators."
Laura Fuderer, a member of the Environment Group of the PFSA (Progressive Faculty-Staff Alliance), said the environmental groups on campus should work together to come up with ways of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
The Environment Group of the PFSA is indeed hoping to work with the SEA on what-
ever projects they propose that might make the Notre Dame community aware of the potential impact of global warming," she said. "That might then help us to reduce our contribution to the causes of global warming."
For Fuderer, the motivation behind the movement is quite clear. "It's because we believe, as stewards of this earth, we can find a more sustainable bal-
ance between the consumption of the Earth's resources and humanities needs for a healthy environment," she said. "As a major pro-
ducer of the world's carbon dioxide, our country has an obligation to re-
duce carbon dioxide output."
Mitchell said Notre Dame and other college campuses are obviously parts of that output, and there are many ways they can help reduce carbon dioxide emissions.
"Notre Dame is becoming more and more environmentally conscious through fac-
ulty and students, but energy is a big issue we need to take into consideration," Mitchell said. The SEA hopes to raise awareness about the Campus Climate Challenge and get student input next semester by starting an educational campaign.
"For this year, we only have four months left, so education of energy conservation would be a big enough goal for us," Mitchell said.

Break
continued from page 1
tion choices among students. "Puerto Vallarta and Cabo San Lucas have also been very popular," she said. "Because the more people we get to go, the more the cost is already covered by others."

Aviation
continued from page 1
being counted as ground school, a student is able to continue to flight school and get his or her license.
"We cover everything need-
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Contact Joe Piarulli at jpiarull@nd.edu

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Auditions!
for
Burial at Thebes
(Antigone)
by Seamus Heaney

For further details and to arrange an audition time please contact:
Dr. Andrew Faulkner
faulkner.3@nd.edu
631-7692

Want to write for The Observer? Call 1-5323.

Through the stereotypical trip to Acapulco for spring break, it's really just all about the money." Centioli said.

MALINDA MAHER
Notre Dame sophomore
Some students said they are looking to go to Arizona. "I'll probably just go to Arizona to visit my grandma," Saint Mary's junior Emily Addis, a Saint Mary's sophomore. "Our spring break will be two weeks of nonstop travel throughout as much of Europe as we can possibly see."

Other students are using their break to get away from school and visit family or rela-
”I'll probably just go to Arizona to visit my grandma,” Saint Mary’s junior Emily Griesemer said. “My friend and I are planning on going on a summer abroad program, so I have to do something inexpensive, like go to Arizona.

Contact Laura Baungartner at lbamgmr1@stmarys.edu

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JUNIOR FARRAND, one of the most sea-

signed pilots in the United States and the first to fly a powered parachute; Richard Levy, a Boeing 777 captain; and Col. Mel DeMar, a former Marine One pilot who served two tours in which he trans-

ported now-former Presidents Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford, George H. W. Bush and Bill

Clinton.

In addition to visits by guests, the students also get to take a trip to the South Bend Regional Airport to see the control tower and static air-
craft displays. For those interested in the course, AS 30098 is offered Monday and Wednesday from 3:00 to 4:15 p.m.

Contact Ryan Sydlik at
rysdlik@nd.edu

"Our spring break will be two weeks of nonstop travel as much of Europe as we can possibly see."

"Our spring break will be two weeks of nonstop travel throughout as much of Europe as we can possibly see."

"Our spring break will be two weeks of nonstop travel throughout as much of Europe as we can possibly see."

EMILY ADDIS
Saint Mary's junior
"Our spring break will be two weeks of nonstop travel throughout as much of Europe as we can possibly see."

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GIFTS for the holidays
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

French tighten immigration rules

PARIS — The French premier on Tuesday announced tightened controls on immigration, part of his government's response to the country's worst civil unrest in four decades.

Authorities will increase enforcement of requirements that immigrants seeking 10-year residency permits or French citizenship must the French language and integrate into society, Dominique de Villepin said.

France also plans to crack down on fraudulent marriages that some immigrants use to acquire residency rights and launch a stricter screening process for foreign students, Villepin said.

Anti-racism groups widely opposed the measures, saying that greater government scrutiny of immigrants could stir up racism and racial animosity.

Both Villepin and Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy have announced law-and-order measures that the president and his administration are expected to run for president in 2007, and both want to appeal to a broader base, which may include the right-wing voters who have dominated France's elections for decades.

Opposition group quits election bid

BRASILIA, Brazil — Three Venezuelan opposition leaders have pulled out of congressional elections Tuesday, five days before the vote, saying the conditions are tilted toward President Hugo Chavez.

The government insisted Sunday's elections would benefit residents and small businesses in depressed suburbs where many immigrants live. The two — both members of President Jacques Chirac's conservative party — are expected to run for president in 2007, and both want to appeal to a broader base, which may include the right-wing voters who have dominated France's elections for decades.

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Clinton defends policy on Iraq war

WASHINGTON — Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton on Tuesday defended her vote on authorizing war in Iraq amid growing unease among liberal Democrats who could deter the president and his administration to authorize war in Iraq amid growing unease among liberal Democrats who could deter the president and his administration from running for re-election.

The vote was the most recent in a string of congressional votes that have pushed the war to the top of the public's agenda.

The president is to outline a strategy for "the long haul," in today's world, that "will create morale problems among our soldiers and will cost us an even greater priest shortage in the United States.

The Rev. James Martin, a Catholic, who has written books on the issue, said American theologians, canon lawyers and other Roman Catholics "will not be able to accept the idea of staying in Iraq for very long."

Martin predicted a "slow, silent attrition among celibate gay men who cannot accept the idea of staying in an organization that denies them their existence in the priesthood."

Foreman of America's National Gay and Lesbian Task Force called the document "appalling," saying it was an affront to thousands of gay priests who have written letters about the war.

At the same time, she said the United States must "finish what it started in Iraq."}

VATICAN CITY

Vatican defends policy on gay priests

Vatican City to impose jury duty fines

The Vatican released a policy statement designed to keep men with "deep-seated" homosexual tendencies from becoming priests, but said it would not lead to a crackdown on gays who are already ordained.

The Vatican document, the first major policy statement of Pope Benedict XVI's papacy, was officially released Tuesday after being leaked earlier. Conservatives have said it may help reverse the "gay culture" of many U.S. seminaries, while liberals complain the restrictions will create moral problems among men and women and lead to an even greater priest shortage in the United States.

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At the same time, she said the United States must "finish what it started in Iraq." City launches new wireless network

NEW ORLEANS — To boost its stalled economy, hurricane-ravaged New Orleans is offering the nation's first free wireless network owned and run by a major city.

Mayor Ray Nagin said Thursday the system would benefit residents and small businesses who still can't get their Internet service restored over the city's washed out telephone network, while showing the nation "that we are building New Orleans back."

The system started operation Tuesday in the city's busiest district near the French Quarter. It's to be available throughout the city in about a year.

LOCAL NEWS

County to impose jury duty fines

NEW ORLEANS — The president said Tuesday a U.S. military pullout from Iraq would be a terrible mistake, beginning a new push defending his embattled war policy. His Pentagon chief said, "Quitting is not an option."

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said of the Iraqis, "They don't want them to come home with­out having achieved victory."

His speech Wednesday at Annapolis, Md., was to focus on progress in the effort to train an Iraqi security force and allow the gradual exit of U.S. military forces.

Rumsfeld's speech followed a bruising weekend when the president's approval rating fell to 30 percent, the lowest of his presidency.

In June, Bush delivered a prime­time address from Fort Bragg, N.C., on the first anniversary of Iraq's sov­ereignty. Later in the summer, the president tried to blunt the message of anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan, who camped outside his Texas ranch.

And I want our troops to come home," the president said, "But I don't want them to come home without having achieved victory."

Bush's Military to not leave Iraq without victory

Decasons of the Rome Diocese lie in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican during ordination cel­ebrated by Pope John Paul II in 2004. The Vatican released a document Tuesday prohibiting men "with 'deep-seated' homosexual tendencies from becoming priests."

The Vatican made the position according to which the homosexual condition is a normal condition for the human being, as if it were nearly a third gender. Cardinal Zenon Grocholewski told Vatican Radio.

He also made clear the Vatican's intention was for candidates for the priest­hood and not someone who "de­velops homosexuals after having been ordained."

The official "Instruction" from the Congregation for Catholic Education was released a week after an Italian Catholic news agency posted a leaked copy on its Web site.

The document has been in the works for years, but its existence came to light in 2002 at the height of the clergy sex abuse scandal in the United States. A study commissioned by U.S. bish­ops found most abuse vic­tims since 1950 were ado­lescent boys.

Experts on sex offenders say homosexuals are no more likely than heterosex­uals to molest young peo­ple, but that did not stifle questions about gay semi­narians.

The instruction said men "who practice homosexuality, present deep-seated homosexual tendencies or support the so-called 'gay culture' cannot be admit­ted to seminaries. The only exception would be for those with a "transitory problem" that had been overcome for at least three years.

The head of the education congregation defended the document as a clear reflec­tion of long-standing church teaching, saying that, "in this field, in today's world, there is some confusion.'"

Many defend the position according to which the homosexual condition is a normal condition for the human being, as if it were nearly a third gender.

Cardinal Cardinal Zenon Grocholewski told Vatican Radio.

He also made clear the Instruction was intended for candidates for the priest­hood and not someone who "de­velops homosexuals after having been ordained."
Lovitt continued from page 1

as "kind of a blow, really," Finlen said. "One more option cut off."

Lovitt's case focused largely on an Arlington court clerk's destruction of DNA evidence that defense attorneys said could have been used in his appeal to prove the innocence Lovitt has maintained from the beginning.

Other controversial aspects of the case included the validity of a jailhouse snitch's testimony, something the Supreme Court has explicitly required in the past, Starr told The Observer last April.

Finlen is "absolutely thrilled" with Warner's decision and called it "great news" for both Lovitt and his attorneys.

Kirkland & Ellis also released a statement Tuesday commending Warner's decision as "entirely proper given the extraordinary circumstances of Mr. Lovitt's case."

But while Lovitt's sentence was commuted, Finlen said he thought the decision could actually strengthen Virginia's capital punishment system.

"Robbin is saved, but on the other hand, this may provide a legitimate to the death penalty in Virginia," Finlen said. "Proposition [of the death penalty] will likely say that the governor's actions indicate that God's act of mercy against Lovitt and the judicial system do not provide with Warner's decision and the extraordinary circumstances of a jailhouse snitch's testimony."

"You don't have a federal constitutional right to be released from custody because you're innocent," Tidmarsh said. "It may sound bizarre, but it's true...as long as procedural aspects are fair."

Garnett mentioned debate about racial issues, that some people argue the current system is not "colorblind.

Arnold said his experience working on Lovitt's case and researching the death penalty for a project through the Illinois Program in Public Service opened his eyes to different sides of the issue and shifted his perspective.

"We have to have a foolproof system, or you can't have one at all," he said.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhamana@nd.edu

Professor sheds light on infant co-sleeping

If sleepless nights and stretch marks aren't enough, new mothers also can expect a litany of unsolicited and often unencouraging opinions and judgments on the best way to care for their babies.

"Baby sleeping next to parents can actually strengthen Virginia's capital punishment system."

"Babies have been executed," Arnold said. "We have sent some people to their death."

Law professor Jay Tidmarsh said while "there's always argument about whether it's literally the death penalty is really a deterrent", innocence is a different kind of argument.

"If we use the term of innocence, it doesn't necessarily mean freedom from punishment."

"You don't have a federal constitutional right to be released from custody because you're innocent," Tidmarsh said. "It may sound bizarre, but it's true...as long as procedural aspects are fair."

"You don't have a federal constitutional right to be released from custody because you're innocent," Tidmarsh said.

Garnett mentioned debate about racial issues, that some people argue the current system is not "colorblind.

"I'm inclined to agree with the late Pope, "he said. "It's a change from its earlier position issued in February of this year, and now cautions against "any and all mother-infant bed sharing."

Along with that reversal came the recommendation that all babies use pacifiers during sleep — quite a change from its earlier position, which recommended against pacifiers during sleep — quite a change from its earlier position issued in February of this year, and now cautions against "any and all mother-infant bed sharing."

"The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), regarded by many as the authority on infant well-being, recently reversed recommendations it issued earlier this year, and now cautions against "any and all mother-infant bed sharing."

"The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), regarded by many as the authority on infant well-being, recently reversed recommendations it issued earlier this year, and now cautions against "any and all mother-infant bed sharing."

"The AAP "one-size-fits-all" recommendation certainly has failed to learn tragic lessons from our past," says McKenna.

Confusing, isn't it?

Anthropologist James McKenna, director of Notre Dame's Mother-Baby Behavioral Sleep Laboratory and a renowned expert on infant co-sleeping, breast-feeding and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), served as one of three expert panel members for the AAP committee that made this most recent recommendation against bed-sharing.

"The truth is, not all families and babies are the same," he said. "Bed sharing is a heterogeneous practice with outcomes ranging from lethal when practiced unsafely to being beneficial and protective when practiced safely."

McKenna considers infant co-sleeping unsafe when either or both parents are chemically impaired; if the mother smokes, drinks a glass of wine; or is reclusive with a baby, when babies are placed on the same pillow, when other children are permitted to sleep in the same bed; or if the baby is placed on his or her back — prone — or tummy — position to sleep.

"The AAP "one-size-fits-all" recommendation certainly has failed to learn tragic lessons from our past," says McKenna.
Goldman Sachs builds headquarters

NEW YORK — Goldman Sachs broke ground Tuesday on its $2.4 billion headquarters near the World Trade Center site, which state leaders hope will serve as the catalyst to lure other financial companies to millions of dollars of proposed office space.

U.S. officials said they had nixed many other options to build the headquarters, including a second, nearby farm as well. Several Asian countries that quickly followed U.S. lead now are expected to relax their bans as well. Opening statements for the plaintiff — Vioxx’s widow — Evelyn Unklott Plunkett — took an hour and Merck defending about the same time.

The case is in Houston rather than its original venue of New Orleans because of damage wrought by Hurricane Katrina.

Merck faces start of third Vioxx trial

HOUSTON — A lawyer representing the widows of a man who claims that Merck’s Cox-2 anti-inflammatory caused his husband’s death argued on Tuesday that the pain reliever for one month was enough to cause the 52-year-old man’s heart attack.

The Merck counter that opened in opening statements at the first federal Vioxx trial earlier this year is scheduled for completion in 2009.

The headquarters, with 2.1 million square feet of office space to house at least 9,000 employees, is scheduled for completion in 2009.

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MINNEAPOLIS — The boy who shot and killed nine people at a Michigan high school this week has now been charged with first-degree murder.

The 16-year-old boy, who police have not named, is being held at the Chippewa County Jail in New Ulm, Minn. He is accused of shooting and killing nine people, including eight students and one teacher, at Red Lake High School on Wednesday.

The shooting occurred during the school day, and the boy was later arrested by police.

The school was put on lockdown after the shooting, and all students were evacuated from the building. The boy was taken into custody at the scene.

Local authorities are investigating the shooting, and the FBI has been called in to assist.

The shooting is the latest in a series of mass shootings in the United States, including the shooting at a school in Parkland, Florida, last year that killed 17 people.

The shooting in Red Lake has sparked outrage and condolences from across the country.

In a statement, U.S. President Joe Biden said, "This is a sad day for the town of Red Lake and for the entire country. My thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims and all those affected by this senseless violence."
Debate over nuclear power begins

Associated Press

LONDON — Prime Minister Tony Blair opened a fierce debate on energy and the environment Tuesday, saying the British government will consider building a new generation of nuclear power plants.

In a speech briefly delayed by anti-nuclear activists, Blair said an energy study due to be finished next week would look specifically at nuclear power.

He acknowledged that reconsideration of a long-standing move away from the use of atomic reactors to generate electricity is a "difficult and challenging" move.

"What we need is a serious debate on energy and the environment," Blair said. "That debate will begin today.

"We have to begin to rethink that sort of energy policy," he said, "because it's costly, dangerous and a key contributor to global warming.

"We need to have nuclear energy, but the country's 12 nuclear power plants are aging and unless replaced will provide only 4 percent of electricity by 2010," Blair said.

David Willetts, trade and industry spokesman for the opposition Conservative Party, said the energy review was crucial.

"People want to know that when they flick the switch the light will come on, that their fuel bills are affordable; and that we are meeting our targets to cut carbon dioxide emissions," he said.

"But while assassinations and car bombings have raged, and abductions of foreigners had fallen off in Iraq as most Westerners and some Iraqis took refuge in heavily guarded compounds, the issue back on the agenda," he said.

"Since Friday, however, 11 foreigners, including an American, have been abducted — six were Iranians — and "it's costly, dangerous and a key contributor to global warming," Blair said.

"But if true, such a move would not be the answer to climate change — it's costly, dangerous and a key contributor to global warming," Blair said.

The British prime minister's last energy speech was the same day a television station displayed a photo of two British children kidnapped by an unconfirmed group calling itself the Swords of Righteousness and "We are very strict about abductions of foreigners, including Americans," Blair said.

The group's first activists held hostage

Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — After a morning hiatus in the kidnapping of foreigners, television stations showed Westerners held captive: A German archaeologist who was once an executive in a Nigerian oil company and a French peace activist were shown in another blurry tape.

The latest attacks are part of a new wave of kidnappings and killings that is aimed at disrupting next month's national elections.

There was another violent Tuesday: Two American soldiers were killed by a roadside bomb north of Baghdad, a Sunni cleric was assassinated and a suicide car bomber killed eight Iraqi soldiers and wounded five.

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"We are angry because what has happened to our hostages is being completely ignored by the German government and we would "ultimately take it to the German government and we would ultimately take it to the German government and we would be prepared to take all legal measures that may be necessary," the group said.

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Privately public

Kamaria Porter

One of the things I think I’ll miss the most about college will be the sheer joy of having your friends run around with you on your mundane errands. So many times, friends have asked me to walk with them to turn in papers or buy a magazine from the bookstore; and that’s totally normal. Our lives are not inundated with so many personal tasks daily so we gladly share each other’s tasks. Also we turn every thing into a chance to be with each other and converse—hence studying groups, cooking parties and errand pairing.

However, I fear we shall see the last of errand pairing when college is over. For example, one day I went with a friend to the salon while she got her hair cut. I had nothing else to do and it was on campus. Yet, if I were living in Chicago and my friend asked me to come to watch her get her hair cut on the other side of town, I would definitely decline.

When you leave a place like Notre Dame, which is extremely communal and sharing, your identity and time you would be most tied with the things you need and want to do. The question is not “How can I spend as much time with others as possible?” but, “How can I spend my time most wisely to maximize my patience?” While we may still strive to strike the hours with companions, the demands of work and rest may keep us from late night grocery runs with our friends.

Yet, there is a distinct beauty of errand pairing. Going to the store or the pest office can be so boring. You are in a place surrounded by people, but it is not normal to be talking with them. The loneliness of errand running probably explains why parents drag their unwitting children to bulk shopping at Target—any companionship is preferred when shopping. In 16 packs of paper towels (critiquing the merits of stockpile shopping will follow).

Also, errand loneliness disorder has caused the rise in cell phone usage. In absence of actual people to talk to, people shop and dial, most annoyingly on those hands-free things, bewilder the other shoppers bearing the errand-running on their own. When people are looking right at me, talking right at me, and there is no one else around, I usually speak back—to my embarrassment.

Therefore, a friend and I have devised a way to keep errand pairing alive and well. With so many searching for dates on Match.com, Yahoo personals and the like for what Mother Nature intended to occur in bars, parties and coffee shops, why not use the internet to match people who want an errand companion together? This could be the answer for so many dreading going to the farmers market one more time without someone to compare fresh squash with. The website could also list what type of errands you like to do and find an adequate partner for you. If you love going to used record stores, weird alternative spirit stores for tarot cards or street fairs, your errand profile would state that. You could also vary the people running these errands. For example, you have a killer voice. Yet, never speaking to people in public spaces pretty ridiculous too.

Kamaria Porter is a senior history major. This piece goes out to everyone writing long papers cram-style, especially Ben Zermet — You can do it! Also, Stephen Smith, the last action hero. Good luck on the 11th. Thanks for the emails and shout outs, Notre Dame—you’re beautiful.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON

IT’S THE LATEST SUV FROM GM. IT SEATS 30,000.

LAFAYETTE QUIZ:

"Dictators ride to and fro upon tigers and lions. You dare not dispute the right to disagree. That is how the tyranny of the majority operates." — Sir Winston Churchill
Two weeks ago, The Observer ran a series of articles discussing residence life infractions and punishments at Notre Dame ("Crime and Punishment," Nov. 11-18). One of the issues that seemed to be addressed, both directly and indirectly, was the role of a rector in students' lives.

It's hard to define the role of a rector because they are disciplinarians. The rectors play a much more informal role in our lives than the cops. They know us better than the cops do. They're there for us when we need someone to talk to about big issues or emotional distress — definitely not like the cops.

The problem is, that ambiguity makes it very tempting to think of a rector like a mother or a father. But rectors are not mothers and fathers, either. Thinking of a rector in that way is what can cause people to get upset when their rector "doesn't love them" or "doesn't forgive them" or "doesn't let something slide." Maybe our moms forgive us for having hard alcohol in the dorm, but our rectors don't.

This is something that has been really hard for me personally to deal with: Defining my rector's role in my own life. When she responds to things that I do, it is hard for me to understand her responses, because she doesn't treat me like the cops do, but she doesn't treat me like my mom does, either. I guess the important thing to keep in mind is, if I'm having trouble defining my rector's role in my life, think of how much harder it must be for her to play that ambiguous role. I realize more and more: A rector is a role that deserves just as much respect as a cop — and just as much gratitude as a mother.

Kathryn Kemmetz
Lisa Hall
(Nov. 29)

U-Wire

A high concentration of football fans in one place turns us into cavemen, shedding our intelligence like a bad habit. We swagger, we swear, we spew epithets at the other team — and that's just the girls. The boys get even nastier.

I also get to the stands once in a while. I felt myself regressing into a more primordial form. I locked eyes with a Ute fan and I had an urge to go for the jugular.

Then I saw this fan was eight years old and had big blue eyes. He was the cutest. As I went to find my seat, I gripped my ticket stub in my sweaty hand and looked at where my seat should have been. There was a girl standing on the bench, cell phone glued to her ear and Vans Voltan bag slung over one shoulder. I felt my fists clench and I waded into the crowd to claim my seat.

I looked over her hands on my hips, and looked her dead in the eye. I grinned manically and shook her out of my seat. I wasn't much of a victory, especially since I spent the next quarter with her purse comically nestled in my left armpit.

But not all fans are filled with the bloodlust of competition. For example, I saw a blonde who I swear was leasing brain cells by the minute, but that may not have been because of the football game. She had a high-fashion outfit — as out of place at a football game as a poinsettia dress at Church. She had a faux fur-lined marshmallow jacket and color-coordinated boots. "Faux Fur," as I like to call her, came with a hailing boyfriend with his hat on sideways (batteries not included).

I spotted the surrounding fans with a stream of witless conversation. When Fav Fur wasn't asking, "Where did you go Monday?" she was staring vacantly in the direction of the press box. During the half-time show the marching band played the U.S. National Anthem. The whole place erupted. She continued on her way without even a glance.

One only was genuinely concerned for my safety around the Wild Woman. There was a close-up on the wild woman's face, but not one made a point to elbow three people in order to make us get out of her way.

"Did somebody die?" she asked her boyfriend.

Then there was a girl I'll just call "Invade-your-space." We hadn't even exchanged names and she wanted a high-five after every good play and commiserated after every bad play. After she patted my head a couple of times, I was ready to call the Creep police. But instead, I just adopted a "You little creep." We didn't have to speak again. She disappeared into the crowd.

The overwhelming majority of the fans there had illegitimate children. Now, if you care so little about the future that you'd rather repeatedly risk a lot of future income for illegitimate kids than condoms, or the definition of childlike behavior — stay with —

Why fight drugs?

I completely agree with lan Bannister ("The cost of the real red war," Nov. 29) that the drug war has been a flashe, and that everything up to and including cocaine are".

The real issue that should be legislated is that the vast majority of people are rational. I have never had the "pleasure" of trying cocaine myself, but I know a lot of people who have, and the vast majority of them still lead normal (or, to most people, quasi-normal) functional lives, even if they might still indulge in it once or twice a year. Ditto for the one person I know who occasionally dipped into Diet Coke, the Milwauke"es "hillyard heroin." I honestly believe that most students at this top-50 college are getting frustrated by our legal definition of addiction. It's a lot easier to get in and have no rational basis to do so. When I did meatal labor at a large business over several high-school summertime jobs I knew the "off-campus" kids.

I was one of the few I minded utterly opposite from that of a student at a top-50 college. One worker had to pay garnishments to five different women for six different children (all illegitimate). The overwhelming majority of the workers there had illegitimate children.

It's hard to define the role of a rector because they are disciplinarians, but they are not the cops. Rectors play a much more informal role in our lives than the cops. They know us better than the cops do. They're there for us when we need someone to talk to about big issues or emotional distress — definitely not like the cops.

This editorial originally appeared in the Nov. 29 issue of The Daily Universe, the daily publication at Brigham Young University.

Alex Forsbaw

Staff Editorial

University of California — Berkeley "Daily Californian"

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Pointless petition

Refereedments are clearly being used well by our student body when they force the Associated Students of the University of California to waste time bargaining for lost causes. A student group's petition to authorize negotia-

This petition is pointless. For one thing, In-N-Out isn't really interested in coming to U.C. Berkeley. The fast food chain is reluctant to set up a shop at a site that would not allow a drive thru. What's more, In-N-Out would like to own the property that its new branch would inhabit. But this is out of the question — ASUC only rents out its property on a "lease" basis. In-N-Out was dealt with In-N-Out. Out for good reason. There's point.

Why does a group of students feel the need to push for renegotiations when the contract is up? It appears it's because it seems as if student government isn't doing enough to relieve the student body's financial stress. In September the ASUC Auxiliary announced that Cheese N' Stuff would be joining the Bear's Lair. The popular sandwich chain, however, made no move to make an appearance.

Students, who haven't seen tangible results come out of In-N-Out's efforts by the ASUC, have made important strides by getting Gelateria Naia and Cheese N' Stuff to actually sign up for a spot on campus, it needs to bring these gains to fruition before students take any more fast food crusades into their own hands. Perhaps the students should stop trying to stop the In-N-Out deal and instead focus on getting legitimate commercial negotiations and you definitely can't force them through a referendum. The petition's short-sighted. It's much better to plan beyond forcing ASUC to attempt negotiations and don't even have to consider the negatives. These students should let their elected representatives do the job they were chosen for.

This editorial originally appeared in the Nov. 29 issue of the Daily Californian, the daily publication at the University of California — Berkeley.

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**Movie Reviews**

**Mangold's Johnny Cash biopic is money**

By GRAHAM EBETSCH

With the recent rise in biography films, this holiday's "Walk the Line" has some hope to deliver the same kick. James Mangold's story of country music legend Johnny Cash has risen to the occasion and proved itself to be as good, if not better, than similar musical biopics.

"Walk the Line" stars a different class entirely, telling an honest tale of a troubled musician, leaving out the typical Hollywood bells and whistles.

The opening shots are of the infamous Folsom Prison concert, the actual plot begins with Cash's upbringing in Arkansas. At a young age, Johnny, or J R. as his family called him, loses his older brother Jack. As if such an event weren't traumatizing enough, J R.'s father, a heavy drinker and drunkard, tells the young boy that God "loved Jack and not the wrong son."

"Cash's voice continues throughout the movie as the token parental advice. While J R.'s ambitions will never meet his expectations. While the basic character is a common one in writing, actor Robert Patrick does a fantastic job in not over-acting the role. After some slow plot progressions, J R. decides he picked up from years of studying Cash make for an excellent performance.

"Walk the Line" stars Joaquin Phoenix, Reese Witherspoon and Robert Patrick. Witherspoon captures both the witty personality and singing voice he isn't dead on, Joaquin's speaking voice isn't dead on, either. Every event depicted in the film after their interaction ends Johnny Cash's desire to be with her, a desire which eventually ends his marriage to Vivian, isolating him from his two daughters. The movie does not drag on through the death of Cash in 2003. Instead, it concludes with a resolution between June and Johnny. Inevitably, "Walk the Line" will be compared to last year's stand-out picture, "Ray." While they both incorporate the same basic musician biopic formula of a hardship, overcoming obstacles, failed romantic relationships and the eventual substance dependency, the similarities end there.

To compare the performances by the two leads would be an injustice, as portraying an iconic celebrity, an actor is confronted with the difficult line between becoming the known and being able to do great impersonation. Joaquin's speaking voice isn't dead on, the mannerisms, personality and singing voice he picked up from years of studying Cash make for an excellent performance.

J R. is a gripping story of Cash made by people who genuinely want the story to be told. It is quite refreshing to see Joaquin Phoenix in a role not written by M. Night Shyamalan. Phoenix shows his strength in dramatic acting giving an eerie glimpse in the mind of Cash, especially since Phoenix himself lost his own brother River to a drug addiction. Any Oscar-buzz for this role is well deserved.

But Reese Witherspoon has the stand out role of the movie and of her career - as June Carter, Witherspoon has finally decided to fly her acting flag. This role might seem like a stretch for the actress who is two-deep in the "Legally Blonde" franchise, but she tackles it head on. Witherspoon captures both the witty performer and the southern girl longing for real love beautifully. Hopefully this will be the gateway to better roles for the talented actress - then again, Jamie Foxx did go on to star in "Steel." Every aspect of "Walk the Line" proves it is the devoted biopic in recent years. Johnny Cash fans will have all of their expectations fulfilled, and non-fans can't help but be sucked in by the performances, the music and the direction. Though 2005 has been a slow year in movies, "Walk the Line" is easily the best yet.

Contact Graham Ebetsch at gebetsch@nd.edu

**Thriller 'Derailed' barely stays on track**

By JAMES COSTA

Audiences who expect a simple and obvious thrill in "Derailed" might be in for a pleasant surprise. While it encapsulates many of the common elements of thrillers, the film is a refreshing change of pace in a genre often criticized for predictability.

"Derailed" stars Vincent Cassel and Melissa George as their regular lives until the rapist — a French man named Laroche (the disturbing Vincent Cassel) demands huge sums of money from Charles in order to protect his family from further violence.

The film then begins to expose a seedy hotel and decide to get the room. After beginning their interaction in the room, the individual and couple's Speedwell and Deppiondes are forced to come to terms with their plans to not come home till morning. Building on their lies together, the two plan a night in a hotel and the beginnings of an affair.

After sobering up a bit, Lucinda decides she cannot follow through with the affair. But after standing with Charles in the street for a bit, they both see a seedy hotel and decide to get the room. After beginning their interaction in the room, the individual and couple's Speedwell and Deppiondes are forced to come to terms with their plans to not come home till morning. Building on their lies together, the two plan a night in a hotel and the beginnings of an affair.

The twist is actually well. After deciding not to go to the police because of the danger of exposing their planned infidelity, the two return to their regular lives until the rapist — a French man named Laroche (the disturbing Vincent Cassel) demands huge sums of money from Charles in order to protect his family from further violence.

From this point on in the film, "Derailed" builds slowly and deftly with tension and fear until the shocking twist is revealed. The twist is actually completely surprising. Audiences will very likely be taken in by the shocking climax, which is difficult to predict. The film then begins to expose a series of less-important and even more shocking events until ending at a scene that is rather outlandish, though somewhat satisfying. Like most Hollywood thrillers, it thrives on the suspense it builds.

But on a more important note, "Derailed" fails to say anything new, relevant or insightful about the human condition that the viewer did not already know before seeing the film, though it seems to try.

Contact James Costa at joostaj@nd.edu
SHOW REVIEW

By MARY SQUILLACE
Scene Critic

With people spontaneously bursting into song and choirs lines materializing out of thin air in the background, it can be difficult to take the average musical seriously. But "Rent" is a musical that can, and should, be taken seriously. "Rent" is about a community celebrating life, in the face of death and AIDS at the turn of the century," said Jonathan Larson, the musical's creator, prior to his death.

Larson worked for seven years to nurture the show into being but died suddenly the night before it was ever performed for an audience, which effectively added another dimension to the play's "zeitgeist" attitude.

Now, nearly 10 years after it first came to life, Larson's music remains fresh and the show's underlying themes still ring true among audiences across the nation.

One of the most defining features of the ensemble of characters featured in "Rent" is the fluidity of sexuality among them. The three romantic storylines feature a straight couple, a gay male couple and a lesbian couple. But what makes this portrayal so innovative is not the presentation of their sexuality as something novel, but as something that is almost insignificant.

Each relationship consists of tribulations as well as triumphs, regardless of the sexuality of characters. In fact, each couple could conceivably be replaced with one of a divergent sexuality without significantly altering the show's plot.

Arguably, the least tumultuous and most tender relationship is between Tom Collins and Angel, a drag queen. While it's difficult to overlook the fact that this is a man dressed in opaque tights and a wig, Angel's status as a drag queen takes a backseat to the devotion between himself and Collins.

This representation is particularly relevant today in a world where, not only are homosexual relationships fully disputed in the political realm, but most portrayals of gay men and women tend still to be stereotypical, and are usually peripheral to a central romantic storyline between straight characters.

Similarly, though the cast is multiracial, the characters Larson created fail to represent any particular racial archetype. Instead, Larson foregrounded how, despite their diversity of experiences, the characters connect with one another. They ultimately share the same goal of thriving in the face of adversity, instead of merely surviving in the wake of a large breadth of challenges.

In addition to struggling to afford their artistic ambitions in New York City, the characters also endure the devastation of AIDS. The play was originally written when AIDS in America received an enormous amount of attention.

Today, though discussions about the issue have somewhat subsided, audiences are still reminded of the serious toll AIDS continues to take on the world's population.

Larson penned his musical in part to pay tribute to the friends he'd lost to AIDS, an issue which takes particular relevance this week at Notre Dame. Students will have the opportunity to assert themselves as part of the cure at a number of events that are being held in conjunction with World AIDS Day 2005, on Thursday.

The words, music and spirit of "Rent" have withstood time, and, thanks to the feature film's wide-release, are now available to the population at large.

Contact Mary Squillace at msquilla@nd.edu

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MOVIE REVIEW

By MARY SQUILLACE
Scene Critic

"How do you measure a year in the life?"

The recently released "Rent," which brings Jonathan Larson's 1996 musical from the stage to the screen, first poses that question.

For those who have had prior exposure to "Rent"—and particularly for self-proclaimed "Rent-heads"—the film has a slightly different effect, as it certainly can't embody the all of the various visions of its extensive fan base. Diehard fans will notice a few song omissions and might initially be thrown by the lines that are spoken instead of sung in the film. But, for the most part, the film provides a solid adaptation, which is true to Jonathan Larson's musical.

In fact, because the stage version is under a number of constraints—as the viewers are fairly removed from the action and only a number of locations can be portrayed—there are no number of opportunities for enhancing the show in its cinema version.

Through flashbacks and montage, the film is able to account for time and events that the play can only allude to. Additionally, director Chris Columbus ("Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone") is creative with the locations that he shoots.

Many of his choices work well, such as the use of a subway car as the location for the playful song "Santa Fe," and depicting Mimi's solo "Out Tonight" as progression from her show at the Cat Scratch Club to her attempts to persuade Roger to take her out. But some of the Columbus' vision seems out of place with the rest of the musical. In particular, a number that illustrates a beat-up lover's quarrel between Maureen and Joanne takes place at a country club luncheon seems out of synch with the rest of the action that occurs in the gritty and boisterous city.

A treat for Rent-heads and "Rent" neophytes alike is Columbus' idea to use most of the original cast members for the movie. In doing this, he has not only avoided a potentially sub-par performance, but has given fans an opportunity to see the original cast recording come to life long after they've left Broadway.

While most of the cast has earned notoriety in the Broadway realm, people who are unfamiliar with the original cast will probably recognize the faces of Jesse L. Martin (Las Vegas) and Taye Diggs (How Stella Got Her Groove Back).

Newcomers to the cast are Rosario Dawson, who plays Mimi, and Tracie Thoms, who plays Joanne. Thoms is a perfect fit with the original cast and delivers in-full with her powerful voice.

Dawson's vocals aren't as strong and lack the uniqueness of the original Mimi, but she still manages to turn-out a compelling and emotional performance.

Together, the cast is truly explosive. The ensemble numbers range from being outrageously hilarious, to chill-inducing with the emotion they're able to convey through their collective voices.

As a result, the film is worth taking 135 minutes of this year's 325,600 minutes to watch.
**DPAC Spotlight**

**Fellini's masterpiece showing at DPAC**

By BRIAN DOXTADER

Assistant Scene Editor

The brief years between 1959 and 1960 were some of the most vibrant and groundbreaking in the burgeoning film world – Jean-Luc Godard's "A Bout de Souffle," Michelangelo Antonioni's "L'Aventura" and Francois Truffaut's "Les Quatre Cents Coups" were all released in that brief span of time.

Equally important among them was Federico Fellini's "La Dolce Vita" ("The Sweet Life"), the film that catapulted his director to international prominence and one of the towering and enduring motion pictures of its time.

Though not as inscrutably brilliant as his 1963 masterpiece "Otto e Mezzo" ("8 1/2") or as poignantly beautiful as "La Strada," "La Dolce Vita" may stand as the Fellini's best film, and, subsequently, as one of Italy's best films.

Consequently, as one of Italy's best films. "The Untold Story" only gets better with repeated viewings. The more the movie is exposed to on a weekly basis. But "La Dolce Vita" is not a masterpiece, and it endures as one of the defining films of the 1960s.

"La Dolce Vita" is thoroughly an art film, beautifully shot and deliberately paced. At 174 minutes, it's also quite a feat, given that it was filmed with a single camera that could only capture shots of 110 frames, with 10 seconds of film to erase his near-death, life-changing miracles represented as mere magic shows or Walt Disney depicted as outwardly anti-Semitic and passionate humor make up for the movie's offensive material, especially since the makers seemed to be having so much fun.

The insulting and inappropriate material contained in the movie does not (totally) exceed what "Family Guy" enthusiasts are exposed to on a weekly basis. But for the easily offended viewer, a censored version is provided on the DVD. The only other special feature included is a commentary by show creator Seth MacFarlane (who is also the voice of Stewie, Peter and Brian) and other various cast members, show writers and crew. While more special features would have been welcome, the movie itself is funny enough that they aren't really missed.

"La Dolce Vita," Federico Fellini's 1960 international breakthrough, will be screened in the Browning Cinema at the DPAC as part of the PAC Classic 100.

**The Brief Years**

**La Dolce Vita**

Where: Saturday, Dec. 3 at 3 p.m.
Where: Browning Cinema, DPAC

"La Dolce Vita" ("The Sweet Life"), the film that catapulted its director to international prominence and one of the towering and enduring motion pictures of its time. Though not as inscrutably brilliant as his 1963 masterpiece "Otto e Mezzo" ("8 1/2") or as poignantly beautiful as "La Strada," "La Dolce Vita" may stand as the Fellini's best film, and, subsequently, as one of Italy's best films.

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"La Dolce Vita," Federico Fellini's 1960 international breakthrough, will be screened in the Browning Cinema at the DPAC as part of the PAC Classic 100.

**DVD Review**

**Stewie Griffin's** feature is a hilarious treat for fans

By BETSY SIMON

Scene Critic

In the face of cancellations, censorship, and critical disapprovals, "Family Guy" has emerged with a DVD classic in "Family Guy Presents Stewie Griffin: The Untold Story" – giggy, giggy.

Keeping to the standard and familiar "Family Guy" format, creator Seth MacFarlane parodies pop culture, such as "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," "Lethal Weapon" and "The Sound of Music," and ridicules current controversial issues such as politics, abortion and incest.

While the animated Griffin family satirizes religion, race and physical disability with the most unnecessarily inappropriate and politically incorrect humor, it is humor nonetheless and very funny humor at that. While it might be offensive, it is also very funny, which helps overcome the inevitable criticism.

In classic Hollywood style, the Griffin family arrives at their own movie premiere via the red carpet. The laughter begins with the appearance of "Family Guy" favorites, including Mayor Adam West, Drew Barrymore, the Kool-Aid Man and, of course, Greased-Up Naked Dead Guy.

The appearance of these characters indicates the movie is directed specifically at fans of the series and not at those who aren't well versed in the "Family Guy" world.

The movie itself does not hesitate to drive the humor into the soil. Chris Griffin, ex-jailbird and a bisexual prostitute (Adriana Moneta). As Rubini descends into the decadence surrounding him, he stops trying to resist and starts accepting the shallowness of his life, eventually indulging in "the sweet life" described by the title.

Critic Lucia Bozza notes that "La Dolce Vita" was a major success partially due to its "then-fresh sexual morality," and while that may be true, such an analysis suggests that it is badly outdated. Surprisingly, the film holds up remarkably well nearly half a century later, thanks to the unique vision and style of its director. Admittedly, some elements of the plot haven't aged well, but the stunning widescreen cinematography and Fellini's eye for composition and pacing keep the whole affair afloat.

There are some indelibly iconic moments sprinkled throughout the film, especially the evocative opening and closing shots, which have helped define a style jubilantly called "Felliniesque." Like all Italian films of the period, "La Dolce Vita" was shot silent and dubbed later, which grants a slightly detached quality that serves Fellini's stylistic tendencies surprising well.

"La Dolce Vita" is thoroughly an art film, beautifully shot and deliberately paced. At 174 minutes, it's also quite long, but Fellini's directorial sense, and Mastromauro's strong presence keep the audience engaged throughout.

It was a major success internationally, as it won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival and garnered a Oscar nomination. Though it may be argued that the seminal director's other films ("Otto e Mezzo," "La Strada," "Amarcord") are more personal, few would argue that "La Dolce Vita" is not a masterpiece, and it endures as one of the defining films of the 1960s.

"La Dolce Vita" is being screened on Saturday as part of the PAC Classic 100.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtader@nd.edu

**Stewie Griffin** takes center stage in "Family Guy Presents Stewie Griffin: The Untold Story," which is based on the Fox TV series.

Like the weekly Fox show itself, "Family Guy Presents Stewie Griffin: The Untold Story" only gets better with repeated viewings. The more the movie is seen, the more missed jokes and cleverly placed comedy is enjoyed by alert viewers.

While more inappropriate than breaking париеталь, "Stewie Griffin: The Untold Story" gets two thumbs up – a high-quality reward for "Family Guy" enthusiasts.

Contact Betsy Simon at esimonl@nd.edu
Don’t forget about MOVIES in the BROWNING CINEMA
Call 631-FILM for a recorded list of this week’s showings!

See them at Carnegie Hall: $92 / See them at Notre Dame: $20

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THE PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY
Hans Graf, Guest Conductor  |  Sarah Chang, Violinist
Thurs. Dec. 1 at 7:30 pm  |  Leighton Concert Hall  |  Student Tickets: $20

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CLASSICAL GUITARIST  AND BASS-BARITONE
CHRISTOPHER PARKENING  JUBILANT SYKES
A special holiday performance including
Go Tell it on the Mountain
I Wonder as I Wander
Mary Did You Know?
What Child Is This?
Jesus, Joy of Man’s Desiring
Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming
Swell Little Jesus Boy
Duck the Halls
Infant Holy
Fri. Dec. 9 at 8 pm  |  Leighton Concert Hall  |  Student Tickets: $15

A CELTIC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
 Cherish The Ladies
traditional and Celtic carols, jigs, and reels
Sun. Dec. 11 at 7 pm  |  Leighton Concert Hall  |  Student Tickets: $15

BROWNING CINEMA
Thu.–Sat., Dec. 1–3 at 7 and 10 pm
Student Tickets: $3

“Two thumbs way up.”  - F.RUE & B.OUPER
The Observer • CLASSIFIEDS

Wednesday, November 30, 2005

NCAA Men's Basketball

UConn overcomes slow start to beat Army, 68-54

Kentucky blasts overmatched High Point; Wake Forest edges Wisconsin, 91-88; Aldridge leads Longhorns to win

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — Rudy Gay had 17 points, 10 rebounds and five assists, and Connecticut shook off a sluggish start to beat Army 68-54 on Tuesday night. The third-ranked Huskies (5-1) won for the 36th consecutive time at Gampel Pavilion.

Army 68-54 on Tuesday night. The third-ranked Huskies (5-1) won for the 36th consecutive time at Gampel Pavilion.

Army was unable to mount a comeback against the Huskies, who have won four straight games.

In the first half, Army was up 10-7 at the 13:11 mark. But the Huskies began to pull away, outscoring the Black Knights 19-8 in the period to take a 29-18 lead at the half. Gay led the Huskies with 13 points and seven assists in the period.

In the second half, the Huskies outscored the Black Knights 39-26, with Gay scoring 21 of his 27 points in the half.

Gay's performance was crucial for Connecticut, which had a tough time getting its shots to fall early in the game. The Huskies shot just 37 percent in the first half, including 2-of-12 from 3-point range.

Meanwhile, the Black Knights struggled to keep up with Connecticut's offense, shooting just 37 percent in the first half. They scored just 11 points in the final 9:29 of the period, allowing Connecticut to extend its lead to 56-36 with 9:29 left in the game.

With the win, Connecticut extended its winning streak to four games, while Army dropped to 1-4 on the season.

The Associated Press

Wake Forest 91, Wisconsin 88

Justin Gray scored a career-high 37 points, including six 3-pointers, to lead the No. 5 Demon Deacons to an easy win over the Badgers on Tuesday night.

Gray, a 6-foot-11 junior, had six 3-pointers, including one in the final minute of the game, to help Wake Forest (9-0) beat Wisconsin (4-1) for the fourth straight time.

Gray's performance put the Demon Deacons up 56-46 with 3:43 of the period. He had three three-pointers and a bucket to help the Demon Deacons pull ahead by as many as 18. But the Black Knights couldn't recover, and the Demon Deacons went on to win 84-59.

Wake Forest, which won its third straight game, played a loose first half, shooting just 37 percent. The Demon Deacons had a 29-22 lead at the break.

In the second half, the Demon Deacons continued to dominate, shooting 61 percent from the field and outscoring the Badgers 31-18.

Gray's performance was the highlight of a strong first half for the Demon Deacons. He scored 21 points in the period, including four three-pointers.

The Demon Deacons limited Wisconsin's shooting to just 37 percent in the first half, including 2-of-12 from 3-point range.

Meanwhile, the Badgers struggled to keep up with the Demon Deacons' offense, shooting just 37 percent in the first half. They scored just 11 points in the final 9:29 of the period, allowing the Demon Deacons to extend their lead to 56-36 with 9:29 left in the game.

With the win, the Demon Deacons extended their winning streak to four games, while Wisconsin dropped to 1-4 on the season.

The Associated Press

Texas forward P.J. Tucker goes up for a layup during the Longhorns' 82-64 win over Texas Pan American Tuesday.

The Longhorns' 82-64 win over Texas Pan American Tuesday.

The Associated Press

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the News Desk office, 324 South Dillingham Drive. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $5 per line per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring refunds.

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### NFL

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### Women's Volleyball Top 12

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### Around the Dial

**COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

- **Georgia Tech at Michigan State** 7:00 p.m., ESPN
- **Minnesota at Maryland** 7:30 p.m., ESPN2
- **Duke at Indiana** 9:00 p.m., ESPN

### In Brief

**Colts downplay importance of unfulfilled season**

INDIANAPOLIS — Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts would define perfection as winning a Super Bowl title. Anything more would be a bonus.

But with five weeks left in the regular season, the Colts’ arduous, three-decade quest to return to the Super Bowl now carries an added burden — trying to join the 1972 Miami Dolphins as the only unbeaten team in NFL history.

### Mets sign new closer Wagner

**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK** — When he’s not blowing 100 mph fastballs by big league hitters, Billy Wagner likes to relax with his family on their quiet Virginia farm.

The big question now around Indy — trying to join the 1972 Miami Dolphins as the only unbeaten teams in NFL history.

**Miami** could clinch the NFC North title in the next two weeks and may soon wrap up a first-round bye and home-field advantage throughout the playoffs.

**ACF East**

- Team: New England
  - Record: 6-5
  - Perc.: 545
  - PF: 243
  - PA: 279

**ACF South**

- Team: Dallas
  - Record: 7-4
  - Perc.: 636
  - PF: 249
  - PA: 217

**ACF West**

- Team: Seattle
  - Record: 9-2
  - Perc.: 636
  - PF: 296
  - PA: 208

**ACF North**

- Team: Pittsburgh
  - Record: 7-4
  - Perc.: 636
  - PF: 249
  - PA: 187

**NFC East**

- Team: Philadelphia
  - Record: 5-4
  - Perc.: 455
  - PF: 229
  - PA: 246

**NFC West**

- Team: San Francisco
  - Record: 2-9
  - Perc.: 182
  - PF: 222
  - PA: 222

**NFC South**

- Team: Carolina
  - Record: 8-3
  - Perc.: 727
  - PF: 266
  - PA: 188

**NFC North**

- Team: Minnesota
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  - PA: 257

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INDIANAPOLIS — Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts would define perfection as winning a Super Bowl title. Anything more would be a bonus.

But with five weeks left in the regular season, the Colts’ arduous, three-decade quest to return to the Super Bowl now carries an added burden — trying to join the 1972 Miami Dolphins as the only unbeaten teams in NFL history.

**Fulmer apologizes to Tennessee fans**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee football coach Phillip Fulmer’s acknowledgment that the 2005 season was “unacceptable” has been put in writing to the fans.

Fulmer wrote a 300-word letter that was e-mailed Tuesday to about 39,000 season ticket holders and other fans signed up to receive periodic newsletters from the athletic department through its Web site.

“This year was a disappointing season for everyone in the Tennessee family,” wrote Fulmer, echoing what he’s been saying on the radio and television and in speeches.

“We started this season with great expectations and failed to live up to those expectations. “I assure you that no one is happy about our season — especially me, and I know that our fans deserve better than what we produced this year.”

The letter was gleaned from 10 pages of notes from a speech Fulmer gave Monday to the Knoxville Quarterback Club. That speech also expressed his concern over finishing fifth in the Southeastern Conference and the NFL history.

**Fulmer receives probation for drunk driving**

ATHENS, Ohio — Ohio coach Frank Solich will be put on probation by the university following his drunken driving conviction.

Athletic director Kirby Hocutt said at a news conference Tuesday that Solich also will publicly address his arrest and conviction and become involved in alcohol education initiatives on campus.

“I cannot crawl in a hole. I cannot take a step backward,” said Solich, whose team went 4-7 in his first year after six seasons at Nebraska. “I can try to use this as an experience in my life that has happened. There’s no way I can take it back.”
Jeremy Shockey’s career appears to be settling into its triumphant third act.

In Act I, the free-spirited rookie from the small town of Okmulgee, Oklahoma comes to the big city and umbrellas his vast talents on the NFL, making the Pro Bowl and setting team records at his position. Act II is the inevitable fall from grace as the team stumbles and the hero’s brashness begins to take its toll. In this phase — public comments only fan the flames.

"People are going to criticize you no matter what; even if you win a game," Shockey says. "This game's hard, especially when you start doing good, people praise me now, but I guarantee if I start not doing well, they're going to start bashing me. They praise me now, but I guarantee if I start not doing well, they're going to start bashing me."

"I can't really control that. I do on the field, how I play on Sundays and how I work during the week," Shockey said a day after his 10-catch, 127-yard, one-touchdown performance in last Sunday's overtime loss to the Seahawks. "I can't really control what people think of me."

"If I start doing good, people start to think 'I have to give you a little more credit, he's better,'" Shockey adds. "If I start not doing well, they're going to start bashing me."

That may be a harsh assessment considering that, from almost any perspective in the Giants Stadium parking lot, Shockey's No. 80 reigns supreme before home games, ahead of Eli Manning's No. 10, Tiki Barber's No. 21 and Michael Strahan's No. 92. And the jerseys won't become obsolete — Shockey signed a five-year, $31.2 million contract extension in October.

"People are going to criticize you no matter what; even if you get a win and you barely beat a team they're going to still point out the negatives. People in this locker room understand that's the baggage that comes with being a part of the New York Giants."

"The old Shockey occasionally resurfaces, too, as it did near the end of the Seattle game. He argued with the sideline camera as Jay Feely's attempt at a game-winning field goal appeared to be sailing through the uprights, only to look on in disbelief when the kick missed."

New York Giants tight end Jeremy Shockey runs off the field after the Giants' overtime loss to the Seattle Seahawks Sunday.

Associated Press

The Observer • SPORTS

Wednesday, November 30, 2005

New York Giants tight end and Miami product has matured since bursting onto the professional scene in 2002

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Open to all students - All media accepted
Entries must be matted or framed

Interested? Contact Carrie Belek <cbelek@nd.edu>

CLOSEST TO CAMPUS
**SMC Basketball**

**Slow start dooms Belles in loss to Carthage**

**Lady Reds jump out to 24-2 lead as Saint Mary’s shoots 8.5 percent from the field in first half — Belles lose third of season**

By FRAN TOLAN  
Sports Writer

Steve Bender didn't want to start this way.

The first-year Belles coach saw Saint Mary's fall to 1-3 on the season Saturday.

Saint Mary's team lost 63-45 to Carthage in a game in which the Belles never got on track.

In their first home game of the young season, the Belles came out strong, hitting just 4-of-24 field goal attempts in the first half. They fell behind 24-2 and were never able to recover.

"There's no way we had a chance after such a poor start," Bender said.

Carthage (11-1), meanwhile, knocked down 12-of-18 shots in the first 20 minutes to take a commanding 30-17 lead at the break.

Saint Mary's battled back in the second half, cutting the lead to 34-28 with 16:11 remaining.

But Carthage's strong shooting was too much for them to handle.

The Lady Reds went on a 25-2 run to ice the game after Saint Mary's cut the Carthage lead to six. Carthage made 53 percent of its shots on the night, and the Belles, who dropped their second straight night game, shot just 26 percent.

"Carthage is so much deeper than we anticipated," Bender said. "They have more talent, and they understand the game.

"They're just too much for us."

Bender expects the wildly different Belles, on the season Saturday.

The Belles' young season, the Belles coach Mike Morris said, has been "full of ups and downs."

"We have had a lot of prosperity in terms of our games," he said. "We have had a lot of difficulty in terms of our games."

"But we're getting better, and we're getting stronger."

Bender said the Belles' defense, which held Carthage to 42 percent shooting, has been their key to success so far.

"We've been able to hold our own on defense," he said. "We've been able to stop them."
Hope continued from page 24
lead Saint Mary’s in scoring, averaging 14.8 and 11.0 points per game, respectively.

Bender also predicts solid contributions from freshmen Erin Newsom, Nicole Beier, Calli Davison and Emily Light, who all logged at least ten minutes of playing time against Carthage.

With the added contributions of some of these underclassmen and the steady guard play of Boyce and Kessler, Bender believes his group will show it can compete with the top teams in the league.

“We can’t back down against [Hope], or they’ll have their way with us,” Bender said.

The game, which is the Belles’ first against a league opponent, will be played at the Angela Athletic Facility at Saint Mary’s on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

After Hope, the Belles face North Park University Friday. They return to league play next Wednesday and Saturday games against Adrian and Alma, respectively.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

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Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu
Lauren Brewster, left, watches as Adrianna Stasiuk sets a ball during Notre Dame's victory over Louisville on Nov. 20.

Gaul

continued from page 24

team's second leading scorer behind Duffy.

Duffy led the Irish charge to pull away from the Gaels early in the second half. Iona scored the first four points of the half to cut the Notre Dame lead to 36-32, but Notre Dame responded with a 16-4 run keyed by pressure defense and Duffy's outside shooting. With 14:34 left in the game, Duffy connected on her second straight three-point shot to stretch Notre Dame's advantage to 52-36 and put the Gaels out of reach.

In the first half, Notre Dame relied on the inside play of center Melissa D'Amico and forward Courtnay LaVere. The pair each recorded eight points in the first half. D'Amico pulled down eight rebounds in the game, while LaVere added five. But despite the strong interior play early on, Iona hung behind Martina Weber pitched in 11 points and nine rebounds.

The Irish struggled with free throws Tuesday night, shooting just 62 percent from the chariot stripe. Washington said she was extremely nervous when she informed her teammates that she would have to fill in for McGraw. But the associate head coach eventually was confident, she said, by her confidence in the players.

"When you have players like Megan Duffy, it's easy to be relaxed and confident because I know no matter what, they are going to give us the best effort that they have," Washington said.

No update on McGraw's condition or timetable for return was available following the game.

Notes

Before the game Tuesday night, Duffy was presented with a plaque commemorating her accomplishments with the USA World University Games Team. Duffy, elected a captain of the team before the tournament, led the United States to an undefeated record and a gold medal victory in Izmir, Turkey. She started all seven games at point guard, averaging 6.3 points per game.

Contact Kevin Brennan at kbrenna4@nd.edu

Irish associate head coach Coquese Washington

"We didn't really find out until just before the game that coach McGraw wasn't going to be there. I think it took us the first half to kind of get used to the way it was going to be tonight."

McGraw has stressed all season the need to improve team rebounding.

COURTESY PHOTO

Breona Gray, left, forces Iona guard Toni Horvath to the baseline during Notre Dame's win over the Gaels. Gray finished the game with two steals in 23 minutes.
Sacks
continued from page 24

A比亚米完成了与团队领先的10次扑擒，包括6次单次扑擒，扮演了球队防守的中坚力量。

A比亚米带领圣帕特里克队在周六以38-31大胜。他为球队的胜利做出了贡献，以10次擒杀和四次擒杀。

A比亚米在防守端站稳脚跟，他是一名防守稳定的球员，为球队在周六的比赛中提供了关键的支持。他带领球队的防守线，帮助球队在比赛的关键时刻保持了优势。

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Amado
continued from page 24

Amado looked to receive a pass during Notre Dame’s 38-31 victory over the Cardinal Saturday. Amado led the Irish defense with 10 tackles and four sacks.

Amado was one of the team’s leading tacklers, including six solo tackles, playing both as a linebacker and as a defensive end.

Amado thanked his teammates for their support and his coaches for their guidance. He also praised the offensive line for their ability to block and create opportunities for the offense.

Amado made a play when we needed it,” Amado said. “I think I tried to take advantage of the one-on-one matchups, and I did that.”

Victor Abiamiri
Irish defensive end

Victor Abiamiri raises his helmet in salute of Irish fans after Notre Dame’s 38-31 victory over the Cardinal Saturday. Abiamiri led the Irish defense with 10 tackles and four sacks.

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Amado said Notre Dame’s come out of here with a victory.

He had just sacked Stanford backup quarterback T.C. Ostrander, ending any chance of a Cardinal comeback with his fourth sack of the day.

“We were in a three-man rush and Brian Beidatsch was in getting three guys on him, and I was free on the outside one-on-one,” Abiamiri said.

“And you just have to take advantage of the one-on-one matchup, and I did that.”

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**THE OBSERVER**

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**ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Gaelstrom**

Washington coached Irish Tuesday against Iona in McGrath's absence

By KEVIN BRENNAN

Notre Dame was forced to take on the Iona Gaels without its leader at the Joyce Center Monday night.

Irish head coach Muffet McGraw had to stay at home because of an illness, but associate head coach Coquese Washington guided Notre Dame to a 74-55 win over the Gaels.

Senior point guard Megan Duffy led the Iona Gaels without its leader at points in 22 minutes. Schrader, who Dame to a 74-55 win over the Gaels.

Coquese Washington guided Notre ness, but asso ciate head coach Victor Abiamiri sack s T.C. Ostrehander on Stanford's final play early in her Irish career, adding 14 points to lead the scoreboard continued to light up the scoreboard early in her Irish career, adding 14 points in 22 minutes. Schrader, who averages 10 points per game, is the highest-ever ranking player in the regular season. They went on a 15-match winning streak for most of September and October. They won both the Big East regular season and tournament titles for the ninth and 10th times, respectively, in the past 11 years.

But the most important news they received so far this season — their most exciting achievement — was announced Sunday afternoon. The Irish (28-3) nabbed the No. 6 seed for the 5-0 Irish, connecting on 7-of-10 attempts in the second period.

Notre Dame's highest-ever NCAA seed — despite dropping their final match of the regular season to Tennessee (21-8). The Irish will host the first two rounds of the 64-team tournament beginning Thursday at the Joyce Center. Notre Dame's early-round bracket includes Dayton, Texas A&M and Northwestern.

"I was surprised, I was thinking we'd get maybe about a 10 or 12 [seed]," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "But we'll take it."

The national seed was the fifth top-16 seed in program history for the Irish and second in the past four seasons. This is the seventh time the Joyce Center has hosted the early rounds. Notre Dame is 6-2 all-time at home in the NCAA tournament. The winner of Friday's second-round match will advance to the round of 16 in College Station, Texas.

High expectations are nothing new for Notre Dame. The No. 7 Irish have been the most exciting story of the season. They went on a 15-match winning streak for most of September and October. They won both the Big East regular season and tournament titles for the ninth and 10th times, respectively, in the past 11 years.

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ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish happily surprised with No. 6 seed

Team enters NCAA tournament with its highest-ever ranking

By TOM DORWART

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But the most important news they received so far this season — their most exciting achievement — was announced Sunday afternoon. The Irish (28-3) nabbed the No. 6 national seed for the 5-0 Irish, connecting on 7-of-10 attempts in the second period.

Notre Dame's highest-ever NCAA seed — despite dropping their final match of the regular season to Tennessee (21-8). The Irish will host the first two rounds of the 64-team tournament beginning Thursday at the Joyce Center. Notre Dame's early-round bracket includes Dayton, Texas A&M and Northwestern.

"I was surprised, I was thinking we’d get maybe about a 10 or 12 [seed]," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "But we’ll take it."

The national seed was the fifth top-16 seed in program history for the Irish and second in the past four seasons. This is the seventh time the Joyce Center has hosted the early rounds. Notre Dame is 6-2 all-time at home in the NCAA tournament. The winner of Friday’s second-round match will advance to the round of 16 in College Station, Texas.

ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish happily surprised with No. 6 seed

Team enters NCAA tournament with its highest-ever ranking

By TOM DORWART

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Abiamiri gets it done out West

Notre Dame's junior defensive end had his best game Saturday

By HEATHER VAN HOGEPARDEN

Notre Dame defensive end Matt Amado has been one of Notre Dame's top scoring threats throughout his career, but only this season has the senior forward truly become a force to be reckoned with on the ice.

Amado already scored seven goals in 12 games this season, compared to five goals in 31 games during the 2004-05 campaign. He notched two of his tally last weekend against Ohio State, scoring a goal in each of the back-to-back home games.

"Maybe in the past I haven't performed as well as I should have, and now I am," Amado said of his recent touch. "So it's all coming together. It's nice to see."

Although Amado is fourth in points for Notre Dame with nine, he is tied for the lead in goals with Josh Seba and boasts a +2 plus/minus rating — one of only seven Irish players with a positive rating.