Wives balance studies, military men

By AMANDA MICHAELS
Assistant News Editor

Relaxing in a booth in LaFortune with textbooks and notebooks piled beside her, Dayna Dantzcher looks like a typical Notre Dame student taking a break between classes. Only the set of etched dogtags she wears around her neck hints at a part of her life that is anything but the norm. Dantzcher isn’t just a senior who has 22 years old and lives with friends off-campus. She is also a military wife. Her husband — 21-year-old Sgt. Corbin Cody Dantzcher — is in Baghdad fighting with the U.S. Army. Since last August, he isn’t expected to return until late this summer.

Married students have husbands in war

Brown takes CEA position

Sophomore will be assistant to Shappell

By KELLY MEEHAN
News Writer

As student body president-elect Liz Shappell and vice president-elect Bill Andrichik prepare to assume office April 1, they have taken the first step in shaping their administration by naming sophomore and Cameron senior Liz Brown as their Chief Executive Assistant (CEA).

Brown will replace Liz Kozlow, the current CEA under student body president Dave Baron and vice president Shappell.

Brown was planning to study abroad in Toledo, Spain next year, but changed her mind when she was offered the CEA position. Brown said she is thankful Kozlow will be around next year to help her make the transition and adjust to her new role.

“Kozlow definitely gave me an idea of how much work it will entail,” Brown said.

Shappell and Andrichik chose Brown — who served as one of their campaign managers — in recognition of the hard work she put into her managerial duties and the energy she brought to the campaign, Shappell said.

Shappell said during the course of the campaign, Brown helped the candidates introduce their platforms and spread their message and ideas to all the dorms. She also had an organizational percentage point short of clinching the 51 percent of the vote necessary to win. Kniff, along with vice presidential candidate Meghan Mackinnon, treasurer candidate Laura Baumgartner and secretary candidate Erica Antonucci, received 46.12 percent of the vote — putting them in a close second, something they hope to change in today’s runoff election.

“We are very happy with the voting turnout,” Kindt said. “I am excited we can campaign again — our fourth time out. It just shows how much we really want to win.”

The two tickets seized the opportunity to campaign one last time Tuesday before today’s runoff election, which

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SMC elections lead to runoff for class of 2007

By KELLY MEEHAN
News Editor

While the Saint Mary’s class executive board elections ended in a sweeping success for class of 2008 president-elect Colleen Kielty and class of 2009 president-elect Francesca Antonucci, the intense campaigning continued after class of 2007 election results proved votes cast between Katy Kindt and Heidi Goeppinger’s tickets too close to call.

With 219 current juniors voting, Goeppinger’s ticket — comprised of vice presidential candidate Chrstine Molnar, secretary candidate Bridget Gorman and treasurer candidate Maggie Wieckstrom — received 50.23 percent of the votes, falling a little over half a

Panel discusses juvenile justice

Speakers, audience argue for better treatment for young delinquents

By MARCELA BERRIOS
News Writer

Juvenile delinquents awaiting sentencing need to receive better treatment regardless of the circumstances that led to their crimes, a panel concluded Tuesday night at the Robinson Community Learning Center.

A group of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students and faculty and Michiana residents gathered Tuesday night to listen to a collection of South Bend juvenile justice experts.

Speakers at the event included Magistrate Harold Brueske,
Elections ethics

Campaigning. Now there’s an interesting concept. We’ve all been exposed to our fair share recently with student government elections taking place on our campuses, and by now it’s probably safe to say people are getting a little tired of it. This time, however, I want to talk about it with a twist. Billions of dollars (and probably more) are spent each year on various campaigns around the world, whether they are advertising, political, public service, etc. Advertising, public relations and other related fields often come under fire because of loopholes in our legal system? Is it ethical to spend astronomical amounts of money on packaging, billboards and television advertising when people around the world and in our own country are living below the poverty level?

Is it ethical to accept advertising companies to create advertising campaigns advocating the cause to keep children from smoking or to help current smokers quit? Is it ethical for presidential candidates to be allowed to accept money from private citizens and use it to communicate with major companies, or for that matter to accept money from major companies because loopholes in our legal system? Is it ethical for government officials to create advertising campaigns that show a negative light on their opponents, but then to turn around and be the first to remain when it happens to them? Ethics, I would say, are like a conundrum wrapped in an enigma … and however else that saying carries on. Basically, they’re confusing and they’re subjective. I would think, though, that in a society as advanced as ours where we know more and are able to do more than we have ever done before, we should advance our morals as much as we have advanced our technology. Unfortunately, this isn’t always the case.

People lie. People cheat. People distort laws and situations bending and stretching them so until they encompass their needs and actions. People spread rumors. People evade the truth.

Oftentimes, in the consumerist society we live in today, the self-serving takes over. Human beings are competitive by nature; it’s part of our genetics.

Is it ethical when a majority of people should be able to vote for their leaders and are able to do more than we have ever done before, we should advance our morals as much as we have advanced our technology? Unfortunately, this isn’t always the case. People lie. People cheat. People distort laws and situations bending and stretching them so until they encompass their needs and actions. People spread rumors. People evade the truth.

Corrections

Due to a reporting error, the names of Irish icons Mary, St. Teresa, St. Padre Pio, St. Vincent de Paul and Medjugorje Stephen were misplaced in the Feb. 27 edition of The Observer. The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

The Observer • PAGE 2
Wednesday, March 1, 2006
Lenten obligations affect student habits, dining hall menus

By RYAN SYDLIK
News Writer

While some Notre Dame students are complaining about their lack of phone and Internet usage due to ongoing dorm upgrades, others are voluntarily denying themselves those privileges today.

Today is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent— and with it come individual sacrifices by Catholics everywhere.

Basilica of the Sacred Heart rector Father Peter Defoe said the purpose of Lent is to prepare Catholics for the coming Easter and renew their baptismal promises through prayer, fast and almsgiving.

Notre Dame students will be expressing this renewal in many ways. While freshman Natali Chavez is giving up soda for Lent, she said many of her friends’ Lenten resolutions deal specifically with food.

"Rather than give something up, I will instead do something extra that is positive," she said.

Sophomore Andy Matthews also said he is doing something positive rather than giving something up.

"I will go to the Grotto every day," he said — something he has already been doing for two weeks.

While many students are focusing on the individual aspects of the season, there is also a dorm-wide aspect of Lent at Notre Dame.

Keough Hall rector Father Peter Harrel said students in his hall are sponsoring a Grab-and-Go program. Instead of getting the meals for themselves, they will collect non-perishable items for donations to charity.

Food plays a major role in sacrifices during the Lenten season. Defoe said Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence on which meat is not eaten, and only one full large meal and two small meals are permitted. And while not all Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence, they are days of fasting from meat.

The University’s dining halls have devised ways to help students fulfill this Lenten obligation. Dan Patterson, the Operations Manager of South Dining Hall, said the dining halls will modify the menu so there is no meat on Fridays. In order to compensate for this, he said, new items have been added that were not available last year.

Marc Poklonski, the General Manager of South Dining Hall, said the dining hall menus will have more variety. Substitute items will include grilled pizza, grilled vegetables, cinnamon sticks, garlic cheese pizza, unfished fish, quasadillas and bocce sticks — "lots of grilled items which are fairly popular and lots of cheese."

Patterson said the dining halls will end the season with a Lenten buffet on April 7, one week before Good Friday.

Since Lent is a time to prepare for the celebration of Christ’s death and resurrection, Defoe said the Basilica has made additional plans for Lent to prepare Catholics for Easter.

Ashes will be distributed at both the 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. Masses today, with the Euhosia Cantorum providing music for the 11:30 Mass and the Notre Dame Liturgical choir singing at the 5:15 Mass. On all Fridays of Lent, the Basilica will host the Stations of the Cross, with various choirs providing music throughout the season.

Defoe said Lent is also the time when catechumens — people wishing to become Catholics — prepare to enter into the Church before receiving the sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Reconciliation) during the Easter Vigil Mass. In addition, candidates for full communion — Protestants who wish to become Catholic — will be received into full communion on April 2.

Contact Ryan Sydlík at rsydlik@nd.edu.

The Basilica will hold Ash Wednesday Masses to start the Lenten season today. Above, a choir sings in the Basilica in 2003.
**Elections**

continued from page 1

allows the class of 2007 to vote on PRISM from 12 a.m. until 11 p.m. tonight.

While hopeful for her ticket, current junior class president Goeppinger said she was not as optimistic about voter turnout.

"I think the election will again be close, and I fear that voting numbers may even be diminished due to the fact that people get tired of the campaigning process and hate to vote a second time," Goeppinger said.

Goeppinger said she thought the reason for the initial close conclusion of the election was due to the tickets sharing mutual friends within the class and students being members of her "very successful" junior board.

"The women on my ticket are still very excited about the prospect of representing the upcoming senior class and will be working very hard tonight to unite the class and really encourage everyone to vote," she said.

Kindt said she was not about to back down from the challenge and urged her opponent’s goal to spark desire to vote amongst her classmates.

"I am not pushed over by a few percentages," she said. "We're going around to every junior's dorm room tonight to get our message out there.

"While the Kindt and Goeppinger tickets spent their time Tuesday attempting to clinch senior class executive vice president and secretary positions of the upcoming junior and sophomore class executive board, winners began planning and executing their platforms.

"I was excited to win and start planning for next year," junior class president-elect Erica Antonucci said after receiving 64.63 percent of the vote to beat Michelle Michalak's ticket, comprised of vice presidential candidate Brooke Trudeau, secretary candidate Katie Soller and treasurer candidate Callene Pisciotto.

Kielty's fellow executive vice president Kenton Johnson said he was looking forward to working with incoming senior class president Shawn Bedington.

Kielty said she hopes to immediately begin planning for an Ovarian Cancer Walk at the end of the month to raise funds for cancer research.

"I feel that since I served as first year class president, I can set realistic goals," she said of her plan to have at least one class activity each month.

**S o m o p h o r e c l a s s p r e s i d e n t - e l e c t C a i l e n e P i s c i o t t a.**

Kindt said he won't be working very hard tonight to go in around to tickets maters.

"I'm not going to be working very hard tonight to get our voting numbers even closer," Kindt said.

"I am not pushed over by a few percentages," she said. "We're going around to every junior's dorm room tonight to get our message out there.

While Kielty and Kindt were busy making plans for the future, Goeppinger and Kindt spent time until Thursday to finish their in the campaign.

"Both tickets are very strong with dedicated people who will do a good job for our class," Kindt said.

Her running mate, Antonucci, could not help but agree.

"Regardless of which ticket wins, our class will be well-represented next year." she said.

**Brown continued from page 1**

regardless of whether they are secular or faith-based, Towey said.

"When we start talking about compassion, we have to talk about effective compassion," he said.

Towey, who said he is a Democrat, provided legal counsel for Mother Teresa of Calcutta for 12 years. In 1998, he and his full-time volunteer in a home for AIDS patients that Mother Teresa set up in Washington, D.C.

"The men were broken, the women [were] prostitutes and addicts," he said.

The people needed clothing, food and housing, but there was also a "spiritual poverty" in the home, Towey said.

Towey discussed Thomas Jefferson's views on the separation between church and state.

Although Jefferson wrote of a "wall" between the two, the former president later scratched it out and attended church service in a government building, Towey said.

The Constitution envisioned a "dynamic tension" between church and state, and not a barrier, or keeping religion from the public square, Towey said.

"When you have a public square hostile to religious values ... who suffers?" Towey asked.

"The poor do." Towey used a recent lawsuit against Catholic Education (ACE) as an example of how the poor suffer from a lack of government support to religious organizations.

ACE co-sponsored the lecture with the Center for Social Concerns.

"The real stakeholders in that decision were not the first amendment specialists or the [American Civil Liberties Union]," Towey said.

"They were those poor students who were denied contact with Notre Dame students in their schools.

Towey advocated free competition for federal grants between secular and faith-based organizations based on the organizations' effectiveness. He said while it now appear there is competition, there are many large secular nonprofits often squeeze out small, effective faith-based groups — even if the larger organizations are not very effective.

"We don't measure success. There's no accountability. You have to be incredibly good to lose funding," Towey said. "It really is a cruel hoax to put forward a program that we're not going to keep track of.

"Towey said the federal government gave $2 billion to faith-based nonprofits last year, and that the amount continues to increase.

He said when President Bush came into power, the president believed regulations in place were "forcing" faith-based groups to secularize in order to gain funding.

The groups were becoming less effective in the process, he said.

"The little groups in the neighborhoods, often minority neighborhoods, that were well-connected politically were cut off from funds," Towey said.

Susan Brown is a dual political science and Spanish major. In addition to her current role on Student Senate, she served on student government's communications committee during her freshman year.

Brown said she was excited and surprised Shappell and Andrichik chose her for the position.

"I've been very impressed with what Liz and Bill have done in the past two years, "Brown said. "I know they have a lot of great initiatives that they want to get done next year, and I am excited to be a part of it.

Brown said she feels her leadership experiences thus far will help her transition to the position of third in command of the student government.

"I think I've done a good job this year in my position as campaign manager this year and impressed with her work as Cavanaugh senator," Shappell said.

"She will bring that dedication to the office." Brown is a dual political science and Spanish major. In addition to her current role on Student Senate, she served on student government's communications committee during her first year.

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"I have learned how to work with all kinds of people," she said. "I hope to do stuff that unites the class and really brings us together.

"While Kielty and Johnson are busy making plans for the future, Goeppinger and Kindt spent time until Thursday to finish their campaign.

"Both tickets are very strong with dedicated people who will do a good job for our class," Kindt said.

Her running mate, Antonucci, could not help but agree.

"Regardless of which ticket wins, our class will be well-represented next year," she said.

"I hope I can help push through what Bill and Lizzi want in terms of community relations." as CEA, Brown will serve as chair of the Executive Programming Board, coordinate Senate activities and run the daily logistics of the student government office.

Shappell called the CEA position an "integral part" of student government and said a new person will bring a different energy to the job.

"The position will change with the person's personality, because it is only its third year in existence," Shappell said.

Bren served as the first CEA.

Contact Kaitlynn Rizy at krizy@nd.edu

**A Discussion on Issues Surrounding the Academic Freedom Debate**

All Students are invited to Attend

Wednesday, March 1

7:30 PM

Coleman-Morse Lounge (1st floor)

An opportunity for all students to come together and discuss the issues surrounding the Academic Freedom debate. Students will be broken up into small groups (randomly selected) to discuss the issues and then will reconvene in a large group to share the discussions.

Please, only students. No faculty, staff, or alumni. Sponsored by Student Government.
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Court views evidence against Hussein

BAGHDAD — Prosecutors presented documents Tuesday they said showed Saddam Hussein approved in 2002 plans to target Shiites in the 1980s, the most direct evidence yet against the former leader in his long-open war crimes trial. Among those sentenced to hang was an 11-year-old boy.

The most significant document featured a signature said to be Saddam's on a court list of people to be executed, though it was not clear he was aware of the plan on the list that particular document only had names.

About 40 Iraqis died during interrogation before they could go to the gallows. One, his brother and two sons were executed by mistake, and Baghdad officials later declared "martyrs" to cover up the error.

Putin optimistic about Iran talks

BUDAPESI, Hungary — Russian President Vladimir Putin will strike an agreement with Iran over its disputed nuclear program.

A delegation led by top Iranian negotiator Ali Larijani is expected to arrive in Moscow on Wednesday for talks on a proposal to enrich uranium for Iran on Russian territory to ensure the nuclear fuel cannot be diverted for atomic bombs. Enrichment is a process that can produce fuel for a nuclear reactor or fissile material for a weapon.

"We are optimistic," Vladimir Putin told reporters on a visit to Hungary. "It's quite possible for us to reach an agreement to establish a joint venture on Russian territory to enrich uranium for Iranian nuclear energy needs." 

**NATIONAL NEWS**

Lawmakers resist a quick port vote

WASHINGTON — Congressional Republicans and Democrats met Tuesday and said they may adjourn as soon as Monday, which would set up a showdown over the fate of $22 billion in border funding.

"It's a simple vote on a necessary piece of legislation," said the White House's top budget official. "It's about national security." But many also said steps taken over the weekend by the White House and the United Arab Emirates for a 45-day investigation of the claim show they are serious about finding and repairing the need for legislation now.

Bush praises Iraqis, visits South Asia

WASHINGTON — President Bush praised Iraqis Tuesday for their fight against terrorism and said he was able to speak with a friend of Pakistan's and be able to have a good dialogue. And go to India, he said, as a friend of Pakistan's and be able to have a good dialogue.

"This will make promises and dreams a reality," Bush told ABC News on Tuesday. "We are optimists," Vladimir Putin told reporters on a visit to Hungary. "It's quite possible for us to reach an agreement to establish a joint venture on Russian territory to enrich uranium for Iranian nuclear energy needs." 

**LOCAL NEWS**

Response to Toll Road bill mixed

The House of Delegates and Senate are expected to pass a bill that would institute toll roads in Western Maryland.

For years, the Washington region has been debating toll roads as a way to fund major transportation projects. The proposed bill is expected to be a hot topic in the upcoming legislative session.
months after they did, in July they shipped to Afghanistan, pen pals. Their stories continued from page 1 one moment and wives who face real fear the next.

Dantzscher met her husband Corbin Cody in their Minnesota high school, where they became friends, and later, when he was shipped to Afghanistan, pen pals. Though their stories may be different, both women share the difficulties of leading almost double lives — careful college students one moment and wives who face real fear the next.

Dantzscher has tried to talk to her husband at least every other day on his cell phone since he's been in Iraq, though she said it was impossible to know where he would be at any time.

"If I can't get ahold of him, I just keep calling until I know he's OK," she said.

"If I can't get ahold of him, I just keep calling until I know he's OK," said Danyas Dantzscher.

"We actually went to Bermuda with his entire family," she explained, laughing. "It was his grandmother's 25th anniversary, and the trip had been planned for a while, it just happened to fit perfectly with our wedding. Everyone was respectful and accommodating through, knowing it was our honeymoon, and it was great for him to spend time with his family before he went to Iraq."

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"If I can't get ahold of him, I just keep calling until I know he's OK," she said.

In the manner of traditional high school sweetheart sales, Clifton-Lyon met her husband Mark when she was a freshman in a California boarding school and started dating him when she was a senior. By her freshman year at Notre Dame, she was engaged.

"I had wanted to wait, but since he was getting into the war, he wanted something to keep him going over there," Clifton-Lyon said. "We threw the wedding together in a few days. Thankfully, his mom used to be a wedding planner, and one of his sisters is a florist while the other is a photographer, so that made life easy."

While she said she does not regret her decision to get married, Clifton-Lyon said life has been far more difficult than she anticipated.

"I was depressed, 364 days out of the year when he was gone. It was the worst time of my life, spent just constantly worrying about him," she said. "I never gave it much thought, being in the Army and how that would change things, I just knew this was the man I wanted to marry, and that was his job. I didn't deal until later that it comes with some prices."

Because Mark was stationed in a town with little cell phone reception, the couple was forced to rely on handwritten letters to communicate for several months.

"That was a very hard time, because sometimes I didn’t feel connected, you start to have some doubts after you go a month without talking to your spouse," she said.

Her husband returned in February, and for the first time since their marriage, the two had to adjust to married life.

"I missed him so much and thank God every minute he’s back, but this is the first time we’re really spending time together," she said. "People sometimes miss the difficult side of marriage, having to live in an apartment together and share space all the time."

How to deal

One of the hardest things about being a student and a military wife, both women said, is balancing the two worlds.

"It's a lot easier being a student when he's gone, but believe me, I would take the grade just to have him back," Dantzscher said. "I actually used schoolwork as a way to distract myself from the worry that he being away causes, from thinking the horrible thought that people die over there every day."

Dantzscher said while it is hard to find anyone who can relate to her situation on campus, her friends have been instrumental in getting her through this time.

"I have a hard time spending a lot of time by myself, because then I start to think about him more," she said. "My friends give me something else to focus on, and a vent for my feelings. They don't necessarily understand, but they sympathize."

Also said apart from her friends, it was sometimes difficult to find support from the campus in general.

"Support for the war on campus is minimal, and I have a hard time with people making comments in class that are just insensitive. People here may be sympathetic, but they’re almost negligent," she said. "They see there’s a war going on, the news, say, Wow, that’s terrible, and go on living their lives."

Clifton-Lyon said her first months and on Clifton-Lyon carries her marriage were the most overwhelming.

"I was trying to deal with school and deal with fears about my husband at the same time, and no one was around who understood," she said. "I mean, I could talk to the people who were married, but they didn't really understand what it was like to be separated for a long time. I could talk to friends in the military, but they didn't know what it was like to be married. That was the hardest thing, not having anywhere to turn."

"The Notre Dame family, however, pulled together for her, Clifton-Lyon said. "ND is definitely a community and all my friends came together to help me. My old roommates helped me move into my apartment, and my friends in grad school would cook for me because I just didn’t have time to do anything," she said. "It was impossible for me to find a balance."

What next?

If there's one thing Dantzscher and Clifton-Lyon have in common, they said, it was the future. Dantzscher speculated about joining the Air Force and her husband going for a master's degree when he was done with service. Clifton-Lyon whose husband will leave this month for a year of training around the continental U.S., just laughed.

"You can't make concrete plans," Clifton-Lyon said. "You don't know what's going to happen. When your husband is in the military, you focus on the challenges of every day."

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichaels@nd.edu

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**Steel merger opposition softens**

Proposal to combine world's two largest steel companies receives decreasing criticism

**Associated Press**

CHICAGO — Opposition to the proposed merger to combine the world’s two largest steelmakers is softening, the producers said Tuesday, as Mittal Steel Co. maintained Sunday in defending its first takeover attempt for rival Arcelor SA.

Aditya Mittal, who also is chief financial officer of the world’s largest steelmaker, defended the company’s deal that will close by the end of June after gaining approval from European regulators and Arcelor shareholders.

“Mittal Steel has not been the best at giving the market the right information,” said Mittal. “But that is changing now.”

**In Brief**

Bankrupt Twinkie-maker lays off 230

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Interstate Bakeries Corp., the bankrupt maker of Twinkies and Wonder Bread, said Tuesday it will lay off about 230 employees in Indiana and Michigan as it consolidates routes, depots and retail outlets in the upper Midwest.

The company said the moves, expected to be completed by March 13 if approved by bankruptcy officials, will require a $700,000 charge, including $400,000 in severance payments. In addition, the company said it expects to pay $500,000 to its credit card providers and $50,000 to its bankruptcy officials.

Tuesday’s announcement concludes the company’s evaluation of operations in its 10 regional profit centers. Since filing for bankruptcy in September 2004, the company has closed nine bakeries and trimmed its national work force by about 230 employees in Indiana and Michigan tied to the consolidation.

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**A wrapped coil of steel is shown at Mittal Steel's Burns Harbor, Ind., plant. Mittal's executives predicted Sunday that the proposal to combine with Arcelor SA will close by June.**

Mittal estimates annual savings of roughly $1 billion from combining the two companies.

*The head of Mittal's U.S. division rejected a suggestion that a mega-company could have a negative impact on the U.S. automotive industry by resulting in higher prices for steel.*

*"We have a commitment as a company in saying we're not going to disadvantage any customer of ours on the price front," said Lou Schorsch, CEO of Mittal Steel USA.*

Mittal, which has headquarters in Rotterdam and London, selected Chicago as its U.S. headquarters shortly before launching the disputed Arcelor bid last month. Its mills in Indiana and Ohio make steel for the auto industry.

**Dana meets with banks, stock rises**

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Italian prime minister visits Bush
U.S. president gives Iraq ally Berlusconi support in re-election bid

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, facing a tough election battle, was scheduled to boost Tuesday from his ally President Bush, who effectively vouches for the strong leader who has "brought stability to the Italian government."

Berlusconi had breakfast with Bush, followed by formal talks.

"He is a man of his word," Bush said of Berlusconi as they sat side by side in the Oval Office. "Obviously, it's important for an American president to be able to work with somebody in a consistent manner and I appreciate the stability the prime minister has brought to our close ally and friend."

And whether the friendly U.S.-Italian relations would continue if Berlusconi opponent won. Bush had said he was keeping his distance from Italian politics. "He is again spoke of the value of a leader with whom he has developed close personal relations," Bush said in a statement.

"My relationship is not a political one, but with this man. It's a strategic relationship and this strategic relationship is between two peoples and it's important to

lay the foundations for peace," Bush said. "If a government is changing every year, it requires a person in my position to con-

stantly have to reassert yourself and that's what it means by stability. It's much easier to make common policy when you have a strong leader person from one year to the next."

"Thank you very much, Mr. President, for your words of appeal, they give me a lot of satisfaction," Berlusconi replied.

Bush and Berlusconi are both conservatives who came to head their governments in 2001. Italy initially was among the most important U.S. allies in Iraq who were badly此事

saddened as their troops left Iraq, and having provided 3,000 troops to the effort in 2003 after U.S.

invaders invaded Iraq, but had brought down President Saddam Hussein's gov-

ernment. Now it has 2,600 troops in-country and is in the process of removing them all by the end of the year.

Berlusconi's almost five years in power make him Italy's longest-serving premier since World War II. His is the 59th postwar government.

President Bush met with Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi on Wednesday, then headed to New York City to promote and promote his own image as a staunch advocate of freedom and democracy.

The Italian premier speaks before the U.S.-Iraqi Congress on Wednesday, legislators for the promotion of freedom and democracy.

"This is the visit of the prime minister of this great nation," Calla,

said, "and the continue of the address to Congress."

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It has been my privilege (and misfortune) to see many "hot" Internet trends come and go over the last few years. Most of those trends were initially promising, never lived long enough to make any lasting mark on society, or even on other technologies. And, they were usually forgotten by everyone — except of course by our dumbassicient inventors.

The Internet, largely because of its novelty, has been both aided (commercially) and hindered (socially) by attempts in the media and in business to define "what it all means." The major problem with this approach is that the Internet, just like any other freeform collection of human interactions, has no actual goals, and very little focus. Local trends may shape the needs of the Internet in the short term, but over the long haul it is moved by little else but sociology and psychology. Forgetting this, and forgetting the critical role of the individual, is the first step in creating a so-so-to-beled dot-com, and the next unmentionable dot-blip.

I bring this up because right now many pundits, political blogs (and their cousins, like LiveJournal and MySpace) in this category of high-bug, low-impact technologies, are the new darlings of the world, just like the waves were a few years ago, and educators, having learned of these new technologies from the media and believing that they understand their purpose and potential, are trying to restrict their own students' access to these new media without first asking why they were interested in the first place.

And actually, I don't entirely disagree with either group on the underlying point. Everyone has I'm sure plans to dismantle it even if blogs in general should fall out of favor. I think most of the current attraction is pure hype, and so the entire phenomena, as it is understood in the media, is now spread, with its author's blessing, to the world, including some of that fame.

However, these media blogs are only a minor phenomenon in the future of the Internet, does not lie in these media, which gives a major hint as to how our tradition is exercised in our business practices. Our call, from Biblical justice to Catholic Social Teaching, compels us to do more than what is competitive in the market. The economy should work for the people, not the other way around. The call to Christian love is horizontal as well as vertical. We find the call to love our neighbors in 1 John 3:17: "If someone who has no worldly means sees a brother in need and refuses compassion, how can the love of God remain in him?" This compassion is neither charity nor welfare. A living wage is paying enough people to live on and have a dignified quality of life.

In this season of preparation, CLAP would like to challenge every member of the University and President Father John Jenkins, as our leader, in turn, to support our commitments to Catholic Social Teaching and to ending poverty into real actions on this campus. This semester, by committing publicly to the principle of living wages and committing a Joint Taskforce to begin making this a reality. For everyone is doing, and what they have done, to the future of the Internet, does not lie in these media, which gives a major hint as to how our tradition is exercised in our business practices. Our call, from Biblical justice to Catholic Social Teaching, compels us to do more than what is competitive in the market. The economy should work for the people, not the other way around. The call to Christian love is horizontal as well as vertical. We find the call to love our neighbors in 1 John 3:17: "If someone who has no worldly means sees a brother in need and refuses compassion, how can the love of God remain in him?" This compassion is neither charity nor welfare. A living wage is paying enough people to live on and have a dignified quality of life.

As we enter the season of Lent, members of the Campus Labor Action Project would like to extend a wide invitation to students, other members of the Notre Dame community, to a communal examination of conscience on our University's relationship with our Catholic values of community, work ethics, and campus employees. This Lenten season, as we continue to ponder our Catholic Character in relation to Academic Freedom, we feel it imperative to examine how our tradition is exercised in our business practices. Our call, from Biblical justice to Catholic Social Teaching, compels us to do more than what is competitive in the market. The economy should work for the people, not the other way around. The call to Christian love is horizontal as well as vertical. We find the call to love our neighbors in 1 John 3:17: "If someone who has no worldly means sees a brother in need and refuses compassion, how can the love of God remain in him?" This compassion is neither charity nor welfare. A living wage is paying enough people to live on and have a dignified quality of life.

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Higher standards for men's basketball

As Notre Dame's men's basketball team tumbled toward its worst record in 14 months, it is appropriate to ask when we all knew for the first time that the current coach might not be qualified for the job. For us, it was during the Sweet 16 matchup with the University of Connecticut, when we chose the highly irrational and sublime strategy of trying to "outscore" the top-seeded, NCAA-talent laden Wildcats, only to be surprised! blown out by halftime. As I sat just one seat behind the athletic direc­tor, Kevin White, I said to myself, I wonder if he is as perplexed by this strategy as I am? For some, it may have been in March of 2004 when, in response to learning that his team was not selected for the NCAA tournament, he suggested that missing the NCAA tournament was something that had to have been a "job loser" at Notre Dame. For many more, it was evident in March of 2005 after he wasted two consecutive sea­sons trying to make the Joyce Center become the site of an in-house narrative of the interests of a malcontent, erudite, prima donna, rather than putting the sons of Notre Dame basketball for the sake of success in men's basketball at Notre Dame needs to take a back seat to no other program on campus, save to that of the football program. Emerson's fundamental tenet of human nature is this: why has Notre Dame, which is academically any other professional standard, six national championships via total commitment to defense and fundamentals, know the same high standard in men's basketball as it does to football and every other sport at the school. When University President Father John Jenkins overhauled the foot­ball program 14 months ago, he stated that, in order for Notre Dame to be suc­cessful in football, they needed to succeed "ethically, academically and with wins on the field." Out of simple respect for the cur­rent players on the basketball roster, that same mandate needs to be applied imme­diately to the men's basketball program. Thanks to a lack of accountability and high standards for the basketball team, Chris Quinn, a splendid basketball player who might otherwise be this generation's John Havlicek, has gone to the NBA's most winningest team once in his four years of labor at Notre Dame. For the administration to allow the men's basketball program to continue to languish in its current vertical state does a disservice to all the younger players on the team, the incoming recruits, the student body who support the team and those who built this once- storied program.

As a final point, I would remind the administration that, the last time I checked, the men's basketball coaching position at Notre Dame was indeed a "job," not a vol­unteer campus community position. In fact, I suspect it ranks as one of the most highly compensated positions at the University. As such, there should be fundamental standards and milestones which are required to be met. As an example, 1) annually compete for the Big Ten title; 2) annually compete for one of the top 16 seeds in the NCAA tournament bracket; 3) finish in the top 10 of the national rankings; 4) annually compete for one of the top 16 seeds in the NCAA tournament bracket. If these goals seem outrageous, consider that from 1970-1981, Notre Dame fin­ished in the top ten final national rankings, seven times and garnered several number one to four seedings in the NCAA tourn­ament! Consider also that Notre Dame is the 11th winningest men's basketball pro­gram in NCAA history (behind Indiana and UCLA) and has the second-most 2,000-point scorers in NCAA history. Digger Phelps obviously understood Emerson's fundamental tenets of human competition: "You have to aim above the target to hit the target!" The history of college athletics has shown, more than at any other level, the importance of maintaining the right institution. The basketball pro­grams at UCLA and Indiana come to mind as good examples. I work at an institution, Duke University, which, in 1982, had a basketball program that was comparable to the Notre Dame basketball program. An example, in my job as a new faculty member at a university medical center, I was given the right institution. The basketball pro­gram. Short of simply existing, it is not possible to sustain a multi-year winning program at Notre Dame without a disservice to all the younger players on the team, the incoming recruits, the stu­dent body who support the team and those who built this once-storied program.

Jeff Jackson
Notre Dame Hockey
Feb. 18
For the first time in almost a decade, the Oscars are a competition between small, independent films.

No huge blockbusters, few overwhelming prestige films, no Miramax — most of the Best Picture nominees are from the art-oriented offspring of the major studios (Focus Features, Sony Pictures Classic, Warners Independent). Not since 1996, when Miramax’s “The English Patient” beat out critical favorite “Fargo,” has there been an Oscar race oriented around so many smaller films. In other years, it’s possible to make the argument that the films that emerge as classics and/or the true best pictures of the year aren’t even nominated (2000’s “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind,” 2000’s “Almost Famous” and “Memento”). That doesn’t seem to be the case this year, as the gravitation toward independent films means that the pictures nominated may truly be the best of the year.

Still, 2005 has a clear favorite: Ang Lee’s exquisite “Brokeback Mountain.” It leads the race with eight nominations, including most of the major categories.

In other nominations, Soderbergh’s “Munich,” helmed in controversy and lesser-than-stellar box office returns, seems like an afterthought (though it garnered a few key nominations), while George Clooney finally comes into his own as a regular Orson Welles with no less than three nominations (acting, directing and writing, and his film “Good Night and Good Luck” was also nominated for Best Picture). In an unusual turn of events, all five of the Best Picture nominees were matched by nominations for their directors, something that has only happened twice before (in 1957, 1964 and 1981).

While few of these categories are wide-open races, there’s also no Scorsese, which means no guaranteed loser either. The 78th Annual Academy Awards will be aired on its chances the 2000’s “Almost Famous” and “Shakespeare in Love” won in 1998.

“Brokeback Mountain” is an accomplished, amazingly effective film that will remain in the public consciousness for years later. Its stature will grow, rather than diminish, in ensuing years.

Best Director
Who will win: Heath Ledger, “Brokeback Mountain.”
Why he should win: His staggeringly brave performance — an absolute revelation, Ledger does so much with so little that he commands the screen throughout “Brokeback Mountain,” acting as the aching emotional core of the film, anchoring it with such presence that it’s hard to believe that this is an actor whose past credits include “A Knight’s Tale” and “10 Things I Hate About You.” His turn as the cowboy Ennis is heartbreaking in its emotional scope and breathtaking in its measured control. Without doubt one of the best performances of the year, it should—finally move Ledger to the top of the A-list in Hollywood and make him a future Academy Award candidate.

Best Picture
What will win: Brokeback Mountain
Why it will win: Bluntly put, there’s not a whole lot of competition. “Crash” may be the closest contender, but mixed critical consensus and the ensemble cast will sink its chances. “Brokeback Mountain” has everything the Oscars look for: an all-star cast, a talented and proven director, a topical and relevant plotline, a quotable script. “Brokeback Mountain” is also one of the most beautifully and exquisite made films in years, and the Academy’s love of high production values will certainly bolster its chances.

What should win: Brokeback Mountain
Why it should win: If “Brokeback Mountain” wins, it will mark the first Picture winner in a decade — maybe longer. Prejudice and malice can still cast a shadow the actual content of a film, which is how “The English Patient” won in 1996 and “Shakespeare in Love” in 1998. “Brokeback Mountain” is an accomplished, amazingly effective film that will remain in the public consciousness for years later. Its stature will grow, rather than diminish, in ensuing years.

Best Actor
Who will win: Philip Seymour Hoffman, “Capote.”
Why he will win: What a fantastic actor Hoffman is! He’s one of the few actors who steals the show in every picture he’s in, playing everything from a porn industry soundman in “Boogie Nights” to rock critic Lester Bangs (“Almost Famous”). “Capote” may be his finest work, as Hoffman controls the film with a perfectly modulated performance, proving once and for all that the one-time character actor is capable of carrying a picture by himself. Hoffman is an actor known for disappearing into his characters, and his affected turn as the sensationalary writer—journalist is both memorable and effective. The Academy will certainly not overlook Hoffman, who has become a critical favorite over the years.

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By BRIAN DOKTADER
Assistant Scene Editor

2000
Best Picture: “Gladiator”
Best Director: Steven Soderbergh “Traffic”

2001
Best Picture: “A Beautiful Mind”
Best Director: Ron Howard “A Beautiful Mind”

2002
Best Picture: “Chicago”
Best Director: Roman Polanski “The Pianist”

Best Actor
Who will win:
Who should win:
Not since 1996, when Miramax’s “The English Patient” beat out critical favorite “Fargo,” has there been an Oscar race oriented around so many smaller films.
tress will win: Reese Witherspoon, "Walk the Line"

He will win: He’s a lock. Look at petition — two petitions (Jul 1998’s "Shakespeare in Love," "The Others" for 2003’s "Monster"). He’s yet unproven talent (Keira Knightley Aside from Knightley’s "Pride and Prejudice," he’s seen any of the lines (Benich’s "Mrs. Henderson," "Thoron’s "North Country" and "Becoming Beltran), which gives him a major publicity boost. Plus, only pretty good at June Carter in "E Line," which makes each one of this contestable categories in the best

should win: Reese Witherspoon, "Lies"

He should win: Again, lack of competition. Hoffman’s performance in "Melissa" has been praised, but it’s in as a good actress in a bad film. Men’s dead-on performance as he was one of the most notable of the year, as she even overshadowed fellow Joaquin Phoenix as Johnny Cash.

Best Supporting Actor

Who will win: Paul Giamatti, "Cinderella Man"

Why he will win: Consider it a culmination of the prize. Giamatti has been a snubbed time and time again by the Academy (he didn’t even get nominated for last year’s "Sideways"). Of course, they’ll commend him this year. It’s not the performance of his career, but this is a turn as fast-talking manager Joe benched of the highly publicized "Man in the Arena." If he wins, he deserves it, more of a make-up award for "Cinderella Man" and "American Splendor." Could win: Matt Dillon, "Crash." Should win: Yes, that Matt Dillon. Change as hip hop cop Jack Ryan is subtle and deep — surprising and riveting from the guy who was in "Wild at Heart."

Best Supporting Actress

Who will win: Rachel Weisz, "The Gardeners"

Should win: Weisz. She’s one of the best things about Fernando Meirelles’ largely inconsistent "The Constant Gardner." He steady performance of the activist Tessa gave the film an emotional anchor and she brought strong emotional impact to the difficult role. (Yes, while previous credits include "The Mummy" and "Evry," she’s emerged as the leading critical favorite after winning at the Golden Globes.) An award here would also be an award for "The Constant Gardener" as a whole, which failed to garner any other major nominations.

Who should win: Catherine Keener, "Capote"

Why she should win: This was a tough, tough call. Keener is an excellent actress, veering from comedy ("The 40 Year-Old Virgin") to drama seemingly at ease. Her turn as "To Kill a Mockingbird" author Harper Lee was touchingly sensitive with out being cloying. Does Keener deserve the award more than Weisz? The fact is that Keener is in a better film, and that makes her performance stand out more. None of the actresses in this category dominated their picture (Weisz alongside Ralph Fiennes, Keener alongside Hoffman, Michelle Williams alongside Ledger), but Keener held her own against Hoffman, which is no small feat. She did the same against Steve Carell in "The 40 Year-Old Virgin," which, while slightly easier than playing against Hoffman, is still difficult.

If "Brokeback Mountain" wins, it will mark the finest Best Picture winner in a decade — maybe longer.

Best Adapted Screenplay

Who will win: Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana, "Brokeback Mountain"

Why they will win: This is a tough call. The screenplay for "Brokeback Mountain" has been mocked almost as much as it has been praised, but it is still a solid achievement. The writing is generally good, aside from a few poor lines (all of which apparently made it into the film’s trailer). McMurtry is a Pulitzer Prize-winner, which should give him some leverage with Academy voters who like his prestige factor.

Who should win: Dan Futterman, "Capote"

Why he should win: Futterman’s screenplay for "Capote" is about as measured and exquisite as they come. Overshadowed by Hoffman’s performance, it’s easy to forget just how well written this film is — yet the skillful dialogue and strong characterization is evident throughout. Futterman, who was also executive producer of the film, is better known as an actor (he starred in "The Birdcage" and the TV show "Judging Amy") but it’s obvious that he could have quite the career in screenwriting.

Best Original Screenplay

Who will win: Paul Haggis and Bobby Moresco, "Crash"

Why they will win: Why they will win: Quentin Tarantino once quipped that the screenplay Oscar is the consolation prize for being the biggest film of the year. And no film was bigger than "Crash," with its interlocking storylines, clever dialogue and topical subject matter. Haggis’s script for "Million Dollar Baby" lost to Alexander Payne’s "Sideways" last year, so expect a win here for the talented writer-director.

Best Director

Who should win: George Clooney and Grant Heslov, "Good Night and Good Luck"

Why they should win: Clooney and Heslov’s acute, insightful screenplay isn’t as flashy as Haggis’ work on "Crash," but it is in many ways more impressive. The examination of McCarthy-era hypocrisies is subtle and shaded ("Crash," for all its many attributes, is anything but subtle). Unlike many of the other nominees in this category, "Good Night and Good Luck" survives on the weight of its words alone. The writing handles a controversial topic with grace, fortitude and even a little style.

Oscar Outlooks

♦ "Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith" received no major nominations. It also received no Best Visual Effects nomination (marking the first "Star Wars" film to not receive even an Effects nomination.

♦ David Cronenberg’s "A History of Violence" received no major nominations.

♦ Ron Howard’s "Cinderella Man," a box office disappointment during its summer release, received no nomination for Best Picture, Best Actor (Russell Crowe) or Best Director.

♦ Terrence Mallek’s "The New World" received no major nominations. It also failed to garner a nomination for James Horner’s excellent score.

♦ Woody Allen’s "Match Point," praised by critics as his finest in years, was nominated for Best Original Screenplay but no other major awards.

♦ Fernando Meirelles’ "The Constant Gardener" received only an acting nomination, for lead Rachel Weisz, overlooking lead Ralph Fiennes.

♦ Peter Jackson’s "King Kong" received no major nominations.

♦ Christopher Nolan’s "Batman Begins" received only a single nomination, for Best Cinematography.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtader@nd.edu

Best Supporting Actresses

Amy Adams "Junebug" 7/2

"Capote" 13/1

"North Country" 2/1

"The Constant Gardener" 4/1

"Brokeback Mountain" 20/1

"A History of Violence" 5/1

Best Supporting Actors

George Clooney "Syria" 8/1

"Crash" 13/1

"Brokeback Mountain" 1/1

"Cinderella Man" 2/1

"North Country" 1/6

"Transamerica" 7/2

"The Constant Gardener" 1/4

"Brooke's Hotel" 2/1

"We Need to Talk About Kevin" 3/1

"Cinderella Man" 4/1

"North Country" 1/6

Best Picture

"Brokeback Mountain" 10/1

"Capote" 5/1

"Crash" 3/1

"Good Night, and Good Luck" 4/1

"Munich" 7/1

MHer 2003

Best Director: Peter Jackson "The Return of the King"

Best Picture: "The Return of the King"

2004

Best Director: Clint Eastwood "Million Dollar Baby"

Best Picture: "Million Dollar Baby"

Best Actress: Cate Blanchett "The Aviator"

Best Actor: Daniel Day-Lewis "There Will Be Blood"

Best Supporting Actress: Abbie Cornish "Crash"

Best Supporting Actor: Ben Affleck "Good Night, and Good Luck"

Best Original Screenplay: George Clooney and Grant Heslov "Good Night and Good Luck"

Best Adapted Screenplay: Larry McMurtry and Diana Ossana "Brokeback Mountain"

Best Foreign Language Film: "The Diving Bell and the Butterfly"

Best Animated Feature: "Shrek the Third"

Best Documentary Feature: "The War Room"

Best Documentary Short Subject: "The Farm"
Cinematic combat: Hollywood's modern warfare

By SEAN SWEANY

“Eight Below” is an inspirational story with a very strong message — animals are far better actors than humans.

The movie is based on a true story from 1983. A fierce blizzard forces the research team to leave their ship and the 15 sled dogs behind. The scientists forced to make the movie run longer than it should. While Walker isn’t bad as the scientist Shepard, he also isn’t very convincing in his role. There is also an undeveloped and pointless love interest between him and the pilot, played by Moon Bloodgood. In the end, “Eight Below” is a good movie worth watching for the engaging performances of the eight dogs.

Contact Erin McGinn at emc@nd.edu

Human characters fail to eclipse canine standards

By ERIN MCGINN

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Contact Erin McGinn at emc@nd.edu
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Albonetti often retreated after the initial punch.

Hansen won a unanimous decision victory in the 165-pound weight class, allowing him to land consistent combinations and uppercuts, but was unable to overwhelm his opponent. Nicholson came out aggressively, keeping Bono at bay and evening up the fight.

Lochridge started off punching and trading punches throughout the first round, but his punches were so wild that it appeared that most of them went off in the wrong direction. Ervin was still stronger throughout the second round, but was too tired to land anything of significance. Reger started exhibiting signs of fatigue by the end of the third round, but was able to last the distance and deliver enough punches to earn a split decision victory in the unanimous decision.

Hansen won a unanimous decision in the 165-pound weight class after a relatively even first round, but was able to control the fight in the second and third rounds to check on Jordan.

In the final round, Kutt had a hard time connecting with his advantage in height and speed, and was unable to overwhelm his opponent. Golenator Golen defeated sophomore Mike Golen in a unanimous decision in the 165-pound weight class.

The final quarterfinal bout was between seniors Michael "The Liberator" Lochridge and Bylica trading punches throughout the third round, but Bylica took the lead in an almost constant onslaught in the first round. Bono came out strong in the first round, but Bylica took the lead in an almost constant onslaught in the first round. Bono fought back throughout the second round, forcing Lochridge to go on the defensive, including being forced to have a standing eight count.

Jesse "The Minnesota Golden" Golen defeated" Benford Begay early in the second round. Golen was able to control the fight with his advantage in height and speed, and was able to overwhelm his opponent.

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NCAA Men's Basketball

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NCAA Women's Basketball

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NCAA Men's Basketball

Big East Conference

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<td>Georgia Tech</td>
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<td>19-9</td>
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<td>Cincinnati</td>
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<td>16-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rutgers</td>
<td>6-8</td>
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NFL

NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue, left, speaks with New Orleans Saints coach Sean Payton on Feb. 14. Tagliabue and NFLPA executive director Gene Upshaw broke off negotiations Tuesday, three days before teams can sign free agents.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — NFL labor talks broke off Tuesday three days before the start of free agency, leaving teams and players in a quandary about negotiating new contracts.

Gene Upshaw, executive director of the NFL Players Association, spent the last three days meeting in New York and Washington with commissioner Paul Tagliabue.

"We're deadlocked. There's nowhere to go," Upshaw said. "There's no reason to continue meeting.

The NFL acknowledged the talks had broken off and said no further discussions were scheduled. The league said it would not extend Friday's deadline for the start of free agency. Although the contract does not expire until after the 2007 season, this is a critical period in the negotiations to extend the 12-year-old agreement. Talks have been going on for more than a year.

Free agency is scheduled to start Friday if the deal is not extended. This would be the last year with a salary cap, so agents and team officials want to know how to structure contracts.

For example, if there is no extension, the salary cap is expected to be about $95 million this season and annual raises after 2006 in a long-term deal would be limited to 20 percent. If the deal is extended the cap could be $100 million or more higher.

The sides have agreed on a number of issues. The biggest one is changing the formula for the amount of money to go to the players from "designated gross revenues"—primarily television and ticket sales—to "total gross revenues," which include almost every bit of money a team generates.

They differ, however, on the percentage of revenues to be allocated to the players—the union is asking for 60 percent and the league's current offer is 56.2 percent.

But there are also disputes among groups of owners on that issue, too. Tagliabue has called a league meeting in New York for Thursday.

Teams with lower revenues—mostly small-market clubs—say that if the contributions to the players' fund are equally apportioned among 32 franchises, they will have to pay a substantially larger proportion of their non-television and ticket monies because they have less.

IN BRIEF

Federer breezes by first-round opponent

BURLINGTON, United Arab Emirates—Top-ranked Roger Federer returned from his month's vacation and began his bid for a fourth straight Dubai Open title Tuesday, beating Siniakos Wawrinka 7-6 (3), 6-3 in an all-Swiss match in the first round.

Also advancing was second-ranked Rafael Nadal, who defeated beat France's Paul-Henri Mathieu 6-4, 6-1.

Federer has been resting in his hometown of Oberwil since winning the Australian Open in January. He said Wawrinka pressured him into several unforced errors.

"I'm quite pleased with the way I played," Federer said. "I really don't care about the bad shots as long as the end result is fine."

Federer, a seven-time Grand Slam champion, will next play 48th-ranked Kuwaiti wild card Mohammed Al Ghareeb.

Primeau says season over after head injury

VOORHEES, N.J. — Keith Primeau promised his wife he wouldn't break down while talking about the premature end of his season because of lingering symptoms from a concussion four months ago.

He had good reason to keep his word. His wife, Lisa, threatened to come into the news conference from a nearby room and smack him on the head if he became too emotional.

"That's probably not what I can use right now," Primeau said Tuesday, cracking a brief smile.

Primeau won't be taking any whacks to the head on the ice any time soon. The Philadelphia Flyers captain is done for the season, still feeling the effects of an Oct. 25 hit from Montreal's Alexander Perekhodin, the latest and most severe in a list of head injuries the center has sustained in a 15-year career.

Autistic hoopster returns to the bench

GRIFFIN, N.J. — Alone in the gym after practice, Jason McElwaan went through his elaborate pregame ritual.

The 17-year-old senior, manager of the Greece Athena High School basketball team, drained a 3-pointer, a double-pump layup and a free throw, kissed the back of his ring finger at center court and sped off to the dressing room to exhale and assume his teammates.

"You've gotta give it everything you got," McElwaan sang in rap verse. "The winner goes home all happy/The loser goes home and says/Mommy we lost the game, wah wah wah!"

McElwaan, who is autistic, was back in his role as an all-around motivator on the eve of a sectional semifinal game Tuesday night—handing out water bottles, dispensing tips, helping run drills.

around the dial

NCAA Men's Basketball

Duke at Florida State, 6 p.m., ESPN Texas at Texas A&M, 9 p.m., ESPNU Utah at TCU, 9 p.m., ESPN2
NFL DRAFT

Vandy quarterback impresses experts

Cutler wows scouts at pre-draft combine

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Jay Cutler will be leaving Vanderbilt sooner than anyone expected, and soon after he leaves, he'll be dazzling NFL scouts in a manner much more significant than an excellent education.

Cutler, who was Indiana’s Class 3A All-State quarterback back in 2000 at Heritage Hills, is the current hot topic of the NFL draft, shooting so far up the charts with a strong performance at the combine that some analysts now consider him the top quarterback available — ahead of even Wake Forest’s Matt Ryan and Vince Young.

A quarterback from Vanderbilt? Traditionally, the worst team in the Southeastern Conference? A program that last had a quarterback drafted in 1990 — in the long-defunct 12th round?

Now you know why Cutler was determined not only to attend the combine that concluded earlier this week, but also answer every question and run every drill.

"With Matt and Vince not working out, the spotlight wasn’t going to be on them. It was going to have to go somewhere else. That was the reason I wanted to step up and throw and get some of that media attention and kind of ride that wave a little bit," the SEC player of the year said Tuesday. "You want to try to keep your name positive in the media as much as possible up until the draft."

So what if he nearly rallied the Commodores to victory in double overtime at Florida or beat Tennessee last November, or Vandy’s first victory in the series since 1987? Young almost single-handedly led Texas to a national championship last season. Leinart left USC with two national titles and a Heisman Trophy on his resume.

But the 6-foot-3, 223-pound Cutler from the southern Indiana town of Santa Claus has a strong arm and was smart enough to be accepted by the SEC’s only private university, a picky school that turned down future NBA player Ron Mercer.

"It’s an honor to be linked to someone (Brett Favre) at that level," Cutler said.

Jay Cutler
Vanderbilt quarterback

"You want to keep your name positive in the media as much as possible up until the draft."

"I’m going to put in a lot of extra work in the off-season and try to work on my decision-making skills," Cutler said. "I’m going to show what I’ve got and answer every question at the combine."
The Irish must win tonight at Providence and Sunday at home against DePaul to earn six wins and a Big East tournament berth.

The Friars (12-13, 5-9 in the Big East) are fighting for a postseason life of their own behind leading scorer and senior guard Donnie McGrath (15.4 Big East average) and freshman guard Sharaud Curry, who led Providence with 24 points and seven assists in an 81-68 loss to Pitt in the first meeting of the season.

If the season ended today, the Friars would be the 12th team in the Big East. But Notre Dame and DePaul, with 92-77 at the Joyce Center, have gained experience in Big East play.

Notre Dame has bounced back from its most lopsided defeat, 80-72, against Marquette to start Saturday's game shooting 6-of-8 from the field. The Irish played a similar style to Marquette. The Friars look to open the floor and push the ball early and often, establishing their own tempo against opponents. Brey said Monday he was concerned about Notre Dame's transition defense, which allowed Marquette to start Saturday's game shooting 6-of-8 from the field.

In contrast to Saturday's performance, Quinn and Falls could not miss when the Irish played Providence last in the 92-77 victory Jan. 14. Quinn (11-of-14) and Falls (8-of-12) combined for 55 points and shot 10-of-16 from the 3-point arc. Notre Dame averages almost exactly 10 points more than Providence in Big East games. The Irish lead the league in scoring average (79.4), while the Friars are seventh (69.5).

Brey said Monday he feels Providence is more confident heading into its Senior Night because its younger players have gained experience in Big East play. And while Notre Dame has bounced back from defeats all year to play with top conference opponents, the Irish are on a two-game losing streak.

Some critics point to Notre Dame's 4-10 conference record and see 10 losses for a bottom-level conference team. Other critics believe Notre Dame is good but unlucky, dropping its first nine losses only by a combined 32 points.

But Irish forward Torin Francis put the losses and the season in perspective Monday as his team heads into the home stretch.

"It's 10 losses," said Francis, who is third in the Big East in rebounds per game (9.6). "The fact that we're good enough to possibly have won any of those games doesn't change the fact that we have 10 losses. But that's in the past. After a frustrating loss, you have to get over it and look forward to the next game.

"We had a hard, frustrating loss against Marquette. It was at home. They swept us in the series. But we're over it. We're looking forward to getting a win tonight."
Shutout
continued from page 24

The Observer • SPORTS
Wednesday, March 1, 2006

The win also ties the pro-

season. No. 2 Christian Thompson
tapped McGaffigan 6-7, 6-1,
then No. 3 Burk recorded a 6-1,
6-0 win over Williams and
now stands at 12-2 on the sea-

season.

Teff continued the trend with
a 6-2, 6-4 win at No. 4 over
Berdala, a freshman from
Spain.

The win at No. 5 came from
an intense third set tiebreaker
from Stastny, who rallied back
after being down one set in the
match. This marks the second
consecutive third set tiebreaker
the senior has won after defea-
ting Wisconsin's Elizabeth
Carpenter 6-3, 4-6, 1-0 (11-9)
Sunday.

"Third set tiebreakers are
challenging, but I feel so confi-
dent going into them," Stastny
said. "I've had a pretty good
record this season when play-
ing them."

Freshman Katie Points com-
pleted the sweep for the Irish
with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over the
Hoosiers' Porter.

The Irish return to play
Sunday, facing Illinois at the
Eck Tennis Pavilion at 11 a.m.

Contact Dan Tapiello at
jtapiel@nd.edu

Baldwin
continued from page 24

Tourist's tournament, how-

sophomore Bailey Louderback said
she looks forward to seeing just
how successful the team will be
later in the season in doubles.

"We are so deep in doubles
that I don't see us losing any
season," Louderback said. "But
we are not going to look past
any team.

In singles, No. 28 Catrina
Thompson recorded a 6-3, 6-

Connelly, who beat Indiana's
Cecile Pertot and Alba Berdala
Cailt-2 at No. 2 and secured the
doubles points.

The Irish completed the
sweep when the nationally
ranked No. 2 pairing of juniors
Catrina and Christian
Thompson defeated Sarah
Batty and Laura McGaffigan 8-

Stastny said. "She's able to
keep distractions away and
focus on what needs to be done.
I'm so proud of her
because she is a
true fighter."sophomore

Kik Stastny
Irish senior

just had to have faith in my abili-
ty to turn things around very
quickly, and that's what I did."

Baldwin turned things around
just about as fast as anyone in
the tournament.

Through seven holes in
Monday's first round, he was
playing near-bogey golf, shooting
five-over par.

"If I had just played even over
the first seven holes, I would
have won the tournament,"
Baldwin said.

Baldwin set-
tied down after that and played
solid golf. His recovery to play
important given
his desire to play
the tournament in remembrance
of his father.

"I dedicated this
tournament to my dad," he
said. "He passed away over
Christmas and this would have
been his birthday."

With that on his mind, Baldwin
gave his father a birthday pres-
ent he would have been proud
of.

"I guess his birthday present
was the 12 birdies," said
Baldwin, who is entering his
fresh and final season for the
Irish.

If Baldwin has his way, he'll
be able to dedicate a bit more
than 12 birdies to his dad later
this spring.

"We, as a team, obviously want
to reach the ultimate goal — the
National Championship,"
Baldwin said. "This was just
the beginning of our championship
run."

Kubinski was equally opti-
mistic about the upcoming sea-
son. While he was able to pin-
point a few negatives from the
tournament such as Notre
Dame's decision-making and
begging throughout the round,
Kubinski feels all the Irish need
is just to get the rust from the
long winter off.

"I think we just need to get a
few tournaments under our
belt," Kubinski said. "By the time
the Big East Championships roll
around, we'll be feeling a lot bet-
ner about how we're playing."

Contact Joe Quinn at
squinn@nd.edu

Stanford's No. 14-15 duo
drew a difficult first-round draw
against No. 1 Jacob Elkin and
No. 25 Juan Aldama of Texas,
but they won 6-3, 6-4.

"I didn't know what I was
facing at the beginning of the
weekend," said freshman
Kelcy Tefft.

Through the hard-fought
tiebreaker, Tefft pushed Stan-
ford's No. 12 duo, but lost 7-6,
4-6, 1-0 (10-8).

"It was a tough match,
Tefft said.

"I had a lot of trouble
returning their serve because
they were hitting it very hard.
I'm just happy I was able to
get through it, even if it was
just 2-0," Tefft said.

Kubinski felt the Irish were
two points away from evil.

"I thought we were able to
get away from ourselves too
many times in the match this
weekend, " Kubinski said.

"When we played well, we
were so good, that it was just
incredible."

Baldwin's first Irish
career tie was also his first
season for head coach Jim
Kubinski.

With that in mind, Baldwin
wished his father a happy
birthday, "I gave my father a
birthday present, " Baldwin said.
"It was a shot during the
team's 7-0 win over Batty at No. 1. The
win improved Thompson's
record to 14-6 on the season.

No. 2 Christian Thompson
tapped McGaffigan 6-3, 6-1,
then No. 3 Burk recorded a 6-
1, 6-0 win over Williams and
now stands at 12-2 on the sea-

season.

Teff continued the trend with
a 6-2, 6-4 win at No. 4 over
Berdala, a freshman from
Spain.

The win at No. 5 came from
an intense third set tiebreaker
from Stastny, who rallied back
after being down one set in the
match. This marks the second
consecutive third set tiebreaker
the senior has won after defea-
ting Wisconsin's Elizabeth
Carpenter 6-3, 4-6, 1-0 (11-9)
Sunday.

"Third set tiebreakers are
challenging, but I feel so confi-
dent going into them," Stastny
said. "I've had a pretty good
record this season when play-
ing them."

Freshman Katie Points com-
pleted the sweep for the Irish
with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over the
Hoosiers' Porter.

The Irish return to play
Sunday, facing Illinois at the
Eck Tennis Pavilion at 11 a.m.

Contact Dan Tapiello at
jtapiel@nd.edu

Irish freshman Kelcy Tefft hits a shot during the team's 7-0 home win over Indiana Tuesday at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

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James "The Beast from the Beach" Carlson vs. Josef-Drutsky, "Fun Size" Apont

After a strong start, second year lightweight Joey "The Beast from the Beach" Carlson outlapped Apont in the third round as he struggled to find an opening allowing "The Beast from the Beach" to control the pace and secure a split decision.

Bouts continued from page 24

Jaimes Drath took on Sophomore James "The Boston Massacre" Sullivan in the first round, landing blows in an evenly-contested battle.

Rodgers used his height to keep Drath from getting in close, causing Drath to find himself out of harm's way. In the later rounds, Rodgers boxed well to close out the fight and win by decision.

Rob "Golden Boy" Cimino of the "Fightin' for Milk" Ford

After an even first round, junior "Golden Boy" Cimino took control of the fight and went on to win a unanimous decision over sophomore Ryan "The Fin" Ford.

Michael "Soldier" Schmitt vs. Brian "Mad Dog" Despinter

Senior Michael "Soldier" Schmitt used his experience to give himself a working advantage over freshman Brian "Mad Dog" Despinter, as his speed helped overcome a slight height disadvantage for the Despinter.

In the first round Despinter landed several strong punches, but "Soldier" held the advantage from bell to bell, continually causing his opponent to back his position into a corner. In the second round "Mad Dog" from mounting any kind of a comeback in the late rounds as he was unable to cause what he needed to contain himself from the constant blows. With his height, Schmitt finished with multiple right hooks that won him a championship in the sem final round.

John "The Highlighter" Biddle vs. Jason "The Hammer" Biddle

Junior Anthony "The Desire" Steiler vs. Kris "El Atleta" Perez

Perez — the quicker of the two fighters — flew around the ring, trapping his opponent against the ropes in several occasions in the first and second rounds as he won for the kill in the third, and halfway through the final round. Biddle finished with a left hook that knocked Steiler to the canvas for the good. The knockout win was the first of the night.

JASON "The Jackhammer" Roduita vs. Patrick "Hızmat" Abarghat at Garbogas@nd.edu


Garrison started the fight with a few strong right hooks that had Abarghat reeling for the remainder of the first round. Abarghat had his best three rounds in both the first and second rounds. "Hızmat" faded late in the third round as he led out with a left hook that led going into the third. He kept his pace around the ring making aggressive throughout the third round and came out with the win.

James Drath vs. Lawrence "The Boston Massacre" Sullivan

Two Fighters faced off in the next bout as freshman James Drath took on sophomore Lawrence "The Boston Massacre" Sullivan.

Drath looked to establish an early advantage by throwing a set of punches in the first round that kept Drath from doing any serious damage. In the second round, "The Boston Massacre" was able to regain his momentum as he landed a crushing uppercut at the end of the second round. This round continued to go in favor of Drath until it landed a Drath and drew a standing eight count in the clinching section, which was enough to take the unanimous victory.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Duffy honored for academic success

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame senior point guard Megan Duffy earned first-team Academic All-American honors Tuesday when ESPN The Magazine announced this season's honorees.

"I couldn't have asked for a better situation both academically and athletically," Duffy said Monday before learning of the award. "I'm going to get my degree from here and the overall atmosphere of this university is something I'll never forget." Duffy, a psychology and computer applications major in the College of Arts and Letters, earned a 3.821 grade-point average in the fall semester and a 3.917 last spring. She has a cumulative 3.555 GPA.

"She's one of the second player in our team in history to garner first-academically and athletics," Duffy said Monday before learning of the award. "I'm going to get my degree from here and the overall atmosphere of this university is something I'll never forget." Duffy, a psychology and computer applications major in the College of Arts and Letters, earned a 3.821 grade-point average in the fall semester and a 3.917 last spring. She has a cumulative 3.555 GPA.

"Duffy qualified for the award when she earned Academic All-District V status for the second straight year earlier this season. She is also a finalist for the Nancy Lieberman Award, given annually to the nation's top point guard. The preseason consensus All-American said she would likely reflect on her accolades more after Notre Dame finishes its season. "I feel like I'm going to savor it more after the season's over," she said. "I think it's the most important thing for me to look back at my experience a little more than I am right now." The first-other-team honorees were Indiana State guard Melanie Roeglin, Kent State forward Lindsay Shearer, Michigan State forward Liz Shemik and Tennessee guard Shanna Zollman.

Two other Notre Dame athletes have earned first-team Academic All-America status this school year. Irish women's soccer goalie Erika Bohn and middlefielder Annie Schetter earned the distinction Nov. 24.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowlerl@nd.edu

Panthers continued from page 24

Dame's NCAA Tournament prospectors and ensured the Irish of the No. 10 seed in this weekend's Big East Tournament in Hartford, Conn. Notre Dame's first game of the tournament will be Saturday at 6 p.m. against South Florida in the Hartford Civic Center. "This team has a lot of pride," McGraw said. "To get to be over 500 was really important for us for our NCAA Tournament hopes.

"This team has a lot of pride. To get to be over 500 was really important for us for our NCAA Tournament hopes." Muffet McGraw

Irish head coach

The Irish used a 17-5 run in the first eight minutes of the second half Tuesday to turn a 41-31 deficit at the break into 48-46 lead. Allen capped the run with 12:21 left in the game when she hit a 15-foot jumper from the left side after she grabbed one of Notre Dame's eight second-half offensive rebounds.

Senior Megan Duffy sparked the high intensity second half. Notre Dame's five-foot- seven point guard made a hard foul on Panthers 6-foot-3 space-eating center Marcedes Walker and both players fell to the floor. "I just tried to make a play on the ball," Duffy said. "I just wanted to get not to get panicked afterwards." Walker, who had eight inches on Duffy, had to come out of the game because of blood on her arm, and the Irish played motivated ball from that point forward.

Walker tied her season high with 12 points and 18 rebounds in the game, but said Irish senior forward Courtney LaVere and Notre Dame's defense improved dramatically in the second half. "I compliment their whole team, we didn't match their aggressiveness in the second half," Walker said.

As a team, we didn't match their aggressiveness in the second half," Walker said.

"This was really a war out there. People were definitely playing for something," she said. "In the second half, the crowd got into it and all of a sudden, it looked like our crew was completely shell-shocked." After a 48-46 lead, the two teams battled back and forth for the next eight minutes. With Notre Dame clinging to a two-point lead, senior Courtney LaVere grabbed a layup in transition on a pass from Duffy to put the Irish up 63-59.

The assist was one of six on the night for Duffy, who also had 11 points and four rebounds. Sophomore guard Tuluah Gaines led Notre Dame's 21-assist performance with eight dishes of her own.

LaVere had success on the defensive end to go along with her offense. She finished the night with 14 points, five rebounds and five blocks. She held Walker to 2-of-12 shooting in 21 minutes of physical play before fouling out with 1:29 remaining in her final game in the Joyce Center. "She's so big in the lane -- she takes up so much space -- I thought we did a decent job," LaVere said of the Irish defense on Walker. "I thought we did a good job at getting more bodies there and making it hard to shoot." Indianapolis' biggest lead of the night came with 2:26 left in the first when guard Maddy Brown hit a 3-pointer off the glass from the left side to put the Panthers ahead 38- 23.

Notes:
* The 15-point comeback was the second largest in Notre Dame history. The largest comeback back for a victory in team history is Notre Dame's win in Connecticut in the 1986 Final Four when the Irish came back from a 47-31 halftime hole against the Huskies to win 90-75.
* With Duffy, LaVere and senior forward Megan Duffy led Notre Dame's 21-assist performance with eight dishes of her own.

"It was really a war out there. People were definitely playing for something." Aguas Berenato

Panthers head coach

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JOKULAR

Have you decided yet what you're going for Law?

Hah! I've been inside twice!

JOCKULAR

How are you doing with the answer to the previous puzzle?

ERIK POWERS and ALEC WHITE

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CROSSENT WORLD

ADAM FAIRHOLM

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AND YOU HAVE A LITTLE HALL.

SHAKES!

WHAT YOU ARE A REALLY GOOD SPORT.

MY SKELETONS!

BUT BUILDINGS HAVE MY NAME ON IT!

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

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1 in years past 61 Spoil, with "on"

5 Throws on 62 Tripmaster

8 'What?' 63 Tore

14 "Of faith" 64 Brain part

15 Micro-conscious 67 _____

16 Halt 68 Rugby formation

17 Supermarket section 69 to a vampire?

18 "What?" 70 Down

19 Film reviewers' showings 71 Naked

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22 Blackout brought out 73____

23 Sounding like 74_____ &

24 Snick and 75____

25 Some are 76____

26 Nitrogen 77_____ &

27 Sounding like 78____

28 Taking steps 79____

31 A sad thing to 80____

32 Nitro 81____

33 Heels 82____

34 School grp. 83____

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36 Like a soap 85____

37 Crossed, in 86____

38 Barely catches, 87____

39 Is in charge 88____

40 Santa 89____

41 Essential for an 90____

42 Sad sack 91____

43 Soften 92____

44 Plainsman of 93____

45 Against, with "to" 94____

46 Flying stars 95____

47 "Yes, I" 96____

48 Rugby formation 98____

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52 Kind of horse 102____

53 It may be brought out during a blackout 103____

54 Words said while holding hands 104____

55 Woman 105____

56 Kind of horse 106____

58 Is a sandal 107____

59 Actor Wyle 108____

60 Graduator's venue 109____

SOLUTION:

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3. Brain part

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SA I M A L L  A T I T L E

ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SEVENTEEN BOW Enables rules.

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Henry Arnold

Henri Arnold Mike Argirion

JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME

by Henry Arnold and Mike Argirion

DUTOO

USTEA

BLIRME

FLASTE

Answer these, one letter to each square. To form a common word, read down, across, or diagonally.

Answer these, one letter to each square. To form a common word, read down, across, or diagonally.

Answer these, one letter to each square. To form a common word, read down, across, or diagonally.

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Page 23

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ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

**Comeback kids**

Squad erases 15-point second-half deficit to beat Pittsburgh 72-65 on Senior Night

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Freshman Lindsay Schrader scored 20 points and sophomore Charol Allen added 16 as Notre Dame erased a 15-point deficit to top Pittsburgh 72-65 on Senior Night at the Joyce Center Tuesday.

**See Also**

“Duffy honored for academic success.”

Left, Irish guard Lindsay Schrader drives to the basket. Right, forward Courtney LaVere takes a shot in Notre Dame’s 72-65 home win over Pittsburgh Tuesday.

**Men’s Basketball**

Team fights for its life versus Friars

Notre Dame needs a win to keep Big East Tourney hopes alive

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Facing elimination from the Big East tournament and an empty schedule in March, Notre Dame must win the first of its final two regular season games where it has been least successful — on the road. The Irish (13-2, 4-10 in the Big East) are 1-6 in conference away games this season. They close their road schedule tonight in a 7:30 p.m. tipoff with Providence at the Dunkin Donuts Center in Providence, R.I. “I think we’ve played well on the road. We’ve competed,” Notre Dame coach Mike Brey said Monday, referring to his team’s resilience but poor results away from the Joyce Center. “We played well against (Providence) before, and we’ve played well in the Dunkin Donuts Center historically. No one in [our locker room] has lost in that building.”

Notre Dame has won three straight at the Dunkin Donuts Center, most recently winning 62-61 on Feb. 19, 2005.

**Women’s Tennis**

Irish shut out Hoosiers, 7-0

Team is 7-0 against opponents ranked in the nation’s Top 30

By JOE QUINN
Sports Writer

The No. 5 Irish proved their strength and depth as a top-five program after shutting out the No. 27 Hoosiers 7-0 Tuesday — their seventh consecutive victory against a top-30 opponent along the ropes for the remainder of the fall to earn the victory.

**Bengal Bouts**

Veterans dominate quarterfinal round

Low student Guillermo Tijerina lands a punch against freshman John O’Connell during quarterfinal Bengal Bouts action Tuesday.

**Bengal Bouts**

Veterans dominate quarterfinal round

Law student Guillermo Tijerina lands a punch against freshman John O’Connell during quarterfinal Bengal Bouts action Tuesday.

**Boxing**

Oscar De la Hoya and Ricardo Mayorga exchanged verbal blows two months before their fight.

**NFL**

Former Vanderbilt quarterback Jay Cutler impressed NFL scouts during this weekend’s Draft combine in Indianapolis.

**On the Cover**

**SPARTANS**

**At a Glance**

**See SHUTOUT/page 20**

**See FRIARS/page 19**

**See PANSTERS/page 22**

**See BALDWIN/page 20**

**See BOUTS/page 21**

**See SHUTOUT/page 20**

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**See BOUTS/page 21**

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