General election vote decides race for student body president, vice president

By MARY KATE MALONE
Assistant News Editor

Juniors Lizzi Shappell and Bill Andrichik run away with the victory in the student government president and vice president election Monday, winning 51.78 percent of the vote and narrowly escaping a run-off — the first time a ticket has done so since 1999.

The pair will take on its new posts April 1. Shappell will replace current student body president Dave Baron, and Andrichik will replace Shappell, the current vice president.

Typically no ticket wins the majority vote in the general, and that results in a run-off election between the two with the highest number of votes. But this year was different, as Shappell and Andrichik managed to clinch the majority and avoid a week of historically dogged campaigning leading up to the election.

see ELECTION/page 6

Losing tickets look toward future, remain supportive of elected administration

By KATHLEEN MCDONNELL
News Writer

While not all candidates at the national level exhibit graceful concessions, those who campaigned to lead Notre Dame’s student body next year did so with humility on Monday evening.

Before the Lizzi Shappell-Bill Andrichik ticket achieved an outright majority — rare for a student body election — some candidates had been counting on having a last shot at campaigning before the assumed run-off election on Thursday.

Despite this, the losing tickets quickly experienced the results were announced and were already planning how to positively impact the University next academic year.

Junior Jason Laws and sophomore Bob Costa took special interest in

see FUTURE/page 6

‘Monologues’ opens in new academic setting

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
News Writer

Amidst ongoing debate about whether academic freedom should permit University departments to sponsor events deemed to conflict with Catholic values, Notre Dame students performed “The Vagina Monologues” for a second straight year.

Student players in “The Vagina Monologues” act out one of the many experience-oriented skits in the work.

see PLAY/page 4

Audience reacts to controversial play staged in classroom

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

After the first of this week’s productions of “The Vagina Monologues” ended with a walkout by theologians and one social scientist left in the theater, some Notre Dame students joined the momentum as the popular play opened on campus.

Panel discussion caps performance, addresses sexuality

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

‘The Vagina Monologues’ confront often-unspoken issues and bring them to light.
**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Don’t stop believin’**

I know the situation looks bleak. After a promising 10-2 start, Notre Dame basketball stumbled their way to becoming the greatest 1-8 team in Big East history. It felt like I was having déjà vu every time I had the misfortune of watching the Irish in the last five games of a game. I mean, how many times just knew that that prayer of a 3-pointer by Taquan Dean would somehow find its way to the bottom of the net at Louisville? Watching the reaction of the Notre Dame bench after that shot went in made you question not only whether this team could take anymore, but quite possibly the existence of a higher power as well.

There’s just something about this team though. Something about this team that hasn’t let me give up on them yet. Something about this team that makes me think that the seemingly unsolvable issue of an NCAA tournament bid is still a tangible possibility. Allow me to draw on the immortal words of Plato’s Dialogues when he says, “Was it over when the Germans bombed Pearl Harbor? No, it wasn’t over then, and it’s not over now for the Irish and an NCAA tournament bid.”

Why? You ask. Well, first and foremost, I’m a strong believer in the “You can only lose so many games where you walk away down wanting to cry” theory. Although this might be a little painful for some, here’s a recap of each moment from this school year: football, Michigan State and USC; basketball, Georgetown and Villanova. I mean, how much punishment can the sports gods possibly expect us to endure in one year?

That theory in mind, I come back to the fact that there’s just something about this team. A weak team would have rolled over and died after the Villanova game. The majority of teams would have packed it in after the West Virginia heartbreaker. Even a mentally tough team would have decided this just wasn’t their season after the Louisville loss.

If, however, the Irish had packed it in for the season already, like most teams would have in their situation, they would have come out against an undermanned Rutgers team and proved to a nation to their undying spirit, a superior mental toughness, a possible subscription to the theory. Although this might be a little painful for some, here’s a recap of each moment from this school year: football, Michigan State and USC; basketball, Georgetown and Villanova. I mean, how much punishment can the sports gods possibly expect us to endure in one year?

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Leito gives 'wish list'

By MARY KATE MALONE
Associate News Editor

After months of meetings and brainstorming within the Campus Life Council, the council released a resolution endor­sing Leito's report—which was created in conjunction with the Student Senate's committee on residence life. CLC will send the resolution and Leito's report to vice president of student affairs Father Mark Poorman, who can then forward it to appropriate administrators for future cam­pus construction decisions.

"This is great work," Dillon Hall rector Father Paul Doyle said. "I support it 100 percent."

In other CLC news:

- In response to recent cam­pus debate concerning academic freedom and the University's Catholic character, Baron asked the Council to create a task force charged with evaluating how Jenkins' remarks will affect programming for student activities.

Baron said the newly-created task force on programming standards will address how controversial events sponsored by student activities might be affected by Jenkins' comments.

The task force will provide rec­ommendations on how such events should be handled in light of those comments.

CLC will discuss the academic freedom issue more thoroughly at their next meeting, Baron said.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at Mmalone3@nd.edu

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Board of Governance

Group votes on event funding

From left, BOG president Kellye Mitros, vice president Susan McIlduff, senior Elizabeth Palasky, and Student Diversity Board president Amanda Shropshire discuss spending for the end of the year.

By LIZ HARTER
New Writer

Saint Mary's Board of Governors voted to provide $2,795—more than half of its remaining co-sponsorship funds—for Midnight Madness to help finance the upcoming Midnight Madness and Fire and Safety Fair at its meeting Monday night.

Senior mission commissioner Ashley Enright said individ­uals, including Vice President of Student Affairs Linda Timm, and local businesses donate prizes to Midnight Madness, but the planning committee still needs the financial sup­port of student government and requested $5,000.

"They're asking for a lot of money, but it is just half of the cost of what is going on," she said.

Following Enright's propos­al, board members discussed BOG's past financial involve­ment with Midnight Madness and the effect providing the money would have on future co-sponsorship requests.

Executive treasurer Lillian Waters reminded officers the BOG would be receiving a request of as much as $7,000 for The Show in coming weeks.

Last year, student govern­ment gave $2,000 to Midnight Madness, Waters said, but not through an official co-spon­sorship grant.

"This year they're trying to make it a little more profes­sional on where they're get­ting their money," she said.

Some officers expressed concern about the amount of money requested and how it was going to be spent.

"Looking back at the whole year, do we want to spend $5,000 on food and prizes and shirts?" missions commission­er Jennifer Robbins said. "I mean, maybe that is where it ends up anyway, but it just seems like a lot of money."

Student body president Kellye Mitros said while every co-sponsorship affects a large number of students in theory, financial support of Midnight Madness would actually do so in practice.

"They are asking for $5,000, which is all we have in our budget, so I'm guessing you are not going to vote for that," Mitros told the Board.

Mitros expressed the possibility of utilizing club co-sponsorship funds for non-club events. Student Activities director George Rosenbush said officers could potentially redirect money from the club lines to finance other activi­ties.

Senior class president Lauren Condon moved to give half of the requested amount, which was immediately voted on and approved.

In a second co-sponsorship proposal, Residence Hall pres­ident Jackie Wright, who sits on the College's Fire Safety Committee, requested $295 to help purchase whistles and safety tip cards to be distrib­uted at the Saint Mary's Fire and Safety Fair this spring.

After minimal discussion, the board voted to provide this money.

Contact Liz Harter at Eharter1@ saintmarys.edu

Announcing the Year 2006 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2006 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed $3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian literature, language, and culture; and must be applicable to a student's degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Sciacquino. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:

1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their understanding of Italian culture and society;
2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals;
3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow;
4) a budget indicating the costs involved;
5) the names of two references.

Application Deadline: Friday, February 17, 2006
Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame
**Play continued from page 1**

instead of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts after University President Father John Jenkins required that it take place in an academic setting. Jenkins' compromise for this year's event - he has not issued another - was to invite the players to put on a show for himself and all aspiring writers.

"Women always have the possibility for success, even if you have never succeeded before," he said.

Salter, an ex-fighter pilot and veteran of the Korean, Vietnam, and Gulf Wars, also discussed the importance of drawing from personal experience in writing.

"In 'Common,' alone, there are twelve people who I can think of that gave me ideas for parts of the story," he said.

Salter explained how his writing is sustained by a well of life experiences combined with his personal philosophy to convey quality "they don't teach you in the classroom." It is this motivating and sustaining self-confidence that Salter said triggers his irruption with his audience.

The author also said the spirit of the literary festival and of his own motivation to write at this time - he is listed in his favorite quotation from writer Samuel Johnson: "The chief glory of every people depends on its authors." The festival's spirit is still in full swing with the Literary Festival continuing tonight at 5:30 in LaFortune Ballroom with Alexander and runs through Thursday.

Contact Will Kearney at wkearney@nd.edu

**Panel continued from page 1**

to the forefront of debate.

"While she presented the church's point of view, Young made her opinion perfectly clear by bursting into laughter at the heavy load the "Documents of African III" volume on the table.

"This theology is as good as it gets," Young said, provoking a few laughs. "Now that we have Catholic theology here, let me say what I have to say.

Young, a specialist in early Christianity, said throughout the history of the church, universities and bishops have "occasionally clashed," since their roles in teaching can overlap.

"I agree," Bishop John D'Arcy's duty in the Notre Dame community, Young said, is to voice "women's feelings of embodiment, dangerous in that they are not easily translated to popular success.

"I would be the last person to say that the "Monologues" is a popular, popular an accident," Salter said. "You can tell me what you please, but Salter drove home the point that although an author's writing can and should develop over time, the essence of his or her writing always will retain its own identity. The 32-year-old Salter, who still drives his own personal plane on a popular acclaim, was upbeat about his role as an author and as a writer for himself and all aspiring writers.

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Contact Will Kearney at wkearney@nd.edu
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Haitians riot against election results
PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Supporters of Haitian presidential candidate Jean-Claude Duvalier were3
erted on Sunday night by the police, who fired shots into the air and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd.

As Port-au-Prince descended into chaos, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide returned to the capital for the first time since the election Tuesday. He was the clear winner with about 90 percent of the vote. The government claimed electoral officials were tampering with the results to prevent him from getting the majority needed to avoid a runoff.

Danes say country misrepresented
COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen called the Danes “the most generous people in the world.”

However, critics said the network did not represent Denmark’s estimated 200,000 Muslims and warned the prime minister could be heightening tensions by not reaching out to radical groups.

NATIONAL NEWS

Bald eagle population increases
WASHINGTON — The American bald eagle, after being taken back from the brink of extinction because of habitat loss and DDT, took another step Monday toward coming off the endangered species list.

The Interior Department’s Fish and Wildlife Service issued draft voluntary guidelines specifying who can land on bald eagle nests, and managers and others should protect the bird once it no longer is safeguarded by the 1973 law.

The bald eagle population has taken far longer than the typical year, with the species’ numbers increasing for only a few years before falling back due to poor reproduction and other factors. The Interior Department plans to make a final decision by the end of the year.

Lawyer’s group denounces spying
CHICAGO — The American Bar Association denounced President Bush’s warrantless domestic surveillance program Monday, accusing him of exceeding his powers under the Constitution.

The program has prompted a heated debate about presidential powers in the war on terrorism since it was disclosed in December.

LOCAL NEWS

Prisoner dies from drug overdose
PENDELTON, Ind. — A prisoner at the Pendleton Correctional Facility was found dead from a possible drug overdose, the second such case in less than a week, the Department of Corrections said.

A third inmate apparently hanged himself on Jan. 26 at the central Indiana prison. In the latest death, Keith Lauster, 40, was found unresponsive in his bed Sunday. Prison staff tried to resuscitate him, but he was pronounced dead at 10:07 a.m.

IRAQ

Hussein returns to courtroom
Baghdad — Prosecutors produced documents put forward by Saddam’s official at the trial last month, and are demanding the removal of chief judge Fouad Al-Ali. The judge’s chief defense lawyer said there were no plans to drop the boycott and denounced the court for forcing the former leader to attend.

“This is a cheap attitude,” Khaled al-Otaibi told The Associated Press. After the nervous start, prosecutors tried to prove Saddam’s role in a wave of arrests and executions that followed a 1982 attempt on his life in the Shiite village of Dujail.

Twenty-six prosecution witnesses have testified since the Saddam trial began Oct. 19, many providing accounts of torture and imprisonment in the crackdown, but they could not directly pin them on Saddam.
Cheney warned for breaking law

Associated Press

WASHINGTON Vice President Dick Cheney has been given a warning citation for breaking Texas hunting law by failing to buy a $7 stamp allowing him to hunt quail and birds with South Bend residents, and it picked the candidate most qualified to deal with the big ongoing problems they face at the University of South Bend. Cheney's accidental shooting of a quail while aiming at flying birds.

The warning came from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department after it investigated Cheney's accidental shooting of a quail fellow hunter Saturday in the private Armstrong Ranch in the south part of the state. The department found he did nothing about the accident, by a "hunter's judgment factor" when Cheney sprang another hunter who had a checking the law.

The report said the incident, pronounced over a phone call by Harry Whittington of Austin, was retrieving a quail and a bird and striking Whittington in the face. Cheney was also pursuing a quail when he was shot and was not injured. He said he was not involved in the $7 upland game bird stamp requirement, the report said.

Whittington also received a warning citation for using a quail he was hunting in the state. The hunting group set up for deferred closing the door, he opens another. If needed, we'll be here to support the students in their campaign.

Cheney, an experienced hunter, has not commented publicly on the citation. His office said Monday night that a citation had been filed by the attorney general's office, and that he had been a "reluctant hunter," and that he was "very smart" about animal and wildlife laws.

"I'm proud to be part of a team with a guy like Jason," said McCune. "The idea of bringing Notre Dame a better place.

"If needed, we'll be here to support," said McCune. "At the end of the day, I think we've helped bring up the idea of a more open and inclusive student government.

Catherine Martindale was mentioned in the announcement. With three more years at the University, these hopefuls have plenty of time in which to continue working towards their platform goals. "I see a great shot. It's very safe and "lizzie will do a great job," Black said. "She expressed similar views to us by emphasizing gender relations and community relations as things that need to be addressed. Cat (Martinez) looks forward to stepping in, in any way we can, in the future," she said. If students are addressed

Contact Kathleen McDonnell at kmcdonnell@ind.edu

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psmith@brothersofholycross.com
MARKET RECAP

Dow Jones

Associated Press

Fannie Mae misses housing goals

WASHINGTON—Mortgage giant Fannie Mae last year fell a bit short of some of the government-set goals for making home ownership affordable, according to a report scheduled to be released Monday that will include an $11 billion scandal.

A preliminary analysis by the government-sponsored company, which finances one of every five home mortgages in the United States, shows that it "fell slightly short"  — by less than 1 percent  — of two "sub-goals," a Fannie Mae official said Monday.

Bush administration officials have said in recent years that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, its smaller rival in the $5 trillion home-mortgage market, must do more to help low- and moderate-income families become homeowners. In 2003, the companies met the government-set goals only because three unusual multibillion-dollar deals were counted toward the targets.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have been under intense scrutiny and political pressure since their accounting scandals surfaced in September 2004 and June 2003, respectively. Legislation pending in Congress would tighten federal oversight of the two companies.

The Securities and Exchange Commission, which has ordered Fannie Mae to restate earnings back to 2001, and the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight are investigating the companies’ accounting. The Justice Department is pursuing a criminal investigation.

"It ... appears that we fell slightly short of" the two sub-goals, Chuck Greenner, Fannie Mae’s senior vice president for communications, said in a statement. "We are fully committed to working with HUD in an effort to meet these goals."

The Department of Housing and Urban Development sets the annual affordable housing goals. HUD spokesman Lerner Wooley said the agency had no comment on the matter because it hadn’t yet seen Fannie Mae’s latest data.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, its smaller competitor, are already in violation of the 2003 law because they are not meeting the government-set goals.

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Enron Corp. founder Kenneth Lay dismissed hundreds of millions of dollars in quarterly housing losses and a surprise $1.2 billion write-down in shareholder equity six weeks before the company filed into bankruptcy court proceedings in December 2001, jurors in his fraud trial heard Monday on a tape of a quarterly earnings conference call.

But prosecutors contend he still had some hope news from investors or wrongly described the losses as one-time events to give Wall Street false hope that business would improve, while he allegedly knew the company was in serious trouble. Lay is on trial along side former chief executive Jeffrey Skilling.

The defense teams contend there was no fraud at Enron and negative publicity coupled with loss of Wall Street confidence fueled its collapse.

Lay lawyer Michael Ramsey kicked off the third week of the trial Monday by trying to show that his client hid nothing when he disclosed a list of problems that included $63.8 billion in third-quarter 2001 loss and the reduction in shareholder equity.

"Was this a surprise, the-writhedowns?" Ramsey asked former Enron investor-relations chief Mark Koenig, in his opening day on the quarter­ness stand Monday. He was to return for an eighth day Tuesday.

"They were a surprise," Koenig said. He backtracked a bit when Ramsey later had him read reports from analysts projected after the call that said the losses and writedowns were smaller than expected.

The losses stemmed from bad investments in troubled band and water ventures and the unraveling of so-called Lips to, four fragile financial structures backed by Enron stock used to keep hundreds of millions of dollars in debt off the energy company’s books. When the company’s stock price fell throughout 2001, Enron was on the hook to issue more stock or repay the debt.

Lay analyst assured on the Oct. 16, 2001, confer­ence call heard Monday that Enron "cleaned up some items here" and expected no credit-rating downgrades — which would alert investors to other problems.

There were more problems. The Wall Street Journal published several articles in the days after the earnings release about partner­ships called LJM1 and LJM2 run by then-Enron finance chief Andrew Fastow that had done millions of dollars in deals with Enron.

Fastow had sold his inter­est in those two partnerships to one of his former top aides in July 2001. But the publicity prompted the Securities and Exchange Commission to investigate the entities and the propri­ety of Fastow running partner­ships that did deals with his main employer.

Enron’s directors had waived a conflict of interest-interest-policy to allow Fastow to run the partner­ships when they were created in 1999 and 2000.

Enron held another confer­ence call with analysts on Oct. 25, 2001 — played for jurors on Monday — during which Lay said, "Andy has been doing an outstanding job at CFO" and there was a "Chinese wall between LJM and Enron." Lay also said the LJM partnerships had been vetted by lawyers and auditors.

Ramsey had presented SEC filings with footnotes that mentioned LJM as early as 1999, when the first of the two was created, to demonstrate that they weren’t hidden. But on the Oct. 23 call, an analyst noted he was still mystified by the details of the transactions.

The next day, Enron nost­ed Fastow.

Nearly six weeks later, Enron filed for bankruptcy protection amid revelations of off-the-books debt and inflated profits. The collapse of what was once the coun­try’s seventh-largest compa­ny left thousands jobless and wiped out billions in investors’ wealth.

Enron CEO Kenneth Lay leaves the federal courthouse at the end of the first day of the third week of his fraud and conspiracy trial Monday in Houston, Texas.
Show remembers dogs of Katrina

Westminster Kennel Club show features video montage tribute

NEW YORK — When he was a boy, Hiram Stewart took a bus to Virginia, put a puppy in a paper bag and cradled it all the way home to New Orleans.

For more than three decades, he cared for dogs in the Big Easy. Usually champion dogs, the kind that would reach the Best in Show level at this week's event.

Still, nothing prepared him for what he saw on his rounds around town after Hurricane Katrina hit. Like that of pair of little beagles with the pleading eyes, chained inside a garage.

"Every time a car would drive by, they'd come out, hoping it was their owner," Stewart said. "I knew the situation better than those two poor dogs did. It was going to be just a few days."

Stewart believes those beagles couldn't have imagined any of their companions didn't, and American Humane Association had a show Remembered them — and wasn't going to be just a few days.

"The things people did to their animals during Katrina are inexusable."

Lisa Myers
Louisiana resident

Los Angeles — Judith Sheindlin, familiarly known as "Judge Judy," a self-taught lawbreaker with her trademark brash-yourself-buddy glare.

"You're drinking my tea?" she says to Jerry Sheindlin, her husband, who was good enough to sit alongside her during a production break on her court show. Not bottling it up, nor pouring from her cup into his and returning the property to its rightful owner.

For Judy Sheindlin, marking her 15th year as the star and executive producer of the top-rated syndicated shows, watched by 10 million people daily, maintaining the justice in full-time job. Her grandchildren may enjoy some slack; all others, watch out.

That unforgiving approach to small "infractions" has made her a favorite among courtiers nationwide is known as "does Judy even care?" When Phil McGraw looks at the elderly woman in a black lace collar, he refers to her as "Dr. Phil," saying: "He's reflecting the influence of a good-paying valet job, told her own expectation of how judges should behave and, in a manner of speaking, the world."

"One point, she interrupts herself to search her purse for a stash of q-tips to use on a series of violent deaths of New York children that have raised questions about city government oversight."

"These articles, you know who they blame? They blame the Administration for Children's Services. Nothing but that. And what about them? ... But that's not where the hush is, really," she said. "The police are supposed to protect our children are their parents."

"An unanswerable matters is personal responsibility. It's a position that played well when she showed up at the Brown University, but was even more beguiling in a time vexed by the failures of faith and virtue. The role power is yours, Sheindlin tells us; not related to you."

"She doesn't love you like your mother does," says the author of 17,000, delivering her lecture in the pulpit so at odds with theyat a petite woman, dwarfed by a realistic courtroom backdrop, is supposed to be her black robe softened by a diamond earring.

Afterward, the defendant weighed in on the case, said that the defendant weight in the case, and made up his mind to look made up on the case. But he already was seated, while the show picked up the tab for the roughly $2,000 judgment.

Petri Hawkins Byrd, who served as her bailiff in New York and cuts an imposing figure in the same role on TV, admires Sheindlin as a "tough judge who didn't have it easy," but likely would have found more public favor with Harriet Miers."

Sheindlin's popularity earns her a reported $30 million yearly. She flies in every other week to take care of business and stepchildren will not be her own expectation of how sheindlin speaks to the child in the Intensive care Unit."

"I don't know if I can articulate this voice that's so vivid and so clear."

The caricatures of the prophet, which first appeared in a Danish newspaper and were reprinted in several European newspapers that cited freedom of expression, have outraged Muslims and generated protests worldwide. The US Department of Justice says to man smoking a cigarette and wearing a blue and white striped prison uniform, with a tall wall and guard tower in the background.

The man, with a mustache and beard, is wearing a white kufiye cap over his hair and a gray jacket over his shoulders.

On every sheet of the red Muslim crescent with a letter "P." Below her name, in a striking, thin type style, "0266, the significance of which could not immediately be determined."

Sheindlin once coyly parried a reporter's question: "Are they going to make a tax return?"

"I felt sorry, they removed the cartoon instantly without a qualm and with an apology," he said.

The cartoons were pulled from the Iranian newspaper's website after a few years back have been submitted as an entry in that competition," Leunig told the Associated Press.

"I learned last night that five years and three months after the fact, a few years back have been submitted as an entry in that competition, saying I was the victim, "Leunig said.

A video montage on the scorecard was a test of the Western Freedom of Expression?

"Hell, no," he said, laughing. "I don't advise any of my students to do that."

"And I don't advise any of my students to do that," she said, laughing. "$30 million yearly. She flies in every other week to take care of business and stepchildren will not be her own expectation of how sheindlin speaks to the child in the Intensive care Unit."

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The first entry in the Iranian caricature contest, said an Australian diplomat, was among those who sent their editors, Leunig said.

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Pakistan

Missiles hit nomads

U.S. blamed for shots along Afghan border

Associated Press

MIRAN SHAI - Suspected U.S. military fire struck the tent of a nomad family on the Pakistan side of the rugged border with Afghanistan, killing two women and injuring at least four children, two Pakistani officials said.

The Pakistani officials said four rockets or shells were apparently fired by the U.S. military in fighting with suspected militants in Afghanistan's eastern Khost province late Saturday, and one hit the nomads' tent at Rangi Dar, in Pakistan's Northwest tribal area.

The officials — one an intelligence official, the other a local government administrator — spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to speak to media. There was no immediate comment from the Pakistan government or military.

Kidnapper freed

KABUL, March 29, 2006 (Xinhua) — A smuggler who was kidnapped in western Afghanistan in March was freed in a prisoner exchange between the Afghan government and the Taliban on Monday, an official said.

The official said 14 additional prisoners were freed in the exchange.

income

The officials said the prisoners were released in exchange for 14 Afghan soldiers who were captured by the Taliban earlier this year.

The officials said the agreement was reached after several weeks of negotiations.

Iran

Talks with Russia postponed

As also Monday, Tehran issued its third veiled threat in as many days to withdraw its uranium from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. If the international community does not agree to Iran's right to enrich uranium, the NPT "is no longer applicable," said a spokesman for President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

"The regime in Iran knows what it needs to do," he said.

"So far, they're continuing to choose defiance and confrontation over cooperation and diplomacy."

Scott McClellan

White House press secretary

Moscow had proposed that Iran ship its uranium to Russia, where it would be enriched to a level suitable for nuclear reactors. It would then be returned to Iran for use at the Russian-built Bushehr nuclear plant, which is due to begin operating this year.

The plan, backed by the United States and the European Union, was an attempt to avoid international objections to Iran's enrichment program while providing oversight so no weapons would be made.

Tehran has said it did not fulfill its requirements but was worth pursuing.

Despite resumption of enrichment, uranium gas must be fed into hundreds of centrifuges, significantly reducing their amount of enriched uranium, which is needed to make weapons.

But even small-scale enrichment is significant because it represents symbolic determinism for Iran's P-2 centrifuges are out and we go ahead with a technology that most nations want it to give up because of fears of misuse."

In Washington, White House press secretary Scott McClellan said Iran's restarting of enrichment shows its "continued defiance and confrontation over cooperation and diplomacy."

"The regime in Iran knows what it needs to do," he said.

"So far, they're continuing to choose defiance and confrontation over cooperation and diplomacy."

Associated Press

At some point that morning, Dena Schlosser put Maggie Schlosser down on the bed and cut off her arms," he said.

The first witness was Naeem Edwards, the 911 operator. Edwards told Schlosser's call in a taped conversation, Schlosser could be heard calling and listening to a church hymn.

During opening statements, her attorney said Schlosser clearly did not know right from wrong during the November 2004 slaying of baby Margaret.

"You cut her arms off," Schlosser replied a hymn played in the background.

"It was a hymn," she answered.

As the tape played, Schlosser stomped in her chair and pressed her chin into her chest, staring down at her hands.

She was diagnosed with manic depression after her two daughters were killed. A jury deliberated only a few minutes before deciding Schlosser was mentally incompetent to stand trial and she was committed to North Shore Hospital in Vero Beach.

Her pretrial hearing had been accorded of child neglect in the months before Margaret's death, but a state investigation of the baby or her other two daughters.

"It was a hymn," she answered.

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I have a confession to make, I, Scott Wagner of the College Libertarians, am a feminist. Yes, it is true. In my intellectual pursuit of practical libertarian philosophy, in opposition and coercion in its myriad forms, I have developed quite the infatuation with the female liberation movement. Indeed, American feminism disturbs me. Marilyn French said it best when, in her novel “The Woman’s Room,” she proclaimed they may be in public life, whatever their relations with men. Whether they are raptists and that’s all they are.

Wait a moment. Perhaps I’ll take off “my boys” stupid, throw rocks at them” T-shirt for a second and gender that quotation, I mean, such misandry seems more or less than a conscious process and historically, women all men are raptists and that’s all there is.

So as Susan Brownmiller, author, and historian, said: “Rape is nothing more or less than a conscious process of domination within which we keep all women in a state of fear.”

Okay, now I am creating quite a lot of confusion. Or how about former Congresswoman Barbara Jordan: “I believe that women have a gene for understanding and compassion which a man structurally does not have, does not have because it cannot have it. He’s just incapable of it.”

Maybe more appropriately: Feminism has in many ways, correctly or incorrectly become synonymous with misandry; I vividly remember hearing Rush Limbaugh on my grandparent’s radio ranting about the “feminists.” Ideas of “lesbian separatism” and “testosterone poisoning” are aspects of an intellectual field that has, in many ways, lost sight of its own importance. Instead of building support, much of feminist theory isolates it from the mainstream. Even “moderate” feminism, such that espoused by the National Organization for Women, is anything but moderate. All of it is slanting left (unnecessarily, in my opinion) to some degree.

Radical feminism emerged in the late 1960s. In many ways, not merely politically, it still shares a fundamental mentality with Marxism: oppressor vs. oppressed, us vs. them. Many feminists associated the existence of Western patriarchy with class division. And Marxism became fairly popular within many radical feminist circles. The feminism of feminism concomitant with left-wing principles of economic redistribution, centralized state control, and thought control. Be it what you may be thinking, however, I stand by my first two sentences. In using the term “feminist” to describe myself, I also choose to reject the socialist sentiments that gave birth to much of today’s contemporary feminism.

The important question now becomes: Is it even possible to dissociate feminism from the left? In fact, it is. A newly energized movement has gained popularity; it does not build itself around collective, sexual identity that fosters “gender war.” It is termed (appropriately enough) “individualist feminism” and its roots go back to the 19th century when many female abolitionists found themselves in an unusually similar struggle against their own legalized repression. Why fight for the rights of slaves when, for them, the need and purposes, you were still a slave yourself?

So, read my editor, Kelly McRory, editor of the website www.ifeminists.com, is a major force within the feminist movement. She defines feminism in the following way: “The 21st-century feminist is anyone—female or male—who supports, much of feminist theory isolates it from the mainstream. Even “moderate” feminism, such that espoused by the National Organization for Women, is anything but moderate. All of it is slanting left (unnecessarily, in my opinion) to some degree.”

Today’s Staff

Observer Poll

Are you going to “The Vagina Monologues”?

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at www.ndsmcobserver.com

Observer Online

http://www.ndsmcobserver.com

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The viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief/Class Hostage.

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Observer Poll

Submit a Letter to the Editor at www.ndsmcobserver.com

Lack of vote troubling

That the graduate student population is more diverse than the undergraduate student population? A great many of us come from outside the United States and have many different backgrounds (I myself am a Canadian-born Muslim with Bangladeshi parents — how much more of a minority can I be, eh?).

The student government also has voting representatives from dorms on campus. Yet, Fisher-Graduate and O’Hara-Grace are not included. Don’t grad students have voting rights too? If we violate Due process, are we not also in trouble as well? Heck, there are also senior undergraduates living there — will they not be represented? But the biggest reason why this is important to me is because of something I learned very early on after coming to Notre Dame. We are one big family. We are ND and we all pull for each other. Despite our differences, we are one big family and we should stick together, we join one governing association. Isn’t it fair to do the same before we graduate?

Shawn Ahmed

graduate student

Quote of the Day

“The supreme happiness in life is the conviction that we are loved — for ourselves, or rather, loved in spite of ourselves.” — Victor Hugo

French poet
In the direct quotation from Jenkins, clearly refers to the preceding claim about the freedom of students and scholars to publish and speak about fields of expertise. It makes no reference to departments and other academic units within universities, or to the issue of their capacity to sponsor events.

However, the story then immediately reports that Jenkins himself raised the question of the role of academic departments and their sponsorship of events in his examination of questions of academic freedom. The story describes him as suggesting that "a university may want to look critically at what events are being sponsored and seemingly endorsed by its academic departments" in light of the mission and character of the university. Anyone who listened to Jenkins' talk with the faculty knows that he highlighted this as a central issue for the academic community to think through. As Joan Porter pointed out in her comments at the talk, it is perhaps ironic that Jenkins would have researchers believe Jenkins was making a broad generalization about the many aspects of academic freedom enjoyed by students and scholars to think as they please, publish their research and engage in their studies. However, the editors of the American Catholic Philosophical Association make no reference to departments and other academic units of the University of Notre Dame in their statements about their freedom to sponsor events "as it sees fit." This is evident from the following statements by the editors:

"In the case of Notre Dame, the department had to commit itself to official sponsorship so that the Association's regular daily Masses could take place on campus. This commitment was required by the Association in order to make it possible for it to proceed with its sponsorship of events "as it sees fit." The University of Michigan and its department of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame sponsored an event, a Roman Catholic Mass to celebrate the vigil feast of St. Thomas Aquinas. Given that St. Thomas is the patron saint of universities and students, this was not only a liturgical event but also an academic event, including an erudite homily about the nature of Catholic intellectual life and university affairs, as well as a presentation for the University, its students, faculty, and staff. Several hundred students, faculty, staff, and community members filled the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Such an event perfectly exemplifies the Catholic refusal to segregate the worship of God from the intellectual life or to divorce faith from reason in academe, in contrast to prevailing secular norms like those at the University of Michigan and elsewhere. Or does my colleague really believe that the department of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame is free to sponsor this type of event "as it sees fit?"

This past autumn, the department of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame sponsored the annual meeting of the American Catholic Philosophical Association. At the request of the leadership of the department, the College of Arts and Letters provided several thousand dollars to underwrite the activities of the Association. In order to bring this association to Notre Dame, the department had to commit itself to official sponsorship so that the Association's regular daily Masses could take place on campus. This commitment was required by the Association in order to make it possible for it to proceed with its sponsorship of events "as it sees fit." The University of Michigan and its department of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame sponsored an event, a Roman Catholic Mass to celebrate the vigil feast of St. Thomas Aquinas. Given that St. Thomas is the patron saint of universities and students, this was not only a liturgical event but also an academic event, including an erudite homily about the nature of Catholic intellectual life and university affairs, as well as a presentation for the University, its students, faculty, and staff. Several hundred students, faculty, staff, and community members filled the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Such an event perfectly exemplifies the Catholic refusal to segregate the worship of God from the intellectual life or to divorce faith from reason in academe, in contrast to prevailing secular norms like those at the University of Michigan and elsewhere. Or does my colleague really believe that the department of philosophy at the University of Notre Dame is free to sponsor this type of event "as it sees fit?"

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SCENE & HEARD

And the award goes to...

"To the season to be Joan Rivers. Marked by a parade of Escada, Prada and Channel, countless specials on E! and, of course, the red carpet award ceremony season, 2006 is officially underway.

The Oscars, Golden Globes and even the Screen Actors Guild Awards offer us a glimpse into the glamorous lives of our favorite celebrities as they pay tribute to the previous year's most talented actors.

As the king of all award shows, the Oscars dictates to us which films we should have enjoyed. Alternatively, the Golden Globes offers us the city recreational league of film and television award shows, in that even the competitors who don't quite have what it takes to make the varsity squad get a chance to vie for shiny gold hardware. And the Screen Actors Guild forces us to look at acting as an art.

However, regardless of the differences between these programs, after awhile they all blend together, each star becoming an obfuscating, faceless mass in a Versace gown. Instead, the award for best award show has to go to the Grammys — a slightly edgier and eclectic presentation.

Sure, the Golden Globes effectively brings together filler-buffs and couch potatoes alike, but the Grammy Awards deliver real diversity, uniting NASCAR-watchers Toby Keith fans and teenaged girls holding their breath for a Maroon 5 victory under the same three-hour block of telethon.

The Grammy Awards' stage itself is in a melting pot. For years it has drawn artists to get together and collaborations that have transcended age, race and style. In fact, the vibes of euphoria on this stage are so strong that they even once moved Eminem to extend his hand to Elton John in the name of music, and, oh yeah, publicity.

The stage is a place where acts with questionable stay-power, like Linkin Park, can earn credibility by performing with the legendary Paul McCartney and industry mogul, Jay-Z. Conversely, the Grammy stage also gives stars a chance of washing up a chance to prove themselves. The book exams the route by which Doyle came to Edalji's rescue. To his credit, Barnes is something of a trickster and the book is much deeper, enriched by larger investigation — the ugly psychology of the zeitgeist.

Cutting between the developments of the enigmatic characters — Arthur and George, George on the next — at times, Barnes gener­ chy choreographs the final collision of their fates. Where Arthur was originally an alienated man in shabby-genteel Edinburgh, George was brought up in a Church of England vicarage. Arthur was a sporting ophthalmologist turned writer — an overnight success. George toiled in obscurity, a solicitor and author of a tract on railway law. The two men shared dreams of becoming stars.

The rhetorical question that runs through "Arthur and George" — how can you make sense of the beginning unless you know the ending?— sheds light on Barnes' self-reflexive treatment of destiny, or the way an author's hand can shape and reshape the past to suit his designs. Barnes thumbed acres of research to accumulate the book's raw material. The sturdy structure into which he transforms it gives the whole novel an air of inevitability — the Whig history of two desperate men.

All of the circumstances of their final meeting reveal the desperation of an age — the collective uncertainty of a nation in flux. The pas de deux between Doyle and Edalji reflects many of the inner tensions that persist today — the inadequate systems of the religious and the rational, race and identity and national­

Doyle fancied himself an ardent supporter of the Union, an officer of the Scots Greys and an expert in military matters.

But the band U2 accepts an award off-stage with Mariah Carey at the 2006 Grammy Awards. Carey has staged a recent comeback with her musical career.
a satisfying success

Barnes leaves through his latest book for a publicity still. His work is famous for blending innovation, with "Arthur and George" following the trend.

unfortunately that the snipers class is being innovative, with "Arthur and George" following the trend. Was both like and unlike his fellow

ly takes center stage in a great moment, Arthur and George, approaching a memorial, is might grumble, lacks the wry wit, the

mood probably the most useful and useless

ir its head.

r is head. The last two new combat accessories are probably the most useful and useless additions. The grappling hook makes

four-wheelers, jet ski and forklifts. Nothing is more embarrassing than having your entire squad mowed down by a vicious enemy forklift.

"Special Forces" is a solid addition to the "Battlefield" universe, but at the price of $30, more enticing purchases are easy to

is major addition that SF boasts is side array of new vehicles that can be in. Civilian cars and pickup trucks with did guns are now available as well as

sion prove lackluster

sauce or vinegar. Treat yourself to one of these rich dishes as a soothing end to a long day on campus.

Valentine’s Day comfort food

By MAUREEN MALLOY
Scene Writer

Amid New Year’s resolutions, pre-spring break diets and crowds at Rolf’s, a girl needs a little comfort food once in a while. Everyone has a favorite comfort food, whether it is their mom’s creamy macaroni and cheese or a special chicken noodle soup served when they are sick.

While comfort food loses its appeal if you eat it all the time, now and then it serves as a soothing end to a long day on campus.

Treat yourself to one of these rich dishes and remember that if you share it with a friend, the calories don’t count.

Barefoot Contessa’s Mac and Cheese

Kosher salt
vegetable oil
1 pound elbow macaroni or cavatappi
3/4 pound fresh tomatoes (4 small)
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
8 tablespoons (1 stick) unsalted butter, divided
1 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
12 ounces Gruyere, grated (4 cups)
8 ounces extra-sharp Cheddar, grated (2 cups)
1 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
32 pound fresh tomatoes (4 small)
3 1/2 cups fresh white bread crumbs (5 slices, crusts removed)

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Drizzle oil into a large pot of boiling salted water. Add the macaroni and cook according to the directions on the package, six to eight minutes. Drain well. Meanwhile, heat the milk in a small saucepan, but don’t boil. Melt six tablespoons of butter in a large (four-quart) pot and add the flour. Cook over low heat for two minutes, stirring with a whisk. While whisking, add the hot milk and cook for a minute or two, until thickened and smooth. Off the heat, add the Gruyere, Cheddar, one-tablespoon salt, pepper and nutmeg. Add the cooked macaroni and stir well. Pour into a three-quart baking dish. Slice the tomatoes and arrange on top. Melt the remaining two tablespoons of butter, combine them with the fresh bread crumbs, and sprinkle on the top. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes, until the sauce is bubbly and the macaroni is browned on the top. Recipe courtesy of Ina Garten.

Contact Maureen Malloy at mmalloy@nd.edu

Sour Cream Carrot Cake

2 cups all-purpose flour
2 cups sugar
2 tsp baking soda
2 tsp pumpkin pie spice
1 tsp salt
2 eggs

3/4 cups vegetable oil
1 cup sour cream
3 cups grated carrots
1 cup grated apple
1 cup raisins

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking soda, pumpkin pie spice and salt. Add eggs, vegetable oil and sour cream and mix well; add carrot apples and raisins. Pour into three nine-inch round greased, floured pans. Bake for approximately 40 minutes. Remove from oven and cool for five minutes. Remove from pans, place on wax paper and allow to cool completely before frosting.

Cream Cheese Frosting

1 1/2 (14 oz) containers, chicken or vegetable stock/broth (preferred brand: Kitchen Basics)
1 (28 oz) can concentrated crushed tomatoes
1 cup heavy cream
Coarse ground black pepper
20 leaves fresh basil, cut into chiffonade, for garnish
Soup toppers, for garnish, recipe follows

Combine broth and tomatoes in a medium saucepan over moderate heat. When soup bubblies, stir in heavy cream and reduce heat to low. Season with a little salt and pepper and simmer gently 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. With an immersion blender, puree soup. Serve bowls of soup with basil chiffonade and floating soup toppers.

Soup Toppers

4 slices crusty bread, 4 inches across, 1/4-inch thick-slice artisan breads at counter in market
2 cloves cracked fresh garlic, optional
Extra-virgin olive oil
Freshly ground black pepper
1/2 pound shredded cheese to complement your soup: provolone, Asiago, cheddar, Gruyere, Swiss, etc.

Toast bread slices in your toaster until golden. Rub the toasted bread rounds with crushed garlic, if using. Arrange broad on cookie or baking sheet. Drizzle each slice with extra-virgin oil and top with a grind of black pepper and a layer of shredded cheese. Place under hot broiler to melt cheese until toppers are golden brown in color.

Veil; four servings
Preparation time: five minutes
Cooking time: one minute

Recipe courtesy of Ina Garten.

Cream Cheese Frosting

Contact Maureen Malloy at mmalloy@nd.edu

Carrot cakes are delicious treats and are perfect as comfort food. The sour cream carrot cake, above, can be prepared in under an hour.

Contact Roque Strew at wstrew@nd.edu

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Carrot cakes are delicious treats and are perfect as comfort food. The sour cream carrot cake, above, can be prepared in under an hour.
Associated Press

LeBron James and the Cavaliers play title contender at home against the NBA’s best.

Monday night was the perfect example.

James dominated with 44 points and Cleveland defeated defending champion San Antonio to end the Spurs’ nine-game winning streak.

Now, if the Cavs could just be as good against the bad teams.

Cleveland is 14-2 at home against teams over .500, and 5-5 against teams under .500.

The win over the Spurs came two days after a lackluster home loss to Golden State.

“We have to grow up,” James said. “We can’t keep beating Phoenix, Detroit and San Antonio, and then lose to sub-par teams.”

James led Cleveland with his sixth game over 40 points this season. He won 19-for-33 and added five assists, three rebounds and four steals.

James scored 18 in his third quarter, tying his career high for points in a period, and had 36 through three quarters.

“He’s been himself to the rim and he’s made the win for us,” Cavaliers coach Mike Brown said.

The win ended a two-game slide for the Cavaliers and stopped another streak for the Spurs—a franchise-record nine straight road victories.

James got plenty of help from Zydrunas Ilgauskas, who had 17 points and 11 rebounds, and Drew Gooden, who finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Cleveland has reached the 30-win mark before the All-Star break for the second straight season.

Trail Blazers 91, Bobcats 83
Charlotte Bobcats coach Bernie Bickerstaff sounded embarrassed after his team’s pullout, showing just three points against the Portland Trail Blazers.

The Trail Blazers entered the contest hoping to continue their last three games by 33, 32 and 3 points, respectively, but shot 46 percent against Charlotte in a victory on Monday night.

And Randolph had 21 points and nine rebounds to help the Trail Blazers snap a four-game losing streak overall in a matchup of the last place teams in each conference.

The bottom line is whether we were prepared and ready to play when they throw the ball up,” Bickerstaff said. “It didn’t appear that way to me and I think that’s a responsibility that when people come to the arena and pay their hard-earned cash to watch you perform, you owe them a performance. And that’s effort. And damn if we gave them any breaks.

“And that is not speaking of the refereeing, there were players who did not have effort and that’s unacceptable.”

Bickerstaff sent that same message to his players in the locker room after the game. “It’s right, our effort was terrible,” said point guard Channing Frye.

James came in and did some good things. He made some nice shots and ran some pick and rolls. We’re trying to have a chance and he was a change, I think the guys responded to him returning tonight.”

Added Randolph: “We had to bounce back. Our guys came out and played hard. D-Mac came in and we just got it out and played hard.”

Randolph scored 10 points in the fourth quarter and put the game away with an impressive scoring flurry in the final five minutes. With Portland nursing a five-point lead, Randolph hit a short jumper, added a free throw and then drew a foul on a dunk with 2.21 left in the game on a pretty pass from James.

With the Wizards trailing by a seven-point lead, David West’s shot was his third straight and fell seven games below .500 for the first time since the 1996-97 season. All four of those losses have come at home.

Ricky Davis had 14 points and tied a season-high with nine assists, and Anthony Carter had 10 points and six assists for the Timberwolves, who have lost 11 of their last 14 games.

Trailing 77-70, Minnesota closed within three midway through the third quarter. But, Antonio perfume with a jumper from Joss Calderon and a runner from James to reverse the seven-point lead.

The Wolves cam e right back with six straight points, before Davis hit a 5-pointer to make it 92-88 with 2.15 left.

Garnett hit a short jump hook to make it 92-90 and the teams exchanged baskets to make it 94-92 with 30 seconds left.

James then hit another big shot, taking seven-footer Mark Blount to the basket and scoring on a driving left-handed layup to make it 96-92.

After Trenton Hassell’s dunk, James sealed the game with two free throws.

Hornets 97, Wizards 96
David West hit a 20-footer from the top of the key at the buzzer to give New Orleans a win over Washington on Monday night, for the Hornets’ fourth straight victory.

West’s shot was his third game-winner of the season. He also made last-second shots to beat Milwaukee on Jan. 30 and Houston on Dec. 28.

New Orleans has won eight of its last nine games and moved five games above .500 (28-23) for the first time this season.

All-Star guard Arenas scored 33 points to lead Washington, which had its five-game winning streak snipped.

With the Wizards trailing by a point in the final seconds, Arenas missed a 23-footer, but after a scramble for the rebound, Antawn Jamison got the basketball and made a 20-footer on the baseline for 0.5 seconds left, putting the Wizards ahead 96-95.

After a timeout, New Orleans’ Desmond Mason inbounded to West, who switched his jumper to a cap 19-point performance.

Game officials reviewed the shot to see if West released the basketball in time and ruled that he did—Arenas, named the Eastern Conference player of the week, scored 40 or more points for the seventh time this season.

He had his streak of consecutive made free throws end at 49 when he missed one with 8.36 left in the game.

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Iconic Birthdays from Around the World: Chuck Norris, NBA legend, turns 60 and celebrates his birthday every day. Chuck Norris Day celebrates the birthday of the World’s Most Famous Man. Chuck Norris is a retired American martial artist, actor, manager, film producer, and former Marine who has been inducted into the World’s Most Famous Man Hall of Fame. He is known for his iconic Birthdays from Around the World, which include June 10, July 1, and August 27. The Chuck Norris Day event is a way to honor the birthday of this iconic figure and celebrate his legacy. 

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Suspended athletes now cleared for play

Associated Press

PRAGELATO, Italy — Four suspended Olympic cross-country skiers and two Americans — Kilian Randall and Leif Zimmerman — were among the four who were reinstated Monday. The identity of the fourth skier was not immediately released.

Randall is set to ski Tuesday. Zimmerman is not racing but simply chose to be tested immediately after his five-day suspension was revoked.


Bodensteiner told The AP she was not given her new hemoglobin levels from testers, but that she could compete in team sprint event, and German coach Jochen Rehle confirmed she would ski Tuesday.

"Now my Olympics can begin," said German skier Evi Sachenbacher.

"The Americans are all groovy." — Luke Bodensteiner, U.S. Nordic director

Sachenbacher told The AP she had tests that were negative last week for elevation of hemoglobin, the part of the red blood cell that can increase endurance. The rest chose to put off their tests because they weren't scheduled to compete in the men's and women's team sprint Tuesday.

"All of those who are going to be on start lists for tomorrow had tests that were negative," International Ski Federation cross-country race director Juerg Capol told The Associated Press.

Some skiers may have wanted time to take their tests to fall closer to their events, giving them more time to bring their hemoglobin below mandated levels. For example, Sean Crooks will be tested in the coming days because he wasn't slated to race until the individual sprint Feb. 22.

Cross-country skier Evi Sachenbacher and the two Americans — Kilian Randall and Leif Zimmerman — were among the four who were reinstated Monday. The identity of the fourth skier was not immediately released.

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Around the dial

**Winter Olympics**

The 17-year-old younger sister of 2002 Olympic winner Sarah Hughes is being coached by her father John Hughes, from Great Neck, N.Y., and knew nothing about it. But Gretzky has said he didn't do it, "This distraction was a whole world wants us to lose," this distraction wasn't intentionally perpetuated.

Gretzky has said he didn't bet with the gambling ring and knew nothing about it, even though his best friend allegedly ran it and his wife is linked to it. But Gretzky has said little else, and no one even though his best friend knows about it. But Gretzky has said he didn't do it, "This distraction was a whole world wants us to lose," this distraction wasn't intentionally perpetuated.

In Brief

Hughes to replace Kwan on USA figure skating team

SYOSSET, N.Y. — Figure skater Emily Hughes practiced at a rink near her hometown Monday. How she’s getting to Italy for the Olympics was still being worked out.

The 17-year-old younger sister of 2002 Olympic winner Sarah Hughes was told Saturday night by U.S. skating officials to pack for Turin to replace Michelle Kwan, who pulled out because of an injury.

Hughes, from Great Neck, N.Y., finished third at nationals last month but was bumped after Kwan got the medical bye onto the Olympic team.

John Hughes, Emily’s father, told the Associated Press in a phone interview on Monday that he was still trying to make flight arrangements for Italy.

"It’s more difficult than you think," he said. "We’ll get there. I promise."

John Hughes said he thought Emily would arrive too late to practice in a mountain town near Turin with the other U.S. skaters, Sasha Cohen and Kimmie Meissner.

USA upsets Norway in curling opening round

FIRENZE, Italy — The U.S. men routed the defending Olympic champion 11-3 in the opening game of the curling tournament on Monday, scoring a whopping five points in the eighth end and forcing Norway to concede with two frames to go.

It was tied 3-3 in the fifth when American skip, or captain, Pete Fenson knocked out a red Norwegian stone and left three yellow ones closest to the middle. Norway made it 6-5 in the sixth and was setting up for another three points in the seventh when U.S. vice-skip Shawn Rojeski executed a perfect three-stone takeout.

With an open target, Fenson threw long with his first stone and then intentionally threw his second through the house — giving up an easy point to retain the last-throw advantage and try for multiple points in the eighth.

Johnson’s crew chief eject ed from Daytona 500

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Jimmie Johnson’s crew chief was thrown out of the Daytona 500 on Monday for illegal modifications made to Johnson’s car during pole qualifying.

Chad Knaus was accused of raising the rear window on the No. 48 Chevrolet to alter aerodynamics during Johnson’s run Sunday. The infraction was discovered in a post-qualifying inspection when the car failed to fit NASCAR templates.

NASCAR said Knaus cannot appeal the ejection.

NASCAR also said the Hendrick Motorsports team could be subject to additional penalties, which would be announced after Sunday’s Daytona 500. Team owner Rick Hendrick said lead engineer Darian Grubb will replace Knaus as crew chief for Sunday’s "Great American Race."
**TORINO GAMES — FIGURE SKATING PAIRS**

**Totmiana and Marinin win gold for Russia**

Associated Press

TURIN, Italy — Tot and Maxim's Russian rout made the judges' jobs easy.

Tatiana Totmiana and Maxim Marinin eliminated any chance for controversy and kept their nation's domination of Olympic pairs going Monday night with a helicoid free skate reminiscent of the greatest Russian couples.

Tot didn't try to hold back the tears on the medals podium, while Marinin smiled widely.

Not a bad way to finish off a career that also includes two world titles.

Their huge margin, 14.75 points over China's Zhang Dan and Zhang Hao, avoided any suspicions of judging improprieties in the first Olympic pairs event since the 2002 Salt Lake City scandal that led to the new code of points system.

Shen Xue and Zhao Hongbo of China won their second straight bronze medal.

A Russian or Soviet pair has won the gold medal every year since 1964, and this one was as good as any. Go ahead, add Totmiana and Marinin to Goreeva and Grinkov and the Protopopovs as the top of perhaps the greatest dynasty in Olympic sports.

"I can't even explain the emotions because they are very very high," she said. "It was a long, long way and it wasn't the easiest way. I'm just thrilled with everything. We've done so well, our personal best at the Olympics.

While the Russians were unbeatable, Zhang and Zhang showed incredible courage and stamina.

Skating last, Zhang Dan fell in a split while attempting an unprecedented throw quadruple salchow and doubled over in pain. They stopped skating as Zhang Hao struggled to help her off the ice.

After a few minutes talking with coaches, she asked to continue. With the fans clapping in support, the event referee allowed it.

"We didn't say any words of giving up," he said. "We said we could go on." Somehow, they nailed every element in the next four minutes.

They again doubled over when they finished and Zhang Hao cried. They had nothing to cry about when they saw the marks that kept them in second place with a personal best.

"I think it's a very valuable experience for competition," she said. "It's so important for experience for competition," she said. "It's so important for myself because I made a mistake on the first element, but I think I can do all the other elements, so why not keep going?"

But they were far behind Tot and Maxim's personal best of 204.48, and Marinin picked up his longtime partner and crashed in his arms when the final scores were posted.

No one raised a voice against the scoring this time, unlike the boos that echoed throughout the arena at Salt Lake City, touching off the biggest scandal in Winter Games history.

"We did our best," she said. "I'd been 'presured' to put Russia's Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze ahead of Canada's Jamie Sale and David Pelletier. The scandal so rocked the Olympics that the International Olympic Committee took the rare step of awarding duplicate golds to Sale and Pelletier.

The International Skating Union then decided to scrap its 6.0 scale for a more objective points-based system.

U.S. champions Rena Inoue and John Baldwin, the only couple to hit a throw triple Axel in competition — at U.S. nationals and in Saturday's short program — couldn't duplicate the magic. She fell on their signature move, and they also struggled with some spins and their side-by-side triple toe loops.

"I didn't give her quite the throw I gave her in the short program," Baldwin said. "I was more cautious." But they were fast and, unlike many of the other couples, didn't tire deep into their program. That was a problem for nearly every duo that skated earlier.

Inoue and Baldwin wound up seventh, one spot down from their short program standing but the best full-field international finish for a U.S. pair since the 2002 worlds.

With their fans chanting, waving Chinese flags and shaking colorful rattles, Shen and Zhao rapped their first competition of the season with a spectacular performance. The two-time world champions missed the entire season as they recovered from an August torn Achilles' tendon. He hurried back from the injury and showed no sign of any physical problems.

On both of their throws, a triple salchow and a triple loop, she soared much higher than the boards. Their flying triple twist was immense and they moved as one in their circular steps, making "Madame Butterfly" come to life.

Today was very difficult, especially after these two months when I got injured," he said. "We got a good result. I am very happy about that."

**Courageous Chinese pair recovers for silver**

After defeating fall, the Zhangs still medal

Associated Press

TURIN, Italy — Zhang Dan cracked to the ice with her legs split wide, a brutal fall that drove gasps from the crowd. She limped off the ice doubled over in pain, seemingly finished.

Stunningly, she recovered to win an Olympic silver medal.

Zhong Dan and her partner Zhang Hao of China displayed as much courage as skill Monday night in the Olympic pairs free skate.

Skating last, Zhang Dan spun awkwardly into the ice while attempting an unprecedented throw quadruple salchow. The skaters stopped their routine and, with Zhang Dan best over, they struggled to the sideboards to talk to their coaches.

After gathering her composure, she asked to continue, and the event referee said yes.

The crowd roared and she even managed a slight smile.

"Then the Zhangs nailed everything," she said. "We didn't say any words of giving up. We said we could go on," she said. "I think it's a very valuable experience for competition," she added. "It's so important for..."
Coach may return to courtside next season

Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Eddie Sutton may have lost his job, but he has won a 35-year career possibly ending six victories short of 800 because of a traffic accident in which he was injured and cited for driving under the influence.

Oklahoma State announced Monday that the 65-year-old Sutton would take a medical leave and that Sean Sutton, his son and designated heir apparent, will finish this season as coach. The school said no decision had been made on who will coach next season.

Sutton said in a statement released by the university that he nearly took medical leave after the accident but did not jail Sobriety test at the time because of "my deteriorating physical condition and other issues."

Sutton has weathered other tough times to become the fifth winningest men's coach in Division I history, trailing only Dean Smith (879), Adolph Rupp (876), Bob Knight (866) and Jim Phelan (830).

Sutton is in his 16th season at Oklahoma State. "I hope he's back next year. I mean this sincerely," Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson said. "I've never coached against a better coach than Eddie Sutton.

Sutton resigned in 1989 from a Kentucky program placed on four years' probation. In 2001, a plane crash killed two Oklahoma State basketball players and six team staffers.

The Cowboys have advanced to postseason play 14 times in 15 years under Sutton, including 13 NCAA tournament appearances. He took the Cowboys to the Final Four in 1995 and 2004. He also reached the Final Four with Arkansas.

After last season, there was much speculation about whether Sutton would retire. Instead of stepping aside, he stayed on and his son became his replacement in waiting, though no specific timetable was given for the change of power.

The Cowboys are 13-11 and 3-7 in the Big 12 with six regular season games left. Sutton recently criticized his team's toughness, calling it the "softest team in 16 years that I have ever coached."

With Oklahoma State scheduled to play Kansas at home Monday night, Sutton spoke to players twice Sunday, assistant coach James Dickey said during Monday night, Sutton spoke to players twice Sunday, assistant coach James Dickey said during Monday.
PHILADELPHIA — Villanova went inside in the first half and stayed outside in the second. Add some solid defense and an offensive boost from an unlikely source, and the Wildcats came up with a way to beat No. 1 Connecticut.

Allan Ray keyed the Wildcats’ 7-for-9 effort from 3-point range in the second half and fourth-ranked Villanova beat the Huskies 69-64 Monday night, its first victory over a top-ranked team in nearly 11 years.

"It was a big test for us," UConn was a great team," said Ray, who had 19 of his 25 points in the second half. "A lot of teams didn’t think we were going to win. It was just a great test for us to go out and see where we were at.

Ray had five 3-pointers in a 22-4 run that gave Villanova (29-2, 10-1 Big East) the lead for good in its ninth straight victory. The Wildcats, who forced the Huskies into 17 turnovers, also got a lift from the center in an offense that relies on four guards.

The four guards account for 79 percent of the team’s points, but center Will Sheridan, who averages 4.5 points per game, matched his career high with 13 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to help the Wildcats stand up to Connecticut’s size advantage.

="We need to get our forwards involved. We’ve been working on it," Villanova coach Jay Wright said. "Will has been defending, making plays, but not scoring as much. Tonight he took it to another level in a big game against an outstanding team, which I think tells you a lot about Will Sheridan.

Sheridan, not known for his outside shot, hit two big jumpers from the corner in the second half.

"They made 3s. Sheridan hit some tough baselines. I don’t know what adjustments you’d like us to make for Allan Ray’s game, Connecticut coach Jim Calhoun said.

Rudy Gay had 19 points and 10 rebounds for the Huskies (22-2, 9-2), who had an 11-game winning streak snapped and dropped to 7-1 against ranked teams this season.

Connecticut had a chance to tie in the final seconds but Marcus Williams lost the ball for a flagrant foul on a layup attempt and Ray made two free throws with 2.2 seconds left to make it 69-64.

"There was supposed to be a pick but Rashad Anderson said Ray pushed him and we bumped and lost the ball," Williams said.

It seemed most of the 20,859 at the Wachovia Center, the largest crowd to watch a college basketball game in Pennsylvania history, stormed the court to celebrate the Wildcats’ win over a No. 1 team since Feb. 18, 1995, when they beat Connecticut.

"I think we beat them on a good night. They’re great, they’re deep," Wright said. "They answered everything we did, we answered what they did and that’s what made a great game between two outstanding teams.

UConn opened the second half with a 13-0 run to go ahead 45-33. That’s when Ray, a 36 percent from 3-point range entering the game, started his long-range barrage. The first 12 points of the big run were on his 3-pointers and Mike Nardi, who had missed the last two games with tonsillitis, scored his only points of the game on another 3.

The Wildcats were 2-for-10 in the first half on 3s, but they made five of their first six in the second half.

Kyle Lowry, who had 16 of his 18 points in the first half on a series of inside baskets against Connecticut’s big frontline, which leads the nation in blocked shots, then scored on an offensive rebound and Villanova was ahead 50-47 with 11:35 to play.

Connecticut’s Marcus Williams, left, and Hilton Armstrong guard Villanova’s Allan Ray in the second half of the Wildcats’ 69-64 upset of the No. 1 Huskies Monday.

After Williams scored on a drive, Ray hit the last of his 3s and Sheridan connected on a jumper from the corner and it was 55-49 with 7:50 to go.

Sheridan knows he isn’t much of an outside threat.

"Everybody doubles our guards, why wouldn’t you?" he asked. "They were kind of backing off a little bit. I just felt like I had good looks tonight. The guards were seeing me."

Ray leads Wildcats in conference upset

Associated Press

Ray leads Wildcats in conference upset

Associated Press

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Women’s NCAA Basketball

Terrapins toppled by top-ranked Duke team

Blue Devils now tied for first place in ACC

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Monique Currie found very little motivation from her previous game.

Helping Duke move into a first-place tie in the Atlantic Coast Conference? That’s something different.

“I knew I needed to come out and be prepared for this game,” Currie said. “I knew I needed to be more aggressive and make better decisions and try to be under control. I was really focused on doing that.”

Whatever she did work.

Currie scored a career-high 31 points a game after finishing with only two, Missie Williams added 14 points and 10 rebounds and the top-ranked Blue Devils pulled away in No. 4 Maryland 90-80 Monday night.

Against Virginia last week, Currie was 1-for-9 from the field with five turnovers and had only two offensive rebounds in about a stellar career. She bounced back to help Duke (23-1, 10-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) move into a tie with North Carolina atop the conference.

“T he last of nine ties came at 59 when Marissa Coleman washed a jumper with 6:45 remaining, and Foley pushed the Blue Devils ahead for good with a 3-pointer.

The margin still was only two about 3 minutes later before

Foley, known more as a stationary shooter, surprisingly drove for another basket to start an 11-0 run, with Currie adding five of the points.

“I was over it when the game ended,” Currie said. “I try not to dwell on things that happen. It was a bad game. It was unacceptable to me, but I just have to keep moving.”

Wanisha Smith and Jessica Foley had 12 points each as the Blue Devils won their 14th in a row in the series and denied the Terrapins a rare Tobacco Road double. On Thursday night, they handled the Tar Heels their first loss of the season, thanks to a Duke shot at the end of regulation to force overtime.

This time, there were no such dramatics for Maryland (22-3, 9-2).

“We are going to keep competing and we keep getting that margin down,” Terrapins coach Brenda Frese said. “Duke is so talented and so deep.”

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Women's hockey ends win, tie against Illini

Water polo takes two contests in Ann Arbor; figure skating finishes second; gymnastics competes in West Lafayette

Winter Olympics: Rash of injuries mars Alpine skiing

Equipment, speeds make popular sport more dangerous

Associated Press

Linsey Kildow catches her left edge and goes down a hillside at speeds of 50 mph and is catapulted into the air before landing into an uncertain Olympic future.

Johann Grugger of Austria also did a number of runs and was slammed forward into the icy surface with a violent impact on December, dislocating his right hip. And Mario Scheiber didn't even make it down the course before he hit a knee ligament when he made a routine turn during preseason training, ending his season before it began.

Faster equipment, man-made snow and powerful bodies make for a relentless evolution of Alpine racing, and skiers may simply be unable to handle it.

"The equipment has the quality of skiing, but it probably does put people at more risk," U.S. Ski team manager Dr. Richard Steadman told The Associated Press.

Skin design has changed radically in recent years. In the 1970s, leg bones were the ones most often broken; today's knees and ankles.

Races are higher and more flexible, putting pressure on the lower legs and knees. There's also more pronation and more pronounced hourglass shapes, allowing tighter turns. Skiers also feel the shock of impact in most violent situations, which can help and increase the risk of injury with falls.

Weather, specifically less snowfall in Europe in recent years, may be a factor, too.

"This means there is only a small covering of snow on the course," said Salomon ski race director Philippe Auer. "The terrain is more extreme, and that makes it more dangerous. The snow cannons make this better, but if you make good, then it's very aggressive."

Again, the risk is increased by "grip" like the difference between grass and artificial turf.

Man-made snow is used for carving edges. One false move and a racer's ski swoops out of control, all the while teetering on its edge and more pronounced hourglass shapes, allowing tighter turns. Skiers are also feeling the shock of impact in most violent situations, which can help and increase the risk of injury with falls.

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Western Lacrosse League in scoring the past two years and was nominated for the Tewaaraton Trophy as the nation's top player in 2004. But rewetting the Irish offensive record books is not why he plays the game.

"Honors and stuff are always nice, but I'd rather be in the Final Four," said Walsh, who believes this year's team is capable of reaching that destination. "Everyone on our team has never been to the tournament. We have that motivation. We have a lot to prove."

Driscoll, a fellow 2003 honorable mention All-American and a defender, shares Walsh's expectations for the season. As one of the team's two captains, he sees the same commitment from every one of his seniors.

"Captain is only a title," he said. "Our entire senior class is acting like leaders. Our team motto is 'hard work.'

The freshmen, on the other hand, are the prototypical defenders, who play at a "frantic pace" and are able to "hurt the team in the paint," Corrigan said.

"There's no quit in D.J. at any position," Walsh added. "He's going to give it everything he has every day. He's got great size and he's got great instincts.

Driscoll has definitely earned the respect of one of the nation's top attack men in Walsh, who during his 37 years of coaching experience in practice with the 2000 National Defensive Player of the Year has seen his best defense develop into the on-field force he has become. "(D.J.) is obviously one of the best defenders in the country," Walsh said, "and he has become a leader simply because he should have. He's been All-American his first two years."

"He's a very capable defending player," Walsh said. "He just understands how the game is played and has developed into that."

Both the players and coach recognize that individual accolades will increase when Walsh, and Driscoll and company take the team to greater success.

Pat Corrigan
Irish head coach

"It was laid back and we caught up with some of our teammates together," he said. "It created a lot of team chemistry that we definitely have to bring to the field."

For Corrigan, it is a test for that chemistry to carry the Irish into the throng, where they have been ever since the Irish's 21-2 win over Rutgers and two days after a loss to Villanova, the Irish were in the top five in the nation.

"We're going to give it everything he has every day. He's got great size and he's got great instincts. "

McAlarney's improvement has earned him an interesting role on this year's team. He said he has focused specifically on improving his assist to turnover ratio -- arguably the most statistically significant offensive point guard.

"D.J. is obviously one of the best defenders in the country," Walsh said. "That's why he's here to win a national championship." And Driscoll and Walsh just hope they get to play the Blue Devils and anyone else standing in their path towards the Final Four.

Contact Tim Dooherty at
dooherty@nd.edu

Pat Corrigan
Irish head coach

And McAlarney's statistics, along with his attitude and command of the court, caught the eye of Notre Dame coach Mike Brey, who has started his freshman five games already this season. "(D.J.) is obviously one of the best defenders in the country," Walsh said. "And D.J. has continued from page 24

Walsh, who has started his freshman live at the college level must use it to continue to grow.

"I don't think anyone thought we would be running the team, running the offense. He knew the way he can contribute right now in being one of the smallest of that national championship.

"I'm playing with the other freshmen in a lot of games, because we know we have three more years of this and we're going to be making a lot more together.

"McAlarney has made strides in protecting the basketball. He works on staying in control and managing the floor rather than being the primary option on the court. This year, he has focused specifically on improving his assist to turnover ratio -- arguably the most statistically significant offensive point guard.

"I don't think anyone thought we would be running the team, running the offense. He knew the way he can contribute right now in being one of the smallest of the group."

"When the other freshmen came in, he said, "I have to handle the ball more if I want to be a leader," because I've gotten the most minutes of everybody and I have the most experience," McAlarney said. "Playing with the other freshmen is a lot of fun, because we know we have three more years of this and we're going to be playing a lot more together."

Walsh, who has started his freshman five games already this season. "(D.J.) is obviously one of the best defenders in the country," Walsh said. "And D.J. has

"It is a big change in the guard," McAlarney said. "I'm more of a player guard playing with the freshmen and then coming out of the game. I'm playing with the other freshmen and then they're so easy to play with. I assume a secondary role as far as handling the ball, but I can still make plays when I'm on the court." McAlarney's role will change with time. When Quinn graduates, McAlarney knows he must step into a leadership role and take on the primary offensive role. But for now, the Notre Dame guard is working on the little things and leaving his mark in more ways than just by scoring points.

Contact Bobby Griffin at
egriff@nd.edu

Drew Driscoll
Irish defender

"We understand each other," he said. "We know how much talent we have. We see it in practice every day. If we play well together, we can go far."

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Thomas Jefferson vs. The Observer

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The team has been back-to-back champions. "We don't think about anything else," he said. "We're always looking to the next race." The four field players that move fluidly between the box and midfield will also be key. "If we can get the ball to the people who can make plays, that's what we want," Waldrum said. "We want to be able to get the ball to them as quickly as possible." The Irish are excited about the season. "We're ready to go," said junior swimmer Tim Thorlakson, who will be competing in the 100 and 200 butterfly events. "With all the experience added, junior swimmer Tim Thorlakson, who was a key member of the team last year, is excited for the season. "I'm excited to see how the younger guys will do," he said. "I think they'll do great." Notre Dame will be under some added pressure in this season's meet with the addition of Louisville and Cincinnati to the Big East, making the field of 11 teams the largest in conference history. Big East officials also decided to allow an unlimited number of qualifiers for each school this year, which could be an advantage for a deep Irish team. Notre Dame is sending 35 swimmers and divers to the meet, more than the maximum 23-man roster in last year's victory. "It's a decision to our advantage, and we're excited about it," said Waldrum. "The team is ready to go." With all the experience the team has, the younger guys will most likely thrive under the added pressure. - Tim Keegan, Irish junior "The team is ready to go. With all the experience the team has, the younger guys will most likely thrive under the added pressure." - Tim Keegan, Irish junior

Women continued from page 24

No. 13 Rutgers. The Scarlet Knights are hot after defeating No. 12 Penn State in their last meet of the season, and the Irish took note of their conference foes' recent feat. "When we saw that Rutgers beat Penn State, we thought we might be trying to send a message," Irish junior Julia Quinn said after the Shamrock Invitational Jan. 28. "Rutgers will probably be our toughest competition as they have some really impressive athletes." Although Notre Dame will be competitive in most events, there are a few areas the team is heavily favored to win. Notre Dame's Jessica Stephens and Julia Quinn hold the top two Big East times this year in the 100-meter breaststroke. Stephens' mark of 1:03.57 is fast enough for an NCAA 'B' cut time, and Quinn is close behind with a time of 1:03.68. The 400 individual medley (IM) is another strong event for the team as Carroll holds a time of 4:15.34—the best time in every race. The Irish are enjoying the confidence that comes with back-to-back championships and arguably the best talent in the program's history. "We think we can get even more out of this team," Waldrum said. "We're excited about the season." The Irish are confident about the 400-meter medley relay. Notre Dame has won this race seven times at the Big East Championships, and three of the four swimmers from last season's first-place team — Caroline Johnson, Caroline Welsh and Pacala — are back to defend their title. With two and a half weeks between their last meet and the Big East Championships, the Irish put the time to good use as Coach Carrie Nixon allowed her swimmers to taper, or rest, for the first time all season. That extra rest will be needed as the Irish want to win the Big East and the final conference championship. "We're excited about the season," said Waldrum. "We're looking forward to the meet and the race against Rutgers."

Recruits continued from page 24

throughout the recruiting process. "My family [members] are huge Notre Dame fans," Weissenhoffer said. "I'm really excited to play with the girls, see the campus and all the good stuff that goes along with being at Notre Dame." She will step in and take the roster spot of Katie Thorlakson, who finished second this year in ballistics for the Missouri Athletic Club Hermann Trophy, given annually to the nation's best player. "Everybody's going to be really excited when they watch her," Waldrum said. "Offensively and defensively, she can do a lot of things for your team. I think she's going to have some similarities to Katie Thorlakson. She's built similar to Katie, and she's got that toughness to her that Katie's got." Weissenhoffer said one of the best parts about filling the role Thorlakson had last year is the ability to team up with standout forward Kerri Hanks. "I'm really excited to play with her," Weissenhoffer said of Hanks. "Hopefully, we'll get the chemistry going and we'll get I think that I want to play with each other will be awesome. It will be really fun to learn from her and to feed off each other."

While Weissenhoffer likely will earn headlines as a goal­score winner, she's ready to look outside the box. "I think the best thing about Haley is that she's a good passer," Waldrum said. "She's dangerous anywhere on the field, even on the outside. She's not afraid to take risks, and she's going to be able to make plays for us." The other possible defense­man in the Irish class is Ford of Midland, Texas. "Ford...probably few land a little bit under the radar screen to coaches across the country," Waldrum said. "That one's going to be one that's going to be nationally as known as Courtney Rosen or Weissenhoffer." Waldrum said. "But we've liked her for a few years. As I watched her this past year, she has just continu­ally gotten better and better." Waldrum said Ford is versa­tile enough to play midfield too. "The good thing about Haley is she can play in the midfield if we need her to," he said. "I think that she's always good for the young ones because you can always find them places to play to get experience when they're developing." Lysander, a goalie product of San Diego, Calif., rounds out the Irish class. She will be one of three goalies on the team, along with sophomore Lauren Karas and junior Nikki Westfall. Waldrum said Lysander has the talent necessary to succeed at Notre Dame but may need some fine-tuning. "With Kelsey, she may need a little bit of time to gain her experience at the college level," he said. "She's got enough tools to compete with Lauren [Karas], but I think right now it's Lauren's turn until somebody beats her out." Outside of Lysander, Waldrum expected each recruit to see significant playing time next fall. "The four field players that we signed are all going to come in and impact us — I think they're going to play," he said. "How much, I think is kind of up to them and a little bit, too, up to the returning players — how well they'll fight them off. But they're all good enough as freshmen to step in and play right away." Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy@nd.edu.

Men continued from page 24

freestyle, in which he holds the school record time of 1:19.30. The team feels last year's experience will help its members deal with the added pressure of the championship style races. "The team is ready to go," said junior swimmer Tim Thorlakson, who will compete in the 100 and 200 butterfly events. "With all the experience the team has, the younger guys will most likely thrive under the added pressure." Notre Dame will be under some added pressure in this season's meet with the addition of Louisville and Cincinnati to the Big East, making the field of 11 teams the largest in conference history. Big East officials also decided to allow an unlimited number of qualifiers for each school this year, which could be an advantage for a deep Irish team. Notre Dame is sending 35 swimmers and divers to the meet, more than the maximum 23-man roster in last year's victory. "It's a decision to our advantage, and we're excited about it," said Waldrum. "The team is ready to go." With all the experience the team has, the younger guys will most likely thrive under the added pressure. - Tim Keegan, Irish junior "The team is ready to go. With all the experience the team has, the younger guys will most likely thrive under the added pressure." - Tim Keegan, Irish junior

The Observer / SPORTS Tuesday, February 14, 2006
CROSSWORLD

THANKS FOR BEING SUCH A GOOD COLLABORATOR. I'VE BEEN A LITTLE BUSY LATELY.

CROISSANT WORLD

GEE WHY DAD, I AM SO EXCITED TO TELL YOU THE NEWS. IT'S GOING TO BE GREAT.

ALICE WHITE AND ERIK POWERS

THANKS FOR BEING SUCH A GOOD COLLABORATOR. I'VE BEEN A LITTLE BUSY LATELY.

JOKIC

HELLO? 33? I THINK THE HEAD OF THE THOMPSON MUSEUM IS LIKELY TO DINE OUT TONIGHT.

THAT'S MY PLACE IN THE WORLD.

THANKS FOR BEING SUCH A GOOD COLLABORATOR. I'VE BEEN A LITTLE BUSY LATELY.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITEES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kelly Hu, 68; Peter Gabriel, 56; Stockard Channing, 72; George Segal, 72.

Happy Birthday! Taking a chance or trying to get away with something will only end up in disaster. If you are straightforward, you will get so much further ahead. Passive action is what will be required this year in no small way of any negativity that you've been harboring. Your numbers are 8, 13, 16, 23, 29, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can develop good relationships with people who can offer you stability in your work and your position in society. Travel, entertainment and development as an investor will be more rewarding than expected.***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Emotional upsets will stand you in good stead if you give it in to negativity. Expect what you're working out for you and talk to the people who can help you. Keep your feelings in perspective.***

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Everything you are trying to get on the ground will be up in the air today. Don't expect family or close friends to help you out. Stick to the job you know that you can do alone.***

CANCER (June 22-July 22): You'll find yourself in a prime position when it comes to work, projects or money matters. The more you do to engage in something a little different, the more excited you will become about the possibilities that are ahead.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): It's OK to be serious about money and making more of it. You don't always have to be the one who entertains everyone. Focus on how you can get ahead professionally, financially and personally.***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Love and romance are looking very positive. A creative soul will catch your attention and lead you in an unusual direction. A partnership may appear to be shaky but may talk matters through. You will realize you are under a mysterious influence.***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get involved in an activity that you haven't tried before. You will enjoy the people you meet and the benefits of learning something new. Love may not turn out the way you expect. A career change will challenge you in a good way.***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put your time and effort into a creative dream. A new romantic opportunity may catch you. Consider changing your personal life in order to pursue a new interest. A learning experience is in the stars.***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): People who can offer you help and support, and the cold hard facts will come into your life if you get involved in an activity or event that interests you. Travel — whether a short or long distance — will be rewarding.***

CAPRICON (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Greater involvement with social activities or family gatherings will bring you good luck. A new love interest could bring you into the fold and your home life will change. Someone you meet through work will show interest in you. Be careful not to believe everything you hear.***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Confusion and second-guessing will leave you in an awkward position. A problem while traveling or dealing with someone who doesn't agree with you will escalate.***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look to the bright side of life and things will start to turn in your favor. You will have dealings with a person who is probably a little different in his or her way of doing things. Knowing what you must rather than describing what you mean will bring better results.***

Birthday Baby: You are quick to change your mind and always looking for new interests. You are a dreamer and an artist and you always put a lot of energy into whatever you pursue. You have drive, will power and backbone.

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THE OBSERVER

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Double defense

ND men put title on line at tournament in East Meadow, N.Y.

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

The Irish already have had a successful season, but they travel to East Meadow, N.Y. Wednesday to defend their Big East Championship crown in the most important meet of the year.

"This year we are the defending champions," Irish sophomore swimmer Jay Vandenberg said. "That makes us stronger than last year. Once you have it, you don't want to give it up." Vandenberg is out to defend his title in the 1,650-yard.

Walsh and Driscoll have his title in the 1,650-yard. You don't want to give it up." Vandenberg is out to defend his title in the 1,650-yard.