Students report two sexual assault crimes

Incidents affect ND and SMC campuses

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

Police are investigating two separate incidents of reported sex offenses — one involving a Notre Dame student and the other involving a Saint Mary's student.

The incidents, a fondling sex offense and sexual assault, both were reported Sunday night to Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP). In the case of the sexual assault, a Notre Dame student reported an acquaintance committed the crime, according to an e-mail to students Monday. The e-mail said the assault occurred on campus Saturday.

The Observer was not able to reach NDSP officials Tuesday.

In the second case, a Saint Mary's student notified NDSP at 8:15 p.m. Sunday after a man approached her and a friend at State Road 933 en route to the Grotto. The man, who was on roller blades, inappropriately touched the student, who was not injured, as he passed by, the e-mail said.

The suspect was

see NDSIPage 3

Copy Shop to close after 18 years

By KATE ANTONACCI
Senior Staff Writer

After a nearly two-year-long legal battle, The Copy Shop in LaFortune will permanently close its doors Friday, marking the end of 18 years of operations.

"This letter is one that I never anticipated having to write," Tim Wright, president of Copy Wright, Inc. and owner of The Copy Shop in LaFortune, wrote in a letter available to any visitor to the LaFortune shop.

The letter, dated Monday, details the reasons for the business' closing — namely the cost of the lawsuit between The Copy Shop and the University.

Wright had hoped to continue business operations during

see SHOPPage 6

Kelley part of attorney removals

ND law professor serves as deputy to White House counsel

By MADIE HANNA
News Writer

As controversy continues to brew around Attorney General Alberto Gonzales' handling of the recent U.S. attorney firings, a Notre Dame law professor has quietly found his way to the center of the investigation.

"Late in the afternoon on Dec. 4, a deputy to Harriet E. Miers, then the White House counsel and one of President Bush's most trusted aides, sent a two-line e-mail message to a top Justice Department aide," begins a March 14 article in The New York Times. "We're a go, it said, approving a long-brewing plan to remove seven federal prosecutors considered weak or not team players."

That deputy is William K. Kelley, who left the Law School in the spring of 2005 to take a presidential appointment. Since then, he has served as White House deputy counsel in what Notre Dame law professor Richard Garnett called "a position of great responsibility."

"We're good friends," Garnett, who is at the University of Chicago this semester as a visiting professor, said Tuesday. "He

see KELLEYPage 8

Community discusses disabilities

Author Abeel addresses dyscalculia, life without comprehending numbers

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

After being diagnosed with dyscalculia — a sequential learning disability — at age thirteen, Samantha Abeel has written two books, earned a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Michigan and become a motivational speaker.

Abeel delivered the Disability Awareness Month keynote speech Tuesday in DeLaHouss, focusing on her experiences with her learning disability and its influence on her life.

see ABEEPage 9

Office of Disability Services assists in classrooms, exams

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

When junior Molly Rivard was six years old, she was diagnosed with dyspraxia, a motor skills disability that can make movements and gestures associated with coordination — such as writing — difficult.

"Yes, I do have a disability," said Rivard, a history and Irish studies major who hopes to continue her education after graduating from Notre Dame. "But that does not make me different. I just have to do things differently."

Rivard described the disability as

see DISABILITYPage 6

Campus struggles with activism, apathy

By EILEEN DUFFY and MEGHAN WONS
News Writers

Editor's Note: This is the first article in a three-part series examining activism at Notre Dame: its current role on campus, how that role has changed and what those changes mean for the future.

With the war in Iraq potentially stretching on longer than the one in Vietnam over 30 years ago, last week's fourth anniversary of the United States' invasion shone a spotlight on college campuses — once the sites of passionate anti-war activism.

At Notre Dame, the only protest that took place last week was organized by members of the Catholic Worker movement — a group from outside the University. While students were involved, the lack of major student organization for the event seemed to reinforce the stereotype that Notre Dame lacks activism.

For many, the question remains whether or not Notre Dame students are making their voices heard when it comes to human rights, the war in Iraq, the genocide in Darfur and other pressing concerns of today's generation of college students.

But to some students like junior Stuart Mora, a member of Campus Labor Action Project (CLAP) who is also active with the South Bend Center for the Homeless, loud arrest-focused protests are

see ACTIVISMPage 4

Students take part in a 2005 rally put on by the Progressive Student Alliance in celebration of campus activism.
Love is in the air

Before I arrived at Notre Dame, I thought nothing would excite me more than passing by Brady Quinn on campus or doing the jig at a home football game. Then again, I had never experienced winter in Northern Indiana before."

I noticed how campus suddenly came to life. Students were playing lacrosse, frisbee, and even badminton on out on North Quad. Grills were broken out by a couple of dorms. Music was blasting from dorm room windows. A couple of female students got very excited and even broke out the bikini tops for some sumbathing.

One of my friends remarked that campus really felt like college now with the large number of students hanging around outside, instead of hiding in their dorm rooms to keep warm. It looked like the pictures you see in the brochures sent to prospective students.

Another thing I've noticed in addition to the quick transition into shorts and skirts is the romance. Sure, there are those slightly awkward interactions between male and female classmates and completely awkward good-byes outside girls' dorms at parietals all year-round, but suddenly, it seems people are just more affectionate.

Walking around campus today, I couldn't help noticing the rise in couples holding hands on the way to class or sitting on benches showing PDA. It means I'm not quite "The Notebook" or anything, but it's still kind of sweet. Everyone just looks a little happier.

I've noticed this new phenomenon among people I know... the person who never admits to liking someone, suddenly blushing and participating in PDA with someone. Or, on the other end of the spectrum, the person who goes through potential love interests like profile pictures on Facebook, actually talking about having found that special someone and maybe, just maybe, settling down some day. It's all so amusing and it's okay to make a little fun of them, but at the same time, it's also kind of sweet and makes me smile.

Whatever the case or wherever you fall between the two, I've come to believe that there's more in the air than just warmth. There might be some love in the air.

And so, Notre Dame, forget (just for a moment or you may fall out) about trying to solve integrals that seem impossible, writing papers that you don't feel like writing and reading course packets and chapters that never seem to end. In the words of the Beatles, "Nothing you can do but learn how to be in time. It's easy. All you need is love."

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Eva Binda at binda@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

In the March 27 article entitled "NDSP arrests, cites the Heimlich maneuver on woman," we reported that a 2-year-old golden retriever, saw his owner choking on a piece of fruit and began jumping up and down the woman's chest. The dog's owner believes the dog was trying to perform the Heimlich maneuver and saved her life.

Debbie Parkhurst, 45, of Calvert told the Cecil Whig she was eating an apple at her home Friday when a dog jumped in her lap. She attempted to perform the Heimlich maneuver on herself but it didn't work. After she began beating on her chest, she said Toby noticed and got involved.

"The next think I know, Toby's on my hind feet and he's got his bottom on my shoulders," she recalled. "He pushed me to the ground, and once I was on my back, he began jumping up and down on my chest."

That's when the apple dissolved and Toby started licking her face to keep her from passing out, she said.

Trees removed at beach
to curtail sexual activity

MADISON, Wis. — Willow Trees removed at beach to curtail sexual activity out there," Steve Golden, the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway's property manager, said Monday in an interview with The Capital Times of Madison.

The nude beach has been used by naturists for more than 50 years.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

OFFBEAT

Dog performs 'Heimlich'
on owner, saves life

CALVERT, Md. — Toby, a 2-year-old golden retriever, saw his owner choking on a piece of fruit and began jumping up and down the woman's chest. The dog's owner believes the dog was trying to perform the Heimlich maneuver and saved her life.

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LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY

HIGH 53
LOW 40

TOMORROW

HIGH 44
LOW 33

THURSDAY

HIGH 49
LOW 34

FRIDAY

HIGH 58
LOW 36

SATURDAY

HIGH 62
LOW 44

SUNDAY

HIGH 51
LOW 35

Delta 63 / 58 Boston 49 / 39 Chicago 45 / 39 Denver 54 / 40 Houston 71 / 64 Los Angeles 57 / 50 Minneapolis 50 / 42 New York 73 / 47 Philadelphia 68 / 50 Phoenix 69 / 49 Seattle 53 / 40 St. Louis 72 / 57 Tampa 84 / 61 Washington 70 / 59

IN BRIEF

Ruth Messinger, President of American Jewish World Service, will give the lecture "Bearing Witness: Crisis in Darfur" at 8 p.m. today in the Eck Visitors Center Auditorium.

Judge Victoria Marino de Avila will deliver a lecture entitled "El Salvador Reform of the Judiciary" Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Grills Center Auditorium. The lecture will be in Spanish, but an English translation will be available.

Howard Schultz, the founder and chairman of Starbucks, will deliver the 2007 Frank Cahill Award Thursday at 7 p.m. in Jordan Auditorium in Mendoza. He is lecturing entitled "Entrepreneurship and Ethics."

Married lecturers and scholars James Whitehead and Evelyn Eaton Whitehead will give the lecture "Spirituality and Sexuality: A Marriage of Eros and Grace" Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Carroll Auditorium in Madeleva Hall at Saint Mary's.

Ceyl Prinsen, a 1976 Notre Dame graduate and executive director of the Colorado Enterprise Fund, will deliver the lecture entitled "Building a Balanced Life: Strategies for Combining Career and Family." Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in 119 O'Shaughnessy.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to observernews@nd.edu.
Appointees approved for leadership roles

By SONIA RAO
News Writer

Several student government appointees were approved for the 2007-08 term during the final meeting of 2006-07 Council of Representatives (COR) members Tuesday.

Michelle Byrne, Phil Ross, Ashley Weiss, Christopher Tillet, Eva Binda, Sheena Plamoottil, Michelle Zaldana and Emily Cooperstein were all approved to assume leadership roles of various student government organizations that are represented within COR. Each was presented to COR members along with a letter of recommendation.

Junior class president-elect Bob Reish presented Michelle Byrne as the class of 2009 secretary. Byrne takes the position, which is one of four positions on the class voting ticket, as secretary-elect Callie Pugge “will be unable to fulfill her duties because of other interests within Notre Dame student government,” Reish said.

Reish said Byrne is “qualified, dedicated and hardworking,” and he noted she has had various leadership roles including those as Cavanaugh’s Hall representative, spirituale committee chair and Cavanaugh Hall president. Current Student Union Board (SUB) manager Patrick Vassel presented junior Phil Ross as his nominee to continue leading SUB next year.

“Phil is far and away the best candidate for the position,” Vassel wrote in his letter of recommendation. “He has demonstrated tremendous time-management skills as well as innovative creativity and constant professionalism. His past leadership experiences exemplify the combination of hard work and fun that are central to the mission of SUB.”

Current Judicial Council president Liz Kozlow nominated junior Ashley Weiss as her successor.

“Over the past year, she showed enthusiasm and dedication for Student Government by working as the Chair of the Student Senate Committee on Gender Issues where she oversaw and coordinated both the Eating Disorders Conference and Sexual Assault Awareness week,” Kozlow wrote.

Kozlow also noted that Weiss ran for the elected position of student body vice president earlier in the year, which would serve as valuable background.

Kadeja Gaines, chairwoman of the Financial Management Board, announced her nominations of freshman Christopher Tillet and Eva Binda to the Assistant Student Union Treasurer positions.

Gaines said she interviewed eight people for the position and Tillet and Binda were the most qualified.

Binda is a news writer for The Observer. Student body president-elect Liz Brown presented her nominations of Sheena Plamoottil, Michelle Zaldana and Emily Cooperstein as next year’s chief executive assistant, student body secretary and academic delegate, respectively.

All three have extensive background in student government and have excelled in leadership positions, Brown said.

In other COR news:
• Members approved a COR Collaboration Fund Appeal for the 30th RCAC fashion show, sponsored by Walsh Hall, Freshman Class Council and the Office of Admissions. The group requested $757.79 in order to provide food, raffle supplies, copy expenses and the venue.

Contact Sonia Rao at srao1@nd.edu

NDSP continued from page 1

described to NDSP as a college-age, white male, skinny build, wearing a blue T-shirt and black jeans, black roller blades and a black hat with a white t-shirt pulled over his head.” the e-mail said.

Saint Mary’s Security did not return phone calls from The Observer Tuesday.

NDSP’s e-mail encouraged students to report information on crimes, suspicious activity and emergencies to 9-1-1 and to contact NDSP with any non-emergency assistance on campus.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle01@saintmarys.edu

Please recycle The Observer.

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Activity continued from page 1

not the only effective ways to show activism.

For Moro, student participation in "concrete things"—such as service projects at home and abroad through the Center for Social Concerns and the high number of hours Notre Dame students spend volunteering—is proof that activism is "still here on campus"—and maybe stronger than ever" in a
different form.

"I think activism has changed," he said. "I don't think we have the marching around with placards anymore. I think people are looking to do more concrete things.

But just before spring break, it was that 'marching around' activism that was seen on Notre Dame's campus.

Soulforce, a national gay rights group, stopped at Notre Dame as part of its cross-country Equality Ride, a 32-stop tour intended to protest the intolerance of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people that it believes occurs at Christian colleges.

After University administrators denied the group's request for accommodations, Soulforce members notified Notre Dame that they would nonetheless arrive March 8—and they did.

The 22 riders marched into LaFurton and were soon met with Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP) officers who, when Soulforce members refused to cease and desist, issued trespass notices to six group members for restricting foot traffic, speaking in loud voices and for restricting normal business activity. Trespass notices, said Assistant Vice President of News and Information Dennis Brown, carry with them a request never to return to campus.

The next morning, March 9, six group members attempted to walk down Notre Dame Avenue with a wreath, intending to deliver it to the statue of Tom Dooley, a gay military hero and Notre Dame graduate. Near the vicinity of the old post office, the members were again stopped by NDPSP and this time issued arrest citations, with a likely request to appear in court.

Brown said policemen then gave the group a ride back to their bus.

"We checked with other universities where Soulforce had conducted its activities. We're aware of what [the group's] objectives are," Brown said, adding they were unable to publicize that they were arrested at Notre Dame, which is sort of their goal." Soulforce—which counts many Notre Dame students among its members—has continued to face resistance and arrest at subsequent stops on its Equality Ride. A handful of Notre Dame students took part in the Soulforce event, but many campus activist groups seem favor talking, if not yelling, about their causes—and many are listening.

CLAP has staged protests and written reports in support of a "living wage" of $12.10 an hour for every employee at Notre Dame. The Progressive Student Alliance (PSA)'s "Week of Action," said Lisa Madden, an honorably discharged marine and leader in the anti-war movement, to DeBartolo Hall—and 170 people flocked to hear him. Another of the week's events, a talk on the correlation between biology and homosexuality, drew a standing-room-only crowd.

Sophomore Michael Angelo, vice president of the PSA, said he received good feedback from students and faculty regarding the "Eyes Wide Open" exhibit displayed on South Quad to raise awareness about the Iraq War.

The display was brought to campus by the PSA through the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), which organized the traveling exhibit and supplied the public display of boots honoring each U.S. military casualty. The exhibit featured a field of shoes, a multimedia display exploring the "history, cost and consequences of the war" and a Wall of Remembrance to memorialize the Iraqi citizens killed in conflict, according to the AFSC Website.

"It's really important to have an attitude of reaching out," senior Rose Hooper said of promoting awareness and education about issues on campus. "Rather than being exclusive to people who share the same ideas, values and mindset."

Hoover, an active member of the Notre Dame Peace Fellowship, Amnesty International and CLAP, said that such groups are making campus activism more relevant. She also said campus activists have changed their own attitudes about many issues.

While Notre Dame has historically been identified as a campus lacking activism, junior Katie McIlhugh—a member of both PSA and CLAP—thinks the University is undervalued in terms of activism.

"We have many politically-minded people on this campus, as political science is the most popular major in Arts and Letters, as well as a peace studies program that may be the most well-respected in the nation," she said, adding that Notre Dame has one of the best collegiate social concerns centers. "There is a deep-seeded obligation [among Notre Dame students] to help those in need around the world and in the South Bend community."

Still, that obligation doesn't inhabit a large portion of Notre Dame students. Angelo said he thinks Notre Dame students are necessarily apathetic, but that oftentimes they "don't have a forum" to express their concerns and discuss issues of social justice in their ways.

The bureaucracy of Notre Dame and the University's history of not being an activist campus, he said, are two big hurdles for students involved in efforts such as the ones the PSA advances, McIlhugh said she questioned whether "the root problem isn't apathy, but bodies of administrators that silence the beginnings of discussion or controversy on campus."

Both PSA and CLAP sometimes feel "sandwiched" by Student Activities, which takes measures to prevent controversy, she said. PSA was put on club probation a few years ago for illegally handing out condoms, and CLAP "was not allowed to hand out brochures, donuts and information on workers' rights because they were denied permission by Student Activities." But the level of activism has varied over the years. The second part in this series tomorrow will examine the historical context of activism at Notre Dame.

Contact Edlem Duffy at duffye@nd.edu and Meghan Wons at awons@nd.edu

Asian Summer Language Grant Program

Deadline is March 30, 2007.

The Center for Asian Studies is sponsoring a competition for undergraduates and graduate students who wish to study an Asian language not currently offered at Notre Dame. The program selected can be either in the U.S. or a foreign country.

It is expected that such study will contribute to the student's further education at Notre Dame. In most cases, language classes will be counted for academic credit at Notre Dame. The competition is not open to seniors or graduate students completing their degrees.

Applications at www.nd.edu/~cas.

Essay Prize in Asian Studies

Deadline is April 9, 2007.

Two prices of $100 each will be awarded for the Best Undergraduate and Best Graduate Essay. Essays should focus on Asian or Asian American topics.

Undergraduate submissions should be no longer than 20 pages. Graduate submissions should be no longer than 30 pages.

Submit three copies (two without author information) to Center for Asian Studies 210 O'Shaughnessy Hall 1-0487 www.nd.edu/~cas.

Shedly Award

Each year, the Shedly Award, named for a former dean of the College of Arts and Letters, honors one member of the Arts and Letters faculty for outstanding teaching.

Both students and faculty are invited to submit nomination letters for this year's award to:

Stuart Greene
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies
104 O'Shaughnessy Hall
Deadline
Monday, April 9, 2007

CAMPUS NEWS

The Observer  Wednesday, March 28, 2007
Senator sets Iraq withdrawal timeline

Democrats’ plan draws ire of Congressional Republicans, White House, Lieberman

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defying a veto threat, the Democratic-controlled Senate narrowly signaled support Tuesday for the withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from Iraq by next March.

Republican attempts to scuttle the non-binding timeline vote failed by a 50-48, largely along party lines. The roll call marked the most forceful challenge to date of the administration’s handling of a war that has claimed the lives of more than 3,200 U.S. troops.

Three months after Democrats took power in Congress, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said the moment was at hand to “send a message to President Bush that the time has come to move forward in this undertake.


John McCain, R-Ariz., a presidential hopeful, said that “we are starting to turn things around” in the war and that a timeline for withdrawal would “snatch defeat from the jaws of progress in Iraq.”

Rice pushes Israeli Palestinian talks

The 180-2 vote — with 132 abstentions, which in the Senate count as “no” votes — gave final approval to a governance framework that provides for funding all Italian missions abroad. The lower house of parliament approved it earlier this month.

Italy has about 2,000 troops in Afghanistan, deployed between Kabul and Herat, far from the more restive south of the country. But a series of small incidents in Kandahar, the Italians and heavy fighting elsewhere in the country are heightening concerns in Italy over the troops security.

Italian troops to stay in Afghanistan

ROME — Premier Romano Prodi’s government won a Senate vote Tuesday to keep Italy’s troops in Afghanistan, despite increasing concerns over the worsening security situation in the country.

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Bad veteran care causes resignation

PHOENIX — The head of the Arizona Department of Veterans’ Services resigned in the wake of an inspection that found shortcomings in care provided by the state’s nursing home for military veterans.

Gov. Janet Napolitano said Tuesday that the resignation of Patrick F. Chorpenning came one day after she removed him from direct responsibility over the facility and ordered an immediate review of the home in Phoenix.

Diverted plane not a threat to crash

GARY — A review by the Federal Aviation Administration of a SkyVan jet that diverted from Gary to South Bend determined the plane never was in danger of colliding with other aircraft, officials said.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, as he spoke with reporters there Thursday during an unannounced visit to the city. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, as he spoke with reporters there Thursday during an unannounced visit to the city. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, as he spoke with reporters there Thursday during an unannounced visit to the city.

A major Sunni Arab insurgent group reported its military leader was slain outside Baghdad, an assault likely to deepen an increasingly bloody rift between al-Qaida in Iraq and opponents of the terror group in Sunni communities west of the capital.

In Baghdad, a U.S. soldier and an American working as a U.S. government contractor were killed by a rocket attack on the heavily guarded Green Zone. U.S. officials said another contractor worker suffered serious wounds and three were slightly wounded. A soldier also was wounded.

The first known U.S. death in the Green Zone, site of the U.S. Embassy and Iraqi government and parliament...
Disability
continued from page 1

a problem with the neural communication between her brain and motor muscles — something that her mother noticed when Rivard had trouble crawling as a baby — that leads to difficulty writing.

But Rivard is not left alone at the University to deal with her disability. She is one of the more than 200 students who receive services at the Office of Disability Services.

Approximately 140 of the 200-plus students are learning disabled or suffer from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). Coordinator of Disability Services Scott Howland said.

Saint Mary’s Disabilities Specialist Iris Giamo said the Disabilities Resource Office at the college serves approximately 75 students both for learning disabilities and for ADHD.

Students come to the College and University with an array of learning disabilities, including dyslexia and other disorders, Howland said.

"It’s a variety," Howland said.

Shop
continued from page 1

the litigation, the costs of the process have drained the company’s cash flow to "the point where the business can no longer support itself," the letter said.

University spokesman Don Wycliff said the University could not comment because the case "is in litigation." The dispute between Wright and the University revolves around the "option to renew" clause in the lease for The Copy Shop’s space.

Originally added to the store’s lease in 1989 by former owner Dan Foley, the option gives the owner an explicit option to renew the lease until the owner decides he or she does not want the space anymore or until a rule of the lease is violated, Wright said in a Nov. 21, 2005 article in The Observer.

But in early 2005, Wright was notified that the University "did not accept our offer to renew," said he sent a letter and a copy of this letter to the Indiana Supreme Court.

In August 2005, the University filed a suit in the St. Joseph Circuit Court in Mishawaka against Copy Services Inc. asking the court for immediate possession of the property in the basement of the student center. Copy Services Inc. operates under the name The Copy Shop.

The issue was brought to the Indiana Court of Appeals, which ruled against The Copy Shop.

"We are in the process of moving the dispute to the next level," the Indiana Supreme Court, Wright said in the letter.

Wright has operated The Copy Shop, an independent business not affiliated with the University, since 2001.

In his letter, Wright said that the University intends to "terminate our campus lease and, in effect, sell our business to Kinko’s."

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantovicz@nd.edu

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Thursday, March 29, 2007

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Mendoza College of Business

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Consumer confidence index falls

Rising gas prices, declining home values prompt greater than expected decline

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Consumers sent up a warning signal in March that rising gas prices and home values and a volatile stock market could hurt spending in the coming months, a widely watched index showed on Tuesday.

The New York-based Conference Board said that its Consumer Confidence Index fell to 107.2, down from the revised 111.2 in February. Analysts had expected a reading of 109. The March index was the lowest since November 2006 when the reading was 105.3.

"Abrepsion about the short-term future has suddenly cast a cloud over consumers' confidence," Lynn Franco, director of the Conference Board Consumer Research Center, said in a statement.

"The recent turmoil in financial markets combined with the run-up in gasoline prices may have contributed to consumers' heightened sense of uncertainty and concern over the direction of both components over the next few months," she added.

Economists closely monitor consumer confidence because spending accounts for two-thirds of all U.S. economic activity. Confidence had been climbing, helped by consumers' faith in the job market.

The Present Situation Index, which measures how shoppers feel now about economic conditions, increased slightly to 137.6 from 137.2 in February. The Expectations Index, which measures consumers' outlook for the next six months, declined to 86.9 from 93.8.

"It's not surprising that consumers have become more cautious," said Timowersh, president of Naroff Economic Advisors, about economic conditions, based on a survey which measures how shoppers feel now about economic conditions.

The Conference Board report — derived from responses through March 21 — showed increasing anxiety about the stock market and inflation. The stock market outlook for the next 12 months declined to 30.7 percent, from 43.6 percent in February. Those expecting the stock market to increase fell to 29.3 percent from 33.4 percent.

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The Present Situation Index, which measures how shoppers feel now about economic conditions, increased slightly to 137.6 from 137.2 in February. The Expectations Index, which measures consumers' outlook for the next six months, declined to 86.9 from 93.8.

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Kelley continued from page 1

has not, as you can imagine, said a word to me about this stuff.”

This “stuff” is the escalating Congressional investigation of Gonzales, who is accused of covering up his role in last year’s dismissal of eight U.S. attorneys. Criminal charges haven’t come into play, since “the U.S. attorneys are appoint­ed by the president. They serve at the will of the president,” Notre Dame law professor Jay Tidmarsh said Tuesday.

That means “it’s not a mys­tery” that when a president comes into power, he replaces the attorneys as he chooses, Tidmarsh said — it’s legal, and expected. But while political consider­ations may play into the initial appointments, the recent firings have raised ques­tions.

“There’s potential taint involved in someone replaced for political, rather than per­formance considerations,” said Tidmarsh, who explained that Gonzales’ denial of involve­ment in the situation has generated concern. “This is always true: it’s the cover-up, not the actions, that get someone in trouble.”

Last week, a House Judiciary subcommittee authorized subpoenas for several Bush aides, including White House political adviser Karl Rove, and Kelley. Tidmarsh said his under­standing was that the subpoena was issued, but it served Bush denied Congressional requests for formal testimony from the aides.

Garnett said he could not ana­lyze the situation or Kelley’s chances of being called to testify, because he did not want any­one to mistakenly believe Kelley had spoken to him about the investigation.

Kelley’s executive assistant in the White House counsel’s office did not return Observer phone calls Tuesday.

While Kelley’s role in the controve­ry is still hazy — “Years as a lawyer lead me to be very skeptical of one e-mail,” Tidmarsh said — that may be due partly to the nature of his job: “The counsel’s office in the White House has a really broad portfolio,” Garnett said. “They’re not the personal lawyers for people in the White House.”

Instead, the counsel advises the president on a wide range of legal issues. The deputy coun­sel’s job entails “advising the Counsel and the President on decisions to sign or veto legis­lation, ethical and conflicts ques­tions, executive appointments and judicial selection, Presidential pardons, and law­suits against the President in his official capacity,” according to the fall 2002 issue of Notre Dame Lawyer magazine.

“I’m sure there are a thou­sand things that pass across Professor Kelley’s desk on a daily basis,” Tidmarsh said.

But despite the position’s heavy workload and the stress of a Congressional investigation, both Tidmarsh and Garnett said there were clear reasons — besides prestige — that a law­ professor would take this job.

It is certainly an important position in government — I think many lawyers feel a call to public service,” Tidmarsh said. “For Professor Kelley, I think that certainly is true.”

Garnett said Kelley was “hon­ored and pleased” to take the job, given the importance of the appointment.

Kelley, a tenured member of the Notre Dame faculty who has been at the University since 1995, clerked from 1987 to 1988 for former federal judge Ken Starr on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The next year, he clerked for Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and Associate Justice Antonin Scalia.

From 1991 to 1994, he served as assistant to the solicitor gen­eral at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Kelley’s appointment to deputy counsel “was kind of natural,” Garnett said. “It prob­ably wasn’t all that surprising... He would have been on everybody’s list.”

Kelley is the second Notre Dame law professor to serve in President George W. Bush’s administration. Professor Jimmy Gurule worked as the Treasury Department’s under­secretary for enforcement from 2001 to 2003.

Those kind of appointments, said Associate Vice President for News and Information Don Wycliff, make professors “more valuable faculty members.” And that’s why the University was willing to grant Kelley a leave.

“In cases where a faculty member is invited to do some­thing special that adds to his or her credentials... essentially what they can do to their dean and request a leave of absence, an unpaid leave, and negotiate the terms,” Wycliff said Tuesday.

When Kelley received the appointment, “his first concern was fulfilling his obligations to the class he was then teaching,” Dean of the Law School Patricia O’Hara said in an e-mail Tuesday.

“I encouraged him to accept the appointment, and I recom­mended approval of a leave of absence from the University,” O’Hara said. “With my permis­sion he made arrangements to complete the course by teaching the class sessions on an acceler­ated calendar.”

O’Hara said the Law School would benefit from Kelley’s return.

“Professor Kelley is an out­standing teacher and scholar in the areas of constitutional law, administrative law and federal courts, as well as a valued col­league,” she said. “I am hopeful that he will choose to return to the Law School for the start of the 2007-2008 academic year.”

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhana1@nd.edu

FREE!!!

Pregnancy Testing

Women's Care Center
907 E. La Salle Ave. 234-3363
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www.womenscarecenter.org
Abeel’s mother, Betsy, also face these challenges. Abeel, who was diagnosed with dyscalculia in third grade, is now in her senior year of high school.

Dyscalculia makes everyday activities like writing the number ten impossible for Abeel, a struggle that has affected both her academic life and her everyday life.

Abeel went on to Mount Holyoke College, but found herself struggling with math and verbal capabilities and her math and verbal skills would eventually "even out." However, her learning disability began to take on an emotional and psychological toll on Abeel.

"By the time I was in fourth grade, I was extremely withdrawn socially," she said. "I looked like I belonged ... but I didn't feel like I belonged."

Abeel’s sense of time is something she struggles with. "Often times, I can't tell the difference between ten minutes and an hour." Dealing with money, following cooking recipes and keeping score while playing games have also been difficult, Abeel said.

She explained that she can write the number ten and she can name the number ten, but she has no concept of how much ten is. Both Abeel and her mother stressed the importance of creativity in developing coping skills for learning disabilities.

The transition from elementary school to middle school in seventh grade was even worse. "Seventh grade was the worst year of my life," she said, describing how she could no longer rely on the coping skills that she used in elementary school to get through her daily life. Those skills included following the rest of her peers to know when to switch classes.

"I was in a regular algebra class, and I could barely add," she said.

In eighth grade, Abeel was placed in some special education classes. "Special education changed my life," Abeel said. "It was the best thing that ever happened to me, because for the first time in my life, I could raise my hand and say I didn't get it and nobody else did either."

It was around this time that Abeel began to realize that her disability was out of her hands. "What a relief to know that it wasn't my fault," she said.

Abeel went on to Mount Holyoke College, but found herself struggling with math and verbal capabilities. It helped me to start a dialogue with somebody who was not a part of my life," she said. "I was not allowing myself to be learning disabled. I was expecting myself to reach or attain these perfect goals."

She now realizes that acceptance is a continuous, evolving project. "Acceptance is such a huge part of it, but it's a process too," she said.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscoll@nd.edu

Attention Seniors!

Notre Dame's Office of Undergraduate Admissions anticipates hiring Admissions Counselors this spring!

As part of the Undergraduate Admissions staff, the counselor is expected to make an important contribution to the recruitment and selection of the first-year class by managing relations with the prospective applicants, their parents, high school personnel and alumni in an assigned geographic area.

Responsibilities include extensive planning, travel and communication within the geographic area, assessment and evaluation of applications and conducting group/individual information sessions.

There are currently three counselor positions available on our staff for 2007-2008.

Among our candidates, we will seek a Latino Recruitment Coordinator

(Fluidity in Spanish will be strongly preferred.)

We will also seek an Asian Recruitment Coordinator

Additional responsibilities will be assigned by the Assistant Provost for Enrollment.

Candidates should possess a bachelor's degree and strong familiarity with all aspects of student life at Notre Dame.

Essential qualities include strong communication and organizational skills, enthusiasm, diplomacy and the willingness to work long hours, including many evenings and Saturday mornings.

Please Note: Interviews will be scheduled after Easter.

Preferred start date is July 1, 2007.

Please complete the on-line application at http://jobs.nd.edu to be considered. Requisition # 020070065
I spent my spring break as a participant in the Center for Social Concerns' Washington Seminar 1. Like most of you, I watched School House Rock in middle school and took government classes in high school. I even remember a little bit of knowledge from Madison's Federalist Paper No. 10. But I didn't truly understand the American political system, until I spent a week in Washington, D.C. I wish I could convey to you the intricacies of our system, but I know my explanation will be far from complete. I can only suggest that you visit our nation's capital. Washington, D.C., should be America's Mecca. Every adult of voting age has an obligation to visit at least once in their lifetime. Sit in on a hearing, visit your congressman's office or drop in on one of the myriad of public policy lectures that occur every week.

Unlike the Muslim who returns from Mecca with a renewed faith and greater devotion to God, I found myself leaving D.C. with a sense of despair in the American political system. My idealistic vision of intelligent, well-meaning diplomats was quickly supplanted in my mind by a conglomerate of special-interest groups, lobbyists and politicians clamoring for their own piece of the pie. As I traveled around D.C., I began to realize that most people in politics care about one thing—advancing their own personal agendas. Of course, they never frame their arguments as such. They always state their personal agendas in a way that aligns with the common good. For example, if you ask a certain Senator from Oklahoma how he can claim to be a small-government conservative when he continues to seek subsidies for the oil and gas industry, he'll reply by stating that strong domestic production is essential for "national security" reasons. It has nothing to do with the fact that his constituents benefit immensely from federal subsides. It's all about national security, a public good. Perhaps more appalling than the self-interestedness of politicians was the way they advanced their agendas. I don't think any of the people we met with ever really doubted us, but a sly dishonesty permeated from many of the conference rooms. They only told one side of the story, or they cited a non-scientific report put out by a biased interest group, or they responded with the Potomac Shuffle, that is, talking around a question without ever giving a direct answer. It wasn't sufficient for everyone to just sell themselves. They also had to shoot down conflicting ideas, hold personal vendettas against opponents and turn what was already mental debate into ad hominem attacks. The fight to obtain influence and political stardom makes for great drama. As one of my fellow Seminar participants put it, "Washington is just like Hollywood, except the people are uglier."

Once I understood how Washington works, the Abramoff scandal, the Libby indictment and the Gonzalez hearings didn't seem so anomalous. By the end of the week, I began to wonder why our political system is a haven for such ugliness. None of the people we met are inherently bad, and I think many of them probably came to Washington as idealistic, principled persons. But at some point in their careers, they began to sacrifice their principles for self-interest. They wavered to keep their jobs, appeased their constituents or to secure more funding. Little by little, their integrity eroded away until they are now at the point where they no longer realize how far they have strayed from their principles. They've begun to believe whole-heartedly in their mission, even if it is based on dishonesty.

Don't take my cynicism to mean that everyone in Washington is narrow-minded and self-serving. We had the chance to meet with several nonpartisan groups and a few honest congressmen. Unfortunately, they seemed to be the exception rather than the norm. One night we had dinner with a Notre Dame grad who works in the Pentagon. He told us that he had at one time considered the priesthood, until one of his friends convinced him otherwise. "We have enough ethical people in the priesthood," his friend told him. "What we need are ethical people in government." If you get a chance to embark on a Hajj to D.C., walk around the Washington Monument seven times and pray for more ethical government leaders. Or at least pray that we may have the good sense to elect them.

Zach Einterz is a junior majoring in economics and environmental sciences. He has turned to politics after giving up on an unsuccessful sports career. Contact him at zeinterz@nd.edu. To learn more about the College Libertarians, visit their website at www.nd.edu/~liberty.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Fair Trade, also known as alternative trade, refers to a voluntary certification program with requirements for both producers and processors. It encourages producer cooperatives, Fair Trade seeks to raise the living and working conditions of small producers of handicrafts and commodities located most—

Carolyn Woo Guest columnist

Fair Trade certification stipulates that coffee producers will receive a premium that exceeds market levels. These prices ($1.21 for a pound of arabica coffee, an additional 15 cents for organic coffee, and a social premium of 5 cents) have enabled farmers to remain on their land, improve sanitation and water supply in their homes, build bridges and roads, establish medical clinics and build schools for their children.

Beyond coffee, other Fair Trade certified commodities include tea, cocoa, banana, rice, sugar, honey, fruits, nuts, juice, vanilla, olive oil and others. Recently I received an e-mail on Fair Trade sporting goods. The Europeans are further along in the Fair Trade movement than the U.S., where only 5% of the global output. In the United Kingdom alone, 10% of white coffee and 8% of dark coffee. The U.S. is growing faster at rates of about 40% per year. Fair Trade coffee is served in 80 million U.S. households and is available on 400 campuses. Fair Trade, despite its good intentions, has critics. These critics oppose the supply of coffee beans as the cause of low market prices. By artificially raising the price, Fair Trade prevents access by consumers who could purchase coffee and drink coffee from other sources. The higher price would entice other producers, thus exacerbating the surplus problem. Critics see the price protection as providing little incentive for improvement. Fair Trade may breed dependance of small producers on the charitable instincts of consumers who may be few. Others have argued that the stipulated prices are too low to meet a big difference. Some critics point out the disproportionate public promotion large profit gains when they make seemingly taken commitments. Others caution that the gains to Fair Trade producers may not accrue to producers but to retailers who use this as a marker for price-insensitive consumers. Most are concerned that inter­ventions to the free market are inefficient and unproductive. Fair Trade certification is structured for the potential to achieve long-term gains in the form of increased competitiveness of producers and environmentally sustainable approaches to agriculture. To qualify, producers must be small family farms organ­izing themselves cooperatively into cooperatives. Only Fair Trade certified growers at stipulated prices and contract for periods longer than one growing cycle. In addition, the distributors also provide pre-financing at 60 percent of the contract value. These arrangements provide funds for cooperatives to invest in better facilities for processing, quality control, and distribution. In the United Kingdom, coffee producers will receive additional 15 cents for organic coffee. The farm­erns from the Kupaa Koko cooperative in Ghana supply the coffee on the board of Divine Chocolate, participate in decision-making and share in the profits of the company. The Fair Trade label is environmental sustainability. Dangerous chemicals listed by the International Standards Organization cannot be used in Fair Trade products. Transfair (a Fair Trade labeling organization) reports that approximately 85 percent of the Fair Trade coffee in the U.S. is certified organic. I with respect to concerns about free mar­ket interventions, Fair Trade is not as dis­connected from current market practices as some have worried. No market is com­pletely “free,” as evidenced by the tax credit for the Prius, minimum wage stipula­tions, tariffs on certain imported prod­ucts, subsidies for various commodities, regulations on product safety, environmen­tal standards, ingredients that are banned, employee benefits, etc. Fair Trade options are not as free as some have argued. They are not exempt from competition even within their own class. For coffee alone, there are approximately 200 grower associations from 24 countries listed on the Fair Trade registry. Fair Trade products also vie for market distinction through prestigious awards from Food and Wine magazine and other food and beverage reviews.

Moreover, in Economic Justice for All, the U.S. Catholic Bishops state that the economy should work for people, not the other way around. “Catholic Social Teaching reminds us that where we stand with God depends on how we stand with each other. As consumers, we are moral agents, not just economic agents. Fair Trade offers a non-violent, non-political option to level the playing field for producers in the global South and to give a hand, not a handout. This essay would not be complete without passing on a recommendation for my favorite coffee, Green Mountain Island Coconut — Fair Trade certified.

Carolyn Y. Woo is the Dean of the Mendoza College of Business and a Professor of Entrepreneurial Studies. She can be contacted at carolyn.y.woo@nd.edu

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protest questioned, reaction praised

I write to support the University’s decision to dis­patch the march. My叫做 Notre Dame from competition on the grounds of lame­ness. All that said, the protest should never have come to Notre Dame, we would be bom barded by all sorts of groups. The most im portant thing Notre Dame students have to worry about is what time to go to the dining hall. I think we can handle a little moonshine every Wednesday, March 28, 2007.

Moses needs further analysis

Most students, faculty, and visitors to campus shuffle by the large statue of Moses near the library without giving much thought to Moses, his story, or what the statue means for Notre Dame and the broader community of Jews and Christians. I feel he unfairly analyzes the story of Moses, unduly attacking Judaism and Christianity.

One must read the book of Exodus as a whole to gain a good understanding of the story. I do not have the space to give a full analysis, but I will focus on one chapter. To the modern ear, God’s actions may seem cruel and unmerciful. Chapters 7-12 recall the ten plagues God sent upon the Egyptians, the last being the death of the first born son of every household. It seems unjust that innocent Egyptian citizens were subjected to these horrendous afflictions simply because Pharaoh would not free the Israelites. Again, in Chapter 14, we read how Moses and his followers drowned the Egyptian army in the Red Sea, so that the Israelites may escape. Do these acts mean for Notre Dame and the broader community of Jews and Christians?

Dalit Mara

Christian Hoffeld
St. Edwards Hall
March 27

Nothing wrong with our ‘Reputation’

Twenty-Eight: Zero.

Twenty is the number of dollars I will pay Megan Riley into the mailbox of her apartment on Main 231 to transfer to a different school. Eight is the number of times I vomited over spring break. Zero is the number of questions to ask at the Catholic Worker movement spring break.

Ulysse S. Grant was able to win the Civil War and serve as the 18th President of the United States of America all while being a world renowned booze hound. The most important thing Notre Dame students have to worry about is what time to go to the dining hall. I think we can handle a little moonshine every Wednesday, March 28, 2007. It is absurd to feel he unfairly analyzes the story of Moses, unduly attacking Judaism and Christianity.

It is a golden goodness that is beer, then Jesus would not have raised the dead, Moses would not have turned gallons of water into wine at Cana. It is a golden goodness that is beer, then Jesus would not have raised the dead, Moses would not have turned gallons of water into wine at Cana. It is absurd to feel he unfairly analyzes the story of Moses, unduly attacking Judaism and Christianity.

I commend Xavier Lebec for reflecting upon this and sharing his conclusions with us (“First Down Moses’ undermines negative anti-religious and other religions,” March 27). Yet, I am not as quick to agree him, because I feel he unfairly analyzes the story of Moses, unduly attacking Judaism and Christianity.

Christian Hoffeld
St. Edwards Hall
March 27

Patrick McMaster
sophomore
Siegfried Hall
March 27

Chris Spellman
sophomore
off campus
March 27
"TMNT" Reboots Popular Franchise

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Senior Staff Writer

"TMNT" is a reunion only the movies could arrange. Like so many treasured gems from the '80s, "TMNT" takes a laughably delightful premise and reminds us why we fell in love with it in the first place.

Or not. If these heroes in a half-shell failed to endear themselves to you a decade ago, there's a good chance "TMNT" can't redeem them now. Fortunately, writer-director Kevin Munroe and his creative team never confuse their film for high art. This latest movie, like all three that preceded it, caters exclusively to the fans. And it's better off for it.

"TMNT" plays out like a run-in with four dear childhood friends. Like most pleasant memories, they're just like we remember them. Mostly.

After defeating Shredder and saving feudal Japan, our heroes have grown apart as a family. Leonardo no longer leads, instead traveling the world to hone his fighting skills. Raphael is as cool but crude as ever, launching orders as often as he cracks needles Leonardo mercilessly, culminating in a spectacular rooftop mincing in a spectacular rooftop.

In a long-running franchise, fans develop expectations for their heroes. A giant turtle nut himself, Munroe wisely takes all these moments, splashes them into a blender and whips up a green poultry that borders on recycling, but without the boredom that sets in from having seen it all before.

He never crosses that line because we really have never seen the turtles quite like this.

As he's done before, Raphael preludes Leonardo mercilessly, culminating in a spectacular rooftop fight. In a moment made for the movies, rain starts pouring down as they prepare to face off. Inspired by the very best Hong Kong martial arts films, they leap, chop, parry and lock weapons in a dizzying sequence that was never possible in the restrictive live-action escapades.

For the first time, a turtles movie succeeds in putting the "N" in "TMNT." Jim Lee and his puppeteering posse did an admirable job dropping the turtles into the New York of the '90s. "TMNT" shows us that they shouldn't have been realistic in the first place.

The goody rubs off and replaced with superb art direction. The inspired visual look of the '80s has been given new life, new build to fund their pizza habit. Mikey, a California surfer, is stockier and bruiser called The Nightwatcher.

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Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Raphael, left, and Leonardo battle each other in the rain. It marks the first time the Turtles have sprung into action on the big screen since 1990.
VINTAGE ‘NINJA TURTLES’ FILMS IN PERSPECTIVE

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

With a love of pizza and cries of “Cowabunga!” the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles are icons of a generation. With the film release of the newest addition to the Turtles universe, it’s important to remember the earlier films that made our younger eyes glow in wonder at the heroes in a half shell.

Released in 1990, “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles” promised our Renaissance-Spencer as “Lean, green and on the screen,” and it certainly impressed every six-to-ten year old in the country. With the Turtles fighting their archrivals, the Foot Clan, they had the cocky sound Casey Jones and beautiful reporter April O’Neil, the vigilante Turtles battled the evil Shredder.

Starring Elias Koteas and Judith Hoag as Casey and April respectively, this film was panned by critics but loved by a generation. The suit the turtle actors wore left something to be desired in terms of matching lip movement and voices but they did their job well enough for a fan base raised on the cartoon version. Following the success of the first film, “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles II: The Secret of the Ooze” was released the following year. The sequel delved into the origins of the Turtles, introducing the radioactive material that transformed them from mere mose pets to the league of headband-wearing crime fighters they were to become. The introduction of two new villains, Tokka and Bhaxar, added to the fantastic nature of this film.

More light-hearted than the first film, “Turtles II” stars the famous “Go Ninja, Go!” sequences performed by the inimitable Vanilla Ice. A rather unneeded and out of context scene, this nonetheless became the unofficial tag line of the film. With rivers of go-a-giving and animals and men alike finding new power in the “ooze,” this movie was, like its predecessor, panned by critics but loved by fans. With its bouncing music and light-hearted tone, this was the children’s film producers had been looking for.

Unfortunately, with the third film, they went a little too far. “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles III” saw the Turtles travel back in time to feudal Japan with the aid of a magic Shredder. This opened the doors for the franchise to take a nose-dive into the ridiculous. The Turtles had to battle weapons dealer Walker and the Japanese Lord Norinaga in order to prevent a war from breaking out. Granted, it is a children’s film, but by 1993, fans of the Turtles were only getting older and yet the third film pandered to a younger audience than the second. While adding some memorable scenes to the canon, the third installment couldn’t match the dark mis-ensemble of the first film, nor the happy-go-lucky innocence of the second.

In the end, the early ’90s Ninja Turtle trilogy represents only a small fraction of what the Ninja Turtles are.

With the release of the original comic books, the franchise was born, and, following those, the cartoons, toys and video games garnered a legion of children all over the world. Thankfully, the film tradition that began almost two decades ago is still alive and well.

Contact Marty Schroeder at
mshoe@msu.edu

TURTLE TOYS THROUGH THE YEARS

By NATE HOGAN
Scene Writer

The perhaps unfamiliar names Groundshuck, Walkabout and Dirhag all have one thing in common. They are all the names of obscure characters from the original line of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles action figures. When the TMNT cartoon came out in 1987, it captured the hearts of American youth and simply screamed merchandising. In the following year, Playmates released the first line of a long chain of action figures for the TMNT cartoon and beyond. This release featured the classic characters anyone of our generation associates with the Ninja Turtles. This would be the beginning of an era that would include Leonardo, Donatello, Michelangelo and Raphael — plus their master, Splinter. Their counterpart in the animated April O’Neil was also included. The Shredder, a Foot Soldier, Bishop and Rocksteady, rounded out the line by providing a basis of villainous characters to pit against the Turtles.

These figures possessed great detail from the action figures to numerous accessories that added to their playability. Shredder and Splinter even featured cotton capes, which one could take the liberty of removing and giving to more worthy characters if one so chose. (The fashion trend in “The Incredible” of not wearing capes does not apply to action figures, as a cape makes any figure infinitely better.)

As the cartoon gained popularity, Playmates capitalized by continuing to release new figures. Characters from the show earned their immortality in plastic, such as the Cajun-accented Leatherhead, the Flat King and vigilante sports enthusiast Casey Jones. Jones featured what were arguably the greatest accessories ever: a golf bag which could go over his shoulder, complete with a golf club and two baseball bats for beating criminals into submission as he attempted to rid the world of bad sports.

At this point, Playmates decided to branch out a little and begin providing their young market with a plethora of creative stimuli. In addition to featuring characters from the show, they released the original four with outlandish outfits as well as completely new characters who never even saw screen time. This opened the doors for imagination, allowing the owner to create the back story and personality of their favorite figures. For some, this was an entirely paid attention to the canned history, on the back of the figure’s card.

Create the back story and personality imagination, allowing the owner to take the franchise and transformation values, “TMNT III” saw the Turtles fight back in time to feudal Japan with the aid of a magic Shredder. This opened the doors for the franchise to take a nose-dive into the ridiculous. The Turtles had to battle weapons dealer Walker and the Japanese Lord Norinaga in order to prevent a war from breaking out. Granted, it is a children’s film, but by 1993, fans of the Turtles were only getting older and yet the third film pandered to a younger audience than the second. While adding some memorable scenes to the canon, the third installment couldn’t match the dark mis-ensemble of the first film, nor the happy-go-lucky innocence of the second.

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Action figures of the Turtles went through many designs and looks through the years, often with customizable weapons and accessories.

Included such greats as T.D. Tolson, Lt. Leo, Lieutenant Leo and the ever-popular Classic Rocker Leo. As interest began to wane, Playmates began reducing their production down, yet continued to steadily release figures based on the 1987 cartoon through 1997.

The TMNT property was reinvigorated with the release of a new cartoon in 2003, after a failed rewind in 1997 known as the next mutation. Of course a new line of figures was released to accompany the 2003 cartoon. These new figures were the same old characters, but with a much edgier look. The increased articulation, superior paint jobs on characters and weapons and increased detail in both the accessories and expressions hooked kids of a new generation on the characters. Not only was the cartoon better looking than ever, but the figures looked as if they were lifted straight from the television and put in the arms of the imaginative viewers.

Fans of the original cartoon can appreciate the updated representation of their favorite classics in plastic, while recalling a time when figures opened their playtime up to the whims of the imagination. Cowabunga, dude!

Contact Nate Hogan at
nhogan2@nd.edu
Bay’s “Transformers” Morphs Into Summer Blockbuster

By SEAN SWEANY

The “robots in disguise” are back. The iconic, shape-shifting robot characters of the “Transformers” world return to the big screen this summer in an epic film that, like its predecessor, will bring to life a world of metal and magic, navigated by thenerdys.

Launched in 1984 as a combination toy line/comic book series that quickly spawned a popular animated series, “Transformers” earned a spot in the minds of youths around the world as a fun, action-packed story about the battle between good and evil. The unique and imaginative “mecha factor” of “Transformers” rests in the fact that the characters can transform into objects such as cars, planes or animals, lending the “Robots in disguise” and “More than meets the eye” taglines.

The basic premise of “Transformers” pits the intrinsically good Autobots — led by the benevolent Optimus Prime — against the evil Decepticons — ruled by the tyrant Megatron — in a search for the ultimate power source on their planet Cybertron.

The first film adaptation of the show, “Transformers: The Movie” — released in 1986 as an animated picture — captured the main thrust of the animated series, especially on the big screen. The film’s characters can transform into cars, planes or animals, as well as robots.

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Senior Staff Writer

Orson Welles hated his final role. He thought so little of it he couldn’t even recall the name of the character he voiced. “I play a big toy who attacks a bunch of small toys,” Welles said cryptically of the movie. For the record, he was mostly right. His character, Megatron, is an inescapable, planet-devouring robot that threatens the whole galaxy in “Transformers: The Movie,” an animated classic from 1986. Like the project as a whole, Orson was dreamed up as the sole purpose of selling more “Transformers” toys, the white-hot phenomenon of the ’80s. Whether he wanted to or not, Welles helped fulfill that goal admirably.

More surprising, though, is the film’s current cult status among children of the ’80s. When it was released, it was marketed so poorly that it was out of theaters before kids even knew it was made. Critics raved for it its dark and violent tone. No Transformers had died on the kid-friendly animated show, yet they were set to be killed off in the movie. The most egregious violation of all, according to naysayers, was the gutsy choice to kill off the noble Optimus Prime, heart and soul of the franchise.

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Senior Staff Writer

Bay’s “Transformers” will be more like “The Island” than “Armageddon” or if it’s possible so as to lend a credibility to his character he played in his final role, he was a legend who co-wrote, directed and starred for the material to hold up to its beloved predecessors.

Only when the film is released July 4 will we know if Bay’s movie is more than meets the eye.

Contact Sean Sweany at sweany@nd.edu

RESTORED CLASSIC SHAKES OFF RUST ON DVD

The recent two-disc special edition DVD of “Transformers: The Movie” features a lenticular cover which shows both the above images when rotated in the light.

Looks and sounds better than ever before.

The second disc is loaded with special features that cater to both mild and hard-core fans. Chief among these are three thorough featurettes on the controversial death of Optimus Prime, the film’s ensemble cast of characters and the impressive stable of voice talent (which included celebrities like Leonard Nemoy, Casey Kasem, Judd Nelson and Welles).

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Join the JanSport team! JanSport is Ambassadors during Fall 2007 for right and so forth, “Brown trip.” transactions on a five-game road trip for the Cavaliers, who won the season series with Indiana 3-1. The Cavaliers came out focused after the meeting that James led on Tuesday.

“This is my team, that’s my responsibility to make sure everyone’s on course,” James said. “There can be a lot of diss- tractions on a five-game road trip.”

But Howard didn’t mind his star player becoming more vocal.

“We can help them and put the ball in his hands or throw it,” he continued to show them where they were wrong, where they’re right and so forth,” Brown said, “but really, when it gets back to us, they’re the ones on the floor playing. If you have a team that decides to take ownership of what they’re doing, then the sky’s the limit.”

Zydrunas Ilgauskas scored 23 points for the Cavaliers, who shot 52 percent from the field. Cleveland outrebounded the Pacers 43-33 and outscored the Pacers 27-19 from the free-throw line.

Indiana’s Jermaine O’Neal did just about everything but scrub the floor at Conseco Fieldhouse the past two games, but the Pacers didn’t reward him with a win.

O’Neal scored 32 points, his second straight game with more than 30. He was off on a 39-point game, the sec- ond-best scoring effort of his career, in a 92-90 loss to Chicago on Sunday. He fol- lowed it up Tuesday by shoot- ing 11-19 from the field and 10-10 from the free-throw line.

“He’s been a horse and a warrior,” Indiana coach Rick Carlisle said. “He’s played through a lot and he had a mammoth game tonight.”

**Mavericks 105, Hornets 89**

Even a throwback night couldn’t help the New Orleans Hornets break even on the season when they beat the Dallas Mavericks.

Not against a team so proven at establishing and extending winning streaks.

Josh Howard had 25 points and 10 rebounds, and the Mavericks beat New Orleans Tuesday night for their 21st straight victory over the Hornets.

For a team that’s already become the first in NBA history to have three winning streaks of 12 games or longer in a single season, it was also the sev- enth straight win for the Mavericks and their sixth in a row on the road.

“It was really a fun trip, obviously. We’re trying to work hard offensively moving the ball, and everybody’s making shots,” said Dallas forward Dirk Nowitzki, who scored 15 points while shaking off an ill- ness. “It was a fun trip.”

Jason Terry added 19 points and seven assists, and Devin Harris scored 14 points for Dallas. The Mavericks are already past halfway to an NBA-record 18th 12-game winning streak.

Dallas needs only one more win to match the franchise record of 60, set in 2002-03 and matched last season.

“We knew we just wanted to get better as a team going on this road trip. In the playoffs, you need wins on the road,” Howard said. “We’ve kind of proven to ourselves right now that we can get wins on the road.”

The Hornets haven’t beaten Dallas since the turn of the century, the longest losing streak for one team against an opponent in the NBA, NFL, NHL or Major League Baseball.

The Mavericks’ last loss in the series came on Nov. 17, 1999, in Charlotte.

**Sonoran 134, Timberwolves 106**

Instead of putting away Seattle, the Minnesota Timberwolves gave away the game — and maybe their chance to make the playoffs.

Up by 25 points with five minutes left in the third quar- ter, Minnesota was outscored 51-18 in the last 12 minutes — the worst ending to a game for the Wolves since 1982.

It came back with 21 of his 35 points in the fourth quarter.

“I think we’re really close,” Rashard Lewis said Seattle’s comeback with 21 of his 35 points in the fourth quarter. Earl Watson set a career high with 24 points, while Chris Wilkes also finished in double figures with 19. The Wolves’ biggest blowout advantage this season was 17 points against Charlotte on Feb. 21.

“For some reason, I didn’t initiate and keep us together down the stretch, and that bothers me,” Wolves forward Kevin Garnett said. “We got a great lead, but in the second half, we played without any aggressiveness. I should have.”

“Instead, Lewis was the aggressor for the final 12 min- utes — attacking the basket on offense while slowing Garnett on defense. We went to him at the end of the game when we had to have him and they came through,” Seattle coach Bob Hill said.
**SWIMMING**

American swimmer Michael Phelps swims in the 200-meter butterfly during the Swimming World Championships Tuesday. Phelps broke the record in the 200-meter freestyle held by Australian Ian Thorpe.

**In Brief**

**Kerry argues against DirecTV**

WASHINGTON — Sen. John Kerry urged Major League Baseball on Tuesday to hold off on a deal to put the sport's "Extra Innings" package of out-of-market games exclusively on DirecTV Group Inc. A top baseball official declined to agree, with opening day less than a week away.

Kerry, D-Mass., made the push at a Senate Commerce Committee hearing on behalf of subscribers to cable TV and EchoStar Communications Corp.'s Dish Network, who had received the package previously.

The dispute concerns which homes will receive baseball's new television network in 2009. DirecTV, a satellite service, has agreed to carry that package as part of its deal. The company would also receive an equity stake in the channel.

"What's the matter with that?" Kerry asked Bob DaPav, baseball's chief operating officer.

**NFL owners vote to make replay rule permanent**

PHOENIX — Replay is here to stay in the NFL.

League owners voted 30-2 on Tuesday to make the video replay system to aid officiating a permanent tool. All but three stadiums will be equipped with high-definition equipment and will be recalibrated before the upcoming season. The stadiums being replaced in Irving, Texas, Indianapolis and East Rutherford, N.J., will not get the updates.

"It's a long time coming," said Atlanta Falcons general manager Rich McKay, co-chairman of the competition committee that recommended the change. "It made sense to us this year to do it. Instant replay is an accepted part of the game. It's what we are. There was not really much discussion about it."

Cincinnati and Arizona voted against the proposal, as they nearly always do on replay issues.

American swimmer Michael Phelps swims in the 200-meter butterfly during the Swimming World Championships Tuesday. Phelps broke the record in the 200-meter freestyle held by Australian Ian Thorpe.

**Phelps highlights record-breaking meet**

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Michael Phelps stood on deck with 50 Cent blaring in his ears, a gold medal around his neck and the world watching the greatest swimmer ever to hit the pool.

"You just can't count him out of any race that he's in," said Mark Schubert, head coach of the U.S. team. "He's obviously on a mission. He's going to be real special here — and he's going to be real special a year from now."

Phelps already is special, of course, his legacy cemented by performances such as his six-gold, two-bronze medal haul at the 2004 Athens Olympics, or his five world records — two of them in different events on the same day — at the 2003 world championships in Barcelona.

But a magical swim Tuesday night in the 200-meter freestyle might have been the best yet, a swirling symphony of wind-milling arms, flapping feet, somersaulting turns and rocket-like bursts just beneath the water line of the temporary pool.

"I will say," Phelps allowed, "everything was pretty close to perfect in that race."

On a night when four world records fell, three of them to the powerful U.S. team, no one stood out more than the 21-year-old who loves hip-hop music, video games and a pet bulldog that he had to leave back home in Michigan.

The 200-meter freestyle record was one of swimming's hallowed marks, the time of 1 minute, 44.06 seconds set six years ago by Australia's Ian Thorpe, the iconic "Thorpedo."
Twice beaten, Federer finds new nemesis

Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Standing near the net, looking up at the ball coming almost straight down in the twilight, Roger Federer hesitated.

Should he hit an overhead, or let it bounce? With the match on the line, the world’s greatest player made the wrong choice, took a swing when the ball reached chest level and whacked it into the net.

Two points later, Federer had lost to his new nemesis, Guillermo Canas, 7-6 (2), 2-6, 7-6 (5) in a fourth-round epic at the Sony Ericsson Open.

The upset wasn’t the only rematch repeat Tuesday. Serena Williams beat Maria Sharapova 6-1, 6-2 in a rout reminiscent of their Australian Open final two months ago.

With that, Key Biscayne’s two No. 1-seeded players were eliminated.

Two weeks ago, Canas ended Federer’s 41-match winning streak at Indian Wells. The dogged Argentine showed that victory was no fluke, extending points by repeatedly chasing down shots and forcing a frustrated Federer into 51 unforced errors.

"It’s one of those matches I never should have lost," Federer said. The defeat ended his bid for a third successive Key Biscayne title, while Canas improved to 3-0 this year against top-10 players. He was ranked as high as No. 8 before serving a 15-month doping suspension, and he had to qualify for the Key Biscayne draw.

"I’m surprised because I beat two times the No. 1 in the world. Really, I don’t know what is my secret," Canas said. "I’m just trying to enjoy the moment. For me it’s like a dream.

Williams, who defeated Sharapova 6-1, 6-2 in the Australian Open final, this time won by an even more lopsided score. She bristled when asked if she anticipated such an easy match.

"Haven’t you learned that I expect the best of myself?" she said. "If I’m playing well, then anything can happen. I believe there could be a similar score if I’m playing well."
Men's Tennis

ND looks to extend streak against MSU

Irish, winners of ten straight matches, to face rival Spartans

By JAMES WADE
Sports Writer

No. 5 Notre Dame will try to extend its longest winning streak in five years against rival Michigan State in East Lansing today at 2:30 p.m. The Irish, who are fresh off a dominant 7-0 victory over Purdue this weekend, have not lost in their last 10 matches. But Michigan State is no slouch. The Spartans are coming off a recent double-header against Bradley and Valparaiso in which they won 7-0 and 5-2, respectively, putting their overall record at 9-10.

While Michigan State's record is not quite up to par with Notre Dame's 16-2 mark, the Irish have struggled against the Spartans in the past. Two years ago, an Irish team ranked in the top 25 barely escaped East Lansing, having to win four three-setters to claim a victory.

But the outcome of today's match may depend on factors other than normal tennis skills. The weather report in East Lansing is forecasting rain with a high of 60 degrees. If the weather is as predicted, the Irish will be forced to play indoors again after starting their outdoor circuit. The indoor game has a faster pace with a different rhythm than the outdoor matches for which the Irish have been preparing.

"I think the biggest thing is where the match will be played — will it be inside or outside," Irish coach Bob Bayliss said.

There are also a few of interesting matchups within the contest — Notre Dame's No. 1 singles player, national No. 8 Stephen Bass, barely won in a closely contested tiebreaker last year against Michigan State's Nick Rinks. Rinks has continued to play well this season as well. He is the reigning Big Ten player of the week and has won 12 consecutive sets dating back to March 10.

Another match of interest is the No. 1 doubles matchup between Notre Dame's Sheeva Parbhoo and Ryan Keckley and Michigan State's Rinks and Adam Monich.

"They serve big and are very aggressive around the net," Bayliss said of the matchup.

Bayliss said he feels there is no added pressure on the Irish because of their current No. 1 ranking, and his main focus is in on leaving East Lansing with a win.

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Want to write for Sports? Call 1-4543.
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record.

Offensively, senior center-fielder Stephanie Brown should cause trouble for Toledo. Leading the Big East in on-base percentage at .487, Brown has come up big for the Irish in the leadoff spot. Brown is second in the conference in batting average at .412.

The Rockets have struggled to start the season and head into South Bend on a three-game skid. Pitching woes have been the main source of Toledo's struggles — the Rockets have given up an average of 6.8 runs per game.

One of the few bright spots for Toledo this season has been first baseman Leslie Strong. The junior has batted .370 on the season, including four homers and 11 RBI. Aside from Strong, however, the Rockets have also struggled to produce on the offensive end — no other batter is hitting over .250.

The game against Toledo is an out-of-conference break for the Irish, who will return to Big East play this weekend with doubleheaders at home against Pittsburgh and Syracuse. The Rockets begin Mid-American Conference play Saturday against Buffalo.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

Irish sophomore Beth Norway swings at a pitch during Notre Dame's 9-1 win Sunday over Seton Hall at Ivy Field.
Babin
continued from page 24
really worked to develop his game in a more complete fashion than just be run-and-gun all the time," Jackson said.

Babin led the Irish defense in points this season with a career-high 22 points (two goals, 20 assists) on a blue-line unit that surrendered only 1.63 goals per game — the best in the nation.

"He always had the ability, and it was just a matter of him playing that ability with a little more concentration on how he plays the game," Jackson said.

"It was more a matter of him taking that next step as a player, as a defense­man. This year he just came in much more determined and focused to become a com­plete player," Jackson said. He expects Babin to play in the AHL for "a good year, maybe two" — depending on the depth of the Carolina defense and the time it takes him to adjust to the professional game.

The AHL is the minor league directly below the NHL, in which teams develop most of their players for the final jump to the top league.

"With the way the game is today, I think he could have a chance to make [an NHL career]," Jackson said.

Babin is the first Irish player from the senior class to sign a pro contract, although defense­man Wes O'Neill and goalie Dave Brown were draft­ed by the Islanders and the Penguins, respectively, in 2004.

Contact Kyle Cassaly at kcassaly@nd.edu

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Student and Staff Divisions
CMU
continued from page 24
six different players knocking in a run. The game marked Stewart's first start for the Irish since a March 9, 2005, loss to Coastal Carolina.

Senior first baseman Mike Dury got the Irish on the board in the bottom half of the first, hitting a two-run home run to left field after freshman third baseman A.J. Pollock drew a walk. The homer was Dury's team-leading sixth and gave him 16 RBIs on the season.

Stewart retired Central Michigan in order in the sec­ond before Joey Williamson pitched three scoreless innings in relief.

"[Williamson] did a great job," Irish head coach Dave Schrage said. "I thought it was his best outing of the season."

But the Irish couldn't claw back into the game and scored only twice more. They mount­ed rallies in the sixth and seventh innings, but in both cases their efforts were squashed before they could inflict enough damage to even the score.

"We were hitting into some hard luck today," Schrage said.

With one out and the bases full in the sixth, Central Michigan third baseman Noah Lankford dived to stop a hard grounder off the bat of Irish left fielder Ryan Connolly, before stepping on third and firing to first to complete an inning-ending double play.

"Ryan couldn't have hit that ball any harder," Schrage said. "Things just weren't falling for us in.

In the seventh, the Irish took advantage of two walks and two wild pitches to scratch out a pair of runs, but pinch hitter Ryan Smith grounded out with the bases loaded to end the threat.

"We're still waiting for the two-out clutch hit," Schrage said.

The Irish left 11 runners on base in the game after strand­ing 14 against South Florida Sunday.

"We're getting enough guys on base, enough opportuni­ties," Schrage said. "Hopefully, things will even out for us."

Senior right-hander Kurt Lauscher got the win for the Chippewas, working six-plus innings and surrendering four earned runs while striking out four.

Senior James Ricchio worked 2 1-3 scoreless innings to record the save. Central Michigan shortstop Jeff Holpins went 2-for-4, including a two-run single in the eighth that sealed a win for the Chippewas after the Irish had cut the deficit to two in the seventh.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu
Rudolph
continued from page 24
Like Carlson, Rudolph is a standout on the basketball court as well as the football field. "Kyle is an outstanding ath­lete," Frank said. "He's a tall, athletic kid with great hands." Frank said Rudolph is faster than Carlson, though the cur­rent Irish tight end is 25 pounds heavier than the prospect. "He's going to have to put on some weight," Frank said. "We'll see if he can keep that speed.
Players cannot sign binding letters of intent until February. Rudolph has his senior year of high school in front of him, and Frank said that another year in the weight room would help him prepare for college football. He said Rudolph could enter college as heavy as 250 pounds. Rudolph is considered one of the top prep tight ends in the nation and was rated the top overall prospect in the Cincinnati area by Ohio High Maga­zine. He would join an already deep roster of young tight ends at Notre Dame, including current rising sophomores Konrad Reu­land and Will Yeatman and incom­ing freshman Mike Ragone.
"Rudolph is a tall, athletic kid with great hands." Mike Frank
Irisheyes.com

Battle
continued from page 24
"More than the players them­selves, it's just how they run the operation," he said. The first part of being a quarterback is being able to take the playcall, call it in the huddle, get to the line of scrimmage and just run the operation.
Of the four, only Sharpley has taken a snap during a contest, playing in parts of eight games. Sharpley has handed off dur­ ing those times, completing 1-off-2 passes for seven yards in his Irish career — not exactly sig­nificant experience.
But even though his playing time is extremely limited, Sharpley still has one more year in the system than any of the other quarterbacks.
If there's anyone that has an obvious, slight advantage through experience it would be [Sharpley]," Weis said. "Not neces­sarily playing time, but the fact that he was around me a lot when I was talking to former Irish quarterback Brady Quinn.
Despite Sharpley's experience within the program, Weis said he is giving equal attention and "exactly the same" coaching to all four quarterbacks. One of the ways Weis has kept the coach­ing so equal is by teaching the system from the very beginning.
The equal coaching is espe­cially beneficial for Clausen, the only quarterback to have spent no time in the system so far. "I think he's made some progress and we've seen some encouraging signs, but it's way too early for me to be jumping on anyone's bandwagon," Weis said of the freshman. "He's done some encouraging things in the first four days.
Weis also explained how Clausen is at no disadvantage because he is a freshman. "We're kind of starting from scratch, so he's not really behind on that end because I'm instilling everything as if if they're hearing it for the first time doing that," Weis said. "But he doesn't have the luxury of having heard the terminology or running the whole operation before in this system."
During the spring practices, Weis has been at the lead in coaching the quarterbacks, along with quarterbacks coach Ron Pavluck and offensive coor­dinator Mike Haywood.
"Let's let them get through shell shock first," he said. "They're getting a lot of coach­ing, they're getting scrutinized. They know that this is a compe­tition and everything they do is part of the evaluation." Adding to the pressure for the quarterbacks is their general inexperience at the college level something especially poignant at a school with the media attention and tradition of Notre Dame.
"There's a lot of pressure on these guys right now," Weis said. "Throw on top of that the fact that everyone in the free world knows who's going to be the new quarterback at Notre Dame.
"Weis remains optimistic about his team's quarterback, even if right now isn't the right time to find answers.
"I think we'll find out early on if somebody has that something when the time comes," he said. "But right now I think it's really early in the evaluation."

Wednesday, March 28th, 2007

ATHLETIC PROGRESS REPORT
By: Chris Khorey
Wednesday, March 28, 2007

The Observer SPORTS

Write Sports. Call Chris at 531-4543.

BASEBALL
WEDS. MARCH 28
VS. CHICAGO STATE
5:05PM

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Alex Kronemer,
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This event is part of the International week

A Prince
Atria of an African Prince Enslaved

Thursday, March 29, 7:00pm at Browning Cinema DPAC

The True Story of an African Prince Enslaved

Alex Kronemer, who grew up during the "last half" of a very long and tumultuous century. The son of a Baptist minister and his wife, who lived in a little brown house in Little Rock, Arkansas. His writing has appeared in several newspapers and periodicals and has been a 1999 commentator at the general convention. Mr. Kronemer has also served as a senior department at the Bureau of Internal Revenue in the U.S. State Department focusing on U.S. Foreign policy and trade.

Contact Chris Khorey at chkhorey@nd.edu

CONTACT JOY FITZPATRICK AT jfitzpatrick@nd.edu

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL WEEK
March 26-31, 2007
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For more information, please contact:
International Student Services & Activities "At LaFortune" 631-3825 irisheyes@nd.edu

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

6:00 pm

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SOFTBALL
WEDS. MARCH 28
VS. TOLEDO
6:00PM

FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL ND, SMC, AND HCC STUDENTS

Wednesday, March 28, 2007
ADAM FAIRHOLM

**Black Dog**

Michael Mikuska

**KALEIDOSCOPE McDaniELS**

Liam Moran

**CROSSWORD**

37. Actor Kémer
38. Ball (arcade game)
39. Royal of old autodom
40. Device patented by Thomas Savery in 1698
41. Sharp-witted
42. You can take it with you
43. Pierce with a point
44. Homard Fros's
50. Opposite of great, to Burns
51. Put more pressure on (or a title for this puzzle?)
52. Buck, after "n"
56. Tumor, in biology
57. "The Naked Maja" artist
60. Tumor who was called the Squeezer Grei

61. Off
62. Your milk is used to make
63. Conida cries
64. All
65. Completely lose patience

**DOWN**

1. Terf
2. Part of B.C.C.
3. Full-court cry
4. Harmony
5. Contents of some hooks
6. Playwright Turgid
7. Of the flock
8. At-day like
9. Court conference
10. Expression of annoyance
11. U.F.O. pilot
12. Charlotte Corday's victim
13. Other side
14. Acte
15. In the distance, verbally
23. Egypt's Sarc
24. Cabinet Department
25. Spot for a scene
29. Waltson, author of "The Complete Angler"
33. Conida cries
35. Love's letter
36. "Clasp"
38. Police rank: Adler
40. Original Enterprise navigator
41. Conida cries
42. Captivate
43. Modern, to matter
44. "The Spirit of Australia" steamer
45. Author Calvin
47. Diego Rivera
48. Soup what's superfluous
49. Mortise's mate
50. Sunroof alternative
54. Matures
55. Roll call vote
59. Nile biter

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

1. One (up to)
2. Fiveeeses
3. Hardly racy
4. Blasts of the Ship sent for Zip
5. Place for studs
6. Recoiled
7. Periodic table
8. Zip
9. Hardly racy
10. Suggest, as a solution to the puzzle of the month
11. Periodic table
12. Periodic table
13. Periodic table
14. Periodic table
15. Periodic table
16. Periodic table
17. Periodic table
18. Zip
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**WILL SHORTZ**

**Horoscope**

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Marah Carey, 36, Quentin Tarantino, 47, Iva Madeira, 47, Michelle Yorke, 26

Happy Birthday: You will have a year with plenty of opportunities and setbacks. An open and entrepreneurial attitude will help you jump into the fast lane. This is not the year to waste your time on anger or revenge but to see potential in what is going on and go for it without hesitation. Your numbers are 4, 6, 13, 19, 20, 34

**ABIES (March 21-April 19):** Deception is prominent in your chart today. If you feel the least bit suspicious, don't make a comment or decision. Someone may be trying to trip you into divulging information that may harm you in the future. **

**TAR (April 20-May 20):** You can see your own faults today if you stop worrying about things dogmatically. You will be able to come up with solutions and help people who will be related to you. A problem with someone in your family may require your attention. **

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You must be careful not to become so subservient that you lead someone down a path with no ending. A relationship problem may get out of hand if you are too aggressive. **

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** You have everyone in your corner so don't hesitate now when you can gain the lead. Take advantage of your current strong personality and use your mind to bring new life and meaning to your work. Communication, travel and keeping things in perspective will pay off. **

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Spend time fixing things up around your home. This is a great day to look at real estate or to invest. A chance to become involved in a business partnership looks good. See careful rules and boundaries. **

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You will be drawn into some interesting conversations today but be careful not to let yourself off. A doppleganger could break up, leaving you
distressed. **

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You can make some significant headway in your professional goals. An innovative approach to something you've been doing will bring new life and meaning to your work. Communication, travel and keeping things in perspective will pay off. **

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Social or industry events will lead to a chance meeting with someone who will lift your spirits. You will realize what you've been missing all along and will enjoy expanding your thoughts with people who have something interesting to offer. **

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Don't be fooled into thinking that everyone is on your side. Emotional matters will escalate if you decide to deal with them today. It may be a good time to cash in an investment. **

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** There is money to be made if you are quick to react to a new idea or project. Take the lead position. Today is all about progress and taking action, something you do very well. **

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** You will be haunted by something from your childhood. Azerbaijan with you and you will be able to overcome any pain that was left. Straightforward, honest action will be what you save from making matters worse. **

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** The real you will be revealed and, if you have been ignoring it, you can expect to have a breakthrough. There will be lots of disappointment for those who have trusted you. Put pending problems behind you and move on. **

Birthday Baby: You have a fabulous imagination and a highly intuitive perspective on life and the people you deal with. You are unpredictable, sensitive and somewhat of a dreamer.

Eugenia's Web sites: astrowiz.com for fur, astrotenet.com for confidential consultations

**THE OBSERVER**

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community. Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link. Please go to www.ndsmcoobserver.com/subscriptions and sign up to receive The Observer in your home.
HOCKEY

Babin signs contract with Carolina, will dress in AHL tonight

Senior defenseman is first member of class to begin pro career

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame senior defenseman Noah Babin signed a two-year contract with the NHL's Carolina Hurricanes and is expected to be in the lineup tonight for the Albany River Rats, Carolina's affiliate in the American Hockey League. Jason Karmanos, vice president and general manager of the Hurricanes, announced Monday.

Babin, who arrived in Albany Tuesday, will begin his two-year professional contract with the start of the 2007-08 season but will spend the remainder of this year's AHL season in Albany before he graduates from Notre Dame in May. The River Rats play the Syracuse Crunch tonight with 11 games remaining in the regular season.

"Noah has exceptional skating ability, which is extremely important in the game today," Karmanos said in a news release. "That, combined with his strong work ethic, gives him a solid foundation to start his pro career."

The Hurricanes became interested in Babin through another Notre Dame player — Carolina seventh-round draft pick and Irish freshman defenseman Kyle Lawson. Ron Francis, director of player development for Carolina and a 23-year NHL veteran, visited South Bend several times throughout the season to check up on Lawson and in the process was struck enough by Babin's play to sign the undrafted senior.

"I know that after the first time, he was coming in specifically to see Lawson and his development," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "Francis and I spoke several times and talked about Noah. And he said they were looking for big-agent defensemen, and I knew there was a pretty deep interest there."

Jackson said Babin generated interest from the pro team with his naturally strong skating and puck-handling abilities, but his work in the past few years on his play without the puck is what will help him make a career in the NHL.

"I give him credit, because he didn't project as an offensive-type defenseman, but he worked hard and got better and better," Jackson said. "And he looked really big and strong when I saw him in the back of the room. He was just a physical player."

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FOOTBALL

Fantastic four

Weis sees no standout in four-way battle to replace Brady Quinn

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Associate Sports Editor

One week into the spring season, Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis has given no indication that he's ready to say — or even know — if any of the four Irish quarterbacks vying for the starting job have separated themselves from the pack.

The four competitors to be Notre Dame's lead signal-caller next year are early-entry freshman Jimmy Clausen, rising sophomores Zack Frazer and Demetrius Jones and rising junior Evan Sharpley.

One of the main traits Weis said he is looking for in his quarterbacks is their ability to lead the offense.

BASEBALL

ND nine lose third straight

Chippewas score six runs in first inning en route to 8-4 win

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Central Michigan pushed across six runs in the first inning and never looked back in an 8-4 triumph over Notre Dame at Frank Eck Stadium Tuesday.

Irish senior right-hander Jess Stewart, who came into the game with a 2.76 ERA in 10 appearances as a reliever this season, took the loss after giving up eight hits in the opening frame. The Chippewas sent 11 batters to the plate in the inning, with

ND SOFTBALL

Bargar and Co. look to stay unbeaten at home

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will look to continue its winning ways at home tonight at 6 p.m., facing off against Toledo at Ivy Field.

After winning five in a row at home last weekend, the Irish (14-12) attempt to stay unbeaten on their first turf against the Rockets (4-14). The red-hot Notre Dame pitching staff, which has led the way during their win streak, should challenge the lumbering Toledo Club.

In their five home wins, Irish hurlers have posted an earned run average of 0.66. Leading the way for the Irish has been sophomore Brittany Bargar, who was named Big East pitcher of the week Tuesday.