Student presidential candidates announced

**Five tickets marked by young candidates**

By AMANDA MICHAELS
Assistant News Editor

The Judicial Council officially announced the tickets approved to run in the upcoming student body presidential election in a campus-wide e-mail Friday morning.

Five tickets will appear on the Feb. 13 general ballot, with what Judicial Council President James Leito called an "extraordinary" number of freshmen running for top government positions.

"Normally the people who are running for these positions are sophomores and juniors, and [5] freshmen on the tickets is very unusual," Leito said. He added he could not think of anything that would have contributed to the rise in younger candidates.

The presidential and vice presidential candidates include freshmen Ryan Black from Knott and Catherine Martinez from Cavanaugh; junior Jason Laws from Fisher and sophomore Bob Costa from Zahm; freshmen Ryan McCane and Tim Szewczyk, both from Zahm; juniors Lizzie Shappell from Badin and Bill Andrachik from Stan Fourier; and sophomore Erica Wells from Zahm.

Contact Amanda Michaels at
amichael@nd.edu

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Ebersols break silence to Oprah

Family speaks about losing youngest child, living with grief

By KELLY MEEHAN
Assistant News Editor

The family of Notre Dame graduate Charlie Ebersol appeared on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" Thursday to discuss the tragic 2004 plane crash that took the life of its youngest son, Teddy.

It marked the first time the Ebersols have spoken to the media together about the crash and their mourning process.

"I was laying in the aisleway of the plane without a seatbelt, and the ceiling had collapsed on me, and I thought to myself, 'Oh my God, I cannot get through this without my dad,' " Charlie Ebersol said to Winfrey.

Dick Ebersol said in the moments following the crash when Charlie found himself in a burning plane, he identified his father after seeing his white head of hair in the wreckage.

"I was laying in the side-walk, and the ceiling had collapsed on me, and I thought to myself, 'Oh my God, I cannot get through this without my dad,' " Charlie Ebersol said to Winfrey.

Charlie Ebersol, who broke his back in two places and hand in six places, ruptured his eye in the wreckage, broke his back in two places and hand, and received a third degree burn to his left arm in the crash, described the event as "very violent." He then told Winfrey of his memories every moment of the crash.

"It is one of those moments, they say it lasts 15 seconds, but it seems like it lasts for hours," he said.

Charlie told Winfrey at time of the crash he was the only person on board without a seatbelt, but also was the only person who remained conscious after the crash.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Sports

Doldrums

I realized the other day that we're in the first week in February, and this made me feel a little uneasy. That's because after this Sunday's conclusion of three hours of quality commercials, also commonly referred to as the Super Bowl, begins the worst four-week stretch of sports for the entire year. I hate this time of year, and I'll tell you why. Check your calendar. You're not going to find a lot to get excited about. Looking at this in a narrow context, you'll see that February means the middle of the NBA, NHL and college basketball seasons. This means that the procession for any of these sports is somewhere from one to two months away. That's okay, though, because even though they're in their off-seasons, we can look for the mainstream American sports (baseball and football) to keep us entertained, right? Well, not quite. Football's Spring Training is still a month away from becoming interesting and with most of the off-season moves centered around the Winter Meetings in December, baseball's hot stove has currently been reduced to ashes.

The NFL is finishing this Sunday, leaving nothing to look forward to until the draft, which isn't until April 29 — well, that is unless you enjoy the 100 obligatory Mel Kiper Jr. appearances between now and then. Even college football doesn't offer us much of a release. In fact, the last noteworthy college football date until next season happened yesterday. Okay, so the more well-known sports don't have much going on in February. Maybe this is the perfect opportunity to catch up on some of the lesser-known sports. How about golf? Well, the first major, the Masters, isn't until April, and honestly, who can watch any golf tournament that isn't a major? It's indicative of the gravity of the situation that I'm even suggesting this, but what about tennis? Bad timing yet again. The Australian Open, which takes place in January, just finished, and next major? The French Open, isn't until May. The Super Bowl, February this year, but with the Olympics taking place only once every four years, this February is more of an aberration than the norm. Besides, do you really want to watch two hours of Frenchmen prancing around on ice-skates a sport? Me neither.

Basically, the sports scene of post-Super Bowl February is about as enjoyable as the current... on second thought, the typical February South Bend weather. That leaves us with a couple of options. We can either get used to hearing, "In our top story, the Chicago Bulls were defeated by opponent X last night," or we can use this reprieve to accomplish alternative objectives, perhaps the homework we avoided during the NFL playoffs. Whatever you do, try to stay sane during February because the madness of March is only a few weeks away.

Contact Greg Arhagast at garha@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and aims for the highest standards of journalistic integrity at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541, so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: IF YOU COULD CREATE AN OLYMPIC SPORT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Kevin Carrier
sophomore
Fishers

"Jousting, maybe javelin duels perhaps."

David Tighe
sophomore
Dillon

"Ultimate."

Laura Fox
sophomore
PE

"Hopscootch. I'm really good at it."

Reese Moore
sophomore
Howard

"Freeze-tag."

Liz Fox
sophomore
Welsh Family

"Broomball. Trigon Blue Cross Blue Shield, baby!"

Christian Galvan
freshman
Keenan

"Olympic karaoke. And I'd take the gold."

Program of Liberal Studies department chair Henry Weinfeld read his translation of "The Chimeras of Gerard de Nerval" at a ceremony at the Snite Museum Thursday night, where professor emeritus Doug Kinsey's illustrations of the translations are displayed in an exhibit.

OFFBEAT

Burglar gets stuck in vent

ORLANDO, Fla. — An alleged burglar was rescued Thursday after he got stuck overnight in the oven vent of the convenience store he was trying to rob, the fire department said. Investigators said Lonnie Shields, 37, climbed into a vehicle, hit the right fender and breaking off the passenger side mirror, authorities said. I shit off and was laying on the road but got up into a football-type stance and charged a second vehicle as it approached, damaging a feeder. The 42-year-old man was arrested on a warrant and was treated at a nearby hospital and booked overnight in the oven vent of the establishment. The motorists were not injured.

"He was banged up and crushed up and uncomfortable from being in that pipe for about six hours," Orlando fire chief Greg Hoggatt said.

Naked man attacks cars

WITTINGBURG, Wis. — Authorities had no trouble locating the suspect after getting a call about a pedestrian attacking two moving cars. He was the one with no clothes. Police said the first complaint came in at 9:36 a.m. Thursday after a woman encountered a naked man on a road. She drove around him, he charged the vehicle, hit the right fender and jumped on the hood, smashing the windshield and breaking off the passenger side mirror, authorities said. I couldn't find what I was looking for that time. The suspect was taken into custody.

Reach the Sports Writer at david.tighe@nd.edu.

IN BRIEF

The band Nice Save! will play tonight at 10:30 p.m. at Corby's.

As part of the ND Asian Film Festival, there will be a showing of "Pirates" tonight at 7:30 p.m. and "Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood of War" today at 4 p.m. in the Browning Cinema at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $3 for students.

As part of the ND Arab Film Series, the film "Destiny" will be shown tonight at 7 p.m., and the film "Ali Zoua: Prince of the Streets" will be shown tonight at 10 p.m. in the Browning Cinema at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $5 for students.

The Department of Romance Languages and literatures is presenting Molière's "L'Ecole des Femmes" tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Philbin Studio Theatre at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $5 for students.

Theatre at the DeBartolo, Performing Arts Center.

Robert Campbell, a Pulitzer Prize winner and veteran architecture critic for the Boston Globe, will present a lecture titled "Why Don't the Rest of Us Like the Buildings the Architects Like?" at 4:30 p.m. Monday at Broid Hall.

TO SUBMIT INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION OF THE OBSERVER, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu.

PHIL HUDDLESTON/Observer

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

The Observer • PAGE 2

Friday, February 3, 2006

Rachel Trojan, professor of applied drama, is giving a reading of Euripides' "Iphigenia in Aulis" Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The production is a senior thesis by student Stephen Shaw. Tickets are $5 for students, $8 for general admission.

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Theology topic of theology talk

By KATIE KOHLER
News Writer

On Wednesday night, Saint Mary's senior John Dillon, director of Marriage Preparation and Religious Education at Notre Dame, led Wednesday's discussion, explaining Catholic marriage using what Sylvia Dillon called "interactive dialogue."

Sylvia and John Dillon, directors of Marriage Preparation and Religious Education at Notre Dame, led Wednesday's discussion, explaining Catholic marriage using what Sylvia Dillon called "interactive dialogue."

She described marriage as a calling similar to that of a religious vocation.

"Marriage is equally as important as a religious vocation because it is a conscious choice recognized by the church," she said.

John and Sylvia Dillon said many couples they encounter have similar family backgrounds, values and fundamental ideas that help their marriages become stronger.

Sylvia Dillon then discussed the importance of age on marriage, as recent statistics show that the median marriage age for a female is 25 and 27 for a male.

"Age is a strong predictor of marriage success and stability," she said. "The older a couple is, the more mature, experienced and settled in a job or career they are." John Dillon directed the conversation toward the familiar issues of college: relationships approaching graduation.

"Many couples feel artificial pressure and graduation anxiety for the first time in their lives," he said. "Enjoy that time. Celebrate it. Follow your dreams. Get to know yourself to be a better partner in marriage."

The goal for college, as John Dillon put it, is to have as many healthy relationships as you can based on friendship and self-discovery.

Although there, the Dillon couple commented on was interfaith marriages. They stressed that they are not at all uncommon in today's society. On the retreat they are leading this coming week, five out of the 25 couples enrolled is interfaith.

"This is not at all uncom-

RecSports prepares for Late Night Olympics

By MOLLY LAMPING
News Writer

The Joyce Center will open its doors to athletes at all levels of competition as it plays host to the 20th annual Late Night Olympics Saturday night. Sponsored by RecSports, this event raises money for St. Joseph County's Special Olympics. Last year, more than $8,600 was raised. "The unique thing about the money is that there is no corporate sponsorship," Regan said. "It is all coming from the students."

Fundraising will take the form of open skate fees, entry fees, raffle and simple donations. Sporting events begin at 6 p.m. Saturday and continue until about 4 a.m. Sunday, Regan said. "It should be a really good time for a really good cause." Katie McNerney

Contact Molly Lamping at nlamp01@stmarys.edu
Pope continued from page 1

and violence, this message is both timely and significant,” the pope said. “I wish in my first encyclical to speak of the love which God lavishes upon us and which we in turn must share with others.”

Encyclicals were first issued by the ancient Church as letters to the heads of all churches in a given area. Today, encyclicals represent one of the highest forms of papal teaching and usually address a significant issue or topic concerning Catholic faith.

Theology professor Lawrence Cunningham praised the “brief and straightforward” document, one he said contrasted greatly from the long, tortured and complicated encyclicals of the late Pope John Paul II.

“This is an excellent encyclical,” Cunningham said. “It’s very well-crafted by a pope who is probably one of the best theologians in the past 1,000 years....

"The encyclical is very well-crafted by a pope who is probably one of the best theologians in the past 1,000 years....”

Lawrence Cunningham, theology professor

Cunningham illustrated the Holy Father’s message by employing the example of a young couple who wed and are affectionate towards each other — that is, they "hold hands, kiss and even sexual relations.

If one of the spouses becomes ill or incapacitated, the true mark of love is if they stay together," Cunningham said. "That’s the point the pope is trying to get at.

The encyclical is "elegant and refined.... wonderful and profound exposition of the Christian theology of love.

Today, the term ‘love’ has become one of the most frequently used and misused words, a word to which we attach quite different meanings," the pope said.

Cunningham said Benedict XVI described both the dual nature and universal importance of love.

"The pope said that in English, we don’t have different word of expressing love, but in Greek there are the terms ‘erous’ and ‘agape’ — both of these are good forms of love," Cunningham said. "Eros holds us, the idea of love between a man and a woman, husband and wife, and love also has to spill over into Christian charity. If you allow only eros, it’s easy for love to become a commodity."

Cunningham said Benedict XVI described the dual nature of love as the context of what God has done and is doing, "in Jesus Christ, and in us.”

"The pope is reminding us of priorities and foundations — what comes first is God’s self-gift in love and our response in love,” he said. “That loving relationship, and nothing else, is the foundation for our just relationships to others in the world, to politics, to society, in economy and the like.

Benedict XVI said love is the service the Church must offer in order to alleviate suffering in the world. Liking the Church to “God’s family in the world,” the pope said no member of the family should go without the basic necessities of life.

The encyclical said the Church must cooperate with government in order to ameliorate social disparities instead of acting alone in such endeavors.

"The Church cannot and must not take upon herself the political responsibility for moral questions — about the most just society possible,” the pope said. "She cannot and must not replace the State. Yet at the same time the Church cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice.

Cunningham said in this statement, the pope asks if the state should "take over all the works of justice.

"The pope says the Church ought to cooperate with the state,” Cunningham said. "He argues that there ought to be some unity between charitable works of the state and charitable works of the Church.

Appley said the “more controversial” second part outlines the Church’s mission of charity in the world.

"[The second part] declares that the Church must be concerned with social justice, through forming consciences, but is mainly responsible for building just social structures — that is the task of the laity,” Appley said.

Appley said this part provides little comfort for people who believe bishops should intervene more actively, either by denouncing or — praying — Catholic politicians. In addition, he said the language of the encyclical "seems to place the laity in the world, establishing justice, with the Church somewhat apart from the world, forming consciences.”

“The Church — which is troubling to Catholics who understand Vatican II to be calling for an end to that kind of dualistic thinking,” Appley said.

Cunningham said he disagreed with press reports calling the encyclical "uncontroversial" because of its failure to address abortion, divorce and other hot-button issues on the minds of today’s Catholic population.

"It is true that the press reaction to this letter [Benedict XVI] isn’t being controversial,” he said. "I think the press comments came from people who didn’t read the encyclical.

The pope also described the Church’s "deepest nature” as a three-part obligation to proclaim the word of God, celebrate the sacraments and exercise the ministry of charity — duties which "presuppose each other and are inseparable.”

Contact Katie Perry at kperry5@edu

"The Church cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice."

Pope Benedict XVI

The Observer is now accepting applications for the General Board

All applications must be submitted to Mike Gilloon in the Observer’s office, located in the basement of South Dining Hall, by Monday, February 6, 2006 by 5 p.m. Questions about the application process can be directed to Mike at 1-4543.
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Chavez accuses U.S. officer of spying

CARACAS, Venezuela — President Hugo Chavez said Thursday that Venezuela is expelling a U.S. Navy officer for allegedly passing secret information from the Venezuelan military to the U.S. Navy and warned he will throw out all U.S. military attachés if further episodes occur.

He also accused Navy Cmdr. John Correa of encouraging Venezuelan officers to consider overthrowing his government, which he warned would be "disastrous." Chavez said Thursday he had expelled Correa.

Venezuela's accusations of espionage, which it has also made of a U.S. diplomat and a Canadian citizen, are likely to further sour ties in an already rocky relationship between Washington and Chavez's government.

Chavez, whose nation is a major supplier of oil to the United States, is an outspoken critic of U.S. policies.

Greek officials had phones tapped

ATHENS, Greece — Major phones belonging to top Greek military and government officials as well as the U.S. embassy were tapped for nearly a year beginning in the weeks before the 2004 Athens Olympics, the government said Thursday.

It was not known who was responsible for the taps, which numbered about 100 and included Greek Prime Minister Costas Simitis and his wife, and the ministers of foreign affairs, defense, public order and justice.

Most of Greece's top military and police officers were also targeted, as were foreign ministry officials and a U.S. embassy number.

**NATIONAL NEWS**

Congress will extend Patriot Act

WASHINGTON — Congress will extend the Patriot Act for two more years, giving the FBI more time to reach a deal. The House passed the extension Wednesday.

Sixteen provisions of the 2001 law were to have expired Dec. 31, but Congress extended the renewal when the Senate returns.

The Senate scheduled a vote Thursday to extend the act.

A puzzles lounge bartender who identified himself as Phillip, right, hugs friend Derrik Amurual after an attacker entered the bar with a gun and hatchet Thursday morning.

**LOCAL NEWS**

Bill on hunting, fireworks passes

INDIANAPOLIS — A bill that would allow Indiana residents who hunt deer and elk inside fenced areas for seven more years under legislation approved by the Indiana House on Thursday.

The House also passed a bill that would make it a criminal offense for being knives to school, and another one that would make it legal for people to set off fireworks on their own property at any time if the city where the firework was being held approved it. A similar bill passed the Senate.

**IRAQ**

Trial continues without Saddam

The trial of Saddam Hussein, the former Iraqi leader, continued Thursday in Baghdad.

Saddam was arrested in December 2003 in a raid on his hometown of Tikrit.

The trial involves charges of murder, torture and other war crimes during Saddam's rule.

The trial is being held in Baghdad and is expected to last for several months.

**ATTACK AT GAY BAR INJURES THREE**

**Teens dressed in black, armed with hatchet and gun sought in Massachusetts**

Three teenagers were shot at a gay bar in Massachusetts on Wednesday night.

**Police kill kidnapper after car chase**

HOUSTON — A man suspected of kidnaping a woman and child was killed after ahrs at a gay bar Wednesday night.

**SAID AMIR ALI**

**IRAQ**

**Trial continues without Saddam**

**Police kill kidnapper after car chase**

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**SAID AMIR ALI**
Ebersol continued from page 1

his efforts to recover the wreck­age to rescue Teddy, and being unable to find him.

Teddy’s body was not recov­ered until the next day, when rescuers lifted the plane to find that he had been ejected and stuck underneath the wreckage.

Saint James said she was relieved her youngest son’s body was intact.

“That was a cool thing because Charlie knew he would have never ever found him (under the wreckage),” she said to Winfrey.

During the show, which was taped Jan. 11 at Harpo Studios in Chicago, the family was most notably moved when reflecting on its emotionally difficult grieving process.

“Susan gave everyone in our family this great release,” Dick Ebersol said.

“She lets us know it is OK to cry, and that we weren’t going to be angry, or mad about Teddy’s death.”

Saint James said while she was raised a Catholic and has faith, she was forced to redefine her beliefs after her son’s death, which has allowed them to look at life in a new way after hearing the hearing the accident.

“Having resentment is like tak­ing poison and hoping the other person dies,” Saint James said to Winfrey. “That is the motto I live by.”

“It’s been one year and two months since the accident, and we are all here and smiling,” Wildey Ebersol said to Winfrey.

The Ebersols agreed the first part of recovering from the tragedy is acceptance of the fact that Teddy is gone, and conti­nuing to live life to the fullest.

“They said they were particularly touched after they discovered Teddy’s autobiography, in which he wrote, ‘The finish line is just the beginning of a whole new race’—a motto the family lives by each day.

“Every parent has that flash ... [that] this is so horrible. How do you get through it?” Saint James said. “You get up the next day, you brush your teeth, comb your hair ... Life is so powerful you just keep on living.”

“One thing that is so amazing about your family is that you all love deeply,” Winfrey said to the Ebersols. “You have thick love and aren’t afraid to show it.”

Charlie Ebersol will also be featured in an upcoming episode of “The Oprah Winfrey Show”—set to air sometime later this month—about an award-win­ning movie he co-produced during his junior year at Notre Dame.

The documentary film, entitled “Tumteng never stop learning,” is about the lives of three stu­dents who attend an at-risk school in Soweto, South Africa. Winfrey donated $1.14 to the school after viewing the film ear­lier this year.

Ebersol said he was inspired to make this film to share the life lessons he learned from the chil­dren at the school who said that pain and grief should not be hid­den, and people should share their feelings with others.

“It is so common in America, espe­cially for men, to not experience their grief and I think one of the things we wanted to show was, ‘Look, horrible things happen in your life, but you have to experience [them],’” he said.

Ebersol said he was amazed at how comfortable Winfrey made him and his family feel while on the set.

The Ebersols told Winfrey they will never completely get over the death of Teddy, but his death has allowed them to look at life in a new way.

Charlie Ebersol said since the family taped the show they received many letters from audi­ence members who had experi­enced a similar tragedy, and were able to view their grief in a new way after hearing the Ebersols’ philosophies on unex­pected death.

“I don’t think we have any secret,” Charlie Ebersol said. “Because of whatever expe­riences that we are in, we aren’t any more qualified [than anyone else] to offer advice to other peo­ple ... it’s like paying it forward.”

Mary Kate Mahone contributed to this report.

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeeha01@saintmarys.edu
**In Brief**

**Bush to request bigger defense budget**

WASHINGTON — President Bush next week will request a $439.3 billion Defense Department budget for 2007, a nearly 5 percent increase over this year, according to senior Pentagon officials and documents obtained Thursday by The Associated Press.

The spending plan would include $84.2 billion for military programs, a nearly 8 percent increase, including billions of dollars for fighter jets, Navy ships, helicopters and unmanned aircraft. The total increase is largely an increase in weapons spending for the Army, which will get $79.7 billion, compared with $70 billion in 2006. Law makers grumbled as they worked through formulas usually skipped by agreement between the party leaders.

"This is not a good sign of the times," said Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss.

"What better occasion to bring the whole town to Capitol Hill, an international event taking place in the country's own backyard?" said Sen. Dino Di Maggi, marketing professor of Rome's La Sapienza University.

"What better occasion to bring the Fiat brand to Capitol Hill, an international event taking place in the country's own backyard?"

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WASHINGTON — The Senate pushed forward Thursday with $70 billion in tax cuts, one step in an effort that Republican leaders hope will preserve President Bush's tax reduction hopes for capital gains and dividends.

A day of wrangling between Republicans and Democrats over whether to debate a long list of politically hot topics showed senators relatively close to the box office in this election year.

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**Enron leaders tied for stock's sake**

WASHINGTON — The Senate pushed forward Thursday with $70 billion in tax cuts, one step in an effort that Republican leaders hope will preserve President Bush's tax reduction hopes for capital gains and dividends.

A day of wrangling between Republicans and Democrats over whether to debate a long list of politically hot topics showed senators relatively close to the box office in this election year.

Law makers grumbled as they worked through formulas usually skipped by agreement between the party leaders.

"This is not a good sign of the times," said Sen. Trent Lott, R-Miss.

"What better occasion to bring the whole town to Capitol Hill, an international event taking place in the country's own backyard?"

"What better occasion to bring the Fiat brand to Capitol Hill, an international event taking place in the country's own backyard?"

"What better occasion to bring the Fiat brand to Capitol Hill, an international event taking place in the country's own backyard?"
Malloy reappointed to board of Notre Dame Australia

University President Father John Jenkins and Board of Trustees Chairman Patrick McCartan present an honorary (doctor of laws) degree to L. Francis Rooney III, U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See.

University President Father John Jenkins and Board of Trustees Chairman Patrick McCartan present an honorary (doctor of laws) degree to L. Francis Rooney III, U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See.

Thaddeus Jones, a Vatican official and 1989 Notre Dame alumnus, speaks about the relationship between Notre Dame and the Vatican.

Malloy also visited the church where John Paul II was baptized and the late pope's home. During one of their visits to the Vatican, Father Warner and Malloy met then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who invited them to speak at Notre Dame and receive an honorary degree.

While Ratzinger declined the invitation, it meant nothing negative about the current pope's regard of Notre Dame.

"He was knowledgeable about the University of Notre Dame and committed to the Catholic Church's mission of higher education," Warner told The Observer in April 2005, calling the pope a "truly holy man" and "a man of deep faith."

The Jenkins years

It's a little early to say if the relationship between the world's most prominent Catholic university and the center of the Church will take a different turn under Jenkins.

But judging by this week's trip and a separate trip to the Holy See which Jenkins made in June 1989, it appears that the ties can only grow stronger.

"We're part of a common mission," Jenkins said to The Observer Tuesday.

He referred to "a sense of mutual understanding" and "a common purpose" explaining that the Church must be aware of Notre Dame's importance in confronting the complex issues of the time.

"I believe as we face the challenges of the 21st century, a Catholic university like Notre Dame is absolutely critical," Jenkins said. "I think we can see in the early kings the idea that, and we need to work together so the Church can be enriched by Notre Dame's work and Notre Dame can be enriched by its connection to the Vatican."

Francis Rooney III, the U.S. ambassador to the Holy See who received an honorary degree from Notre Dame Wednesday, said that as the first professional Catholic institution in the United States, Notre Dame has an important leadership role to play.

"Notre Dame is creating the next generation of leaders in the Church," Rooney told The Observer Wednesday.

To give an example of Notre Dame's role, he referred to director of the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, B. Scott Appleby's presence at a recent one-day seminar held by the U.S. Mission to the Holy See on the recent papal encyclical on religious freedom, "Rerum Novarum."

"Scott was fantastic," Rooney said. "He represented Notre Dame well and the Church well. We love to engage Notre Dame in every possible space that we can.

Hesburgh also mentioned Notre Dame's prominence and said that unique role makes the relationship between Notre Dame and the Vatican so important.

"If you look at the Naval Academy and the military and the Air Force Academy, it's important that they have a Catholic presence because they're part of the U.S. government because they're training all those three services," Hesburgh said.

"And we are training and educating some of the most intelligent Catholics in America, and I'm assuming our graduates will have an impact on the future of the nation and the world. It's a good relationship and I'm sure this meeting in Rome will benefit it."
## Late Night Olympics XX

### Keough/Welsh Family

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It was a lasting image, one that will endure throughout University President Father John Jenkins' tenure at the helm of Notre Dame. Hands clasped with Pope Benedict XVI in front of the Vatican auditorium Wednesday, surrounded by the historic backdrop of Rome, Jenkins accepted a welcome to the Vatican auditorium — a historic backdrop of Rome — entering a historic moment. John Elway described both football and life as a challenge, having lost many times and being snubbed by the Hall of Fame. Bettis has earned a share of Bettis' moment by shaking his head and saying: "I don't believe I did it." Having grasped a share of Bettis' moment and squeezed out all of the Super Bowl moment. Bettis brings us closer to our own humbleness. Gary Caruso.

Arguments can be made that Notre Dame's Catholic character is evolving, for better or for worse. It is not an eroding, and those who claim it is should instead take the pope at his word. Notre Dame's institutional link with the Vatican — nurtured over the decades by personal and professional relationships between presidents, popes and those close to both — dates to the University's founding in 1842. The relationship with the Vatican is fundamental to the University's present goals, as Jenkins reaffirmed when he said Notre Dame and the Catholic Church share "a common purpose" and "a common mission" as both advance in the 21st century. And while trustsiss Bridget and Jenkins kissing Benedict's ring isn't necessary steps to maintain that relationship, partnerships among national and international Catholic universities can powerfully influence others. The Trustees' sense of purpose, of mission and dedication to award Bettis a championship ring in his hometown exemplifies their desire to respond to his humility. Hard work mixed with selfless giving can move anyone. We should not need celebrity-inspired inspiration to absorb the essence of life although those role models are never a bad reminder for us to learn how to better treasure our existence. The secret for us to learn how to make each phase of our lives a Super Bowl moment.

Jerome Bettis is embracing this championship week with all the gusto he can muster, and I am itching for a ride. Graduating from Notre Dame ends a premier experience reserved only for youth. Grab your moment and squeeze out all of the Super Bowl moment. Bettis now clutches onto this moment with my first Super Bowl visit. I expect him to dismantle Seattle in the way I witnessed him dismantle the Florida defense. In the second half, Bettis burst for a touchdown run where in the end zone a Florida fan threw a cup of beer at him. That act defined the shortcomings and small essence of the fan. In the final moments of the game, Bettis blasted for another touchdown and is based on 610 responses. Rather than smile while he offers himself to others, Bettis fies the fiber of his being. Rather than mix with a touch of fate can reward a Super Bowl moment.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, is a political strategist who served as a state senator and public affairs director in President Bill Clinton's administration. His columns appear every other Friday. He can be contacted at bettlendorf.com.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. The Observer strives to teach the value of Notre Dame's Catholic character traits for its students to master life's lessons. For the Steelers team to wear Bettis' every number jersey, to have the number retired in Pittsburgh and Detroit speaks volumes of their respect, love and admiration of him. Bettis wills giving, his cheery outlook and his positive support of others are an inspiration to have left Bettis on the field in preparation for Super Bowl XL. Those qualities in a uniquely humble national celebrity like Bettis can powerfully influence others.

Cheering Bettis onward to victory
I would like to ponder a number of issues relevant to the current presidential address, "Academic Freedom and Catholic Character." These are the topics of (1) academic freedom at a Catholic university, (2) the special status of various performing and visual arts staged events, films, art shows and the like, in which I discussed Wednesday. The president of the University also discussed (3) the accountability of the students, but I formulate a reasonable alternative to current and prospective policy in Kirkwood Commons last Thursday. The University community must we give more attention to that for fair processing of dispute resolution and adjudication, as well as the accountability required if executive power is not to be abused and students and faculty excluded.

4) Procedural guarantees of fairness and accountability. It is hard to describe Notre Dame's history in this crucial sector as better than "poor" in its guarantees of fairness in the resolution of disputed disciplinary decisions while procedures ensuring the accountability of its leading executives and its Board of Trustees have been "altered." The Board is clearly "accountable only to God." Jenkins' presidential address laid the issue of executive privilege squarely, while the issue of his insistence on the prerogatives of its leading executives and the Board of Trustees has been "altered." The Board is clearly "accountable only to God."

Jenkins' presidential address laid the issue of executive privilege squarely, while the issue of his insistence on the prerogatives of its leading executives and the Board of Trustees has been "altered." The Board is clearly "accountable only to God."

In other words, the sort of collegial process in which the president, faculty and students of this University are currently not required must become a continuing part of ordinary life at Notre Dame. Hopefully, such dialogue will not, in the future, be the rare and fleeting remainder in the transformation of the status quo as it has been in the past.

In conclusion, I am suggesting that the unquestioned doctoral pluralism — in research, teaching and publication — and nearly steadfastly growing at Notre Dame since the 1960s, the last four decades has not been matched by any comparable development of procedures ensuring truly collegial participation — by an even more highly qualified faculty and excellent student body — in the governance of the University. Nor is there a reason to hope that guarantees of fairness in disciplinary hearings concerning students and faculty has caused unnecessary suffering, as has this same deficit in procedures granting recognition to student organizations. Finally, the members of this University must find ways to hold its top executives and its Board of Trustees accountable for measures which enhance Notre Dame's religious identity by respecting the range of reasonable responsibility rather than exercising the many protective, constructive strategies available for that purpose.

Ed Nassar is a professor in the department of philosophy. He can be reached at amaassar@nd.edu The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Protecting freedoms

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education is an independent organization dedicated in preserving free speech on the campuses of America's institutions of higher learning. For the past year, FIRE analyzes the speech codes of many American universities and rates them on a scale of "green," "yellow" or "red," indicating the extent to which student expression is censored or controlled on campus. At Notre Dame, while the President's Office lists Notre Dame as "green" overall, the Notre Dame counseling center lists Notre Dame as "red" — indicating that Notre Dame has "at least one policy that both clearly and substantially restricts freedom of speech" of its students.

However, Notre Dame is a private institution. It is not bound by any legal requirement to respect the right to free speech of its students. For all intents and purposes, we, the students of Notre Dame, have "no right" to free expression. The situation the administration faces is perhaps the result of continual and final decisions to be made will not be easy, and we can at least respect the difficulty inherent in these circumstances.

One reason this University exists. We are not merely consumers; indeed, we pay tuition in exchange for a product, but there is a deeper connection implied in being a Notre Dame student. We are a family.

Fuller John Jenkins has shown himself to be a man of principle, and the student government should stand behind the full statement of Interrogating the Jenkins litmus test ("Monologues' or Dialogue: another perspective") by Peter Quaranto is a senior international peace studies and politics major. Contact pquaranto@nd.edu for a copy of this column and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Writer

Can the work of a man nearly 400 years senior to Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students prove entertaining in this modern age? The Notre Dame Romance Languages department firmly argues "nix" with the latest of their annual French performances, Mollière's "L'Ecole des Femmes." The funny, satirical play describes the mishaps of Arnolphe, a shrewd and wealthy Frenchman who, in contrast to Mollière's other works, is far more intelligent than his servants Georgette and Helene. Arnolphe has spent the last decade raising a young girl, Agnes, to someday love him with blind faithfulness as his future bride. Unfortunately for Arnolphe, when Agnes comes of age she does fall in love — with Horace, the dashing young son of Oronte, Arnolphe's dearest friend. What results is a witty look at love and life, with a dash of zany comedic thrown in.

"Chaos ensues, but, like all Mollière plays, all's well that ends well," says Notre Dame senior Anne Macrander, who plays Georgette. "Mollière was not lacking for women) that has arisen from Father Jenkins' addresses." Mollière's "L'Ecole des Femmes," a classic French satirical play, will make its debut on the Notre Dame campus Friday night at 7:30 p.m. The play will be acted out in its original language of French.

By BRIAN DOKTADER
Asian Scene Editor

The University of Notre Dame will be hosting the annual Asian Film Festival this weekend, the biggest cultural phenomenon to hit the United States since Yao Ming. Organized by Susan Bloom, the Director of the Center for Asian Studies, and Aaron Magnan-Park, a professor in the Film, Television and Theater department, the festival will highlight Asian cultures revolving around the silver screen.

"The Asian Film Festival was started several years ago independent of the FTT Department, as the courses that taught Asian cinema were not FTT," says Professor Aaron Magnan-Park. "Since then, the Festival has become interdisciplinary and includes FTT as well as East Asian Languages and Literature (EALL).

"The Festival is intended to highlight the diversity and importance of Asian cinema in a global context, as the rise in prestige and awareness of the continent's films rose dramatically in the second half of the twentieth century. "The United States as a country, and Notre Dame in particular, has far stronger ties to Europe and the Americas than to Asia," said Magnan-Park. "I'm not sure why that is, but I think something like the Asian Film Festival would bring heightened awareness to Asia and would help remove some of the mystery."

The Festival will feature four films, all presented in 35 mm prints:

- "The Terrorist" (1999), directed by Santosh Sivan, an Indian film about a political assassination
- "Song of the Stork" (2004), directed by Jonathan Foo and Phan Quang Binh Nguyen), a film about the Vietnam war, collaborated on by Vietnamese and a Singaporean director.
- "Peacock" (2005), directed by timer Gu Changweii, a Chinese about the Cultural Revolution.
- "Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood War" (2004), directed by Je-Gyol a Korean film about a family in the Korean War.

The opening of the Deb Performing Arts Center (DPA) provided a proper and convenient campus venue for the screening year, the films highlight the diversity of the festival, which has increased in size and stature over the years.
Festival focuses culture cinematic lens

Lu Chuan (director of “The Missing Gun” and “Kekexili: Mountain Patrol”) were the guests of honor, speaking to audiences after screenings of their films.

“Professor Jonathan Noble has many connections in China and is able to attract talent to the University,” said Magnan-Park.

This year, director Je-Gyu Kang will be present at the screenings of his picture “Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood of War.” Considered one of Korea’s leading filmmakers, Je-Gyu Kang’s latest picture followed the international success of 1999’s “Shiri” — a critically acclaimed landmark in the progress of the rapidly rising Korean film industry. He will be speaking about “Tae Guk Gi: The Brotherhood of War,” which tells the Korean War from the perspective of two brothers forced to fight in the South Korean army.

“We are still in the university-managed decade of the arts,” said Magnan-Park. “It is important for students and faculty to understand the prominence of art performance. The Asian Film Festival is an excellent way for them to be exposed to a type of cinema they might not otherwise necessarily see.

Conveniently located at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, the Asian Film Festival provides a convenient way for students to acquaint themselves with foreign cinema while remaining on campus.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu

Dorm life can be, well, challenging at times. When it gets to be too much, escape upwards — perhaps to Morrissey’s Stairway to Nowhere.

They tell ghost stories of men sealed into ships’ hulls as they were being built; will the next generation speak in whispers of students buried between movable shelving and condemned to roam the stacks of Hesburgh forever?

For next week: What are the best romantic rendezvous on campus? Send your suggestions to obsphoto@nd.edu.

Notes a mission to rescue brother in the midst of the Korean War. The movie is one of 13-5 and includes the movies “Song of the Stork,” “Peacock” and “The Terrorist.”
BUFFALO — With the crowd chanting USA USA, Ryan Miller was got a little emotional.

Miller, left off the United States Olympic, made 21 saves to lead the Buffalo Sabres to a 4-2 victory Thursday night over Philadelphia and goalie Bob Eschle, who will be playing for team USA at the Turin Games.

Miller's omission from the U.S. team has gone over well with Sabres fans, and they've been voicing their displeasure with the snub.

The goalie himself has been letting his play speak for itself, winning four straight and going 6-1 in his last seven starts.

"It was flattering to hear. Our fans are great," Miller said. "I was just happy that, just being there for the fans." He picked up a loose puck near the frame with a 1-1 tie, and the sellout crowd was at it for a stretch.

Taylor Pyatt, Brian Campbell, Jochen Hecht, and Pominville scored for the Sabres, who won their fourth in a row.

Making their first appearance in Buffalo since finishing a season-long, six-game road trip with a win in Atlanta on Saturday, the Sabres broke out quickly.

Buffalo peppered Esche with 16 shots in the first period.

The Flyers, though, came out of the frame with a 1-1 tie, and rebounded with a strong second period. Fortunately, they were unable to solve Miller, who made another scintillating right leg save on Flyers forward Jeff Carter when the Sabres were two men short late in the second.

"He played well, what else can I say," Philadelphia captain Derian Hatcher said about Miller. "Both goalies played well."

Simon Gagne and Mike Knuble scored for the Flyers, who were playing without injured center Peter Forsberg (groin).

"The first period hurt us a lot," Flyers coach Ken Hitchcock said. "With a talented team like they are, they make you move so matter what. I'm not going to pick out the other goalies and key on him."

Esche made 33 saves in the loss, the Flyers' third in the last four games. Esche was making his fourth start since returning from a groin injury.

"With a talented team like they are, they make you move so much," he said. "Those forwards on that team are very underrat ed. I think we are some of the best in the game right now."

The crowd chanted for the first time after Miller made a spectacular save in the second period on Flyers forward R.J. Umberger, rubbing him with a sliding, right toe save. In the third, the shootout crowd was at it again after Miller made a crucial save on Sami Kapanen, who was bearing down on the goalie on a partial breakaway.

"I was on the bench and I said, 'This is unbelievable,'" said Sabres rookie Jason Pominville. "I couldn't imagine how he felt out there."

PREDATORS 4, Avalanche 3

Steve Sullivan scored on a breakaway 2:09 into overtime, and the Nashville Predators beat Colorado 4-3 Thursday night to snap a three-game losing streak.

Scott Walker scored two goals, the second tying the game with 1:34 left in regulation. Mike Sullivan also scored his first goal since being traded to Nashville from St. Louis on Sunday, and the Predators took the season series 3-1 from Colorado.

Joe Sakic, Cody McCormick and Brett Clark scored for Colorado, which went 0-5 on 9 power plays, and the Avalanche are now lost of four, including two in shootouts.

The Predators are at their best when they're at home, coming into the game tied for the NHL's third-best record at 19-5-1. They're tied for the league's best record in one-goal games, and they improved that mark to 20-10-2 after tying the game twice in the third period to force overtime.

Sullivan, Nashville's leading goal scorer, tied the Predators mark for goals in a season with his 26th, and he did it in style. He picked up a loose puck near the Nashville blue line and skated up a breakaway, beating David Aebischer to go top shelf over his glove.

The Predators came out very sluggish after a 2-1 loss at Dallas on Wednesday night, and they gave up a season-high 46 shots.

Steve Vokoun didn't allow another goal after Sakic poked the puck across the line from behind the goalie in the crease for a 3-2 lead at 13:11 of the third.

Colorado had its best opportunities in the first with six power-play chances, including five on the power play, Walker tied the game with 4:32 left in the third and Colorado leading 3-2.

With 7 seconds left in the power play, Walker tied the game when he beat Predators goalie Tomas Vokoun on the power play with 4:32 left in the third and Colorado leading 3-2.

Predators' goalie Tomas Vokoun makes a save in Thursday's 4-3 win over Colorado. The game improves Nashville to 19-5-1 overall.

The other modest streak for the Blues, who have been scored on by most of their front line talent to facilitate a sale, was Nov. 19 and 21 at Columbus and Detroit.

Stempniak, whose goal beat the Flames on Monday, beat Blackhaws goalie corey Crawford on the third round to snap a 1-1 tie. Fellow rookie floyd McClennen also scored in the shootout for the Blues, while Radim Vrbata converted a backhander for the Blackhaws.

Duncan Keith had two goals, including a wrist shot from the point that forced overtime with 4:18 to go, for Chicago.

Tyler Arnason had a goal and an assist and Kyle Calder had three assists for the Blackhaws, who have four two-man goals in the last three games.

The teams had four shots apiece in overtime. Keith Tkachuk fanned on a breakaway in the opening minute, the best chance of the period by far.

Stempniak has four of his seven goals in the last three games for the Blues, who got a goal and an assist from Vladimir Ogruzh.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 265 South Dining Hall. Deadlines for next day's classifieds is 11 a.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $7 per classified per day, including all space. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for grammar without issuing refunds.
Yao Ming plays defense against Kobe Bryant earlier this year. Yao and Bryant were the top two vote-getters for the NBA All-Star Game. Yao finished just 71,107 votes ahead, the closest margin since the 2000 season.

Associated Press

Yao Ming edged Kobe Bryant as the top votegetter in fan balloting for the 55th NBA All-Star Game, and Shaquille O'Neal became the fifth player in league history to earn 13 consecutive selections for the midseason showcase. Yao and Tracy McGrady give the host Houston Rockets two starters in the 55th NBA All-Star game, Bryant as the top votegetter, and Shaq as the top Western Conference MVP vote getter. The 19-year-old comes from a family with athletic talent. The 19-year-old comes from a family with athletic talent.

In Brief

Brown fined after ejection

NEW YORK — Knicks coach Larry Brown was fined $20,000 Thursday by the NBA for failing to leave the court in a timely manner after he was ejected from New York’s 130-97 loss to the Los Angeles Lakers.

Brown was thrust into play for arguing with referee Steve Javie in the third quarter Tuesday night after New York was called for a flagrant foul and a technical in a 2-minute span. Brown was ejected during a time-out, picking up two quick technicals. He then walked onto the floor right and a technical with in a 2-minute span. Brown was ejected during a time-out, picking up two quick technicals. He then walked onto the floor right and a technical with in a 2-minute span. Brown was ejected during a time-out, picking up two quick technicals. He then walked onto the floor right and a technical with in a 2-minute span.

Brown was ejected from New York’s 130-97 loss to the Los Angeles Lakers.

Cowher’s daughter stars at Princeton

PRINCETON, N.J. — Bill Cowher isn’t the only one in his family having a super season. While Cowher has his Steelers in the Super Bowl, his daughter stars at Princeton women’s basketball team.

Philadelphila’s Allen Iverson of the Miami Heat, Indiana’s Jermaine O’Neal and first-time All-Star starter Dwyane Wade of Miami rounded out the East’s starting five. "Hopefully, I can become a staple, like my teammate Shaq," Wade said. "I’m grateful that NBA fans think so highly of my game."

James was the top Eastern Conference vote getter, edging O’Neal by 15,155 votes. It’s the second straight All-Star trip for James, who says he’s still drawing motivation from being snubbed during his rookie season. "What happened two years ago, that really motivated me to come out and play even harder," James said.

The 19-year-old comes from a family with athletic talent. The 19-year-old comes from a family with athletic talent. The 19-year-old comes from a family with athletic talent.

Kim loses arbitration case

NEW YORK — Pitcher Sunny Kim lost to the Colorado Rockies on Thursday in the first salary arbitration case of the year and will earn $600,000 rather than the $800,000 he asked for.

The decision was made by arbitrators Stephen Goldberg, Gil Vernon and John Sands, who heard the case a day earlier in St. Petersburg, Fla.

A 28-year-old right-hander who earned $316,000 minimum salary last season, Kim went 6-3 with a 4.90 ERA in 10 starts and 14 relief appearances for the Washington Nationals and Rockies. Colorado claimed him off waivers on Aug. 5.

Five players agreed to one-year contracts, leaving 19 players left in arbitration. Hearings are scheduled through Feb. 20.

2006 in Brief

Around the Dial

Detroit Pistons at Philadelphia 76ers

Minnesota Timberwolves at Portland Trail Blazers

PGA Tour

FBR Open, second round

4:00 p.m. EST
Seattle coach puts game in back seat

associated press

DETRIOT — For once, Ray Rhodes was forced to think about things other than football.

Little things, the kind of things people take for granted. Like being able to see, being able to walk. Like being around for his wife and four daughters.

Football coaches usually don’t think of those kind of things. They’re usually too immersed in 16-hour days looking at film and trying to come up with schemes to think about their own mortality.

Rhodes wasn’t any different. His only thought when the season began was to keep opponents from scoring against the Seattle Seahawks.

He ended it Sunday at the Super Bowl with a different perspective on both the game and his life.

Suffering two strokes will do that to you.

“At one time, you think you’re invincible,” Rhodes said.

“This just can’t happen to you and, when it happens, the reality sets in that you either change or you die. You realize you’ve got only one life.”

The realization began dawning on Rhodes one morning last September when he woke to a world that had suddenly gone blurry. He couldn’t focus his eyes, couldn’t get his balance.

“I tried to get out of bed and I fell down,” Rhodes said.

Not to worry. Rhodes was a tough-as-nails football player once himself, and the kind of coach who brooked no nonsense and expected players to overcome any obstacles before them.

He wasn’t going to wake his wife and bother her. He would solve his own self.

On his knees, Rhodes crawled out of the bedroom and down the stairs. He sat in the family room, fumbled for the remote control and turned the television on.

Bad move. Staring back at him, TV was six or seven heads.

His wife, Carmen, eventually came down and wondered why he was sitting in the dark. Rhodes, still confused, tried to buy time until things got better.

Things didn’t get better though. He finally broke down and told his wife: “Something is wrong.”

Something was terribly wrong. At the age of 55, Rhodes suffered a stroke, something he still tried to deny as his wife got him to the hospital and tried to “John Wayne” it by refusing a wheelchair.

“Once he couldn’t get out of the SUV, though, finally he realized,” Carmen said.

“That was hard because you lose your manhood,” he said. “You’re helpless.”

Rhodes spent two days in the hospital, where doctors tested him and then counseled him about changing his ways. The stroke was stress-related, they said, and warned the former head coach of the Philadelphia Eagles and Green Bay Packers that he had to back off his obsession with his job and the game.

It worked for a few weeks, but old habits die hard. Rhodes went back to work as defensive coordinator until one day at work in early November he began feeling tired. The symptoms returned and he went to the hospital again.

This time, he realized another stroke might be even worse.

“Without your health you have nothing,” Rhodes said.

“It made me do soul searching.”

It wasn’t easy. His life had revolved around football for 40 years, and Rhodes found it tough to back away.

He had no choice, though, and went home to rest.

He came back again at the end of the season, but on a limited basis. John Marshall had taken over his duties, and Rhodes stood at practice in the corner of an earlier room simply observing.

He was back in the game. But things were different.

“I had a stroke and that affects your brain — you’re going to change,” he said. “You start thinking about everything that you should be doing right and make sure you put that foremost first. You say to yourself, ‘This is what I have to change about my life.’”

Sitting in a seat at Ford Field a few days ago watching the Seahawks on media day, Rhodes seemed resigned to the fact his life had changed. He wasn’t happy about it and he wasn’t all that happy about talking about it, but the realization was someone else was running the Seahawks defense.
DETROIT — Jerome Bettis returned for one more chance to make a run at a championship. Against long odds, he got it.

Many stars in all sports go entire careers without playing for a ring. A few — Bettis, Mark Grace, Oscar Robertson, Ray Bourque, Joe Horrigan — eventually get a shot at one as they're heading for the exit.

It doesn't happen often or easily.

"In sports, you're going to have players who are great but haven't won championships," said Robertson, a Hall of Famer who got his NBA title with Milwaukee near the end of his career. "That's true. You only get one winner a year, and the rest of the guys don't win."

Sure try.

Like Bettis, who decided to play another season for the Steelers in hopes of reaching the Super Bowl. Athletes push their bodies as far as they'll go to miss out on a shot at a championship.

"That had a lot to do with how much I played. I was still chasing what I had left to accomplish in my career," Robertson said. "I wanted to make a quantum leap in my career. Unfortunately, it never happened. But I'll tell you what: it never happened long I played. I was still chasing years and didn't get one," said Robertson. "That's true. You only get one winner a year, and the rest of the guys don't win."

Folks around these parts know that greatness doesn't translate into glory. Running back Barry Sanders spent 10 years with the Lions, but had only one playoff victory to show for it.

"It's a reality of the game," Sanders said. "Coming into the NFL, my assumption was that this is the NFL and, naturally, I'll get to the Super Bowl because all you have to do is win three games in the playoffs. That was a mistake I made, because I later found out how tough it was."

"You look at me — I played 17 years and didn't get one," quarter­back Warren Moon said. "That had a lot to do with how long I played. I was still chasing that elusive, one last goal that I had left to accomplish in my career. Unfortunately, it never happened. But I'll tell you what: I did try.

Pro Football Hall of Fame spokesman Joe Horrigan notes that it's commonplace for stars to miss out on a shot at a championship. Before free agency changed the dynamics of sports and gave players freedom to pick their teams, a player could be stuck on a struggling franchise for a long time.

Jerome Bettis had his last chance Stanley Cup title with Colorado. The Hall of Fame defenseman spent the first 21 years of his career with the Boston Bruins, never getting to hoist the Cup over his head.

For each of these late-in-life success stories, there's dozens who fail.

Again, the Cups provide a benchmark. Ernie Banks put together a Hall-of-Fame career during 19 years in Chicago, but never even came close to the ultimate prize.

"Some guys are more fortunate to be in the right place at the right time, part of that right chemistry on that right team," Moon said. "And other guys aren't. You look at Ernie Banks in baseball — he never even played in a playoff game his entire career."

Even in the era of free agency, going to a winner doesn't guarantee getting a shot at becoming the ultimate winner.

"Look at A-Rod with the Yankees," Robertson said, referring to Alex Rodriguez. "It doesn't mean that you're going to win. I'm sure he thought when he went to the Yankees that they were going to walk through the World Series."

Now, it's Bettis' turn to make that one. Final shot at a title. He considered retiring after the Steelers lost in the AFC title game last season, but came back in part because this year's Super Bowl is in his hometown of Detroit.

It looked like he'd be frustrated the chance away when he fumbled near the Colts' goal line with 1:20 left in a second-round playoff off-game, and Nick Harper scooped up the ball and headed downhill.

If quarterback Ben Roethlisberger doesn't double back and make a lunging ankle tackle on Harper, Bettis doesn't get his chance.

And if Mike Vrabel's dog doesn't miss badly on a 44-yard attempt, the game might go to overtime and a different outcome. It took all of these quirky things to get the Steelers a 21-18 win and get Bettis to his Bowl.

That's how fine the line is between getting a shot and being shut out.

"Jerome Bettis had 13 years to prove how great he is," said the Hall of Fame's Horrigan. "If he wouldn't have made the decision to play this year, we would be talking about 'poor Jerome.'"

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Tiger at the top of his game

Woods turns in another great round at the Dubai Desert Classic

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Tiger Woods is the man to beat in the world of golf, and the most popular player on tour. He is currently 3 strokes off the lead.

Woods said his round was a perfect way to start his week at the Emirates Golf Club, a palm-lined oasis surrounded by one of the world’s fastest growing cities. Dubai is the Middle East’s most important business hub, and the most westernized city in the region.

Woods started with a roar. He was 4-under after only four holes, which included an eagle on the 546-yard No. 3. His drive was followed by a 4-iron over the back of the green, then a chip into the hole from 40 feet.

“I got off to a pretty sweet start,” said Woods, who remains at 4-under after nine holes, then took a clumsy bogey on the 549-yard 10th. He pushed his drive right, pitched out from under a tree, hit an 8-iron approach to the weak, chipped on and then two-putted from 15 feet. He thought he might be able to keep it going, but I lost a lot of momentum on 10,” Woods said.

“Tiger Woods hits an iron from the 18th fairway on Thursday at the Dubai Desert Classic. He is currently 3 strokes off the lead.

Woods is coming off a six-week break. Woods came off a six-week break and won last week’s French Open in a playoff. Woods didn’t touch a club for 24 days during his break, and Goosen went five weeks.

“I thought I might be able to keep it going, but I lost a lot of momentum on 10,” Woods said.

“I really could have put the hammer down on the back nine. But I didn’t do that. I scored was easy Thursday, and Woods suggested it will stay that way on the 7,264-yard Majlis Course with light winds and temperatures in low 80’s expected over the four-day event.

“If it scores will be pretty low,” Woods said. “The greens are perfectly smooth out there, and on top of that the pin locations aren’t tight to the sides.”

Defending champion Ernie Els was four behind after a 68.

Goosen is coming off a six-week break. Woods came off a six-week break and won last week’s French Open in a playoff. Woods didn’t touch a club for 24 days during his break, and Goosen went five weeks.

“I thought I might be able to keep it going, but I lost a lot of momentum on 10,” Woods said. “It’s a simple birdie hole and I make 6. I really could have put the hammer down on the back nine. But I didn’t do that.”

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“But I didn’t do that.”

Woods' third attempt to win at the Emirates Golf Club, club is theDubia Desert Classic. He is currently 3 strokes off the lead.

"That’s why I work out as hard as I do,” said Woods, who is three behind with five others, including playing partner Heirick Stenson.

"You get over it quicker and the more in shape you are the easier it is to get over jet lag.”

This is Woods’ third attempt to win at the Emirates Golf Club, a palm-lined oasis surrounded by one of the world’s fastest growing cities. Dubai is the Middle East’s most important business hub, and the most westernized city in the region.

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FENCING

Irish set for regional teams at OSU Duals

Team looks to repeat success from Notre Dame Duals in Ohio

By DAN TAPETILLO
Associate Sport Editor

This weekend, the Irish will travel to Ohio State and compete in the Ohio State Duals with a field of 13 teams.

The Irish are hoping to capitalize on the success that both the No. 1-ranked women's and No. 4-ranked men's teams found at last weekend's Notre Dame Duals. Both finished with 8-0 records against some of the nation's top competition, including Duke and Northwestern.

Last week's tournament also proved both the strength and depth of the men's roster, as the Irish beat the competition even though several of the team's top competitors did not compete.

Additionally, eight different fencers gave double-digit wins performances, including junior epeeist Patrick Gerings and freshman epeeist Kurod Koka.

"I think [the Notre Dame Duals] made people feel good about their [skills] and it will show when we go to Ohio State," freshman saber Ashley Serrette said. "We are pretty confident that we can use our experience to do well against the rest of the competition this weekend."

Among the teams in the Duals the Irish will face this weekend are foes Michigan, Michigan State and Purdue.

However, the Irish will be competing without top fencers such as seniors Amy Orlando and Valerie Providenza, who are currently competing in Paris at the Junior World Competition.

At the Notre Dame Duals, Providenza began the competition 11-0 after suffering a couple of defeats against Duke. Orlando found success as she defeated two-time NCAA epee champion Anna Garina of Wayne State.

Despite the disadvantage, the Irish remain confident they will pull out wins against the competition.

"They are club teams like those we competed at the Notre Dame Duals and a lot of them were beginners because they don't have many varsity athletes and have trouble getting recruits," Serrette said. "So we shouldn't have too many problems and we are just looking to give everyone on our team a chance to compete."

Following the conclusion of this weekend's bouts, the Irish will head to the UC San Diego Duals in San Diego, Calif. on Feb. 11.

Contact Dan Tapetillo at jtap02@nd.edu

MEN'S TENNIS

Irish go down to Tobacco Road

By KATE GALES
Associate Sport Editor

There was some rest for the weary this week — but not much.

After playing two matches last weekend to improve to 2-1, the No. 26 Irish are back on the road to face North Carolina tomorrow and Duke Sunday.

"We're excited to be here," coach Bobby Bayliss said in a telephone interview from North Carolina Thursday night. "In any sport, when you play UNI and Duke back-to-back, you've got your hands full, but we think we're up to the task."

Last weekend, Notre Dame came within one match of defeating then-No. 1 Virginia before falling 4-3 in Richmond. The team rebounded with a dominant shutout of William and Mary in its home opener on Sunday.

Tomorrow, the Irish take on the Tar Heels at noon EST. North Carolina stands at No. 30 in the national rankings and boasts a 5-0 record going into the match with Notre Dame.

Four of UNC's wins this season are 7-0 shutouts — against Campbell, Elon, Gardner-Webb and North Carolina A&T.

Their other match came against a mutual opponent of the Irish. The Tar Heels upset No. 19 Northwestern 5-2, losing in the top two singles positions.

North Dame began the season with a win over the Wildcats, winning 6-1 with a loss at No. 6 in singles.

"Carolinas a team that's been ranked, traditionally, in the 15-20 range most years," Bayliss said. "I think at the end of the year they're going to be there and be a good NCAA Tournament team."

On Sunday, the Irish will make the eight-mile trek to Durham. After a win over Old Dominion to start the season, they will face its most difficult challenge yet.

"They're good," Bayliss said of the Blue Devils. "They're a team with potential to do some really serious damage nationally."

However, the Irish are looking to make some noise themselves. The team has focused on their doubles matches after revamping the lineup between the Northwestern and UVa matches.

"We've put a lot of time into our doubles," Bayliss said. "We still need to continue to do that because it's a big key. ... I'm pretty confident that we can become very good."

In three matches, the Irish have played nine individual doubles matches, winning six. One more win may have given the team a victory over Virginia, but Bayliss is focusing on the future — and the challenge in Chapel Hill tomorrow.

"North Carolina's No. 1 doubles team is ranked No. 1 in the country," he said. "If you're ranked 1 in the country you're doing something right."

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

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**Meyo**

continued from page 24

SEC and Big East — are slated to compete. The centerpiece of the meet is the Meyo Mile, which annually produces some of the top times in the country for that distance. The Irish are coming off a strong performance at the Notre Dame Invitational.

Junior Kurt Benninger Rewrite the record books with his first-place showing in the men’s mile, clocking in with a time of 3:58.77. With that time he became the first Irish runner in Notre Dame history to record two miles under four minutes in his career.

Even more stunning is that he believes it wasn’t even his best performance.

While Benninger stole the show at the Invitational, he wasn’t the only Irish athlete to have an exceptional outing. Freshman Mary Saxer set a new Notre Dame record in the pole vault, clearing a height of 4.05 meters. While this mark is indeed a school record, it is below her personal goals. Saxer, like Benninger, is looking forward to the opportunity to better her marks as the season progresses.

One more record fell at the meet Jan. 27 with freshman Alyssa Hassan setting a new Notre Dame record in the pentathlon with 3,665 points — just short of the NCAA qualifying mark.

The competition figures to be stiff over the weekend, as some of the best squads in the nation will be competing in South Bend. Benninger, who finished fourth in last year’s mile run at the NCAA championship, is especially looking forward to the presence of the defending NCAA champion in that event, Nick Willis of Michigan.

“The defending national champion will be running, so I am anxious to compete against him,” Benninger said. “I think I am fit enough to win the event.”

Looking ahead, the Irish will travel north of the border next weekend as they compete in the Windsor Invitational, the final tuneup before the Big East Championship.

**Calvin**

continued from page 24

streak. We’re feeling great about the team.”

There’s no question that the win over Olivet was a statement game for the Belles, who are creeping into the upper echelon of MIAA teams.

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The new-look Belles have no lack of confidence when playing teams they’ve lost to in the past, thanks in large part to their 3-1 record this year in second games against conference foes.

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Some of the Belles, though, seem to take each loss personally.

“It was kind of a tough loss,” Reier said. “We’re really looking forward to being able to play them again, and this time, get a win.”

Documented by the 3-1 mark, a strength of the Belles and first-year head coach Steve Bender is being able to adjust their game when facing an opponent the second time, and correcting deficiencies that have plagued the team in its losses.

One of those deficiencies in the Belles’ losses was the team’s post play.

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Newsom said if Saint Mary’s continues to do what it has been doing in the past six games, the Belles will have no problem coming away with a win against Calvin.

“If I think if we keep playing like a team, and keep playing good solid defense, we’ll come up on top,” she said.

Contact Tim Kaiser at tkaiser@nd.edu

Write Sports. Call Mike at 1-4543.

**Happy 21st Birthday! Gina Tesi**

Bling Queen of Cavanaugh Hall

February 5, 2006

**Calvin**

continued from page 24

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**International Career WORKSHOP**

(Africa, Asia, Latin America)

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10 am–5:30 pm
(9:30–10 am Packet pickup)
Hesburgh Center for International Studies

Register Today!

kellogg.nd.edu/intlapp.html

Sessions will include:
- Jobs in NGOs
- Translation and Interpretation Services
- International Business
- Government and Foreign Service
- Using Area Studies to Teach K-12
- Grants, Fellowships and Awards for International Research and Travel
- Foundation Jobs
- Public Health
- Jobs in the Media
- University Careers
- Jobs in Africa
- International Human Rights

For a full listing, see kellogg.nd.edu/intlcareer.html

Registration closes at noon on Monday, February 6.
7, and they have lost five of their last seven games by 10 points or more.

"I think there's going to be an air of desperation in the arena," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said Thursday. "They've got to win to get into the Big East tournament, I guess.

"And we've just got to win." Despite the poor record, Providence does have three players averaging double digits in scoring and two approaching 10 rebounds per game.

Junior forward Shauna Snyder missed seven games earlier this season but has averaged 13.2 points per game for the Friars since returning.

Freshman guard Chelsea Marie-Djola has contributed early and often, starting all 20 contests and scoring 12.8 points per game.

But senior Gayle Nwalfi is Providence's win-saver with a reputation for being dangerous. The 6-foot-1 center enters Saturday's contest averaging 12.7 points and 9.2 rebounds a night.

"She's a tough matchup for us because she plays a lot on the perimeter," McGraw said. "She's very mobile, and she will even shoot from the three-point line — she's made some threes this year. She's a tough matchup for all of our posts."

Notre Dame's inside presence will be a key to the game. The team has not established a dominant inside presence and cleaning up the glass has been one of Providence's few strengths.

"We've worked on those things in practice. We do every week."

Notre Dame won't need many goals. If junior goalie Dave Brown plays like he did against the Buckeyes, After being denied one week earlier against Northern Michigan in favor of freshman Jordan Pearcy, Brown allowed just one goal last weekend, including the final goal of his career on Saturday.

"They've got to win Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "And everybody else needs to do better."

McGraw said she hopes Schrader plays as well Saturday as she did against Syracuse.

With standout guard Megan Duffy held to just seven field goal attempts within the three-point line, Schrader led the Irish Tuesday with 24 points on 9-of-19 shooting from the floor.

"I think that because they guarded Megan so well — she didn't get enough shots — Lindsay was there to pick up the slack," McGraw said. "I think in a normal game Megan will get a few more and Lindsay may get a few less. But I see (Schrader) getting 15 shots a game.

"After the Irish posted 42 points in the second half of their Tuesday victory at Syracuse, McGraw said she hopes the offense can produce just as well at home this weekend.

"I'm feeling a lot better about the offense right now (than after Notre Dame's 69-43 loss to Rutgers)," she said. "I think we're stepping up and taking more shots."

Notes:

- The NCAA released its official Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) standings for the first time Wednesday. The official formula, long kept secret and used by the NCAA Tournament selection committee in determining the tournament bracket, was not released, but team rankings were assigned.

- Notre Dame ranked No. 28 out of 332 Division I teams through games played on Monday. That leaves Notre Dame near the traditional "bubble.

- Each year, the tournament selection committee chooses 33 teams for at-large bids, along with the winners of each conference championship.

- CollegeRPI.com, a private Web site that tries to duplicate the official RPI rankings, lists Notre Dame's at No. 31 with a .531 strength of schedule — likely an important factor in the official ratings — ranked No. 13.

Contact Ken Fowler at kgfowler@nd.edu

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Spartans continued from page 24

Spartans.

"We've had trouble scoring goals in the past, but Caruso's one of the best goalkeepers in our conference," he said. "I don't think we get enough chances; I think we had enough traffic, we just didn't get enough shots.

Lindsay [Schrader] doing a good job inside. And [freshman guard] Chris Quinn doing a really good job. And everybody else needs to do better."

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2006 Asian Film Festival

For more information visit: www.nd.edu/~fit

PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer
JOCKULAR

ALEC WHITE & ERIC POWERS

Oh man, you would love Dublin, man. Yeah! YEAH!

Yeah, I mean, like, I've gotten s****ed in Ireland, people. But now I'm getting s****ed in an authentic Irish pub man.


crossword

ACROSS
1 Mideast leader? (opinion's forerunner)
2 4 "one ..."
22 Neckwear for Ross w ords
33 Treatment with Graham crackers
36 39 Verse site (French department)
37 Outstanding issues
38 Modern pronunciation event
19 Part of A.S.T. Ato
20 41 Dress shirt feature
21 "Kale & Alias" actor
22 Neckwear for SpongeBob
34 Accept
35 Convertible alternative
36 Obviously enjoy, as a joke
37 Improperly at
26 Not permanently will
54 In

DOWN
1 Cruising, say
2 One puppy to another
3 "See" follower
4 Cost of doing business
5 For sale
6 Rent
7 Reply to "Who's there?"
8 Pageboy, e.g.
9 Pasqueflowers, e.g.
10 Practiced
11 Watson's Holmes ...
12 ... Amburg (old German Gundy)
13 Entertainment exec: Robert
14 Hardly soul
15 Part of an aura
16 Pattern paradigm
19 Foul-mouthed
20 Still
25 Fool
27 Shrink
29 See 57-Down

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
BRAVE SERVED THE
BADLY WANTED
EAGLES
do and stow
HARDWARE
TONGUES
UPSIDE DOWN
THINK AHEAD
RIDE A SEAGULL
THANK YOU BEFORE
THAT MAKES SCENT
SUCH THINGS
DO NOT CARE
WHY THE WIND
SWING
WON'T SEEM
TO WORK

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The Observer

Friday, February 3, 2006

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

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JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RINPT

FEBOG

BAGLEM

EMNIRE

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME to satisfy your word dilettante.

Yesterdays: Jumbles: SINGE SINGE CABIN UPHASH RADIUS 

What the deep-voiced guy turned into when he joined the prison quartet — A STRIPPED "BASE"

JOKER

ACROSS
10 Practiced politician (old German)
12 -Altenburg (French department)
14 Hardy soul
15 Entertainment exec: Robert
17 Iowa kin
20 Iowa kin
21 Kale & Alias" actor
22 Neckwear for SpongeBob
29 See 57-Down
29 See 57-Down
31 How to shoot
41 Hacienda hand,
42 Some wedding greeting for
44 Billions
50 Team since 1962
58 Model born
60 Group 164
68 SquarePants actress
69 Answer to "Who's there?"
70 The Acropolis.
73 Pass
75 SPO posting
77 With 25-Down, greeting for
82 Tennis score
82 Tennis score
82 Tennis score
82 Tennis score
56 Stays too long at the gym, say
57 Acclaim
58 Attended to a debut
59 Model born
61 Battle of the squares, op. 10/16/1914

DOWN
1 Cruising, say
2 One puppy to another
3 "See" follower
4 Cost of doing business
5 For sale
6 Rent
7 Reply to "Who's there?"
8 Pageboy, e.g.
9 Pasqueflowers, e.g.
10 Practiced
11 Watson's Holmes ...
12 ... Amburg (old German Gundy)
13 Entertainment exec: Robert
14 Hardly soul
15 Part of an aura
16 Pattern paradigm
19 Foul-mouthed
20 Still
25 Fool
27 Shrink
29 See 57-Down

CROSSWORD WORLD

ADAM FAIRHOLM

I'M NOT MEAN.

OH MAN, YOU
WOULD LOVE
DUBLIN, MAN.

YEAH!

YEARN, I MEAN.
LIKE, I'VE GOTTEN
S****ED IN
IRISH PUBS.

REALLY COOL.

IF I SEE ANY, I'LL TRY.
 BUT I MET SOME
FRIENDS FROM ARIZONA
STATE. THEY'RE

MAPS ARE
MAKING

FRIENDS

WITH

SOME OF THE LOCALS.

THE OBSERVER

Celebrities Born on this Day: Michael T. Weiss, 46; Christie Brinkley, 52; Farrah Fawcett, 59; Tom Sizemore, 46

Happy Birthday: The late综合利用 sports explaining yourself or your plans, the better. Watch your spending habits and refrain from being too generous. Take the attitude that charity begins at home this year so you would be well with me not to cover your own expenses. Your numbers are 18, 17, 27, 29, 36, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't mix business and pleasure. You will be more successful about work. A problem with a deal you are trying to complete may not be pushed aside. Be very careful that you do, in fact, get a fair deal.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Jealousy could prove to be a problem for you. Not everyone will be as good at you. You need to be more tolerant and less possessive. A quiet and sensitive approach will bring the best results.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone you meet through work will have something worthwhile to share with you but don't take what this person says as gospel. Add your own touch and intelligence to use the information effectively.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take the time to visit someone if this person has something to offer you. A face-to-face conversation will allow you to foresee possible future problems. Overreaching will have to be avoided or you will appear to be frivolous.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can let the stage and do your own thing today. But everyone will agree with you but as long as you see the benefits go full speed ahead. Take a leadership position.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will have plenty of data to filter through. Someone you least expect may try to help you back or control what you are doing. Personal improvements will pay off. You are in a good position to make financial gains.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It's up to you to set the stage and control what is happening. So many opportunities are present but you have to choose one. A creative idea will cause some controversy. A partnership will prove to be your saving grace.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't fight the changes going on around you. Acceptance will be the key to getting out of a situation that hasn't been good for you for a long time. Rid yourself of partners who have not played fair.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Pull in the reins a little and confine yourself to form the surprise answer, as

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Just when you think you have everything, something to offer you. A face-to-face conversation will allow you to foresee the...
Irish ‘desperate’ for league win at home against Friars

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame hopes to continue its winning ways and climb back to .500 in Big East play Saturday at home against Providence.

The Irish (13-7 overall, 4-5 Big East) toppled Syracuse 67-55 Tuesday night in the Carrier Dome and will face the struggling but well-balanced Friars at 1 p.m.

Providence (6-14, 1-8) suffered a blowout loss at the hands of Marquette at the bottom of the conference standings.

The Friars lone conference victory was a 58-57 victory over Cincinnati Jan. 28 in Notre Dame's 72-70 loss to Villanova.

ND TRACK & FIELD

Team to host Meyo Invitational

Benninger hopes to top reigning NCAA one-mile champion

By JORDAN BELTZ
Sports Writer

One of the most prestigious events in NCAA track and field will convene on campus this weekend when Notre Dame hosts the Meyo Invitational.

The action kicks off today at 5 p.m. at Loftus and picks up again Saturday morning at 10 a.m. Squads from all of the major conferences — including the ACC, Big 10, and Big East — will converge on the Irish track.

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles look to avenge earlier loss to Calvin

Saint Mary’s has a 3-1 record in second meeting with teams

By TIM KAISER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s is out to prove that it’s a different team in this second half of the season — and so far, so good.

After averaging a previous loss to Olivet with a 74-66 win on Wednesday night, the Belles will look to even their season series with the Calvin College Knights Saturday at 3 p.m.

HOCKEY

Irish set to take on No. 14 Spartans in a home-and-home

Jackson says the team is confident facing a defensive powerhouse

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will play its first home game in three weeks tonight at 7:35 p.m. when the Irish take on No. 14 Michigan State in the first contest of a weekend home-and-home with the Spartans.

The Irish (9-14-3 overall, 7-10-3 CCHA) enter the game tied for ninth in the CCHA with Bowling Green. They will face a Michigan State team that sits in fourth place in the conference but is riding a four-game winless streak dating back to Jan. 20.

Still, Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said the Spartans, who tied No. 6 Michigan twice in a home-and-home last weekend, will be a tough matchup.

“I think they’re playing as well as any team in our league right now, maybe with the exception of Miami,” he said. “They went through some tough times with injuries, but they’re healthy now and they’ve showed what kind of team they can be.”

The Spartans are led by forward Bryan Lerg. The sophomore tops the Spartans in points with 29, including 10 goals.

In net for Michigan State, junior Dominic Vicari and freshman Jeff Lerg have split time.

Jeff Lerg, who is Bryan Lerg’s cousin, has a goals against average of 2.06. Vicari is giving up 2.67 scores per contest.

They will face a Notre Dame unit that had been putting up at least two goals per game until it ran into the wall known as Ohio State in a pair of 1-0 games.

Jackson said he hopes the offense will return against the unit that had been putting up at least two goals per game until it ran into the wall known as Ohio State in two games, although they did earn a split with the Buckeyes in a pair of 1-0 games.

Jackson said the team is confident facing a defensive powerhouse.

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associated Sports Editor

Irish guard Chris Quinn was calm and relaxed after practice Thursday, an interesting mood given the fact Notre Dame is in the verge of missing the Big East tournament — unless something changes very soon.

The Irish are running out of chances to reverse the course of their challenging season. Saturday at noon, Notre Dame has another opportunity to earn a much-needed league win when it travels to Louisville.

"I hope we give ourselves a chance to win again," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "We’re not going to go in there and..."