At 35, women's sports still growing

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

Chronology of Women's Sports at Notre Dame
1972: Men's soccer becomes first men's varsity team.
1976: Field hockey becomes a varsity sport.
1977: Women's basketball becomes a varsity sport.
1978: Men's hockey becomes a varsity sport.
1980: Softball becomes a varsity sport.
1981: Women's swimming becomes a varsity sport.
1982: Men's cross-country becomes a varsity sport.
1988: Soccer becomes a varsity sport.
1989: Basketball becomes a varsity sport.
1991: Women's varsity softball becomes a varsity sport.
1994: Men's lacrosse becomes a varsity sport.
1995: Rowing becomes a varsity sport.

By MARCELA BERRIOS
News Writer

Editors' note: This is the third story in a three-part series examining the use and abuse of alcohol at Notre Dame, the University's attempts to solve alcohol-related problems and the future of the campus' drinking culture.

Though alcohol use and abuse are present on almost any college campus—or any place that houses hundreds of young people at the same time—University officials said they can, and will, continue to work to reduce the possibility of losing students' lives to high-risk drinking.

Disoriented freshmen are a testament to the University's traditional freshman orientation—pitches the first-year students to the upperclassmen to let them pour the rookie college students drinks all night or until they become intoxicated—and consequently, initiated to the college life.

This practice, however, is not necessarily a service seniors are offering freshmen, but rather a pre-text to host a bacchanalia, said Father Jim Lewis, ODAE assessment counselor and rector of Carroll Hall.

"Disorientation never was about 'welcoming' first-year students," Lewis said. "Do moderate or low-risk drinkers host disorientation? At the least, it is an event perpetuated by those who have significant social dependence on alcohol."

Senior Bill Andrichik, the former student body vice president and chair of the Campus Life Council's Conduct Awareness task force, also noted the trend and railed against it.

"Things such as Dis-O create a dangerous situation for incoming students, many of whom are not accustomed to alcohol and don't see ALCOHOL/page 4
INSIDE COLUMN

Bridges and wedlock

At Saint Mary’s, Lake Marion is a well-known aspect of the campus. It’s a very pretty part of the campus, it sits in between LeMans Hall and Maudalina and directly in front of Hagar Hall. There’s a fountain that spouts out of it, and in the winter, there is usually a giant ice block on the fountain from all the water freezing overnight.

Compared to Notre Dame’s two enormous lakes, it appears pretty small and really fake. Well, it is fake. You can see the concrete on the bottom and all along the “shores.” It’s also disgustingly gross, though there is fish in it.

I’m just not sure how they survive living in it.

Something passers-by will notice about Lake Marion is the island in the middle. This island is so big that it takes up most of the lake. There are a few trees, some wooden benches, a small fountain and a statue of the Virgin Mary.

To get onto this island, you have to cross a bridge. Under the bridge lives a person in the form of a goose, the most famous of these has its disappear-ance printed in The Observer. This is all pretty inconsequential stuff. I’m sure, but the important part of that bridge is the superstition that surrounds it.

One of the more noticeable things about the legend is that on the day of the wedding of the first couple to walk over the bridge with a guy is a girl, she will never marry him, or at least the first him.

According to the legend, girls are not supposed to walk over the bridge with a guy. Under the bridge before her. I don’t really think many people are afraid of death.

Girls aren’t afraid of marriage; we want to marry. There’s a pretty good reason too.

There’s a fountain on it.

Junior John Donovan, left, and sophomore John O’Connell participate in Fisher games on South Quad Thursday as a prelude to the Regatta on Saturday.

OFFBEAT

Grandma finds condom in McDonald’s Happy Meal

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — A grandmother was alarmed to find a condom in a happy meal gift pack bought for her 7-year-old granddaughter at a McDonald’s restaurant in New Zealand, local media reported Thursday.

The condom was discovered Tuesday night in a bag that came with Maia Whittaker’s meal, which her grandparents bought at a McDonald’s outlet in the city of Wellington.

Grandma Rowan Huch told The Dominion Post newspaper it was her granddaughter’s first time looking down the small sports bag that came with the meal. She was aghast when she found the green condom and its packet inside the bag, he said.

Woman: Suspect is wearing my T-shirt

GREENSBORO, N.C. — It took one glance for Sandra Rowells to recognize the man she said broke into her home, offered her $500 to hide him and lied wearing some of her clothing.

Police said Karriem Rowells crashed a car near Rowells’ home Tuesday after leading police on a high-speed chase along Interstate 85 that reached speeds of 130 mph. Rowells said she woke up from a nap when Karriem forced open her locked kitchen screen door.

“I’m like, you can have this house, buddy. I’m out of here,” Rowells said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

University President Father John Jenkins will preside over the opening Mass for the conference on the “God is Love” Encyclical today at 4 p.m. in the Alumni Hall Chapel.

The reception for the conference on the “God is Love” Encyclical will begin today at 5:15 p.m. in the Grand Hall of the Hesburgh Hall for International Studies.

The keynote speaker for the conference on the “God is Love” Encyclical, Mary Brosnanah, director of the Coalition for the Homeless in New York City, will deliver her speech in the Grand Hall of the Hesburgh Center for International Studies tonight at 6:30. A panel discussion will follow.

Notre Dame men’s soccer will play the Mexican U-20 National team tonight at 7 at Alumni Field. Ticket are $5 for adults and $2 for kids 18 and under.

The Notre Dame Jazz Band will perform tonight at 7:30 in Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. For tickets, call 631-3980.

End the 40th Annual Antestal week with a big hilarious laugh! Renowned comedian Greg Grudko will perform at Legends Saturday at 8 p.m.

Visitation for Corporal Nick Polizziotto, a South Bend Police officer killed in the line of duty, will take place from 3:30 p.m. to 9:30 Sunday in the Joyce Center.

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

The weather forecast for the week of April 26-30:

- Highs ranging from 58 to 77 degrees.
- Lows ranging from 45 to 60 degrees.

The Observer • PAGE 2
The 40th annual celebration of AnTostal — a Student Union Board (SUB) event that means "festival" in Gaelic — will wrap up a week of quarter-dog eating, comedians and a famed band with an after­noon salsa party and a battle of the bands tonight.

SUB officials said they hope they made this week as laid­back and fun as possible, giving students a breather before the tension of finals begins next week.

"We are really trying to get people outside and to get pumped for Battle of the Bands," junior Meghan Kelly, SUB cultural arts programmer, said, referring to the square off Friday among student bands.

In addition to Battle of the Bands, SUB also organized T­shirt and doughnut giveaways outside O'Shaughnessy Hall Monday and a quarter dog­eating contest planned for the morning.

The SUB also brought comedy to students. By comedian Greg Geraldo at Night Karaoke at Beckers Mall between 11:30 and 1:30 p.m. today.

"There will be lots of good music, a lot like a Latin Expressions," Kelly said.

In addition to good music, students will also enjoy free Mexican cuisine from South Bend's La Esperanza restaurant. SUB plans to attract students with La Esperanza's flat­breads and quesadillas, Kelly said.

"People come in droves for free food," said Kelly, anticipating a good turnout this afternoon.

Kelly said she hopes people come and dance, but they are also welcome to just stop by and grab some free food and socialize on their way to classes.

"I think it sounds like fun," freshman Mary Kasek said. "I want to stop by before I head to classes for the day."

SUB had no set goals or specific aims for this week. But in light of AnTostal's 40th anniversary, Kelly said, some students knew they wanted the celebration to be "bigger and better than ever."

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

By JOHN-PAUL WITT

Caribbean festival to feature food, music

Students seeking a taste of the exotic should look no further than the Jordan Hall of Science Saturday from 8:30 p.m. to midnight, when the Caribbean Students Organization (CSOUND) hosts its Caribbean Festival.

The free event will showcase live entertainment as well as examples of Caribbean cuisine prepared by a local chef. CSOUND began the festival last year in an effort to create a "place where students of Caribbean background feel comfortable and can teach others about what the Caribbean has to offer."

CSOUND president Hava Bourne said, "Our goal is to teach people that the Caribbean has more to offer. It's a lifestyle and a heritage that goes unnoticed."

Students will also have an opportunity to sample cuisine that features "staples of the Caribbean" — jerk chicken, beef patties and pies, sweet yams and plantains.

Music will be provided by a DJ and Boots Rock Society, a Chicago band that plays Caribbean and Soca-style music. Soca, or soul calypso, is dance music that originated in the island of Trinidad.

At Notre Dame, this event is "one of the few expressions of Caribbean culture on campus that you'll see at all," CSOUND vice president John Henry said.

Contact John-Paul Witt at jwittl@nd.edu

Please recyle

please recyle

The Observer.
Alcohol continued from page 1

"The best relationship between the United States and Iran is culturally and fortunately there is a future for that.

Shirin Ebadi
Nobel prize winner

submums of women in "progressive" countries is to make a point in their own homelands. But even in progressive countries, alcohol is a serious social and face discrimination.

"I am not fighting masculinity, but what I mean is that the problem is women's and men's rights," she said. "But we have to fight both, if we want to raise awareness among students.

There is no discrimination with the law, and men and women are still unequal.

The problems with Islamic countries, she said, are common double standards between the two genders, which vary from country to country in the Middle East.

"In Saudi Arabia, women don't even have an ID card or birth certificate. In Kuwait, women are second-class citizens. In other countries, there is still polygamy and even when a woman has her own name, 'she is still living in her husband's hand,' she said. "The rules are different for women that created this situation? In other words, can religion accept slavery? She pointed to Western Europe, she said. Pointed to Pakistan and the Kingdom of Bahrain where women have served as president or prime minister, she said, as evidence that the problem is not Islamic at its core. She blamed patriarchal societies for many of the problems of drinking.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Algerian al-Qaida No 2 killed in January.

The Associated Press said, citing security officials.

The group was built on the foundations of an Algerian insurgency to topple Algeria’s secular government, a rebellion that ended in 1992 after the army canceled elections that a Muslim fundamentalist party was set to win.

Up to 200,000 people — militants, security forces and civilians — have been killed.

Militants push limits, Israel says

The Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip fired two rockets toward Israel on Thursday that calm had returned to Gaza and tensions threatened a five-month cease-fire.

The army canceled elections that a Muslim militant group was planning.

Putin: U.S. destabilizes European region

Russian president threatens to withdraw from Conventional Forces Treaty

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military commander in Iraq says the war effort may well get harder before it gets easier and American casualties are likely to continue to climb.

Speaking as the Senate was passing legislation to start bringing home U.S. forces in Iraq, the General Franks said the war will require “an enormous commitment” by the United States.

And he said that while some sectarian killings have dropped by two-thirds in recent months, the overall level of violence in Iraq has remained largely the same.

Candidate’s son arrested in airport

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — David Huckabee, a son of Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee, was arrested at an Arkansas airport Thursday after a federal X-ray technician detected a loaded Glock pistol in his carry-on luggage.

“Mr. Huckabee, if you have a bag, put it over your shoulder and come through the security line,” the technician said.

“Can you search me?” Huckabee replied.

Huckabee, 26, later pleaded guilty in a federal court to trying to transport a firearm.

Local News

Teacher transferred off column

WOODBURN — A high school teacher who was transferred from the town’s student newspaper columnist advocating tolerance for gays reached a settlement with school officials Thursday that allows him to continue teaching, although at another school.

Under the settlement with East Allen County Schools, Amy Serrell, 36, agreed to be transferred from Woodburn Junior-Senior High School in Woodburn to Heritage Junior-Senior High School in Muncie, said her attorney, Patrick Proctor.

Pullout bill expected to be vetoed

WASHINGTON — Call it mission accomplished for the new Democratic-controlled Congress almost two years in power.

In a bold wartime challenge to President Bush, Congress cleared legislation Thursday to begin withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq by Oct. 1, after a goal of complete pullout six months later.

The White House dismissed the legislation as “dead before arrival.”

The 51-46 Senate vote was largely along party lines, and like House passage a day earlier it underscored that the war’s congressional opponents are far short of the two-thirds majority needed to override a Bush veto.

Democrats marked Thursday’s passage with a news conference during which they repeatedly urged Bush to reconsider his veto threat.

“This bill for the first time gives the president of the United States an exit strategy,” said Rep. David Obey of Wisconsin.

The legislation is “in keeping with what the American people want,” added Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada.

The White House was unmoved.

“The president’s decision to win in Iraq I think the bill that they sent us today is mission defeated,” said deputy press secretary Dana Perino.

This bill is dead before arrival.”

Given that standoff, Republicans and Democrats alike already were maneuvering for position on a follow-up bill.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell dismissed the just-passed legislation as “political posturing” by Democrats that deserves the veto it will receive. “The solution is simple. Take out the surrender date, take out the pork and get the funds to our troops,” he said.

The bill would provide $124.2 billion, more than $50 billion of which would go for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Democratic added billions more for domestic programs, and while most of the debate focused on the troop withdrawal issue, some of the extra spending money also has drawn Bush’s criticism.
Encyclical
continued from page 1
met occasionally for planning and discussion purposes since the beginning of the spring term.
"We have been meeting periodi-
cally and on a variety of dif-
ferent content," Kidder said of the committee. "Sometimes we would discuss and study parts of the encyclical. Some meet-
ings we would specifically focus on the content of the conference, though, and planning.
Students have been presenting parts of their papers during committee meetings for the last few months, Kidder said, with the goal of getting feedback and stimulating discussion on how different topics in the encyclical could be addressed in the conference and their relevance to students.
Kidder said the students had almost full control over the content but were supported by Jenkins' office.
"Father John has obviously been very involved in sponsoring it and encouraging and having increased awareness across campus," she said.
Sam Cahill, a graduate stu-
dent of English, agreed.
"Father Jenkins has been very supportive of our whole endeavor, and that's been won-
derful," Cahill said, also noting Kidder's and MacCormack's work. "We just have a really strong group of people who believe in the relevance of Church teaching to academ-
ics.
Kidder said Jenkins has sup-
ported the conference and the students studying it not because it was the first such work from Benedict XVI, but rather because of its content.
"Father Jenkins was very much impacted by this encyclical," she said. "He has expressed to me that it's an intellectually interesting text because of its diverse nature because it can impact people from various states, various walks of life. So I think he saw this encyclical particularly to have such an effect on all constituencies across campus because of its diverse reach.
Kidder said Jenkins believes the document can have a "sig-
nificant impact" on anyone who reads it.
"Jenkins will attend all of today's events, which will begin when he presides over the opening Mass in the Alumni Hall chapel. Kidder said Jenkins may miss some of Saturday's events due to a scheduling conflict.
"I think it's important to remember that we're all pilgrims on Earth," she said. "We have to look at what we go through in life — our suffering, our happiness, everything — in an eternal perspective. And that really comes out in Deus Caritas Est."
Mary Brosnahan, the director of the Coalition for the Homeless in New York City, will deliver the first of two keynote addresses tonight at 6:30 in the auditorium of the Hesburgh Library. She is an alumna of Notre Dame and has been director of the Coalition for the Homeless since 1990. She won the Alumni Association's Dr. Thomas A. Dooley Award in 2002.
Father Philip Anderson, prior of Our Lady of the Annunciation of Clear Creek Monastery in northeastern Oklahoma, will deliver the sec-
ond keynote address at 9:45 a.m. Saturday.
We consciously chose them to reflect both aspects of the encyclical — the philosophical thinking in part one and the practical application of Catholic teaching in the second part," Cahill said, referring to Anderson in the former and Brosnahan in the latter. "We consciously wanted the two to complement each other," Cahill said. "Of course, they're not polarized. There's supposed to be this intimate connection between theory and practice."
Cahill's paper examines the use of "the pilgrimage" metaphor in Benedict XVI's "Deus Caritas Est" and the work of Jane Barker, a 17th century writer and Catholic convert.
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**In Brief**

ConocoPhillips last corporation to not surrender private project in oil-rich country

Oil giants cede control to Caracas

ConocoPhillips last corporation to not surrender private project in oil-rich country

Associated Press

CARACAS — Four major oil companies on Wednesday agreed to cede control of Venezuela's last remaining privately run oil projects to President Hugo Chavez's government, but ConocoPhillips resisted, prompting warnings that its fields could be taken over outright.

Markets have waited to see how the companies, which pump and process heavy oil in the Orinoco river basin, would remain as minority partners after Chavez decreed last month that their fields be nationalized, on May 1. The four projects are considered Venezuela's most lucrative.

Officials from Chevron, BP PLC, France's Total SA and Norway's Statoil ASA signed memorandums of understanding Wednesday agreeing to give state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela SA a majority stake in three of the projects. Exxon Mobil Corp. signed earlier in private, officials said.

"ConocoPhillips has not signed," Venezuela's Energy Minister Rafael Ramirez said at the ceremony.

Associated Press

**VENEZUELA**

Rafael Ramirez, Venezuela's energy minister, signs a memorandum of understanding in Caracas Wednesday. Oil companies also signed, giving Venezuela a majority stake in oil projects.

**The Observer**

**Market Recap**

**Dow Jones**

| Stocks | 13,105.50 | +15.61 |

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**Hunting for a Catalyst**

**NEW YORK — Oil giant Exxon Mobil Corp. kicked off 2007 with a 10 percent rise in profits, its best-ever first quarter, as higher margins on refining and chemical operations offset lower year-over-year gains on refining and chemical operations offshoots.**

Exxon Mobil sells sees rise in profits

**The Irving, Texas-based company posted a net income of $31.77 million, or 26 cents per share, in the quarter compared with $19.86 million, or 12 cents per share, in the same period a year ago.**

The most recent quarter includes a $500 million gain related to ending a cable partner- ship owned by Comcast and Time Warner serving Kansas City, Mo., southern Texas and Houston. The venture's end resulted in Comcast getting Houston, effective in January, and Time Warner taking the rest.

Excluding the gain, Comcast would have reported 17 cents per share in profits, which is in line with expectations of analysts surveyed by Thomson Financial.

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Exxon Mobil has appeared to be that much more compelling to investors. He believes the Dow will continue to drift higher this year, but that the market doesn't have anywhere near the exuberance or reasons to keep climbing like it did during the dot-com boom.

"The higher you go, the case has to be that much more compelling to continue to carry the risk and take more risk," Strazzullo said. "You have to ask yourself, are we across the board at multyear highs, what's the catalyst to take us to that much higher?"

It took the Dow just 129 trading days, since Oct. 18, to make the trek from 12,000 to 13,000, far less than the 7 1/2 years the blue chips took to go from 11,000 to 12,000. The swiftness of this latest trip does recall the days of the dot-com boom, when the major indexes were soaring and it took the Dow a mere 24 days in barrel from 10,000 to 11,000.
Athletes (continued from page 1)

five years before the first women's varsity squads were formed.

"People are excited, excited to get recognition," Henican said. "And I think the women from the early years, the sort of pioneers, and the ones who started things and had it rough and kind of paved the way for [female] student-athletes today."

She said the celebration comes at the perfect time, with the Monogram Club's chairwoman and female presidential candidate, Jennifer Hall O'Dell, finishing her two-year term in June. Hennican, who played volleyball for four years before she graduated in 2006, Looks Toledo to the position in the athletic department, said many former athletes are looking forward to interacting with current athletes and seeing how far the women's sports program has come.

The official Web site for the athletic department listed more than a dozen responses to the invitation from former student-athletes.

"I think this is a great celebration, particularly the women's athletics," wrote Jennifer Hall O'Dell, a 1999 alumna who played tennis. "Notre Dame athletics has provided many women with great opportunities over the last 35 years, and I feel very honored and lucky to have had such a wonderful experience as a Notre Dame athlete."

Events continue Saturday with a nine-hole golf outing at the Warren Golf Course and a five-kilometer run set for the morning and sport-specific events scheduled for late afternoon. The celebration concludes with Mass and a brunch at the Joyce Center on Sunday morning.

Title IX

And while Notre Dame celebrates 35 years of women's sports, supporters of women's athletics nationwide hope this June will celebrate the 35th anniversary of the landmark legislation known as Title IX.

President Nixon signed the bill into law on June 23, 1972 — the same summer that Jennifer Hall O'Dell was preparing to submit her first class of female undergraduate athletes. Title IX incorporated specific language about education into the landmark 1964 Civil Rights Act, and the majority of the amendment was focused on the prohibition of discrimination based on sex in "any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

In fact, Notre Dame fell under an exception for both sexes in the process of the Title IX bill for schools in the process of accepting students of both sexes for the first time. The clause allowed the University six years after the bill's enactment to comply with the legislation, although Notre Dame immediately began a women's athletics program, with fencing becoming the first sport at Notre Dame to field a women's club team, in the fall of 1972. Though largely seen as a symbol of achievement for decades, Title IX makes no explicit reference to athletics, despite the implication that women's sports would be part of judicial rulings in the years following its passage in 1972. In 2001, the Federal Financial Assistance Office handed down a three-prong test to determine if an institution was in compliance with the act. Aside from a six-year timeline to begin the administrative process, the test has held that a college or university must demonstrate any one of the following three characteristics in order to comply with federal funding, including students and sports:

• Roster spots filled by athletes of each gender are in direct proportion to the school's body as a whole.
• The college demonstrates of continued expansion of the women's program
• The program fully meets the athletic needs of the under-represented gender

With these three tests, institutions are kind of held to a standard and asked just how far we've come from, if you look at my data from my dissertation and including the 70s and early 80s until 2007," White said. "We're quite a bit further, but we're getting there.

But, White said, it took some administrators in higher education nearly a decade after Nixon's signing and years after the announcement of Title IX's three-part test to begin to fully implement the legislation. Nonetheless, the NCAA saw a change immediately. According to its 1979 federal report, women participating in varsity athletics jumped from 14 percent in 1973 to 30.3 percent in 1972 to 62.8 in 1976.

"It was an amazing time for women in sport in that particular moment, especially if you just look at the growth that had taken place during the short time frame," White said.

"And Notre Dame, the changes were fast. After tennis and fencing became the inaugural sports in 1976, basketball joined the fall of 1977; Field hockey followed suit a year later before the athletic department discontinued the sport in 1986, ending the first decade.

But the initial years of...
receive federal funds. Thus, every part of an institution was exempted from Title IX’s scope if it did not receive federal sub-
sidies. Colleges could con-
tinue to receive federal support for some areas even if they did not meet Title IX’s requirements in other departments.

That ruling held until 1988, when Congress overrode a veto by President Reagan to expand the scope of Title IX to the entire institution in the Civil Rights Restoration Act.

Notre Dame women’s basketball coach Muffet McGraw, whose four years with the Irish was the 1987-88 cam-
paign, credited White and for­
mer Athletic Director Rosenthal.

"He really pushed the limits with women’s sports to get more to a national level," McGraw said. "That kind of got things start­
ed, and then when Kevin came in, there was an even bigger push."

McGraw said White’s combi­
nation of emotional support, along with financial increases for the women’s teams, has been instrumental in continu­
ing the rise in women’s athletics.

"If you look at where we were in 1988, we’re a long way from where we are now, and we have achieved progress," McGraw said.

Mentioning the comparable budgets for men’s and women’s sports, McGraw said the gender inequal­i­
dy is evident. "That’s a lot of that has to do with Kevin White."

Under White’s regime, Notre Dame has won four national championships: McGraw’s women’s basketball squad in 2001, women’s soccer in 2004 and 2005, and the men’s and women’s combined fencing teams in 2002 and 2003. Those were 12 of 50 spots on 26 varsity teams that were split equally between men’s and women’s teams, with males accounting for 496 spots and females for 267. If two and three-sport athletes were counted only once, there would have been 389 men and 287 women playing at least one var­
sity sport in the 12-month period.

In 2002-03, while Notre Dame was still in the process of fully funding its GIA, the Uni­
versity awarded $5,625.442 in GIAs to male athletes and $3,755,215 to female athletes, a 60-40 pro­
portion.

In the most recent filing, the dollar disparity was slightly greater, though the percentage difference decreased a small amount. According to University records, the total number of GIAs was $7,455,598 (59.3 percent) in the 2004-05 school year and $5,126,072 (40.7 percent) to women.

"I often use the 20 percent levels to contrast with the 20 percentages 20 years ago. According to University records, the total number of GIAs for women athletes was 19 percent of the total athletic GIAs budget in 1988. That num­
ber was up from years prior, but nowhere near the 42-per­
cent ratio the University com­
mits to women’s sports today.

The GIAs are a large part, though not the largest, of budgets for athletic depart­
ments. Men’s Division I institutions currently spend a percentage of their total athletic budget aside from football — on women’s sports that is relative­
ly close to the percentage of women of the overall student body.

In that category, Notre Dame ranks slightly ahead of many in its "cohort group" by comparison to the athletic department of Boston College, Southern California, UCLA and Stanford, but only Stanford spends a higher percent of its athletic budget on women’s sports.

Notre Dame and Notre Dame rank at the bottom of that list in terms of females as a per­
centage of the student body, but each spends a higher per­
centage of its athletic budget on women’s programs than the percentage of women in the student body.

But return on investment is a different story.

According to records pub­
lished by the University in accordance with federal laws, Notre Dame’s game-day costs were $6,564,660 for men’s teams and $2,306,665 for women’s teams from July 2005 through June 2006. Excluding football, the only sport to bring in profit during the time span, the athletic department spent $261,943 more on 12 men’s sports than it did on 13 women’s sports. That differ­
ence, which equates to a five­
percent disparity, though dis­counting football, was slightly less than the difference in overall student enrollment by gender.

In the 2002-03 school year, Notre Dame spent $177,056 on football, the only sport to bring in a profit — $261,943 more on 12 men’s teams other than basketball. That figure was 20 percent of the University’s total expen­
sure for recruiting. Four years later, the men’s basketball money spent on recruiting for those 12 teams has risen to $199,199, but the share has dropped to 12.2 per­
cent of the overall total. (The biggest increase during the time span has been in football recruiting, which spent $323,825 from 2002-06, women’s sports, meanwhile, pulled in $1,361,319, or 2.04 percent of the total. (Revenue totals include money earned from tick­
et sales, contributions from alum­ni, postseason compensation, concession sales, radio and televi­sion contracts, program advertis­ing and sales, sponsorships, royalties and sports camps.)

In fact, while the NCAA requires schools to list specific revenue and expenditure data for football and men’s and women’s basketball — all con­
sidered "revenue" sports — Notre Dame only made a profit for the football squad. Men’s basketball spent $19,053 more than it brought in while women’s basketball spent $1,908,949 more than it made.

Notre Dame’s contract with NBC for football and its stake in Big East television deals, most revenue comes from ticket sales — though baseball, women’s soc­cer, men’s soccer and hockey, are among the relatively small group of teams with paid admission for games.

"We’re constantly looking for innovative ways to drive and to raise the level of awareness and promote interest," White said. Still, White has been encour­
gaged by what he calls an ever­
growing increase in attention given to women’s sports.

"It’s amazing to me how much interest there is in atten­
dance. At Notre Dame, we’re constantly a top-10 women’s basketball program, released. The media interest in the women’s basketball tour­
nament, the Final Four — these are marquee events today and even in the Big East confer­
ence... We’re beginning to see more competitions televised — I think pretty strong indicators that there is a growing societal interest in women’s sport, beyond the par­
ticipating athletes — I think that whole spectator element that’s grow­ing..."

And so it is where the men’s program is today in 2007? No, it isn’t. Quite. But a lot closer for it’s ever been, and my sense is that gap will con­
stantly bridge.

For the 2001-02 school year, the annual net revenue for stu­
dent athletes included a ques­
tion about gender equity for the first time: "If you could give student-athletes the chance to write at length about issues of gender equity, "The Observer" would like to know what you thought."

"At Notre Dame, we’re constantly a top-10 women’s basketball program in terms of attendance."

Kevin White
athletic director

Notre Dame women’s basketball coach Muffet McGraw, center, celebrates after winning the NCAA National Championship April 1, 2001, the first championship for the Irish.
Effectiveness of awareness weeks questioned

This past week, a group representing the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) hosted an awareness week on campus.

The task force has achieved some admirable goals, especially raising money for bed nets to prevent malaria in Africa, but some of its methods this week — especially the large electric construction sign outside DeBartolo — showed once again the problem with many similar weeks at Notre Dame.

The trend lately for students who want to drum up support for a cause, raise money for charity or point out an injustice in the world has been to host a week worth of speakers, events and, sometimes, protests. But unfortunately for the organizers of awareness weeks, the reaction from many students is not one of empathy or support, but rather one of disinterest or even annoyance — even for causes with no opponents, like AIDS research or sexual assault prevention.

Weeks that are not well organized don’t make an impact. Weeks that doom students with information don’t succeed in conveying one clear point. Weeks that immediately follow other awareness weeks don’t find as broad an audience and risk confusing their cause with one of another group.

What do organizers need to do better to buck this trend? First, students need to see that when they participate in an awareness week, they are somehow contributing to the cause. “Awareness” is all well and good, but it is simply a first step. While it’s necessary in order to make future progress, it’s not yet a direct benefit to the cause.

The easiest way to do this is to raise money. Instead of handing out donuts and flyers outside DeBartolo, why don’t groups sell the donuts and give the proceeds to charity? Even more effective would be T-shirts, which students could then sport throughout the week — a tactic that some organizations, like the MDG task force, do already.

Another issue is the concentration of awareness weeks in the spring semester. Many groups probably want to avoid football season, which makes sense, but what if some organizers shifted their week to a different time in the year? That would prevent awareness-week burnout. A second idea would be spreading events out over a month, rather than cramming a weighty message into one week.

In order for that to work, of course, the groups would have to work together. If organizers give each other space and time to showcase their cause, everyone will benefit because students won’t confuse multiple awareness weeks with each other — a legitimate problem, and a real disappointment. Instead of building momentum, many weeks seem to come and go with no real groundswell of support afterward. Increasing the time in between awareness weeks or changing to a month-long system would generate more support and allow more time to process important information.

Students driven to work for change can greatly benefit the rest of campus by explaining and promoting their causes. The challenge is to do so in a way that’s engaging, informative and productive.

That can only be achieved through greater organization and coordination, and that is how students can become forces of change, rather than simply advocates for it.
A libertine education

Many years ago, as a new undergrad­uate student at a state university, I attended fraternity parties. Much to my surprise, I noticed time and again that the residents’ rooms were decorated with posters for Quentin Tarantino’s early film “Reservoir Dogs.” I found it a mystery that these same posters—of stick­ suited gangsters in sharp black and white down an anonymous city street—adorned the walls of so many young adults not yet drinking in the violent imagery of “Reservoir Dogs.” He said the film was “all style, no substance.” Slick cine­ mato­graphy and an eccentric sound­track complemented the smooth char­acters on screen, but all three amount­ed to nothing purely aesthetic. The film impressed one with its surface style, one may choose one’s pleasures of this overrated annual event. While this was “all style, no substance.” I became involved at the time.

Meanwhile, this past Saturday night, Indiana State Police. Six of our eight students. This characterization also resists what the contrived arguments of vocal young activists seems absolute. All three are party to an effort—and, one, and one where continuity—creates a total­ world, an entire society, stripped of innocence. The world is always going to hell, of life and death is a matter of style, one may choose one’s pleasures and pick one’s points with regard to the consequences only in so far as they inform that “style.”

My naive­ness haunts me as the more remarkable­because of a controversy in which I became involved at the time. That summer, some local authorities—authorized a code of speech and behav­ior intended to eliminate “hate speech” from the classroom room and to allow the University to discipline students involved in unlawful or criminal behav­ior or away from campus. This binding­code at a public university is poorly­with all of my fellow students because it seemed to place the "University" in "bene parents," in the place of the parent. We students were adults not children, and no institution had authority to set itself above us in paternal fashion. We sought the law­giving power and satisfaction of appearances, cut off—truly ripped free from the bonds that hold and inform that “style.”

From my present vantage point, the correlation between the posters on the wall, the "lifestyle" of pure style, and the social requirements of our young activists seems absolute. All three are party to an effort—and, one, and one where continuity—creates a total­world, an entire society, stripped of innocence. The world is always going to hell, of life and death is a matter of style, one may choose one’s pleasures and pick one’s points with regard to the consequences only in so far as they inform that “style.”

Because, as I say, codes of behavior inevitably arise—eventually—in everyday life, the average modern person lives a fairly docile, harmless exist­ence. But higher education has become such a rite of passage in America that it has come to involve the participation in a strange liminal zone apart from child­hood and adulthood.

I read Zach Finerty’s recent column entitled “Minority blues” (April 25), and while I myself do wholeheart­edly agree with some libertarian ideals, I tem­per my attitudes with some cold hard facts.

You, Zach, are free to live however you choose. You are free to do any of the things you cite in your article. You are free to pay no taxes to the federal government, just choose not to keep more than $25,000 or so of your income and the government will not ask for any. You have a choice. You can keep your income and give all your income to save the owls, trees or whatever charity you want to. But if your choice involves being an active, profit seeking par­ticipant in the activities of an estab­lished economy, then you must pay dues to enjoy all the benefits of that society which provides such a high standard of living for those who contrib­ute to it. That’s fact, not an option.

If you want an ambulance to show up and save your life when you aren’t breathing, you must pay taxes for that service. If you want smooth roads to drive on, you must pay taxes for that service. If you want the clean streets on which you live, you must pay taxes for the service. If you want the electricity to light up your home, you must pay taxes for the service. If you want a library in your community, you must pay taxes for the service.

Taxes are a necessary part of American Society.

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Mike Hennig
April 25

Letters to the Editor

We are seniors living off campus writ­ting to express our frustration with both the South Bend Police Department and the Indiana State Police. Six of our eight cars and both of our houses have been broken into with valuables taken, includ­ing multiple electronics, and even a porch sign that we had for ourselves and the world in which they live. If life and death is a matter of style, one may choose one’s pleasures and pick one’s points with regard to the consequences only in so far as they inform that “style.”

Because, as I say, codes of behavior inevitably arise—eventually—in everyday life, the average modern person lives a fairly docile, harmless exist­ence. But higher education has become such a rite of passage in America that it has come to involve the participation in a strange liminal zone apart from child­hood and adulthood.

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'Museum' fails to exhibit humor or talent

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

With an all-star comedic cast including Ben Stiller, Ricky Gervais (of the British "The Office" fame), Robin Williams, Owen Wilson, Dick Van Dyke, Steve Coogan and Mickey Rooney, "Night at the Museum" should have been the comedic promised land. It's too bad that director Shawn Levy ("Cheaper By the Dozen") has wasted all of these impressive talents in this disappointing and generally unfunny film.

The script was a good original concept but uninteresting in its actual execution, and having Chris Columbus (director of the disastrous first two "Harry Potter" films) acting as producer surely didn't help. While it is a fairly cute kid's movie, "Night at the Museum" fails to be what it certainly could have been.

Stiller plays the disillusioned Larry Daley, a man who must find a job if he is to retain the respect of his son and ex-wife. After a series of failed business ventures and flack from his former spouse's stock market trader husband, he takes a night-guard job at the New York museum of Natural History.

He sees the job as his meal ticket to respectability and thinks it's easy work until he can find something better. Easy, sure — except for the fact that the museum exhibits, wax models and everything else come to life at night and terrorize any unsuspecting person from the outside, including new night guards.

"Night at the Museum" is a film that promised zingy one-liners, fabulous special effects and some of the best comic acting Hollywood has to offer. They get a D-minus on the first, a generous B-plus on the second and an F-minus on the last. It's kind of neat to look at for five minutes, but ultimately a horribly unfunny train wreck of a movie.

This isn't to say that the acting is bad. Williams is convincing as the wax model of Teddy Roosevelt and Gervais — probably the most wasted actor in any film, ever — does a decent job (with what he has to work with) as the uptight museum director.

The problem is the lack of cohesive cast feeling. The characters are too much Stiller, Williams, Wilson and Coogan and not enough Daley, Roosevelt, cowboy or Roman general. Alongside these characters is a monkey that is only good for potty jokes and cheap gags.

"Night at the Museum" tries too hard to be an adult film and a kid's film at the same time.

Fast forward to the DVD and buyers have the option of to buy a one-disc edition or two-disc "Special Edition." If anyone wants to buy this film for whatever reason, the one disc would be the way to go — the extras on the two-disc set aren't worth the overpriced cost and would only collect dust. If you must buy it, get the widescreen one-disc set and enjoy it for the film alone.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroe1@nd.edu

2007 REGATTA BRACKET

MALE BRACKET
Siegfried
Boat of the Dorm of the Year (Morrissey)

The Last King of FOGLand (Fischer Grad)
O'Neill

NROTC
Carroll Hall Boat

St. Ed's
The Glory of Dawg Style (Alumni)

The Real Admiral (Sorin)
Vegas Hoey Eighty Poe (Zahn)

Roo, Roo, Roo, Your Boat (Keough)

2007 REGATTA BRACKET
FEMALE BRACKET

The Luck of Mcg (McGinn)
Pangusta Paradise (Pangborn)

Whirlwind of a Team (Welsh Fam 1)
Farley

McFOGgy
Badin

Jump On It (Welsh Fam 2)
Captain Jack's Bonnie Lass (BP 1)

Howard
Chaos (Cavanaugh)

Lyons
St. Mary's

Chicken of the Sea (Lewis)
BP' s Black Pearl (BP 2)

The No Float Boat (Welsh Fam 3)
Students competing in the Fisher Regatta construct their own boats out of a wide variety of materials, often with an emblem of dorm pride on display.

Saint Mary's Lake teems with competing boats during the 2005 Regatta. With multiple races, food and fans, the event draws an impressive annual crowd.

The Jolly Piggot rests outside of Fisher Hall in honor of the Regatta, which takes place Saturday. The Fishermen enjoy a week of festivities prior to the race.

The Jolly Piggot, Fisher Hall's flagship green vessel, lies in dry dock, tethered to a tree on the grass of South Quad as an announcement of the impending Fisher Regatta. The most visible of Fisher's signature events, the Regatta has become a widely renowned campus tradition in its impressive history at Notre Dame. With each dorm constructing its own lake-bound vessels, inter-dorm rivalries, sailing skills (or lack thereof) and an overall sense of campus spirit come together in one wet and wild afternoon.

For our coverage of Saturday's event, the Scene Section took the option (or mistake) of conducting a tag-team interview with Regatta co-commissioners Kevin Rabil and Will Kearney.

What's different about this year's Regatta from Regattas of past years?

Will: Well, this is the Regatta's 21st birthday and, as we all know, that means we've got to celebrate like never before. Also, we are the best-looking dorm on campus, nay, the world, and we feel that is key to a successful Regatta and a successful life in general.

What's the turnout you're expecting for this year, both for spectators and competitors?

Kevin: This year we hope to get every single person on campus, say, the world, to come and watch the event. Any celebrities that are in town are more than welcome to get some face-time on the local news.

How do you expect the Fisher boat(s) to fare in the competition?

Kevin: As with every year in the past, we are hoping for pure and utter dominance in our signature event. This year we realized that size doesn't always matter, and sometimes it's the personality that gets it done. We are hoping for some more flair this year and some more wins.

What are some of the other distinct or different qualities about living in Fisher that separate it from the other dorms on campus?

Will: Fisher may not look like much, but she's the flyest dorm on campus. Fisher was built as a temporary dorm back in 1952, and we all know that aesthetically it is a scar on the face of campus, but we have awesome dorm spirit and love where we are. And let's be serious, chicks dig scars.

In conclusion, the dynamic duo said, "We hope everyone will come out and support a great cause. We are raising money for the Brother Andre House in Arizona. The Regatta will not disappoint — look forward to seeing you all there. Also, R. Kelly may or may not be performing (jokes on no, but we're still hoping.)"

Regardless of whether or not some contemporary R & B artists make it out to campus for the event, the Fisher Regatta pushes off this Saturday afternoon. Float or fail, the event promises to be entertaining at the very least. After all, what would the end of April be without the Regatta?

Like the Piggot, the Fisher Regatta is up and running once again, thanks to the efforts of the intrepid Fishermen of Fisher Hall. Jolly good!

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu

The Jolly Piggot rests outside of Fisher Hall in honor of the Regatta, which takes place Saturday. The Fishermen enjoy a week of festivities prior to the race.

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Friday, April 27, 2007

THE OBSERVER

St. Ed's Hall Players

"Family Entertainment: For Mature Audiences Only"

Sketch Comedy Show

Library Auditorium

Friday 7:30pm

"A Man For All Seasons"

Orestes Brownson Council

Washington Hall Lab Theatre

Friday & Saturday

8pm

Saint Mary's Lake teems with competing boats during the 2005 Regatta. With multiple races, food and fans, the event draws an impressive annual crowd.

WEEKEND EVENTS

Farley Hall Players

"You Can't Take It With You"

Washington Hall

Friday & Saturday

7:30pm

$5 students

$7 adults

Students competing in the Fisher Regatta construct their own boats out of a wide variety of materials, often with an emblem of dorm pride on display.

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Like the Piggot, the Fisher Regatta is up and running once again, thanks to the efforts of the intrepid Fishermen of Fisher Hall. Jolly good!

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu

Students competing in the Fisher Regatta construct their own boats out of a wide variety of materials, often with an emblem of dorm pride on display.

Saint Mary's Lake teems with competing boats during the 2005 Regatta. With multiple races, food and fans, the event draws an impressive annual crowd.

"We've got the Fisher Reg — That's when we lost service."

What are some of the other distinct or different qualities about living in Fisher that separate it from the other dorms on campus?

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Pirates sweep Astros for second time this year

Sosa hits two homers to set record for most major league home runs, but falls to Indians 9-4

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Phil Garner won a World Series playing for Pittsburgh and managed in the All-Star game three last summer. Right now, the Houston manager probably says Sosa is "Slammin' Sammy" once again.

Sosa hit two homers to reach 734 for his career, but Pittsburgh's Ryan Church and the Cleveland Indians beat the Texas Rangers Thursday for their fifth straight win.

Sosa's 439-foot drive leading off the sixth inning against Byrd (2-1) made Jacobs Field the 44th major league ballpark in which he has homered. That broke a tie with Ken Griffey Jr. and Fred McGriff for the most in a big league career.

"It's nice to have that record, but if we had won I would have enjoyed it more," Sosa said.

He obtained the record-hitting ball by signing two baseballs for the fan who got it in the left-field bleachers.

Sosa has six homers and 18 RBIs, but he's hitting only .242 in 19 games since sitting out all of 2006. He said he still hasn't got his timing back after the long layoff.

"The more I play, the more adjustments I can make," he said. "If you talk about getting hot, I'm not yet there."

Byrd was warry of picking Sosa up with or without bases on base.

"You still don't want to elevate a fastball to him," Byrd said. "On the homer, I was trying to go inside, left up and away, and I knew we'd have to do it sooner as he was swinging.

The only stadium currently in use that the 38-year-old outfielder has not hit a homer in is New York's Shea Stadium and the new Busch Stadium in St. Louis.

Sosa went deep again in the eighth against Tom Mustify to become closer to joining Aaron, Barry Bonds, Babe Ruth and Willie Mays in the 600 homers club. It was his 69th career multi-homer game.

Byrd left after yielding a lead-off single in the seventh to Gerald Laird. The right-hander allowed three runs and eight hits, walked one and struck out three. The Rangers twain put a runner at third with two outs and failed to score against Byrd.

Texas loaded the bases in the first, but left fielder Shin-Soo Choo caught a fly ball at Mark Teixeira and made a perfect no-hop throw to get Kenny Lofton trying to tag up from third. Sosa then grounded out to end the threat.

"That play picked us up," Byrd said. "Three minutes in, I've got the bases loaded and it had disaster written all over it."

Indianas 4, Phillies 2

Shawn Hill wouldn't let an injury to his non-throwing arm keep him off the mound. It's a good thing for Washington because Hill's pitching like an ace.

He pitched eight-plus innings, limiting Young and the Nationals snapped the Philadelphia Phillies five-game winning streak with a win Thursday.

"He's the best chipper performance," Washington manager Manny Acta said of Hill.

Aaron Rowand hit a solo shot for the Phillies to extend his career-best hitting streak to 14 games. Hill (2-2) gave up two runs and four hits, striking out three of his five starts this season.

Hill missed the 2005 season after having a ligament replaced in his elbow and was shut down after only six starts last year because of elbow problems. He strained his left shoulder in a dive in his last start but didn't feel any ill effects on the mound.

"There's a little tightness, a little tired, but no big deal," Hill said. "We really needed the win and I wanted to give the bullpen a rest."

Chad Gaudin got two outs fanning Wongs Helms with a runner on third to record his second save in four chances.

Coming off a complete-game, 15-strikeout performance at Cincinnati last Saturday, Cole Hamels (2-1) had his shortest outing this season. The left-hander allowed four runs and eight hits in 5 1/3 innings.

"It's not a phenomenal performance, it gives you confidence," Hamels said. "I was feeling good for five innings, then I just got out of my comfort zone."

The Nationals went ahead 1-0 in the fourth when Young hit an opposite-field homer to right-center, one pitch after left fielder Pai Burrell batted Zimmermann out at second base trying to stretch into a single.

The Observer accepts classifieds Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 621 South Drawing Hall. Deadline for weekday classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 25 cents per character per inch consuming all space. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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The Observer ● CLASSIFIEDS

Friday, April 27, 2007

MLB

Pirates sweep Astros for second time this year

Sosa hits two homers to set record for most major league home runs, but falls to Indians 9-4

Texans second baseman Michael Young walks back to the dugout after striking out with two outs on third base. Young went 3-for-4 in the Rangers' 9-4 loss to the Indians Thursday.

"We just lost our offense. We had some good games but we also dropped some of the ones we didn't appear to focus on."

Houston pushed across two runs in the ninth but John Grabow bailed out closer Salvador Torices by getting Adam Everett to ground into a forceout at second with the bases loaded to end the game, which was Grabow's first save since 2001.

The Pirates are 6-0 against the Astros this season after going 0-6 the previous 10 years.

The Pirates swept a six-game series in Houston from April 2-4. "It's nice to have that's that's for sure," said manager Jim Tracy, whose Pirates are 10-10 after being 5-15 a year ago.

There has been some dramatic improvement, and I know we're more to come, so we're a better team to have than we've shown so far."
NCAA Men's Lacrosse
Top 20

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NCAA Women's Lacrosse
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Baseball
Big East Standings

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MLB

Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling bleeds through his sock during the 2004 American League Championship Series against the Yankees. Rumors have surfaced that the bloody sock was merely a publicity stunt.

Schilling's sock controversy continues

Associated Press

BOSTON — No paint, no ink, no ketchup.

Nothing but Curt Schilling's blood was seeping through his socks in the 2004 postseason, current and former Red Sox said Thursday after a rumor resumed that the pitcher milked his injury for drama while helping Boston end its 86-year title drought.

On Wednesday, Baltimore announcer Gary Thorne said during his broadcast of the Red Sox- Orioles game that Boston backup catcher Doug Mirabelli admitted it was a hoax.

"It was painted," Thorne said. "Doug Mirabelli confessed up to it after. It was all for PR."

Thorne backed off Thursday after talking to Mirabelli before the Red Sox played the Orioles. Thorne said Mirabelli had been joking.

"He said one thing, and I heard something else. I reported what I heard and what I honestly felt was that's not what he meant. He explained that it was in the context of the sarcasm and the jabbing that goes on in the club house."

"I took it as something serious, and it wasn't," Thorne said. Mirabelli confirmed the story, saying, "He knows that I believe 100 percent that I thought the sock had blood on it. It never crossed my mind that there wasn't blood on that sock. If he misinterpreted something said inside the clubhouse, it's unfortunate."

Mirabelli said he spoke with Thorne in the Boston clubhouse about six months after the 2004 playoffs.

"As he was walking away he asked, 'How about the bloody sock?' I said, 'Yeah, we got a lot of publicity out of that, and that was all he can recall me saying,'" Mirabelli said. "He said he assumed what I meant was that the sock was fake and that it was just a publicity stunt. That by no means is what I meant. There was never a doubt in mind there was blood on that sock."

After an ankle injury hampered Schilling in Game 1 of the '04 AL championship series against New York, team doctors jury-rigged a tendon in his right ankle to keep it from flopping around. With blood seeping through his sock, the pitcher came back to beat the Yankees in Game 6.

IN BRIEF

Colts dispel rumors about cornerback

INDIANAPOLIS — Colts officials spent the last three days wrestling with what might be their most important decision of the offseason.

They're still not saying anything.

On Thursday, team president Bill Polian used his predraft news conference to contradict several media reports that the Colts would not match New Orleans' four-year offer sheet to cornerback Jason David, letting him leave the Super Bowl champions.

"That's wrong because I have not opted yet, at least Tony (Dungy) and I haven't," Polian said. "We're still working through some issues and we don't have to do anything right now, we're still working through the last little details."

David's agent, Gary Fabrikant, said the Colts had not informed him of their intentions.

Jeter scratched from lineup due to bruised thigh

NEW YORK — Derek Jeter was a late scratch from the New York Yankees' lineup Thursday night against Toronto because of a bruised left thigh.

Miguel Cairo started at shortstop in place of Jeter and batted ninth. First baseman Doug Mientkiewicz was moved from the No. 9 spot in the lineup up to Jeter's regular No. 2 hole.

Jeter, who has a 14-game hitting streak, left Tuesday night's game at Tampa Bay after being hit on the leg by Scott Kazmir's pitch in the first inning. He was in the posted lineup before Wednesday night's game against the Blue Jays was rained out, and was originally slated to play Thursday, too.

But about an hour before the first pitch, Jeter was removed from the lineup. He and manager Joe Torre told a team spokesman that Jeter was still a little sore. He was available off the bench.

Duquesne athlete sues school after being shot on campus

PITTSBURGH — One of five Duquesne University basketball players shot on campus last year has sued the school, alleging it failed to provide adequate security at a dance.

The lawsuit, filed late Wednesday in Allegheny County Common Pleas Court, says university officials did not take action once they knew of potential criminal activity. A doorman let two armed men into the dance even after their friend asked if the men would be frisked, according to the lawsuit.

"Rather than alerting the campus police who were present inside the ballroom about the frisking inquiry, or taking other similar reasonable steps, the doorman simply responded that they would not be frisked," and allowed the men to enter, the lawsuit states.

around the dial

NBA

Raptors at Nets 7 p.m., ESPN

Bulls at Heat 8 p.m., ESPN

NHL

Rangers at Sabres 7 p.m., Versus

Duquesne athlete sues school after being shot on campus
NBA
Ellis wins Most Improved Player
Warriors second-year standout edges Kings
Martin by three votes

Associated Press
OAKLAND, Calif. — Monta Ellis felt forgotten when he slipped down the draft board nearly two years ago.

The NBA now knows all about the Golden State guard, who won the Most Improved Player award Thursday for his transformation from an unsuspecting Mississippi high schooler to a speedy scoring threat for the improving Warriors.

Ellis edged Sacramento's Kevin Martin by three points in the closest voting in the award's history, earning 47 first-place votes and 525 points from a media panel.

Martin, the Kings' high-scoring guard, got 44 first-place votes and 494 points.

"I think Monta is just scratching the surface, really."

Don Nelson
Warriors coach

"I think Monta is just scratching the surface, really." Ellis held a big draft-day party for himself in his native Jackson, Miss. — but most of the guests left before he was chosen by the Warriors with the 40th overall pick.

"I think Monta is just scratching the surface, really," Ellis said.

"I gave him an opportunity because he was one of my best players. That was just 20 years old didn't matter to me, because he could flat-out play."

The previous most-finishing finish in the award's history was in 1997-98. Sacramento's Jason Williams finished fifth in the voting.

Ellis, whose scoring average went up to 20.2 points this season from 10.8 in 2005-06, but the lacking guard struggled down the stretch of the regular season along with his playoff teammates. The Kings missed the playoffs for the first time in five seasons, and coach Eric Musselman was fired last week.

Associated Press
The award has been presented annually since the 1985-86 season.

Nelson immediately recognized Ellis' skills after taking over the Warriors late last summer, putting him in the starting lineup for 53 games and playing him in most key situations. Ellis' slashing speed works perfectly in Nelson's preferred style.

"When we watched him come out of high school, he had a lot of things he's showing now," said Chris Mullin, the Warriors' top executive.

"Not as refined, but as a high-school player you always have to keep working and keep improving, and he's doing that. Nelson's system has been a good fit for him."

Ellis got a standing ovation in the Warriors' locker room when Nelson announced the award Thursday. The Warriors face the top-seeded Dallas Mavericks in Game 3 of their first-round series on Friday night in Oakland's first NBA playoff game in 13 years.

Ellis is the second Golden State player in five years to win the award, after Gilbert Arenas — another second-round pick who blossomed in Oakland before moving to the Washington Wizards — in 2003. Ellis also beat out teammate Andris Biedrins, who finished fifth in the voting.

"When Monta came in the rookie ballboy, I thought Monta is just scratching the surface, really." Ellis' coach Nelson

On the eve of the NFL draft, commissioner Roger Goodell promised to whack any team leaking confidential information about potential picks. That's not a bad idea for a league beset by enough legal trouble from current players that the face it presents to the public all too often is a mug shot.

Goodell, to his credit, has wasted little time since taking office to clean up league management.

"Ultimately, every club has a prospect," said Memphis-based agent Brian Chavez, "it is for the average Joe," said Goodell, "different for NFL executives than solid characters."

For tickets, visit the Box Office or call (574) 284-4626.

Ellis emerged as a key contributor to Golden State's upsets offense in his second season, earning his teammates' trust and playing in big situations while learning to play point guard at Nelson's behest. Among second-year pros, only New Orleans' Chris Paul averaged more points per game this season (17.2).

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Vick connected with dog fighting operation

Police find dozens of injured canines at quarterback's house

Associated Press

SMITHFIELD, Va. — Police conducting a drug investigation raided a house owned by Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick and found dozens of dogs, some injured and emaciated.

Police also found items associated with dog fighting.

State Police Sgt. D.S. Carr said Vick's relative, Davon Boddie, 26, lives in the house. Vick owns the property, but doesn't live there and wasn't present when a search warrant was executed in a drug investigation Wednesday night, Carr said.

Boddie was arrested outside a nightclub by Hampton police April 20 on charges of distribution of marijuana and possession with intent to distribute.

More than 60 dogs were found in three buildings. Some were very disturbing allegations. "We urge law enforcement to aggressively investigate this matter, and we futher believe that anyone who harbors dogs for the purpose of fighting, deserves to be fully prosecuted for their crimes," Pacelle said in a statement. "Dog fighting is a barbaric activity that causes immense animal suffering and fosters violence in our communities. Our nation should have a zero tolerance policy for any form of staged animal fighting."

The Humane Society said dog fighting is illegal nationwide and a felony in 48 states, including both Virginia and Georgia.

The animal rights group PETA has asked Falcons owner Arthur Blank to suspend Vick pending the investigation and "to kick him off the team if it is found that dogs on Vick's property were neglected or used for fighting."

In a letter to Blank, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals said it was the second time it was writing to the owner about one of his players and allegations of cruelty to animals.

On Feb. 23, the organization wrote to him about defensive tackle Jonathan Babineaux's felony charges in Georgia stemming from the fatal beating of a dog.

Falcons spokesman Reggie Roberts said the team still was gathering information on the report and had no immediate comment.

A spokesman for Vick's foundation declined comment. Joel Segal, the quarterback's agent, and Larry Woodward, a Virginia attorney, who has worked with both Vick and his younger brother, Marcus, didn't immediately return telephone messages seeking comment.

The probe at Vick's property is the latest in a series of embarrassing incidents for the Atlanta quarterback.

He was named in a sordid lawsuit that accused him of knowingly infecting a woman with a sexually transmitted disease and using the alias "Ron Mexico" while seeking treatment. The case was settled out of court.

Last season, Vick flashed an obscene hand gesture to heckling Atlanta fans as he walked off the field following a dismal loss to New Orleans. He was fined $10,000 by the NFL and donated another $10,000 to charity.

In January, security officers at Miami International Airport seized a water bottle from Vick that they said smelled of marijuana and had a hidden compartment. Authorities later said that when Vick opened the bottle, and Vick explained that he used the secret compartment to carry jewelry.

Just this week, Vick came under more criticism when he failed to show for a lobbying appearance on Capitol Hill in support of increased funding for after-school programs. He missed a connecting flight in Atlanta and didn't turn up for a later flight.

Vick and two other former Virginia Tech stars — Falcons cornerback DeAngelo Hall and former Buffalo Bills defensive end Bruce Smith — are scheduled to join the team's football coach Frank Reamer and NFL commissioner Roger Goodell in a predraft ceremony in New York on Saturday to honor the victims of the recent shooting at the Blacksburg school.

Other athletes have been linked to dogfighting.

The NBA's Qyntel Woods pleaded guilty in January 2005 to animal abuse and was sentenced to probation and community service, in addition to pledging $10,000 to the Oregon Humane Society. Former NFL player LeShon Johnson has twice run afoul of the law for ties to dogfighting.
**NBA**

**Pistons easily handle Magic**

Win on Thursday has Detroit one win away from second round

Associated Press  

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Detroit Pistons showed they know how to close out quarters. Now they want to close out another series.

Tayshaun Prince scored 23 points, Chauncey Billups added 21 and the Pistons beat Orlando 93-77 Thursday night to take a 3-0 lead in the first-round playoff series.

The victory ended a postseason trend for the Pistons — they had lost their last six Game 3s when leading 2-0 — and the Pistons are intent on embarrassing Brodeur, who maybe could have stopped an embarrassment.

Detroit forward Antonio McDyess tries to block the shot of Orlando's Tony Carter. McDyess had 18 points.

"It was a like a snowball for them," said Brodeur, who made 21 saves. "They just kept on touching everything and putting it in the net.

"It's tough to spot a team like that a four-goal lead," Devils center John Madden said. "They chances are slim you are going to win the game. But we battled back and almost pulled off an upset.

"New Jersey played without captain Patrik Elias, who was sidetracked with the effects of a lingering cold.

Game 2 is Saturday in New Jersey.

Coming off an impressive first-round win over Sydney Crosby and the Pittsburgh Penguins, the Senators came out flying in the first period and seemed intent on embarrassing Brodeur, who made 21 saves. "They just kept on touching everything and putting it in the net."

Detroit Pistons forward Antonio McDyess tries to block the shot of Orlando forward Grant Hill during the Piston's 93-77 win Thursday.

**NHL**

**4-goal opening period halts Sens over Devils**

Associated Press  

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The Ottawa Senators jumped on Martin Brodeur and the New Jersey Devils early and often, and then avoided what could have been an embarrassing letdown.

Jason Spezza scored 90 seconds into the game, and the Senators jumped to a 4-0 first-period lead before holding on for a 4-3 victory Thursday night in Game 1 of their Eastern Conference semifinal.

"We made it harder than it should have been," Senators goalie Ray Emery said after making 28 saves to help Ottawa win its fourth straight playoff game. "You knew that team will rebound and they will not go down without a fight."

The Devils certainly put a scare into Ottawa, drawing within 4-3 early in the second period. A shot off the goal post by Scott Gomez nearly tied the game later in the second.

"We weren't as sharp after we got the lead," said Senators defenseman Wade Redden, whose third-period power-play goal gave the Senators a two-goal cushion until the closing minutes. "We were a little bit careless of the game, we really controlled the play. We were moving it crisp and we had guys in forchecking. I guess it's human nature to hit back a bit."

Spezza, Joe Corvo, Dean McAmmond and Dany Heatley all scored in the opening 16:39 to give Ottawa the big cushion. "I think they were kind of watching us play," Corvo said. "We were doing all the right things, and we were all over them. We were scoring on basically every shot."

Travis Zajac, Brian Gionta and Andy Greene cut the Ottawa lead to 4-3 late in the second period. Zach Parise made it 5-4 with 30 seconds left.

"It's tough to spot a team like that a four-goal lead," Devils center John Madden said. "They chances are slim you are going to win the game. But we battled back and almost pulled off an upset."

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**IT'S TIME**

**TO LET THE MUSIC MOVE YOU**

**Respiroh & Beethoven**

Sunday, April 29, 2:30 p.m.
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
University of Notre Dame  
Featuring Jacqueline Schmidt: piano  
Noghi: "Tea"  
Paul Johnson: "The Wild Swans at Coole"  
Beethoven: "Piano Concerto No. 2"  
**TICKETS: 574-631-2800**

**Tondaze Piano Institute**

Saturday, May 12, 8:00 p.m.
Morris Performing Arts Center  
Featuring Alexander Toradze and three generations of Piano Studio performers  
Chopin: Polonaise in A-flat minor  
Rachmaninoff: "Prelude in C-sharp minor"  
Barenboim: "Elegy from the Guns of Fort Apache"  
**TICKETS: 574-235-9190 or visit us online at SouthBendSymphony.com**

**Spring Family Concert**

Sunday, May 20, 3:00 p.m.
Everest-Rohrer Auditorium, Bethel College  
"A Celebration of Youth in Music" featuring the Side-by-Side Orchestra and Young Artist Competition winners  
"It's a like a snowball for them," said Brodeur, who made 21 saves. "They just kept on touching everything and putting it in the net."

"It was a like a snowball for them," said Brodeur, who made 21 saves. "They just kept on touching everything and putting it in the net."

Sponsored by Bose  
Tickets: $10 Adults and $5 for Kids

**South Bend Tribune**

**Reading Slam!**

Tuesday, May 1  
10:30 p.m. - Midnight  
Recker's  
"A five-minute public reading of any text could win you a $200 gift certificate to the Hammes ND Bookstore!"  
**Musical interludes by:**  
D'Oscar  
Erin Duquette  
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For more information or to sign up: Jonathan Couser (574) 631-3923 or jcouser@nd.edu  
Sponsored by First Year of Studies
Sharks take series lead over Detroit

Associated Press

DETROIT — The San Jose Sharks silenced the fans at Joe Louis Arena while stunning the Detroit Red Wings with goals 24 seconds apart.

Matt Carle and Mike Grier scored midway through the first period and Evgeni Nabokov made 34 saves to lead San Jose to a 2-0 victory Thursday night in Game 3 of the Western Conference semifinals.

"We got the crowd right out of the game," said Joe Thornton, who had an assist on the first goal. "That was huge.

Nabokov's shutout was his first in the playoffs. He was given up one goal, they would have been OK. I was hoping they wouldn't score a goal, but we knew they would come hard and get the momentum," Nabokov said.

Dominik Hasek had to make just 17 saves because the Sharks played very conservatively after taking the lead, possessing the puck on offense and blocking shots on defense.

"We probably could've pushed a little bit more, but we felt comfortable with 2-0 leads," Thornton said.

Game 2 is Saturday in Detroit.

"You know they're going to certainly bounce back and throw some new wrinkles at us and have a lot more energy in the next game," San Jose coach Ron Wilson said.

Entering the series, home ice was regarded as perhaps the only advantage the top-seeded Red Wings had against the fifth-seeded Sharks.

San Jose quickly took that edge away.

Carle's goal at 9:45 of the first period was set up by a fantastic series of passes around the perimeter, ending with Thornton's cross-crease pass from the corner.

"It was just Henrik, bang, boom and it was in the back of the net," Thornton said.

The Red Wings had three power plays in the second period — while San Jose didn't have one — but they took just four shots.

San Jose's swarming defense had a lot to do with that, though Detroit did seem to miss Tomas Holmstrom standing in front of the crease to redirect and shield shots.

"We thought they had four blocked shots on our first power play when we had people in front of the net and the puck never got through," Babcock said.

San Jose blocked 13 shots and took 13 shots through two periods, and finished with 18 blocked shots.

Holmstrom missed the game with an eye injury and the Red Wings were also without defensemen Brett Lebda because of an ankle injury and concus­sion. With stitches around his left eye, Holmstrom said he hoped to play in the series, but didn't know if he would be ready for Game 2.

Even at full strength, however, Detroit doesn't seem to match up well with the Sharks' combination of depth, size, speed and skill. That appeared to be the case Thursday night and during the regular season, when San Jose won three of four meetings.
ND SOFTBALL
Irish face top Big East team
DePaul perfect against conference opponents

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame will take the field once again Sunday afternoon after rainy weather postponed Thursday’s game against DePaul with Illinois-Chicago. The Irish will travel to Chicago, but this time to take on Big East powerhouse DePaul in a doubleheader.

The Blue Demons currently hold first place in the conference with a perfect 14-0 record. With only two weeks remaining until the Big East tournament, the games will have seeding implications for both teams.

The Irish are two spots behind DePaul with a 9-5 conference record. Saturday’s loss against Saint Joseph’s snapped the Irish’s eight-game winning streak and the Irish will be looking to avoid dropping two games in a row.

“We are right there,” Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. “We’re competitive in every game, it’s just a matter of finishing them off.”

The Blue Demons have won their past nine contests dating back to a 4-3 loss to No. 17 Illinois-Chicago March 21. The last time they lost by more than one run was Feb. 24 when No. 8 Baylor beat them 4-0.

The Blue Demons have also yet to lose in their 13 home games this season. Saturday’s double-header presents the Irish with the last real threat to their perfect mark since the only team that remained on their home schedule after this weekend is Illinois-Chicago (15-26).

SMC TENNIS
Belles prepared for MIAA tourney

By ELLYN MICHALAK
Sports Writer

After wrapping up its regular season with a win Monday, Saint Mary’s will travel to Kalamazoo, Mich., today for the start of the final tournament of the year — the MIAA conference tournament.

Earlier this week the Belles (11-12, 5-3 MIAA) fell short in their final conference match of the season at the Eck Tennis Pavilion at Notre Dame.

Albion dominated the Belles in both singles and doubles play, eventually defeating them 8-1. “It wasn’t our best effort. Unfortunately, [Albion] was very strong and consistent,” senior captain Kelly Mcavitt said. “We were not able to get the shots in.”

The Belles hit the road last Monday, traveling to Grand Rapids, Mich., to play in a non-conference competition against Aquinas. After losing to Aquinas 5-4 in the last season, the Belles fought hard and averaged the loss, defeating the Saints 5-4. The Belles dominated in singles, winning four of the six matches, while in doubles play, only the No. 3 duo of freshmen Lisa Rubino and Erin Kaplan managed to obtain a victory.

“We are looking forward to going to conference on Thursday,” Mcavitt said. “We’ve improved as a team to stay focused and get after it.”

Pitching has been the backbone of DePaul’s success this year. Senior right-hander Traci Adix leads the staff with a 13-1 record and an ERA of 0.59. She has also thrown six complete game shutouts. Fellow senior Meghan Huitink and freshman Becia Helenak join Adix in the rotation. The trio has combined for an ERA of 1.38 in their first 39 games.

Notre Dame pitcher Brittany Bargar and Kenya Fuermeier will look to be on top of their games in order to keep the score close and give the Irish bats time to get to the DePaul pitchers. The Irish have struggled at the plate recently, putting up only four runs during their current five-game losing streak, including three consecutive losses.

“We’re leaving way too many people on base. We’ve had plenty of opportunities — we just aren’t taking care of them,” Gumpf said.

Thirty-four baserunners have been stranded during the losing streak, which averages out to more than one per inning.

Notre Dame will need to take advantage of any scoring chances the Blue Demons give them to come away with a couple of wins this weekend. The first game is scheduled to start at 1 p.m. and the second will get underway around 3 p.m.

SMC Softball
Matchup with Hope postponed due to rain

By REBECCA SLINGER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s was forced to accept another delay in its face-off against No. 2 Hope College after rain canceled Thursday’s game.

An April 4 game against Hope was cancelled because of the threat of snow and Wednesday’s game was called off due to rain. The long-suffering game has been rescheduled for today at 3:30 p.m. at Gauye Field.

Belles head coach Erin Sullivan said the team is ready to play Hope. “We’re really excited. Hope’s always a good team, and we just want our chance to beat them,” she said. “The team’s just ready to go.”

The Belles have hit .353 this season, third in the league. They also have the second-best pitching staff in the MIAA behind the arms of sophomores Kelly Palombi and Kristin Amram. The pair has combined for a 2.25 ERA and held their opponents to a meager .200 batting average.

Amram is first in the MIAA with a 1.68 ERA and second in the league with 130 strikeouts. Strong defense and a powerful offense have not been the Belles only strength this season. Their team’s precise play in the field has kept it to a league-low 26 errors on the season.

With 255 total hits this season and 194 runs, the Belles lead the Flying Dutch, who have driven in 168 runs. The Belles are second in the league with 20 home runs, including seven by sophomore catcher Ashley Fosbury. The backstop has a slugging percentage of .702.

Saint Mary’s will play Kalamazoo Saturday at 1 p.m.

Contact Rebecca Slinger at rslenger@smc.edu
This strategy played right into the Broski's game plan. The Broski's 2-3 zone wouldn't let SBO get inside and did a good job of forcing longer shots.

The game started point-for-point, with neither team leading by more than one until SBO scored four straight to stretch the score to 10-7. At that point, lighting forced the players under shelter near the Bookstore and torrential rain drenched the court.

After the delay, gameplay changed significantly. The ball made a dull thud on the wet court, and bounce passes took a much different path than intended.

"We couldn't dribble," Henry said. "We also couldn't use the backboard." After the break, the Broski's scored three straight and went into the half down just one. It was the beginning of a second half that conflict arose.

The guards on both teams argued heatedly over fouls called — and, at times, ones not called. At one point, a Broski even began threatening a fan. The Broski's mantra, which they repeated often to SBO players, became "don't start something you can’t finish."

"It got a little heated, a little physical," O'Connell said. "But it was just two teams working hard."

SBO did finish, however, scoring eight of the last 11 points to end the half. The final score was 110-106.

Tuesday, April 27, 2007
The Observer
Rutgers pitching staff has been its weak spot this season. The Scarlet Knights have just a 4.82 team ERA and will be facing an Irish team that is averaging 7.2 runs per game over its last five.

As usual, Pollock and shortstop Kate Lilley will lead Notre Dame from the top of the lineup, but it will be up to sluggers like first baseman Mike Dury — who is looking for his ninth home run this year — to drive them in.

Both Saturday's doubleheader and Sunday's single game will begin at noon.

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Espinoza continued from page 24

She feels she is still her main competition. "Yes, I'm still trying to get past the other athletes at this level," she said. "But most of what I'm trying to do is get past my marks and what I can do to improve."

As a young athlete, Espinoza competed in both throwing and jumping events. In fourth grade, she competed at the Junior Olympics in high jump, long jump and shot put. She liked competing in multiple events because it gave her the chance to see which one she liked best and which events she performed best.

"I guess shot put and discus were a little above normal, so I just stuck with it," she said.

Personal-best throws drive Espinoza and give her motivation to keep up her hard work.

"It helps me to continue to work hard just because I know that what I'm doing is helping me to improve," she said. "And when I get that improvement, it just helps me to work even harder to continue to keep improving my mark."

Espinoza will not throw the shot put this weekend — she'll compete in just the discus. This week in practice, Espinoza has focused on controlling her throwing motion in the ring.

"We've just been working on getting faster in the ring, which is harder to get the discus farther," she said. "Being fast, and still keeping the technique the same."

While the Big East championships are looming, Espinoza said she approaches the meet the same way as any other and feels no added pressure.

"Every meet is another chance to get a big throw, and that's how I look at every meet, to get a mark farther than what I have gone before," she said. "I try not to get too worried about anything. I just go out to the meet and try and do my best. I know I'm pretty well-matched in the Big East and we'll probably be a challenge."

Contact Bill Brink at wbbrink@nd.edu

Buckeyes continued from page 24

He has stopped 20-24 shots on goal for an impressive .833 save percentage.

"In the last six games, we played well defensively," Zimmermann said. "We are a great defensive unit. We need to play within ourselves, and we will come away with the win."

Ohio State is led by sophomore attack Joel Dalargn, who has a team-high 42 assists. "He is a big part of our offense. He is hitting .415."

Junior third baseman Dan Kapala, sophomore Kyle Weiland and freshmen Eric Kork, Big East defensive player of the year Coco Zimmerman, and senior Maggie Dan Kapa la, who is back in the starting rotation after sitting out last weekend's series against West Virginia with tendinitis. The other two starters for the Irish in this weekend's series are unclear. Junior Wade Korpi, sophomore Kyle Weiland and freshman Eric Maust, all of whom have started conference games this season, will be available for coach Dave Schrago.

"We feel very ready and prepared going into the tournament."

Tracy Coyne

Irish coach

Koch, Big East defensive player of the year. Georgetown led the Irish 2-0 defensively, giving up only seven goals per game in conference play.

Coyne said Notre Dame has been looking forward to this tournament for a long time. "From the beginning of the year, winning the Big East championship has always been one of our biggest goals," Coyne said. "We feel very ready and prepared going into the tournament."

The Irish finished the regular season with 11 wins and only five losses, all to ranked teams. Facing one of the toughest schedules in the nation, Notre Dame was 6-5 against ranked opponents.

Sophomore Jillian Byers led the Irish with 39 goals and 21 assists, and has led the team in assists all season. McKinney and Byers were both named unanimous all-Big East selections, and senior Jeff Ryan was also named to the first team. Senior Kaki Orr and Lena Zenigraf were selected to the second team.

The winner of the Georgetown-Notre Dame game will advance to the Big East championship game to face either No. 3-seed Rutgers or No. 2-seed Syracuse. The Irish dropped contests to both teams in close matches in the regular season, falling at Syracuse 16-13 in overtime and at home against the Scarlet Knights 8-7.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

Buckeyes coach Jeff Ryan leads the team with 24 goals. Senior midfielder Eric Brien has won 127 out of 211 face-offs (.602 percent) for the Buckeyes.

Junior goaler Stefan Schrader has recorded all 12 decisions for Ohio State and has registered a .564 save percentage while making 114 saves. Schrader has recorded all 12 decisions for Ohio State and has registered a .564 save percentage while making 114 saves.

"We prepared well all week to go against a talented Ohio State team," Kemp said. "We have been giving our best in our recent games. Our coaches have prepared us.

The opening faceoff will be at noon at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium.

Contact Pat O'Brien at pobrien2@nd.edu
**BASEBALL**

**Notre Dame takes two-series win streak to Piscataway**

_by Chris Khorey_  
Sports Editor

Notre Dame has won its last two conference series and it's quest for a third straight will be a little tougher. The Irish travel to Piscataway, N.J., this weekend for three games in two days Saturday and Sunday against Big East leader Rutgers.

Notre Dame (22-18, 6-5 Big East) has won five of its last seven conference games and eight of its last 10 overall. The Scarlet Knights (24-14, 12-3 Big East) are riding a four-game winning streak and swept South Florida (who swept Notre Dame in late March) last weekend. Rutgers is also 11-1 at home this season, with its only loss coming to Seton Hall April 14. But Irish third baseman A.J. Pollock sees no reason why his team can’t stop the Scarlet juggernaut in its tracks.

“Everybody is very confident,” the freshman said. “We’ve built up a lot of confidence over the last week. If we do the things we need to do, I don’t think anyone in the conference can beat us.”

That confidence in the club house has slowly emerged as the team has started to play better.

“Every game, most guys didn’t think [we could win],” the Irish third baseman said. “Now, every game we think we can win.”

The Irish face OSU for three games in two days tonight at the Bookstore courts.

**WOMEN’S LACROSSE**

**ND plays in first Big East tourney**

_by Michael Bryan_  
Sports Writer

For the first time in its history, Notre Dame will play in a conference tournament. No. 12 Notre Dame enters the inaugural Big East championship today, facing top-seeded Georgetown in the first round. The No. 4-seed Irish will look to defeat the Hoyas for the second time this season and pick up their first-ever win at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse.

The Irish (11-5, 3-2 Big East) won the regular season match against the Hoyas (9-6, 4-1) in a historic match at Moose Krause Stadium. In the April

**Irish face OSU for conference crown**

_by Pat O'Brien_  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame travels to Columbus, Ohio, Saturday to take on conference rival Ohio State in a matchup of two teams on hot streaks. The No. 10 Irish (9-3, 3-0 GWLL) have won six in a row while the No. 20 Buckeyes (8-4, 4-0) are coming off four straight victories.

Not only are the undefeated Buckeyes a tough out, but the winner of this game also receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament as the GWLL champion.

“In the back of our minds, we know it’s a big game,” Irish defender Ross Zimmerman said. “[Ohio State] is a different team with a few new players in big roles. They are very physical and are a good defensive team with offensive threats.”

Freshman attack Will Yeatman leads the Irish offense with team-highs in points (37) and assists (19). Sophomore attack Ryan Hoff is the team leader in goals with 30.

Junior midfielder Taylor Clagg leads the Irish in faceoffs. He has won 137 out of 226 draws for a .606 percentage.

Some athletes will travel to Des Moines, Iowa, to compete in the Drake Relays, while others will head to Hillsdale, Mich., to compete in the Hillsdale Gina Relays. Both relays are notorious for the high level of competition.

Freshman thrower Jaclyn Espinoza isn’t fazed by the competition. Instead, she challenges herself.

“Ever since I’ve been throwing since I was young, I’ve always looked at it as a competition against myself and my marks,” she said. “Even being at this higher level, I still look at this as a competition with myself.”

Although Espinoza has won an event this season, she still looks at it as a competition against herself.

**TRACK**

**Split squad travels to top meets**

_by Bill Brink_  
Sports Writer

The toughness of Notre Dame’s competition will jump to a higher level this weekend. Some athletes will travel to Des Moines, Iowa, to compete in the Drake Relays, while others will head to Hillsdale, Mich., to compete in the Hillsdale Gina Relays. Both relays are notorious for the high level of competition.

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