Energy costs rise for off-campus residents

Local students pay more money to warm their homes as national natural gas prices jump

By KATIE PERRY
Assistant News Editor

The nationwide decrease in natural gas production has caused home heating prices to skyrocket this winter — a frigid reality for off-campus students who are forced to dig deep into their pocket books just to keep warm in the cold South Bend climate.

The Office of Residence Life and Housing estimates more than 80 percent of Notre Dame undergraduates live on campus, where heating costs are factored into room and board charges. But for the remaining 20 percent, paying monthly heating bills has become an unexpected and frustrating struggle.

Senior Karen Daniels and her four roommates paid approximately $300 for the heating system in their East Angela Blvd. home last month — nearly double the monthly estimates given to them by their landlord last year.

Daniels said the house has an electric fireplace, which helps keep the cost down.

Junior Eve Lattal, a junior, said it is more difficult to be aware of heating prices for students who are not reminded.

“Being from the area, I wanted to do something to help out,” Jones said. “I thought it would be great to get Notre Dame students involved and actually see the state of the city for themselves.”

Sophomore Mike McKenna, a friend of Jones and a participant in the project, explained their group of students was gathered mainly by word of mouth.

“Initially, we thought to make it a Zahm Hall service project,” McKenna said. “In itially, we thought to make it a Zahm Hall service project.”

Sophomore and residence hall resident Mike McKenna said while he is confident about the help students can provide, he is not sure how it will help many affected by Hurricane Katrina.

By MAUREEN MULLEN
News Writer

While many Notre Dame students spent the last week of winter break enjoying their final days of relaxation before tackling semester number two and January in South Bend, Zahm hall sophomore Baker Jones, with a group a group of eight other students, traveled to New Orleans and spent Jan. 10 to 13 helping those affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Jones, a New Orleans native, organized the service project. The trip was made possible with grants from the Center for Social Concerns and Campus Ministry as well as much support from the Notre Dame Alumni Club of New Orleans, he said.

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Students renting apartments, like those at the Lafayette complex shown above, are paying more for heat this winter.

NDtv to go back on the air

12-hour broadcasts will include many student programs

By MARCELA BERRIOS
News Writer

Students who cannot find anything to watch during the days that separate each O.C. and weekend day may discover a new alternative starting Jan. 31 on Channel 70 for cable users.

NDtv, the student-run television network that premiered two years ago, will be back on the air, and this time it will have full access to the channel and will broadcast 12 hours every day — a vast improvement from the single hour it enjoyed in its beginning.

Viewers who tune in fortuitously are likely to enjoy repetitions of “Th e Mike Peterson Show,” Notre Dame’s own late night comedy show.

Host and FTT student Mike Peterson is already an easily recognizable celebrity on the Saint Mary’s campus, where cable is installed in every residence hall.

NDtv Executive Director Adam Fairholm said he is confident that more cable television stations are available in all 27 Notre Dame residence halls next fall semester, more students will also make Mike Peterson and Joe Lattal household names and become acquainted with the rest of the NDtv lineup.

Lattal, a jubilar, will headline the 12-hour broadcasts.

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1,300 admitted early display high standards

Admissions Daniel Saracino said it is more difficult to be accepted through early action, and this year the admissions office was particularly selective.

Seven hundred and eighty applications were denied and 250 applications were deferred to the regular admission pool.

“If there was any doubt in my mind, we deferred them,” Saracino said. “But deferred students who, based on our best evaluation, we felt we could admit right away... It’s not an art. It’s not a science. It’s making educated guesses.”

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Campus gyms see new year influx

Motivated exercisers flock to the Rock, Rolfs at spring semester’s outset

By BRIDGET KEATING
News Writer

New Year’s resolution-makers and the fitness faithful have flooded campus gyms — including Rolfs Sports Recreation Center and the Rockne Memorial Building — since their arrival on campus.

“The first six to eight weeks of the spring semester is the busiest time of the year,” said Sally Berengoski, director of RecServices and fitness.

Sophomore and Rolfs regular Steve Marenick said while his workout schedule was not

Two freshman students lift weights at the Rockne Memorial weight room Wednesday.

By MARY KATE MALONE
Assistant News Editor

F ewer than 1,300 high school seniors received early acceptance letters from Notre Dame this December, selected from a highly competitive pool of more than 2,600 applicants — a pool slightly smaller than last year’s but just as decorated.

Twenty-two of the applicants had perfect SAT scores. Each accepted student, on average, was in the top 3.7 percent of his or her class. Their average SAT score was 1420, and their ACT average was 32, admission officials said.

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INSIDE COLUMN
My fortune telling career

Working the dish line at South Dining Hall is usually a monotonous, dirty job. On Wednesday nights, I eat my dinner and then reluctantly make my way to the kitchen, where I suit up in an apron and gloves and take my place to put plates, bowls or cups from the trays. For two hours, all I usually see is an endless procession of the remains of the dining hall’s offerings.

But last night, my fellow dish line workers and I read dozens of fortunes discarded by those who ate the fortune cookies available at dinner. To pass the time, we started to assign fortunes to ourselves, other dish line workers, and—as the fortunes kept coming—anyone else we could think of.

I think it was sometime after I pulled the 400th cup off a tray that I was inspired to stop wasting my time on my dish line when I could be writing fortunes to be used in cookies at SDH. After reading practically every fortune placed in the cookies, I decided that South Dining Hall could do better than the ordinary predictions about future love interests or financial success.

My fortunes will not be the generic type you can pull out of any cookie in America. Rather, each prediction will be Notre Dame-related.

Now, instead of just reading The Observer in class, students can crack open their fortune cookie and discover that they will get an A on their next paper, or that they will win the lottery for away game tickets. Congratulations to the person who discovers that, just this one time, the nice person at the dining hall exit will let him take one not one, but two bananas. It does not matter if the prediction comes true or not; for a brief moment I gave some student a glimmer of hope that luck was on his side.

But remember, not every fortune can presage good news. Some dining hall patrons will read their fortune and be warned that they will feel the wrath of their rectors or slip on the ice on the way to class. I apologize ahead of time for disrupting your plans if you read your fortune.

To actually have a life?*
"Not to procrastinate as much."
"To get a 4.0."
"Stop using profanity."
"I don’t have one."
"Watch the Colts win the Super Bowl! But..."

Yurilanna Kim, left, Jean Nguyen, middle, and Hayen Nguyen, right, sang karaoke at an Asian American Association meeting Wednesday in Coleman-Morse.

OFFBEAT

Snake and hamster are best friends

TOKYO — Gohan and Aochan make strange bedfellows: one’s a 3.5-inch dwarf hamster, the other is a four-foot rat snake. Zookeepers at Tokyo’s Musungu Ooku zoo presented the hamster — whose name means “meal” in Japanese — to Aochan as a tasty morsel in October, after the snake refused to eat frozen mice.

But instead of indulging, Aochan decided to make friends with the furry rodent, according to keeper Kazuya Yamamoto. The pair have shared a cage since. “I’ve never seen anything like it. Gohan sometimes even climbs onto Aochan to take a nap on his back,” Yamamoto said.

Man arrested for faking death to avoid paying up

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Police arrested a man accused of faking his death more than 25 years ago to avoid paying child support.

Johnny Sterling Martin, 58, had a relative call Family Court in 1979 and report that he died during a bar fight in Alabama. Authorities said that call came a few months after he escaped from a work detail while serving a one-year jail term for failing to pay $4,120 in support for two children.

He was captured Tuesday and jailed, and now owes more than $30,000 in child support and faces an escape charge, authorities said.

"Johnny Martin is the ultimate deadbeat dad, faking his own death to avoid paying money to support his young children who were living in Lexington County," Sheriff James Metts said.

IN BRIEF

The film “The Breakfast Club” will be shown tonight at 11:55 p.m. as part of the Brew and View at Legends. Free breakfast will be served.

The Notre Dame Student Film Festival begins Friday at 7 p.m. in the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. The Festival will feature 12 short films made as class projects during the past year and will include dark comedies and documentaries.

Bill O’Connell’s Chicago Skyliners, a swing band, will perform Friday at 10 p.m. at Legends.

The Saint Mary’s swim team will compete against Kalamaoo College in its final home meet of the season Friday at 6:30 p.m. in Rolfs’ Aquatic Center.

The Saint Mary’s first year board is sponsoring Battle of the Bands 2006 Saturday at 6:30 p.m. in the Saint Mary’s Student Center. The event will feature Notre Dame bands “Sumerصاصs,” “Slap Bracelet Suicide,” “Robbie Hazen,” “Ryan Compton” and “Patrick the Unlikely Genius.” Proceeds benefit Riley Hospital for Children.

Tim Reynolds, a collaborator with the Dave Matthews Band, will perform Saturday at 10 p.m. NDSaintMary’sHoly Cross ID required.

Mission IMPOSSIBILE. A Chicago-based improv comedy group, will perform Saturday at 9 p.m. in Washington Hall. Admission is free. To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obnews@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

In an article in the Jan. 18 edition of The Observer, the Notre Dame hockey team’s "outstretched" was incorrectly interpreted as a venue for pre-session to observe rules. Instead, the event was intended for local Boy Scout troops.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Kathleen Riel at kriel@nd.edu

QUESTION OF THE DAY: What is your New Year’s resolution?

"I can’t decide if I still want to work at Publix after spring break."
Thien-An Nguyen-Vu
"I bought a new compact disk player."
Diana Harintho
"I want to pass all my classes this semester."
Elias Moo
"I want to go on a diet."
Terral Lambert
"I don’t know."
Tony Schweiss
"I’m going to work on my grades."
Zach Einterz

Wire Editor
Kathleen Riel

* "To actually have a life?"

The weather is uncertain that you will get quite a surprise, no matter if the prediction comes true or not, for a brief moment I gave some student a glimmer of hope that luck was on his side.

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY TONIGHT FRIDAY SATURDAY MONDAY

HIGH 43 LOW 25
HIGH 46 LOW 29
HIGH 43 LOW 39
HIGH 43 LOW 40
HIGH 35 LOW 33
HIGH 35 LOW 35
HIGH 40 LOW 40
HIGH 25 LOW 25

Atlanta 63/36 Boston 43/28 Chicago 45/27 Denver 40/26 Houston 74/54 Los Angeles 64/48 Minneapolis 30/19 New York 48/43 Philadelphia 47/30 Phoenix 63/44 Seattle 44/37 St. Louis 58/40 Tampa 70/30 Washington 51/29
It may be hard to imagine April 1 during the depths of a South Bend winter, but for the senators with long lists of plans at Wednesday night’s Student Senate meeting, the turnover date is clearly no longer a distant hypothetical.

The current designs sketched by Senate leaders are a mix of projects continued from last semester and new proposals.

Baron said one of the loftier goals he and student body vice president Lizzi Shappell will pursue to round out their terms is to establish an endowment — a much-talked-about hypothetical.

The Academic Affairs committee chair, Matt Walsh, said his committee will continue to develop a better basketball ticketing system, working with the Office of Information Technology to get the TicketsShare program online.

Walsh’s committee will also investigate the possibility of adding stops to the free TRANSPO service and obtaining additional services from FedEx Kinko’s, as Walsh said the company previously promised.

Shappell, who urged senators before winter break with marketing professor Timothy Gilbride and senior Brett Hummel to establish plans to research what students would like to see in future commercial development south of campus, said she and Baron met with Hall Presidents Council members, Joyce Center officials and Athletic Department representatives.

“We’ll assess what happened with the past season, ensure we don’t have issues like last year,” she said.

Tickets will be another focus during Senate’s final months. Shappell said revisions to the Student Union fiscal year’s endowment are more timely. He will meet with Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Gumbleton, who recently made headlines as the first U.S. Catholic bishop to announce he was sexually abused by a priest in his childhood.

Chuck D, lead rapper of Public Enemy, will speak on Feb. 23 by Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, who recently made headlines as the first U.S. Catholic bishop to announce he was sexually abused by a priest in his childhood.

The location of the talk will be announced in the near future, Kozlow said, along with the location of a 7:30 p.m. talk on Feb. 2 by Bishop Thomas C. Gumbleton, who recently made headlines as the first U.S. Catholic bishop to announce he was sexually abused by a priest in his childhood.

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

The Observer is currently accepting applications for the 2006–07 Editor-in-Chief

Applicants must submit BOTH a resume and at least a 10-PAGE proposal explaining their interest in the position and their plans for running the newspaper.

Applications are due Sunday, January 22 by 5 p.m.

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS CAN BE SUBMITTED TO THE OBSERVER’S OFFICE IN THE BASEMENT OF SOUTH DINING HALL.

Contact Editor-in-Chief Claire Heininger at 1-4542 for more information
Gym
continued from page 1

impacted by a personal resolu-
tion, he has noticed an influx of
students to the gym, which
typically a cold, dreary time of
year. "Recent happenings in addi-
tion to increased gym atten-
dues to the busy winter
dates gu ests by distributing
drawings that include gifts
for drawings that include gifts
for students([for] increase in applica-
tions for the class of 2010)."

Saracino said. "We would not
consider it a
success this year if we did not enroll a
more impressive
class than ever before," Saracino said.

"The story of Notre Dame is
not in the top
20. This is a place
filled with faith-filled
students.[for] increase in
applications for the class of 2010)," he
said. Saracino’s prediction was
dead-on. Though regular appli-
cations are still being processed
the deadline was Dec. 31
Saracino estimates that the total
number of applicants will be at
least 12,600. That’s 4 percent
higher than 2002 — the previous
record-holding year — and 8 percent
higher than last year.

"The story of Notre Dame is
getting out more than ever," Saracino said. "In spite of the
weather and location, Notre Dame is a special place.
Saracino added that the University attracts students who
want to go to school with people
like themselves, and
many believe that
Notre Dame is where that can hap-
pen.

"Notre Dame is the only major
University with a
faith tradition," he said. "We’re the only
religiously connect-
ed school in the top
20. This is a place
filled with faith-filled
students.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at
mmalone3@nd.edu

Early
continued from page 1

TakeCharge is the software utility developed by the Notre Dame OIT to help you
protect your computer from viruses, worms, spyware and who knows what. These
nasty critters, once on your computer, can cause you BIG problems. And often at
the most inopportune times—when you’re in the home stretch of a 30-page term
paper, for example!

So, how’s TakeCharge changed? Do you really need to run it again?
Yes! TakeCharge does the same handy delightful things it did before,
plus some added tricks that make life on the ND network better and surfing the
Internet safer:

✓ TakeCharge fixes a new and dangerous Microsoft Windows vulnerability that
arrived with the New Year.

✓ Take Charge sets your PC to automatically receive future Windows critical
updates.

✓ Take Charge optimizes your Windows firewall settings for enhanced network
performance among all campus users.

✓ Take Charge determines if your Windows computer is running the correct
version of OpenAFS, and if it isn’t, shows you how to upgrade to the latest
version.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bombers attack convoy, two dead
BAGHDAD, Iraq — A roadside bomb hit a convoy carrying a U.S. security team near the southern city of Nasiriyah, killing two American civilians and seriously wounding a third, the U.S. Embassy said.

Iraqi authorities, meanwhile, held out hope that kidnapped American journalist Jill Carroll would be released, and the sister of Iraq’s interior minister was freed by her abductors about two weeks after being seized in Baghdad, an official said.

The U.S. Embassy said that coalition forces cordoned off the scene of the Basra attack, which occurred at 2 p.m., and took the wounded to a hospital.

Cuba prepares new energy system
HAVANA, President Fidel Castro announced a long-awaited renovation of Cuba’s energy system to combat blackouts that have become a constant in the island nation. Castro said Cuba would decentralize its power grid, but that the reform would not address the problems of the thermal-electric plants in Cuba that are so large, mechanical difficulties in any one can affect areas populated by millions. Many of last summer’s blackouts were caused by problems at Antonio Guitarras, a key thermal-electric plant serving 2 million inhabitants.

NATIONAL NEWS

FDA unvels new medication labels
WASHINGTON — A major makeover is coming for both doctors and patients when the Food and Drug Administration unveils new labeling requirements for prescription drugs on Wednesday. The new labels are designed to play up information that’s useful to pharmacists and patients while paring down the small-print legal disclaimers.

Consuming medical information is behind many of the estimated 300,000 preventable cases of death or injury that occur each year in the nation’s hospitals, Surgeon General Richard Carmona said Wednesday in introducing the new labels and calling for an overall rethinking of the drug approval process.

The rules should make it easier to quickly learn the most critical things about a drug. The labels will include the date the drug received FDA approval, any recent changes in the drug’s effectiveness, the drug’s phone number to report suspected side effects, and a final section that prompts doctors on what key facts they should relay to patients.

Thousands still missing after Katrina
NEW ORLEANS — More than 2,000 people are officially still unaccounted, nearly five months after Hurricane Katrina forever changed the Gulf Coast, and the state medical examiner wants the search to resume for those missing from the most devastated neighborhoods.

A total of 11,500 people were reported missing to the Find Family National Call Center, a center run by federal and state workers. The reports include people from throughout the Gulf Coast, and the state medical examiner wants the search to resume for those missing.

Associated Press

Eight Ind. counties switch time zones
INDIANAPOLIS — The federal government ruled Wednesday that eight Indiana counties would switch to the Central time zone on April 2, 2006, rather than remaining in the Eastern time zone.

Indiana and Daviess, Dubois, Knox, Martin, Perry, Starke and Pulaski counties in northwestern Indiana would change but denied requests by nine others who wanted the change.

The U.S. Department of Transportation said Fayette and Pulaski counties in northwestern Indiana and Daviess, Dubois, Knox, Martin, Perry, Starke and Pulaski counties in northwestern Indiana would switch to the Central zone on April 2, when Indiana and 47 other states begin observing daylight-saving time.

It also announced Carroll, Cass, Fulton, Lawrence, Marshall, St. Joseph, Sullivan, Vermilion and White counties would remain in the Eastern zone.

LOCAL NEWS

Couple sentenced to prison in Wendy’s finger case
SAN JOSE — The Wendy’s finger-in-the-chili story was running jokes on late-night television last year, but it was no laughing matter to the company’s employees — or the judge who handed down stiff sentences to the couple who pulled the prank.

Anna Ayala, 40, who said she bit into the finger during Wednesday in San Jose, put crackers in the chili and later joked about the brunt of Ayala’s tirade after.co-conspirator Pineda, who made the chili and initially apologized to the courtroom gallery. Pineda was sentenced to three years in prison.

Ayala pleaded guilty to conspiracy to file a false insurance claim but neither residential buildings nor essential facilities such as hospitals would be affected. The state-run TV station Rossiya reported that power shut off for some 31 or even lower.

People walk along a tramway, while trams are paralyzed by frost in Yekaterinburg, about 900 miles east of Moscow, Wednesday.

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SAN JOSE — The Wendy’s finger-in-the-chili story was running jokes on late-night television last year, but it was no laughing matter to the company’s employees — or the judge who handed down stiff sentences to the couple who pulled the prank.

Anna Ayala, 40, who said she bit into the finger during Wednesday in San Jose, put crackers in the chili and later joked about the brunt of Ayala’s tirade after.co-conspirator Pineda, who made the chili and initially apologized to the courtroom gallery. Pineda was sentenced to three years in prison.

Ayala pleaded guilty to conspiracy to file a false insurance claim but neither residential buildings nor essential facilities such as hospitals would be affected. The state-run TV station Rossiya reported that power shut off for some 31 or even lower.

People walk along a tramway, while trams are paralyzed by frost in Yekaterinburg, about 900 miles east of Moscow, Wednesday.
Service
continued from page 1

New Orleans, and several other Notre Dame students living in the surrounding area joined them, their elected officials said. The students spent their three and half days of work helping Gerry Heigel, a resident of Lakeview, which, according to Jones, was the area of the city most decimated by the 17th Street canal breach.

"Our job was a bit different than what you might think," Baker said. "We were connected through the ND New Orleans Alumni Club with Catholic Charities' Helping Hands program, and we were assigned to actually deconstruct Mrs. Heigel's house. The walls of the house and the foundation were so damaged by the floodwater that the house needed to be substantially gutted. We moved the damaged and moldered pieces of the structure.

Cavanagh sophomore Caity Schaeeman expressed her shock upon seeing the reality of a destroyed New Orleans.

"There is no way intuitively understanding the extent of the damage and the effects of the hurricane on us by just watching the pictures on TV," Schaeeman said.

Sophomore McGlinn resident Kathleen Coverrick also was a part of the group. She, like Schaeeman, was shocked to see such extensive ruin five months after the hurricane.

"We went to the city and a place even more devastated than Lakeview," Coverrick said.

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THE OBSERVER

B U S I N E S S

Online store falls short of expectations with limited selection, poor resolution

Google Video Store still developing

Las Vegas — When a high-tech company slaps the word "beta" on a product, it's usually a sign the product isn't quite ready for prime time yet. It can even go far enough to get a good sense of what it will become.

Google Inc. regularly releases fairly advanced software to the public, so when it opened its high-
ly anticipated Google Video Store last week, expectations were high.

But this time, Google really means beta.

In the first days of its release, the online store is unusually rough around the edges. So far, it doesn't have much premium content, the quality is hit or miss and the interface could be better.

That said, there are some promising elements, such as allowing anyone with the software to upload videos and an endless supply of free, one-time charge or a one-day rental fee. Rates are determined by the content owner, not Google.

Google expects to be available in a few weeks.

Workers 2005 earnings decreased

Washington — The average American worker got squeezed in 2005 between the biggest jump in energy prices in 15 years and wages that failed to keep up with inflation.

As a result, hourly earnings after adjusting for inflation fell by 0.5 percent in December compared to what workers were earning in December 2004, the Labor Department reported on Friday.

Workers did see their wages rise last year. It wasn't enough, however, to offset the impacts of higher energy prices.

Energy accounted for 40 percent of the overall rise in inflation in December last year, the biggest jump in energy prices in 15 years and the biggest advance since 1990, as gasoline prices topped $2 a gallon for a time. The rise in energy accounted for 40 percent of the overall rise in prices last year.

The 0.5 percent drop in inflation-adjusted hourly earnings last year followed a 0.7 percent for the 12 months ending in December, the department said.

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Brown accepts blame for Katrina aftermath

Associated Press

MAMMOTH LAKES, Calif. — Former FEMA Director Michael Brown on Wednesday accepted a greater share of the blame for the government's failures after Hurricane Katrina, saying he fell short in conveying the magnitude of the disaster and calling for help.

"I should have asked for the military sooner. I should have demanded the military sooner," Brown told a gathering of meteorologists at a ski resort in the Sierra Nevada.

"I was beyond the capacity of the state and local governments, and it was beyond the capacity of FEMA," said Brown, former head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Brown's remarks Wednesday stood in contrast to his testimony at a congressional hearing in September, when he blamed most of the government's failures on Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco and New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin — both Democrats.

He specifically targeted them for failing to evacuate New Orleans, restore order and improve communication.

"These are not FEMA roles," Brown told the congressional committee. "FEMA doesn't evacuate communities. FEMA does not do law enforcement. FEMA does not do communications."

In an interview after his speech Wednesday, Brown told The Associated Press: "I think it's important for people to realize that I made mistakes. ... After a while you get a different perspective."

He added: "I still do believe things weren't working too well down there."

He also told the gathering of National Weather Service meteorologists that he failed to delegate responsibility, saying he tried to attend to the details himself.

"I was the largest natural disaster ever to strike the United States — 92,000 square miles. Languages were failing apart," he said.

Before joining FEMA in 2001, Brown was an attorney, held local government posts and headed the International Arabian Horse Association. President Bush appointed him to head the agency in April 2003.

FEMA came under fire immediately after Katrina struck the Louisiana and Mississippi coastlines Aug. 29, killing more than 1,300 in five states and leaving 200,000 people unaccounted for.

He was relieved of his command in the stricken region and recalled Sept. 9 to Washington. Brown resigned three days later, saying he feared he had become a distraction.

Asked on Wednesday if he felt he had been railroaded out of the post, Brown replied: "I'm moving on."

He said his biggest concern was the current emphasis on reorganizing FEMA, particularly in light of past budget cuts that had left hundreds of vacancies in an agency with 2,500 employees.

"It's time to stop organizing and get FEMA back to what it was before — get its budget back up to where it was."

Pakistan

Reported bomber maker killed

Agents hunt for bodies of al-Qaida figures who were killed in U.S. strike

Associated Press

PESHAWAR — Pakistani intelligence agents hunted Wednesday for the graves of four al-Qaida militants believed killed in an airstrike near the Afghan border — including at least one suspected high-ranking al-Qaida figure.

ABC News and The New York Times reported that Pakistani officials believe a master bomber maker and chemical weapons expert for al-Qaida was killed in the attack on the village of Damadola last week. He was identified as Midhat Mursi, also known as Abu Khalid al-Masri, who ran al-Qaida's training camp and has a $2 million reward on his head.

Also killed, Pakistani officials believe, was Khalid Habib, the al-Qaida operations chief for Pakistan and Afghanistan, ABC said. The Times, however, said officials were uncertain about whether he was killed.

The Times also reported that Pakistani officials believe Marwan al-Maghrebi, the son-in-law of al-Qaida No. 2 Ayman al-Zawahiri, and the man who ran the group's propaganda in the region, was killed in the strike. ABC described al-Maghrebi as a senior operations commander.

The newspaper said an Egyptian chief of insurgent operations in a region near the airstrikes also was believed killed and an Egyptian associate of al-Zawahiri's was possibly slain.

Pentagon officials said they had no information on the reported identities of the dead and CIA spokesman Tom Crispell said the agency could not comment. A Pakistani intelligence official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he's not authorized to speak to journalists, said authorities still did not know the names of the dead foreign militants but suspect one was a ranking al-Qaida figure.

"We have no names. We know one of them had value in al-Qaida," the official said.

Pakistan intelligence official

"We have no names. We know one of them had value in al-Qaida."
Mine survivor awakening

Associated Press

MORGANTOWN — Sago Mine survivor Randall McCloy Jr. appears to be awakening from his coma, and his improving condition may allow him to be transferred to a rehabilitation center within a few weeks, doctors said Wednesday.

McCloy, 26, has been breathing on his own for days, and opening his eyes, said Dr. Julian Bailes of West Virginia University's Ruby Memorial Hospital, adding that he "has purposeful movement" and "is responding to his family in slight ways."

Bailes said doctors now consider McCloy to be in a "light coma."

McCloy is believed to have suffered brain damage from lack of oxygen, but the extent of the damage is not yet known. Because of the amount of time he spent in the mine before being rescued, "we are in many ways in uncharted territory with predicting his recovery," said Bailes, a neurosurgeon. "Many people with severe carbon monoxide poisoning end up with severe cognitive, personality, memory, visual and motor responses. We just don't know."

McCloy has been unconscious since he was pulled from the mine more than 41 hours after the Jan. 2 explosion that killed him and 11 other miners. The deaths of 12 other miners. Federal and state regulators investigating the accident began interviewing witnesses Tuesday. Mine company officials also attended the interviews, along with representatives of a coal miners union.

Also Wednesday, the mine's owner, International Coal Group Inc., issued a statement objecting to the union's involvement. The Sago Mine is nonunion, but several miners asked the United Mine Workers of America to represent them during the investigation.

Dozens of new species discovered

Associated Press

SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK, Calif. — Twenty-seven previously unknown species of spiders, centipedes, scorpion-like creatures and other animals have been discovered in the dark, damp caves beneath two national parks in the Sierra Nevada, biologists say.

"Not only are these animals new to science, but they're adapted to very specific environments — some of them, to a single room in one cave," said Joel Despain, a cave specialist who helped explore 30 of the 236 known caves in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

The discoveries included a relative of the pill bug so translucent that its internal organs are visible, particularly its long, bright yellow liver. There was also a daddy long legs with jaws bigger than its body, and a tiny fluorescent orange spider.

"Many people will be looking at these trying to find where they fit in the tree of life," said Darrell Ulrich, a case biologist with the San Francisco-based California Academy of Sciences.

While it is extremely rare to find new mammal or bird species on the surface, caves still hold an abundance of secrets. Like the deep sea, they are often difficult to reach and seldom explored.

Discovering so many species was thrilling, said Jean Krupa, a consulting biologist with Austin, Texas-based Zara Environmental who helped lead the three-year exploration. The findings were released Tuesday.

"You get the feeling you're Lewis and Clark, charting undiscovered territory," she said. "Caves are one of the last uncharted territories with predicting his recovery," said Bailes, a neurosurgeon. "Many people with severe carbon monoxide poisoning end up with severe cognitive, personality, memory, visual and motor responses. We just don't know."

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"You get the feeling you're Lewis and Clark, charting undiscovered territory," she said. "Caves are one of the last uncharted territories.
Lex talionis

The first written laws of ancient Athens were produced by Draco, a man of exacting standards who assigned the death penalty to almost every crime, including such minor infractions as "idleness" and stealing a chicken. Thus, he asked a number of questions, Draco replied that small crimes deserve death and he knew of no punishment worse than death which could be given for greater ones. The thought that the problem with his laws might not be an excessive leniency toward murderers but rather an undue severity in the treatment of cabinet-stealers seems never to have occurred to him.

These days the story of Draco is not widely known and "draconian" has consequently become a dead metaphor, but like other dead metaphors, the word has not disappeared from use but continues to lead a shadowy post-mortem existence as a vague and pre- testional adjective. Frequently it is used as if it were an exotic synonym of "tyrannical," but Draco was not tyrant — the laws he made may have been absurdly harsh, but they applied to all Athenians, himself included.

The cruel difference is this: in Athens in the 7th Century B.C., you could be executed for even the most minor infraction, but you still had to break the law; whereas in Mesopotamia as recently as 2003, although the region is now known by the name it was given in the 20th century, Iraq, the laws might not be an excessive leniency toward murderers but rather an undue severity in the treatment of cabinet-stealers seems never to have occurred to him.

As actually was true in Mesopotamia as recently as 2003, the region is now known by the name it was given in the 20th Century: Iraq. It is impossible to imagine a just society not based upon the rule of law, but the rule of law by itself does not guarantee justice. Draco's one-size-fits-all approach to criminals meant that his punishments did not fit their crimes. You, his successor, recognized this and quickly changed the laws so that only murder was punishable by death. I have difficulty deciding what to think about the use of the death penalty in the modern world, but I am convinced that any compelling case against its use must reckon with the fact that there are some criminals who deserve to be killed. We do not need to turn to such extreme and monstrous examples as Eichmann (executed by the Israeli government in 1962) or notorious serial killers like Ted Bundy to make the point. Stanley Williams, who was executed last month by the State of California, killed four people. If there is a reason why he should not have received the death penalty it surely cannot be that his crimes did not deserve it. Some argue that when the state executes murderers, it is coming down to their level, but the state no more murders those it executes than it steals from those it taxes. Nor does the use of the death penalty show a disregard for the value of human life — you might as well argue that the imprisonment of criminals shows that society does not value liberty.

Especially in the United States, a large proportion of those who advocate the abolition of the death penalty do so on the grounds that anti-capital punishment protests you will often see the Fifth (in the Catholic scheme of counting) Commandment written on placards. But for all its apparent clarity, the command "Thou Shalt Not Kill" cannot mean that the death penalty is not permissible. You don't need to know Hebrew to see this, you just have to keep reading — Exodus and Deuteronomy, the books in which the Ten Commandments are given, both contain divine laws that explicitly pre- scribe the death penalty for a variety of offenses. Those who support the death penalty but oppose abortion are often accused of contradicting themselves. Strangely, the argument is rarely made in the other direction, with opponents of the death penalty being charged with inconsistency if they do not also oppose abortion. Since I am not persuaded that the death penalty in principle is an illegiti- mate form of punishment for the crime of murder, I was surprised to find that the executions of Stanley Williams and Clarence Ray Allen (who was put to death by lethal injection on Tuesday at San Quentin State Prison) have left me deeply uneasy. This is not because the punishment seems to me excessive, but because in both cases the men were executed more than two decades after they were sentenced for their crimes. It seems to me that if a person is found beyond reasonable doubt to be guilty by a jury of their peers, then the sentence should be carried out within months or at most years of sentencing. Death should mean death, not life imprison- ment followed by execution. A legal sys- tem that allows decades for appeals and retrials is tacitly admitting that "beyond reasonable doubt" does not mean beyond reasonable doubt. If it really is necessary to wait decades before exe- cution sentencing to death, then the death sentence should not be used.

Peter Wicks is a graduate student in the Philosophy department. He can be contacted at pwicks@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
"Facebook: omnipresent and exclusive"

Thursday, January 19, 2006

Staff Editorial

The Collegiate Times
Virginia Tech University

No case for NSA wiretap

In this country, wiretapping requires a court order and the way I know that is because President told me so a couple years ago. "A wiretap requires a court order," President Bush declared in a statement in April of 2004. He added, "When we're talking about chasing down terror­ists, we're talking about getting a court order when we do it." It's important for our fellow citizens to understand [that] constitutional guarantee­es are in place because we value the Constitution.

We now know even that even as President Bush was speaking those words, he was allowing the National Security Agency to secretly wiretap American citizens without a warrant or judicial review of any kind.

This NSA data-fishing program is not only another step in a series of decri­ed actions made by the president that puts his credibility seriously in question, it is a flagrant violation of the law.

Appar ently we value the Constitution only to an extent. The administration claims that the authorization granted by Congress after the Sept. 11 attacks, and not the one that allowed the president to invade Afghanistan, legitimizes this program.

I do not a lways agree with the president, but if he wants to be true, but it is my understanding that Congress does not have the power to give the president a blank piece of legislation with a wink and a nudge, which is the only way one can argue that congressional action allows for unchecked wiretapping by the executive.

The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act specifically requires a court to authorize wiretapping, and the administration's failure did not repeal or amend this act.

The administration might as well argue that President Bush is authorized to personally keep a list of a future size.

Everybody wants the government to do everything within its power to protect us, and if someone does this by receiving phone calls from members of Al-Qaeda, it is entirely reasonable to eavesdrop on that person's calls. But that is hardly the issue at hand.

The issue is, why not just get a warrant?

Sound familiar? Perhaps, except in the high-speed tech world of the information age where private journals and secret diaries have evolved into facebook accounts and Myspace blogs. Regardless of the medium in which students communicate their thoughts and feelings, the same age-old question still creates turmoil between kids, their parents and their teachers: Where do schools' disciplinary jurisdictions end?

For private institutions, the issue unfortunately doesn't leave much room for negotiation — since the schools are privately owned, they can expel their students for doing anything that they deem violates school policy — and that's a pretty broad definition.

For example, a Catholic school in New Jersey completely banned stu­dents' use of Myspace, Xanga, and facebook even at home. They may as well have told the kids that they don’t have the right to their own voices, or that they aren't allowed to play into a pen if they intend to write anything with it.

But, like it or not, that's United States. The people in charge of pri­vate institutions have the right to set up whatever kind of school poli­cies they want they're freedom-squeezing citizens or not. However, public schools are another matter entirely.

What would you think if a school expelled a student for ex­pressing political views should be conservative — but whatever you do, don't let your political views determine your fate. In fact, it may help if you took every article of clothing you own and cut about four inches of material off the bottom. I sus­pect that when you're as hot as these girls, wearing too much clothing can seri­ously inhibit the cooling process and could end up being fatal.

I'm not saying this to put you down. I'll give you one more con­clusion that isn't really based on much evidence, and it goes something like this.

"Facebook is great," you'll say, simple, but can't be underestimated — drink, drink and drink until your voice turns raspy, your eyes become glazed over and you actually believe in that drunk guy or girl that's been droning on for 5 minutes.

In closing, I must say that I give our general warning. Although racial profiling may have been abolished at airports, it's still alive and well on the facebook.

Minorities rarely seem to welcome amongst the hottest of the hot, but facebook great?

This editorial originally appeared in the Jan. 18 issue of the Chronicle, the daily publication at Duke University. The views expressed in this editorial are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Blige raises credibility with powerful release

By BRODERICK HENRY

Mary J. Blige is music royalty. After 15 years and 10 albums, the multi-Grammy award-winning artist has established herself as the undisputed Queen of hip-hop soul and the preeminent soul singer of her generation. Blige's trademark honesty and often pained vocal delivery has not only won her critical acclaim but also credibility. Throughout her career, Mary J.'s soulful voice has transcended both lyric and genre to produce music that is an expression of her personal struggles. 2001's "No More Drama," the singer's most successful album to date, was a manifestation of Blige's decision to quit drinking and rid her life of a costly entourage. Similarly, "The Breakthrough," the R&B diva's latest release, is a testimony to her newly discovered self-confidence. With Blige serving as both narrator and central character, the 16 songs that comprise the album tell a triumphant love story. Each song is crafted to reveal a tiny fragment of the singer's journey from an insecure girl, who used drugs to ease the pain of sexual molestation and parental abandonment, to a self-assured woman, who learns to love and accept herself despite a troubled past. Sonically, although rooted in rough and rugged hip-hop beats, "The Breakthrough" is sleek and sophisticated. Tracks produced by music legends Jam and Lewis, '90s hit maker Rodney Jerkins, and newcomer Dave Young place instrumentation in the background so that Blige's stirring voice can shine. Such a tactic would be a disastrous misstep for many of Blige's pop-territory contemporaries, but for the diva it is a sound choice, for she possesses the ability to bring memories and old feelings to life by wrapping her voice around beats so that together they create a mood of love's lost, cue of newfound romance and exhale the joy of finally learning to love one's self. The album opens with a fiery tribute to Blige's husband, "No One Will Do." Accompanied by a sample of the O'Jays' hit "I Swear I Love No One But You," Blige sings "Seen many men in my time/but none of them compares to mine/it gotta knock on wood/To tell ya it got/it got a good/like every-thing that I need" and everything a man should be." As she riffs, "nobody, nobody, nobody" it is clear Blige has found the man she wants to spend the rest of her life with. Other standout tracks include the Will.I.Am produced "About You" on which Mary J. duets with the deceased Nina Simone. While pushing the acoustic beat along, Blige manages to not only remain on key but also complements Simone's voice in a way that makes her seem as alive today as twenty years ago when her vocals were recorded. "I Found My Everything" puts to rest any questions surrounding Blige's vocal range. With power reminiscent of early Aretha Franklin, the soul queen shakes the rafters proclaiming her personal discovery. "Father In You" finds Blige describing how she felt a father figure in her life forced her to expect those qualities in her husband. It is a vulnera-ble and touching moment that underscores the singer's ability to transform her painful story into beautiful therapy for listeners. Still, "The Breakthrough" does contain some missteps including "MJB da MVP," a syrupy reworking of Blige's career that seems out of place with its tame lyrics and awkward production. On "Can't Hide From Love," Blige pushes her voice to its limits so that it sounds less inspiring and meaningful music that contains the right amount of pain, joy and even drama. It is clear with this album that the Queen sits proudly upon her throne.

‘Homegrown’ a successful mix of musical genres

By TAE ANDREWS

"Homegrown! The Beginner's Guide to Understanding the Roots, Vol. 1" is the first half of a two-disc best-of anthology of the Roots music. "Homegrown!" illustrates how the Roots fulfill their titular mandate to produce music that is an expression of their personal struggles. With strong organic influences from different genres, most noticeably jazz, rock and soul, the Roots are the consummate amalgamation of past and present hip-hop, joining together musical scents from past and present into one of the most potent audio potpourris. This old-school/new-school dynamic is what lies at the essence of the appeal of the Roots — they are a group that is innovative but respects its elders, producing a sound that is at the same time both brand-new and time-honored, familiar yet fresh.

The Roots' combination of an eclectic mix of musical styles make the band's latest release a promising start to their two-disc best-of collection.

The Breakthrough
Mary J. Blige
Geffen Records

Recommended tracks: 'No One Will Do,' 'I Swear I Love No One But You' and 'What Can I Do?'

The Roots' Guide to Understanding the Roots, Vol. 1
The Roots
Geffen Records

Recommended tracks: 'You Got Me,' 'Star,' 'Do You Want More?!?!?,' 'Double Trouble' and 'What You Want'

Mary J. Blige continues her reign as the queen of hip-hop soul with her new album, "The Breakthrough," taking listeners through her struggles and triumphs.

"Double Trouble," a who's-who of the man song for it is who the men? featuring great back-and-forth chemistry between Def and Black Thought, who may be perhaps the best rapper out there you've never heard of.

Until songs that have been recently purchased at the book store (which enumerates the cost of a college education at an arm, a leg and a first-born child), a copy of "Homegrown! A Beginner's Guide to Understanding the Roots, Vol. 1" will only set a listener back $9.99 on iTunes Music Store. School's in session, and "Homegrown!" is on the required listening list for Hip-Hop 101.

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu

Contact Broderick Henry at bhenry1@nd.edu

Photo courtesy of blige.com
By JOE LATTAL and KEVIN O'SULLIVAN

Scene Critics

The Top 10 Albums of 2005

#10. Beck — Guero

2005 brought new artists and old favorites to the airwaves. With an ear for innovative and unique sounds, every indie rocker's favorite Toronto decter released the long-awaited full-length follow up to 2000's "You Forgot It In People." The first single, "Children's Hour" (shorrender) tore up college radio charts and KF store sound systems beginning last fall. Just like "You Forgot It In People," the album featured conventional as well as out-of-bounds songwriting, emphasizing messages through heavy repetition and a wide range of tempos.

#9. Broken Social Scene — Broken Social Scene

Every indie rocker's favorite Toronto decter released the long-awaited full-length follow up to 2002's "You Forgot It In People." The first single, "Children's Hour" (shorrender) tore up college radio charts and KF store sound systems beginning last fall. Just like "You Forgot It In People," the album featured conventional as well as out-of-bounds songwriting, emphasizing messages through heavy repetition and a wide range of tempos.

#8. The Go! Team — Thunder, Lightning, Strike

Although other parts of the world discovered this album in 2004, "Thunder, Lightning, Strike!" didn't find a U.S. release until 2005. A whirlwind of energy, horns, handclaps and self-centeredness earned the British group attention worldwide. The album featured a combination of instrumental tracks and more poppy dance tunes that would be just as appropriate on a mainstream pop album as a college rock release.

#7. Wolf Parade — Apologies to the Queen Mary

Part of the contemporary Indie explosion to come out of Montreal, Wolf Parade bumps elbows with the likes of The Arcade Fire, with whom they have toured throughout the United States. Having been "discovered" state-side by Modest Mouse's frontman Brock the quartet recorded their first full length album in 2005. A whirlwind of energy, horns, handclaps and self-centeredness earned the British group attention worldwide. The album fea-

#6. Bright Eyes — I'm Wide Awake It's Morning

Conor Oberst and the men from Omaha returned early in 2005 with the release of two albums — "I'm Wide Awake It's Morning" and "Digital Ash in a Digital Urn." Oberst's delicate voice drifted above gentle and moody acoustic tunes. Often melancholy with southern influences, "I'm Wide Awake" was the better structured album with more interesting stories, notably "Old Soul Song" and "We Are Nowhere and It's Now." Bright Eyes is an acquired taste, but in comparison to previous releases, "I'm Wide Awake" might be their strongest to date.

#5. Kanye West — Late Registration

"Late Registration" was the clear standout last year in major label hip-hop. Just like on Kanye's debut, "College Dropout," he wore his political beliefs on his sleeve (as he did in his notable TV appearances) on tracks such as "Black Music" and "Diamonds From Sierra Leone." He showed off his pop appeal on tracks such as "Gold Digger," and "Touch the Sky." We also saw Kanye's sentimental side for the first time on "Estranged," but he still wants a "prenup.

#4. Decemberists — Picaresque

The term "Picaresque" can be loosely defined as pertaining to rogues and scoundrels, particularly in a literary context. As of late a lot of ink has been split about this term in reference to the third LP by The Decemberists. Frontman and primary songwriter Colin Meloy, who holds an MFA in creative writing, spins fantastical tales of the underworlds of society in an oddly timeless and unforgettable manner. These tales are then complemented by an often mellow, often poppy soundtrack of accordions, guitars, mandolins, keys and the like.

Clap Your Hands Say Yeah

Clap Your Hands Say Yeah went from no-name to big time in 2005 with the release of their self-titled debut. With the help of hype from Pitchfork Media as well as exposure in the New York Times, the band eventually landed a record deal at the end of the year and played New York's Irving Plaza for a New Years Eve show (after making a stop at Notre Dame). Alec Ounsworth's warm voice and breathtaking songwriting led the band to surprising success.

#2. Death Cab For Cutie — Plans

Great expectations were met by the Pacific Northwest outfit's major label debut this fall. After a handful of albums and EPs, Death Cab finally earned long deserved attention when the hit single "Soul Meets Body" hit radio. The band gained exposure to wider audiences, even attracting older demographics for the first time. They appeared on soundtracks for "The O.C." and "Six Feet Under," and performed their single live on Saturday Night Live. Any concerns that the band would compromise its sound for commercial success were silenced with the emotional "I Will Follow You Into the Dark" and the lengthy "What Sarah Said."

#1. Sufjan Stevens — Illinois

"Illinois" was the clear champ of 2005. Copyrighted art troubles aside, Sufjan Stevens' second state album was a spectacular arrangement that spanned folk, rock, and even alt-country genres. From the accessible "Chicago" to the more rusticky-sounding "Casimir Pulaski Day," to all the bizarre instrumental tracks in between with titles that were longer than the tunes themselves, to say "Illinois" was impressive from top to bottom is an understatement. A definitive musical opus ought to be at the top of the chart, and no album stands out more than "Illinois."

Contact Joe Lattal and Kevin O'Sullivan at jlattal@ud.edu and kossullivan@ud.edu

Broken Social Scene has grown from Canada to become popular on college radio stations all over the United States. They released their album Oct. 4, 2005.

Colin Meloy and the Decemberists tell tales of the underworlds of society in "Picaresque." This is the third full release by the band which formed in Portland.
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Vince Johnson did it all and had 10 assists to lead the New Jersey Nets to a 101-90 win over the Philadelphia 76ers on Wednesday night.

The Atlantic Division standings show the Nets with a four-game lead over the second-place Boston Celtics, though that seems considerably wider considering New Jersey has won 12 of 17 Philadelphia games.

The Nets got a pair of jumpers from Clifford Robinson and a 3 from Richard Jefferson during a 10-0 spurt that opened the game and gave them an 86-69 lead.

Celtics 103, Timberwolves 96

BOSTON — Paul Pierce scored 14 of his career-high 32 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Boston Celtics to a 103-96 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday night.

Pierce scored 11 consecutive points for the Celtics to spark a 13-2 run spanning the third and fourth quarters and gave the Celtics a seven-point deficit into a four-point lead.

Boston outscored Minnesota 34-23 in the fourth quarter.

The Celtics trailed by as many as 14 in the second quarter and 55-46 at halftime before chipping away at the lead. Delonte West scored Boston's first eight points of the second half to keep the game close. Then Pierce took over.

Pierce gave the Celtics their first lead since early in the first quarter when he completed a 3-point play 21 seconds into the fourth quarter. Pierce drove to the right side of the hoop, missed a tough layup while being fouled by Terrell Brandon and took the free throw made it 74-73.

The next time down the floor, Pierce nailed a 3-pointer to extend the Celtics' lead to 77-73.

Magic 106, Wizards 98

WASHINGTON — Shaquille O'Neal was back and well-behaved.

O'Neal had 13 points, seven rebounds and seven assists in his first game back from a two-game suspension to lead the Orlando Magic over the Washington Wizards on Wednesday night.

The game was suspended by the league for refusing to re-enter a blowout game late in the fourth quarter. He came off the bench against the Wizards for the third time in his six-year NBA career.

"That's something that's way out of my control," Francis said of his reserve role. "So I just have to do what I can when I come in."

He entered with 4:01 left in the first quarter to a mixed reaction from the crowd, and O'Neal spent the next two minutes later, his no look, behind-the-back pass on a fast break for a Hedo Turkoglu dunk put the crowd back on his side.

"After a week of not playing, just shooting by myself, it was good to get out on the court with my team-mates and play well," Francis said.

Francis was scoring a team-high 18 points in a game at the end of 2003, but hit a wall in January. In 11 last six games, he was averaging 11.5 points on 37.5 percent shooting, with 25 assists and 33 turnovers.

In the meantime, point guard Jamaier Nelson has emerged as a budding star. He has led Orlando in scoring four of his last five games, including 22 points, five assists and five rebounds on Wednesday night.

"Give me 24 hours at least to savor this one. We just had a bad road trip. I want to relax and then we'll talk about the starting lineup some other day.

Brian Hill

Orlando head coach

Nets guard Jason Kidd, middle, fights with Suns guard Allen Iverson and forward Chris Webber for a loose ball in New Jersey's 101-90 win Wednesday. The Nets have won 12 of their last 15 games.

Jefferson adds 20, Iverson scores 36 in the Sixers' seventh loss in 10 games

Philadelphia 76ers forward Chris Webber praised teammate Allen Iverson Thursday for coming back from a knee injury to put up 36 points and help spark a 103-96 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves.

"It's nice," he said. "Now that I'm a little older in age — I'm one of the older guys — they (younger teammates) always give me a hard time about dunking. They say if I can't show them something, then I need to just lay it.

"The 6-3, 200-pound Johnson was too strong for the 5-10, 170-pound Brevin Knight.

"I had a good matchup as far as size advantage against their point guard," Johnson said. "I was just trying to take advantage of that. I was able to get some shots to go down and got to the foul line, and my teammates were looking for me. It was nice to have a big night."

Pacers 98, Bobcats 92

INDIANAPOLIS — Anthony Johnson did it all against the Charlotte Bobcats.

He scored 16 of his career-high 27 points in the second half to help the Indiana Pacers win on Wednesday night. He grabbed 10 rebounds, shot 9-for-14 from the field and had four assists.

He even had a transition dunk in the fourth quarter, a rare occurrence for the 31-year-old point guard. The two-handed jam gave the Pacers a 90-83 lead with three minutes left.

"Give me 24 hours at least to savor this one. We just had a bad road trip. I want to relax and then we'll talk about the starting lineup some other day.

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Orlando head coach

\n
Bucks 117, Hawks 89

ATLANTA — The Bucks' best and worst teams followed the script perfectly.

Chasey Billups scored 23 points, Richard Hamilton added 21 and the Detroit Pistons extended their winning streak to five in a row, routing the hapless Atlanta Hawks Wednesday night.

Ben Wallace handled the dirty work with 18 rebounds and six blocks. Led by Maurice Evans, Detroit got a boost from its bench in the decisive second quarter.

"The good teams in this league are the ones that can bring it every night," Wallace said. "We've done a good job of doing that this season."

No kidding. The Pistons boosted the NBA's best record to 31-5, and all five victories in their latest winning streak have been by double figures.

At the opposite end of the spectrum: Atlanta fell to 10-27, already 21 1/2 games behind the Pistons in the Eastern Conference.

"I picked a bad day to drink milk."

I picked a bad day to drink milk.

NBA

Richard Jefferson adds 20, Iverson scores 36 in the Sixers' seventh loss in 10 games
Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

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Eastern Conference, Northeast Division

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Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

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Western Conference, Central Division

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Western Conference, Pacific Division

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Mens College Basketball

Big East Conference

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<td>St. John's</td>
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College Basketball

North Carolina at Virginia 7 p.m., ESPN

Cincinnati at Xavier 8 p.m., ESPN

NBA

Pistons at Knicks 6 p.m., TNT

Kirkland: Wash. Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren removed all doubt Wednesday. NFL MVP Shaun Alexander will play in Sunday's conference championship game against Carolina. The league rushing champion sustained a concussion last Saturday in the first quarter of Seattle's win over Washington. Alexander later said he was unconscious initially and then "out" of it for about 20 minutes. But Holmgren said Wednesday the All-Pro back will be ready for the Panthers. "Shaun's full go," the coach said. "He passed some tests we gave him yesterday. He participated in our walkthrough this morning. He's going to be fine." Alexander, who rushed for a team-record 1,850 yards in the regular season, joked he learned something about himself over a four-day battery of doctors' tests. "Oh yeah. I took all the tests and realized the guy knocked some sense into me," Alexander said.

Seattle Seahawks running back Shaun Alexander is attended to after suffering a concussion in the second quarter against the Washington Redskins during Seattle's 20-10 win in the NFC divisional playoffs last Saturday.

Associated Press

Seahawks' Alexander will start Sunday

KIRKLAND, Wash. - Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren removed all doubt Wednesday. NFL MVP Shaun Alexander will play in Sunday's conference championship game against Carolina.

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Federer advances to third round of Australian Open

MELBOURNE, Australia — Top-ranked Roger Federer advanced to the third round of the Australian Open with an emphatic 6-1, 6-4, 6-0 win over Florian Mayer on Thursday. The 24-year-old Swiss star finished with 35 winners and closed out the 1-hour, 12-minute match with an ace.

"It's so nice to get quick matches in the heat," said Federer, whose next opponent is 30th-seeded Max Mirnyi. "I thought I handled it well in the heat - I'm very happy with my performance, so it's good."

Federer was so dominating that Mayer never had a game point after holding serve to pull within 4-5 in the second set. Always a perfectionist, the normally stoic Federer did seem a little annoyed at his 18 unforced errors that accounted for one-third of Florian's points. And after smacking a lovely forehand crosscourt winner for his third break of the final set, he allowed himself a little fist pump. He finished off the match with a pair of service winners and his eighth and ninth aces, then hit a ball high into the stands.

Sheffield extorter jailed

CHICAGO — A Chicago man who tried to blackmail New York Yankees slugger Gary Sheffield and his wife by claiming to have a video showing her having sex with R&B singer R. Kelly was sentenced to 27 months, but will get more prison time later because he was on parole for bank fraud at the time of the alleged extortion.

Sheffield extorter jailed

CHICAGO — A Chicago man who tried to blackmail New York Yankees slugger Gary Sheffield and his wife by claiming to have a video showing her having sex with R&B singer R. Kelly was sentenced Wednesday to more than two years in prison.

Derrick Mosley, 39, a self-styled minister and community activist, was sentenced to 27 months, but will get more prison time later because he was on parole for bank fraud at the time of the alleged extortion.

Mosley maintained throughout the case that he had not meant to blackmail anyone and that he had been misunderstood when he offered to provide Sheffield's wife, DeLeon Richards-Sheffield, with personal counseling. "I'm sorry it got to this point, given my track record with the community," he told Federal Judge Samuel Der-Yeghiayan.

Steelers' Porter not fined after criticism of officials

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh line­backer Joey Porter won't be fined by the NFL for criticizing officials after the Steelers beat Indianapolis.

NFL coaches are subject to fines for criticizing officials, but players usually aren't fined.

Porter, a Pro Bowl selection and one of the Steelers' co-captains, criticized referee Pete Morelli's crew repeatedly during a series of postgame interviews following a 21-18 win in the AFC divisional round.

Among other comments, Porter said, "The whole world wanted Indy to win so bad, they were going to do whatever they had to do."

NFL spokesman Steve Alie said there would be no fine for the remarks. Alie didn't elaborate.

IN BRIEF

- Federer advances to third round of Australian Open

- Sheffield extorter jailed

- Steelers' Porter not fined after criticism of officials

- Hawks' Alexander will start Sunday

- Around the Dial
DURHAM, N.C. — Sean Dockery saved Duke again. This time, he didn’t wait until the final buzzer.

With the top-ranked Blue Devils again up 13 points on the line, Dockery made a go-ahead 3-pointer and set up another instant by helping his team beat No. 14 North Carolina State 66-61 Wednesday night.

J.J. Redick had 28 points and Shelden Williams added 21, but it was Dockery’s play down the stretch that helped Duke reach 17-0 (5-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) for only the second time. The other was during a 1998-99 run to the NCAA title in 1992. The Wolfpack saw the final seconds.

Sure this one had little drama in the end. The other came against Virginia Tech on Dec. 4. That’s the improbable victory. He made a heave at the buzzer to give Duke a 40-foot 3-pointer and set up another against Major Wingate and Stanley Aamuso each scoring 11.

The cross-state rivalry was up its usual intensity from the opening tip. There was trash-talking, stiff defensive flying elbows and a frenzied back-and-forth pace. Both coaches — John Calipari of Memphis and Bruce Pearl of Tennessee — were pleading their case to officials throughout, adding to the atmosphere. The crowd, mostly Tennessee fans, was on its feet for the Vols, while C.J. Watson scored 14 on 2-of-10 shooting.

The Gators extended the best start Wednesday. The Gators went up 13-0, extended the lead to 45-10 with a 21-0 run and led by as many as 39 in the first half. Up 57-33 at the break, Florida opened the second half with a 4-3 spurt, and Donovan pulled out some starters with 14:38 remaining.

Memphis 88, Tennessee 79

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Redick and Williams lead Duke over N.C. State
Blue Devils trailed by one at half but outscored Wolfpack 48-34 in the second half of a balanced attack, with Terence Davis scoring 12 points and Ron Lewis, Butler and Matt Sylvester each added 14.

Kamron Taylor and Alando Tucker each scored 21 points for the Badgers (14-3, 4-1), with Butler each adding one to the lead to 52-43. The loss ended Wisconsin’s seven-game stretch to lead No. 19 Ohio State. With 3:33 left, Jason Chappell for a 71-61 lead.

Duke forward Sheldon Williams, right, fights for possession during Wednesday’s 81-68 win over North Carolina State. Williams finished with 23 points on 9-of-12 shooting.

Butler hit two free throws, seldom-used sub Iran Harris hit a 3 from the left corner and Butler made a 3 early in the possession to push the lead to 52-43. Ohio State, which beat a ranked team for the first time in three tries this season, never trailed again.

The Badgers pulled to 65-61 with just under 6 minutes left on Brian Butch’s 12-foot jumper, but then Foster came out of his slump. He hit the second of two free throw. After a miss by Tucker, he came out of an inbounds play to hit a 3-pointer from the right side. After two more Wisconsin misses, Ohio State went inside to Dials and hit a baseline turnaround over Jason Chappell for a 71-61 lead with 3:33 left.

Noah had 21 points on 10-for-10 shooting, reserve Walter Hodge added 18 points and No. 2 Florida remained unbeaten with a victory over lowly Savannah State on Wednesday night.

The Gators extended the best start and longest winning streak in school history, and finished undefeated in non-conference play for the first time in coach Billy Donovan’s 10 seasons.

The Vols cut it to 80-74 on four straight points by Bradshaw, but could get no closer, losing their second straight. Tennessee scored the final six points of the half to take a 45-41 lead.

Duke closed this game with a 16-3 run. Earlier this month, the Wolfpack saw North Carolina score the final 13 points to win.

The loss ended Wisconsin’s three tries this season, never allowing a lead. They never were challenged. With the top-ranked Blue Devils again up 13 points on the line, Dockery made a go-ahead 3-pointer and set up another instant by helping his team beat No. 14 North Carolina State 66-61 Wednesday night.

THE OBSERVER • SPORTS
Thursday, January 19, 2006

The Observer • SPORTS

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There were five ties and 12 lead changes in the game.

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Marinelli reportedly will take Lions' reigns

Coach spent 10 years working with Tampa Bay's defensive backs

Associated Press

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — Rod Marinelli was nearing an agreement with the Detroit Lions on Wednesday night to become their new head coach, a team source told The Associated Press.

The source, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the team had not made an announcement, said Marinelli was to leave the team's practice facility on Wednesday night, but stayed to negotiate his contract.

Marinelli spent the past 10 seasons in Tampa Bay as defensive line coach. His unit helped establish an NFL record with 69 straight games with at least one sack from 1999-03. He had the title of assistant head coach added in 2002.

He has not been a head coach of a team from at least one other team at any level, but attracted interest from at least one other team with an opening this offseason.

Among the coaches Millen also interviewed were: Pittsburgh offensive line coach Russ Grimm; Denver offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak; Cleveland offensive coordinator Maurice Carthon; New York Giants defensive coordinator Tim Lewis and San Francisco assistant head coach Mike Singletary.

Marinelli's coaching career began in 1973 as an assistant at Rosemead (Calif.) High School. He was an assistant at Utah State from 1973-82, before becoming an NFL executive for his prospects for the job.

Unlike Millen's first two coaching searches, he took his time and interviewed several candidates. Millen hired Marty Mornhinweg quickly in 2001, hoping Cleveland wouldn't hire him. Two years later, Millen hired Steve Mariucci with such haste that he was fined $200,000 by the NFL because he didn't follow the league's minority interview policy.

With Millen's players and coaches, the Lions are an NFL worst-21-59 over the past five seasons — since the former defensive line coach and TV analyst became an NFL executive for the first time.

Dick Jauron, who took over when Mariucci was fired in November, was one of many candidates Millen interviewed during a two-week process. Among the coaches Millen also interviewed were: Pittsburgh offensive line coach Russ Grimm; Denver offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak; Cleveland offensive coordinator Maurice Carthon; New York Giants defensive coordinator Tim Lewis and San Francisco assistant head coach Mike Singletary.

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He went to Tampa Bay in 1996 and was the defensive line coach for six seasons. The past four seasons, he also had the title of assistant head coach.

**AUSRAILIAN OPEN**

Williams easily defeats Pin in second round match

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Serena Williams had seen her sister headed home after Williams easily defeats Pin in second round match with an opening this offseason.

The Oakland Raiders in the third round.

Williams dropped serve to break in the second set. She quickly regained control by breaking serve six times. She didn't exactly overlook Camille Pin, with the memory of errors or his prospects for the job.

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**IMPRACTICAL SECRET AGENTS OF COMEDY**

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**NFL**

The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Andy Roddick, backed by a boisterous cheering section some draped and others painted in American flags — shrugged off an ankle strain in 5-7, 6-3, 6-2 win over Wesley Moodie, the Wimbledon doubles champion.

He had 11 aces and conceded only 17 points in 15 service games, but was most pleased by his strong return of serve.

By contrast, an 8-3 loss to the last U.S. Open, played Julien Benneteau of France in the third round.
Carolina defensive back Lucas returns to Seattle

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The latest Bill Parcells proytege to get an NFL head coaching job is Sean Payton. The New Orleans Saints hope he is being as good a turnaround specialist as his mentor.

Payton, a Dallas Cowboys assistant the past three seasons, was introduced Wednesday as the Saints' new head coach, inheriting a team that won three times last season and played all of its games on the road because of Hurricane Katrina.

Payton, 42, is taking on his first head coaching job. In Dallas, he worked with quarterback and also held the title of assistant head coach. Before that, he was a New York Giants assistant, a stint that included that team's NFC championship in 2000.

Payton succeeds Jim Haslett, whose tenure lasted six years. The Saints went 3-13 in 2005, but finished a 500 team during Haslett's first five seasons combined. The victories included the team's only playoff win.

Payton, the Saints' 14th head coach, acknowledged the problems caused by Katrina — for the team and the New Orleans area.

"Obviously 2005 was a traumatic year for this area, it was a tough time for this team. I hope that in some small way the effort of this team in 2006 and beyond will represent this city and this region well," Payton said.

"Some people would say, 'Stay in Dallas. The situation there is good.' We're three-quarters of the way through the NFL season, we had 16 free agents and the front office was in a little bit of turmoil here.

"In the time that we got things fixed a little bit, Kenny got out of here."

There was no way to do that.

Lucas is the kind of player who wants — maybe even needs — attention. He wants to go to Pro Bowls and to be recognized as one of the best cornerbacks in the league. He believed that was never going to happen for him in Seattle.

"Because of the market being way out there, people never noticed me," said Lucas, who has the Superman logo tattooed on his arm and personalized "Super Lucas" plates on his Bentley.

"I like to think I can do some extraordinary things on the field and I want people to recognize the things that I do. I didn't want to play in this league and be just another guy who had an opportunity to play. I want to be one of the Hall of Famers when my career is over. I want to be great."

The Panthers believed he had that potential, uncharacteristically slogging on a $13 million signing bonus to lock him up almost as soon as free agency opened. Carolina has traditional­ly been conservative when it comes to spending under coach John Fox, pursuing only players he believes will make an imme­diate and powerful impact.

Lucas has more than delivered.

"He came in and gave us stabi­lity on one side of the field, where we can say we've got a shutdown corner," defensive tackle Brien Ogle said. "We've got a physical guy that can play the pass and play the run."

Lucas had six interceptions during the regular season, then added another two in playoff wins over the New York Giants and Chicago. But his best work is done defending the opponents' top receiver, a situation he showed he thrives in during an early season win over Arizona.

After Cardinals receiver Larry Fitzgerald torched the Panthers on six catches for 106 yards and a touchdown in the first half of their Oct. 9 game, Lucas asked Carolina's coaching staff to switch assignments so he could cover Fitzgerald.

Payton said, "I think this area, this community, this region is tough, and our team better reflect that, too." In addition to coaching quar­termbacks, Payton had a very brief pro playing career at that position in the CFL, and as a Chicago Bears replacement player during the 1987 strike.

Aaron Brooks, the Saints' starter for most of the past six seasons, had his worst sea­son in 2005 and was benched for the final three games. If the Saints keep Brooks they would owe him about $6.5 million in salary next season.

Payton named Saints head coach

Sean Payton, right, is congratulated by Saints owner Tom Benson after being introduced as New Orleans head coach.

"I'm excited about this opportunity, I know it's a challenge and we're going to roll our sleeves up," Payton said.

"Payton said being a part of the region's recovery from Katrina was more of a draw than a draw­back, making the opportunity with the Saints "unique."

"We can impact people's lives in a positive way as they go through this transition, " Payton said.

Saints head coach

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- Dr. Susan Steibe-Pasalich, Counseling Center, 1-7336
- Ann E. Kleva, Health Services, 1-8286

South Bend Community Resources:

- Women's Care Center: 234-0363
- Catholic Charities: 234-3111

The Observer • SPORTS

Thursday, January 19, 2006
**NFL**

Panthers and Steelers should not be a surprise

Both No. 6 seeds will play third consecutive playoff road contest

Associated Press

Only the 1985 New England Patriots have won three games on the road to get to the Super Bowl.

Don't put Pittsburgh and Carolina — both trying to accomplish the same feat — in a class with that bunch, which lost 46-30 to Chicago and became a footnote to history. They are legitimate contenders who ended up at the bottom of the seedings because of injuries and fluctuating play, not because they lack ability.

Remember that the Steelers, the No. 6 seed in the AFC, are in their sixth conference title game in 12 years. The Panthers, No. 5 in the NFC, were in the Super Bowl two years ago and finished 11-5 this season, as good a record as anyone in the NFC but the Seahawks.

In fact, a Super Bowl between two wild-card teams wouldn't be a huge surprise — it would hardly be a shock if the Steelers win Sunday in Denver and the Panthers win in Seattle.

A lot of it has to do with the coaches.

John Fox of the Panthers was the Giants' defensive coordinator when they got to the Super Bowl in 2001 and is 4-1 in the postseason with Carolina. His offensive coordinator is Dan Henning, a head coach with Atlanta (1983-86) and San Diego (1989-91), but also a former assistant under Joe Gibbs with Super Bowl winners in Washington.

What they've done in two games might even be called astounding: shutting out a top offense and moving at ease through a top defense.

Even New York's Tiki Barber, who normally is careful with his comments, noted (correctly) how badly Carolina outmatched the Giants in the Meadowlands, blanking an offense that had scored 421 points in the regular season, third most in the league.

Then the Panthers went to Chicago, scored 29 points and put up 434 yards on what all season had been the NFL's best defense. That was against Coach of the Year Lovie Smith, as Housing and John Delhomme exploited defensive weaknesses that no one else seemed able to find.

Pittsburgh?

Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger makes a game-saving tackle on Colts defensive back Nick Harper Jan. 15.

Ward said Wednesday, "That is how it went. Last year, we were a No. 6 seed. This year, we hope to win our final four games just to get here. So we've been on a playoff mentality the last four weeks of the regular season. It's nice to go home, so we're trying to use playing with pressure."

**HORSE RACING**

Legendary horse rider Bailey retires after 31-year career

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jerry Bailey was thinking retirement for several years and finally, a few weeks into this season, he knew it was time for his illustrious Hall of Fame career to come to an end. "I still enjoy competing in the biggest races on the best horses on the biggest days," the two-time Kentucky Derby winning rider said. "But to get to those days, there are a lot of routine days and I just didn't feel the passion I should have felt." With that, Bailey said Wednesday he'll retire after riding at Gulfstream Park on Jan. 28. The 48-year-old Bailey will become the latest Hall of Fame jockey to hang up his saddle — the 2003 Belmont Stakes with Empire Maker, the 2002 Travers with Medaglia d'Oro, and the 2001 Breeders' Cup Sprint with Squirtle Squirt.

Bailey has been racing's top rider for nearly 15 years, usually ending up on many of the best horses in training. Among his greatest accomplishments was the campaign aboard Cigar, a two-time Horse of the Year who gave him perhaps his greatest win — the 1996 Dubai World Cup.

Winning the Kentucky Derby "is probably the pinnacle of any jockey's aspirations, but if I had to pinpoint a race for me it would be the Dubai World Cup with Cigar," he said. "Not only was it a victory for me, but I was representing the United States. It was as close to being in an Olympian as I could probably ever be."

Bailey often said he didn't really love horses until he climbed aboard Cigar, and his voice seemed to quiver when he spoke of it.

"He was the most genuine, charismatic horse I think I've ever been on in my life," he said.

Bailey will become the latest Breeders' Cup winner to hang up his tack. Pat Day retired in August and Gary Stevens retired a second time in November.

Known as a fierce competitor and always being well prepared for every race, Bailey will depart as one of racing's greatest winners and a Breeders' Cup with Cigar, a two-time Horse of the Year who gave him perhaps his greatest win — the 1996 Dubai World Cup.

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Hockey

continued from page 24

"If you're going to have success on the road it boils down to goaltending, special teams and being better defensively," the coach said.

According to Jackson, the Irish also play well on the road because they are naturally a conservative team, which helps in hostile environments.

"We're more of a defensive team," he said. "We pretty much play road hockey at home.

But there's more to a road game than on-ice strategy. The bus trip to Marquette, Mich. for the contest against the Wildcats will take nine hours.

The Irish lost early this morning, will play Friday and Saturday nights, and then drive through the early morning hours Sunday to arrive back in South Bend about 9 a.m. Notre Dame then has to turn around and do it again on the trip to Columbus next week.

Still, Jackson said things could be worse.

"I'll definitely impact us, but Ohio State's playing in Fairbanks (Alaska) this weekend," he said.

Alaska-Fairbanks has been a member of the CCHA, which includes mostly Midwestern schools, since 1995-96. Notre Dame will face the Nanooks in one game.

A fan of the CCHA, which features a long and thin 200 by 85 ice sheet.

"We're more of a defensive team. We pretty much play road hockey at home."

Jeff Jackson
Notre Dame coach

October and Manukian was an Olympic sheet too."

Jackson said larger ice can affect both offensive and defensive hockey.

"It spreads out the ice offensively so sometimes you don't get as good of scoring chances because you're too wide," he said. "So it has an impact on things like protecting the puck offensively, but it also stretches you out defensively."

The coach said he's told his team the best way to deal with the different ice is to play like nothing has changed.

"You have to play the game like you're on a normal rink," Jackson said. "You can't get deceived by the wider ice."

The Wildcats are 13-8-1 and 4-4 in the MIAA. More importantly, this was the win for Saint Mary's since Dec. 7 and was the sort of victory that Coach Bender will be able to use to motivate his team for the rest of the season.

"This was a really big win, and the biggest win we've had at home in a very long time," he said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

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Hockey

continued from page 24

able to stay focused and disciplined throughout the game, allowing the Britens only four trips to the foul line and forcing turnovers including multiple traveling penalties on Albion.

The most important part of our win today was our intensity," Bender said. "We really stepped in our man-to-man defense today."

Steve Bender
Saint Mary's coach

"We really stepped in our man-to-man defense today."

Steve Bender
Belles coach

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Jeff Jackson
Notre Dame coach
NBA

James blows chance to be hero

Associated Press

DENVER — LeBron James grabbed the rebound but not the moment.

James pulled down his own missed free throw — which he purposely misfired with 6 seconds left — and drew another foul with Cleveland trailing Denver by two points Wednesday night.

After swishing his first foul shot, he missed his second and Alan Henderson's tip-in bounced out at the buzzer, leaving the Nuggets to celebrate a 90-89 victory over the Cavaliers on Wednesday night.

"It just didn't go down," a crestfallen James said. "I shot it just like I shoot any other free throw, just missed it. We have to move on. Everything that happened here tonight, I blame myself. When we lose, I take the blame for it, it's just another loss.

"I'm the leader of this team and I failed to make plays down the stretch. I'm the leader and I'm supposed to make plays down the stretch, and we lost. So put it on me.

James finished with 24 points but the Cavs lost their fifth straight, including the first four on their Western trip.

Carmelo Anthony and Earl Boykins led the Nuggets with 17 points each and Kenyon Martin also scored 17. Martin also grabbed a season-best 17 rebounds.

Cavaliers guard Lebron James reacts to missing a free throw that would have sent Wednesday's game to overtime.

Season

continued from page 24 through a series of mid-set lead changes in the fourth to force a deciding set.

In the fifth set, played to 15, Wisconsin took a 14-8 lead with kill No. 22 by junior Badger Maria Cardini. Brewster cut the lead to five with aces and solidified it at 17 on the night for her, but the Irish comeback was short-lived.

Senior Meg Henican hit the right side of the net on the ensuing serve, and Wisconsin advanced the round of eight, where it fell to eventual champion Washington in straight sets.

Brewster said the sixth-seeded Irish though they could win, but made no expectations of doing so.

"Every team is competing like they have to win every set, so they have to play their best," she said. "In volleyball, any given team can beat anyone on a given night." The Badgers main advantage all night was the play of their defense. Wisconsin out-blocked Notre Dame 18.5 to 12 and held the Irish to hitting .179.

"Every team is competing like they have to win every set, so they have to play their best." - Lauren Brewster, Irish captain

"We were excited to make it past the second round. We would have liked to go farther, but just being in the NCAA tournament is exciting." - Lauren Brewster, Irish captain

"We're getting a great recruiting class," she said. "Our freshmen will be really good." - Brewster, Notre Dame's first ever volleyball All American, knows that her graduation from the program marks a leadership transition for the team. She said she has the utmost confidence in the underclassmen on the team, and she sees a bright future for Irish volleyball.

Contact Ken Fowler and Chris Khorey at kfowler@nd.edu and ckhorey@nd.edu

Academic Freedom and Catholic Character

Address and Discussion

By Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.

Please plan to join Fr. Jenkins for his address to the Notre Dame community on the issue of academic freedom and our Catholic character. A period of questions and comments will follow.

Faculty: Monday, January 23, 2006, at 4:30 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

Students: Tuesday, January 24, 2006, at 12:30 p.m. in Washington Hall.
Junior midfielder Greg Dalby works the ball on Aug. 20 against New Mexico. Dalby was recently named an All-American.

Dalby

continued from page 24

receive three first-team honors in the same season and only the second in the team's history to earn the first-team distinction by the NSCAA and College Soccer News.

The All-American honors come on the heels of an outstanding season for Dalby in the Irish midfield, where he tallied two goals and an assist. As a tri-captain, he helped lead Notre Dame to its third appearance in the NCAA tournament round of 16 after a 2-0 upset win over two-time defending champion Indiana before falling 1-0 to Clemson.

"He doesn't say 'do as I say' but 'do what I do,'" Clark said. "That's a clear indication of the type of player he is."

And don't expect Dalby to be disappointed when the 2006 season comes around. The senior-to-be is on top of his game, but Clark believes that there is always room for improvement.

"When you stop getting better, it's time to hang it up," Clark said. "That's one of the reasons why I think people respect his midfielder receives from the nation's soccer elite."

"You don't get these kind of honors if you're not a good player," Clark said. "That's a real indication of the type of person Greg is, he's always going to be looking for ways to improve. He has the potential to play in the pro game.

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Trophy

continued from page 24

that will make anyone around her better," Thorlakson said. "She's a world-class type of player. She can create something out of nothing every single time.

Sinclair finished the season with 39 goals, two more than SMU's Lisa Cole in 1987. She added 10 assists to lead the nation with 89 points.

Both Thorlakson and Sinclair are already members of the Canadian national team and have indicated their intention to play on a more regular basis with the team after their college careers. Sinclair has already amassed 53 goals for Canada's World Cup team, the second highest total in the country's history.

"It's exciting playing against her too because I got to play with my ND team, but playing with her for Canada is really fun," Thorlakson said.

Notre Dame's senior forward was one of three finalists, joining Sinclair and Penn State's Tiffany Weimer for a press conference and banquet at the Missouri Athletic Club in downtown St. Louis.

Last season, Thorlakson won player-of-the-year awards from several national publications but was not among the Club's three finalists. This year, Irish coach Randy Waldrum accompanied the senior to St. Louis and spoke about her career to the crowd.

Thorlakson said the most poignant part of Waldrum's speech was when he mentioned her ankle sprain at the beginning of a national soccer camp her senior year in high school. Waldrum had only seen her play for a few minutes but nonetheless offered Thorlakson a spot on the Irish roster.

Four years later, both were happy with the decision. Thorlakson said her invitation to the awards ceremony is a testament to Notre Dame's success given the quality of other finalists.

"It's just a really great honor for me," Thorlakson said, "especially to be a finalist with a Canadian teammate."

Senior forward Katie Thorlakson attempts to dribble past two defenders in a Sept. 23 game against Cincinnati.

"It's just a really great honor for me, especially to be a finalist with a Canadian teammate," Thorlakson said. "The quality of other finalists was one of the reasons why I think people respect his talent."

Four years later, both were happy with the decision. Thorlakson said her invitation to the awards ceremony is a testament to Notre Dame's success given the quality of other finalists.

"It's just a really great honor for me," Thorlakson said, "especially to be a finalist with a Canadian teammate.

Thorlakson said there would be no hard feelings between herself and Sinclair.

"At the end of the day, Christine's a great player, and everyone looks up to her," she said.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler@nd.edu

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BIRTHDAY BABY: You are sensitive, caring, and do good deeds. You are a problem solver. You are a thinker and an acquisitive who is responsible and reliable.

Horoscope

EUGENIA LAST


Happy Birthday: You may be urged to help someone out for the wrong reasons this year. Don’t lend someone money or even your time before you take care of your own business. The opportunity to do something that you’ve always wanted to pursuant is now – stop thinking about it and go for it. Your numbers are 12, 19, 26, 33, 42, 48.

AFL (March 21–April 19): Consider the promise you make yourself at the beginning of the year. If you haven’t stuck to it, keep the train on track. Don’t let other people’s egos take precedence. Stick to your game plan.***

TAURENS (April 20–May 20): Don’t wait for others to do things for you. Take the initiative and you will get results. Today is not about standing in someone else’s shadow. A connection can be made with someone professionally and personally significant.

GEMINIS (May 21–June 20): You may be led astray by someone who has his own agenda. This is not a good time to spend money or to make personal or physical changes. A last decision can be made based on false information.***

CANCERS (June 21–July 22): Home will be where the heart is today. You should focus your energies on the place you consider as home. You will find peace and tranquility in an environment that is comfortable.

LEOs (July 23–Aug. 22): Today might not be a good day for handling business matters. Your emotions may be overwhelming and you will need to gain control over yourself.

VIRGOS (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): You should not be on vacation or at least doing something you enjoy today. Time spent with children, family, friends for you hour will be worth your while.

SAGITARIUSES (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): It may be difficult for you to keep your promises. You may find yourself in a situation that is not what you intended it to be. Your plans may go awry, regardless of the circumstances.

LIBRAS (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): You may be rushed and rushed for information. You may find yourself in a situation that is not what you anticipated. Your plans may go awry, regardless of the circumstances.

SCORPIONS (Oct. 23–Nov. 22): You may find yourself in a situation that is not what you anticipated. Your plans may go awry, regardless of the circumstances.

CAPRICORNLES (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): You are a thinker and an acquisitive who is responsible and reliable.

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**Soccer**

**Critically acclaimed**

Dalby first Irish mens player named to three All-American teams

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

The accolades continue to pile up for Irish junior Greg Dalby, and no one is more proud—or less surprised—than Notre Dame coach Bobby Clark.

Less than a month after being named a first-team All-American by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, Dalby was selected to both the College Soccer News and SoccerTimes.com first-team All-American teams on Jan. 10.

"I'd be disappointed if he wasn't [selected]," Clark said.

That would have been my reaction. I hope I don't take this for granted, because I kind of expected him to," Dalby was not available for comment Wednesday.

He is the first Notre Dame men's soccer player to ever

--see DALBY/page 22

**Hockey**

Irish preparing for four-game road trip

By CHRISS HOKEY
Sports Writer

After playing in front of their first home sellout of the season Saturday, the Irish will spend their next two weekends away from home, with trips to Northern Michigan and Ohio State.

Notre Dame (7-12-3). 5-8-3 in the CHA) is just 2-5-2 away from the Joyce Center this year, but the Irish are unbeaten in their last three road contests,

posting a 2-0-1 mark against Nebraska-Omaha and Minnesota State-Mankato.

Just as the rest of our game has improved over the year our road games have improved too," Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said about the team's turnaround on the road.

Jackson said the improvement has to do with better play from Irish goaltender Kyle Glyn and Notre Dame's special teams.

--see ROAD/page 20

**Basketball**

Kessler leads Belles to upset win

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

Allison Kessler won't let Notre Dame move on to the NCAA quarterfinals without putting a two-point victory in the second set.

Kessler stepped up for Saint Mary's, replacing starting point guard Bridget Lipke, who left the game with 17:30 left in the second half with a leg injury.

Kessler led all scorers with 19 points, and grabbed three rebounds.

Lipke, despite having only 2 points and 2 rebounds in the first half, leads the team at the point and directs the offense.

"Allison has the heart of a champion," Belles head coach Steve Bender said. "We lost Bridget [Lipke] and were still able to win somehow.

Saint Mary's defensive intensity was visible for the entire game. Playing pre-dominantly man-to-man, the Belles forced bad shots and out-rebounded the Britons 18-10 in the first half.

Moreover, the Belles were

--see UPSET/page 20

**ND Volleyball**

Notre Dame falls to Wisconsin in 3rd round

By KEN FOWLER and CHRISS HOKEY
Sports Writers

Despite a loss to Wisconsin in the third round of the NCAA Tournament, Notre Dame captured final rankings of No. 12 in the CST/AVCA Coaches' Poll and No. 11 in the Molten/Volleyball Magazine Top 25, matching the team's best ranking in the history of each poll.

"We were excited to make it past the second round," senior co-captain Lauren Brewster said. "We would have liked to go farther, but just being in the NCAA tournament is exciting."

After struggling mightily against unranked Dayton in the first round of the tournament and skimming out Northwestern in three close sets in the second, the Irish lost a back-and-forth, 3-2 third-round match to the Badgers in College Station, Texas on Dec. 9. Only one of the five sets saw a lead change, but the teams alternated set wins.

The Badgers staked the early lead, besting the Irish 30-25 in set one, but Notre Dame returned the favor with a two-point victory in the second set. Wisconsin narrowed another relatively easy win in set three, but the Irish fought

--see SEASON/page 21