Parking tickets surprise students

By BECKY HOGAN News Writer

Students who drive on campus and find themselves tempted by the convenience of parking illegally during quick trips to Bolles or the Bookstore are being slapped with parking fines steeper than they imagined.

Senior Anna O'Connor said she received her first warning for parking near the LaFortune Student Center without a parking pass and consequently was not required to pay the $15 fine.

But when she received her second violation for the use of an unauthorized parking pass, she was fined $100 from the Office of Residence Life and Housing and placed on parking probation, which prohibits her from parking on campus until she graduates.

Limited campus parking means many students inevitably rack up parking tickets and violations, and Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP) Associate Director Phil Johnson said NDSP works to enforce fair parking policies.

Parking violations accounted for 12.2 percent of disciplinary incidents handled by the Office of Residence Life and Housing during the 2004-05 academic year — second only to intoxication in the overall number of reported disciplinary incidents, according to a Nov. 17, 2005 Observer article.

To introduce students to the "Monologues" draw crowds, praise

Original stories by SMC community lauded

By KELLY MERHAN Assistant News Editor

The second annual SMC Monologues related the emotionally stirring personal narratives of Saint Mary's students, faculty, staff and Sisters of The Holy Cross to large crowds in two weekend performances, raising more than $750 for S.O.S., the local organization formed to fight homelessness in South Bend.

"I couldn’t have the SMC Monologues anywhere else," senior actress Stephanie Snyder said. "The culture, the context — it is our space, our words, our stories, our pain, our joy, our lives. These monologues are by our community, for our community."

Campus Alliance for Rape Prevention faculty advisor and psychology professor Catherine Pittman said the personal touch of the SMC Monologues fosters a better response than "The Vagina Monologues."

"We could do 'The Vagina Monologues,' but we choose to do this because it’s the best way we can think of for our students to express themselves," Pittman said.

 see SMC/3

Monarchs, parents enjoy successful weekend together

By MAUREEN MULLEN News Writer

From late nights at The Linebacker to residence hall lounges, more than 1,200 families of Notre Dame juniors spent this weekend at Notre Dame to take part in the events and celebrations of the 54th annual Junior Parents Weekend (JPW).

The tradition of JPW began in 1952 as a way to expose a student's family to life at the University, and this weekend was packed with activities that highlighted spiritual, academic and social aspects of student life on campus.

"I thought it was a very well-run event, especially considering the number of people," junior Sarah Roen said.

"It was really nice for my parents to be able to meet and visit with my friends. The events allowed us to relax and get to know one another — something you don’t always get to do during the hectic atmosphere of football weekends."

The weekend began with an Opening Gala on Friday evening in the Joyce Center, where families socialized and enjoyed hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar.

Junior Roseanne DePauli said she enjoyed the weekend’s events, despite a snowstorm that nearly stranded her mother in her hometown of Sheboygan, Wis.

"It was a very well-organized event that kept us entertained all weekend," she said. "We had a great weekend and my parents made it back home safely."
INSIDE COLUMN

Inside religion

The other day, two of my buddies were going back-and-forth about politics without really addressing the issue the other brought up.

"How can you support abortion and euthanasia?" was the obvious answer Ken Fowler gave to "How can you support drastic cuts to Medicare and education?"

"Debatable babble, and babble was winning. Neither of the two made an Leah of inroads with the other, but they were in luck. A third friend walked into the room, and they redirected the propaganda persuasion toward him.

"Dave, what do you think about this stuff? I mean, it's abortion!"

Dave wasn't a flamer or a nuc-cyn, but he had his opinions. "Look, it ain't right."

"But Dave, it's worse than that — what they're doing is going to make us technologically inferior when we need to compete with the integrating EU."

Dave wasn't all that impressed with the further explanation.

"Yeh, but even if it didn't, it's wrong."

"Well that's the Besides the point, because that's what you're leading us to.

The other friend now thought he had his chance.

"But in what you mean, Dave. Things are wrong because they're wrong — case closed."

Dave agreed, and then the battle ensued."

"No matter what the effect on GDP per capian or tax rates, I'm saying we shouldn't do some things because they're just wrong."

Dave nodded his head once again but would soon hear the other side.

"Medicare and education cuts aren't right, either, Dave. Don't fall into that trap. They hurt our country and they hurt our economy."

Dave agreed on the premise, but not its reasoning.

"You guys, what both of you are saying resonates with me."

A double response followed: "Then why not?"

"Neither one of you."

Another double response: "But if you had to vote for one of us?"

Dave was torn. Half of him was on each side, so he had to figure out another way to decide.

"I'm split on the issues but not on how you get there. If I've got to choose between a pragmatist and an idealist on moral issues, I'll side with the idealist. At least he's got a solid foundation for moral choices."

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please email us at info@nd.edu so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE OLYMPIC SPORT? WHY?

Brittany Bolden
freshman
Ponghorn

"Bobbling, because it was on "Cool Runnings" and I'm Jamaican."

Patrick Keating
freshman
Carroll

"Hockey, Everything's coming up Canada."

Eric Shaw
freshman
Carroll

"Alpine skiing because Bode Miller's the man."

Fernanda Quijano
sophomore
Quinn

"Hockey, because it's the one thing that looks most like soccer."

Jackie Anthony
freshman
McGlinn

"Men's figure skating because the outfits are sweet."

Eric Christianson
sophomore
O'Neill

"Curling, because it makes my mind numb."

Dancers Kristin Hingstrum, Meghan Lambourne and Jennifer Lavinge dance in bags as part of the "Spare Hair" routine during Sunday's Saint Mary's Dance Ensemble Workshop in O'Loughlin Auditorium.

OFFBEAT

Search for missing show dog called off

NEW YORK — The search for a missing show dog that got loose at Kennedy Airport was called off Thursday, but officers in the area will continue to "keep their eyes open" for the whereabouts of the dog, officials said.

In the past 24 hours, the searchers covered the entire airport property of nearly 5,000 acres but did not spot the dog, said Alan Hecks, a spokesman for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

The 3-year-old whippet, formally known as Champion Bohem C'est La Vie and answering to Vivi, had won an award of merit in the annual Westminster Kennel Club show. The dog apparently escaped her travel cage on the larmac Wednesday as she was about to be loaded onto a plane for the flight home to California.

Car buried in 1957 set to be unearthed in 2007

TULSA, Okla. — A Plymout Belvedere that was buried in a concrete vault nearly 50 years ago as part of the state's golden anniversary celebration will be unearthed in 2007 as part of the Oklahoma centennial festivities. The 1957 Belvedere is underground next to the Tulsa County Courthouse. Also buried with it were five gallons of gas and a case of beer.

Old news reports indicate the gas was buried in case internal combustion engines became obsolete by 2007 and no fuel was available. Other buried items include the contents of a woman's purse: 14 hobby pins, a lipstick stick, a pack of gum, tissues, a pack of cigarettes and matches and $2.43.

Wasted and Wounded II, a tutorial on Internet predators, will take place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in O'Loughlin Auditorium.

The "Around the World Film Festival" will take place at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Vander Venet Theater in the Saint Mary's Student Center.

Bishop Thomas J. Gumbleton of Detroit will speak at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Carey Auditorium in the Hesburgh Library as part of the Catholic Think Tank lecture series.

Gabriel Meyer, author of "War and Faith in Sudan," will give a lecture at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in room 131 of DeBartolo Hall.

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

IN BRIEF

The opening reception of Haiti Awareness Week will take place at 6 p.m. today in the Great Hall of O'Shaughnassy Hall.

The Faculty Forum "Engaging The Merchant of Venice: Academic Freedom and Anti-Semitism" will take place Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the Philbin Theater in the DeBartolo Center for Performing Arts.

Debbie Johnson Schiberti, Chair of the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees, will speak as part of the "After Graduation: Your Saint Mary's Degree" at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the west wing of The Noble Family Dining Hall.

Wasted and Wounded II, a tutorial on Internet predators, will take place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in O'Loughlin Auditorium.

"Carrying the Bag" with a New York City perruchet, a hermit crab, will be(unsigned)

In the annual Westm inster Festival "Vennet Theater" and Anti-Semitism" Tuesday will speak as part of the "Around the World Film Festival" will take place at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in Vander Venet Theater in the Saint Mary's Student Center.

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LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY

TONIGHT

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

HIGH

LOW

HIGH

LOW

HIGH

LOW

HIGH

LOW

HIGH

LOW

HIGH

LOW

Atlanta

48 / 43
Denver

39 / 27
Phoenix

67 / 47
San Diego

56 / 30
Los Angeles

51 / 37
Philadelphia

39 / 28
Tampa

36 / 19
New York

38 / 27
St. Louis

45 / 32
Tulsa

36 / 27
Chicago

42 / 35
Seattle

42 / 31
Minneapolis

37 / 30
Los Angeles

40 / 33
New York

36 / 26
San Diego

39 / 28
Denver

36 / 25
St. Louis

34 / 25
Chicago

38 / 30
Minneapolis

36 / 30
San Antonio

36 / 31
""
**Concert**

continued from page 1

Ashley Cesareo can hardly wait.

"I was pretty stoked (when I found out) he was coming... I was jumping up and down screaming a little. The ticket price is a little high, but that's what I would pay outside of campus so it's not that big of a deal."

Tickets for the concert can be purchased online, by telephone or in person at Gate 10 of the Dome.

Freshman Amanda Dusek is also planning to attend.

"I like him a lot. I was really surprised," she said. "I think it's a little expensive, but John Mellencamp is pretty great so I think it's worth it."

Nicholas Hamilton-Cotter

"If it was a little cheaper I would have gone for the experience of seeing [Mellencamp] live, but it's a little out of my price range right now."

He said he would have considered going if the tickets had been sold "in the $20 range."

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

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**SMC Monologues**

continued from page 1

thing we could do for the College community," Pittman said.

The sometimes-controversial play "The Vagina Monologues" has not been performed on the campus since 2004, but has not been banned by the administration, Pittman said.

Pittman said many members of the College faculty and administration — including College President Carol Mooney and Vice President of Student Affairs Linda Timm — attended the weekend performances.

"I think it is a good educational experience for them, and it is good for them to hear [the Monologues]," she said.

Both Mooney and Timm were audience members at the 2 p.m. SMC Monologues performance on Sunday.

"This is an especially powerful performance because it is the stories of our women," Mooney told The Observer following the Monologues.

She declined further comment Sunday.

Timm said the Monologues' internal focus on the College community reflects the "courage and great deal of faith" of Saint Mary's students, faculty and Sisters.

"I think it is important that we have a variety of programs that present information on topics of sexuality, personal safety, health and wellness for women, violence against women, et cetera," Timm said. "No one approach speaks to everyone. Not everyone will feel comfortable at the SMC Monologues, and not everyone will attend other programs that we present on campus."

SMC Monologues producer Ginger Francis said she was very pleased with the event's outcome.

"When audience members walk out after the SMC Monologues, [they] will be changed forever," she said.

"These monologues don't represent everyone, but many people... I hope they will see diversity and break the image of there being a sole stereotypical Saint Mary's woman... and they will suddenly realize they are not alone."

Junior Becky Saez said the SMC Monologues presented an effective message to the College community.

"I thought that it was a wonderful experience," she said. "It was interesting to see how issues at Saint Mary's are viewed in society."

Junior Grace Guerbert said the SMC Monologues were "empowering, memorable and moving."

"They bring a stronger sense of sisterhood and support to Saint Mary's," she said.

Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership research analyst and monologues actress Joy Evans said the SMC Monologues serve as a "powerful process for personal, as well as community healing and growth."

"I hope people walk away realizing how amazing and complex SMC women... are and how important it is for every man and woman to make a personal commitment to end sexual violence in their communities," Evans said.

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeehan01@smu.edu
University's parking policies, first-time violators receive a warning intended to inform them of campus rules to avoid future illegal parking maneuvers, Johnson said. Students who receive a warning are not fined. "We understand the complexity of campus parking regulations," he said. "As a result, NDSP offers the warning ticket in an effort to get people to comply with the rules." The complexity of these rules is a source of frustration for many students like senior Anthony Pescé, who received a ticket for parking illegally near the Joyce Center without a decal. "How [does NDSP] know you are in the wrong lot if you don't have a decal?" he said.

O'Connor said she understood the reasoning behind the rules but not necessarily the enforcement. "I think [the rules] are fair (considering) it is a pedestrian campus, but I think the parking guard can be a little psychotic when enforcing the rules," she said.

In most cases, the Office of Residence Life and Housing becomes involved in parking issues after a student has habitually violated parking rules. NDSP parking fines vary from five dollars to $50 depending on the violation, but ResLife fines may exceed NDSP's $50 maximum.

The most common parking violations include parking in reserved spaces, parking in non-designated spaces and parking on campus without a decal, Johnson said. If students pay a parking ticket within 10 days, they receive a 20 percent discount on the fine. In the event a student neglects to pay his or her ticket, the fines are transferred to his or her student account. Johnson said despite limited resources, NDSP attempts to monitor all parking zones, paying particular attention to handicapped parking, reserved parking and fire lanes.

"We tow cars after the fourth violation," Johnson said. The towing is meant to deter students from continuously paying fines and to open up parking spaces for authorized vehicles, Johnson said. Students who have cars registered with the parking office receive a letter after their fourth violation to inform them their car will be towed on the next offense.

Johnson said cars are towed immediately when parked in fire lanes or blocking traffic. "For some, having to pay a parking fine if cited for parking in the wrong place isn't enough incentive to make good parking decisions," he said.

In the event a student feels he or she does not deserve a parking fine, the student can appeal the ticket twice. All appeals and fines for parking citations are addressed at the parking office in Hammes Mowbray Hall by the parking appeals committee, which consists of students, faculty and staff. NDSP is not involved in the appeals process, but does communicate the decision of the committee back to the student.

NDSP also receives feedback from the ad hoc parking committee, made up of graduate and undergraduate students, to determine if any potential rule changes should take place regarding campus-parking regulations. "Parking rules and fines are established to maintain order and safety on campus," Johnson said. "We hope that people will make good decisions when parking and driving."
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Miners trapped by gas explosion

PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mexico — A gas explosion Sunday at a coal mine in northern Mexico trapped 66 miners below ground and left 12 hospitalized with burns and broken bones, officials said.

The trapped miners had a limited supply of oxygen and their lives were in extreme danger, said Ruben Escudero Chavez, director of the Grupos Industrial Minero Mexico, a private company which owns the pit.

The death toll before dawn at the mine near the town of Sahinias, 85 miles southwest of Eagle Pass on the Mexico-U.S. border, Escudero said.

The mine is about 958 feet below ground, he said.

It was not immediately clear whether the mine had air tight chambers, such as those that saved 72 potash miners trapped last month after fire broke out in a Canadian mine.

Historian may face 10-year sentence

VIENNA, Austria — A right-wing British historian was charged today on charges of denying the Holocaust occurred, a crime punishable by up to 10 years' imprisonment in this country.

The arrest, Irving, 67, has been in custody since his arrest in November on charges stemming from two speeches he gave in Austria in 1989 in which he was accused of denying the Nazi's extermination of millions of Jews. An eight-member jury and a panel of three judges will hear the proceedings, which officials said could take a year or two to complete.

Within two weeks of his arrest, Irving asserted through his lawyer that he knew acknowledges the existence of Nazi-era gas chambers.

**NATIONAL NEWS**

Military helicopter crash kills 10

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A military helicopter crashed Saturday in the eastern Alaska wilderness, officials said.

The two CH-53D helicopters, carrying a dozen crew and troops from a U.S. counterterrorism force, went down during a training flight Friday in the remote Chugach Mountains, the northern coastal town of Iliamna in Iliamna, Alaska.

Two crew members who were rescued were taken to a nearby hospital in Anchorage.

Workers in Navapur, a major poultry farming region in western Maharashtra state, dumped bird carcasses and gloves, goggles and blue gowns used by health teams into deep pits at poultry farms.

Bird flu has devastated poultry stocks and killed at least 91 people, mostly in Asia, since 2003, according to the World Health Organization. Most human cases of the disease have been linked to contact with infected birds.

Scientists fear that the virus could mutate into a form that is easily transmitted among humans, sparking a pandemic.

Since early Sunday, more than 200,000 chickens had been killed in Navapur of about 500,000 expected to be slaughtered within a 1.5-mile radius, said Anees Ahmed, the Maharashtra state minister for animal husbandry.

Poultry farms were closed to everyone but health officials and workers in protective gear. Chicken shops were shuttered.

The government has banned the sale or transport of chickens from the area, and checkpoints have been set up to inspect trucks.

India fears outbreak of bird flu

Poultry killed by thousands as officials work to prevent further spread of disease

Associated Press

NAWAPUR — Health officials and farm workers in protective clothing began slaughtering hundreds of thousands of chickens in western India on Sunday, hoping to prevent the spread of the deadly H5N1 bird flu virus.

Europe stepped up its battle against bird flu as the European Union's top poultry producer, France, grabbed its first reported case of the lethal virus.

European poultry farmers said consumption has fallen and caused hundreds of millions of dollars in losses.

Germany ordered some birds killed on the Baltic Sea island of Ruegen. The number of deadly flu cases in Italy rose to 27.

Indian officials reported a 77-year-old poultry farmer in the state of Uttar Pradesh had died of bird flu-like symptoms, though tests had yet to determine what killed him.

"At this juncture we can only suspect that the cause of his death could be bird flu," Sural district officer Vatsala Vasudev told the Press Trust of India news agency.

"We are trying to prevent any spread of influenza from this area." He said the government would step up surveillance along its border with India.

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India exports some $84.4 million worth of poultry products a year to Europe, Japan and the Middle East, and has seen a rise in overseas orders in the past year as countries such as Indonesia struggled to control the bird flu outbreaks.

"Now countries will shut us out," said Aji Ranade of the Bombay Veterinary College.

India has begun slaughtering tens of thousands of chickens in western India on Sunday after the country reported its first outbreak.

**NEW CHOCOLATE OFFERS HEALTH BENEFITS**

ALBANY, Ga. — It's every chocolate lover's wish that their favorite indulgence could somehow be healthy for them. Now, chocolate makers claim they have granted that wish.

Mars Inc., maker of Milky Way, Snickers and Tootsie Rolls and M&Ms' candies, next month plans to launch nationwide a new line of products made with a dark chocolate the company claims has health benefits.

Called CocoaVia, the products are made with a kind of dark chocolate high in flavanols, an antioxidant found in cocoa beans that is thought to have a blood-thinning effect similar to aspirin and may even lower blood pressure.

**LOCAL NEWS**

Fireworks may become legalized

DELTA, N.C. — A bill to legalize the use of fireworks in Delaware would little to improve enforcement of the law and raise questions about who is liable for injuries or property damage caused by pyrotechnics.

A bill being considered in the Senate would allow people to set off fireworks on their property, or on someone else's property if they had permission.

Fireworks would not be sold to people under 18 years old.

**PAKISTAN**

Protests against cartoons escalate

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Pakistani security forces arrested hundreds of Islamic hard-liners, virtually sealed off the streets of the northern city of Islamabad and complained about negative Western perceptions of Islam.

Troops patrolled the deserted streets of the northern Nigerian town of Maiduguri, where thousands of Muslims attacked Christians and burned churches Saturday, killing at least 15 people during a protest over the cartoons. Most of the victims were beaten to death by rioters.

In Saudi Arabia, newspapers ran full-page apologies by Jyllands-Posten, the Danish newspaper that first ran the caricatures in September. The newspaper's Web site said businesses placed the ad on their own initiative, using an apology issued by the newspaper late last month. It did not identify the companies or say if they were Danish.
Yale 'Sex Week' sparks debate

Yale's event sparks controversy over sex education and sexual awareness.

Associated Press

MUNCIE, Ind. — The hottest new export out of China these days? Its language.

More U.S. colleges offer Chinese

Enjoy a double order of chicken, steak or combo fajitas (enough for two) for just $12!* Regular Price $20.99.

Live a little on Mondays!

E-textbooks do not fulfill expectations

Other researchers, however, say the publishers are the ones that are conservative, doing more than adding some hyperlinks and search capabilities. Tools are available for note-taking and highlighting, but Thompson said those are no substitute for marking up a page.

For the most part, e-books are just electronic representations of the printed pages.

"It's like taking a book and just turning it into a movie just by trying to read pages," said Alexander Petersen, chief operating officer of Xplora Learning Inc., an education software company that delivers e-books. "It's a different medium."

C. Sidney Burress, former dean of engineering at Rice University and an e-book author, said technological changes typical of two phases: Realization of older technology, followed by innovation.

"We're in the first phase, with enough people saying they like what the traditional paper has done," he said. "Nothing really new.

How can e-books be more than paper?

Imagine a biology e-book showing video of DNA's double helix coming to life, rather than the two-dimensional illustration typically found in printed books.

Or think of a math book with a calculator or spreadsheet so students can test formulas as they read. Waterloo Maple Inc., for instance, is now making completely digital an advanced mathematical textbook that used to come with a CD.

Publishers say that demand for digital-only editions and features isn't strong enough.

More importantly, professors are demanding consistency with the printed versions so page numbers match and readings are easier to assign, said Sandi Kirshner, chief marketing officer for Pearson PLC's higher education group.
In Brief

Auto strike avoided but still possible — DETROIT — Delphi Corp., dodged a bullet Friday, avoiding a devastating strike by delaying a holiday break to reject its labor agreements. But the nation's largest auto supplier warned it will renew efforts to settle its contracts in a two-day test to reach a settlement with its unions and its largest customer, General Motors Corp.

Detel, which filed for bankruptcy in October, says its expensive U.S. labor agreements make it impossible to compete in a global economy. The company first threatened in December to ask bankruptcy court to reject its union contracts. Friday was the third time Delphi delayed the strike, which also seeks to terminate health care and insurance for retired workers.

Misunderstanding halts beef trade — WASHINGTON — The Bush administration said Friday a New York meatpacker and a government inspector misunderstood new trade rules when they allowed prohibited veal to be shipped to Japan.

The Japanese government replied there was no evidence the veal went to Japan. But the miscommunication led to a halt in exports of American veal to Japan. It comes as the Bush administration has pressed allies to buy American beef and other products.

30-year bonds affect home mortgages — NEW YORK — The Treasury Department's resumption of 30-year bond sales could have an interesting impact on the home mortgage market, with lenders offering more 40-year loans and maybe even 50-year mortgages for the first time to help some consumers qualify for loans.

While the combination of the two — the U.S. government borrowing money through the sale of debt and a homeowner looking for a loan to buy a home — may not be apparent, that's because the interest rate the government pays for its debt usually determines the rate consumers and corporations will pay for the loans they take out.

The re-introduction of the 30-year bond means lenders — who had relied on the government's 10-year note for mortgage rate guidance — have a better idea of what to charge homeowners for a 40-year mortgage.
Painting the roses red

In a speech on Friday to the Council on Foreign Relations, Donald Rumsfeld acknowledged the U.S. foreign policy by focusing on negative aspects of the Iraq War instead of engaging in the propaganda battles being fought by al Qaeda. "While al Qaeda and extremist movements have utilized this forum (the free-market mass media) for many years," he lamented, "We in the government have barely even begun to compete in reaching their audiences."

Yes, the Secretary of Defense actually looked at the propaganda machines of our enemies (who operate in societies where an independent mass media is all but nonexistent in the U.S.) for the most part, he said, "the U.S. government still functions as a five-and-dimes store in an elbow world."

This is certainly an interesting position for him, given his personal involvement in the Nazi propaganda machine on trial in Nuremberg on the grounds that "the result was a weapon that its most powerful resident was paralyzed from the waist down. John F. Kennedy, as well, managed to keep the media from revealing his legendary sexual exploits to the world that understood that the president's private life was no concern to the general public.

Times have changed, however, and the world is certainly a different place due to the president's presidency, only a handful showed him in leg braces or a wheelchair. As a result, the media's behavior behind closed doors proved that the doors in the Oval Office must remain open to the oversight of the Fourth Estate. Bill Clinton, of course, found this out the hard way.

Strangeely enough, the George W. Bush White House seems to be under the impression that they can turn back the time to a time in which public accountability and media transparency simply did not apply to the highest office in the land, to a time, as Richard Nixon famously argued in a 1977 interview with television personality David Frost, when the "president of the United States was above the laws of our democracy.

In the end, it is the question that drives the hearts of many of us to keep on fighting against the war in Iraq, which has already been killed in Iraq since March of 2003... but have we ever stopped to ask ourselves if there is a right use of strength."

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

Joe Falco

Forty Quoences

Many of us, whether we’re for or against the war in Iraq, are aware that 2,268 Americans and roughly 30,000 civilians have already been killed in Iraq since March of 2003... but have we ever stopped to ask ourselves if there is a right use of strength."

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Joe Falco
Uncontroversial plays just as unorthodox

The Observer
Monday, February 20, 2006

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

According to the text of University President Father John Jenkins' article, the University's decision to not allow the Christian Legal Society to interview on campus is a response to a controversy over "The Vagina Monologues," and not an attempt to define "deeper principles." Therefore, it is correct to say that the University's decision was not motivated by a desire to define "deeper principles," but rather by the need to respect the academic freedom of dissenting views. The University's decision was made in order to respect the academic freedom of dissenting views and not to define "deeper principles" as Jenkins' article suggests.
South African soul

Soweto Gospel Choir gives performance of multicultural, spiritual music

By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Writer

Hailing from South Africa, a nation formerly torn by racial prejudice and apartheid laws, the Soweto Gospel Choir proved to be a joyous example of the rebirth of the singers’ homeland in light of their faith at their concert at the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts (DPAC) Saturday night.

The choir originates in South Africa, from in and around the community of Soweto. The nation’s multifaceted heritage — Zulu, Afrikaans (Dutch) and English among others — leaves the group with a personable distinctiveness that is unique to its homeland.

The group, founded in 2002, has performed its version of modern and traditional African and global gospel songs worldwide. The choir has put on concerts for world leaders and common audiences alike.

Members have acted as representatives of Nelson Mandela’s “46664” AIDS campaign, which helps promote the fight against AIDS. The group has played concerts around the world as representatives of Nelson Mandela’s “46664” campaign, which helps promote the fight against AIDS.

The Soweto Gospel Choir, hailing from a South African community, represents the multicultural heritage of the country, including Zulu and Afrikaans and English.

The group has played concerts around the world as representatives of Nelson Mandela’s “46664” campaign, which helps promote the fight against AIDS.

The breadth and power of the voices was a force of worship unleashed, and their depth of harmony was simply beautiful.

“It is this, the desire to spread their culture, faith and message worldwide, that motivates the singers. The group’s energy level brought the audience to its feet at the encore. The final number, the classic “Oh Happy Day,” injected the audience with a vigor and force so contagious that applause and singing erupted in the theater. The entire room enlivened the choir’s beauty of pure worship and praise.”

While every number was performed with zeal and passion, highlights included the dance segment that opened the second half, a version of Bob Marley’s “One Love” and the group’s majestic take on the South African national anthem “Nkosi Sikelele.”

The group has performed in the United States, including appearances at the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts (DPAC) and the DPAC one incredible night of music.

From the moment that the Soweto Choir entered the Leighton Concert Hall, it held the enraptured crowd at attention. Their costumes, which the group members changed after the intermission, were brightly colored forms of traditional clothing, with each choir member highlighting a different shade. The sections of black and white-striped patterns accented the colors on each tunic, and left the viewer with an overall effect of harmony and energy in their dress.

The color of their costumes emphasized the jubilant mood of their songs,” Wilczek said.

It is this, the desire to spread their culture, faith and message worldwide, that motivates the singers.

The Soweto Gospel Choir gives performance of multicultural, spiritual music.

Even in the most unlikely locales, the choir has performed in a variety of languages, including Zulu and Sotho. Their message of faith and their infectious gospel hymns and spirituals in a variety of languages, including Zulu and Sotho.

The group has performed in the United States, including appearances at the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts (DPAC) and the DPAC one incredible night of music.

The Soweto Gospel Choir is led by director David Mulovhedzi. It performed gospel hymns and spirituals in a variety of languages, including Zulu and Sotho.

Songs performed Saturday included “The Lion Sleeps Tonight,” “Amazing Grace, “One Love” and the South African national anthem “Nkosi Sikelele.”

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It is this, the desire to spread their culture, faith and message worldwide, that motivates the singers.

The breadth and power of the voices was a force of worship unleashed, and the depth of harmony was simply beautiful.

While every number was performed with zeal and passion, highlights included the dance segment that opened the second half, a version of Bob Marley’s “One Love” and the group’s magnificent take on “Amazing Grace.” For so unfortunately clichéd a hymn, the words found new meaning when sung by such pure voices.

Earthy rhythms, rich harmonies, and charismatic a cappella performances combine to uplift the soul and express South Africa’s hopes for the future,” reads the-choir’s press release.

Several choir members spoke during the concert to reiterate this theme of optimism, and the group ended its regular performance with a rendition of an apartheid-free South Africa’s national anthem, “Nkosi Sikelele.”

The group’s energy level brought the audience to its feet at the encore. The final number, the classic “Oh Happy Day,” injected the audience with a vigor and force so contagious that applause and singing erupted in the theater. The entire room enlivened the choir’s beauty of pure worship and praise.

Drums, instruments, voices, dancing — every element worked seamlessly to bring to the DPAC one incredible night of music at the hands of the Soweto Gospel Choir on Saturday.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu
Gone with the Wind

The film is a adaptation of Margaret Mitchell's novel, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1937. Producer David Selznick bought the rights to the book for $30,000, which was an unheard of amount at the time. His investment paid off, though, since "Gone with the Wind" has gone on to become one of the highest-grossing films of all time. The film has become a Hollywood staple and is the ultimate standard by which sweeping, epic dramas are judged. The film is epic in every sense of the word — it was the most expensive film at the time, it had more than a three-hour run time, and it had a host of backstage drama surrounded filming. It unabashedly romanticizes the South, and its epic cinematography accentuates the melodramatic storyline. The combination of an appealing heroine and her romances and the epic downfall of Southern society makes for a powerful film. "Gone with the Wind" could have easily been a massive failure, but a unique combination of elements came together and allowed it to arguably be one of the greatest films to ever come out of Hollywood. "Gone with the Wind" was one of the pioneers of Technicolor films, and it used the vivid colors to great effect in such famous scenes as the "Burning of the Atlanta Depot."

The rest of the characters also fill out rather one-dimensional roles, but this lack of explanation doesn't necessarily hinder the movie. They are the characters that one finds in any teen or college comedy — they are likable because of their familiarity. The movie takes place over a single day, showing a full 24 hours in the lives of the members of the restaurant. What happens after the day isn't explained and may leave viewers with two features, such as "Sending it back: The Real Dish on Waiting Tables" and "That Little Extra documentary" help round out the package by elaborating on some of the scenes in the movie, adding some helpful background material. "Waiting..." is meant to be a rather predictable, cheesy movie. Taken in that light, it's very entertaining and fills the role well. But those looking for a deep, meaningful film should explore other venues.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at mblemend@nd.edu
ND SOFTBALL

Luck runs out in Las Vegas

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

The Irish got off to a slow start this weekend by dropping three out of five games in the UNLV Classic. The team played doubleheaders on Friday and Saturday and finished the trip with an early game Sunday morning against Cal State Fullerton.

"The trip did not go exactly as planned, because we walk into every weekend expecting to win," senior pitcher Heather Booth said. However, we did learn a lot about ourselves as a team."

Friday's first game was a 5-4 loss to Colorado State.

Rams' pitcher Kim Klabough was only three outs away from throwing a no-hitter until the Irish bats woke up in the seventh inning. Linda Kohn brought the Irish within one with a three-run home run in her first career game. The shot was the first of three that she hit while in Vegas.

Despite coming up short, Notre Dame was able to take momentum and a little more confidence into the second game of the day against BYU. Mallorie Leon had the big hit for the Irish in the contest with a grand slam in the sixth inning that gave them an 8-2 win.

Brittney Bargar earned her win in the pickup pitching, going 4 1/3 innings and giving up only two runs on three hits.

"I think that Bargar did a great job and handling her second weekend out as a freshman," Booth said. "She is a fighter and worked hard throughout the game.

Bargar did not wait long for an encore performance against the host Rebels of UNLV. The win came only a few hours after her start by turning the game around."

Just like the day before, the Irish were able to bounce back, beating UNLV 6-4. Notre Dame jumped out to an early lead with a five-run third inning. Kohen (2-for-3) added another, double down the right field line in the fourth, and Booth came in to close the door as the Irish recorded their 2nd-3. The weekend season concluded with a 9-3 loss to Cal State Fullerton. The Irish used the long ball — eight of their nine runs came on home runs — to pull away early, as if fight off any comeback from the Irish. Ashlee Van Boxmeer hit two of the shots, while Jenifer Wheeler added a third to seal the victory title in the fifth inning.

The one bright spot for Notre Dame this weekend was the game against BYU. Fuemmeler, who gave up only one run after coming in to pitch the third inning.

Team members were in relatively good spirits following the tough stretch, focusing on their potential for a successful year.

"The team will try to make a few changes before heading to Miami next weekend for a similar tournament hosted by Florida International.

"We have a lot of work to do before are defined on what the weekend out. We realize it's not about where we start, but where we finish," Booth said.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Michaela伊朗is away team in Florida

By TIM KAISER
Sport Writer

Notre Dame begins its fall season today at the St. Petersburg Regional Classic in Parrish, Fl. The tournament is hosted by Michigan State University and is due to start and tomorrow at the RiverWilds Golf Club.

The Irish are looking to improve on last year's performance, which saw them finish out of 15 teams. This year, the team traveled to Florida a few days before sharpening up before its spring debut by practicing on the par 72, 6,099-yard course.

This year, the sixth-seeded Irish will face off against a field of 14 other teams, most of which are from the Midwest region — Baylor, Illinois State, Kansas, Kansa State, EIS, Michigan, Michigan States, Missouri, Nebraska, Northwestern, Ohio State, SMU and Texas Tech.

"All except for three teams are within spot of us in the rankings. We're thirty-fifth overall, and most of the other teams are within 10 spots," Brophy said. "The Irish will go with a lineup of Michaela, Linda, Katie Brophy, Lauren Gabesar and Suzay.

Notre Dame consistently plays really well and finishes at the top of their conference region each enter. Brophy said. "I usually say pretty well. Everyone's expectations are high. Right now, everyone has been working really hard to play well, in this tournament and the rest.

The Irish also have clear cut goals for the tournament. "We hope to break 300 for all three rounds, break 295 for one round and remain patient and consistent," Brophy said. After the Classic, the squad has a few weeks off until it plays in the Mo' Mental in Bryan, Texas March 10-12.

Contact Tim Kaiser at tkaiser@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Loss to UConn knocks the wind out of struggling Irish

By KATHY DUFFY
Sports Writer

With 5:30 left in the game Sunday and Notre Dame down 62-45 to the Huskies, Duffy hit the ground hard. I got hit in the stomach and the wind knocked out of me," Duffy said.

Karen Waszyk was that kind of a night for the Irish.

Connecticut's Ann Strother was one of the wind out in the cylinder sisters, and Duffy hit the ground hard. I got hit in the stomach and the wind knocked out of me," Duffy said.

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NBA Standings

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Conf.</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>GB</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>33-28</td>
<td>.568</td>
<td>.531</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>25-35</td>
<td>.406</td>
<td>.453</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orlando</td>
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<td>.395</td>
<td>.357</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atlanta</td>
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<td>.395</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>14-40</td>
<td>.273</td>
<td>.263</td>
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Eastern Conference, Central Division

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<td>.588</td>
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<td>Cleveland</td>
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<td>.456</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
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<td>.558</td>
<td>.531</td>
<td>15.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
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<td>.528</td>
<td>.519</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
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<td>.469</td>
<td>.442</td>
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Eastern Conference, Southeast Division

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<td>.609</td>
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Western Conference, Northwest Division

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Western Conference, Pacific Division

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<td>.628</td>
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<td>.500</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
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<td>.482</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>24-29</td>
<td>.500</td>
<td>.453</td>
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Western Conference, Southeast Division

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<td>.792</td>
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<td>.769</td>
<td>.769</td>
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<tr>
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<td>.558</td>
<td>.558</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Houston</td>
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Men's College Basketball Big East Conference

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<td>Connecticut</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
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<td>Pittsburgh</td>
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<td>Georgetown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marquette</td>
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<td>Seton Hall</td>
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<td>Cincinnati</td>
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<td>16-9</td>
<td>697</td>
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<td>Syracuse</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOTRE DAME</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
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<td>St. John's</td>
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<tr>
<td>DePaul</td>
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<td>10-13</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Florida</td>
<td>0-12</td>
<td>6-19</td>
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SURF CITY 1500-meter champion urged her to renew his long-distance running career.

ATHLETICS Australia chief executive Danny Corcoran said Rollison's allegations had been referred to the Australian Sports Commission for investigation.

Jeff Gordon, Matt Kenseth and himself. Then Johnson worked his way to the front, staying in line and waiting for his chance to pounce.

It came with 14 laps to go when he squeezed past teammate Brian Vickers to grab the lead just as a caution came out. Johnson was at the front of the field on the restart, the lead driver in a single-file pack of cars sprinting toward the end.

Jamie McMurray wrecked with seven laps to go in bringing out one final caution. It set up an overtime finish, but no one was able to challenge him.

Earnhardt was the first driver to pull out of line and make a run at Johnson, but got no drafting help and had zero chance of catching him.

Then Ryan Newman took his shot, pulling out from behind Johnson. But just like Junior, he didn't get any assistance and could only squeeze back into place. There were no more challenges to Johnson, who won in his fifth Daytona try when a final accident brought out the caution and allowed him to cross the finish line under a yellow flag.

Johnson holds on to win Daytona 500

Jimmie Johnson, left, celebrates with his wife Chandra, right, and a bottle of champagne after winning the NASCAR Daytona 500 auto race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., on Sunday.

Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Maybe Jimmie Johnson didn't need to cheat to win his first Daytona 500.

Johnson won a two-lap shootout Sunday to claim the victory, capping a rollercoaster week that saw NASCAR kick his crew chief out of competition for cheating.

Johnson had a strong car when he arrived at Daytona International Speedway 10 days ago, and posted the fifth-fastest time in time trials. But when NASCAR gave his Chevrolet a careful once-over, inspectors discovered that Chad Knaus had made an illegal modification.

Knaus was sent home, seemingly spoiling Johnson's shot to win The Great American Race.

"Not on this Sunday," Johnson said in Victory Lane. "There's no doubt that having Chad here was a huge handicap, but everybody stepped up. I am just so proud of this team." Johnson stayed calm and avoided trouble in a wild race that saw Tony Stewart eliminate three contenders: Jeff Gordon, Matt Kenseth and himself. Then Johnson worked his way to the front, staying in line and waiting for his chance to pounce.

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Forsberg sits out Sweden's victory over USA

TURIN, Italy — Peter Forsberg was back on Sweden's bench Sunday — without his helmet, stick and gloves.

Sweden's victory was already locked up a berth in the men's Olympic hockey quarterfinals, the Philadelphia Flyers' star decided to sit out his country's 2-1 victory over the U.S. He took a spot at the far right side of the bench, but stood out because he was the only one in uniform without the necessary playing equipment.

"We're just playing for position," Forsberg said after the game. "It's not like you have to win or you're out.

Sweden moved into the medal round earlier Sunday when Russia beat Latvia 9-2, guaranteeing that the Swedes would finish among the top four in the six-team group.

Forsberg said he expects to play Tuesday against Slovakia in the final tuneup before the medal round begins Wednesday.

In Brief

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Hot doubles pairings give team two top 25 wins

By DAN TAPETILLO
Spurs Writer

In order to be the best, you have to compete with the best.

The Irish held themselves to this maxim this weekend in wins over No. 9 Harvard and No. 22 Tennessee at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. Notre Dame remained undefeated and improved its record to 7-0 this year — its best start since the 1985-86 season. Also, the upset over Harvard marks the team’s second win against a top-10 foe in 2006, following the victory over then-No. 9 in 2004. Notre Dame has two top 25 matches for the fifth time in sixth matches.

The Thompsons, playing at No. 1 for the team, started Saturday's victory, while Irish senior Christian Thompson clinched the victory for the Irish at No. 4 and thus the match.

The Thompsons were the first to top Harvard's Eva Wang 6-4, 3-6, 1-0 (10-3) win at No. 1. Following at No. 2 was the duo of seniors Kiki Stastny and Christian Thompson, who swept them with a 7-6 (7-4), 6-0 win over Harvard’s Cindy Chu and Preethi Mukundan.

In singles, No. 24 Catrina Thompson led the team with her come-from-behind win over Harvard's Eva Wang 6-4, 3-6, 1-0 (10-1) at No. 1. Following at No. 2 was Christian Thompson, who suffered a 7-5, 7-3 loss to O'Riain. Buck played at No. 3 for the Irish with 7-6 (7-4), 6-0 win over Anderson. During the contest, Anderson suffered a code violation during the first set after hitting a ball into another court — granting Buck a point. Following the call, Anderson appeared to have lost sense of momentum.

The first set was very intense, and we were both on our servers,” Buck said. “But then she got a code violation and mentally just broke down and stopped fighting...I've never played a match like that before.”

Following Buck's victory against Anderson, Tefft topped Harvard’s No. 26 Mukundan and clinched the victory for the Irish at No. 4. Stastny, playing at No. 5 for Notre Dame, lost her first dual match in singles this season. Stastny dropped the contest to Schutte 7-6 (7-3), 5-3, 1-0 (10-5). Compacting at the No. 6 position for the Irish, freshman Katie Potts downed Chou 6-1, 6-2.

No. 15 Notre Dame
No. 22 Tennessee

The Irish defeated the Lady Vols 7-0 to earn their second shutout of the season.

Notre Dame began the contest sweeping the doubles matches for the fifth time in sixth matches. The Thompsons, playing at No. 1 for the team, finished first as they topped Tennessee’s Melissa Schaub and Giaela Schulte 8-1. "This win definitely helped our confidence,” Christian Thompson said. "But knowing we have two other great doubles teams releases a lot of the pressure.”

Following at No. 2 were Buck and Tefft, who defeated the Lady Vols’ Blakeley Griffith and Victoria Jones, 8-3. Last off the court were seniors Katie Potts and Andrew Mazlin 9-8 (7-5) to earn the doubles point. The Thompsons needed to overcome a 4-5 deficit and an eventual tiebreaker to top Anderson and O’Riain.

"They were down most of the match,” Irish sophomore Brook Buck said. "They really fought back and played big on the big points.”

In addition to the Thompsons' victory, Notre Dame's No. 35 pairing of Tefft and freshman Kiley Tefft downed Harvard's Stephanie Schnitter and Eva Wang 8-1. Notre Dame's No. 45 duo of seniors Kiki Stastny and captain Lauren Connelly also won by an 8-1 decision over Harvard's Cindy Chu and Preethi Mukundan.

In singles, No. 24 Catrina Thompson led the team with her come-from-behind win over Harvard's Eva Wang 6-4, 3-6, 1-0 (10-1) at No. 1. Following at No. 2 was Christian Thompson, who suffered a 7-5, 7-3 loss to O’Riain. Buck played at No. 3 for the Irish with 7-6 (7-4), 6-0 win over Anderson. During the contest, Anderson suffered a code violation during the first set after hitting a ball into another court — granting Buck a point. Following the call, Anderson appeared to have lost sense of momentum.

"The first set was very intense, and we were both on our servers,” Buck said. “But then she got a code violation and mentally just broke down and stopped fighting...I've never played a match like that before.”

However, Stephen Hans rallied to top Hung 7-5, 6-2 at No. 1 to put the Irish back on the boards. The team never looked back, reel­ ing off four more singles victories for the win.

"Stephan deserves a ton of cred­ it for fighting off Hung, who had beaten him in the semifinals of the regional championships a year ago (in 2004),” Bayliss said. "Helgeson and Patrick were the last men on their team. Stephan really didn’t look back.”

Lake and Potts clinched the victory for the Irish at No. 5. Tefft and O’Riain defeated Schutte 6-3, 6-4 over Schutt and O’Riain 7-5, 5-7, 1-0 (12-10) at No. 4 and 6, respectively.

No. 44 Christian Thompson closed out the victory with a long match against Griffith. Thompson came out with the 7-7, 7-6 (7-3), 1-0 (10-3) win.

Contact Dan Tapetillo at
tapatell@nd.edu

ND MEN’S TENNIS

Win pushes Irish past Wolverines in all-time victories

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

After struggling earlier this sea­ son, Notre Dame extended its win­ ning streak to five matches this weekend, improving to 7-4 with a win at Michigan.

The Irish toppled the Wolverines 5-2 in a closely-fought match Saturday night between two of college tennis' most winning pro­ grams. Notre Dame is No. 7 in all-­ time wins with 1,029 after Saturday's victory, while Michigan is No. 8 with 1,012.

"It’s a very tough, tense match," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Michigan played extremely hard, they competed well — our guys, to their credit, took Michigan's best shots and had a little more left at the end.”

The Irish were upset by a lower-­ ranked team in the doubles point for the first time this season, as they struggled to get on the boards and ended up losing two of the three matches. "They were all over us," Bayliss said. "They were approaching a lot — they’re very active at the net, and they were returning aggressively.”

Ryan Keckley and Barry King fell at No. 3 to Parbhu and Maravic 6-3, 6-2, and Scott Bruckmann and Steve Pervis clinched the point at No. 3 with an 8-6 win over Bred Helgeson and Andrew Roth. "The Thompsons, playing at No. 1 for the team, finished first as they topped Tennessee’s Melissa Schaub and Giaela Schulte 8-1. "This win definitely helped our confidence,” Christian Thompson said. "But knowing we have two other great doubles teams releases a lot of the pressure.”

Following at No. 2 were Buck and Tefft, who defeated the Lady Vols’ Blakeley Griffith and Victoria Jones, 8-3. Last off the court were seniors Katie Potts and Andrew Mazlin 9-8 (7-5) to earn the doubles point. The Thompsons needed to overcome a 4-5 deficit and an eventual tiebreaker to top Anderson and O’Riain.

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The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal coffee at the O’Hs.
The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs
EXCLUSIVE CAFE AND STANDOFF COFFEE
Coffee and refreshments will be served
HOCKEY

Three-point weekend puts home ice in reach

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

In a weekend series crucial in their quest to earn ice advantage for the first round of the conference playoffs, the Irish Notched a 7-4 win and a 1-1 tie Friday and Saturday, respectively, in games at Bowling Green.

The contests boosted Notre Dame three points in the standings and left the Irish in a three-way tie with Alaska-Fairbanks and Ferris State for eighth in the CCHA and the final home ice spot. The Irish (17-16-4, 10-12-4 CCHA) will take on the Nanooks in two games, their list of the regular season, at the Joyce Center this weekend. The Bulldogs face No. 8 Michigan.

"Everybody's that's vying for anywhere from fifth to 10th will see their situation change with every game next week," Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said of the CCHA's final weekend.

Friday's contest between the Falcons and Irish featured 11 goals, 14 penalties and a wildly bungying puck.

"It's like playing pinball, with pucks bouncing all over the place," Jackson said of Bowling Green's home arena. "They have partitions in the glass and the corners are kind of square. The boards are pretty lively, too."

Jackson credited the wild play to two emotional teams playing a very important game.

"Friday's game was really emotional, really high intensity," he said. "Sometimes their emotion got them in trouble, and sometimes our emotion got us in trouble."

The Irish won Friday's wild shootout thanks to three goals from forward Mark Van Guilder who, after a position switch, lit the lamp for the sixth, seventh and eighth time this year.

"We moved him to center, where he's handling the puck more," Jackson said. "He was generating chances off the rush and taking advantage of it."

The seven goals scored by the Irish were the most since Nov. 10, when they scored nine in a home game against Bowling Green.

"The Falcons were really wide open and we took advantage," Jackson said of Friday's contest. "They put their goal keeper into an awkward position with their penalty killing and some of the odd man rushes we had."

Notre Dame junior goalie have Brown did not play Friday after suffering an illness for most of the week. He was replaced by freshman Jordan Pearce, who started his first game since Dec. 2 and made 34 saves.

"I've worked out OK, though, because I wanted to give Jordan a game, anyway. Playing all those games in a row, David's not going to be as fresh when we need him to be," Brown, who had started the last 22 contests for the Irish, was back in net Saturday, where he made 34 saves and allowed just one goal.

Jackson said Saturday's game was much more subdued than Friday's, which led to the lower score.

"There was more discipline in the game Saturday," he said. "I also think Bowling Green played a much better defensive game Saturday night. I thought their goaltender [Jimmy Spattl] settled down and played much better."

The Falcons scored first Saturday, off the stick of Falcon forward Jonathan Matsumoto at 8:51 of the first period on a Bowling Green power play.

The Irish waited almost two periods to answer before defensemen Wes O'Neill led a breakaway, passing to forward Matt Amado. Amado's shot was deflected, but forward Josh Neba pushed in the rebound to even the game up.

Notes:

♦ After shortening practices from two hours to an hour and a half a few weeks ago, Jackson will lighten his team's workload again this week. Today the team will meet but is not scheduled to skate. And Wednesday and Thursday's practices will be much shorter than previous weeks.

"Wednesday and Thursday will be light," Jackson said.

♦ Both games between the Irish and Nanooks next week will be played at the Joyce Center. Friday's game will begin at 7:35 p.m. and will be televised on Comcast Local television station. Saturday's contest will face-off at 7:05 p.m.

"Notre Dame did not have to make the 4,000-mile trip to play Fairbanks in Alaska this season. The Irish traveled north last season, splitting a two-game series with the Nanooks on Nov. 26-27, 2004.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Not playing in the same league: Flying Dutch crush Belles

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

An overmatched Saint Mary's team was beaten by Hope College 91-66 Saturday in the regular season finale for both squads. No. 7 Hope sported a 24-1 overall record and became the first MIAA team to finish a season undefeated in 16 games of league play. Following the loss, the Belles are 11-14 overall and 9-7 in MIAA play.

Hope jumped out to an early 21-6 lead, knocking down seven of its first nine shots, and cruised to the easy victory in front of the home crowd.

The Flying Dutch hit 50.8 percent of their field goal attempts in the contest and nailed 9-of-15 3-point attempts.

Guard Bri a Eb els led the way, hitting all six of her shot attempts and notching 23 points in just 26 minutes. Linda Eb els chipped in 17 points to go along with eight rebounds in the victory.

Hope led 50-27 at halftime and widened its lead to as many as 41 points during the second period.

"Their offense was almost impossible to stop," Belles head coach Steve Bender said. "We put up a lot of points, but they are a great team."

F a lc o n  f o rw a rd  J o n a t h a n Sc iba pushed in the rebound to de fle c t, b u t fo rw a rd  Jo sh Defensem an Wes O'Neill led a pow er play. F or ward  M att A m ado on a w kw ard posi­ tion with th e ir penalty killing and som e of the odd m an ru sh tion with th e ir penalty killing.

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Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

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Thursday, February 23, 2006
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7-7:45 pm

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Monday, February 20, 2006
The Observer • SPORTS

page 15
Champs
continued from page 20
— nearly every event saw an Irish athlete add to the point total, which was eventually enough to come away with the win. The Irish women finished as runners-up in the conference championships the past three seasons after winning in 2002.

"I feel good. I'm really happy about the team and the way everyone pushing everyone else," Erigha said. "I feel like we really bonded this weekend. It was really a collective effort — everyone made a difference in how it all turned out."

"I think we're all really excited — we went in with the expectation of winning, and we met it," Madia said. "It's a great feeling, and a big relief."

The Irish men finished in third place with 94.5 points, trailing first- and second-place finishers Connecticut (135) and Rutgers (124).

Junior Thomas Chamsev did his part in the team's top-three finish, winning the 800-meter run (1:49.88) and anchoring the Irish to victory in the 4x800 meter relay (7:28.84).

The Irish now look ahead to the Alex Wilson Invitational, slated to take place at the Loftus Sports Center March 3-4.

That will be the last meet before the NCAA Indoor Championships are held at Fayetteville, Ark. during the weekend of March 10-11.

The Alex Wilson Invitational will also be the last opportunity for members of both teams to qualify for the NCAA meet.

However, after an impressive showing at the Big East Championship, the team is looking to spend some time resting during the next few days and working to perfect certain detailed aspects of events in time for the next meet.

"This week, we'll probably take a step back, rest, and work on a few technical things, fine tuning before the Alex Wilson meet," Erigha said.

"We'll just make sure we're recovered, get to work, and go and get ready to have a lot of NCAA qualifying runs at the Alex Wilson."

Contact Jason Galvan at jgalvan@nd.edu
"If we get a seven-point, eight-rebound performance before Notre Dame took control of the game, and five straight points from guard Ann Strother gave Connecticut a 31-23 advantage with 6:07 left to play. In that span, the Huskies were able to repeatedly take advantage of open jumpers set up off the drive. The guards did a poor job of finding the shooters," McGraw said.

But the Irish were able to recover from the deficit, and by half-time had cut the lead to 3:23. In the second half, the Irish came out strong, erasing the gap and taking a one-point lead in the first six minutes of play.

Notre Dame was never able to extend its lead, however, as Connecticut always countered any Irish momentum. The Huskies, who were 10-0 on 3-point shots at the half and three players shoot over 50 percent from 3-point range, including Strother, who was 5-of-6.

"They just had too many weapons for us," McGraw said. "As the deficit began to grow, Notre Dame came out and played the game. They served as daggers to Notre Dame's chances and gave the Huskies a 62-61 lead with 1:12 to play.

"We'll make shots at key junctures in the game that will count in the big game," McGraw said.
Repeat

continued from page 20

"Halfway through the meet we realized that we pretty much had the meet in hand, and in order to keep the intensity going, we challenged ourselves by looking at the timing board to get personal bests, and with that goal in mind we were able to continue the intensity throughout the weekend," Brown said.

Not content with defeating 10 conference opponents, the squad set several school records including seven Notre Dame records.

Vanden Berg broke the school record in the 1,650-yard freestyle with a time of 15:13.99. Brian Freeman set the new 800 freestyle mark, while Doug Bauman (200 medley), Tim Randolph (100 breaststroke) and Jamie Lukun (400 individual medley) set new records. Vanden Berg also broke the old 500 freestyle record and beat the 1,000 freestyle mark during his 1,650 freestyle race.

"I was thrilled to win last year, and at that point I said to myself, ‘Maybe this is something I can do four years in a row, just to see if I can do that,’ and it’s a big encouragement to win it the second year because I’m halfway there," Vanden Berg said.

A total of 20 All-Big East honors were given to the Irish, with Doug Bauman and Vanden Berg each netting three. Bauman’s trio gave him eight for his career, while junior Tim Keegelmam’s award in the 200 medley moves him into a tie for the school career-record with Ray Fitzpatrick at nine.

The conference title is head coach Tim Welsh’s 18th since coming to Notre Dame in 1985, and his second in the Big East. All year, Welsh has talked about his team’s depth, and that aspect came into play again last weekend as the Irish dominated the competition despite placing first in only four events.

"I won’t so much one individual, but it was the group collectively that really stepped up, not only this past weekend, but throughout the season." - Ted Brown

Irish swimmer

Carroll was one of several Irish swimmers who elevated her performance this weekend. Junior Rebecca Grove and freshman Christa Higginsex each garnered five All-Big East honors, and junior Quinn finished with four.

As a team, Notre Dame had 12 swimmers and divers walk away with at least one All-Big East finish. With such a strong team performance, the Irish are now able to look toward taking the next step, the NCAA championships beginning March 16 in Athens, Ga.

"Our highest goal has been scoring as many points as we can at the NCAA’s." - Carrie Nixon

Irish coach

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

Ten

continued from page 20

remaining.

The Irish ended the suspense as Julia Quinn and Jessica Stephens finished 1-2 in the 200-meter breaststroke, and Katie Carroll finished second in the 200-meter butterfly.

Those timely performances secured the win for Notre Dame, as it held off Rutgers by one point to continue the Irish’s nine-meet winning streak. With four. The Irish had scored as many points as we can at the NCAA’s.

“I’ve never felt this proud to be a part of a team that came together to pull off something so important.” - Katie Carroll

Irish swimmer

Contact Jack Thornton at j Thornton@nd.edu

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Accepting Applications for Summer ’06 deadline March 21, 2006.
**ND SWIMMING**

**Drowning the competition**

Men win back-to-back Big East crowns, women take record tenth straight

By JACK THORNTON
Sports Writer

The Irish blew the competition out of the water this weekend in East Meadow, N.Y., as the men’s team won its second consecutive Big East Championship. The Irish won by 224.5 points (899.5-875) over second place Pittsburgh, a smaller margin of victory than last year’s surprising 275-point spread. Nonetheless, the Irish left no doubt about it in dominating the other 10 Big East opponents.

“We won by a lot last year and that surprised a lot of people, but we’re better this year,” sophomore Jay Vandenberg said. “The training is better, so more Jay Vandenberg ple, but we’re better this year,”

The Irish rode a trio of 127.5-point margin heading into the final day. Despite the lead, junior Ted Brown wasn’t about to coast to the podium.

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**ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Huskies take bite out of Irish, win big 79-64**

Four ND players score double digits in loss to No. 6 Connecticut

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

As Notre Dame forward Crystal Erwin’s jumper fell through to give the Irish a 42-41 lead with just over 14 minutes to play Sunday, the team looked destined to at least continue its back-and-forth battle for the rest of the game.

The No. 6 Connecticut Huskies, however, had other plans.

On their next possession, Connecticut guard Renee Montgomery drained an open 3-pointer, giving the Huskies their fourth lead of the half—a lead they would protect for the rest of the game as they went on to a 79-64 win over the Irish.

“I thought Montgomery was maybe the difference in the game,” Notre Dame head coach Muffet McGraw said. “She shot it well. We were trying to guard her, but she made a lot of nice plays in transition.”

Both teams began play matching each other shot-for-shot, racing out to 127-127 early in the game before Connecticut caught fire.

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**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**New look sparks victory**

Irish throttle rival Pirates on the road in uncommon attire

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Seton Hall fought the inevitable Saturday at Continental Airlines Arena, but a new-look Notre Dame team (13-10, 4-8 Big East) would not relinquish the lead on its way to a third consecutive win.

Motivated by their new black jerseys or their desperate need for conference wins — or both — the Irish scored their highest single-game point total with 127.5 points with only three events.

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**HOCKEY**

Notre Dame 1
Bowling Green 1

“Losers to UConn knocks the wind out of struggling Irish”

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**SMC BASKETBALL**

Hope 91
Saint Mary’s 66

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**HOCKEY**

Notre Dame 5
Bowling Green 3

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**MEN’S TENNIS**

Notre Dame 5
Michigan 3

The Irish rode a trio of three-set victories to win their fifth consecutive match Saturday.

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**ND WOMEN’S TENNIS**

Notre Dame 5
Harvard 2

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**ND SOFTBALL**

CS Fullerton 9
Notre Dame 3

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**WOMEN’S GOLF**

The Irish kick off their spring season by traveling to Florida to compete in the Central District Classic today and tomorrow.