Campus construction projects begin

by AARON STEINER
News Writer

Two major campus construction projects — a sanitary sewer job and removal of a portion of Juniper Road — are slated to begin this week, according to a Feb. 12 University press release. Both projects will cause minimal closures in certain areas on campus, University Vice President for Business Operations Jim Lyphout said Monday.

On Monday, Lyphout said, snow removal began on the first section of Juniper to be removed — between Notre Dame Stadium and the Joyce Center. The road will be eliminated and replaced with a pedestrian-friendly plaza. In addition, the project will make possible improvements in sewer systems and other utilities, which will in turn allow for the planned addition and reconstruction of the Joyce Center, he said.

"The area will have grass, landscaping and a nice pedestrian feel," Lyphout said. "We expect to be done before the first home football game. Throughout the project, all entrances to the Joyce Center will be accessible, Lyphout said.

The second project will increase sanitary sewer capacity leading to Notre Dame Stadium, Lyphout said. Construction will begin immediately east of Breen-Phillips Hall and continue southeast toward Notre Dame Stadium. The project was scheduled to begin this week, and Lyphout said they hope to begin construction within 10 days to two weeks.

Senior's portraits adorn local Club's hallway

by BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

For senior Kelly Hardy, her paintings are far more than something beautiful to look at — they're a way to give back to South Bend.

After spending last summer working at the Boys and Girls Club of St. Joseph County, Hardy created seven portraits of the children she had worked with as an assignment for her Multilevel Painting class.

Hardy worked on the project for the entire Fall 2006 semester — a feat that, until recently, she thought she would never accomplish.

"I had never really painted people before. It was something that I had always avoided even though I had been painting a long time," Hardy admitted. "[But] I decided ... to dive right in with huge, oversized portraits."

For Hardy, who first attended a painting class in second grade, art influences the way she interacts with kids today.

"I think the best part about this was getting to know the kids individually by working with them, and then getting to know them at a different level by painting them... It brought a whole new level of meaning," Hardy said.

Although Hardy did not originally plan to donate the paintings, she felt that the Club would benefit most from them.

"There were seven pretty overwhelming discussions from 2003-05 show just one to two incidents of reported sex offenses each year — more recent numbers aren't available, but there were two more just last week — 61 students reported "some kind of victimization experience" to the University Counseling Center last year, according to Rita Donley, the Center's associate director. These incidents may include rape and sexual assault.

Rape and sexual assault are among the most underreported crimes in the U.S., said a representative from S.O.S. of Madison Center, the St. Joseph County rape crisis center in South Bend — and judging from statistics, Notre Dame is no exception to this statement.

While Notre Dame

see ASSAULTS/page 6

ND plans Mardi Gras meals, parties

by MEGHAN WONS
News Writer

You don't have to travel to New Orleans to celebrate "the feast before the fast" today, since Notre Dame is bringing some Cajun culture to campus for Mardi Gras.

French for "Fat Tuesday," Mardi Gras is the day of celebration before Ash Wednesday, a solemn day which marks the beginning of the Lenten fasting season.

If you want to partake in feasting, you can take a trip South to South Dining Hall — where there have been busier preparing for the annual Fat Tuesday feast. South Dining Hall will serve some Cajun favorites for dinner tonight, including rum raisin bread pudding, Louisiana red beans and rice, and black-eyed peas.

Mardi Gras decorations are on display in the South Dining Hall Monday to get students excited for Fat Tuesday.
**INSIDE COLUMN**

Delayed departure

It's a Sunday night (technically early Monday morning) as I sit here writing. I'm sitting at a desk in my room at the Detroit Airport Days Inn. My luxuriously surroundings include walls with peeling paint and a leaky toilet. I can hear sounds from HBO's "Home in the background. I didn't realize the tininess caused so much pain.

Anyway... why am I here? Well, I guess the story begins a couple of days ago. I had a bad feeling. My flight was scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Friday afternoon. I was going home. I thought I should be more excited, but instead all I could think about was a Monday afternoon Thology exam (and 20 percent of my grade depending on the distance. Needless to say, I did not leave South Bend at 1:30 p.m. Instead my fate consisted of delayed flights, a rebooking with another airline and a canceled flight before I finally arrived in Baltimore at 10 p.m. From there it was a short drive to my home city of Washington, D.C.

I could barely enjoy the weekend before it was Sunday evening and time to head back to the airport.

Once I arrived, I got through security easily enough. Despite the fact the monitor was Sunday evening and time to head back to the airport.

We arrived at ticket counter to get rebooked. I went first to an agent who said she would put me on a flight to South Bend the next day, we both returned to Notre Dame. Despite the reality that we had arrived with the agent to cancel her booking so that we could get a seat for me on a direct flight and she would put me on a flight to South Bend the next day, we both returned to Notre Dame. Needless to say, I did not leave South Bend at 1:30 p.m. Instead my fate consisted of delayed flights, a rebooking with another airline and a canceled flight before I finally arrived in Baltimore at 10 p.m. From there it was a short drive to my home city of Washington, D.C.

I could barely enjoy the weekend before it was Sunday evening and time to head back to the airport.

Just as I was about to sit down and have a good cry, I spotted a girl at the gate counting my bag. Suddenly wasn't alone in the background. I was too numb to be upset. Instead

**Corrections**

Due to an editing error in the Feb 19 Observer section of The Observer, the letter to the editor titled "Dialogue is not dead" used the name of the writer incorrectly. The author's name is Mary Elizabeth Walker. The Observer regrets this error.

---

**QUESTIONS OF THE DAY:**

**How are you celebrating Fat Tuesday?**

_Angela Sutton_  
Sophomore  
Pasquerilla East

David Okiyama  
Freshman  
Carroll

Elizabeth Ludemann  
Senior  
Pasquerilla East

Gregory Vallejos  
Sophomore  
Zahm

Joe Helms  
Sophomore  
Fisher

Johanna Sleson  
Senior  
Pasquerilla East

_Eva Binda_  
News Wire Editor

"Eat lots of Subway cookies."

"Drinking soda, not pop."

"I'm giving up elevators for Lent, so I'm going to ride as many as I can on campus."

"Going to the hot spot - NIU."

"What's Fat Tuesday?"

"Go to one of the dining halls and steal a whole tab of non-tracks ice cream. Holla."

---

**OFFBEAT**

Couple plans to wed in graveyard ceremony

PACIFIC, Mo. — It's not the traditional "til death do us part," but Scott Amsler and Miranda Patterson believe getting hitched in a graveyard is just thinking outside the box.

Come September, the Illinois couple expects to pledge their undying love among the dearly departed in this St. Louis suburb's city cemetery, even though those who approved the request are dead set against seeing it become a trend.

The wedding wouldn't be out of character for Amsler, 27, a computer expert for a financial company by day and rehabber of old homes by night. The graveyard, he said, just has a certain tranquility and thriftiness for nostalgic young couples who want to be unique, private and traditional — as Amsler and Patterson believe.

Thousands make snow angels in record attempt

BISMARCK, N.D. — Among the thousands of people frantically flapping in the snow Saturday in an attempt to set the record for the most snow angels ever done were parents, children, even snowplow drivers.

And then there was Pauline Jaeger — who on her 99th birthday, was making her very first angel.

"It's fun," Jaeger said. "I feel just like a kid."

More than 8,900 people flapped their arms and legs on the state Capitol grounds Saturday in an attempt to reclaim the record, which was snatched away about a year ago in Michigan.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

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**IN BRIEF**

There will be a panel discussion on "Imagining War," today at 4:30 p.m. in the Annenberg Auditorium of the Miehle Library. The film will be followed by a panel of experts, including a professor of international relations, a professor of political science, a professor of history and a political scientist.

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**LOCAL WEATHER**

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**TODAY**

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Poorman responds to recently passed resolutions

Vice President for Student Affairs commends Council for freshman 'disorientations,' Domer Dollars work

Seniors weigh choices for graduation gift to University

Class of '07 members can vote on one of three monetary options, present will be given in Caitlin Brann's memory

Notre Dame BASKETBALL

TUES., FEB. 20
7:00PM
VS. DePaul

Launches this Ash Wednesday

www.ndprayercast.org

Catholic News Writer

By BECKY HOGAN

As the class of 2007 finishes up one last semester, it plans to leave behind a reminder of its legacy at Notre Dame. With the help of the Notre Dame Annual Fund, the senior class will choose a class gift to give something back to the University.

Last Wednesday marked the last day seniors could vote on the class gift from the three options selected by the Senior Class Gift Committee. The money raised by the committee will either be given something back to the University.

The final decision on the Senior Class Gift will be announced Feb. 26 in LaFortune's Surin Room at the "Thanksgiving in February" event from noon to 7 p.m.

"I think that most people see the class gift as great way to create our own legacy as a class of Notre Dame — leaving a tangible mark that we can carry on in the coming years and that will benefit many Domers in the future," DePaoli said.

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan2@nd.edu

Student body president Lizzi Shappell, left, and vice president Bill Andrichik discuss recently passed resolutions Monday.

By KATHLEEN MCDONNELL

A letter from Vice President of Student Affairs Mark Poorman, which addressed the Campus Life Council's resolutions on freshman "disorientation" events and the reliability of the campus Domer Dollar swipe card system, topped the agenda at the council's meeting last night.

"In the Committee's first meeting, a few members asked me if the gift could be made in memory of Caitlin," said Moira Madden, assistant director of the Notre Dame Annual Fund. "After some discussion, all of the committee members agreed unanimously that regardless of the allocation that the class voted to support, the gift would be made in memory of Caitlin Brann. Past Senior Class Gifts have also been made in memory of classmates who passed away before the class graduated."

The committee is comprised of 10 seniors, Madden said.

"In past years, the Annual Fund has worked with the senior class council," she said. "However this year we decided to expand the program and created the Senior Class Gift Committee. Some of the senior class council members are members of the Senior Class Gift Committee as well."

Senior Class Council chair Stephanie Pelligra said the first that the gift will be donated in Caitlin Brann's name adds to the significance of the gift.

"At one of our first meetings it was decided across the board that the gift should be given in Caitlin's name because she passed away during our senior year and this affected a lot of people in our class," Pelligra said. "The fact that it will be in Caitlin's name makes it even more special since it was a traumatic loss for our class."

Committee chairman Rosie DePaoli said the Senior Class Gift Committee held its first meeting before Christmas break in December and has been meeting as a group once a month.

In addition, DePaoli said the Senior Class Gift Committee as well as to add to various existing resources available for ball staffs.

Contact Kathleen McDonnell at kmcdonn3@nd.edu

Contributions to the Class of 2007 Gift can be made online at supporting.nd.edu or by mail. Gifts will be matched, up to $50 dorm room deposits — an option which Madden said is widely used by graduating seniors.

"From what I've heard a lot of people do plan on donating because it is in Caitlin's name and it's a really great thing to do to give back to the University," Pelligra said.

Bill Andrichik, student body vice president and task force on comfort awareness chair, said his committee has reviewed the University's report on gambling and hopes to become involved in the education efforts the report outlines. The aim is to educate the student body on the illegality of gambling in Indiana as well as to add to various existing resources available for ball staffs.

"I think that most people see (the class gift) as great way to create our own legacy as a class of Notre Dame — leaving a tangible mark that we can carry on in the coming years and that will benefit many Domers in the future," DePaoli said.

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan2@nd.edu
Projects

weeks as plans are finalized. Pedestrians can expect mini­

mal disruptions between areas as construction proceeds.
Breen-Phillips Hall and the Hesburgh Library, and on
the Hesburgh Library quadrangle, he said.

The sewer system expansion is

necessary due to recent growth,
Lyphout said.

"The sewer system has been

taxed as the campus has grown," he
said, noting that in the mid-
1990s there was some flooding in
Galvin Hall, Hesburgh Library and
the IT building related to sewer use at Notre Dame
Stadium. The project is intended to reduce the possibility of simi­
lar backups in the future.

The new infrastructure will

include additional parking near
Galvin, Friemann and Lobund
Road between the B and C 
parks.

\"Our three schools are so

integrated that it is important
to establish good relations with
each other,\" Shappell
said. "I am sure the
viewpoint issue will come
up and we are willing to
discuss it about, but it is not our
primary focus.\"

McMullen shared similar sen­
timents in the Klipper's column and
the reaction it caused within the student body.

"We don't want to go back
[to that issue]. We are just
giving it our best efforts on issues af­
fecting both schools and the com­
unity," she said.

For the past two years, a
member of BOG has held the
position of tri-campus commis­sioner, attending weekly COR
meetings at Notre Dame and
also working with Holy Cross.
This year, Alanna Cheffari
holds that position.
"Alanna has been coming a
lot more regularly than other
tri-campus commissioners and
her efforts have helped,\" Shappell
said.

"McMullen, conversely, a member of
COR has represented Notre
Dame on BOG in past years.
This year, however, no one
holds that position.

"It is not constitutionally
mandated by Notre Dame that
someone has to sit on our board. This year, Lizzi
[Shappell] chose not to appoint a senior.\" McMullen
said.

Both presidents have invited
all board members to attend, and
there have been a few unavoidable con­

flicts.

The meeting is mandatory
for BOG members, but we did
best to accommodate as
many COR members too so
there would be better represen­
tation,\" McMullen
said.

Shappell said she was also
interested in getting a high
turnout of COR members.

"We are hoping to get as
many COR members as
their schedules allow to attend,\" Shappell
said. The groups will also be
discussing up-and-coming issues
such as the Community
Summit at Notre Dame.
"We just hope this meeting will
give our boards the oppor­
tunity to get to know how other student
government structures work so we can bet­
ter understand the other sys­
tems,\" Shappell
said.

Shappell and McMullen
didn't say how the previous
three schools

in beginning to address issues
we both share.\"

Tonight's meeting is open to
all members of each student body.

Contact Katie Kohler at
kkohler@stmarys.edu

"Contrary to popular
belief, you don't really have
to do anything for the
beads. They just kept
throwing them off of the
floats and we collected
quite a bunch.\" Lucy
Summerville

CAMPUS NEWS

Meeting

continued from page 1

"Our three schools are so

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Lizzi Shappell

student body president

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Lucy Summerville

Dinner

continued from page 1

beans and rice, jambalaya
with chicken and ham and a
host of Mardi Gras desserts.
If Cajun food isn't prefer­
able, the Student Union
Board (SUSB) is sponsoring an
event called "Mardi Gras from 8 to
p.m. in LaFayette's Sorin
Room. They will serve
Chinese food from Golden
Dragon, Mexican food from
Hacienda and Indian food
from Star of India.

Both Melia, director of pro­
gramming for SUSB, said she
hopes students enjoy the free
food and will come "to eat,
celebrate Fat Tuesday and
celebrate life."

For those 21 and older, South
Streets Liveinboxer's,
Chairmen for Mardi Gras
Gras celebration -- a debu­
tional Monday.

Lucy Summerville

Senior

McCall and seven of his
Notre Dame friends made the
approximately 1,100 mile
drive on Thursday night and
returned back to South Bend in
time for class Monday morning
at about 6:30 a.m.

McCall said he and his friends
experienced "a very
traditional Mardi Gras cele­
bation, not the touristy
Mardi Gras" that people gen­
erally picture when they think of
the holiday.

They attended a crawfish
boil on Friday night and got
more partying on Saturday
night to serve as escourts for some of
town's young women who
made their debuts at the
Sugar Bowl.

He said it was a great time
and on Monday afternoon he
joked that he \"planned to take a 25-hour
nap\" to recover from the road trip.

Contact Meghan Woni at
mwoni@nd.edu

Come and Listen

Come and Read

Come and Play

Lectio@Eleven

A Late-Night Cabaret for the Soul

11:00 pm every Tuesday at Recker's

Free pizza supplied by First Year of Studies!

February 20 featuring:

Music by d'Oscar

Readings by Prof. Henry Weinfield (PLS)

(Program postponed from February 13)

Lectio@Eleven brings a cabaret of great music and great writing, read aloud, for the Notre Dame community. Come to Recker's and hear it with your own ears!

We are always looking for more readers and musicians. If interested, contact Jonathan Couser at jcouser@nd.edu or call 631-3923

Sizzlini Bellini Tuesdays

Sizzlini for Two

J ust $10.95

Every Tuesday enjoy our specialty Sizzlini with Chicken, Sausage or both.

Frosty Bellinis only $2
Try raspberry, green apple or peach.

Papa Vino's

Unmistakably Italian. Unbelievably Good

5110 Edison Lakes Parkway
Mishawaka 574-271-1692

Sponsors of First Year of Studies

Dinner

continued from page 1

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Iranian nuclear construction delayed

Last week, Russian officials denied that payments had been disrupted or the latest deal to supply nuclear fuel to Iran had collapsed in a dispute over the safety of the Russian reactor. However, the latest deal to supply nuclear fuel to Iran had collapsed in a dispute over the safety of the Russian reactor.

Iranian nuclear construction delayed

The United States and Iran agreed to ship nuclear fuel to Iran by March 2007, but the deal was delayed in March. The United States and Iran agreed to ship nuclear fuel to Iran by March 2007, but the deal was delayed in March.

Russia wary of U.S. missiles in Europe

The Russian government will seek to delay the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe, officials said Wednesday. A senior State Department official said Moscow would oppose the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe, officials said Wednesday.

National News

New Jersey offers same sex civil unions

The bill cleared the Senate Technology Committee 5-2 and now moves to the full Senate for consideration. The bill cleared the Senate Technology Committee 5-2 and now moves to the full Senate for consideration.

LOCAL NEWS

State considers video game restrictions

Washington — Another irony of history: In Sept. 11 era, laws aimed at keeping terrorists out of the United States have disqualified many Hmong refugees, the very people who helped the United States in the war in Vietnam. The Hmong began arriving in large numbers in the 1970s, in the aftermath of Vietnam, and there were about 170,000 in the U.S. as of the 2000 U.S. Census, with most settled in California, Minnesota and Wisconsin. A later wave of about 15,000 settled in 2000.

ISRAEL

Summit ends with no new agreements

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in Jerusalem Monday. Rice's hopes were hampered by the refusal of the Palestinian group Hamas to recognize Israel.

Patriot Act bars Vietnamese refugees

WASHINGTON — Another irony of history: In Sept. 11 era, laws aimed at keeping terrorists out of the United States have disqualified many Hmong refugees, the very people who helped the United States in the war in Vietnam. The Hmong began arriving in large numbers in the 1970s, in the aftermath of Vietnam, and there were about 170,000 in the U.S. as of the 2000 U.S. Census, with most settled in California, Minnesota and Wisconsin. A later wave of about 15,000 settled in 2000.

The anti-terror restrictions, which have ensnared other groups as well, also bar people who provided "material support" to terrorist organizations. Last month the Bush administration announced it was granting waivers of that restriction to eight groups, but the Hmong was not among them.

In Thailand, a group of 153 Hmong refugees have been in limbo as they await resettlement from an immigration detention center in the northern town of Nong Khai. A few weeks ago, the Thai government announced plans to send the Hmong back to neighboring Laos, after the men in the group requested U.S. and U.S. officials expressed concern about the planned deportation.
Assaults
continued from page 1
sexual assault, rape, unwanted sexual contact or childhood sexual abuse, she said in an e-mail. This number does not reflect the instances of sexual assault that occur on campus, Donley said, since students may come to the Counseling Center to talk about another issue and bring up past instances of sexual assault.

Still, there's a significant gap between a few incidents and the dozens that are reported to the Counseling Center. "Loyal Daughters," a play performed last fall written by senior Emily Weisbecker, featured real stories from Notre Dame students and pointed at the discrepancy between reported and non-reported cases — something also attested to by Associate Vice President for Residence Life Bill Kirk.

"For various reasons, the reporting on this doesn't reflect what I think is very legitimately the occurrence of this crime on campus and off," he said.

So why don't victims always report?

A victim of sexual offenses might not tell police or officials because he or she is afraid the authorities will not believe the report, Donley said. Another common reasons for not reporting is too much time has passed and there is no physical evidence to prove the victim is not worth pursuing.

Other reasons include shame, embarrassment and "fear that the process will feel victimizing too," she said.

Ava Preacher, the victim's resource person for the University, said she does not feel the victim may be interested parties with information about the procedure or that the student expects a sex offense to University officials or NISP. Preacher estimated she receives approximately 12-to-15 calls each school year about sexual offense incidents.

But Preacher said she rarely gets calls from a student right after an incident occurs. Rather, she more often receives them throughout the year, sometimes from the victim, other times from friends or relatives.

S-O-S of Madison Center Assistant Director and Therapist Crystal Whitlow said Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students — mostly females — come to S-O-S to use their counseling services, but also said these may not be recent cases, but incidents that occurred in the past which the student is just starting to address.

"Between Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, we have seen dozens of victims in the last year," Whitlow said.

In most of the cases S-O-S employees see, the incident is acquaintance rape.

"Usually alcohol is frequently involved, but almost always the person is known to the victim," she said.

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Post Secondary Education maintains an online database that shows crime statistics from colleges throughout the United States. Notre Dame, a school with a reported population of 11,479, had one forcible sexual offense in 2003, two in 2004 and one in 2005, all reported on campus.

The Web site defines a forcible sex offense as "any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent." This includes forcible rape, sodomy and finding and sexual assault with an object.

Boston College, a school with a reported population of 14,561, had 10 reported sex offenses in 2003, five in 2004 and nine in 2005. Two of these offenses occurred on public property each year.

University of Dayton, with a reported population of 10,495, had 13 reported sex offenses in 2003, 14 in 2004 and 12 in 2005. One of the reported offenses in 2003, fear in 2004 and two in 2005 occurred on public property.

But Kirk said it's hard to compare statistics and say Notre Dame has relatively little incidents of sexual assault, due to the difference in campuses, the different residence life systems and the fact that rape happens in nature of sexual assault.

"If you compare our data with other campuses, we'd look good," Kirk said. "But the last thing we'd want to do is get a false sense of confidence because our numbers are very low compared to other schools."

But Notre Dame is trying to combat the silence of sexual assault by making resources readily available for students.

Kirk and Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Ann Fitch are co-chairs of the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee, which Preacher said is changing its name to the Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention. The goal of this group, which includes faculty, staff and students, is to work on sexual assault prevention and education and improve University response to incidents, she said.

Donley said it is never easy for a victim of sexual assault to come forward, but the University has proved several outlets from services like Residence Life, the Gender Resource Center and the Counseling Center — for students to report.

Assistant Director for NISP David Chapman encouraged students who are victims of sexual assault to seek help from the police and other counseling services.

"We want the young victims to know that they are in control of the situation and we are there to help them," Chapman said.

NISP sent e-mails to the student body last week announcing two separate incidents of sexual offenses — a forcible fondling sex offense and a sexual assault — that occurred within a few days of each other.

Contact Kaitlynn Riedy at kriedy@nd.edu.

Portrait
continued from page 1
sized portraits of the kids I worked with at the Boys and Girls Club, and I decided that the best thing that I could do with them was share them with the kids who inspired them," Hardy said.

The portraits now adorn the main hallway of the Club on Sample Street.

"Sully has been a long-time volunteer and staff member, and it means a lot when a staff member invests so much time into [the Club]," said Kregg VanDeter, director of development at the Club. "The paintings bring a typical hallway to life and show the mission we have with the kids."

Hardy worked at the Club during her freshman year and then returned early last summer. This year, she works in its art room.

Hardy used photographic references to create the seven portraits, each of which features a child participating in the various activities the Club offers.

"They are not exactly realistic ... they are more impressionist portraits — with pretty active brush strokes," Hardy said. "[The kids at the Boys and Girls Club] act very adult-like, and I wanted to catch them at their childlike moments."

Although Hardy has never donated her work before, some of her paintings will appear in the 2007 edition of the Dome yearbook.

Hardy is currently applying for a teaching service projects including Teach for America and Allies for Catholic Education, and eventually plans to pursue a career working with children in art therapy.

Contact Becky Hogan at chogan2@nd.edu.


d soil

He questioned the Lord, "I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."
NEW YORK — XM Satellite Radio Holdings Inc. and Sirius Satellite Radio Inc., rivals in the fledgling satellite radio industry, have agreed to combine in a deal that investors hope will resolve a "hurdle" that has prevented the companies from raising enough money to finance their operations.

The companies billed the deal announced Monday as a merger of equals, with shareholders of both companies getting approximately 50 percent of the combined entity. However, Sirius will be giving $4.57 billion of its stock to XM shareholders, a substantial premium in the value of their shares.

Sirius Chief Executive Mel Karmazin will lead the combined company, and XM's COO Hugh Panaro will stay on only if the deal is closed. XM Chairman Gary Parsons will remain in his role.

The deal faces substantial obstacles in Washington, including a Federal Communications Commission provision that specifically forbids the two companies to combine.

Analysts have noted that the FCC could change the rule, but in a statement late Monday FCC Chairman Kevin Martin said that the "hurdle" would be "high" to prove that the deal would be in the public interest.

"The companies would need to demonstrate that consumers would clearly be better off with two choices and affordable prices," Martin said.

A combined company would also have to meet antitrust approval from the Justice Department. The companies are expected to argue that they compete only with each other but also with traditional radio and a growing base of digital audio sources such as iPods, mobile phones and non-satellite digital radio.

The XM shareholders will receive 4.6 shares of Sirius stock for every share they own, valuing them at $17.02 each based on Friday's closing price for Sirius shares. That gives XM shareholders a premium of 22 percent to the $13.98 closing value of their stock on Friday. Markets were closed Monday for the Presidents' Day holiday.

Investors and analysts have been speculating about a deal for months, and are hoping that the cost savings that would result would make up for softer retail demand for satellite radio units. Both services offer dozens of channels of talk and commercial-free music for monthly fees of about $13.

XM radio receivers can't receive signals from Sirius, and vice versa. But Karmazin and Parsons said in an interview that the companies are working on developing a receiver that could receive both signals.

In the meantime, they said, assuming the deal goes through, the companies would make other arrangements to bring programming that's currently exclusive to one provider to listeners of the other, such as getting Major League Baseball games — currently only available on XM — to Sirius listeners.

"We will be taking every effort to find the best possible programming combination," Parsons said.

It's too early to say what the deal will mean for subscription prices. The merg­ er could bring down the cost of providing service, but at the same time give the company more pricing power as the only large satellite radio provider.

Rural poor anticipate wage increase

"Of course it would be helpful, going to school and supporting myself right now," said Platt. 19.

More than 10 percent of hourly workers in South Carolina, Louisiana and Mississippi would see wage increases if the federal proposal goes through — the highest such percent­ ages in the nation, according to the Washington-based Economic Policy Institute. In South Carolina, that translates to 179,000 people.

The House and Senate have approved bills raising the hourly mini­ mum wage from $5.15 to $7.25 over two years. The Senate bill paired the wage hike with tax breaks for small businesses. The House, initially reluct­ ant to add similar tax cuts, was set to pass a smaller tax package on Friday. House and Senate negotiators will have to work out the differences.

Nationwide, an estimated 3 mil­

Associated Press

CHERAW, S.C. — Louise McQueen has trimmed all her life, working two jobs while raising two daughters alone and now earning $5.47 an hour as a cook in a small restaurant. So it's a comfort to her in this rural cor­ ner of South Carolina that Congress this year raised the tax to raise the minimum hourly wage to $7.25 over two years.

"I can get by, but this is going to be a big help," said McQueen, 54, who has been on her own since high school and vice versa. But Karmazin and Parsons said in an interview that the companies are working on developing a receiver that could receive both signals.

In the meantime, they said, assuming the deal goes through, the companies would make other arrangements to bring programming that's currently exclusive to one provider to listeners of the other, such as getting Major League Baseball games — currently only available on XM — to Sirius listeners.

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Nationwide, an estimated 3 mil­lion workers would be affected, either directly or indirectly. The insti­tute estimates that workers already making the new federal minimum could expect pay hikes after lower­ wage earners start making more.

South Carolina tourism officials and advocates for the poor say the rising tide effect would especially be felt among those who work in the state's $16 billion tourism industry and other areas where employers already pay close to the proposed increase because they have trouble finding workers.

Louisiana's health care industry is another good example. Officials say a worker shortage caused by Hurricane Katrina drove up hospital wages in the southern part of the state, and they fear the effects of a federal wage hike on overall health care costs.
Undeniable war and the role of Congress

Ready for a surprise? A member of Congress, aborting on the Middle East, a bill embodying common sense and constitutional principle. No kidding. H.R. 19, introduced by Congressman Walter B. Jones (R-NC), with two Republican and four Democratic co-sponsors, provides that no previously enacted law "shall be construed to authorize the use of military force by the United States against Iran." The punch line is in the next section.

"Abet a national emergency created by attack by Iran, or a demonstrably imminent attack by Iran, upon the United States, its territories or possessions or its armed forces, the President shall consult with Congress, and receive specific authorization pursuant to law from Congress, prior to initiating any use of military force against Iran."

Substantial evidence supports a description of the Iran war as a mistake in its inception and flawed in its execution. 31 st Res. 14 seeks to prevent a worse replay in Iran, by requiring that a new war must be initiated pursuant to constitutional process.

On Aug. 17, 1787, according to James Madison's notes of the debates, the Constitutional Convention gave Congress the power to "declare" rather than to "commence" war. George Mason "was against giving the power of war to the Executive, because [he was] not safely to be trusted with it."

The Constitution created, in Justice Robert Jackson's words, "a zone of insight," with concurrent war powers in the President and Congress but no bright line of separation. Presidents have put forces into combat more than 200 times, all with explicit or implicit Congressional approval before or after the fact. As Alexander Hamilton noted even in 1787, "the ceremony of a formal denunciation of war has of late fallen into disuse." Congress has declared war only five times. But it is still true that Congress should decide whether to go to war, or with or without a formal declaration, and the President should conduct it.

The President is "Commander in Chief of the army and navy" because, as Hamilton said, "the direction of war... demands... exercise of power by a single hand." Congress has no right to forbid the "surge" of more troops to Iraq or to cut off funds for that "surge."

Congress, however, has the power of appropriation and could cut off funds for continuation of the entire war, as was done in Cambodia and Vietnam. If the President vetoed a cut-off of funds, an override of that veto would require a two-thirds vote in the House and Senate. And impeachment of the President for his position on the war would require a two-thirds vote in the Senate to convict the President, incidentally, is "Commander in Chief of the army and navy," not of the country.

An attack on Iran would be a new war rather merely an incident of the Iraq war. Opinions differ on whether a war against Iran would be requisite and necessary. But Congress should make that call. In 2002 Congress gave the President authority to decide whether to go to war against Iran "as he deter-

mines to be necessary and appropriate."

That sort of blank check should not be given again. The members of Congress should make the actual decision whether or not to go to war, and account for it to their constituents.

"Too many times," said Congresswoman Jones, "Congress has abdicated its... duty... While the Commander in Chief has the power to conduct wars only Congress has the power to authorize war.... It there is... concern... that Administration officials are contemplating military action against Iran... We understand the... threats posed by Iran... The question is how best to address these threats... If the President is contemplating committing our blood and treasure in another war... then he and his administration must come to Congress and make their case. The Congress answers to the American people... It is our Constitutional responsibility to hold hearings, to evaluate the threats and to determine the best way to counter those threats. If military action against Iran is necessary, then we in Congress will meet our responsibility and authorize it. If no military action is contemplated, then there should be no objection to this commonsense resolution."

The military personnel of the United States are relatively few. But they are the very best among us. They have a moral and legal right to have military power used, and themselves put at risk, only through a decision made in accord with the Constitution and therefore made with proper authority. H.R. 14 should be enacted to achieve that end.

Prof. Emeritus Rice is on the Law Administration officials are reacting at (574) 637-4415 or at rice.f@nd.edu The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

How will you observe Lent?

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A person is never happy except at the price of some ignorance."  Anatole France French novelist

Wednesday, February 20, 2007

THE OBSERVER

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In fairness to the advocates of "The Vagina Monologues," it is a popular play that is part of our modern, national culture. In some sense, it is not unreasonable for it to be considered in a modern university setting, say in a course on gender studies or sexual assault. Although, in my opinion and in the opinion of many others, its content conflicts not only with Catholic values but also with academic values, nevertheless has made a large enough impact to be considered in a limited and appropriate way by students.

Now, by "appropriate way" I do not mean an annual performance by amateurs. The greatest classics of the West, such as Hamlet or Oedipus Rex, are only performed once a decade, if at all. Some of the best plays reach the stage only once or twice a generation, if we're lucky. Even if it is tolerable for such a trashy and explicit play (by comparison) to be performed and sponsored at Notre Dame on one occasion, there is certainly no reason to justify it being performed six years in a row.

As suggested by Mary Elizabeth Walter ("Dialogue is not dead," Feb. 19), there are many more effective ways for dialogue about the issue of the equal dignity of men and women. The Edith Stein Conference and the Right to Life Collegiate Conference are great examples of the issue considered in an intellectual and academic setting. She suggested another option, however, one with which I take issue. She seemed to imply that the performance of Loyal Daughters is a better way to explore the issues of sexual assault on campus. This play is pure sophistry and in no way adds to the important pursuit of Truth, to which Walter alluded. Although it is less explicit, it is much more dangerous. It does not address the issues in an intelligent way, but rather uses humor, stories and catchy tunes to attack the Catholic view of chastity and Notre Dame. These attacks are fallacious and have no grounding in reason. They in no way resemble an intellectual consideration of the real problems we are facing.

The clearest example of this is the skit involving a logic professor who (ironically enough) uses false logic to try to point out a contradiction in University policy that does not exist. Since the skit imitates a well-known logician on campus and employs exaggerated gestures, viewers are too busy laughing to actually think.

"Wait a second: this is terrible logic!" The performance is marked by many such skins that "prove" their points not by reason but by jokes and jobs.

Now, I don't know if the writers, performers and advocates of Loyal Daughters are aware of their error, whether it is done out of ignorance or malice. I do know that because of its humor and seemingly innocuous content it is much more effective in keeping viewers from any intellectual consideration of the issues than "The Vagina Monologues" was, and therefore is much more dangerous. The reason that Plato argued in The Republic for censorship was not because the poetry and drama in question were explicit, but because they led people away from living by reason and toward living by delight. And since the goal of the University is to pursue universal truth, anything which hinders students' ability to think clearly and pursue this truth effectively is inconsistent with our academic character. "The Vagina Monologues" was accordingly inconsistent and now lacks sponsorship. To a much greater degree, Loyal Daughters mocks these same academic values.

University President Father John Jenkins initially saw the inconsistency of a play called "Loyal Daughters" with our Catholic character. If only we realized that its offense is first and foremost against our academic character, then our University would continue its laudable work and deny sponsorship to Loyal Daughters as well.

Jon Battaci
supplementary
Moroney Manor
Feb. 19

Positive sibling relationship should be fostered

Over the past week, we have heard a great many responses from Saint Mary's women in regard to Jonathan Klingler's article "Saint Mary's — we need to talk" (Feb. 13). We believe that the voices of Saint Mary's is hypocritical for calling itself "Separate and Proud," rather, they are taking our seats; rather, they are beside us cheering on our student athletes as we should do for theirs. We do not feel that Saint Mary's students are "prove" their points not by reason but by jokes and jobs.

As a family of colleges, we should be separate and proud, has taken pride in the history and mission of our family. In this way, we are all a family.

Yes, siblings bicker. Whether it be for the last bit of pie or a fight for who gets the car, this is inherent in the nature of siblings. If you have older siblings, you know that while you look up to them, the most annoying thing they can do is demand that you be like them. This is true also of our schools. We bicker over football tickets and relationship status. Notre Dame is the big older brother and as such help her younger siblings, you know that while you look up to them, the most annoying thing they can do is demand that you be like them. This is true also of our schools. We bicker over football tickets and relationship status.

Our schools grow along their own path. We are three independent and proud schools, three schools grow stronger. It is possible that through our communion with each other we can grow into three of the finest schools in the world. We do not feel that Saint Mary's students are "taking our seats," rather, they are beside us cheering on our student athletes as we should do for theirs.

Loyal Daughters as well.

Father Basil Mureau. When he founded the CSC, he believed it best to always have priests, sisters and brothers neighboring each other and working cooperatively and faithfully to achieve common goals. In this way, we are all a family.

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**Movie Review**

**Film adaptation of tale impresses viewers**

By **ERIN McGINN**

*Assistant Scene Editor*

It is always a difficult task when a beloved children's book is adapted into a film. Children's books lock away so many emotions and memories for young readers that it becomes both painful and frustrating when a film doesn't live up to its original source material. "Bridge to Terabithia" by Katherine Paterson is one of those books that has been treasured dearly by young readers since it was first published in 1977. A feature film of the work hadn't been tackled until now because of the dilemma in creating the world of Terabithia as well as the intensity of the story. Fortunately the film, scripted by David Patterson (the son of the original author), lives up to the novel and is destined to be a children's classic.

"Bridge to Terabithia" tells the story of Jesse Aarons (Josh Hutcherson), a fifth grader of an adult who downed with problems both at school and home through his artwork. His routine life changes when Leslie Burke (Morgan Freeman) comes along. The mishap of the story is when Leslie Burke (Morgan Freeman) comes along.

In the novel, only a small amount of detail is given about Terabithia since it exists only in the minds of the children. This is easily the film's weakest point since the computer graphics tend to blur the line between fantasy and reality, which is always clearly demarcated in the book. At some points it is clear that the two realities are just a true, but at other points (such as when the "well" (welshes Jesse) that distinction doesn't exist. The filmmakers would have done better to model their fantasy sequences after Peter Jackson's "Heavenly Creatures" in which two girls also create their own fantasy world. That film does a much better job of showing that their fantasy exists solely in their minds. When a film doesn't live up to its original promise, one wonders about the future of a film like this. Fortunately the film turns out to be "Bridge to Terabithia" trilogy in order to create the world of Terabithia. In the trailer, they promise the special effects as a strong selling point, hoping to attract the same crowds that turned out to see "Lord of the Rings" and "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe." Even though the film plays up the fantasy much more than the novel, the actual sequences make up a small percentage of the whole movie.

The core of the story, in contrast to the trailers, lies in the human element — in the friendship between Jesse and Leslie. Hutcherson and Robb both do excellent jobs in portraying the children and in dealing with the occasionally difficult subject matter. They both succeed in endearing themselves to the audience, who in turn inverts their emotions into the characters.

The supporting cast is less noteworthy, with the exceptions of Jesse's father (Robbie Pritchard) and their music teacher Ms. Edmonds (Zooey Deschanel) who both did great jobs of showing contrasting adult perspectives to the children.

Fans of the book will definitely not be disappointed by the film version of "Bridge to Terabithia." The film is just as endearing and emotionally powerful as the original novel. Those familiar with the book already know about the tragic twist that the plot takes, and the film is no less heart-wrenching. For those who don't know how its ends, be forewarned that it is impossible to leave without emptying a box of tissues.

**Contact Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu**

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**CD Review**

'Termrick' has a sound for everyone with 'North'

By **MARTY SCHROEDER**

*Assistant Scene Editor*

Southern rock exists in the popular mind — incarnated by bands such as Lynyrd Skynyrd and .38 Special. The genre is no longer popular for emerging artists to emulate — at least not artists that want to find mainstream success. Perhaps this is because the bands that came before them were just so talented at what they did, they set a benchmark no one can hope to match. Until now.

Tim Emmerick and Cold Front County make a valiant and somewhat successful attempt, but can't quite match what came before them. It's album, "North," is an excellent array of rock, country, and the melding of those two genres. It does make some inroads combining genres — and it does it better than most mainstream bands. However, it can't match the greatness of either musical genre and falls into the trap of mainstrem punk pop. This should be edgier than Matchbox 20.

The album opens with the raucous "Black River Bridge," which tears through its surprisingly long 4:49 run time. This song sounds shorter than it is and Emmerick and County keeps the rock gods appeased in this opening track. However, the gods will not smile on the next song, "All to the Leaves," that sounds remotely rock and simply tries too hard with forced guitar solos that seem out of place in the factory-sealed blandness that is this song.

A slower note, "Intentions Faded" brings apperations of The Eagles and manages to keep a toe-tapping tempo going as Emmerick sings about death and mourning. The bluegrass edge to this song is a welcome addition to the album as most of the other tracks sound they could have come from anywhere. This one is unique and the talent the band put into this one shows.

As the album progresses, the rock and roll punch that made the opening track so fun transforms into straight up steel guitar old-school country on "Winter," and "38 Special" with its country backup vocal quartet a la George Strait and early Alan Jackson, this song will certainly appeal to their roots. This is also the first of several tracks that are fan favorites and will likely go down in the world but can also be a very dangerous tool that some will use to put down others.

"North" could have closed on a stronger note than "Mercy," which clocks in at 6:34 — far too long for a closing track. This song could have benefited off some of the energy from the opening, which would have been an appropriate close to this sometimes loud, sometimes ponderous album.

With something for everyone, Tim Emmerick and Cold Front County promises something for everyone who are fans of the country rock and what falls in between. The tracks on this album that are good are really good and the tracks that are mediocre are really mediocre. There are no horridly songs on this album but some are certainly better than others. Its too bad Emmerick and County didn't keep up the energy through the whole album that he spent opening the show. Tim Emmerick and Cold Front County recently released "North" on Red One Records. The band is an eclectic mix of country, rock and bluegrass sounds.

**Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroed@nd.edu**

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**Bridget to Terabithia**

**Director:** Gabor Cuspo  
**Writers:** Jeff Stockwell, David Paterson  
**Starring:** Josh Hutcherson and AnnaSophia Robb

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**The Observer**  
**SCENE**

Tuesday, February 20, 2007

Page 10
Movie Review

'Illusionist' fails to realize magic potential

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Contact: mschroed@nd.edu

The first sign that something's gone horribly, horribly wrong with "Ghost Rider" comes 15 minutes into the movie, when a crass-eyed young Johnny Blaze, a hotshot motorcycle-riding stuntman — until he finds himself in the crosshairs of an alien threat — finds himself in the crosshairs of his own smoking hot body with a tattoo that makes him the target of supernatural vengeance. Practically every thunderous scene is filled with the promise of something hot, fast, and fast-moving — and then it goes up in flames.

Director: Neil Burger
Writers: Neil Burger (screenplay) and Steven Millhauser (short story)
Starring: Edward Norton, Paul Giamatti and Jessica Biel

Edward Norton as Eisenheim and Paul Giamatti (left) as Inspector Uhl.

"The Illusionist," a film about the famous Eisenheim the illusionist, stars Edward Norton (right) as Eisenheim and Paul Giamatti (left) as Inspector Uhl.

Norton's Eisenheim in a way that is not complicated or subtle but works well for the film. He's thinking about it, and while reading dusty old tomes about the occult, he's always trying. Sadly, this Rider always tries to legitimate his doing it — this Rider takes the fast lane to cinematic trash heap. But here, his skills seem to have devolved.

To be fair, he's not plotting deceivingly named Mephistopheles (Peter Fonda) offers a miraculous cure for his dear old dad. All Johnny has to do, naturally, is spend his screen time making a mockery of the dormant Ghost Rider and sets Cage for life. Cage had to have his Ghost Rider tattoo revealed his deep love — and body art — for someone he loved? Clearly, the filmmakers were looking to land Johnny Depp and Raquel Alessi at Netflix or Blockbuster deserves your business for this one but perhaps not Best Buy — unless you're a magic lover.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroed@nd.edu

Christmas movie reviews

"Ghost Rider" takes the fast lane to cinematic trash heap

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Scene Writer

The sign first that something's gone horribly, horribly wrong with "Ghost Rider" comes 15 minutes into the movie. When a crass-eyed young Johnny Blaze, a hotshot motorcycle-riding stuntman — until he finds himself in the crosshairs of an alien threat — finds himself in the crosshairs of his own smoking hot body with a tattoo that makes him the target of supernatural vengeance.

Director: Mark Steven Johnson
Writers: Mark Steven Johnson, Steven Kaufer, Peter Fonta, Matt Long and Raquel Alessi

That Johnny never willfully signs the dummier paper is the first of many signs that our hero, and this picture, is beyond saving. A paper-thin plot glisters still when director/writer Mark Steven Johnson cranks time forward to the present. But here, it's not plotting deceivingly named Mephistopheles (Peter Fonda) offers a miraculous cure for his dear old dad. All Johnny has to do, naturally, is spend his screen time making a mockery of the dormant Ghost Rider and sets Cage for life. Cage had to have his Ghost Rider tattoo unveiled his deep love — and body art — for someone he loved? Clearly, the filmmakers were looking to land Johnny Depp and Raquel Alessi at Netflix or Blockbuster deserves your business for this one but perhaps not Best Buy — unless you're a magic lover.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroed@nd.edu

Photo courtesy of i.jubii.dk

Nicolas Cage stars as stuntman Johnny Blaze in the comic book turned action film "Ghost Rider." The movie is written and directed by Mark Steven Johnson.

For diehard comic book fans, Joel Schumacher's 1997 film "Batman and Robin" is a registered crime against humanity for how badly it crippled the Dark Knight. Ghost Rider purists have good reason to weep, for Johnson comes dangerously close to dunking their beloved Flamehead under water for good. As for Mr. Cage, he seems content to spend his screen time making a mockery of the character and himself. When producers were looking to land Johnny Depp for the role, Cage stepped in and revealed his deep love — and body art — for the character. Ironically or fittingly, Cage had to have his Ghost Rider tattoo covered with make-up to play Johnny Blaze. When he's not hiding behind a heinous-

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Scene Writer

The sign first that something's gone horribly, horribly wrong with "Ghost Rider" comes 15 minutes into the movie. When a crass-eyed young Johnny Blaze, a hotshot motorcycle-riding stuntman — until he finds himself in the crosshairs of an alien threat — finds himself in the crosshairs of his own smoking hot body with a tattoo that makes him the target of supernatural vengeance.

Director: Mark Steven Johnson
Writers: Mark Steven Johnson, Steven Kaufer, Peter Fonta, Matt Long and Raquel Alessi

That Johnny never willfully signs the dummier paper is the first of many signs that our hero, and this picture, is beyond saving. A paper-thin plot glisters still when director/writer Mark Steven Johnson cranks time forward to the present. But here, it's not plotting deceivingly named Mephistopheles (Peter Fonda) offers a miraculous cure for his dear old dad. All Johnny has to do, naturally, is spend his screen time making a mockery of the dormant Ghost Rider and sets Cage for life. Cage had to have his Ghost Rider tattoo revealed his deep love — and body art — for someone he loved? Clearly, the filmmakers were looking to land Johnny Depp and Raquel Alessi at Netflix or Blockbuster deserves your business for this one but perhaps not Best Buy — unless you're a magic lover.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroed@nd.edu

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by computer-generated skull, Cage ceaselessly points at his victims and gesticulates about justice. His Ghost Rider rarely bothers to punch someone with those oven-hot mitts of his, preferring instead to utilize his Penance Stare. But here, his skills seem to have devolved.

The dialogue in "Ghost Rider" is atrocious. Many of the zaniest one-liners are delivered by the Marvel Comics family. He'll never have the depth of character that Cage brought to his role in Marvel's "X-Men" franchise, but each performance is entertaining in its own way. Netflix or Blockbuster deserves your business for this one but perhaps not Best Buy — unless you're a magic lover.

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pitt notches 11th big east victory without its injured star center

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Levance Fields scored seven of his 15 points in the final 2:12 minutes to help short-handed No. 10 Pittsburgh pull away from Seton Hall 67-61 Monday night.

Leicester Kendall had 14 points and eight rebounds and Sam Young added 11 points for the Panthers (24-4, 12-2 Big East), who remain the milestone faster than any coach in school history.

Eugene Harvey scored 19 of his 24 points in the second half, and Brian Laing added 12 points and eight rebounds for Seton Hall (12-14, 3-10). The Pirates, who fell behind by 14 with 12 minutes to play, pulled to 64-61 with 15 seconds left.

For Pittsburgh, coach Jay Wright said. "You're going to lose some games, you're going to lose some games." Villanova answered with a 3-pointer that answered with a 3-pointer that answered with a 3-pointer that followed two 3-pointers by Carter Martin and another by Lance Reynolds.

"If there's a better freshwoman in the country, I'm not sure who it is," Marquette coach Tom Crean said of Reynolds.

Curtis Sumpter added 14 points for the Wildcats, whose last four losses have come against Top 25 teams.

"You're going to lose some games," Sampier said. "You can't worry about that. You've got to focus on your next game."

Two made field goals by Cartier Martin and another by Lance Harris pulled the Wildcats (19-9, 8-5) even at 43-31 with 11:42 to go. But Collins answered with a 3-pointer that silenced its first double-digit streak in Manhattan to 24 games.

Mario Chalmers added 17 points, Darrell Arthur had 13 points and 12 rebounds, and Brandon Rush finished with 11 points for Kansas (24-4, 11-2 Big 12), which has never lost in Bramlage Coliseum since it opened for the 1989-90 season. The Jayhawks' last loss in Manhattan was a 58-57 defeat on Jan. 29, 1983, in Ahearn Fieldhouse.

Kansas trailed by one at the break and didn't take control until the midpoint of the second half. Two 3-pointers by Cartier Martin and another by Lance Harris pulled the Wildcats (19-9, 8-5) even at 43-31 with 11:42 to go. But Collins answered with a 3-pointer that silenced its first double-digit streak in Manhattan to 24 games.

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**Chargers hire Turner as head coach**

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Norv Turner got his third shot at an NFL head coaching job when he was hired Monday by the San Diego Chargers, a week after the surprise firing of Marty Schottenheimer.

The hiring came less than 24 hours after the Chargers wrapped up their interviews. The Chargers also hired Ted Cottrell as defensive coordinator.

Turner, the San Francisco 49ers' offensive coordinator, was the only one of the six candidates who's been an NFL head coach, and the only one from the offensive side of the ball.

He inherits a team that was an NFL-best 14-2 last season but melted down in its playoff opener, a stunning 24-21 loss to the New England Patriots.

Last Monday, the Chargers again surprised the NFL when president Dean Spanos fired Schottenheimer, citing a "disfunctional situation" between the coach and general manager A.J. Smith.

Turner had trouble winning in the regular season, going 38-82-1 in head coaching stints with Washington and Oakland. Schottenheimer had trouble winning in the postseason, going 5-12 overall and 0-2 with the Chargers.

Turner was San Diego's offensive coordinator in 2001, when LaDainian Tomlinson was a rookie and Smith was the assistant to the late John Butler.

The Chargers still use the same offense Turner installed.

"This isn't a team where you're rebuilding," Turner said. "We should start fast. We should be good early and we should be good late. Not having to go through the normal things you have to go through when you make a coaching change is going to help the players more than anyone."

Turner was fired by the Raiders in 2005 after going 9-3 in two seasons.

Former New England Patriots' Mike Nolan quickly hired Turner to take over the NFL's 32nd-ranked offense. Turner got remarkable progress from quarterback Alex Smith and an improved offensive line. He helped Frank Gore become the NFC's leading rusher in a breakout season.

Turner will be able to help with the continued development of quarterback Philip Rivers, who was voted to the Pro Bowl but saw his play tail off down the stretch.

Tomlinson was the league's MVP after setting NFL records with 31 touchdowns and 186 points.

**IN BRIEF**

Swindal returns to work, apologizes for distractions

FAPTA, Fla. — Steve Swindal returned to work at Legends Field on Monday and apologized for becoming a distraction. He wouldn't speculate whether his arrest last week for driving under the influence would alter his role as George Steinbrenner’s designated successor to run the New York Yankees.

Swindal was arrested early Thursday by the St. Petersburg Police, who claimed he was driving 61 mph in a 35 mph zone. Swindal was released on $250 bond and has a March 15 court date.

"I just wanted to tell you on a personal level how embarrassed I am for my family, for the Yankees, the fans, I know I let a lot of people down and I promise to do better and put this behind me," he said, standing in front of a photograph of Billy Martin in the Legends Field press box.

Colts place franchise tag on Freeney despite poor season

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts made defensive end Dwight Freeney their franchise player on Monday, keeping him with the Super Bowl champions for at least one more season while they work on a long-term contract.

Freeney, a first-round draft pick in 2002, missed the Pro Bowl this year for the first time since his rookie season. He was held to a career-low 5 1/2 sacks while fighting shoulder and leg injuries.

Still, the Colts were not going to let him get away.

"He wasn't going to go anywhere," team president Bill Polian said. "There's no timeline, but we're still talking to his agent with the idea of putting together a longer deal. He's a key part of our team."

Freeney would have become an unrestricted free agent March 2 without a new contract.

Federer ties record for longest stretch atop rankings

LONDON — Roger Federer tied Jimmy Connors' record of 169 consecutive weeks as the top-ranked player in men's tennis Monday.

The 10-time Grand Slam champion has held the No. 1 ATP Tour ranking since Feb. 2, 2004. The Swiss star is assured of breaking the record next week.

"Breaking records and doing something that hasn't been done for a long time, it's really nice," Federer said recently.

Connors was No. 1 from July 1974 to August 1977. He is now coaching one of Federer's biggest rivals, Andy Roddick.

Federer, who has won six of the last seven Grand Slam titles, hasn't played since beating Fernando Gonzalez in the Australian Open final on Jan. 26. He returns to action next week at the Dubai Open.

**AROUND THE NATION**

**Women's Basketball**

Associated Press Top 25

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**NCAA Women's Basketball**

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**NCAA Basketball**

LSU at Kentucky

9 p.m., ESPN

**Complied from the Observer's Wire Services**
Bears won’t retain defensive coordinator Rivera

Assistant coach crafted one of the league’s top defenses in Chicago

Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Chicago defensive coordinator Ron Rivera has gone from head coaching candidate to out of a job — a little more than two weeks after Bears were in the Super Bowl.

Rivera, who has talked with eight different NFL teams about their head coaching positions over the last two seasons, had a three-year contract with the Bears that was set to expire next week.

The NFC champions announced Monday he will not be back.

Head coach Lovie Smith had been pushing Rivera for head coaching jobs, now he’s pushed him off his staff.

“It’s just something that coach decided he was going to shuffle his staff and we’ll go from there,” Rivera said during a conference call.

Rivera said he wanted to return and was told a few days ago he wouldn’t.

Was there a personality conflict with Smith?

“No, no, no, no, please, I don’t think there is. I really don’t;” he said.

“I believe this is just a football decision and it was made. Emotionally, I’m disappointed in not getting the opportunity to come back in ’07 because as I said at the end of the year after the loss that this is a football team that’s headed in the right direction.”

Rivera said he’d like to go in one direction, and I’d like to go in one. No more than that.

Rivera was a linebacker on Chicago’s Super Bowl champion team in 1986 and then led a defense that helped the Bears make the playoffs in back-to-back seasons.

Chicago had trouble containing Indianapolis in the Super Bowl, losing 29-17 to the Peyton Manning-led Indianapolis Colts.

Rivera has been an assistant coach for 18 years in the NFL beginning as a quality control coach with the Bears in 1997. He spent five years with the Philadelphia Eagles as their linebackers coach and then the last three in charge of Chicago’s defense.

The Bears led the NFL with 44 takeaways in the regular season, but the defense was slowed in the latter stages of the season after injuries to defensive tackle Tommie Harris and safety Mike Brown.

Smith did not elaborate when asked if there were things about Rivera’s performance he did not like.

“Those are the things Ron and I talked about,” Smith said. “We feel good about the things we did together during that time, but no more needs to be said about that. That’s between he and I.”

Rivera was a candidate last season for head coaching jobs in Green Bay and St. Louis.

This year he talked with Pittsburgh, Miami, Atlanta and Arizona before the Bears started postseason play. After Chicago lost the Super Bowl, he interviewed for coaching vacancies at Dallas and just a few days ago at San Diego.

Smith said he would move quickly to replace Rivera. Linebackers coach Bob Babich is considered a top candidate.

Even though many NFL coaching spots are already filled, Rivera said he is confident he will get a job.

“The timing sometimes could have been better or it could have been worse. It is what it is right now,” he said.

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• Milan, Italy
• Rome, Italy
• Auckland, New Zealand

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• Toledo, Spain
• Kampala, Uganda
• London, United Kingdom

For more information attend an Information Session on Tuesday, February 20, at 5:30 pm in 131 DeBartolo or visit http://www.nd.edu/~ois/Locations/Locations.html

The application deadline for most summer programs is March 1, 2007
Rodriguez admits relationship issues with Jeter

Yanks infielder speaks frankly about problems with captain, himself

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Yes, it’s true, admitted Alex Rodriguez, his relationship with Derek Jeter is not what it once was.

Surrounded by reporters and cameras as he sat in the first-base dugout Monday at Legends Field, A-Rod played true confessions, acknowledging they no longer have sleepovers and don’t go out together all the time anymore.

"People start assuming that things are a lot worse than what they are, which they’re not. But they’re obviously not as great as they used to be. We were like blood brothers," Rodriguez said. "You don’t have to go to dinner with a guy four, five times a week to do what you’re doing. It’s actually much better than all you guys expect, but I just want to let the truth be known."

On the first day of his fourth season with the Yankees, A-Rod did three rounds of interviews — English-language television, Spanish-language television and print reporters. He talked about his poor postseason ("I stunk"), his poor bat average for the season with the Yankees, his promise I’ll stop lying to all you guys.

"It’s a reality there’s been a change in the relationship over 14 years and, hopefully, we can just put it behind us," he went on. "You go from sleeping over at somebody’s house five days a week, and now you don’t sleep over at somebody’s house. It’s just that big of a deal."

Jeter had left the clubhouse by the time reporters were allowed back in. His agent, Casey Close, said later that Jeter didn’t want to comment.

Most of the Yankees have long concluded the relationship between their captain and Rodriguez is an issue.

"They’re probably not as tight as they used to be, but it’s not a situation where they don’t look at each other and don’t say, ‘Hi.’"

Jason Giambi, Yankees designated hitter,

"They’re probably not as tight as they used to be, but it’s not a situation where they don’t look at each other and don’t say, ‘Hi.’"

While Rodriguez won the AL MVP award for the second time in 2005, he was booted for stretches at Yankee Stadium last season, when he hit made 24 errors. Some thought that if Jeter spoke out on A-Rod’s behalf, fans would go easier on him.

"Derek can’t stop the fans from booing. They boo all of us," catcher Jorge Posada said.

And then came another abysmal postseason for Rodriguez. He’s 4-for-41 (098) without an RBI in his last 12 playoff games dating to 2004. He got just one hit in last year’s playoff loss to Boston.

"I stunk. And when you stink, sometimes, you have to call it," he said. "I went 1-for-14 last year, with an error in the field. I was just awful."

As the Yankees were eliminated in Game 4, he was dropped to eighth in the batting order for the first time in a decade. "It was very disappointing," he said. "Yes, I was embar­rassed."

Rodriguez is entering the seventh season of his $252 million, 10-year contract, a deal he signed with the Texas Rangers. He can terminate the agreement after the season, forfeit the $27 million owed in the final three years and become a free agent. He also could pressure New York for an extension.

He said he wants to remain a Yankee, but wouldn’t promise that he will. Like Mariano Rivera, he is thinking ahead to the new ballpark scheduled to open in 2009.

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Woods shoots for eighth straight Tour victory

Tiger can rebound from overseas loss with win in Accenture tourney

MARANA, Ariz. — Tiger Woods ran into one player and got two reminders.

He was zipping along The Gallery during a practice round Monday, his first look at a new course for the Accenture Match Play Championship where he will try to win his eighth straight PGA Tour event. Some people will argue it's not really a winning streak, for Woods has failed to win four times overseas.

So it was only fitting that he caught up to Shaun Micheel on the second green.

"Do you think I should wish him luck this week?" said Tony Lingard, the caddy for Micheel.

The streak in its purest form ended Sept. 14 on a gray afternoon in the English countryside when Micheel, the last seed in the 16-man field of the HSBC World Match Play Championship, pulled off a stunner and beat Woods, 4 and 3.

That never came up during the next 16 holes of a course that stretches some 3 miles out into the desert and eventually winds back through cactus and shrub toward the clubhouse.

They talked about the birth of Micheel's daughter, Marin Belle, born on Feb. 9, and Micheel asked him if Woods knew what gender his child would be when it comes this summer.

"We're not going to find out," Woods told him. "It's got to be one or the other."

The rest of the round was spent navigating the 7,446-yard course at Dove Mountain just north of Tucson, with two pars some 660 yards and two 6s that can be reached off the tee.

It's a new course for all 64 players in the field after the World Golf Championship event left soggy La Costa Resort north of San Diego. Phil Mickelson was due on Tuesday, and he joked last week that he couldn't remember the last time he heard a regular practice round anywhere except the majors.

It is rare for Woods to show up on Monday, but he knew nothing about the course, and didn't learn much except to notice it was green, brown and white with some marvelous vistas of the valley below.

At stake this week is the streak with the asterisk.

Counting only PGA Tour events, the last time he didn't go home with a trophy was July 9, when he was second at the Western Open. Woods believes his streak ended when he lost to Micheel, although he also recognizes that his PGA Tour streak is seven and counting, and each week brings him closer to the 11 in a row that Byron Nelson won in 1945.

More than anything, he realizes there are no guarantees at the Accenture Match Play Championship.

Woods is a two-time champion of this fed-cup event, but he also has lost in every round except the semifinals. A year ago, he was bounced by Chad Campbell in the third round.

And while this WGC event is played over 18 holes until the 36-hole championship match, even the purest form of match play — 36 holes every match — didn't spare Woods a defeat at Wentworth last September.

"I cherished my win against him," said Michael, who lost in the championship match that week to Paul Casey. "It's exciting to be playing in the same generation with a guy who arguably is the best ever."

And what does Micheel think when he hears about the win streak?

"I'm not too much of a history major," he said. "But I don't think guys were going overseas back in Byron's day. Golf wasn't anything like it is today. Tiger's streak is a PGA Tour streak, and it's amazing. But this can be the one tournament that gets him."
Streak continued from page 20

Field goals

Allen is averaging 24.8 points per game on 43.2 percent shooting during the win streak, Gray is averaging 9.2 points per game shooting 41 percent and Lechlin is averaging 8.6 points per game on 43 percent shooting.

The Irish have steadily improved their shooting throughout the streak. They began sinking 40.4 percent against West Virginia Feb. 4. That number climbed gradually to 49.1 percent in their win over Providence Feb. 17.

"I think overall, we're really putting the ball in the basket a little bit more," McGraw said. "I don't think our shot selection is any different, I just think we're really confident right now."

Foul shots

The free throw line has also been an important source of points for Notre Dame.

The team set the tone by sinking 33 of 39 free throws against West Virginia, a scoring 84.6 percent. What's amazing about this particular aspect is the lack of attention paid to it by McGraw.

"Its funny, we haven't worked on it at all," she said. "We're pretty good free-throw shooters in general."

Last summer, center Melissa D'Amico and forward Crystal Erwin were told to improve their free-throw shooting, as both were under 60 percent. The work paid off — D'Amico now shoots 81.1 percent from the line.

"They both obviously worked on it very well. Mel in particular," McGraw said. "She's shot the ball very well from the free throw line. And I think our freshmen were good free throw shooters in high school and they continue to do that."

McGraw went on to call this year's team the best free-throw shooting team she's ever coached.

Turnovers

Notre Dame has caused problems on defense all season, but the success wasn't always coupled with the offensive production it now enjoys. Villanova's defense was immeasurably hampered due to the turnovers the Irish caused, and the 24-turnover performance played a large role in upsetting then-No. 17 Louisville Feb. 7.

Still, McGraw is not entirely pleased.

"I was a little disappointed against Providence," she said. "They have very good guards, and they handled our pressure very well. That's the first game in a while that a team hasn't turned the ball over 20 times, so we are really going to focus on that a little bit more, and try to develop maybe a little something different for the stretch run and the Big East tournament."

With three games left in the regular season, Notre Dame has a tentative hold on the final first-round bye in the Big East tournament. Nothing is guaranteed, but if the Irish continue to combine the successful elements of their game, it could mean good things for the postseason.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu
“We’re not going to lose games down the stretch based on effort,”

Colin Falls
Irish guard

The planning for the Bouts began soon after school started in August, McGill said. The captains coordinated schedules and held meetings to garner interest in the Boxing Club, in preparation for the novice season for beginning boxers that began after Fall Break.

McGill and the other captains, six seniors and three juniors, taught the young boxers how to through punchers, the mechanics of their stance and movement and how to block opponents’ attacks in the latter half of the fall semester.

“We really pushed the guys and to give the guys a lot of credit, we stayed with it. We made it enjoyable but at the same time challenging.”

Andrew McGill
Bengal Bouts president

McGill said, “We really try to condition them as much as possible.”

During study days, the club brought in EMUs and referees to workouts so the novices could spar and get a feel for the ring. Upon returning from winter break, it was time for the meat of the season, when the veterans and novices combined, to begin.

"Everyday we decide what we want to work on," McGill said. "At the beginning we’ll have a day where we work on legs, a day where it’s all upper body— running, conditioning. We change it around a little bit." 

"Boxing is as much mental as it is physical," he said. "You can really see their character develop as they progress through the program," he said. “You can see everyone mature. As the season progresses, you can see everyone become best friends. The best thing about the Bengal Bouts is that it takes an individual sport, in boxing, and turns it into a team sport.”

There will be no rematches of this year’s semifinal or championship bouts in the preliminary rounds because of the bracket system the Club uses to separate the main contenders, McGill said. It will, however, be the proving ground for many inexperienced boxers.

“The first round is a lot of guys getting in and getting the butterflies out of their stomachs,” McGill said. “It’s pretty different boxing down here, training down here and then going upstairs and being in an atmosphere where the entire arena is dark. You’re in a ring in front of a thousand or so people and more and all the lights are focused on you and your opponent.”

Senior Nathan Dyer, who has fought since his freshman year and made it to the semifinals in the 180-pound class, said he will compete in the 180-pound class and who already has won a championship, has his own approach to the ring.

“Personally, I kind of black out for a little bit,” he said. “You don’t think— you just react. The best I can describe it is just going blank for a little bit, and praying that your body knows what to do when it’s moving different ways.”

McGill quoted from a book called “The Power of One” that the captains and coaches use to prepare novices for those about to step to the ring.

“Boxing is such a mental sport as it is physical,” he said. “To quote from the Power of One, ‘First with the head, then with the heart.’”

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Fights
continued from page 20

Ten rounds of the preliminary competition in The Pit to narrow down the number of contenders that would fight under the lights and before the crowd, senior captain Dan Ward said.

But, as it happens every year, at least 20 boxers dropped out of the bouts on weigh-in day and a spot was found for every fighter in the main events, Ward said.

“Logistically speaking, we can’t fight from 6 p.m. till a.m. two nights in a row,” Ward said. “It wound up working itself out.”

The preliminary rounds, which will begin with 47 fights Wednesday from the 129-pound to 160-pound weight classes and conclude Thursday with 45 fights from the 160-pound class to the super heavyweights, marks the culmination of over six months of planning, conditioning and training for the Bouts’ captains and boxers.

Six months during which the captains pushed the boxers to their physical and mental limits, sometimes in an attempt to lower numbers.

“There were even times I would try to lose weight, as we would make a week, and try to limit the numbers, to try to make them work, to hard they’re not going to want to stay,” McGill said. “We really pushed the guys to give them a lot of credit, we stayed with it. We made it enjoyable but at the same time challenging."

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McGill and the other captains, six seniors and three juniors, taught the young boxers how to throw punchers, the mechanics of their stance and movement and how to block opponents’ attacks in the latter half of the fall semester.

“We really push them hard with pushups and sit-ups,” McGill said, “we really try to condition them as much as possible.”

During study days, the club brought in EMUs and referees to workouts so the novices could spar and get a feel for the ring. Upon returning from winter break, it was time for the meat of the season, when the veterans and novices combined, to begin.

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“Boxing is as much mental as it is physical,” he said. “To quote from the Power of One, ‘First with the head, then with the heart.’”

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Bengal Bouts president Andrew McGill lands a punch against Tommy Fork in last year’s tournament. This year, a record number of participants will take part in the event.


**Black Dog**

Michael Mikuska

---

**Kaleidoscope McDanileS**

Liam Moran

---

**Crossword**

ADAM FAIRHOLM

---

**Jumble**

HENRI ARNOLD

MIRE CARIGION

---

**Horoscope**

Celebrities born on this day:
- Justin Bietman, 41; Seal, 44; Jeff Daniels, 52; Smokey Robinson, 67

Happy Birthday! Your inclination to crows, crickets, and ornithology will get you more than a few smiles this year. Those imaginative moves or acts. Reactions and spontaneous decisions will be what counts, and what helps you balance your world the first three quarters of the year. After that, you can breathe easy. Your numbers are 17, 19, 23, 27, 38

Aries (March 21-April 19): Someone is likely to divulge secret information that will come to bear heavily on a legal or heart matter. Don't let yourself get worked up over nothing or you will come out on a loss that you want to lose.**

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Look for the less obvious and you will net a clearer picture of what's actually going on. Someone will surprise you with his or her interest in what you say. Don't take anything for granted - if someone offers you something be sure to get it in writing.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): As much as you want to do what's right, it will be difficult. Expect someone to cause you worry or cut you down. Rely on someone else who has more experience to help you out.**

Cancer (June 22-July 22): A move that will lead to a better paying position is apparent. Leave some time for a little loving and romancing.*****

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Someone may be taking advantage of you financially. Don't get involved in a dubious get-rich-quick scheme. You are likely to end up with the short end of the stick. Gambling, traveling and being gullible will all lead to losses.***

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't rely on anyone here. Someone you are close to or live with will take advantage of you. Aggressive behavior or actions will win you nothing. Be explicit about the way you feel.***

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your emotions will be difficult to control. Focus on work and money and leave your personal matters alone for the time being. You need more information and certainly more time to sort through what is going on.***

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Everyone will be countering on you today. Be honest about what you can and cannot do. A love connection will grow stronger if you put aside for the moment what you want to do with the rest of your life and what you want to do with the rest of your life. You need more information and certainly more time to sort through what is going on.***

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): As much as you would like to ignore emotional matters, you must deal with them. Rearranging never solves anything, so get to it. Will survive as long as you stay focused.***

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Fix it for a big change. Travel, the way you see things, and how you react to the end of your life all are up for discussion. Be true to yourself and your needs and don't give in to what someone else wants.****

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't try to fool yourself into thinking that everything is perfect if you haven't actually reached your goals. This isn't the day to give up. Groom your hair and make sure everyone is prepared to go.***

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Leave, observe and take your time making a decision. You may feel the urge to be impulsive but that will only lead you to the wrong direction. Someone you think you know well is not being honest with you.***

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Irish look for revenge at home against DePaul

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

Colin Falls called it the "hardest loss of [his] career." Last week, Notre Dame fell to DePaul 67-66 on a dunk in the closing seconds by forward Wilson Chandler. Falls had been holding the ball near mid-court when Blue Demons guard Draejon Burns stole it and hit a streaking Chandler for the winning basket.

Tonight, the Irish senior guard and his teammates have a chance at revenge as they take on the Blue Demons at 7 at the Joyce Center. "We owe them," Falls said. "They're a good basketball team but this is a huge week for us and we're really excited.

The No. 23 Irish (20-6, 8-5 Big East) are chasing a bye in the Big East tournament. They are currently in a four-way tie for fourth place, but control their own destiny. Notre Dame holds tie-breakers over fellow 8-5 teams Syracuse and West Virginia and plays Marquette Saturday with a chance to earn that head-to-head tie-

see DEMONS/page 18

BENGAL BOUTS

Over 200 ready to rumble at Joyce

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Two days before the opening blows of the 77th annual Bengal Bouts will resound throughout a darkened Joyce Center Fieldhouse, over 200 boxers crammed into the bowels of The Pit to get in some last-minute conditioning for what will be the largest Bouts tournament ever.

The amateur boxers were led Monday by junior and senior captains through calisthenics in the basketball gym, while others jumped rope, shadow boxed and hit the heavy bag in an adjoining room underneath the Joyce. Among the group were eight returning champions, dozens of experienced fighters and a large number of novice boxers who will conclude months of training when the preliminary round of the Bouts begins Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and continues at the same time Thursday evening.

Bengal Bouts President and senior captain Andrew McGill said that the 200 and plus boxers that will compete this year blew away the previous record of 150 set last season. The Bouts captains were faced with so many prospective boxers that they consid-

see FIGHTS/page 18

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL — ANALYSIS

Fundamentals spark win streak

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Sometimes the formula for winning lies in the little things. Since Feb. 4, Notre Dame has won five straight Big East games by an average score of 12.2 points per game. Charle Allen has scored 25 or more points in four of those five contests. The Irish defense is better than ever. It now out-rebounds 

see STREAK/page 17