**Jenkins steers course for University's future**

By MADDIE HANNA

When University President Father John Jenkins in January questioned the presence of "The Vagina Monologues" at Notre Dame, he opened the floodgates to 10 weeks of emotional accusations, cries of censorship and national media coverage reporting that freedom of speech could soon be cut short at the nation's most prominent Catholic university.

But on Wednesday, Jenkins largely silenced the clamor when he released a closing statement on academic freedom and Catholic character that surprised many faculty members — he found no reason to ban the "Monologues" and was determined "not to suppress speech on this campus."

"What I care about is that we understand our mission to be a truly great university, in scholarship, in teaching, in all aspects of our academic work, that we are a Catholic university and we take that seriously, it gives us a broad moral framework, it gives us a sense of spirituality in what we do," Jenkins told The Observer Wednesday. "Both of those are part of our identity at Notre Dame, and they allow us to move forward and make decisions."

"I think if we can be true to that, and just explain that, I frankly don't worry too much about image or perceptions, as long as we're true to who we are and we state that clearly and act accordingly."

In minimizing the importance of image, Jenkins refutes what many critics have insinuated since the January addresses — that a decision to ban the "Monologues" and other controversial performances would be made to appease the Church and conservative alumni.

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**Students reported for illegal file sharing**

By MARCELA BERRIOS

That illegally downloaded Kelly Clarkson song might be a secret pleasure, but more people than you think might know about the "Since U Been Gone" file on your computer.

Both musicians and the Recording Industry Association of America have struggled for years trying to keep songs and albums from being transferred from one user to another in file sharing programs such as KaZaa, LimeWire and Ares, among others.

At Notre Dame, computer usage violations were the fourth most frequent incident reported to the Office of Residence Life and Housing during the 2004-05 academic year, accounting for 11 percent of disciplinary violations handled by the Office.

Dulac's Responsible Use of Computer Resources stipulates that any "unauthorized copying or transmission of copyright-protected material" might result in the termination of the user's access to the Notre Dame networks.

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**Seniors win NCSA honors with projects**

By LAURA BAUMGARTNER

Five Saint Mary's seniors presented their senior comprehensive projects at a sociology conference last week after receiving honors in a nationwide sociology paper competition.

Sociology majors Katie Dingeman, Stephanie Lutz, Sam Medina, Stephanie Roth and Jackie Savin submitted their projects in the annual North Central Sociological Association (NCSA) student paper competition March 23 to March 25. All five papers were selected for presentation in research sessions at the conference, sociology department chair Susan Alexander said.

Presenting their papers and accompanying PowerPoint presentations alongside graduate students and sociology professionals, Alexander said, was a "great honor and experience."

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**Moms to visit SMC daughters**

Annual event brings juniors, mothers closer

By EMMA DRISCOLL

Memories will be made and tradition supported this weekend as junior students’ mothers arrive in South Bend for Saint Mary’s annual Junior Moms’ Weekend.

"The weekend is at really great opportunity to spend time with our moms and have some girl time," junior class president Heidi Goepinger said.

Activities will begin Friday with a wine and cheese reception accompanied by a silent auction. Juniors, families and businesses were asked to donate items for the silent auction, said Laura Cooke, the Junior Moms Committee chair.

The committee has been planning the event for about a year, she said.

On Saturday, campus tours will be offered, as well as a free movie. Event coordinators have scheduled appointments at Emerald Spa for many juniors and their moms.

A Mass will be held later in the evening, followed by a semi-formal dinner downtown at the Century Center, where another silent auction will take place.
INSIDE COLUMN

Spoon's Goons

Forget the flowers, forget the birds, forget the vagina equine. For me, spring starts when baseball starts. Real, Major League Baseball, mind you, not the World Baseball Classic, because, as Ozzie Guillen would have you know, that champion Japanese team would not win 29 world series in the Major Leagues. I’m a big supporter of the College World Series, but watching tape-delayed contests from Puerto Rico is just not the same as seeing your favorite team take the field in magnificent pristine in the chilly, early days of April in the Big Apple. After a long winter of watching the Jets’ pathetic rebuilding efforts and the horror that is basball running the Knicks, it’s great to have a team, despite that always has some newly purchased talent and a shot at a championship.

Hope springs eternal in April, not only for a 27th World Series ring in New York, but for the braggings rights and possible cash payout that come from winning your fantasy league. My hopes are high, as I’ve won four years straight. Four years ago I began my first season of fantasy baseball, armed with nothing but enthusiasm and a sketchy scouting report from some website. I missed the draft, which was probably a good thing, so the first decisions I had to make were regarding which autopicked players I should keep, and which I should replace with free agents whom I knew nothing about. With the #1 general strategy, my first pick-up was an Atlanta Braves pitcher named Timothy Floyd Spoonerbarger, in part because he had a chance to compete for the closer role, but mostly because his name is Spoonerbarger. He had injured himself and spent most of the season on the disabled list. It was a big joke around the league, that I had this guy on my team. But it worked. I squeezed into the playoffs and managed to pull off upset after upset all the way to the playoffs, and I ended up winning the championship. Somehow, my unlikely success continued, despite my eccentric managerial practices. I never showed up to a draft, cut or traded any Red Sox who ended up on my team, and routinely made trades that seemed nonsensical. The whole time, I had Spoonerbarger, always my first pick-up, stashed on the DL. I stuck with him through hard times, through two surgeries and a fight that got him shipped to the Marlins. It was progression, all the way around the league that my improbable run was either because of Spoonerbarger or despite Spoonerbarger. The point is, I went as far as to name my squad “Spoons Goons” in his honor.

This year this baseball season rolled around. With everyone in college, the draft wasn’t held until the day before the season began. I found myself with time to spare on a Saturday afternoon, and I broke my vacation from theatre to actually draft players this time. When it came time for my first round pick, which I was totally prepared to use on Spoonerbarger, as others had been threatening to take him from me, he was nowhere to be found. Though he has more stats on the DL than career innings pitched, I was shocked to find that Spoonerbarger was out of baseball. The cruel reality of a Spoonerbarger squad in 2006 took some time to sink in. I face a season devoid of my good luck charm, my constant companion, every summer, his career cut short by arm troubles and just generally being a locker room cancer. Rundlings around the league are that it’s a sign, that a new champion will be crowned this year, but I’m determined to win this one in his honor, go for the five-peat, because I know that’s what he would have wanted. Timothy Floyd Spoonerbarger will be hardly known.

Contact Tim Kaiser at tkaiser@nd.edu

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE ADVISING SYSTEM AT NOTRE DAME?

Vince Nieuwold junior Keenan

"I got no problem with it. Always been real helpful to me."

Adeola Giwa freshman O'Neill

"Aside from getting my DART and registration number, I do not see hide nor hair of my advisor."

Angelo Gacado junior O'Neill

"I think they're great. When my friend's SYR fish died, they totally helped him through it."

Johanna Slosin sophomore PFE

"They're actually really helpful and are really patient considering how many people they have to work with."

Audrey Jarred sophomore Lewis

"They seem pretty knowledgeable."

Jessica Lau sophomore Lewis

"Yeah, I am pretty knowledgeable."

Hawaii Club members, from left, Andrew Knutson, Eric Saltto, Kenneth Negro and Christina Marzo practiced Thursday for the club’s Hawaiian Luau, which will be held Saturday at 6 p.m. in the LaForteau Ballroom. Tickets are $5.

OFFBEAT

Jesus may have walked on ice?

MUMI — The New Testament says that Jesus walked on water, but a Florida university professor believes there could be a less miraculous explanation — he walked on a floating piece of ice.

Professor Doren Nof also theorized in the early 1990s that Moses’ parting of the Red Sea had solid science behind it.

Nof, a professor of oceanography at Florida State University, said on Tuesday that his study found an unusual combination of water and atmospheric conditions in what is now northern Israel could have led to ice formation on the Sea of Galilee.

Nof used records of the Mediterranean Sea’s surface temperatures and statistical models to examine the dynamics of the Sea of Galilee.

The study found that a period of cooler temperatures in the area between 1,500 and 2,600 years ago could have included the decades in which Jesus lived.

"Brokeback Mountain" banned by Bahamas

NASSAU, Bahamas — The Bahamas has banned the gay cowboy movie “Brokeback Mountain,” triggering a new controversy over the island chain’s reputation for homophobia.

Gay rights groups and other critics called on the Plays and Films Control Board to think again, so far to no avail.

I cannot understand denying people the right to make their own choices,” said theater director Phillip Burroes. The award-winning 2005 film got the thumbs-down from the control board after a request for it to be banned from the Bahamas Christian Council.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The lecture “National Sovereignty and the Right to Self-Determination in Africa” will be held today at 1 p.m. in DeBartolo H16 as part of Africa Week.

Country singer Pat Green will perform tonight at 9:30 p.m. at the Stierer Center. Sponsored by the Texas Club, the concert is open to ND, SMC and HEC students only. Tickets cost $10.

COUND presents Caribbean Festival, featuring food and music, tonight at 8 p.m. in the LaForteau Ballroom.

Oscar Wilde’s “Salome” will be performed today and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at the DPAC. Tickets are $8 for students and $12 for the public.

Saturday from 3-7 p.m. (O’Neill) and Lyons Hall will host a relax on South Quad. Bring back your childhood days with free food, inflatables and schoolyard games all afternoon.

The Hawaiian Club will present the Hawaiian Luau Saturday at 6 p.m. in the LaForteau Ballroom. Tickets are $7 for students.

Runners will race in the Holy Half Marathon Sunday beginning at 10 a.m., between South Dining Hall and Welsh Family Hall. Students can still enter by e-mailing holyhalf@gmail.com or registering at 8:30 a.m. on race day. Proceeds will benefit Catholic Charities’ Operation Helping Hands.

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

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Institute president tells how rich men can get to heaven

By ADRIENNE RUFFNER

A rich man can go to heaven — but first, he must follow Christ and respect the dignity of other people, Father Robert A. Sirico said Wednesday in the Jordan Auditorium in the Mendoza College of Business.

In a lecture entitled "Can a Rich Man Go to Heaven?" Sirico spoke about economic responsibility and social justice to approximately 100 students, faculty and community members. Sirico is the co-founder and president of the Acton Institute, an organization whose mission is "to promote a free and virtuous society."

The relationship between economics and society is a precarious balance, Sirico said. He emphasized that money is not "intrinsically evil" and can be used to promote good.

"The economy can be likened to a very powerful automobile," Sirico said. "It can be used as an ambulance to drive people to safety, or it can be used to drive drunk and to hurt people."

The responsibility lies not only in the hands of the rich to lessen suffering in poverty but also in the hands of the poor to work to secure what they need, Sirico said.

"Too often in these [economic] discussions, what we do is too simplistically to reverse the poor and condemn the rich without considering personal characteristics," he said.

Sirico said while economic justice is supremely important, there is not one particular system that can unequivocally provide both prosperity and fairness.

"The Church does not have its own economic model," Sirico said. "It has an insight into human dignity and into the human person. We have to look at prudent economic proposals and see how they best respect the human person."

He also advised current and future business leaders to be aware of how their businesses affect society.

"Ask not what kind of capitalist [you] will be, but ask what kind of person you will be," Sirico said.

The lecture's title comes from a passage in the Gospel in which Christ and his disciples discuss the rich man's ability to get into heaven. The rich man is often criticized in the Gospels, and in the story, Christ says a man who lives such a life of selfish depravity may not enter heaven.

"Everybody always remembers that story," Sirico said. "Jesus says the man won't get into heaven because he's rich or poor, but because he has grace."

Before he became a priest, Sirico said he "spent several years being involved in leftist social change." Both political and spiritual conversions, he said, led him to become a priest and eventually to found the Acton Institute.

The Institute's goal is to educate business leaders to form a more just society. Each year it sponsors programs such as Acton University, a summer symposium of classes and seminars.

Sirico lectures at businesses and schools across the country. His writings have been published in many major newspapers and magazines, and he has provided commentary for television and radio programming.

Contact Adrienne Ruffner at aruffner@nd.edu
Analysis continued from page 1

The decision to push for an end to violence against women carries Jenkins in the opposite direction from what many anticipated Notre Dame’s new president would be — squirmish about sexuality and reserved in discussion on sensitive subjects.

W. David Solomon, associate professor of philosophy and director of the Center for Ethics and Culture who taught Jenkins when the president was a Notre Dame undergraduate, told The Observer in January that people tend to make false assumptions about Jenkins.

“Many faculty members have misjudged Father Jenkins because he’s a nice man and a gentle man — I’ve heard many faculty members talk about him like he’s a weak man,” Solomon said. “Those of us who’ve known Father Jenkins for many years — and I’ve known him since he was a sophomore — know he’s very tough, he doesn’t lack for courage.”

Jenkins’ method in making his decision, history professor Gail Bederman said, was as surprising as its content.

“I can’t remember the last time I saw a public figure say, ‘Here’s a problem, this is what I think, let me know what you think and I’ll pay attention’,” Bederman said Wednesday.

While Jenkins’ mild demeanor has masked an inner assertiveness, one quality that highlights is his ability — and willingness — to listen, to analyze, to contemplate.

This rational deliberation that played so heavily into Jenkins’ decision should have been expected, said University President Emeritus Theodore Hesburgh.

“I think he approaches everything from an intelligent philosophical and theological point of view,” Hesburgh said Wednesday. “I believe that’s a very good way to approach things at a Catholic university. We’re not out in a desert somewhere.”

H e s b u r g h described the decision as “a measured statement.”

“It should be well respected by everybody,” he said. “It doesn’t forestall any questions.”

Despite initial perceptions that Jenkins would take a hard line and suppress anti-Catholic views, he has done the polar opposite, stressing the importance of openness and promoting a campus-wide exchange of opinions — opinions he has responded to with sincerity and personal conviction.

And what that came down to, Director of Admissions Daniel Saracino said, was a relatively moderate statement — a decision reached in a “forthright” manner.

“I’m certain his response today doesn’t make everyone happy, but that’s not his job,” Saracino said Wednesday. “He went right down the middle.”

Jenkins said in his statement he expected the decision to be one “a large majority of this community can embrace.”

“I made the best decision I could in line with the character of the University and its mission.”

University President Father John Jenkins

“I think [Jenkins] approaches everything from an intelligent philosophical and theological point of view.”

University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh

“I’m certain [Jenkins’] response today doesn’t make everyone happy, but that’s not his job.”

Daniel Saracino, director of admissions

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Want to write for Saint Mary’s?

Call Kelly at 284-5365.
Court filing targets Bush in leak

Authorities allege that the President authorized a breach of intelligence information

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Vice President Dick Cheney’s former aide, Lewis Libby, on Thursday accused the vice president of passing classified information to him about Iraq, according to court papers filed by prosecutors in the CIA leak case.

The filing by Special Counsel Patrick J. Fitzgerald also describes Cheney involvement in L. Lewis Libby’s communications with the press.

There is no indication in the filing that either Bush or Cheney authorized Libby to disclose Valerie Plame’s CIA identity. But it points in Cheney as one of the originators of the idea that Plame could be used to discredit hawks in the Bush administration critic Joseph Wilson.

Before his indictment, Libby testified to the grand jury investigating the CIA leak that Cheney told him to pass on prying intelligence on IraqiAbs coure on Iraq and that it was Bush who authorized the disclosure, the court papers say. According to the documents, the authorization led to the July 9, 2003, conversation between Cheney and New York Times reporter Judith Miller. In that meeting, Libby made reference to the fact that Wilson’s wife worked for the CIA.

According to Fitzgerald’s court filing, Cheney, in conversation with Libby, raised the question of whether a CIA-sponsored trip to Wilson “was legitimate or whether it was in effect a junket set up by Mr. Wilson’s wife.”

The disclosure in documents released by the White House means that the president and the vice president put Libby as a secret provider of information to reporters about prying intelligence on Iraq.

President Bush faced the lawmakers’ efforts, noting the details were unfinished, and encouraged them “to work hard and get the bill done.”

As outlined, it would provide for enhanced border security, regulate the future flow of immigrants into the United States and offer legal status to the millions of women, men and children in the country unlawfully.

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Iraq

Top Shi'ite acts as hope in Iraqi deal

Associated Press

RAGHAD — Iraq’s most respected Shi'ite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, has emerged in virtual isolation in its most sacred Shiite city, Najaf. He told The Associated Press on Thursday to pursue his bid for a second term despite pressure from home and abroad to step down.

Al-Jaafari told reporters he would relinquish his mandate only if parliament refuses to approve him or if the seven groups within the Shiite alliance withdraw their nomination, which he won by a single vote in a caucus in February.

The Shiite bloc controls 130 of the 275 parliament seats, enough for first crack at the prime minister’s job but not enough to govern without Sunni and Kurdish partners. But the minority Sunnis and Kurds demand that al-Jaafari be replaced, blaming him for the sharp rise in sectarian tensions that threatens to plunge the country into civil war.

Al-Jaafari has refused to stand down despite pressure from Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw, who personally urged the Iraqis to break the logjam in a two-day visit this week.

Still, the US military says there has been a marked reduction in violence in Najaf since the election.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki, who had been meeting with Iran and other regional powers in the region to strengthen political unity, showed up in Najaf Thursday to meet with al-Sistani, the sole figure with the authority to make a decision that risks fracturing the administration of his own political bloc.

That decision involves the fate of Iraq’s embattled Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari, who vowed Thursday to pursue his bid for a second term despite pressure from home and abroad to step down.

Al-Jaafari told reporters he would relinquish his mandate only if parliament refuses to approve him or if the seven groups within the Shiite alliance withdraw their nomination, which he won by a single vote in a caucus in February.

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Moms continued from page 1

Harmonia, the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's female a cappella group, will be performing at the dinner, and a slide show will be shown.

The juniors were also asked to write an essay, poem or letter about their mothers. These were compiled into a book that will be given to all of the mothers, Corke said.

"We like to leave free time so that junior and senior mothers have time to do whatever they want along with the activities," Corke said.

The wine and cheese reception is held earlier so that junior and senior mothers are able to make other plans with their mothers after the event. Like many other students, Corke plans to go out to dinner with a group of friends and their mothers after the wine and cheese reception.

"A lot of moms go out," Corke said. "It depends on the girls and their moms.

"A lot of moms go out," Corke said. "It depends on the girls and their moms.

Jennifer Jessica Jordan's mother will be traveling from Pennsylvania to attend the events. "I will take my mother out with some of my education major friends," Jordan said.

She also plans to go shopping and to brunch with other mothers and daughters.

"The mothers get to see how your life is on the weekends here at Saint Mary's," junior Rebekah Deshon said. "It's a lot of fun to spend time with your mom and hang out for the weekend.

Though she is looking forward to spending time with her mother and friends, Deshon said the events timing was not ideal, calling it "probably one of the worst weekends" because of the pileup of assignments due before Easter Break.

"Hopefully it will be a good time," she said.

Jordan said the weekend may be hectic but will remain worthwhile.

"It's always busy, but it's a good weekend," she said.

Corke said juniors will enjoy the events tremendously.

"It is really just a relaxing weekend and kind of a nice break from all work and stuff like that," she said.

About 90 percent of the class sent out invitations to their mothers, and there are about 500 students and mothers set to attend the dinner, Corke said.

Lodging close to campus may be hard to find this weekend. Goepfinger said the Saint Mary's Inn has been booked for months.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscol@nd.edu

Awards continued from page 1

Two of the students received additional honors when Dinegaman's paper was awarded first place in the competition and Medina's placed third.

Alexander said that while this is the third consecutive year Saint Mary's students have placed in the competition, this year was particularly significant.

"There was a national call to the United States and Canada, so the number of papers that came in was much larger this year," she said. "Normally, the call has just gone out in this region."

For her project, Dinegaman performed an ethnomet hodolo g y, a sociological study that deals with the codes and conventions that underlie everyday social interactions. She analyzed a group of recently resettled Liberian refugees in South Bend.

"I specifically analyzed the strength of their community and potential integration patterns," she said.

Dinegaman was inspired to investigate the topic by her volunteer and intern work at the Refugee and Immigration Services of South Bend. She said she felt compelled to study the topic in depth because of the recent sociological attention to issues of immigration and the incorporated cultural groups into American society. "I wanted to show to the humanity behind the debates while paying particular attention to the Liberians, a community that is largely overlooked despite their historical ties to the United States," she said.

Spending time with refugees for her project enriched her understanding of minority, Dinegaman said. "I learned that I can become involved in aiding [members] transition into American society," she said.

Dinegaman also taught her how to live my life as selflessly as possible, with lots of love and compassion.

Medina approached her project by creating and distributing a survey investigating issues of minorities—specifically racial, ethnic, class and sexual minorities—randomly selected Saint Mary's students.

"It was so interesting to see how students respond, and to piece together different opinions and try to picture how Saint Mary's as a whole felt about these issues," she said.

Medina said that researching GLBTQ, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and other issues became important to her after she attended a conference in October 2005 with Student Diversity Board.

After she learned about the environment of other colleges and universities and how they were approaching these issues, Medina said she thought it would be interesting to compare these climates to that at Saint Mary's.

"I think that it is a very important topic because Saint Mary's is working on making the campus and community more diverse," Medina said. "Without doing studies similar to this project, there is no way the College will know how it can improve itself."

Dinegaman and Medina said they learned from their experiences and felt flattened by the success of their projects. "I think this project was a good starting point for me," Medina said. "I am so happy that I had the opportunity and the support from my professors and other students to follow through with it."

Contact Laura Baumgartner at Ibaumg01@ saintmarys.edu
BUSINESS

Stocks suffer as oil hits $68

Inflation concerns dominate Wall Street; jobless claims fall for third straight week

NEW YORK — Inflation concerns dominated Wall Street Thursday, with stocks mostly lower as crude oil prices marched toward $68 per barrel. In the wake, and just in time, funds found interest in uncap and technology stocks pushed the Nasdaq composite index narrowly higher, however, sending the index to its third straight five-week high.

While the economy has so far absorbed high energy costs, fears remain that chronically high prices could spark inflation. A barrel of light crude settled at $67.94, up 87 cents, on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Strength in the labor market also unnerved investors as the Labor Department reported a third straight drop in weekly unemployment claims. With the monthly jobs report due Friday, Wall Street worried that more people on the nation’s payrolls would mean increased demand, another potential catalyst for inflation.

Should the inflation threat increase, the Federal Reserve would continue raising interest rates to combat higher prices — a move that would constrain loans and mortgages more expensive and jeopardize expansion efforts more costly.

“You still have a lot of uncertainty, and the jobs report tomorrow, which will set the stage for what the Fed says Thursday,” said L. Jeff Kleinkopf, chief investment strategist for PNC Financial Services Group in Philadelphia. “You’re just not going to see a lot of buy in this market ahead of that.”

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 23.05, or 0.21 percent, to 11,216.50. Broader stock indicators were barely mixed. The Standard & Poor’s 500 index lost 2.52, or 0.19 percent, to 1,309.04, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 1.42, or 0.06 percent, to 2,361.17. It was the Nasdaq’s best close since Feb. 16, 2001.

Bonds fell, with the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rising to 4.89 percent from 4.84 percent late Wednesday. The dollar fell against most major currencies. Gold prices rose, surpassing the $600 per ounce mark for the first time since 1981.

The increase in gold prices and the rise in oil spoke stock investors, as commodity are generally seen as a hedge against higher interest rates. With the economy growing solidly, investors worry that more rate hikes will pressure corporate earnings, and thus share prices.

However, there’s also an unwillingness to abandon stocks, since once the Fed has stopped raising rates, there’s the potential for stocks to rally.

Among individual companies, investors sent shares of Dow industrial Merck & Co. down $1.15, or 2.2 percent, to $34.84 after a New Jersey jury said the company had the potential dangers of its painkiller Vioxx and awarded a plaintiff $5.4 million in damages. The verdict could create further legal troubles for the drug maker.

Negotiators work to extend tax cuts

WASHINGTON — House and Senate Republicans worked toward agreement Thursday on a bill to keep tax cuts for the wealthy and dividends in place for two additional years.

The legislation under discussion also would prevent more families from paying the alternative minimum tax this year. Intended to prevent wealthy taxpayers from avoiding income taxes, the alternative minimum tax now threatens less wealthy families with higher taxes.

House Majority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, said there is “some hope” that the House would pass a bill containing these two changes on Friday, before lawmakers depart for a two-week break.

“As we approach April 15, assuring Americans that their taxes will be kept low is a big goal of this Congress,” Boehner said.

Treasury Secretary John Snow postponed a planned Friday trip to Ohio and Kentucky to stay in Washington for consultations on the tax legislation.

Tony Snow, the White House spokesman, said reporters the administration believes that extending the tax cuts on dividends and capital gains for two years is “critical for this economy” because it would send the right signal to financial markets.

“Secretary Snow can be more effective in helping to achieve this priority for the president by remaining in Washington,” Fratto said.

The tax cuts that reduced the top rate for capital gains and dividends to 15 percent — a centerpiece of President Bush’s tax policy — are set to expire at the end of 2008. The bill under discussion would keep them in place through 2010. If they expire, the top tax rate for capital gains would increase to 20 percent, and dividends would be taxed at marginal tax rates as high as 39.6 percent.

The alternative minimum tax threatens to hit nearly 19 million taxpayers this year. That could shrink to less than 4 million under the tax changes being considered.

Lawmakers started work on the bill last year, when their budget made room for a tax cut worth up to $70 billion over five years.

Negotiators expect that the tax cuts they want to include in the bill will surpass that limit, requiring some provisions raising revenue to offset the extra cost.

Items they want in the bill include expanding the amount of investment that small businesses can write off and lifting income restrictions on contributions to certain retirement accounts, congressional aides said, speaking on condition of anonymity while negotiations remained ongoing.

Market Recap

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<tr>
<td>S&amp;P 500</td>
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<td>NASDAQ</td>
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Basis: AMEX | 1,974 |
Basis: NASDAQ | 1,963 |
Basis: NYSE | 2,193,472,780

The Observer

associated Press

Trade on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange observe the falling stocks caused by higher oil prices Thursday.

Up: Same: Down: Composite Volume:

- Stocks | 2,193,472,780
-Volume |

In Brief

Boston Scientific, Guidant shares rise

Boston — Shares of Boston Scientific Corp. rose Thursday after the medical-device maker won antitrust clearance from the Federal Trade Commission’s staff for its $27 billion acquisition of Guidant to close around the middle of this month following regulatory clearances.

While the deal still needs final approval from the Department of Justice, the FDA and the European Union.

Also on Wednesday, Guidant said its first-quarter sales jumped 6 percent from last year and it expects to record more than $130 million in charges for the quarter Guidant has suffered sliding sales because of product recalls and news that the company withheld information about the faulty devices.

Boston Scientific said it continues to expect its acquisition of Guidant to close around the middle of this month following regulatory clearances.

Merck denies withheld information

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — In his first appearance in a Vioxx trial, the former chief executive of Merck & Co. insisted Thursday that the company was up front about the safety risks of its troubled arthritis drug despite court pressure — despite a jury verdict to the contrary.

Raymond Gilmartin, 65, who retired last year after 11 years as the company’s president, said during a hearing aimed at determining whether Merck should pay punitive damages in addition to the $4.5 million it was ordered to pay a former Vioxx user stricken by a heart attack.

Dueling over semantics and Merck’s candor in the development of Vioxx, Gilmartin and plaintiff Mark Lanier engaged in a series of contentious but civil exchanges Thursday.

Gilmartin rejected Lanier’s assertions that the company withheld safety data about Vioxx, which was taken by 20 million Americans before 2004 a study linked it to increased risks of heart attack and stroke.
Illegal continued from page 1

But the people who pose the greatest threat to Ares users are the musicians, organizations and companies who fail to make a profit every time an album or movie is downloaded free of charge.

Companies such as HBO, Columbia Pictures and Universal Music Group have previously monitored Notre Dame students downloading movies, television shows, music files and other software, and have directly contacted the University, said Kathy Brannock, Assistant Director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing.

Brannock said Notre Dame does not actively monitor which students download "The Sopranos" or Bon Jovi hits to their computers, but when external organizations detect these activities, they file reports with the University's legal department and expect the student to delete the files in question from his computer.

However, Brannock says she could not guarantee the company that detected the illegal file sharing would not press charges.

"We have been receiving more and more violation notices from companies, as they are becoming increasingly vigilant of their copyright-protected material," Brannock said.

This semester alone, the Office of Residence Life and Housing has not issued any notices to students who were specifically reported by external organizations that were engaging in illegal file sharing, thus making this offense one of the most common ones among students.

"Every time you download a song for free, you're running the risk of being watched by these companies and these musicians," Brannock said. "They really are looking out for violators of copyright laws, and if you happen to download that one song at the wrong time, you might just get into trouble.'

The Office of Residence Life and Housing says it has received violation notices from outside companies against both students who may have downloaded more than 100 songs and moving students who downloaded a mere handful.

While students are aware of the practical risks of downloading, not all consider it a serious offense.

"My RA at the time who was basically the student of the year, head of ROTC, et cetera heard of my plight, and said something like, 'That's illegal?'" Bugaz said.

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

Detectives could get life in prison

Former NYPD cops convicted of moonlighting as mob hitmen

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Two highly decorated former detectives were convicted Thursday of moonlighting as henchmen for the mob in one of the most sensational cases of police corruption in New York history.

John Gotti's, 57, and Steven Caracappa, 64, could get life in prison for their roles in eight murders committed between 1986 and 1990 while they were simultaneously on the payroll of both the NYPD and Lucchese crime family underboss Anthony "Gaspipe" Casso.

Federal prosecutor Daniel Wенner described the case as "the bloodiest, most violent betrayal of the badge this city has ever known.

Prosecutors said the two men carried out two hits themselves — and delivered up some of the other victims to the Mafia to be killed.

Neither defendant showed any emotion during the 10 minutes it took the jury forewoman to reply "puzzle." 70 times to the racketeering acts they were accused of. The verdict was reached after two days of deliberations.

The defendants' $5 million bail was revoked and they were led off in jail to await sentencing May 22. The men's lawyers said they will appeal.

"It's an appearance of justice, but it's not justice," said Bruce Cutler, who once represented John Gotti and put on a defense for Casso, claiming the government's mob witnesses were lying to save their skins.

Prosecutors said the two used their law enforcement positions to help the Mafia at a price of $4,000 per month — more if they personally handled a killing. They earned $62,000 for one of those slayings, prosecutors said.

The two officers also supplied Casso with inside information on law enforcement interest in the mob, prosecutors said. Casso was said to have referred to the two men as his "crystal ball."

They were convicted of charges that included racketeering conspiracy, witness tampering, witness retaliation and obstruction of justice.

"There has never been, in the history of the NYPD, an officer convicted of being a hit man for the mob," Tom Reppetto, author of "American Mafia" and "NYPD," a department history. "There's cases of police misconduct, but going to work for organized crime? Wow.

"Cassano was one of the most brutal mobsters in the city, suspected of involvement in 36 murders himself. Both sides considered him a mob patriarch. Both sides considered him a mob patriarch. Casso, known as one of the most brutal mobsters in the city, took the stand at their trial.

The key prosecution witness was Burton Kaplan, a drug dealer who spent four days on the stand linking the pair to an assortment of murders. Kaplan testified that he was hired by these detectives on Christmas Eve.

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WASHINGTON — Perhaps it wasn't history's greatest betrayal after all, but a simple act of obedience.

Judas turned Jesus over to the high priests, not for money, but because Jesus asked him to do so, according to a newly translated ancient Coptic document.

The "Gospel of Judas" tells a far different tale from the four gospels in the New Testament. It portrays Judas as a favored disciple who was given special knowledge by Jesus — and turned him in at Jesus' request.

"You will be cursed by the other generations — and you will come to rule over them," Jesus tells Judas in the document made public Thursday.

The text, one of several ancient documents found in the Egyptian desert in 1970, was preserved and translated by a team of scholars. It was made public in an English translation by the National Geographic Society.

Religious and lay readers alike will debate the meaning and truth of the manuscript. But it does show the diversity of beliefs in early Christianity, said Marvin Meyer, professor of Bible studies at Chapman University in Orange, Calif.

The text, in the Coptic language, was dated to about the year 300 and is a copy of an earlier Greek version.

"A 'Gospel of Judas' was first mentioned around A.D. 150 by Bishop Irenaeus of Lyons, in what is now France. The bishop denounced the manuscript as heresy because it differed from mainstream Christianity. The actual text had been thought lost until this discovery.

Elaine Pagels, a professor of religion at Princeton University, said, "The people who loved, circled and wrote down these gospels did not think they were heresies."

Added Rev. Donald Senior, president of the Catholic Theological Union of Chicago: "Let a vigorous debate on the significance of this fascinating ancient text begin."

Senior expressed doubt that the new gospel will rival the New Testament, but he allowed that opinions are likely to vary.

Craig Evans, a professor at Acadia Divinity College in Nova Scotia, Canada, said: "New Testament explanations for Judas' betrayal range from money to the impulse to protect the community. The manuscript "implies that Judas only did what Jesus wanted him to do.""

Typically, the man who loved the world was much more diverse than it is now, with a number of gospels circulating in addition to the four that were finally collected into the New Testament, noted Bart Ehrman, chairman of religious studies at the University of North Carolina.

Eventually, one point of view prevailed, and the others were declared heresy, he said, including the Gnostics who believed that salvation depended on secret knowledge that Jesus imparted, particularly to Judas.

In Cairo, the editor of the Coptic weekly "Watani," Youssif Sidhom, did not want to make an immediate judgment on the manuscript.

"However," he said, "this will not greatly affect the central belief that considers Judas as a traitor, but there is an old school of thought that says one should not persecute Judas because his role was to complete the prophecy. It seems that the new manuscript will support this point of view — that Judas' role was pivotal to completing the prophecy."

The newly translated document's text begins: "The secret account of the revelation that Jesus spoke in conversation with Judas Iscariot."

In a key passage Jesus tells Judas, "You will exceed all of them. For you will sacrifice the man that clothes me."

This indicates that Judas would help liberate the spiritual self by helping Jesus get rid of his physical flesh, the scholars said.

"Step away from the others and I shall tell you the mysteries of the kingdom," Jesus says to Judas, singling him out for special status.

"Look, you have been told everything. Lift up your eyes and look at the cloud and the light within it and the stars surrounding it. The star that leads the way is your star."

The text ends with Judas turning Jesus over to the high priests and does not include any mention of the crucifixion or resurrection. National Geographic said the author believed that Judas, a local aristocrat, understood the true significance of Jesus' teachings. The author of the text is not named in the writings.

Discovered in 1970, the papyrus was kept in a safety deposit box for several years and began to deteriorate before conservators opened it. More than 1,000 pieces had to be reassembled.

The material will be donated to the Coptic museum in Cairo, Egypt, so it can be available to all scholars said Ted Waist of the Waitt Institute for Historical Discovery, which helped finance the restoration.

In addition to radio carbon dating, the manuscript was also authenticated through ink analysis, multispectral imaging, content and linguistic style and handwriting style. National Geographic reported.
CLARIFYING "CATHOLIC CHARACTER AT ND"

This week marked a great and courageous day for Notre Dame. Father John Jenkins. For the first time since the term of former Notre Dame president Theodore Hesburgh, a University leader established a balanced, inclusive and well-thought-out plan for defining Notre Dame. It is a moment every friend of the University and member of Notre Dame should remember.

Nearly a quarter of American Christians consider themselves Catholic, but many seldom attend Mass regularly. For them, the character of the Roman Catholic Church is lacking — perhaps not as much for its dogma as for the Church’s inability to effectively connect on an individual level. They are not convinced that the message from the gospel matches the actions of Church leaders. A similar disconnect between University actions and rhetoric has certainly dimmed the influential image of Notre Dame, especially for students of many years.

Father Jenkins’ efforts to confront a contentious issue now on campus, has set a fair policy for generations to come. It was empirically balanced, teaching the students of Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame specifically, adhered to the life- and mission of Jesus’ service to others while not even recognizing that gay students existed in the universe, let alone coming out on campus. Somehow the fear of bad publicity perpetuated a series of similarly negative impressions of Notre Dame. Jenkins is the first campus leader truly to recognize and support King Solomon’s biblical sensibilities and wisdom.

In this era of hourly news cycles, religion is ridiculed — but many times for good reason. When the spokesperson for a leading American Catholic organization appears on political cable programs to assert that a secular movement is removing Christ out of Christmas, many wonder if he is fairly representing Catholics who respect the fact that non-Catholics do not recognize the holiday. The confusion for non-Catholics is as baffling as our lack of understanding for Muslim riots over a cartoon joke of Mohammed. Neither side attempts to bridge the divide with the other.

Last week, a segment of so-called Christians met in Washington, D.C., to whine about our society’s attack on Christianity. They claimed that gay people are attacking marriage, secularists are attacking Christmas and liberals are attacking values. Their cries defy the truth of the Word as they attempt to deceive goodness and personal political power and greed.

The conference attempted to connect how Jesus could have had a good word about war in certain circumstances, how torture should be included in Catholic manuals or how Jesus could support tax cuts for the wealthy because, after all, it is our money. Their vitriolic hate of foreigners forbids even their own followers from ministering to a wayward undocumented immigrants in this great and free (only for them) nation. While claiming how everyone else is attacking all that is holy to them, they in turn attempt to attack their followers’ wallets. Sadly, Catholics got swept up in this illogical reversal of the definitions of values and morality. How can that claim be a secular and private matter. Catholics are fortunate that their service is universal and is needed in a long history dating back to Jesus. No other religion can claim to have been the first, although Martin Luther defined the Church with his interpretation of Christ’s original teachings. Luther’s break, and every subsequent religious element that claims to follow Jesus, regardless of how strange its precepts may seem, are a matter of interpretation — including the early Roman Catholic Church.

Inasmuch as Jenkins has balanced liberal thought with conservative dogma at Notre Dame, he has freed everyone to officially respect others without confrontation. No longer at Notre Dame does one need to claim to be "attacked" like the Christian conference did last week. Gone at Notre Dame is the self-righteousness of those who, rather than debate others, attempt to quiet and discredit them.

Nobody advocating equal protection through civil unions (marriage rights within the word "marriage") ever wanted to force any religion to marry them. President John F. Kennedy set the standard. "It is one thing to argue against," he said, "but another to attack what others believe, and attempt to change them by force of law or arm." Kennedy, an American Catholic needs to attend to the Vatican, but to the constituencies who place their confidences in that official. Nobody is forcing Christians to join or celebrate Hanukkah or Kwanzaa in December. Notre Dame is saying, "Get over the us versus them mentality in favor of respect and understanding."

Last night, a television commercial sponsored me in mid-sentence. People who appeared to be gay, intermarriage married, old or of minority heritage sat in church pews but suddenly were ejected out of the screen as though in a tighter frame. The United Church of Christ (www.ucc.org) sponsored the advertisement that simply read, "Religion does not exclude. Religion includes everyone."

President Jenkins’ Closing Statement on Academic Freedom and Catholic Character proclaims that message for Notre Dame. It is a great day on campus. For the first time in the generation of American Catholic leaders should take that message to heart, both in the political and spiritual aspects of their lives. While it takes effort from all of us to celebrate, Jenkins has articulated a framework that is neither liberal or conservative, but one for all of us to live.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame ’73, is a political strategist who served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton’s Administration. His columns appear every other Friday. He can be contacted at fowles@nd.edu

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Jockular misleading and offensive

We are disappointed in the Jockular comic strip run on April 6 and the fact that it was even published. We felt that the portrayal of Saint Mary’s students is not only inaccurate, but insulting. Why would you approve a comic strip that indirectly destroys the relationship between the students of Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame? For a newspaper that serves both schools, you present a rather slanted perspective of Saint Mary’s students.

In particular we are offended by the reference to Notre Dame in "Passion," as Jockular so eloquently dubbed it. The word passionate instigates the relationship between Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame is unhealthy and harmful to Notre Dame. We do not feel this is the case because, although Saint Mary’s students may make use of available opportunities, this does not mean Notre Dame students have less to choose from.

In addition, Saint Mary’s offers events and programs of which Notre Dame students may take advantage.

It is not the actions of Saint Mary’s students that hinder growth between the institutions, but the attitudes articulated in this comic strip. The implication that Saint Mary’s students can more about their room size than their education is insensitive to their feelings as well as reality. Since being founded in 1844 and 1842, both Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame have prided themselves on their mutual support and collaboration as educational institutions. The students who come here expect a warm community that both welcomes and supports. How can prospective students feel invited to share in this community if they are exposed only to this biased opinion?

Felicia Lipari and Megan Weerkamp

Saint Mary’s

April 6

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"What is the difference between unethical and ethical advertising? Unethical advertising uses falsehoods to deceive the public; ethical advertising uses truth to inform the public."

Vilhelm Stefansson
Canadian explorer and ethnologist
Impact appreciated

Concerning the Friday, March 3rd edition of The Observer, "Notre Dame benefactors to be recognized." I attended the weekend. It provided a valuable opportunity for those invited to hear the experiences of several students and to hear of their appreciation of what Notre Dame and the benefactors have done for them. It was an opportunity to pay back in our own fashion — however small — and in the realization that we are helping to carry the image of our Lady's school out to the world through the finest and brightest young people in our country. A week has gone by and the memories are vivid in my mind.

I was able on Sunday morning to visit with two of the scholars from my endorsement — both from my hometown area of Meline and Davenport. I hope to follow their progress as they go on to life. You students will also have this opportunity to pay back our school. Few things, if anything at all, can be satisfying.

Bob Eckland
Alumnus
Clay '87
March 10

U-WIRE

the French:
masters of protest

I'm currently studying abroad in Aix-en-Provence, France, in southern France. I have never been to class in five weeks. My university is on strike. Starting last week, our program began offering provisional classes to make sure we don't have too many more involving our hands in this sun-drenched vacation spot. In fact, I should've been in class Tuesday.

But in France, the protection of the worker against capitalistic exploitation has fared better than in the United States. The French have a working social democratic system. They have a president who is in the enviable position of having a 35-hour workweek. It is, for the protection of the worker, the social democratic system.

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At the center of the argument is that the French allow employers to fire their young workers for no reason during a two-year "tryout period." From an American perspective, it might be difficult to understand the French system.

The left wants to undermine the system. The system is the way they see it. The French government is in the enviable position of having a 35-hour workweek. It is, for the protection of the worker, the social democratic system.

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Andrew Perrine
University of Michigan
Michigan Daily

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The 2006 Opera Notre Dame production of "Orpheus Goes to Hell" is definitely not your grandmother's opera. Hilarious and irrelevant, this satiric romp by 19th century composer Jacques Offenbach pokes fun at Greek mythology, imperial French politics and modern society while entertaining the audience with lively song and dance numbers.

The opera, a yearly event sponsored by the Notre Dame Department of Music and Opera Notre Dame, will take place this weekend 7:30 p.m. both Friday and Saturday night in Washington Hall.

Director and Notre Dame Opera professor Mark Beudert believes the show simultaneously entertain and educate.

"This art form is a collaboration of all the other art forms," Beudert said, who hopes that the opera can provide an experience belting the liberal arts atmosphere that permeates Notre Dame.

"Orpheus Goes to Hell" retells the classic Greek myth of the legendary singer Orpheus who pursues his wife Eurydice to Hades after she has been taken by Pluto, much to the dismay of Jupiter, king of the gods. Along the journey from thebes to Mt. Olympus to Hades, many characters from Greek mythology show up to add their own lampoons and satiric comments during the ridiculous romp.

Offenbach's original version has been reworked several times, which adds many types of humor to the opera that stem from various historical periods. Offenbach himself seems to generate most of the humor, poking fun at the establishments of 19th century France. But there is also more modern humor clearly introduced by the Notre Dame production team.

"We've tried to incorporate a lot of Notre Dame (humor), while also making the relationship between Orpheus and Eurydice a 'Brad Pitt-Jennifer Aniston thing," Emily Sladek (Eurydice) said.

Modern references like these, along with other humorous allusions to StarBucks, "Desperate Housewives" and a surprise operatic debut by Notre Dame legend Digger Phelps help make the play appealing and entertaining to a wider audience.

Eric Petrucci (Orpheus) describes the play as "basically one big ridiculous joke" that audiences should not take as a serious opera. Steven Soebbing (Jupiter) echoes these sentiments, describing the opera as a "political commentary." While his character originally symbolized the demented Napoleon III, it can also apply to several more contemporaneous political figures.

Sladek, Petrucci and Soebbing are all music majors, a group that makes up the bulk of the large cast and crew. The production of "Orpheus Goes to Hell" gives the music majors a chance to showcase their skills in singing, acting and dancing — a laudable goal which must be promoted and encouraged as part of the Notre Dame tradition, according to Phelps.

All of the performers are accompanied by the seventeen-piece Notre Dame Orchestra, which is composed of both Notre Dame students and professional musicians directed by John Apolito, a visiting professor and conductor of Opera Notre Dame for the past 13 years. The group is downsized from a normal orchestra because of the size and acoustics of Washington Hall — a full orchestra would drown out the voices of the singers in the small space. In spite of its small size, the orchestra in "Orpheus" has a great influence on the show, filling in as another character at times and playfully interacting with the lead singers.

"Orpheus Goes to Hell" is a perfect opera for the college audience. Witty and fast moving, the catchy songs and lyrics combine with graceful choreography to make the opera enjoyable and exciting. The student players give excellent performances fitting for full-sized opera houses. Opera Notre Dame's production of "Orpheus Goes to Hell" is a wonder to see and hear.

Contact Sean Sweaney at sweaney@nd.edu

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**DPAC SPOTLIGHT**

**Kurosawa's 'Samurai' masterpiece comes to DPAC**

By BRIAN DOXTADER

Scene Editor

Though it sounds like the stuff of hyperbole, in 1954 Akira Kurosawa made "Shichinin no samurai" ("The Seven Samurai") and cinema was forever changed. Almost unparalleled in its scope, brilliance and effectiveness, Kurosawa changed the idea of what an action film could be while tying his epic to a solid and entertaining story.

"The Seven Samurai," as its name implies, follows seven Japanese warriors as they defend a village from a group of bandits who have been terrorizing the people. Led by the wise Kambie (Takashi Shimura), the samurai are comprised of Kikuchiyo (Toshiro Mifune), Gorobei (Yoshiro Noyu), Kyoza (Toshiro Mifune), Heihachi (Mino Kichi), Shichiroji (Takashi Shimura) and Katsushiro, a boy who longs to be a true samurai.

Each of the samurai has a distinct personality, but the most notable are Kikuchiyo, whose youth and rebellious attitude drives the group, Kyoza, the master swordsman and Katsushiro, a boy who longs to be a true samurai.

Though set in a bygone era of samurai and villages, Kurosawa's acute ability to weave social commentary is evident throughout "The Seven Samurai." What constitutes "good" versus "evil"? What makes the samurai better than the bandits? Kurosawa explores these issues and more over the course of the film — there is an extraordinary scene about what it means to be a man that resonates despite the differences between Japanese and Western society because of Kurosawa's insight and directorial courage.

The action scenes are justifiably famous, as Kurosawa set a new standard in how to film such sequences. The moving camera, elliptical edits and well-edited editing all blend to make a picture that is undeniably cinematic. Though "The Seven Samurai" is quite long — over 200 minutes — it rarely drags thanks to its sure narrative footing and Kurosawa's filmic style.

"The Seven Samurai" is inherently tragic about "The Seven Samurai" — despite its thrills and surprisingly fluid pace, there is something somber about the film. Its emotional impact is strong and the final scene is one of those reminders of just how great the cinema can be. Kurosawa was a visionary who saw that there was still magic in film and brought out the best in the medium, revitalizing it with power and grace. Modern filmmakers have much to learn from Kurosawa's pictures — few filmmakers, before or since, have so effectively tied action, social awareness and meditative introspection as well as Kurosawa.

He is easily one of the world's great filmmakers, from the time he burst into national prominence with 1920's "Rashomon" through 1985's "Ran." His influence is incalculable, but remains evident by the number of his films that have been remade — and well-executed "The Seven Samurai" which was remade by John Sturges in 1964 as the Western "The Magnificent Seven." Others include 1958's "The Hidden Fortress" (which served as the basis for George Lucas' seminal 1977 "Star Wars") and 1964's "Yojimbo" (which was remade by Sergio Leone as the Clint Eastwood spaghetty western "For a Fistful of Dollars").

Other classics the director has made include 1922's "Ikiru" and 1957's "Throne of Blood" — all of these films established Kurosawa as arguably Japan's finest director (although Vassili

**The Seven Samurai**

Time: Saturday, April 9 at 3 p.m.

Venue: Browning Cinema, DPAC

The DPAC will screen Akira Kurosawa’s "The Seven Samurai" on Saturday.

Oni fans may argue differently.

"The Seven Samurai" is not only a classic, but one of a handful of the truly most influential films and is essential viewing for anyone even remotely interested in film.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdooxtade@nd.edu

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**WASHINGTON HALL SPOTLIGHT**

**Notre Dame Opera a 'hellishly' good production**

By SEAN SWEANY

Scene Writer

"Orpheus Goes to Hell" gives the music majors a chance to showcase their skills in singing, acting and dancing — a laudable goal which must be promoted and encouraged as part of the Notre Dame tradition, according to Phelps.
The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe is being offered in two separate DVD releases. An Extended Cut DVD is also on the way.

By ERIN MCGINN
Source: Courtesy of MovieWeb.com

As with all technology, DVDs have managed to both simplify and complicate buying a movie. With the ease and flexibility of purchasing DVDs, there are numerous possibilities for just a single movie. Take "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," for example. Two versions — the single disc and the two-disc edition — currently exist, and a third "extended version" will be released later in the year. Which one, if any, should you buy — casual or otherwise — buy?

"The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" is about the four Pevensie children: Peter (William Moseley), Susan (Anna Popplewell), Edmund (Skander Keynes) and Lucy (Georgie Henley). After evacuating London during WWII, they live with an eccentric professor in the country where Lucy discovers a wardrobe which leads to the fantastical world of Narnia. Eventually all four children enter Narnia and meet Aslan (voiced by Liam Neeson), the benevolent Lion who is the rightful ruler of Lewis' mythical land. Eventually, they engage in battle with the White Witch (Tilda Swenson), a tyrannical queen who kills a sister feature to "Creating Creatures." This feature is a bit more character-oriented and provides background on how the creatures were detailed within the books. "Explore Narnia" and "Legends in Time" are both interactive features. This version also comes with two pieces of concept art and a foldout map detailing the features on the set.

So which version of "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" should fans buy? The single-disc is recommended for casual fans who might not really care about the bonus features. The two-disc is recommended for big fans of the movie who are really interested in the making of and background information. The truly die-hard might be best suited waiting for the extended version, but probably can't wait that long, either. The easiest solution for Narnia addicts is to buy the two-disc now and re-watch or sell it later when the extended version is released.

Contact Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu

The Chronicles of Narnia
Widescreen Edition
Walt Disney Video

NOTRE DAME'S BEST... Bathrooms

With wood-paneled stall doors, clean sinks and even their own water fountains, the Main Building has thrones fit for a king — or for prospective students, at least.

Ever disappear into a bathroom to think things over? Parley's Zen Garden bathroom takes this idea to the next level, offering a serene setting for comfortable meditation.

It's common knowledge that girls enjoy traveling to the bathroom in packs. Keenan Hall was thoughtful enough to give them a comfortable waiting room as well.

After Easter: What are the best libraries on campus? Send your suggestions to obsphoto@nd.edu
Irish head to Indianapolis for three races against top foes

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

After an impressive showing at the San Diego Classic last weekend, the Irish will travel to Indianapolis for the Indiana Classic this Saturday and Sunday.

The event, sponsored by Indiana University, pits the Irish against one of three tough opponents on Saturday morning, Saturday after-
noon, and Sunday morning. Notre Dame will range against California, Wisconsin and Arizona.

Notre Dame head coach Martin Stone called the Hoosiers an "up-tempo, point-up" program. "He specifically cited the strength of the Hoosiers' offense and defense," Stone said.

The Irish also have the opportunity to take on the Golden Bears, who are defending national-champion for the second straight weekend. Last week, No. 2 Cal's victory over Notre Dame's Julie Sobolewski, Amanda Polk, Mary Quinn, Laura Pearson, Allison Cope, Kristin Nagel, Meg Boyer and Sarah Palahened by fewer than seven seconds.

"It was a good opportunity," Stone said. "But who knows? We could be the next George Mason."

Counter Ballerists Unit 21

Charles Manson Strikes Back, Counter Ballerists Unit also advance

By TIM KAISER and DAN MURPHY
Sports Writers

Saltines top Team 501, 21-11

Charles Manson Strikes Back

EMERSON Eapart and Ben Roesch scored seven points each as Charles Manson Strikes Back slaughtered Jaredjake in first round at St. Ignatius Courts Thursday night.

Jaredjake struggled from the field, scoring only four points in the contest. The group of seniors officially ended their Bookstore Court season.

"We were just out here to have some fun today," said Jaredjake guard Shane Duba, who scored one point.

Duba said his teammates enjoyed themselves during the whole game, despite trailing throughout.

"We aren't in very good condition," we also didn't run, pass or shoot well," Jaredjake forward Mark Seiler said.

With those ingredients missing, Jaredjake found it tough to hang in the second half, who who also were missing the game's

Charles Manson Strikes Back

CBU never looked back. It came up with several steals, which were easily converted to fast break buckets.

"We just wanted to work out all the kinks in the first round. It was a good all around effort," CBU guard Dave Kuck said.

Kuck's outside shooting proved to be a valuable weapon for CBU throughout the game.

The start slow the under manned MaCCCK Daddies, who were gasping for air by the end of the first half.

"They had five guys and stamini," MaCCCK Daddies guard Bill Bishop said. "They had five to cut to the middle, but I didn't know whether we could do anything." The guy went flying, and I flipped the puck up, knocked a door."

Bishop said: "I didn't think he was going to shoot it for the score, I was trying to get the time to ourselves. When he shot it, it surprised me."

Maine (28-12-2) had played in theprocess. 

"We thought the halftime ciga-

Mr. MLS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 204 S. Main. Classifieds must be prepaid.
**In Brief**

**BC advances to Frozen Four title game**

**MILWAUKEE** — Chris Collins made North Dakota pay for its mistakes, and Boston College's unselfish play helped the Eagles advance to the NCAA Frozen Four title game for the first time since 2001.

Streaking in alone in the second period, Collins got a pass from teammate Beto Ferrerio and buried the puck in the back of the net to lead Boston College to a 6-5 victory over North Dakota on Thursday in the semifinals.

"They weren't ready for that," Collins said. "To be skating out across the blue line and Beto Ferrerio putting it right on my stick was pretty nice."

Collins scored three goals and the Eagles didn't let North Dakota bully them out of the NCAA tournament like they did last season. Freshmen Anthony Aiello, and Brett Motherwell added goals and Cory Schneider made 36 saves.

**Mannings to face off in Sunday opener**

**INDIANAPOLIS** — The Indianapolis Colts will open the season on the road for the seventh straight year, this time against the New York Giants in what is expected to be the first NFL matchup between brothers Peyton and Eli Manning.

"We thought that was coming, and the unfortunate thing is for the other 54 guys that are involved in the game, it'll almost be like they're not there," Colts coach Tony Dungy said Thursday. "That is unfortunate, because there are a lot of other good players on those two teams, but we pretty much know how that one is going to be promoted." The league released its 2006 schedule on Thursday, and the Sept. 10 opener at the Meadowlands is part of NBC's new Sunday night package.

Indianapolis is also scheduled to play a Sunday night game at New England on Nov. 5 and a Monday night game at home against Cincinnati.

**Blake ready to take on Gonzalez in Davis Cup**

**RANCHO MIRAGE, CA** — James Blake gets to go first for the United States and, if the Davis Cup quarterfinals against Chile go the limit, he'll also go last.

Blake, No. 2 on the U.S. team behind Andy Roddick, will face Chile's No. 1 player, Fernando Gonzalez, on Friday in the opening singles match. Roddick will play Nicolas Massu in the second match of the day.

The order of play was determined during Thursday's draw.

"I think this is the first time I've been picked," Blake said of the opening assignment. "It should be fun, and hopefully I'll start us off on a good note.

Blake said he doesn't worry much about anything but his own game, and will stick with that approach for his first match and only if the match is even and he faces Massu in the deciding match Sunday — the finale of the round.

**PGA**

Davis Love III watches his drive on the 18th hole during first round play of The Masters at the Augusta National Golf Club Thursday. Love III shot a two-over 74.

**Augusta, GA** — Vijay Singh was at the top of the Masters leaderboard. No surprise there.

Phil Mickelson was right in the mix. That's to be expected.

Tiger Woods got off to a sluggish start against National. Sounds about right.

Still, there were plenty of surprises on Day 1: Bocco Mediate and Aaron Oberholzer were Singh's closest challengers, and Ben Crenshaw — who was taking retirement a day earlier — put himself in contention with a stunning round.}

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Still, there were plenty of surprises on Day 1: Bocco Mediate and Aaron Oberholzer were Singh's closest challengers, and Ben Crenshaw — who was taking retirement a day earlier — put himself in contention with a stunning round. Showing no regard for the longer, tougher course, Singh put up a bogey-free, 5-under 67 that gave him a one-shot lead over Mediate on Thursday. Oberholzer, a Masters rookie, was another shot back.

"I played pretty decent," Singh said. "I didn't make too many mistakes. I had a lot of chances early on and I putted very well."

Mickelson shot 70, part of a group three strokes off the lead that included two-time U.S. Open champion Retief Goosen.

Leufy said it's much easier to play the Masters now that he's a past champion, having won in 2004 when he captured his first major title. He added the PGA Championship last year.

"It's a different feel being off in this tournament knowing you've won it," Mickelson said. "I always wanted to win it so bad ... that it was harder to let my swings go, relax and enjoy the day. I feel I can do that now."

Singh and Mediate had something in common. They were the first two players to make birdies on the 11th hole, a tough test that became even harder when Augusta National decided to super-size its course to 7,445 yards — the second-longest in major championship history behind Whistling Straits.

That's where the similarities end.

Singh is a three-time major champion who won the Masters in 2000. Mediate qualified for Augusta based on a sixth-place finish at the U.S. Open last summer. Otherwise, he's been mired in one of the worst slumps of his career, finishing 114th on the money list a year ago — an improvement on his 176th-place showing in 2005.

"I haven't been here in a while," Mediate quipped as he walked into the interview room. "Still the same, though."
ND WOMEN’S GOLF

ND starts drive to NCAAs with stop in Virginia

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will travel to Harrisonburg, Virginia this weekend in hopes of qualifying for the Big East Championship. The women’s golf team will face conference rivals Georgetown and Rutgers. "It will be good to see some Big East teams because that is what we are used to," Notre Dame head coach Debby King said of the event, which will be held at the Lakeview Golf Course in Harrisonburg.

But the Irish will not face any teams from the NCAA Central Region this weekend and are therefore more focused on maintaining a low scoring average than on competing with the field at the James Madison Invitational. "We don't get to face any more NCAA Central Region teams so we can't improve our head-to-head ranking," King said after the Dr. Dennis Thompson Invitational in Hawaii March 21-22.

Head-to-head record and overall team scoring average are the two criteria that are used to determine if a team is worthy of an NCAA tournament bid. Notre Dame will begin first round play Saturday without the benefit of a practice round as the team's flight will arrive in Harrisonburg Friday evening, after the other teams have already finished their practice rounds and seen the course.

King said that she has printed out pictures of each hole of the course and distributed them to her players, although she realizes that her team will still be entering the tournament at a disadvantage. "The first round of play will essentially be our practice round," King said.

However, the coach remains confident that her players are well-prepared. "We've been getting some practice in practically every week," she said.

King specifically cited the impressive play of senior co-captain Suzie Hayes, who had shot 73 during Wednesday's practice.

This weekend, as the team enters their final tournament before the Big East Championship, the Irish know that they have little margin for error if they want to attain their third NCAA berth in as many years.

"The NCAA tournament is so prestigious so it would definitely be a huge honor to be chosen again," senior co-captain Katie Brophy said. "Hopefully, we can finish strong and get rewarded for it."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

ND SOFTBALL

Team to play four road contests

Squad will travel to Syracuse, Pittsburgh for conference games

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

The Irish will put their undefeated conference record to the test this weekend as they travel to Syracuse and Pittsburgh for a pair of doubleheaders.

T he Orange and the Panthers are tied for third in the Big East with an identical 7-1 record.

Notre Dame and South Florida are the only two teams without a loss - both at 4-0 - and remain tied for first. Although it is early in the season, the match-ups may have a major impact on where each team ends up in the conference standings.

"They are both on fire right now," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "To have a good week we have to be able to control their hitters."

Both teams, she said, are "crushing the ball right now." The Orange are poised to continue their strong showing with two big games this Saturday. On Thursday, the team tied a program record by winning nine of its last 10 games. The one loss was a 7-4 upset at the hands of St. John’s in the second game of a two-game series on March 26.

Syracuse pitcher Alexis Swintok currently leads the Big East with 11 home runs and has a .365 batting average. She was also 2-0 on the mound last weekend, striking out 10 in an 8-1 complete game win over Villanova.

[Swintok is hitting the snout out of the block,] Gumpf said. "She can single-handedly change a game, and we need to give her the respect that she has earned." The Irish can't let this opportunistic hitter get the best of them.

The 4,200-seat facility at Scott Stadium will not ease up on Sunday. Pittsburgh comes in at 11-3 overall also riding an impressive streak, with 16 wins in 11 contests. A victory over the No. 13 Panthers Wednesday gave the Panthers the most wins in the school's history.

Consistent and powerful hitting is what helped the team find its way into the record books. Leading the way are leadoff batter Jessica Bigon 1.350 BA) and the power hitter Lisa McGregor, who has homered six times this season.

"We just need to focus on each other and keep our- selves enthusiastic — that's all we can do," designated hitter Gesica Hufnagle said.

Notre Dame, currently 20-11, has also been tearing through its schedule recently. Wednesday's loss to Akron was the first since dropping a game to No. 7 Alabama on March 19.

"We know we are a good team," Hufnagle said. "We just have to take the Akron game and learn from it, then go out there and get the job done."

Gumpf said the team will get back to basics this weekend and concentrate both on getting good pitches to hit and driving runners home once they get on base. Notre Dame has left 181 runners on base so far this season, averaging just under six per game.

The Syracuse games are scheduled for noon and 2 p.m. Saturday, The Pittsburgh games will take place at noon and 2 p.m. Sunday.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy@nd.edu

TRACK AND FIELD

Twelve Irish runners travel to Miami Invite

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

A dozen members of the Irish track team will trek to the Miami Invitational in Oxford, Ohio this weekend in hopes of qualifying for, or improving their seeds, in the May 5-7 Big East Championship meet.

"This meet is not a major meet by any means," senior sprinter Ryan Postel said. "But it represents a chance to hit Big East qualifiers for those who haven't done so."

Among those competing is freshman Alyssa Hasan. Already a Big East qualifier in the long jump, she will be competing in that event, plus the shot-put and 100-meter hurdles.

"Hopefully, I'll be able to set some good marks," Hasan said. "I'm hoping for a Big East qualifying time in the 100-meter hurdles."

Other Big East hopefuls include Antonia Belbel in the 400-meter hurdles on the women's side and Charlie Abood in the 3,000-meter steeplechase. Abood's best time in the men's 200-meter event is only one-hundredth of a second behind the qualifying mark.

Sophomore Rob Kueney has already qualified for the Big East meet. He will compete in the 400 meters in Oxford.

"I'm just trying to get a good seed going into the Big East championships," Kueney said.

So far this season, Irish have 29 Big East qualifying scores and five Mid-East Regional qualifying marks.

On the schedule next week is the four-day Mt. SAC relays starting Wednesday in Walnut, Calif. It is one of the biggest meets in the country, with dozens of high school and universities around the countries sending their top competitors.

As of now, Irish coach Joe Planek said he has not decided who will represent the Irish. Possibilities include Postel for his individual events and the Irish 4 x 400-meter relay team comprised of Postel, Kueney, Jordan Powell and Dan Murphy.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

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When: Mon-Fri 9 am - 6 pm; Sat by appointment
Who: Sgt. 1st Class Weaver, 574-245-5319
Squad splits doubleheader with Flying Dutch

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

The Belles redeemed themselves in the second game of their doubleheader against No. 24 Hope after losing the first game 5-2 Wednesday in Holland, Mich. Saint Mary's came back in the second game to win 1-0, capturing its third Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) win. The game remained scoreless until the bottom of the third inning when Sarah Meisle singled to drive in the only run of the game. Kristin Amram secured the Belles lead on the mound, striking out 11.

Sullivan was pleased with her team's performance in the split.

"Even against a really great team, we are just as good," Sullivan said.

The Belles hope they can continue the success when they face defending MIAA champion Alma Saturday. Alma enters the game coming off a split against Defiance. Alma won the first game 4-0 but lost the second 6-5.

"Alma has always had strong hitters and a very deep line up," Grail said.

Grail also said that the Belles will look to get ahead early and hold on against Alma.

They expect sluggers like Meisle to step up at the plate.

"Our players are going to be playing with everything they have," Grail said.

Alma and the Belles face off at Saint Mary's Saturday at 1 p.m.

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

The Belles (14-6, 3-1 in the MIAA) took the lead in the first game in the top of the third when Bridget Grail scored off an error. The Flying Dutch answered back in the bottom of the third with three runs and never looked back. Jessica Regnerus singled to drive in a run and both Laura Tancock and Emily Adams tallied sacrifice flies.

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Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu

SMC GOLF

Saint Mary's placed second at Normal, Ill. tournament last year

By BECKI DORNER
Sports Writer

Fresh off a tournament and a repeat win at Capital University's Purple and White Invitational last Sunday, the Belles of the Saint Mary's golf team look for continued success at the Illinois Wesleyan University Spring Fling in Normal, Ill. this weekend.

The Belles placed second out of 20 in last year's tournament at IWU, scoring 305 and 310 on the first and second days, respectively. They finished 14 strokes behind winner DePauw University. Sarah Gates of DePauw and Maggie Loney of Wisconsin Eau Claire both recorded totals of 144 to share the individual title.

This fall's MIAA League MVP Megan Mattia of Saint Mary's placed seventh individually last year, recording two five over par 77's on the 5842 yard par 72 Ironwood Golf Club course.

The team will look to her for leadership as the highest placer falling Belle returning to the tournament this year. The Belles will compete this year without their number three finisher Stefanie Simmerman and sixth place finisher Julia Adams, both of whom graduated from the team last year.

Nonetheless, many of the current Belles are very familiar with success at the Normal, Illinois course. At last year's Spring Fling, Captain Kirsten Fantom carded a final round 85 and earned fifty-second place overall, and Katie O'Brien had a top round of 74.

"We have a positive outlook going into the upcoming tournament, we're familiar with the course and we've played well there in the past," Fantom said.

Mattia agreed.

"We have high expectations (for this tournament)," she said.

The Belles will face a very talented field in Normal. DePauw will return to defend their title and is ranked No. 2 nationally in Division III by the National Golf Coaches Association, and No. 3, just above Saint Mary's, in the Golfstat.com rankings.

Wisconsin Eau Claire is on the upswing as well, only recording five losses in their fall season that totaled over thirty contests, and Illinois Wesleyan will look to avenge their defeat by the Belles on their home course last year.

Contact Becki Dornier at edornier@nd.edu
rules do not allow for a team to replace an injured player, so Craig Fencing played the remainder of the game a man down.

The two teams went back and forth to determine the first half, as the two squads went back and forth in fast-paced play.

"I felt we were playing good basketball," he said. "The main thing was that [Craig Fencing guard] John Lindenmeyer was carrying us on his back.

Marlin said Craig Fencing stayed down on defense and prevented Rule No. 76 from running away with the game.

"They didn't let us take full advantage of [the injury] because they played like crazy," Marlin said. "We pushed the ball inside ... and it worked out all right.

Kay was proud of the way his team battled the first half, as the two squads went back and forth in fast-paced play.

"It was a hard-fought battle," the Shooters' Peter Johnson said. "It was looking bleak for a little bit there, but we persevered and years of practice.

Shoot, Don't Dribble 21, Lewis 35W... and Mikey 1

Shoot, Don't Dribble advanced to the third round with a lopsided victory over Lewis 35W and Mikey. Shoot, Don't Dribble jumped out to a large lead early, scoring 19 points before 35W was able to get on the board.

The game became a defensive struggle late, but was ended decisively on a thunderous dunk from Shoot forward Matt Besler.

"We thrive when there's a target on our back," Shoot, Don't Dribble said in a joint statement after the game.

"We let them win because they're freshmen and we felt bad," they said in a joint statement after the game.

Bruce Flowers All-Stars 21, Moving Staircase 10

This marathon match-up at McGlinn courts featured two teams with unique names. The All-Stars took their name from team member Thomas Flowers' father, Bruce, who played with Bill Laimbeer on the 1978 Notre Dame varsity basketball team that reached the Final Four and is Notre Dame's career leader in personal fouls with 378.

Moving Staircase took its name from an escalator mishap that caused guard Carrie Orr to spend part of her spring break in an emergency room getting stitches.

The two teams battled back and forth in a defensive struggle that lasted for over an hour before the All-Stars came away with a victory. The All-Stars used their height advantage and post presence to pull away at the end.

"We gave it a good effort," Orr said of her team's performance.

"It was a tough battle, but sheer determination brought us to victory," All-Star guard Kevin Johnson said.

The All-Stars also had a message for their next opponent.

"Insurance Waivers better watch their back," they said in a statement after the game.

Globo Gym Purple Cobras 23, Drop It Like It's Hoff 0

Drop It Like It's Hoff arrived at the Bookstore courts confident Thursday night. Dressed in matching team jerseys, it taunted Globo Gym from across the court during the Purple Cobras warm-up.

Unfortunately for Hoff, Globo Gym let its playing do the talking, en route to a 21-0 victory.

The game started out with the Purple Cobras missing their first four shots before the Purple
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Mustangs
continued from page 24

Although the Irish are ranked
higher than the Mustangs, no
one is looking for the match
"It looks like they're peaking
at the right time," Bayliss said.
"They've very well coached, they
play great doubles — they
always have."
The singles players at SMU are
also formidable.
"They've been around the
block," Bayliss said. "They have a
couple of Swedish players that
have big serves and really big
forehands. We just got a little bit
overpowered last year so we're
ready for that. We'll expect a
very close match."

"Notre Dame last played in
Texas March 25 and 26, losing a
6-1 match at Texas and a 5-3
decision at Texas A&M.
Before the road trip, the Irish
had played in the finals of the
Blue-Gray National Classic, los­
ing 4-2 to Virginia Commonwealth University to take first runner-up in the tour­
nament and ending an 11-match winning streak.
The two-week hiatus was
unusual for the team, which has
played multiple matches most
weeks since the season started.
However, the time off was
good for resting up and regain­
ing long-term focus.
"At the beginning of the sea­
son we had a tough set of
matches — we had trouble clos­
ing out matches," Buchanan
said. "I think that's really made
us a lot tougher."
Notre Dame is particularly
dee in singles, with junior
Stephen Basso, sophomore
Shonha Parchalai, freshman Brett
Helgeson and junior Ryan
Keckley in the top four in the
singles lineup.
"I hope there's a sense of
urgency that we have to max
our matches at the end of the
year," Bayliss said. "Certainly
the seniors want to go out on a
strong note and we want that for
them."

Contact Kate Gales at
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Men's Golf
Boilermaker Invite to welcome Irish golfers

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

After finishing 11th in the
Augusta State Invitational in
Augusta, Ga., Notre Dame will
return to the Midwest to take
part in the Boilermaker Invi­
national on Saturday and
Sunday in West Lafayette, Ind.

The Irish will look to improve
upon their perfor­

mance last
week at the
Invitational.
Although that
tournament had a
particularly strong
field — featuring
seven
Top-50

teams — Notre Dame is not
using that as an excuse for last
weekend's result.
"We weren't happy at all with
our performance last weekend," 
freshman Josh Sandman said.
"We went in with a game plan,
but we didn't execute it."

Despite failing to put together
a complete performance so far
this spring, the Irish head into
this weekend's meet with high
expectations.
"We're looking for things to
turn around this weekend," 
Sandman said. "Anything less
than a first or second-place
finish will be a disappointment
for us."

While the field at the
Boilermaker Invitational may
not be as strong as the one at

Augusta State, it contains some
teams that will force Notre
Dame to play very well.

Multiple Big Ten teams like
Minnesota — currently ranked
No. 1 in the Midwest Region —
will challenge the Irish this
weekend.
Notre Dame is currently
ranked No. 10 in the Midwest
District. District rankings are
based on head-to­

head records, so
by finishing ahead
of its fellow
Midwest District
competitors in this
weekend's tourn­
ament, Notre Dame
would pick up
valuable wins and
boost its ranking.
The team will face a challeng­
ing course when it arrives at the
Birch Boilermaker Golf
Complex. The Kampen Course is
7,333 yards long with a slope
rating of 145.
"It's a real tough course, and
it will be a good test for us," 
Sandman said. "I don't expect
to see many low scores this week­
end."

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garbogas@nd.edu

2005-06 Mainstage Season

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Recycle the Observer.
Butler
continued from page 24

Noire Dame finished its non­
conference slate with a 6-2
mark — including losses to No. 2
Holy Cross and No. 5 Cornell
and victories over then­No. 14
Penn State and then­No. 20
North Carolina. They now stare
down the Bulldogs in the first
leg of a four­game road trip of
conference foes that will shape
their postseason future.
If the Irish emerge unblem­
ished they will be playing for
an automatic NCAA tournament
berth in the field of 16
when they return home to fin­
ish their season against Ohio
State and Quinnipiac.
"At the beginning of the sea­
son we were really concerned
about this point to the season
when we start league play," Peters
said. "We've taken our league for­
ed a little bit the
past couple of
years. We're defi­
nitely looking at
trying to wrap up
the road trip
unbeaten, win
the Great
Western and get
that automatic tournament
bid."
The Irish dominated Butler
22-6 at Moose Krause Stadium
last year, outshooting them 68­
24 and picking up twice as
many groundballs as the
Bulldogs.
This Notre Dame squad is a
different team than last year's
edition, as Irish
coach Kevin
Corrigan through­
out the year has
criticized the
team's inability to capitalize on scor­
ing opportunities —
including last
Sunday's 8-7 win
over Dartmouth.
The 2006 Irish held a .522
shooting percentage and an
8.12 scoring average compared
to 309 and 11.91 a year ago.
Though Notre Dame has also
held opponents to 6.75 goals
per game (down one and a half
goals from a year ago), against
Butler they hope to regain the
offensive form of last season —
lasting nine games —
when they were out opposing nets with the fourth
highest scoring offense in the
country.
Senior attack Matt Karweck
had a monster day against the
Bulldogs last year, tallying five
goals and three assists. He totes
Saturday's game with 11
goals on the year —
scored on the team behind senior attack
Brian Heuschen, who has
16.
Senior All-American Pat
Walsh collected three scores
and distributed three assists in
last year's win. Walsh comes
into Saturday's game after being named GWLL Player of the Week —
the second such
distinction of his career —
for his two goals and six assists in
last week's wins over Brown
(11-3) and Dartmouth.
Peters said the team's chief
concern this Saturday against
Butler is to be the best team in
the GWLL.
"It's our first game in league
play," Peters said. "Every game
in the league is very hard, so
we expect them to come out
very hard. We're ready to play
a tough team."
Contact Tim Dougherty at
tdoughery@nd.edu

Finale
continued from page 24

some now stands at 18-1
in dual action this season.
The only loss in doubles
came from the No. 39 duo of
sophomore Brook Buck and
freshman Kelsey Teft at No. 2.
The pairing was upset by
Alexis Conil and Georgia Rose
8-5.
"Doubles has really best one
of our strengths (all season)," junior Catrina Thompson said.
"We are hoping it'll take us far
as we finish out the season at
the Big East (Tourname nt)
and the NCAA (Tourname nt).
In singles, the Irish found
wins in the middle of their
lineup to capture the victory
easily.
The most impressive win
came from Buck, who upset
No. 24 Alexis Pronis 6-3, 6-3
at No. 3. Her win was followed
by Teft at No. 4 over Jamie
Petel 6-1, 6-1. Teft now holds
a 14-4 record in duals match­
es. The final win came from
Stasny at No. 5 who downed
Exszghir 6-2, 6-0.
"It was definitely a hard
fought win," Teft said. "We
are hoping that we can take
the momentum (from this win)
to close out the season."
Although Notre Dame has
demonstrated their full poten­
tial this season, the Irish will
encounter a DePaul program
that has made an impressive
debut in the Big East
Conference this season. The
Blue Demons are coming off a
4-3 victory over Syracuse last
Saturday.
Their team is led by Beatriz
Coronas at No. 1 and Gergana
Ganeva at No. 2.
Contact Dan Tapettella at
jtapelt@nd.edu

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Freshman Katie Potts returns the ball with a backhand during a
6-1 victory over Wisconsin Feb. 26.

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Bulls continued from page 24
and junior righty Jeff Manship pitching Sunday.

"If we play our game — pitch as well as we can and play good defense — do the things that we do, then I think we can compete with South Florida and have some good results this weekend," Mainieri said.

South Florida head coach Eddie Cardieri said he expected his pitchers to rise to the occasion against the Irish starters.

"If our guys pitch as we can, I think we're looking at three real good pitching matchups," he said in a telephone interview with The Observer Thursday. "I shudder when I look at the numbers Thornton, Samardzija and Manship have."

South Florida right-hander Casey Hudspeth squares off against Samardzija in the opener at 7 p.m. Friday. Hudspeth is 3-3 in eight appearances with a 3.99 ERA this season. He has 57 strikeouts in 49.2 innings while holding opposing batters to a .250 batting average.

"He's got a good arm and a good curve ball," Mainieri said. "We've got a great challenge against him."

Samardzija enters the weekend with a 3-1 record and a 3.16 ERA in six starts.

Notre Dame (19-4, 5-1 Big East) topped Ball State 6-4 Wednesday to extend its winning streak to five. Irish second baseman Russ Brezovsky hit a two-run homer in the seventh to give Notre Dame the lead for good.

South Florida's season has been marked by streakiness. After winning just four of their first 13 games, the Bulls went 10-3 to climb to 14-12 on the season before facing Florida March 20. USF lost 6-5 in Gainesville, Fla., and then was swept by Cincinnati the next weekend. With an 11-0 loss to Central Florida Wednesday, the Bulls extended their losing streak to five.

"We just kind of hit the skids a little bit, ran into some tough luck," Cardieri said. "We just hope that we can turn it around."

Despite South Florida's recent troubles, Mainieri said he is not taking the Bulls lightly.

"We're not really concerning ourselves that much with how South Florida is playing," he said. "We need to be clicking on all cylinders. This will be one of the best series as we have all year."

Notre Dame outfielder Danny Dressman leads the Irish attack at the plate with a .483 batting average and .681 slugging percentage. Mainieri said Dressman began the season as Notre Dame's No. 4 or No. 5 starter, but acknowledged that Dressman "keeps forcing me to play him with how well he's been playing."

First baseman Craig Cooper will most likely bat first for Notre Dame in all three games. He has reached base to lead off the first in 14 of his 18 starts in the No. 1 hole.

South Florida sophomore righty Daniel Thomas will start game two against Thornton. Thomas is only 1-3 on the season but owns a 3.77 ERA. Thornton is 4-1 in six starts with a 3.02 ERA in 41.2 innings.

Cardieri will send sophomore left-hander Davis Bilardello to the mound Sunday to oppose Manship for game three. Bilardello has started in seven of his nine appearances and has a 1-1 record. He has struck out 31 batters in 44.2 innings with a 3.83 ERA.

Manship enters as Notre Dame's top starter on the season with a 2.12 ERA. He has fanned 30 in 38 innings, holding opposing batters to a .199 batting average.

"We know and respect Notre Dame's program and what they've done," Cardieri said. "(Bull) this league has so much parity, anybody can beat anybody.

The games will begin at 7 p.m. Friday, 1 p.m. Saturday and noon Sunday.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu
The Observer apologizes for Jockular's absence from today's edition.

JOCKULAR

The Observer apologizes for Jockular's absence from today's edition.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
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28 Without Prefix
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36 End of many a ride
58 Immortalist

DOWN
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EUGENIA LAST

HOROSCOPE

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Candida Cameron Bate, 30; Al Mayers, 71; Martha Hackett, 54; Morris Nyswonger, 50

Happy Birthday! It's time to size down and rid yourself of what you don't need. The same goes for acquisitions, hangovers and people who are just too much work. Once you give yourself all of these, it will be time to crawl a new direction or involving of what you're doing should be your next move. Your numbers are 12, 23, 24, 32, 34, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll know how to please others today. Any involvement you have with younger or older people will be successful. Suddenly, changes will be to your benefit so don't fight the inevitable. Money matters can be resolved.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may find yourself in a tight spot if you digress from the rules you are about to cause. Changes may be requested to satisfy everyone involved. Don't be stubborn if someone has a good suggestion.

GEMINIS (May 21-June 20): You will be reflective and even get to the bottom of things. Traveling about and visiting friends or relatives will give you a better understanding of your options. Expect to receive something special from someone you respect.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You are likely to misplace something you value today if you aren't careful. Don't believe everything you hear. A romantic encounter is apparent, so be sure to make plans for this.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be dramatic in your personal actions today. Try to curb being too much of a diva or you may end up with the short end of the stick.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Go get any dealings with institutions out of the way as quickly as possible. Avoid making a big deal out of something that really isn't that important. Youromite who has been too hot. Do not overthink if everyone is expressing exactly what you feel.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It's off to the races again with the big one. You feel a lot of pressure to get back on track.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your life is changing, so roll with the punches. As you work with the punches, a creative endeavor will pay off. You can make your dollars work for you if you put what you have back into the project you are trying to get off the ground. Take heed of the advice given by someone on the outside looking in.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may be pulled in several different directions.

MOMENTOUS (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can make some career moves today that will satisfy your needs. Don't be afraid to step out on a limb. Many things can be accomplished if you invest wisely for yourself or someone else, if you are expecting for will want your help. On your head to deal with both.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can make some career moves today that will satisfy your needs. Don't be afraid to step out on a limb. Many things can be accomplished if you invest wisely for yourself or someone else, if you are expecting for will want your help. On your head to deal with both.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotional matters may leave you feeling uncertain about your future. You may be questioned about your past and your plans for the future. Even if you don't know the answers, going through the process, it will help you get your facts straight.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Ideas will develop if you get out and socialize with colleagues. Don't be afraid to question the status quo. You may want to get involved.

Happy Birthday! You are clever and quick to change your mind. You are a veteran, open-minded individual on trying new things. You gravitate toward the unusual, are open-minded and intent on trying new things. You are unique and very entertaining.

Eugenia's Web site: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

THE OBSERVER

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**ND Women's Tennis**

**Blue and gold foes**

No. 2 Notre Dame to challenge DePaul and Marquette in last two regular-season matches

By DAN TAPETILLO

Sports Writer

This weekend, the No. 2 Irish face two challenges at home beginning with No. 73 regional rival DePaul today at 3:30 p.m. and Marquette Sunday at noon at the Courtney Tennis Center. Notre Dame enters the matches after narrowly defeating No. 9 Northwestern 4-3 last Wednesday.

In doubles, the Irish trailed early but won both of the three matches to get out to an early 1-0 lead against the Wildcats. The No. 4 duo of juniors Christian and Catrina Thompson downed Northwestern's Feriel Esegheir and Alexis Prousis 8-4 at No. 1.

The second win came from seniors Lauren Connelly and Kiki Staats who topped Nazlie Ghazal and Jamie Peisel 8-5 at No. 3. The two-see FINALE/page 21

**Men's Tennis**

Undefeated spring home record on the line

By KATE GALES

Assistant Sports Editor

Notre Dame returns to action after a two-week layoff and hopes to preserve its flawless home record against Southern Methodist Sunday at 1 p.m. The No. 18 Irish are 6-0 at home this spring and host No. 60 SMU in their penultimate match of the season.

Notre Dame is 18-7 on the season while playing one of the most difficult schedules in the country. The final matches of the spring will have important ramifications in seeding for the NCAA tournament.

"We lost last year at SMU so we're just looking to take it one match at a time and win out the rest of the season," Irish senior captain Patrick Buchanan said. Southern Methodist has been a close match for Notre Dame in the past.

"The tradition in this series—we've lost at SMU and beaten them here," Notre Dame coach Bobby Bayliss said. "The matches have all been good. Two years ago we beat them here but we won every three-set match and I think that's what it's going to take this year."

see MUSTANGS/page 20

**Baseball**

Big three to invade Florida

By KEN FOWLER

Sports Editor

Notre Dame will bring its nine-game winning streak to Tampa this weekend for a three-game series against Big East newcomer South Florida.

Irish head coach Paul Mainieri will send his "big three" to the mound for the set, with junior right-hander Jeff Samardzija starting Friday, senior southpaw Tom Thornton throwing Saturday and unranked against a ranked team, all we thought we could do was run against these bigger guys.

Rule No. 76 forward Danny Nussbaum hit a jumper from the three-point line with his team leading 20-18 to secure the win.

Craig Fencing kept the game close even after Schaffer's injury when the game was tied at 11. Bookstore Basketball-

see UPSET/page 18

**Rule No. 76 exploits injury, upsets No. 26**

By KEN FOWLER, TIM KAISER, and JOE QUINN

Sports Writers

Rule No. 76 21, Craig Fencing 18

Rule No. 76 used an effective transition game and an injury to Craig Fencing's Russell Schaffer to take down the No. 26 seed in the tournament.

"We just knew we could push the ball," Tyler Martin of Rule No. 76 said. "Coming in unranked against a ranked team, all we thought we could do was run against these bigger guys.

Rule No. 76 forward Danny Nussbaum hit a jumper from the three-point line with his team leading 20-18 to secure the win.

Craig Fencing kept the game close even after Schaffer's injury when the game was tied at 11. Bookstore Basketball-

see UPSET/page 18

**SMC Golf**

Illinois Wesleyan Spring Fling

Saturday-Sunday

The Belles placed second to Depauw in last year's Fling.

see page 17

**SMC Softball**

Alma at Saint Mary's

Saturday, 1 p.m.

The Belles split with Hope on Wednesday in Holland, Mich.

see page 17

**Track and Field**

Miami Invitational

Saturday, 10 a.m.

Twelve Irish runners will travel to Oxford, Ohio to earn Big East qualifying times.

see page 17

**ND Softball**

Notre Dame at Syracuse

Saturday, noon

The Irish are undefeated in the Big East so far this season.

see page 17

**ND Women's Golf**

James Madison Invitational

Saturday-Sunday

The Irish will face several East Coast teams, including Rutgers.

see page 16

**Rowing**

Indiana Classic

Saturday-Sunday

Notre Dame will compete against Cal, Indiana and Wisconsin in Indianapolis.

see page 14