Students use 11 printers installed in dorms

By KAITLYNN RIELY
News Writer

The test run of the printer program — which brought printers to five dorms last spring to determine their feasibility and necessity in dormitories — was enough to convince Carroll sophomore Josh Kempf that he no longer needed his own personal printer in his dorm room. "They told us they would have it up and running this year, so I didn't even bring it back," Kempf said.

Thanks to the success of the pilot program, organized by the Office of Academic Affairs, the Student Senate’s residence life committee, and senior Ron Gunty, with Gordon Wishon, assistant vice president of the Office of Information Technologies, to get printers installed in the dorms:

"The first year for the pilot program was last academic year, and the program went well," Seiler said. "The program indicated that the printers in the dorms were receiving ample usage. This academic year a few more printers were added to dorms. As far as I know, the program continues to go well."
INSIDE COLUMN

Arizona dreaming

No matter how many papers I have to write, no matter how many finals I have to study for, there's just one thing I can't stop thinking about: the Fiesta Bowl. But it's for a different reason than one might think. Despite being the overzealous football fanatic that I am, I've always been able to appreciate every aspect of the big game—whether it's the fireworks or the commercials, the team members or the fans in the stands. But this year, it's not necessarily those of The Observer.

I don't want to reveal too much, but there's a cell phone service in my dorm room just a year ago, that amount of snowfall was certainly advertised during the event. The reason I'll be certain to pick up a lottery number today is because the game will be played in toasty warm Tempe, Ariz.

This is my first Midwestern winter, and while I thought I would be prepared for it, it has still come as a shock to me. What surprised me most was how quickly it came. It was comfortable and mild throughout October, and I figured all that I'd heard about how cold and depressing South Bend was must have been an exaggeration, but sure enough, after waking up at 7:57 a.m. on the morning of November, I realized, while sprinting across south quad in a T-shirt, that everything was covered in snow. Just a year ago, that amount of snowfall would have equaled a day off from school for me, but, alas, Notre Dame is not really a commuter campus. So while I'll likely be waiting for a chance to sleep in, I can't stop thinking about: the Fiesta Bowl.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK?

Beth Hagerty

Molly Dawes

Meghan Newcomb

Katie Palumbo

Kaitlin Jensen

Tom Mazzacavallio

sophomore Breen-Phillips

sophomore Breen-Phillips

sophomore Breen-Phillips

freshman Lewis

freshman Lewis

(Rolling Meadows, Ill.)

(Midlothian, Ill.)

"Christmas in the Caribbean and soaking up the sun."

"Moving to Houston and getting a job."

"Finding an Irish pub where I can catch my Irish beat OSU!"

"Going home to Phoenix."

"Going to Katie Palumbo's house for the game."

"Going to my parents' house for the game."

OFFBEAT

Woman allegedly hires hit man for cheese

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — In an unusual case of mistaken identity, a woman who thought a block of white cheese was cocaine is charged with trying to hire a hit man to rob and kill four men. The woman also was mistaken about the hit man. He turned out to be an undercover police officer.

Jessica Sandy Booth, 18, was arrested over the weekend and remains in jail with bond set at $1 million on four charges of attempted murder and four counts of soliciting a murder.

According to police, Booth was in the Memphis home of the four intended victims last week when she took a block of queso fresco cheese for cocaine — insinuating the idea to hire someone to break into the home, take the drugs, and kill the men.

An informant described the plot to police, who arranged a meeting between Booth and the undercover officer.

Man jailed after biting head off gecko

PORT JERVIS, N.Y. — A 19-year-old man was behind bars Tuesday after allegedly biting the head off a gecko as part of a bet. Derrick Ford was being held in the Orange County Jail after being charged with felony animal cruelty.

Ford was at a friend’s home Sunday when someone bet him $10 that he wouldn’t bite the head off a gecko, the Times Herald-Record of Middletown reported.

Though Ford won the bet, it wasn’t long before police showed up and placed him under arrest, the newspaper said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

A "Christmas at the CoMo" benefit concert will be held tonight in the Hammes Student Lounge of the Coleman Morse Center from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Celebration and instrumentalists will perform, and the public is invited to attend.

In anticipation of the film premier of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," Father Charles Gordon will give a talk entitled "Anticipating Narnia" Thursday at 8 p.m. in room 102 DellaPorto Hall.

A panel discussion entitled "The Social Security Puzzle: Disputing Myths, Discussing Solutions" will take place Friday at 3 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium in Mendoza College of Business. Panelists will objectively examine the government's economic assistance program, analyze common misconceptions and seek practical solutions. The discussion is open to the general public.

For those students interested in a walk-on tryout for next year's men's basketball team, information sheets are available from the football office in the Guglielmo Athletics Complex. Students interested should fill out the information sheet and return it by Jan. 18 if they are interested in trying out. A meeting will then be held on Jan. 23 at 6 p.m. in the Guglielmo Complex for those who turned in the sheets.

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

Corrections

In an article in the Dec. 2 edition of The Observer, a brief note was mistakenly attributed to American Studies major Jennifer Lucetta. Political science major Adam Russell was the actual speaker. Lucetta was misquoted when references to her statements were taken out of context.

The Observer regrets these errors.

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

Weather

Today: mostly sunny, wind 5

Tonight: mostly sunny, 6

Friday: mostly sunny, 10

Saturday: mostly sunny, 14

Sunday: mostly sunny, 18

Today: 21

Tonight: 15

Thursday: 10

Friday: 23

Saturday: 30

Sunday: 37

Atlanta 50 / 36 Boston 32 / 18 Chicago 19 / 12 Denver 7 / 1 Houston 58 / 38 Los Angeles 70 / 46 Minneapolis 15 / 1 New York 35 / 22 Philadelphia 36 / 21 Phoenix 64 / 39 Seattle 41 / 31 St. Louis 23 / 16 Tampa 49 / 27 Washington 37 / 23
Village planned for musicians
Music center at the hub would offer lessons and show performances

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Singer Harry Connick Jr. and saxophone player Branford Marsalis are working with Habitat for Humanity to create a "village" for New Orleans musicians who lost their homes to Hurricane Katrina.

More than $2 million has been raised for the project dreamed up by Connick and Marsalis — a neighborhood built around a music center where musicians can teach and perform, said Jim Pate, executive director of New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity.

The first $1 million came from benefit concerts in New York three weeks after the storm, said Quint Davis, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival producer who helped arrange the concerts. "The money being used to build these homes for New Orleans musicians was raised by New Orleans musicians. Our pact with them was to help New Orleans' musical community," Davis said at a press conference Wednesday.

In a telephone interview Monday, Connick said he and Marsalis — both honorary chairs for the national Habitat's hurricane rebuilding program — returned to their hometown several weeks after the storm and were trying to think of ways to help. "I had been kind of coming up blank. The problem is so massive, it's hard to know where to begin," Connick said. "As we talked, we both realized we should really stick to what we know, which is music."

Connick said four or five of the 16 musicians in his own band lost their homes. "There's a ton of musicians who have no place to go," he said.

Pate said Habitat hasn't decided on a location for the village, but is looking at three older, predominantly black neighborhoods in New Orleans. He said $7.5 million to $15 million is needed for the project, which would include a music center named for Ellis Marsalis, the jazz pianist, educator and patriarch of the musical family that includes Branford, Wynton, Delfeayo and Jason.

"Ellis has been kind of a rock for music in this city," Mayor C. Ray Nagin said.

Bassist Peter "Chuck" Badie, 80, would love to see the dream become reality, and to live in a Habitat home. "I'd be tickled to death," said Badie, who's staying at a jazz enthusiast's home after floods destroyed his house in the Lower Ninth Ward. "A village for musicians would be the finest thing. But build it where?"

Habitat cannot reserve houses for a specific group, and non-musicians would also live in the village, Pate said. However, musicians who lost their houses and have no or too little insurance — and will provide labor for a Habitat house — will be asked if they'd like to live there.

"We'd hope some of our musician partner families could do some of their sweat equity by doing performances or concerts for some of our volunteers who are coming from all over the world," Pate said.

"It's a fantastic idea," said Banu Gibson, who sings '20s and '30s jazz. "So many musicians have moved out of town, and a lot of the good ones, too, which is really depressing," she said.

Gibson is back in her own house, but two of the seven musicians in her band lost homes they had bought in the last couple of years. "All the money they raised to put down as a house payment, $25,000 to $35,000, is gone." she said.

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 Associated Press

TAMPA — For more than five months, jurors in the case of a former professor accused of helping lead a Palestinian terrorist group reviewed hundreds of documents, heard from dozens of witnesses and watched videos in which the defendants appeared to speak glowingly of suicide bombers.

But it wasn't enough. Sami Al-Arian was acquitted Tuesday on nearly half the charges against him, and the jury deadlocked on the rest in a stinging defeat for the federal government. His case was seen as one of the biggest courtroom tests yet of the Patriot Act's expanded search-and-surveillance powers.

Al-Arian and three co-defendants were accused of being of the communications arm of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, spreading the word and raising money that went toward suicide attacks that have killed hundreds in Israel.

But the jury could not convict any of the four on the charges laid out in a complex, 51-count indictment. Al-Arian was acquitted of eight of the 17 counts, and jurors deadlocked on the remaining eight.

"While we respect the jury's verdict, we stand by the evidence we presented in court," Justice Department spokeswoman Tasin Scollino said.

Al-Arian's wife, Nahla, cele­brated with relatives and support­ers outside the courthouse. "I'm ecstatic," she said. "My husband is an outspoken Palestinian activist who loved this country, believed in the sys­tem, and the system did not fail him."

Moreno said she hoped prosecu­tors would take into account the "overwhelming number of not-guilty verdicts" against the defendants in deciding whether to retry him again. She said she will ask the court soon to release Al-Arian from jail.

Al-Arian, a former University of South Florida computer sci­ence professor, was considered one of the most important ter­rorist figures to be brought to trial in the United States since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorism attacks.

Former professor is aquitted of charges

Associated Press

Al-Arian, 47, wept after the verdicts, and his attorney Linda Moreno hugged him. He will remain jailed until prosecutors decide whether to retry him on the deadlocked counts.

Two co-defendants, Samem Hammodheh and Ghassan Zayed Ballut, were acquitted of all charges. A third, Haten Naji Fariz, was found not guilty of 25 counts, and jurors deadlocked on the remaining eight.

"While we respect the jury's verdict, we stand by the evi­dence we presented in court," Justice Department spokes­woman Tasin Scollino said.

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Da Vinci continued from page 1

weekly columns for the Catholic press about the ABC documentary.

"A mere discussion of such

an hypothesis is guaranteed
to bring some people out of
the proverbial woodwork,
andiggers are quite
emotional.

McBrien said
in a Nov.

3, 2004

column.

McBrien said he
received
reactions
"across the religious

spectrum.

I think what bothered most
was the fact that the
was even being raised
and that I was open to
discussing it," he said in his
Dec. 1 column.

McBrien said he did receive
positive reactions, as well.

While McBrien said in his
Nov. 24 column that Jesus
could in fact have been
married, there is no evidence
new Testament or in
Christian tradition
that he was.

In McBrien's
Catholicism
book, he said there
was no evidence
that Jesus
was married and
that "what evidence
does exist in
is more of a
claim than a
statement."

According to the
Dec. 1, 2003

column, McBrien also
said Jesus'
divinity still would not be
compromised if he had, in
fact, been married.

"As St. Paul reminded us in
the Letter to the Hebrews,
Jesus was like us in all things
except sin," he said.

McBrien said the book has been
on the New York Times Best
Seller List for Hardcover
for at least 138 weeks.

"The Da Vinci Code" was named
book of the year at the British
Book Awards in April 2005.

In addition to Howard,
Oscar winners Akiva
Goldsman (a screenwriter)
and Brian Grazer (a producer)
are also involved in the film.
Actors Tom Hanks,
Ewan McGregor and Ian
McKellen star in the film.

"I won't see the final product
until everyone else does
when the movie comes out in
May," McBrien said.

Contact Kate Antonacci at
kantonac@nd.edu
International News

Bombers attack police academy

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Two suicide bombers struck Baghdad’s police academy Tuesday, killing at least 43 people and wounding 73 men, U.S. officials said, while Al-Jazeera broadcast an interview with one of the men claiming to have carried out a U.S. security consultant.

The suicide attacks were wearing explosion-laden vests and a U.S. contractor was among those wounded, a U.S. military statement said. U.S. officials said the attacks were retaliation, the statement said. The military initially said the bombers were women but later retracted the statement.

"We were sitting in the yard when we heard an explosion," said police Maj. Wusam al-Heyali. "Seconds later, we were hit by another explosion as we were running. I saw some of my colleagues falling down and I felt my hand hit, but I kept on running."

Israel reacts to Palestinian attack

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said Tuesday the latest attacks were part of a "terror war" and not an internal Palestinian conflict.

"The only solution for this wanton terror is to establish a real Palestinian state that guarantees the safety of all its citizens and its borders," Olmert said.

A statement by the Israeli military said the army had arrested 15 Palestinian militants in a first response to a suicide bombing that killed five people outside a shopping mall.

A U.S. defense official said the army would target Islamic Jihad operatives in the West Bank, both in areas under full Israeli control and targeted killings of operatives, and renew airstrikes in the Gaza Strip in response to any Palestinian rocket attacks.

The statement said the operation in a refugee camp, much deeper and more intensive manner against the Islamic Jihad in the West Bank, was part of a strategy that would allow Israel to "impose its will and will be able to prevent such attacks in the future," Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz told Army Radio after a late-night meeting of security officials.

National News

House to vote on border security

WASHINGTON — The House is to vote next week on legislation that strengthens border security and requires workplace enforcement of immigration laws but does not offer a guest worker program, a goal of President Bush and many in Congress.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., who crafted the bill, said Tuesday the bipartisan legislation, which would provide temporary visas for unskilled labor. Some guest worker proposals would allow illegal immigrants already in the country to participate, although Sensenbrenner has not stated a position on that issue. But he said that without a clear commitment on that point, the bill would not pass.

The changes should be completed by January 2008, Aguilar said.

Citizenship office changes test

INDIANAPOLIS — State Sen. Larry Lutz, a Democrat who has represented southwestern Indiana House of Representatives in 1983. He was elected to served Senate District 49, which includes the town of and a Briton were also part of that group.

Last week, Al-Jazeera broadcast a videotape and statement in which the Swords of Righteousness Brigade threatened to kill those hostages unless all prisoners in U.S. and Iraqi detention centers were freed by Dec. 8.

The video also bore the Islamic Army in Iraq and Al-Queda, in a video tape broadcast an interview with one of the men claiming to have carried out a U.S. security consultant.

The authenticity of the video was immediately confirmed.

If true, the man would become the first American taken hostage in the last two weeks. A U.S. citizen was among four Christian Iraqi nationalists taken hostage last Nov. 27 by a group calling itself the Swords of Righteousness Brigade. Two Canadians and a Briton were also part of that group.

In London, British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw on Monday encouraged the kidnappers of the Briton to make contact, saying "We stand ready to hear what they have to say."

The British Broadcasting Corp. cited a Western diplomat in Baghdad as saying direct contact had been made with the hostage-takers.

The changes should be completed by January 2007 and in use by January 2008, Aguilar said. The changes should be completed by January 2007 and in use by January 2008, Aguilar said.

Local News

Democratic senator Lutz to retire

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Culture

continued from page 1

gate through cultural experiences or comprehend different cultural people.

Some faculty members expressed concern with the ambiguity of the term, but Boyd said the word "cultural" is meant to be a bit vague — "that's an issue."

'The Minority Affairs committee does not have the authority to define what 'cultural' should be," she said. "We want to leave it up to this (proposed) committee to determine what it should be."

History professor Gail Bederman said adversity faced when attempting to define such a term transcends the Notre Dame community.

"American academics as a whole has been debating this 'what do you call this' — diversity, culture... It seems like we're chastising the committee for dealing with something that has been [debated] in many universities," she said.

Marketing professor John Gaski said the term's vagueness leads to "a lot of assuming."

"What if the Notre Dame student body is the most culturally competent student body in the country?" he asked. "but there some kind of measure? Maybe we'll find out we're in the 99th percentile — shouldn't that be investigated?"

But members said it would be difficult — if not impossible — to measure how culturally competent Notre Dame students are currently, and how culturally competent they would presumably be after the proposed institutional improvements were implemented.

East Asian languages and literatures professor Xiaohuan Yang said from a personal experience, "the majority of Notre Dame students do not have a lot of cultural competency."

"If they go abroad, they go Dublin, London, or they go to Australia," he said. "My gut feeling is yes, our students are less exposed."

Student activities committee chair and physics professor Phillip Collon said the term cultural competency can be "wide," and therefore difficult to measure.

"If I compare our students to those students who run around at Berkeley, I'd say yes, we're a more homogenous group," he said. "But that metric is impossible when we don't say what we mean by it."

Boyd said questions about the measurability of a cultural competency requirement have been considered by the Minority Affairs committee.

"We really don't have the authority to [determine] how to evaluate cultural competency," she said. "We are looking for everything every student has to [determine] — that at this point we are not advocating a requirement. We're looking to see how the committee thinks it can be done."

Boyd said the Minority Affairs committee is seeking the help of outside sources — like Faculty Senate — to establish a committee that would assess the feasibility of adding another course to the curriculum and other institutional changes.

"If in Columbus, Philadelphia or Boston, be sure to catch..."

The University of Notre Dame Liturgical Choir

2006 Winter Tour

Sharing Sacred Music from the Basilica of the Sacred Heart with the Audiences in the Midwest and Northeast

COLUMBUS, OH

Sun Jan 8th at 7:30pm
St. Joseph's Cathedral
Columbus, Ohio

For more information log-on to: www.nd.edu/~litchoir
Ticket Availability and Pricing Subject to Location

Bring friends and family for this unique Notre Dame experience away from campus!

PHILADELPHIA, PA

Mon Jan 9th at 8:00pm
St. Patrick's Church
Philadelphia, PA

BOSTON, MA

Wed Jan 11th at 7:30pm
St. Catherine of Siena
Norwood, MA

Fri Jan 13th at 7:00pm
Immaculate Conception
Cranston, RI

Sat Jan 14th at Noon
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
Seekonk, MA

Where will you be for break??

If in Columbus, Philadelphia or Boston, be sure to catch...
NYSE approves $9 billion deal

NYSE acquires Archipelago Holdings Inc. and becomes for-profit enterprise

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Seat owners of the New York Stock Exchange voted Tuesday to acquire Archipelago Holdings Inc. in a $9 billion deal that will turn the 213-year-old Big Board into a for-profit enterprise with a high-tech computerized trading capability.

As expected, more than 95 percent of the seat owners who voted approved the deal, according to the exchange, with more than 90 percent of members voting. There are 1,366 seats on the exchange.

"This is a truly historic day for the New York Stock Exchange and an event of great importance for our futures and that of our customers and American capital markets," NYSE Chief Executive John Thain said in a statement. "This transaction gives the NYSE a strong platform for future growth, value creation, and competitive positioning on a global basis."

Archipelago shareholders have seen the value of their stock quadruple since the merger was announced April 20, while value of the exchange rose from $975,000 in January to a record $4 million last month. Two more seats sold for that amount Tuesday before the vote.

As the NYSE prepares to take on all-electronic rival Nasdaq Stock Market Inc., investors are likely to benefit from better transaction speeds as well as lower fees as the two major markets compete for business.

The deal, if it goes through, would dilute Boston Scientific's cash earnings per share through 2007, the company said, and Moody's Investors Service said it was reviewing Boston Scientific for possible downgrading and Fitch Ratings placed Boston Scientific on a ratings watch while downgrading Guidant.

NYSE and Apple team up to sell shows online

Apple unleashed a dramatically different way of distributing television programs when it debuted videos for sale on its iTunes Music Store on Oct. 20 with Walt Disney Co.'s ABC as its first network partner.

Customers have since downloaded more than three million videos. The latest deal extends Apple's TV catalog from five shows to 16.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

For NBC, the move is part of its growing digital distribution strategy to be "as ubiquitous as possible," said Zucker of the downloadable TV shows. "As long as our content is protected from piracy, then there will be no barriers." "There's certainly more to come," he said.

Videos sold on iTunes are wrapped in Apple's copyright-protection technology, which allows users to store their purchased content on up to five computers and transfer them to iPods. Users cannot copy the TV shows to a CD, DVD or the Internet.

THE OBSERVER

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

MARKET RECAP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stocks</th>
<th>Dow Jones</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change (%)</td>
<td>10,873.27 (+38.26)</td>
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In Brief

Ford pulls some ads from gay publications

A New Haven, Conn. — Submarine builder Electric Boat will cut up to 2,400 jobs next year as part of its plan to eliminate from its Rhode Island facility 30 percent of its work force in coming years as it faces a difficult market.

Most jobs were in areas such as marketing and repair, and some employees were laid off in January, but the overall unemployment rate in the state is still low.

President Jeff Zucker, president of General Television Group, said in a phone interview that "the company did not have enough work to maintain its current work force of 3,000 employees.

Zucker said of the downloadable videos, "As long as our content is protected from piracy, then there will be no barriers." "There's certainly more to come," he said.

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Storin continued from page 1

count and he and his wife
in Maine, Storin said he would like to spend more time there, which would be impossible while remaining associate vice president.

The University has not yet named a permanent replacement for Storin, whose retirement is effective Dec. 31 but was put on "indefinite hold" after Notre Dame's trip to the Jan. 2 Fiesta Bowl in Tempe, Ariz., he said.

Associate Director of News and Information Dennis Brown—who, along with candidates external to the University, is a candidate to succeed Storin—will take over Storin's duties in the interim, Storin said.

Storin will continue to teach one course per semester at the University, adding a spring Media Ethics course to the University's undergraduate journalism curriculum. He has taught since 2004.

"Notre Dame's trip to the Jan. 2 Fiesta Bowl in Tempe, Ariz., he said. "The students here are probably the best decision I've made in my career." Storin

said. "Teaching opened a whole new world to me," he recently bought a home in pretty special, both intellectually and personally, and I think that coming to (Notre Dame) in this particular point in my life... was probably the best decision I've made in my career."

In addition to heading the News and Information Department and responding to campus, local and national media, he also regularly corresponded with alumni concerned about the direction Notre Dame was taking amidst the recent national cultural wars—a delicate and often trying task.

"That was the most wearing aspect of the job," Storin

said of addressing fears that Notre Dame had "lost its way in terms of its Catholic character."

"The great thing about Notre Dame is that everyone wants Notre Dame to be his or her Notre Dame—in other words, as he or she idealizes it," Storin said.

"Sometimes you're dealing with very passionate and articulate people. It's always interesting, but sometimes frustrating.

That same passion—and plenty of national scrutiny—surfaced last winter when the University fired then-Notre Dame head coach Tyrone Willingham, who had been Notre Dame's first black head coach, after placing his image in jeopardy.

"I think if I accomplished anything internally, it was to make some University officials realize that with good preparation and forethought you can often use media to your advantage, and that it's wrong to consider reporters to always be antagonistic and potentially sinister."

Matt Storin

associate vice president

News and Information

Notre Dame in a positive light. Storin said, particularly the favorable coverage given the University amidst the controversy surrounding the revoked visa of Muslim professor Tariq Ramadan in the fall of 2004.

After making the transition from working in journalism to responding to journalists' requests, Storin said he generally had positive exchanges with his former counterparts.

"With I'd say the exception of some of the coverage of the Williamson episode, I've had very good experiences with the reporters here, not least of which were the frequent 'speak in truth to power' stories that were published from Tokyo to Washington, D.C. He also worked for U.S. News and World Report, the Chicago Sun-Times, the New York Daily News, the Maine Times and his hometown paper, the Daily News of Springfield, Mass.

Following his retirement, Storin took six months off before joining a program at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He began working for U.S. News and World Report, the Chicago Sun-Times, the New York Daily News, the Maine Times and his hometown paper, the Daily News of Springfield, Mass. Following his retirement, Storin took six months off before joining a program at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He began working for U.S. News and World Report, the Chicago Sun-Times, the New York Daily News, the Maine Times and his hometown paper, the Daily News of Springfield, Mass.

"Storin retired from the Globe in July 2001 after eight years as its editor and a total of 21 years at the newspaper, where he covered news from Tokyo to Washington, D.C. He has also worked for U.S. News and World Report, the Chicago Sun-Times, the New York Daily News, the Maine Times and his hometown paper, the Daily News of Springfield.

"He is really enjoying it," he said. "As long as my health is good and my long-suffering spouse continues to like South Bend... it could be a good long time. We'll see. Really, for 41 years with a couple of short stints here and there, I think I've done a good job."

"And sometimes that means telling hard truths, speaking truths to power, but nevertheless it's been a good experience."

Switching to his News and Information position from the journalism field also allowed Storin to ease tensions between Notre Dame administrators and the media, he said.

"If I think I accomplished anything internally, it was to make some University officials realize that with good preparation and forethought you can often use media to your advantage, and that it's wrong to consider reporters to always be antagonistic and potentially sinister," he said.

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"I like it, I really enjoy it," he said. "As long as my health is good and my long-suffering spouse continues to like South Bend... it could be a good long time. We'll see. Really, for 41 years with a couple of short stints here and there, I think I've done a good job."

Contact Claire Heining at cheining@nd.edu

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News and Information

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Notre Dame
AUSTRIA

Israeli institute pays tribute to Austrians

85 people recognized for helping the Jews in the Holocaust

Associated Press

VIENNA — Israel's Yad Vashem institute paid tribute Tuesday to 85 Austrians who risked their lives to save their Jewish friends and neighbors during the Holocaust.

Among those recognized for their courage in defying the Nazis were Hermine Biss, who hid a Jewish woman in her Vienna home between 1942 and 1945, and Dana and Ewald Kleisinger who saved the lives of several Jews by giving them sanctuary in their Warsaw home.

Biss was honored posthumously with the title "Righteous Among the Nations" — joining the Kleisingers and 82 other Austrians already so recognized. The Kleisingers were additionally given honorary memorial Israeli citizenship, an honor Dana Kleisinger accepted on behalf of herself and her late husband, Austrian President Heinz Fischer emphasized the significance of the event in a ceremony held at the Vienna Jewish Community building. He linked it to the long process that finally replaced decades of denial with the recognition commonly held today that Austrians shared responsibility for the Holocaust.

"We have moved away from a one-sided theory of being victims," he said, alluding to the long-held claim by Austrian officialdom that the country was the first nation to fall to Adolf Hitler's Germany through annexation in 1938.

Instead, said Fischer, Austrians have "learned to see things more honestly and properly and to arrive at the public acknowledgment that there were victims and aggressors, aggressors and victims under the Austrians." Ashbel, alluding to Monday's suicide bombing in the Israeli town of Netanya, condemned those exploiting "hate [and] anti-Semitism to reach their goal of creating a Jew-free region and maybe even a Jew-free world."

The 85 Austrians are among the 20,757 non-Jews recognized as "Righteous Among the Nations" by the foundation.
Fallen police officer mourned in New York

Associated Press

NEW YORK — An estimated 20,000 police officers, some from as far away as Hawaii and Japan, turned a Brooklyn neighborhood into an ocean of blue Tuesday in a tribute to a slain New York police officer.

"It was simply his nature to want to help others," Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said of 35-year-old Dillon Stewart.

Stewart, shot through the heart during a Nov. 28 traffic stop, was remembered as an extraordinary man who made an extraordinary decision to quit his accounting job and join the NYPD at age 30.

"I feel truly blessed and honored to have married such a wonderful man. His life was just begun," Stewart’s widow Leslyn told friends, family and others who gathered at the cavernous 1,500-seat New Life Tabernacle Church. "I will always love him with my whole heart."

The Stewarts’ children, 6-year-old Alexis and 5-month-old Samantha, sat with friends. Kelly was joined by Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who hailed Stewart for his dedication to both family and job.

Court leaning toward military

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court appeared ready Tuesday to rule against colleges that want to limit military recruiting on campus to protest the Pentagon’s policy on gays.

New Chief Justice John Roberts and other court members signaled support for a law that says schools that accept federal money also have to accommodate military recruiters. The justices seemed concerned about hindering a Defense Department need to fill its ranks when the nation is at war.

"There's the right in the Constitution to raise a military," Roberts said.

Law school campuses have become the latest battleground over the “don't ask, don't tell” policy allowing gay men and women to serve in the military only if they keep their sexual orientation to themselves.

A group of law schools and professors had sued the Pentagon, claiming their free-speech rights are being violated because they are forced to associate with military recruiters or promote their campus appearances. Many law schools forbid the participation of recruiters from public agencies and private companies that have discriminatory policies.

E. Joshua Rosenkranz, the lawyer for the schools, told justices: "There are two messages going on here and they are clashing. There is the military's message, which the schools are interpreting as 'Uncle Sam does not want you,' and there is the school's message which is 'we do not abet those who discriminate. That is immoral.'"

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy said: "Your argument would allow schools to exclude anyone in a uniform from a cafeteria."

Justice Stephen Breyer said that many people disagree with government policies, but they are not allowed to get out of paying taxes or following laws because of that.
Rice secures new rights for base

German Chancellor claims U.S. admitted detention mistake

Associated Press

BUCHAREST — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice tried Tuesday to allay European suspicions about the CIA's role in the pursuit of terrorists, even as she secured new rights for American citizens held in American military bases suspected of having housed a secret CIA prison.

She refused to say whether the base ever served as a clandestine "holding pen" or interrogation center for terror suspects, and she stepped carefully around questions about a German citizen who sued the CIA on Tuesday over his seizure and detention in a U.S. base.

"I am not going to talk about issues of concern," Rice said. "It is also important, though, that any debate have a healthy atmosphere and is intent on killing innocent civilians, she added.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said the United States is "clearly not going to talk about issues of concern." But after hours of testimony and another two witnesses, the caged defendant who once dominated Iraq publicly exploded in anger.

Waving a finger and pounding his desk, Saddam told the judges to "go to hell" and vowed not to return to court Wednesday.

Dressed again in a dark suit and white shirt and clutching a Quran, Saddam complained that he and the seven other defendants were tired and had been deprived of opportunities to shower, have a change of clothes, exercise or go for a smoke.

"This is terrorism," he declared.

Throughout the trial, which began Oct. 19, Saddam has repeatedly staged confrontations with the court and attempted to take control of the proceedings with dramatic rhetorical flourishes.

Saddam and the others are charged in the deaths of more than 140 Shiite Muslims in retaliation for an assassination attempt against him in the town of Dujail in 1982. Saddam accused Iran of ordering the attempt on his life.

Five witnesses — two women and three men — testified Tuesday in the fourth session of the trial, all of them hidden from the public view and with their voices disguised to protect their identities.

The most compelling testimony came from the woman identified only as "Witness A," who was a 16-year-old girl at the time of the crackdown. Her voice breaking with emotion, she told the court of beatings and electric shocks by the former president's agents.

"I was forced to take off my clothes, and he raised my leg up and tied my hands. He continued administering electric shocks and whipping me and telling me to speak," Witness A said of Wadah al-Sheik, an Iraqi intelligence officer who died of cancer last month while in American custody.

The woman, speaking from behind a beige curtain, has testified several times as she struggled to maintain her composure.

"God is great. Oh, my Lord!" she said, moaning.

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What makes a good Viewpoint?

This is the last edition of The Observer that will be published this calendar year. Therefore, despite the fact that there are several issues of significance that could (and should, and in the case of the Vatican’s new emperor, must) be addressed, Instruction, which merits rather more analysis than space allows, is the column of the week. I can give it in one week’s time, will be drawing my attention. I have opted instead to set aside the static columnists and pursue a little end-of-the-year reflection.

After only a few weeks of reading The Observer, it is not difficult to tell that every columnist this paper has a slightly different methodology when it comes to choosing topics. It is possible, however, to lump us into a couple of general categories.

One are the reactionary columnists, who get most of their material from watching CNN or parsing the opinions of others, and who try to ride the brief waves of anger or interest that surround a piece of breaking news. The value of this type of writing is measured by the number of people who begin to care about, or at least react to, the issue in question. However, the biggest problem with this tactic is that the ultimate value of a columnist’s words depends largely on factors beyond her control. It is easy to miss your mark while riding the waves of public opinion.

As the polar opposite of this style lie the static columnists. They pick a single, narrow area, such as politics, ethics or liberal shock proclamations, and over the course of a year proceed to pound it to death. Static columnists, I think, view themselves more as preachers than anything, but from the point of view of most every time they are just really, really irritating. The hallmark of this style of a column that emerges from nowhere, and has almost nothing to do with either contemporary issues or the present state of campus, and indeed is useless to almost everyone.

Behind each of these schools of thought lies a distinct perception of what an opinion column is supposed to be. Static columnists write foremost for themselves (or their ideologies), to express their own views and moreover to sway people to them. Reactionary columnists write in the hopes of stirring up a hornet’s nest of replies and thereby gain some notoriety, or at least a sense of accomplishment.

Unfortunately neither of these styles provides any real value to the column’s readers, who, especially in an intellectually and politically charged environment such as Notre Dame, cannot be herd like sheep. Indeed, both of these styles ultimately do a disservice to the community of readers and to the community of writers.

If the columnist recognizes the flaws in these, the two most popular schools of thought, then we will see those who on providing an opinion column for herself, and more on uncovering those actual services that only she, through her words, is in a position to provide. For the columnist, almost all else, must serve her readers by giving them something that stark journals, however valuable, can never supply.

There can be many faces to this service. Some of the most significant are the columnist’s honesty (which is a great weapon, for many people do not know how to deal with it), her perspective and her unique pool of human experiences. Though all of these must be mitigated by the firm realization that the vast majority of her opinions are, in fact, only of interest to her and to her henchmen. This is a disappointing but unavoidable truth, and a sign of maturity as a writer to recognize it.

Above all else, the columnist who understands these things realizes that she is privileged in the position of expressing reality, articulated and often naked, to those who may have forgotten what it looks like, and thus has the difficult but critical job of saying not what she wishes to say, but rather that which must be said. Thus, the columnist who serves the reader is persuasive, but only insofar as the truth itself is persuasive, and is mocking, but only insofar as it reveals something that deserves being mocked and is emotional, but only insofar as experience shows that emotion is essential.

As one professor once explained to me, discussion — honest, open, brutal, intimate, truthful and painful — is the origin of all change. It is also the seat of all empathy. It is a great honor, therefore, to be able to serve discussion for its own sake, and to lead you further into it.

Lance Gallop is a 2005 graduate of Notre Dame. More of his work can be found at www.tidewaterblues.com. He can be contacted at comments@tidewaterblues.com. The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Letters to the Editor

Revisiting ‘deep-rooted tendencies’

Christian Hoeffel’s “Close reading elicits positive response” of Dec. 5 contains some with which I take issue. The interpretation of the Vatican’s recent Instruction on homosexual persons[1] does not concern itself with the document’s primary argument, that is, the identity of the person as homosexual. Rather, the Vatican Instruction is an attempt to define the term “deep-rooted homosexual tendencies,” the focal point of what this document actually does. According to the above line, people who have a combined score of 115-14? No. Not to mention going 5-1 against N.C. State in the Gator Bowl? No. Southern Cal in the final game and then embarrass ourself with a new head coach and going 8-0 only to drop a 14-6 loss by Michigan (shutout), USC and Florida State (shutout) by permanent homosexual orientation that Hoeffel describes and affirms is included in this document under those with “deep-rooted homosexual tendencies” and is therefore banned from ordination. This is, nonetheless, “heretical,” I would like to go deeper into that issue but alas, due to space constraints I cannot. Thus, I would like to offer what I believe to be the clearest understanding of the “deep-rooted homosexual tendencies” as defined within the text of the Instruction itself, particularly in light of extensive footnote No. 8. In effecting the secular world dealing with exactly what “deep-rooted homosexual tendencies” are, the document cites the following from the earlier magisterial document ibidem – “Although the particular inclination of the homosexual person is not, in a strict sense, a moral evil (namely, having sexual intercourse with a person of the same sex) – note the Vatican’s insistence to reduce homosexuality to a matter of genital activity only – those who practice, as you have no recollection of the truly good times in downtown Albuquerque, seeing ropes so that you know your way to Clover Ridge, seeing real discussion going on about their plight in the off-campus community, to give us seniority.

Seniority rules

In my four years — well, more like three and three-quarters — at the University of Notre Dame, I have been part of a group of undergraduates[2] that has usually been interpreted to refer to its undergraduates. What is, nonetheless, “heretical,” I would like to go deeper into that issue but alas, due to space constraints I cannot. Thus, I would like to offer what I believe to be the clearest understanding of the “deep-rooted homosexual tendencies” as defined within the text of the Instruction itself, particularly in light of extensive footnote No. 8. In effecting the secular world dealing with exactly what “deep-rooted homosexual tendencies” are, the document cites the following from the earlier magisterial document ibidem – “Although the particular inclination of the homosexual person is not, in a strict sense, a moral evil (namely, having sexual intercourse with a person of the same sex) – note the Vatican’s insistence to reduce homosexuality to a matter of genital activity only – those who practice, as you have no recollection of the truly good times in downtown Albuquerque, seeing ropes so that you know your way to Clover Ridge, seeing real discussion going on about their plight in the off-campus community, to give us seniority.

Bowl ticket allocation unfair

On behalf of the Notre Dame student body, I would like to tender my heartfelt thanks to the University for its incredibly generous allocation of 1,250 ticket winners for its football team. However, I believe this move has shown your continuing commitment to put underclasspeople (I am trying to stick to that for all of you who also grew up watching breakfast-time cartoons) off-campus.

If the bishops and superiors of religious orders are truly willing to admit that an outright and blanket ban on homosexuals in the ordination process is wrong, then I sincerely wish they would have the moral wherewithal to stand up and call the Vatican on the carpet for what it has done — it has unjustly and ungracefully persecuted homosexuals, and in my diocese, I will not put that ban into effect. An unjust law is no law at all. This is what is going to practically occur I suspect, but I also believe that, in the words of Richard John Neuhaus (with whom I disagree on practically everything else), “Those who try to make libel arguments should have the honesty to admit that they are not interpreting but rejecting the directives of the church.” In doing so, homosexual Catholics would finally see real discussion going on about their plight in the Church at the highest levels, not simply receiving the same old condemnations. And real discussion, especially in this matter, can only benefit all.

— Andy Buechel

Senator

off-campus

Dec. 5

Vanilla-Dr. Pepper-Stand, in our homes, even if we had to kick one gender out at midnight, “wink”

Yet, it is also we seniors who will not be able to watch Mr. Weis (yes, you should call him Mister, as well, from that atrociously golden section) ever again. I would probably let Mark May be the godfather to my first child and on one more year of Weis’ football, seeing as how you seniors have a legitimate shot at the title next year as well. So since the University, who will be seeing about as many donations from the Class of 2006 after this farce as from the re-gilded-Dome-loving Class of 2005, can’t seem to give us seniority, we’re calling on you, underclassmen, to give us seniority.

— Ud Pitta III

Senior

off-campus

Dec. 6

error in this regard, I would be grateful. But so long as it is within the power of the Vatican to define the term “deep-rooted homosexual tendencies” with what it is seen as intrinsically disordered. “A close reading of this seems to affirm that what the Vatican means by this term can be read as synonymous terms; this is particularly evident due to the placement of the note in the “tendency” section of the document.” As such, two people who have these tendencies or inclinations are defined as a “homosexual person.” Here is the only place where I see myself making any logical jump, but to follow: a woman who is a sexual person is someone who I would define — and our winning strictly defined here — as having homosexual orientation. By banning those who have these tendencies, the Vatican is banning any and all homosexuals.

Further, if the interpretation that Hoeffel wants to give is correct, why have a document singling out homosexuals at all? After all, the need to live celibately, which is a stable, consistent, and unchosen state that one cannot change unwilling to use the word, for it would mean banishing those with “deep-rooted homosexual tendencies” from picking up lottery numbers today.”

Let me break it down for you a little bit. Thus we get the important Catholic distinction between acts and orientation, though the Vatican still seems unwillng to use the word, for it would mean banishing those with “deep-rooted homosexual tendencies” from picking up lottery numbers today.”

Let me be clear: I do not write this simply to establish that I am right on this. Nor am I happy about the conclusions I come to. If anyone can give me a convincing analysis of and from the text itself that demonstrates my
The juxtaposition of red high heels against the sterile backdrop of a hospital room during the opening credits tells it all. From the first moments of the show’s unconventional title sequence, it is clear “Grey’s Anatomy” isn’t just another high-adrenaline doctor drama.

Sure, Seattle Grace Hospital emanates a world into which Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo) — provides its staff with their share of heart-pounding, race-against-the-clock type challenges. But it also is the perfect setting for the lust and love triangles that audiences love to watch.

When the show (10 p.m. Sundays) first aired last March, viewers watched as Grey scrubbed in on her first surgery, struggled to adjust to new romances and succumbed to an illicit romance with Dr. Derek Shepard (Patrick Dempsey).

At the end of the season, her life became infinitely more complicated when she was dumped by her wife, April (Kate Walsh), showed up. Now, alongside her romance and superiors, she continues to try to survive her complicated personal life while meeting the strenuous demands of the hospital.

Surprisingly, even amid illness and death, hilarity often ensues. The show’s witty dialogue, constant stream of zany patients and a number of humiliating (but humorous) situations keep the show from plunging into the potentially depressing world of medical TV.

Likewise, “Grey’s Anatomy” satisfies by feeding the audience’s appetite for scandal with a steady diet of one-night stands, sexual tension and even a mysterious case of syphilis that strikes Seattle Grace.

The show also has to offer its ever-popular (and quotable) voiceover wisdom, which assigns each episode a theme that subtly unfolds across the characters’ various storylines. The brief monologues that air over the opening credits are a virtual iron lung for the show, numbing the painful transition into a story that includes Sandra Oh (“Sideways”), Ellen Pompeo (“Law and Order”) and Isaiah Washington (“Exit Wounds”), all of whom have substantial acting chops and experience.

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Another defining feature on “Grey’s Anatomy” is its soundtrack. The ultra-dramatic compositions created out of heart-monitor beeps and shouts for c.e.s. or saline heard on shows like “ER.” are used sparingly. Instead, episodes feature salient musical selections to accompany the action in order to heighten the show’s emotional effects.

Additionally, the performers featured on the show are hip independent artists. The official soundtrack features the likes of the Postal Service, Mike Doughty and Ben Lee.

“Grey’s Anatomy” is like a steady, hour-long mouthpiece drip — effectively numbing the painful transition into a week of academia.

Currently the program is midway through its second season, but expect prospective viewers, fear not. The storylines are relatively easy to pick up on and the show’s official Web site (http://abc.go.com/primetime/greysanatomy) features a synopsis of every episode up to the present. The synopses are well worth checking out as a valuable supplement to the show itself.

As one of the best shows on television, “Grey’s Anatomy” comes highly recommended.

Contact Mary Squillace at msquilla@nd.edu
"Grey's Anatomy" is part of a long tradition of medical television dramas and comedies. The human drama of life in hospitals is appealing to both networks and viewers alike. The shows vary in how realistically they portray medical life — as well as in their focus on humor or drama — but their huge popularity reveals how the intense and emotional lives of doctors are great fodder for television.

Some shows, while set in hospitals, focus very little on actual medicine. One long-running example is the soap opera "General Hospital," which is technically about doctors, but in which their external dramas are much more central. Medicine often seems like a deeply serious subject, but some shows manage to show the humorous side of this solemn profession. A classic example is "M*A*S*H," which managed not only to find humor in medicine but also in war.

The series focused on a group of nurses and surgeons who were part of the Medical Army Surgical Hospital and in the midst of the Korean Conflict. They used humor and pranks to cope with the difficulties and tragedies that surrounded them. "M*A*S*H," which ran from 1972 to 1983, actually lasted longer than the Korean Conflict — which lasted from 1950 to 1953 — that inspired it. The show established the realistic style, interlocking stories and conscious effort to break traditions that would become the staple of most medical dramas.

The David E. Kelley drama "Chicago Hope" ran from 1994 to 2000 on CBS. The show focused on surgeon Dr. Jeffrey Geiger and his surgical colleagues, and it presented their personal and professional problems. The show suffered from cast and producer reshuffling, as well as competition from another medical drama — "ER." The pilot episode of "Chicago Hope" was set in a Chicago-area emergency room, and it revealed the grim nature of the show. The series made him difficult to deal with, his extensive ability to diagnose diseases makes him respected. The cases he solves are often bizarre and sometimes comical, but the show presents the notoriety tricky side of medicine as an integral part of saving lives.

"Grey's Anatomy" combines the humor and pathos of medicine in a Seattle hospital. The show combines personal drama, professional competitiveness and unusual medical cases while trying to balance the humor and tragedy.

The world of hospitals is natural fodder for television. Medicine deals with the balance between life and death, and hospital cases can run the gamut from tragic to humorous. Doctors, at least on TV, usually have intense personalities and must balance life with their consuming careers. Medical shows have been a part of television since its beginnings, and new shows will continue to find ways to express this difficult and respected profession with unique twists.

Contact Molly Griffin at mgriffin@nd.edu

Character:

Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo) — When Grey enters her first year at Seattle Grace, she is known as the daughter of renowned surgeon Ellis. Grey, author of the renowned (fictional) medical text "Grey's Anatomy." Before long, she becomes romantically involved with Dr. Shepard, who breaks her heart. Her sincerity and empathy allow her to make connections with her patients.

Cristina Yang (Sandra Oh) — Cristina is bold, commitment-phobic and unapologetic, who has recently compicated her relationship with Dr. Burke. The witty cracks that come from her mouth, even at the bedside of her patients, are flawlessly entertaining.

Izzie Stevens (Katherine Heigl) — Izzie hails from humble, small-town beginnings, and managed to pay her way through medical school by selling lingerie. At the hospital, she is extremely driven, but encounters some distraction in the form of Alex, her quasi-boyfriend.

Alex Karev (Justin Chambers) — Alex is the hotshot resident who is in love with Izzie. He has almost no bedside manner to speak of and suffers from his own constant pain. While his antisocial tendencies make him difficult to deal with, his extensive ability to diagnose diseases makes him respected. The cases he solves are often bizarre and sometimes comical, but the show presents the notoriously tricky side of medicine as an integral part of saving lives.

George O Malley (T.R. Knight) — Formerly involved with Meredith, he usually means well, he constantly gets himself into trouble in and out of the hospital.

Derek Shepard (Patrick Dempsey) — Known to fans as "Dr. McDreamy," Dr. Shepard, the resident heart doctor from NYC, clearly clinches the role as the show's heartthrob. Formerly involved with Meredith, Shepard is now attempting to make amends with his estranged wife.
Cameron Crowe is a director of modern pleasures. His filmography — full of low-key melodramas (“Jerry Maguire,” “Almost Famous”) and coming-of-age stories (the 1998 teen classic “Say Anything”) — has established him as one of Hollywood’s most acute and upbeat storytellers. “Almost Famous” (2000) may be his best, or at least more archetypal, film, an intensely personal, most autobiographical film, as he was a 15-year-old rock journalist writing in one indelible scene, Elton John.

The five Bennet sisters - the lovely Lydia (Jena Malone) and Lt. Wickham (Rupert Friend) star in Joe Wright’s “Pride and Prejudice.” Bennet sisters grow complicated and they find themselves with broken hearts and wounded pride, but they end up with happiness.

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As such, it wears itself on its sleeve, allowing the film to take on looser and raunchy fare like “American Pie” and “Old School,” a sweary sentimental picture like “Almost Famous” is a rarity. At once nostalgic and insightful, the film achieved all its goals and then some. Cameron Crowe has made some pretty bad movies over the years (“Vanilla Sky,” anyone?), “Almost Famous” solidifies his talents as a good filmmaker and an observant commentator on what it means to be 15.

“Almost Famous” will be shown on Thursday as part of Legends’ “Brew and View” series.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu.

Charles D. Griffin, the immature Kitty (Carey Mulligan) and the wild Lydia (Jena Malone) are the heart of the novel. Bennet sisters grow complicated and they find themselves with broken hearts and wounded pride, but they end up with happiness.

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Nowitzki's double-double too much for Pacers
Bryant regains shooting form, hits 14 of 24, gives Lakers beat up on the Bucks

Indiana Pacers

INDIANAPOLIS — Dirk Nowitzki had 31 points and 11 rebounds as the Dallas Mavericks pulled away in the closing minutes for a victory over the Indiana Pacers.

The Pacers, playing their first game at home after a five-game trip out west, cut a 14-point Dallas lead to 75-71 with under 4 minutes remaining.

But Adrian Griffin, Nowitzki and Mark Cuban hit consecutive baskets for the Mavericks, and after a basket by Indiana's Ron Artest, Nowitzki put the game out of reach with a 3-pointer with 38 seconds remaining. Sarunas Jasikevicius finished the scoring for the Pacers with a pair of free throws.

Devin Harris added 15 points and 11 rebounds, and Artest added 15 points and five steals.

The Pacers were appearing tired from their longest road trip of the season, and after first 14 shots and were content to the boards and loose balls.

Nowitzki had 17 points in the first half, including four in an 8-2 run that put the Mavericks in control midway through the period. Harris never led and managed only one tie, went more than 6 minutes without a field goal and trailed by eight before the first half, 58-50, by O'Neal, who missed his first five attempts.

Indiana led the cut to five points early in the second period, but a fast-break basket and free throw, and two free flies from Van Horn pushed the Mavs' lead to 33-23.

Chowzem scored 27 points, and Merrick Peterson had 21 for the Mavericks, who were trying to build a three-game road winning streak for the first time since March. Nowitzki scored 21 of the Mavericks' points. Peterson scored with a three-pointer, but left, Peterson got the inbounds pass and launched a three-pointer from the top of the key. He missed, but chased down the ball and dashed to the left corner and tried again, this time swishing the basket with 5 seconds left.

The Wizards had time to set up the final play of regulation, but Artest missed a contested three-pointer at the buzzer.

Points were aplenty from the top of the key. He shot 7-of-13 from the field and also hit 15-of-19 free throws, tying a franchise mark for most attempts. He added three blocks.

Reserve guard Bobby Jackson scored 21 points and Eddie Jones added 11 for Memphis, which held a 21-point lead in the second half.

By the early stages of the fourth quarter, the Hornets' starters left the game for good and watched from the bench as the reserves finished New Orleans' second straight loss. New Orleans shot 39 percent from the floor, P.J. Brown, leading scorer Chris Paul and reserve guard Speedy Claxton missed a combined 22 of 26 shots.

Desmond Mason and David West led New Orleans with 15 points each, while J.R. Smith and Kirk Snyder each scored 10, Memphis, which struggled early from the field, eventually got untracked thanks to Jackson, building an 11-point lead in the second period and taking a 50-39 lead at the break as Lorenzo Wright hit a 10-footer at the horn.

New Orleans chose not to double-team Gasol down low, and the Memphis leading scorer had 17 points and eight rebounds in the first half. Mason scored 13 to lead the Hornets for the first time, and Smith added all 10 of his points.

Brown was only 0-for-2 for two points. Meanwhile, Paul was held scoreless until a layup he love needs confidential support. You may call UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go alone! If you or someone you know needs confidential support, please call Mr. Smith. Q: CCC, 1-810-918. For more information, see our bi-weekly ad in THE OBSERVER.

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NHL

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

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In Brief

Former Boston manager Little hired by Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES — Former Boston Red Sox manager Grady Little was hired Tuesday to manage the Los Angeles Dodgers, who had been without a field boss for more than two months. The 55-year-old Little beat out Jim Fregosi, John McLaren, Manny Acta and Joel Skinner for the job. He succeeds Jim Tracy, who parted ways with the Dodgers on Oct. 3 — the day after the club completed its second-worst season since moving west from Brooklyn in 1958.

Little managed the Red Sox from 2002-03, compiling a 188-136 record. He was second-guessed for leaving starting pitcher Pedro Martinez in too long in Game 7 of the 2003 AL championship series, which the New York Yankees won in 11 innings.

In the fallout, Little’s contract was not renewed. But Red Sox president Larry Lucchino said that didn’t prevent Little from getting another job.

“I think that’s terrific for Grady, and wish him great good luck,” Lucchino said at the winter meetings in Indianap.
One last goal awaits Young in Pasadena

Houston native overcame a tough childhood to lead the Longhorns back to the Rose Bowl

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Seventh-grader Vince Young tossed away in his yard, raking leaves and piling them in bags. Each time he finished, his mother would dump them out and tell him to do it again.

It was his punishment for participating in a gang fight, and it was torture.

Felicia Young wanted him to hate it. Having struggled with drugs and alcohol for years, and with Vince's father's in jail most of her son's life, she was trying to scare the kid straight.

"She told me I'd end up dead or in jail," Young said, recalling his childhood in Houston, "walking with the wrong crowd and getting gunshot shots at you, trying to avoid a bullet.

"When I was raking those leaves, I thought about that," he said. "I started really working on football and school more, and that was that.

"That" became the unleashing of an elusive, strong-armed quarterback who became a local legend in a city as big as Houston and has become an even bigger star at the University of Texas.

Young has led the No. Longhorns to 19 straight wins and a Rose Bowl showdown with No. 1 Southern California for the national championship. He's done it in such a spectacular way that on Saturday he'll likely be in New York as a finalist for the Heisman Trophy, trying to join Earl Campbell and Ricky Williams as the only Longhorns to win the award.

His top competition comes from the guys Texas will have to stop Jan. 4 — Trojans running back Reggie Bush and quarterback Matt Leinart, who won the Heisman last season. The Longhorns haven't lost since.

Young's breakout game was the last Rose Bowl when he ran for 20, 60, 10 and 23 touchdows and threw for another in Texas' 38-37 win over Michigan.

"Vince Young is the finest athlete I've ever been on the field with," Wolverines coach Lloyd Carr said afterward.

As a passer, Young silenced his critics with 2,769 yards and 26 touchdowns this season. He's also run for a team-high 850 yards and nine TDs in an offense that scored 50 or more points seven times. His pass efficiency rating is 168.6, the best in the nation.

"We take for granted now what he does," Brown said. "He does whatever he needs to do to win."

Young's arm got Texas its biggest win of the season, a 25-22 victory at Ohio State, with a late-game touchdown pass to Limas Sweed.

Then the season really started rolling.

Texas ended five years of frustration against Oklahoma. Young was the center of the post-game celebration, leading thousands of fans in singing the "Eyes of Texas."

Three weeks later, he saved Texas' season with 50th total yards — 267 on the ground, 239 through the air — in a 47-29 win at Oklahoma State. Texas trailed 26-9 in the second quarter and Young's 80-yard touchdown run at the start of the third turned the game.

"When the chips are down, he can pull something from nowhere," offensive tackle Justin Blalock said.

Young is just as important a leader off the field as on it.

He leads the pre-game behind-the-scenes "flow sessions" of music and dancing that keep the players and coaches loose. To get in better touch with his players, Brown downloaded hours of hip-hop music into his iPod.

"I was telling him Brown sometimes what 50 Cent be say- ing, it's similar to some of our guys' lives," Young said. "We talk to each other like we're best friends. I knew our relationship would be good, but not like it is now. We've been together a long time. It's let me grow into a man."

Since midseason, Young has maintained that he plans to return for a senior season, even if his family could use the riches of an NFL contract.

"It's my decision and right now my decision is to come back to school," he said before Texas beat Colorado for the Big 12 title

awkward sidearm motion was too inconsistent.

"He had to move to receiver," Texas coach Mack Brown recalled recently.

Instead of benching him or moving him to a new position, Brown left the team in the hands of a 5-10, 230-pound project. Flouting his size and speed as Texas bulled teams with a punishing rushing attack.

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Bengal blues have disappeared in Cincinnati

Lewis's 9-3 Bengals can clinch a playoff berth with a win

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — The usual December question around these parts — how low can the Bengals go? — has been replaced by one from a bygone era:

This year, everyone is wondering: How deep can the Bengals go ... in the playoffs?

At 9-3, the Bengals are all but certain to win the AFC North. They’re two games ahead of Pittsburgh and can clinch their first playoff appearance since 1990 with a victory Sunday over Cleveland and a Steelers loss to the Bears.

Even if the Steelers win the rest of the way, the Bengals can clinch the title by beating the Browns (4-8) and the Lions (4-8) in the next two weeks. Cincinnati would have the tiebreaker over the Steelers.

There are three reasons to think that Cincinnati’s long-awaited return to the playoffs could be more than a one-and-done deal.

1. The offense has Carson. Quarterback Carson Palmer has surpassed all expectations, developing into one of the NFL’s best passers in only his second season running the offense. He leads the league in completion rate (68.7 percent) and touchdowns (26) and is second to Peyton Manning with a 106.6 passer rating.

2. The defense has a craving for turnovers. The Steelers led the NFL with 26 interceptions, 10 more than anyone else and eight shy of the Franchise record. Cornerback Deltha O’Neal leads the league with eight, rookie middle linebacker Odell Hatterman has five, and cornerback Troy James has four.

3. The Bengals lead the NFL with 26 interceptions, 10 more than anyone else and eight shy of the Franchise record. Cornerback Deltha O’Neal leads the league with eight, rookie middle linebacker Odell Hatterman has five, and cornerback Troy James has four.

The defense gives up a lot of yards (ranked 28th this week) and a lot of points (105 in the last three games), but has gotten turnovers that set up the high-scoring offense.

“For us this year, it seems they’ve been coming in bunches,” linebacker Brian Simmons said. “Once one happens, two or three more are soon to follow. For whatever reason, that’s kind of how it’s going for us this year.”

Which brings up the third point:

1. The stripe tiger stripes have good karma this year.

The Bengals have gotten plenty of breaks — and make no mistake, those matter in how things turn out.

A couple of significant injuries can knock a team out of contention. Pittsburgh isn’t wondering where it would be if Ben Roethlisberger hasn’t messed up both knees and the thumb on his passing hand? What could Green Bay have done if Brett Favre didn’t lose his top two running backs and three receivers to injuries?

The Bengals have been fortunate that way. Safety Moe Williams has been the most significant loss on defense. On offense has stayed intact, playing through the bruises and stresses that crop up with every team.

Bengals coach Marvin Lewis reacts to a call against the Steelers on Dec. 4. Lewis has led his team to the top of the AFC North.

GOLF

Woods wins player of the year award, again

Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Tiger Woods won the PGA Tour player of the year award Tuesday for the seventh time in his nine full seasons, the final prize in a year that featured two major championships among his six tour titles.

It was the fifth time Woods has swept the three major awards — the Jack Nicklaus Trophy as player of the year, the Arnold Palmer Award for leading the money list and the Byron Nelson Award for having the lowest scoring average.

“It’s not about winning player of the year awards,” Woods said at the Target World Challenge. “It’s about winning tournaments that allow you to get these awards.”

Woods previously won player of the year from the PGA of America, which is based on points. The tour’s award is a vote of the players, although tour officials have refused to release vote totals.

Dana Quigley, who won the money title on the 50-and-older circuit, won the Champions Tour player of the year, while Jason Gore, the Nationwide Tour player of the year, won three times to earn an instant promotion to the big leagues.

Sean O’Hair was voted PGA Tour rookie of the year. He earned his card at Q-school, won the John Deere Classic in July and finished his season at 18th on the money list with more than $2.4 million. He had not played in a PGA Tour event until this season.

Olin Browne was voted comeback player of the year on the PGA Tour, returning from nagging shoulder and back injuries and retooling his swing in his mid-40s to win the Deutsche Bank Championship and qualify for the tour’s Championship for the first time.

Other awards announced:

• Jay Haas was rookie of the year on the Champions Tour, winning twice in only 10 starts.
• Peter Jacobsen was comeback player of the year on the Champions Tour, winning the Senior Players Championship.
• Woods has failed to win PGA Tour player of the year only twice since his first full season in 1997 — both times while overhauling a leader in 1998 and in 2004. He won only one tournament each of those years.

He started this year with a victory in the Buick Invitational, outlasted Phil Mickelson in a tense playoff, then captured his fourth green jacket with a playoff victory over Chris DiMarco in the Masters. He essentially clinched the award with a wire-to-wire victory in the British Open.

Woods said the award was a product of winning, but his first player of the year was far more significant. That was in 1997, when his four victories included a 12-shot win in the Masters.
Colts’s face tough challenge in Jags

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — History can wait for the Indianapolis Colts.
Sure, they’re one of only five NFL teams to go 12-0 and are getting deluged daily with questions about staying undefeated.
But this week, the Colts insist, there are more pressing concerns.
A win over their toughest AFC South rival, Jacksonville, would wrap up the division title, give them a first-round bye, possibly even home-field advantage through the playoffs.
Coach Tony Dungy has instructed his players to forget about anything else.
“We definitely want that bye because that’s not something we’ve had since I’ve been here,” said Dungy, in his fourth season with Indianapolis.
“Those are big things for us, things we started thinking about before the season began.”
This week’s message is simple: Focus on the short-term and let others worry about Indy’s quest over the final month to match the 1972 Miami Dolphins’ unbeaten record.
At least that’s the company line.
Outside the Colts complex, the Colts can’t avoid talk of their unbeaten record.
Everyone wants to know who, or if, one of the remaining teams on Indy’s schedule can end this remarkable run. No team has been unbeaten this late in the season since the 1998 Denver Broncos, and the Colts have given no indication that they’re about to trip now.
Seven of their past nine wins have come by at least 17 points.
They lead the NFL in scoring, averaging more than 35 points over the past nine weeks, and have yielded the second-fewest points in the league. Only three teams — Cincinnati, St. Louis and New England — have scored more than two touchdowns against the Colts all season.

Conventional wisdom suggests the Colts are unlikely to lose at home, where it still plays San Diego and Arizona. That leaves games at Jacksonville and two weeks later at Seattle, in what will likely be hyped as a Super Bowl preview.
Jacksonville does have a history against the Colts. The teams have split the last two season series, and the Jaguars have traditionally given Indianapolis more trouble than most opponents.
The Colts’ 10-3 victory in this season’s first meeting was the only time this year the Colts trailed in the fourth quarter. So Dungy might not have to do much to keep his players’ attention.
“They’ve played us as well as anybody in the division, and they’re as hot as anybody,” Dungy said. “We always play close games, so we’re expecting a great game with a lot of intensity. It should be great for the NFL.”
But the Jaguars also are playing with a backup quarterback, David Garrard, and the Colts have been equally as proficient against the road as at home. Under Dungy, the Colts are 23-7 in the NFL.

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“All the Colts want to do, with the ongoing circus around their complex, is keep things in perspective.
“We get the opportunity next week to go down there and win the division,” two-time MVP Peyton Manning said after Sunday’s latest rout. “It’s nice to secure a playoff spot, but now we want to go try to win the division.”
While Dungy will let others talk about a perfect season, he believes the Colts do have the perfect combination.
♦ There’s Manning, the studious quarterback who has never missed a start and almost never misses a read. With his mastery of this offense and keen ability to adapt to any defensive formation, the Colts rarely lose yardage.
♦ There’s Edgerrin James, the two-time NFL rushing champ who has become the Colts’ sledgehammer. He’s carried the ball 275 times already this season, has most of runs between 5 and 9 yards in the NFL, and has shown no sign of slowing down.
Besides, he wants to prove he’s worthy of a long-term contract since he could become an unrestricted free agent next year.
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- Thomas Saving, Trustee of the Social Security Administration Trust Fund and Professor of Economics at Texas A&M

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Belles look for MIAA wins before Christmas

By TIM KAISER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will take on Adrian College tonight in the Belles' last home game of 2005. The Belles (12-0) are coming off of a narrow defeat to North Park University, and will look to get back on track with a win against the Lady Bulldogs (2-3).

The Belles know they beat themselves in their last game by shooting just 23 percent from the floor, and so are focusing more on improving their game in practice this week than on Adrian.

"We're working on taking the ball to the basket, drawing contact and finishing shots. We're a strong free throw shooting team as well," Boyce said of the third period after tonight's game.

"We've been taking things in stride, from more experience, and now we're taking things in stride, working more as a unit." After tonight's game, Saint Mary's will hit the road for its last game before Christmas, making the four and a half hour trip to play Alma College in Michigan. Despite the long ride, the team is looking forward to the trip.

"Yeah, it's four and half hours," Boyce said, "but we've done better away. Actually, we really don't mind (traveling). We traveled six (hours) to Hanover, and we traveled really well. We have a really good time on the bus, we don't dread it."

After Alma, the players have Christmas to look forward to.

"Definitely the freshmen, as well as upperclassmen but especially freshmen, are looking forward to spending time with families," Boyce said. "We have a few practices during finals, then a week to a week and a half off, and then on the 26th, we go to the Clark Tournament in Iowa. Then we get New Year's off, and a few days after that."

But the Belles won't let Christmas or finals distract them from their game. They feel they are prepared and ready to win.

"Our focus is taking the ball to the basket, and playing as a team," Boyce said. "We've got to come in strong, from warm up, and carry it though the first and second halves to win this game."

Contact Tim Kaiser at tkaiser@nd.edu

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Belles look for power play goals and limited the Mavericks to one man advantage goal on seven chances.

With well under a minute left in the game and the score knotted at 2-2, T.J. Jindra won the faceoff in the Mavericks' zone and drew the puck back to Wes O'Neill on the point. O'Neill slid the puck over to Trick on the high left side and Trick let off a blast that was deflected into the net off of Minnesota State goalie Mike Zacharias' pads.

"We held the fort, we had a couple of penalties to kill off," Jackson said of the third period after tonight's game. "The PK made the difference. Jindra and (Mark) Van Gulder were outstanding on PK in the third. They gave us a chance to win it on the last faceoff." Condra got his second goal of the year and the Irish on the board first with a power play tally at 7:00 into the first period on a rebound assisted by O'Neill and Seiba. The Mavericks cancelled the Irish lead only four minutes later when Rob Rankin tucked the puck past Irish goaltender Dave Brown for the 1-1 tie.

Zacharias was solid in net for Minnesota State with 19 saves as he held off the potent Irish attack. Brown stopped 27 out of 29 Maverick shots on the game and secured his second straight win between the pipes, including last Saturday's 3-0 shutout of Western Michigan. Rankin's first period goal snapped a 91:20 shutout streak for Brown that dates back to the second period of the Nov. 26 loss to Ohio State.

"He was instrumental in the PK being as effective as it was," Jackson said of Brown's performance. "He made some key saves at important times. He was a big part of our success."

Contact Kyle Cassilly at kcassily@nd.edu

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**Fencing**

continued from page 28

viduals not connected to any college team.

"Whether they go to like meet or is up to the fencers," Bednarski said. "I will go as an observer, just to see how they compete."

Several of the 17 Irish fencers expected to compete in the tournament are favorites to place highly. Bednarski mentioned women's sabre competitors Mariel Zagunis and Valerie Providence as two of the top-rated Notre Dame fencers travelling to Pittsburgh.

"For some, like Zagunis [a 2004 Olympic gold medallist], they will fight to be winners," Bednarski said. "For some others they will fight for higher rankings."

Irish fencers competing in the tournament on the men's side will be Greg Howard, Patrick Gettigs and Jesse Laurench in the epee; Frank Bontempo and Mark Stearns in the foil; and Matt Stearns and Nicolas Diaou in the sabre.

For the women, Zagunis and Providence will compete in saber, and Kimberee Montero in epee. The Irish individuals enter the national competition after a strong team performance in the Northwestern Duals held Nov. 20 in Evanston, Ill. Both squads finished with 6-0 records, headlined by the women's 21-6 victory over the host Wildcats, who Bednarski considers one of the better squads in the nation.

"We were very, very surprised by how quickly we demolished the Northwestern team," Bednarski said. "We fenced well. We very quickly got a lead and very quickly finished off the competition."

Zagunis and foilist Emilie Prot swept through the Duals without a loss as the Notre Dame women won 84 percent of their bouts in wins over Johns Hopkins (26-1), Stanford (22-5), 21-6 over Northwestern and California-San Diego and 23-4 over both North Carolina and Cal State Fullerton.

The men were equally impressive in the duals, winning 77 percent of their matches. Howard, Ghattas and Stearns combined for a record of 37-7 in wins over Northwestern (25-2), North Carolina (22-5), Stanford (15-12), California-San Diego (21-6), Johns Hopkins (18-9) and Cal State Fullerton (24-3).

Notre Dame's next team event will be the NYU Duals in New York City on Jan. 22. By then, the national standings should be out and the Irish expect to be highly ranked.

"We have a lot of hard workers and a lot of very talented kids," Bednarski said. "We're very excited for the season."

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

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**Tourney**

continued from page 28

Brown said. "It's not a false confidence. It's an earned confidence."

The Irish will need to be confident in their seventh annual time meeting with Wisconsin, which comes into the tournament leading the all-time series with Notre Dame 5-1. The Irish 3-0 in last season's NCAA Tournament. They also knocked off the Irish the last time the team advanced to the Sweet 16, winning in four games in the 1997 NCAA Tournament.

However, the Irish have thrived in big games this season. "We've stepped up in big matches and made big plays and had some really solid wins," Brown said.

Those wins include a sweep against eighth-seeded Florida (32-2), a five-game triumph over Texas (24-5) and a four-game victory over 12th-seeded Southern California (17-11). A thoughg Wisconsin is a formidable challenge, the other side of the College Station bracket isn't any easier.

It includes third-seeded Washington (24-1) and 14th-seeded Purdue (25-8). The two will square off at 8 p.m. Friday Notre Dame and Wisconsin face off at 6 p.m. Friday in the opener at G. Rollie White Coliseum on the campus of Texas A&M University, where the Irish are 1-1 this year. They swept Tulane and fell to Louisiana State in five games in the Nokia Sugar Bowl Classic.

The Friday winners will clash Saturday at 6 p.m. for a berth in the Final Four, which will also take place in Texas — Dec. 15-17 in the Alamodome in San Antonio.

Overall, in Texas, the Irish are 4-1 this season. They are 0-0 in the Alamodome, where they won the University of Texas San Antonio's Dome Rally. This has helped add to the attitude the Irish are taking with them to Texas.

"Everyone has more confidence," Adrianna Stasik said, comparing this year's team with last year's, which lost 34-36, 16-30, 16-30 to the Badgers in Madison, Wis. "To put the ball away or do certain things."

Senior All-American Lauren Browzer agreed this year's team is different.

"We know we can do it," she said. "We've done it before."

Last year's squad didn't have quite the resume this year's group has.

"Everyone has more confidence," Adrianna Stasik Irish outside hitter

Contact Tom Dorwart at tdorwart@nd.edu

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**Irish Basketball**

vs. Florida International

December, 10 - 7:05pm

Free Chick-Fil-A for Students (while supplies last). Troop ND to perform at halftime.
Purdue

continued from page 28

said of McGraw. "She'll be fine. She'll be back soon."

Washington said she has tried to make life without McGraw as normal as possible for her players. Her efforts have paid dividends. Notre Dame downed Iona 74-55 at the Joyce Center on Nov. 29, and the Irish won 77-72 at Wisconsin Dec. 4.

"McGraw has a tremendous system in place, and I don't have to do any juggling or adjusting," Washington said. "I'm just trying to keep things going along as they would be if she were here. And she's a very high standard of practice for the players and for ourselves as a coaching staff. We're just going along and keeping things going the way she would do it if she was here."

Washington said she is proud of the way her young team has handled McGraw's extended absence. Notre Dame has just two seniors and two juniors on its 12-player roster.

"I think it's been tough, but I think they've really risen to the challenge," Washington said. "I think the kids have found that the best thing that they can do in the situation is to play better, to play smarter, to play harder, to give more than they've given before. And as long as we continue to do that as a team, I think we'll be ok and we'll be able to compete."

Purdue will be led by its two stars, junior guard Katie Gearlds and junior forward Erin Lawless. Gearlds, a two-time first team all-Big Ten honoree, leads the Boilermakers in scoring, averaging 12.8 points per game. Lawless, who led the team in scoring a year ago, is close behind, posting 12 points per contest.

But Washington said Notre Dame must be wary of concentrating too heavily on Purdue's top two players.

"They've got a lot of weapons both offensively and defensively," Washington said. "If you think you can just come in and shut down one or two people and you can beat them, you are mistaken. We've got to have a very well-rounded defensive attack if we are going to be in this game."

"We gave up two put-backs late in the game against Michigan," Brey said, referring to a pair of Graham Brown field goals late in the Wolverines' 71-67 victory. "And Alabama's strength is on the backboard ... we've got to pressure and not let them play volleyball on the backboard."

The Irish are currently out-rebounding opponents 38.8 to 32.2, but the Crimson Tide (4-1) are cause for concern inside the lane. The Irish's leading rebounder Justin Jonus (11 points per game) averages double-figure scoring numbers in addition to Davis and Davidson.

"It's definitely important for our guards to help our big men," Irish point guard Chris Quinn said. "The Notre Dame practiced Tuesday afternoon before flying south at night. Thus far in the season, the young Irish have set goals heading into games in the hopes of improving steadily but surely for Big East play in January. Most recently, they accomplished their goal of involving center Torin Francis more in the offense against Michigan. Francis scored 22 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, albeit not receiving the ball down the stretch in the second half.

But Quinn saw the team grow Saturday despite the defeat.

"I think we definitely improved from the N.C. State game [a 61-48 loss] to the Michigan game," the co-captain said. "We moved the ball a lot better. It's just hard sometimes to see the improvements when you lose."

Brey, Quinn and shooting guard Colbey Falls all admitted to tinkering with the offense following the Michigan game to free Falls up for more open looks at the hoop.

Though the Irish improved their scoring output from the previous game dramatically, Falls took just three shots and could not get open to prevent Notre Dame from making just 6-of-20 from behind the arc. "We put in some different screening looks," Falls said. "I think our offense got a little repetitive sometimes; teams knew what we were doing."

Notre Dame could use the win for strength of schedule purposes as well. The Irish will not play another team currently ranked in the AP top 25 until they host No. 4 Villanova on Jan. 28.

Alabama's only loss came to Memphis, 77-76, in the second round of the Preseason NIT in Tuscaloosa, Ala. The Crimson Tide only managed a 60-57 win over Winthrop Saturday, but they also put up 105 points on Alabama State Nov. 20.

Alabama will re-dedicate Coleman Coliseum at halftime. The arena, originally opened in January 1968, has undergone a recent $28 million renovation.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

Bama

continued from page 28

improve game-by-game with the goal of containing the Crimson Tide's rebounding and inside scoring.

Irish coach Mike Brey said Tuesday it is crucial that his team controls rebounds against Alabama, whose starting front-court of power forward Chuck Davis and center Jermaine Davidson averages 32 points and 17.4 rebounds combined per game.

"Alabama's only loss came to Memphis, 77-76, in the second round of the Preseason NIT in Tuscaloosa, Ala. The Crimson Tide only managed a 60-57 win over Winthrop Saturday, but they also put up 105 points on Alabama State Nov. 20. Alabama will re-dedicate Coleman Coliseum at halftime. The arena, originally opened in January 1968, has undergone a recent $28 million renovation."

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NCAA Football

Lewis edges Fasano for Mackey

Associated Press

MANHASSET, N.Y. — UCLA's Marcedes Lewis won the John Mackey Award as the nation's top tight end after leading the Bruins in catches and receiving yards.

Lewis, a senior, set career highs with 58 receptions, 741 yards and 10 touchdowns, all UCLA records for a tight end.

The other finalists were Maryland's Vernon Davis and Notre Dame's Anthony Fasano. The Mackey award will be presented by The Nassau County Sports Commission in May.

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**WE WOKE**
ND VOLLEYBALL

Confident ND squad fears no one in Texas

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

When the sixth-seeded Irish head to College Station, Texas later this week for their Friday Sweet 16 match against 11th-seeded Wisconsin (25-6), they'll be loose and confident — certainly not intimidated by the team that eliminated them in last year's tournament.

"It comes from the wins that we have," Irish coach Debbie赖 said. "We have," Irish coach Debbie

The Belles hope to get

see BADGERS/page 25

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Team faces tough in-state showdown

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

No. 10 Notre Dame (6-0) will take its undefeated record on the road tonight to face No. 20 Purdue (4-2) at 7 p.m. at the Mackey Arena in West Lafayette.

"This is one of our biggest rivals. We always have very good games," Washington said. "It's going to be a tough challenge for us to go down there and play a ranked Big Ten opponent in their place."

The Irish might be without head coach Muffet McGraw again tonight. McGraw has missed the past two games with an undisclosed illness.

"Maybe the only way to get over that hump is to get out of that kind of situation," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said of taking the season's first road game in the last second. "We played the way we

see FENCING/page 25

FENCING

Team has high hopes for USFA tournament

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Notre Dame's best fencers will venture out of the realm of collegiate competition this weekend when they travel to Pittsburgh for the United States Fencing Association (USFA) North American Cup.

The most, beginning Friday at 10 a.m. at the Lawrence Convention Center, features a field of the top national competi-

see FENCING/page 25

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish looking to roll Tide

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Notre Dame let a close home game slip away on Saturday, and now the Irish must turn around to play No. 22 Alabama on the road in their first-ever trip to Tuscaloosa, Ala.

"There's no questions she's getting better. It's just a matter of her getting her strength up and being able to handle the rigors of coaching," Washington said.

see PURDUE/page 26

HOCKEY

Irish snap road streak in victory

Trick's goal lifts team over Minnesota State

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

It was Irish trickery at its finest.

"Maybe the only way to get over that hump is to get out of that kind of situation," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said of taking the season's first road game in the last second. "We played the way we

see TRICK/page 24