Early action applications up 11.5 percent

University recruits more minority, international students; Peer college policy changes affect ND

By ROHAN ANAND

Early action applications to the University rose to 4,247 this year, up 11.5 percent from last year, Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Admissions Dan Saracino said.

This year's applicant pool includes a 45 percent increase in the number of ethnic minorities seeking early admittance to Notre Dame, as well as a 10 percent increase in international students. A total of 791 minorities and 126 international students submitted early action applications this fall, Saracino said.

He called those figures "healthy increases." My projection is that we will come out of early action with an admitted group of students with higher academic records and extracurricular activities than ever before," Saracino said. "However, even more notable will be the amount of diversity — ethnically, internationally, and socio-economically — that will be reflected in next year's freshman class."

Visitation to the admissions office have also been up 10 percent this year, Saracino said, and admissions officers are receiving more inquiries from students and high school counselors via e-mail, phone calls and application requests.

Saracino attributed the increases in international student applications to his office's outreach efforts, which include increased traveling to other countries to market Notre Dame, mobilizing the alumni abroad to contact high computers and computer science majors, argued that religion doesn't have a place in the political spectrum. Their opponents, Law School professor Richard Garnett and senior Corey Mehlos, co-president of College Democrats, said there are times when religion can be appropriate in political settings.

By MADELINE BUCKLEY

Two student-professor teams faced off at LaFortune Student Center Tuesday night as they debated the role of religion in politics.

Political science professor David Campbell and senior Kathleen Sullivan, a political science major, argued that religion doesn't have a place in the political spectrum. Their opponents, Law School professor Richard Garnett and senior Corey Mehlos, co-president of College Democrats, said there are times when religion can be appropriate in political settings.

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

'Shirt' president wants to go national

By JOSEPH McMAHON

The Council of Representatives unani­mously approved Tuesday a new president to head The Shirt committee next year and discussed the possibility of selling The Shirt nationwide. The outgoing president of The Shirt committee, senior Brad LeNoir, presented junior Jason Gott, vice president of the 2007 commit­tee, to the council.

"Jason is the best candidate because of the experience and ideas he brings to the table," LeNoir said.

Gott said he has several new ideas for the 2008 Shirt. Although the design is still in the early phases of production, Gott said, plans are already underway to sell The Shirt in nationwide retail stores like J.C. Penney, Sears and Dick's Sporting Goods.

"J.C. Penney has actually already approached us," Gott said. "We want to turn it into a nationwide program while main­taining The Shirt's identity."

Gott stressed this last point. While he hopes The Shirt will be sold nationally, Gott said it will always remain a student-run project and a symbol of unity for Notre Dame supporters.

"I would take very great care to make sure it stays relevant to Notre Dame foot­ball," he said.

see THE SHIRT/page 8

Role of religion in politics debated

Panelists use JFK example to explore separation of Church, state

By MADELINE BUCKLEY

Two student-professor teams faced off at LaFortune Student Center Tuesday night as they debated the role of religion in politics.

Political science professor David Campbell and senior Kathleen Sullivan, a political science major, argued that religion doesn't have a place in the political spectrum. Their opponents, Law School professor Richard Garnett and senior Corey Mehlos, co-president of College Democrats, said there are times when religion can be appropriate in political settings.

University remembers soldiers, sends packages

By ANN-MARIE WOODS

As Notre Dame students count the days to go home for Thanksgiving, one group wants to remember fellow Americans that don't have the privilege of spending the holiday with their families.

Bearing in mind men and women in the armed forces abroad, the Notre Dame Accounting Association (NDAA) organized its annual care-package drive, inviting students to send gifts to deployed soldiers, primarily those in the Middle East.

The drive ends this weekend.

see RELIGION/page 3

see EARLY/page 6

see NBC/page 8

The exec: Bold pitches get backing

Network vice president encourages fearlessness

By JENN METZ

Fearlessness is necessary when entering the television industry, an NBC official said Tuesday at Notre Dame.

In a discussion titled "Developing Prime Time: Television," a part of the F. J. L. 1. m. Television and Theatre Talks series, Katie O'Connell, senior vice president of development and management at NBC Entertainment, outlined careers in television and how a show grows from a pitch to pilot.

In order to succeed, one must be able to articulate an opinion and "be fearless about that," said O'Connell, who spoke to an audi­ence of mainly FJT majors in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center's Browning Center.

"It's really easy not to like some­thing," O'Connell said. "Having a fearless stance, standing up for some­thing... those are the strongest assets in this business."

At her current position, O'Connell guided the pilot develop­ment and launch of freshmen series like "Chuck," "Life," "Boston Woman" and "Journeysman." She also is working on a mid-season addition, "Uchrony Jungle" based on "Uchrony."
INSIDE COLUMN

What almost came to be

On Saturday, Nov. 3, 2007, I traveled to Chicago to see one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People in concert. This was an adventure fraught with near-disaster, creepy cabbies and what will forever be one of my biggest regrets.

But it was still one of the most amazing times of my life.

Anthony Conklin

Sports Wire Editor

Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

...and out, and I am not one to be shy in front of a crowd, but I still had reservations.

The crowd went wild and Dane Cook's voice was lost among gasps when the lights went out and we heard the announcements.

"This summer Dane Cook brings you 'Bough Around the Edges.'"

Then a familiar voice, that of Dane Cook, interrupted with, "Hey, that's not this summer, that's tonight!"

The crowd went wild and Dane Cook took the stage. As can be expected, the act was hilarious. He had a lot of new material, and the old material he used was spiced up with new bits.

I couldn't keep up straight at times and was clinging to my chair for support.

In summary, I am glad I went to the show Sunday from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium.

The Notre Dame women's soccer team will play against Loyola-Chicago Friday at 7:30 p.m. on Alumni Field.

The Black Cultural Arts Council is holding modeling tryouts for its annual fashion show Sunday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for any women interested. The men's tryouts will take place next Tuesday from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Both tryouts will be held in Washington Hall.

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

By LIZ MILLER

Near the end of the Cold War, the heads of state of the U.S. and the Soviet Union came close to doing away with nuclear warfare, bestselling author and nuclear abolitionist Jonathan Schell told an audience in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies Tuesday.

The author of "The Fate of the Earth" focused his lecture, titled "Nuclear Abolition in 1986 — And Now," on a 1986 summit in Reykjavik, Iceland, where President Ronald Reagan met with Soviet Union leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

During this summit, the leaders of the superpower nations came extremely close to abolishing nuclear weapons altogether, he said — a fact many people may find difficult to believe.

"But despite this, he said the two leaders jointly stated "a nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought," Schell said. And their ability to see eye-to-eye on this matter, he said, proves the issue of nuclear weapons poses serious threats to mankind, and these should outweigh political and military motivations.

"We have a common humanity that extends beneath the partisan quarrels," Schell said. While many argued a heavy war, Schell said, the world leaders had a "proliferant." By keeping a nuclear arsenal as a "deterrent" from nuclear war, Schell considers the weapons to be a "proliferant." By keeping a nuclear arsenal as a "deterrent" from nuclear war, Schell considers the weapons to be a "proliferant.

"We have a two-tier world," dividing those nations who have nuclear power from those who do not, Schell said. And this only creates more incentive for countries to implement nuclear weapon programs in order to join the besttier.

"The president would say "Hello, Mikhail," and Gorbachev would say, "Hi, is it you?" And then they could destroy the last missile." Schell ended his lecture with a story he said Reagan originally imagined about a future meeting with Gorbachev.

"[Reagan] and Gorbachev would come to Iceland, and each of them would bring the last nuclear missile from each country with them," Schell said. "Then they would give a tremendous party for the whole world. The president would be very old by then and Gorbachev would not recognize him."

"The president would say "Hello, Mikhail," and Gorbachev would say, "Hi, is it you?" And then they could destroy the last missile." Schell pointed to the Pentagon's new offensive initiative, called the "Global Strike." Its mission includes developing the ability to launch a missile strike on any place on the globe in a timeframe of 30 minutes to one hour.

"But he asked, "where is the political will?"

"We, as citizens, respond to the extent that it allows you to humanize it, rather than humanize it, religion should only be used to divorce the role and influence of religion out of politics is an entrenched in humanity that religion can be used it as a wedge for prejudice."

"The government ought not impose religious requirements, but it does not do to tell a candidate your view is no good because it is rooted in religion," Garnett said. He said religion is so entrenched in humanity that "any idea that you can push religion out of politics is an anti-human idea."

"But rather than an inherent, universal part of human beings," Campbell and Sullivan said religion can be divisive and can polarize a political discussion rather than humanize it. "Of course you should take all your beliefs and values into account when voting," Campbell said. "However, religion should only be used to the extent that it allows you to evaluate the policies, not to use it as a wedge for prejudice."

And though the panelists didn't reach a consensus, the Campbell-Sullivan team said that, at least at Notre Dame, the role and influence of religion in life seems to be better outlined.

"I think the advantage of an education from Notre Dame is that you can — through courses, readings and conversations with friends — figure out how your faith will inform in your politics and public lives," Campbell said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Religion continued from page 1

Sullivan kicked off the debate — which was hosted by ND Notes '08 — by quoting President John F. Kennedy, who would often reassure voters during his campaign that his Catholicism didn't influence his political identity.

"I am not the Catholic candidate for president. I am the Democratic Party's candidate for president who happens also to be a Catholic," Sullivan said.

She said Kennedy made this statement in a speech to alloy fears that the Pope would run the country if a Catholic president were elected. "Kennedy had it right," she said."Religion really has no place in politics."

In response to Sullivan, Garnett said Kennedy's speech is often taken out of context and used to support a new trend of "radically privatizing our religions."

"Separation of church and state should be absolute, but it has nothing to do with how we, as citizens, respond to the common good," Garnett said. This brought up the question of morality in the context of faith-based laws and policies. One member of the audience asked the panelists to distinguish between morality and religion.

Kathleen Sullivan senior

"'N OTREDAME' to 78573 ♦ CAM PU S NEWS

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

The Observer ♦ CAMPUS NEWS

BusinessWeek, our employees and recent grads, to name a few, in fact; Deloitte ranked ahead of 49 companies you probably know by name. Of course, we had something to aim for: we were ranked number three in 2006. And, year after year, we've ranked on other leading lists, including Fortune magazine's "Best Companies to Work For" and Working Mother magazine's "100 Best Companies." If you're wondering why, it's not just because we offer a strong benefits package, a collaborative work environment, and the opportunity to work with some of the finest clients in the world. While the list goes on, we stand out in a culture that makes careers.

BusinessWeek ranks Deloitte #1 in "50 Best Places to Launch a Career," September 2007. See more. To discover your opportunities with Deloitte and find out why BusinessWeek ranked us the best place to start a career, text "NOTREDAME" to 78573 or visit deloitte.com/us/notredame.

Deloitte.

CAREER

BusinessWeek

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Deloitte.

CAREER
Soldiers
continued from page 1

With gift card contributions
from Wal-Mart, Meijer, and
Sam's Club, the NDAA was
able to purchase food and sup­
plies for the drive. The
Hammes Bookstore also
donated Notre Dame T-shirts for
each care pack­
age, Byrum said.
Collections and
donations began
after fall break,
and will continue
from 10 a.m. to 2
p.m. this after­
noon, in the atrium
of the Munduza College
of Business. The
NDAA also will
have a concession
stand on South Quad this
weekend before the Duke
game, with all proceeds con­
tributing to the care packages.
At the concession stand,
Byrum and other NDAA mem­
bers will collect items and
cash donations to help pay for
shipping costs.

One of the most im­
portant aspects of this project is col­
lecting a list of soldiers to
receive packages, Byrum said.

"There are
students at Notre
Dame and other
places that have
them [soldiers] in
their thoughts and
prayers."
Elizabeth Byrum
co-director of community
service
NDAA

O'Brien, the drive began as a
small project and has grown
each year, Byrum said. With
the onset of the war in the
Middle East, O'Brien was
interested in sending some­
thing to American soldiers to
show support.

Contact Ann-Marie Woods at
awoods4@nd.edu

Seniors, what in God’s name
are you doing next year?

How about the Campus
Ministry Internship?
Join us Thursday, November 15th
at 5:30 p.m. in 316 Coleman-
Morse for pizza, information, and
applications.

Contact:
Paulsen.1@nd.edu

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK
Responding to the HIV/AIDS Epidemic
in Sub-Saharan Africa:

The Power of Academic
Partnerships

A slide presentation by
Dr. Robert Einterz
Professor of Clinical Medicine and
Associate Dean for International Affairs,
Indiana University School of Medicine

7 p.m. Thursday
November 15, 2007
Jordan Hall of Science
Room 105

Reception will follow
FRANCE

**Strikes to cripple Paris mass transit**

Public transportation workers, students join to protest recent government decisions

Associated Press

PARIS - Strikers shut down much of France's national rail service after rush hour Tuesday night, and millions of Paris commuters prepared to go without subways when the city's train crews joined the walkout.

People planned to use the capital's new bicycle rental service, share cars or stay home during the Wednesday subway strike. Others said they would walk.

Xavier Basset, an accountant, faced a nearly four-mile walk across Paris to his job. "I'll work on my calves," he said.

Unlike recent limited transportation strikes, rail unions set no time limit for the shutdown called to protest the conservative government's move to eliminate special rules that allow train drivers and certain other public workers to retire early.

President Nicolas Sarkozy's government insists the pension rules are outdated, unfair and too costly. Several opinion surveys suggest Sarkozy has public support. He vowed Tuesday not to give in to those claims, which have defeated previous government attempts to loosen the system.

Sarkozy stresses "his determination to carry out this reform" and hopes to implement them quickly, presidential spokesman David Martinon said.

Rail traffic shut down across France late on Tuesday, and the SNCF rail network said only 15 percent to 20 percent of trains on major lines would run during the day. Fierce churning traffic would likely be disrupted through the weekend and urged travelers to postpone trips.

With Paris subway workers set to join in, the city's public transit authority, RATP, predicted almost no trains would run on most routes starting Wednesday. Only one line was expected to run normally, as it is automated.

High demand was expected for the more than 10,000 bikes recently installed by city officials at 750 spots across Paris to encourage a reduction in car use. The bikes, which can be left at any of the stations, proved extremely popular during a short transit strike last month, when the number of daily users doubled to 180,000.

Officials said they would deploy 260 workers armed with metal cutters to retrieve bikes from anyone who tried to hog them all day. The bicycles are intended to be used for short trips, and rental prices skyrocket as the check ticks usually enough to deter riders from hoarding bikes, but not on strike days.

Parisians with a spare bicycle or motor scooter were renting them out on a Web site that promised they could "earn money thanks to the strike."

Motorcycle taxis, able to weave through snarled traffic, looked like a good solution. For managers of two motorcycle taxi services they said they were completely booked through early Friday. Car shares were another option.

While the transit walkout would have the biggest impact, employees of state-run electric utility, gas and other services were expected to join the strike.

Electricity workers said they would cut power to local offices of Sarkozy's conservative UMP party, and they threatened "Robby Hood" operations — restoring power to households that can't afford their electricity bills.

The Comedie Francaise theater and Paris' National Opera, whose employees also would be affected by the pension change, canceled Wednesday performances.

Young people also joined the fray, angry over a new law to give public universities the power to raise tuition and accept private donations. Student leaders say that will keep the poor out of college.

As of Tuesday, students at 26 of France's 85 universities had voted to strike, said UNEF, the leading student union.
Early

continued from page 1

school students and the University's financial aid options for international students.

Historically, the University has seen a high level of interest from students in Latin America and the Middle East, Saracino said, but more recently his office has been targeted by students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. "The economy is doing extremely well in Asia, so we're putting our money where our mouth is," Saracino said.

While admissions would like to see more applicants from areas like the Middle East, Africa and Australia, limitations in market and resources prevents the office from establishing the markets they are developing in areas like Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan and mainland China, for example, Saracino said. Another big change this year is the lack of early admission programs at several peer institutions. Saracino said the admissions committee thinks the decisions of Harvard, Princeton and the University of Chicago to eliminate their early admissions programs last fall have already had a bearing on Notre Dame's admissions process this year — and will continue to do so. Because there are usually overlapping candidates that apply to those schools and to Notre Dame, many students admitted early will not accept or decline their offer until the spring, when those other schools have released their decisions.

That could cause some confusion within our application pool, and it will be different to predict a yield on early action and regular action students," Saracino said.

The University has also teamed this year with companies such as QuestBridge and the outside vendor Boyall & Company to attract more domestic students. QuestBridge, an online Web site, helps the admissions committee identify talented students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds and matches them with the good financial aid packages the University can offer, Saracino said.

Boyall & Company, based in Richmond, Va., targets high-achieving minority students and includes them in a database of potential applicants. It means applicants are identified earlier than ever before.

"For us, undergraduate admissions has evolved into an 18-month cycle instead of 12-month cycle," Saracino said. In order to be considered for early action admission, candidates had to submit applications to the admissions office either electronically or through regular the postal system no later than Nov. 1. Decision letters that admit, defer or deny the applicant admission to the University are usually mailed out on Dec. 15, and admitted students have until May 1 to accept or decline the offer, Saracino said.

Other universities also offer specific early admission programs, including early decision or single-choice early action. Under a binding early decision agreement, the candidate must sign a note pledging the applicant will attend that university if admitted. Therefore, they may only apply early to only one institution, Saracino said.

Single-choice early action, on the other hand, is non-binding but mandates the student does not apply early to other schools. Admitted students have until May 1 to accept or decline their admissions offer. Saracino said. Notre Dame, however, always offered a very basic early action program that allows students to apply early to as many schools as they wish.

"We personally do not offer early decision or single-choice early action because we don't believe it is in the best interest of the applicants. Seniors are still going through the evaluation process and we want to give them plenty of time to review other colleges (and) receive financial aid packages so that they can make an informed decision by the May 1 deadline."

Dan Saracino assistant provost Undergraduate Admissions

Some universities that offer the early decision option, like Cornell, state on their admissions Web page that applying early offers an advantage for a student in the application pool because "enthusiasm for Cornell is considered a plus."

Saracino mentioned, however, that this doesn't necessarily apply to Notre Dame's early program, and that there is no general advantage to applying early.

"The advantages really depend on the student," he said. For some students, he said, last-minute information like mid-semester grades or December standardized test scores could tip the admissions committee either way — and if it's toward an acceptance letter, perhaps it's in the student's best interest his application is not reviewed until this information is in.

"So, in some cases a student's application may become stronger after the [acceptance] decision is made," he said. "Generally, we suggest that if a student feels that their application is 'good' but not 'outstanding' by the Nov. 1 deadline that they should wait until the regular decision deadline on Dec. 31."

Students who are deferred under the early action program are told that their credentials will be reviewed again in the spring and that they will be notified at the same time as other regular decision applicants, around March 29. Some applicants, however, are denied under early action — and they may not re-submit applications for the same academic year, Saracino said.

"For those candidates, we usually feel that even if we waited for more information, the candidate would not be admitted," he said. "Therefore, we're giving them more time to look at alternative choices, and high schools appreciate this."
**The Observer**

**MARKET RECAP**

**Stocks**

- Dow Jones
  - Up: Same: Down: Composite Volume
  - 2,783 68 604 4,157,017,160

- AMEX
  - 2,413.27 +35.00

- NASDAQ
  - 2,673.65 +89.52

- S&P 500
  - 1,481.05 +11.87

- NIKKEI (Tokyo)
  - 15,435.88 +310.94

- FTSE 100 (London)
  - 3,767.40 +24.50

**COMPANY**

- **PRICE**
  - TTRC (P) 43.75+2.25
  - BGR (P) 52.00 +2.00
  - AFG (P) 96.00 -2.00
  - STY (P) 20.00 +0.50

- **TREASURIES**
  - 10-YEAR NOTE 8.375% 92.45 +0.04
  - 30-YEAR BOND 6.125% 91.325 +0.95

- **COMMODITIES**
  - LIGHT CRUDE (11/30) 49.61 -1.37
  - GOLD ($/Troy oz.) 799.00 -8.70

**CURRENCY**

- **yen**
  - 111.0900 +0.01

**Exchange Rates**

- **ERM**
  - 0.6835

**IN BRIEF**

**Sirus shareholders allow XM purchase**

NEW YORK — Shareholders approved a deal Tuesday to allow Sirius Satellite Radio Inc. to acquire its rival XM Satellite Radio Holdings Inc. for about $5 billion, but the largest hurdle has yet to come — regulatory approval in Washington.

- **Analyst**
  - Anthony Geraldi, co-owner of Fisherman's Grotto, saying it would create a monopoly that could hurt consumers.

- **Cable**
  - Cable operators had already endorsed the deal.

**Dow Jones Industrials**

- **COMPANY**
  - **%CHANGE**
  - **$GAIN**
  - **PRICE**

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**Bay Area economy hurt by oil spill**

Seafood, tourism industries suffer from closed beaches, delayed fishing seasons

SAN FRANCISCO — The oil spill that has already fouled San Francisco Bay and delayed the Dungeness crab season in réalisé that visitors will be reluctant to dine in the city's famed seafood restaurants.

- **Crisis**
  - The seafood market in the new budget year was up 12.6 percent from October 2006.

**U.S. begins fiscal year with high deficit**

WASHINGTON — The government started the new budget year with an October deficit of $55.6 billion, up sharply from last year even though government revenue hit an all-time high for the month.

- **Revenue**
  - The Treasury Department reported Tuesday that the deficit for the first month in the new budget year was up 12.6 percent from the imbalance in October 2006.

- **Deficit**
  - The CBOT is projecting that the deficit for the current fiscal year will be $355 billion, up sharply from last year, when the deficit fell to $112 billion, a 1.4 percent increase.

**Wal-Mart in position for holiday success**

BENTONVILLE, Ark. — A year after its worst holiday sales season ever, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. may rebound to have the best season since the July 2001 grand opening of its first store.

- **Retailers**
  - Retail experts say Wal-Mart's flagship stores have been in the midst of a turnaround after two years of a zigzag course between upscale and discount goods that has slowed sales growth.

- **Earnings**
  - The company expects same-store sales for the fourth quarter to rise no more than 2 percent.

**Wal-Mart sales**

- **Holiday sales**
  - Wal-Mart's holiday sales growth slowed to 1.3 percent last year from 7.2 percent in 2001-02.

**Wal-Mart's early start**

Wal-Mart's early start in this year's holiday season came under a cloud when it reported October same-store sales were flat for the namesake stores, minus Sam's Clubs, on the back of an unexpectedly warm weather that hit sales of coffee and other seasonal goods.
The Shirt
continued from page 1

Newly 180,000 Shirts have been sold each of the past five years, LeNoël said. The success has spawned several spin-off items, including a "The Shirt" sweatshirt last year and "The Shirt" hat this year. However, sales of these items have not been as good as the original product.

The target audience for "Chuck" is young men, O'Connell said, but it also matters how they sell it to the public.

In the case of "Chuck," its originality attracted O'Connell, along with its relation to what she called an "interesting pattern in television now."

"It's OK to watch TV. It is really important to read a script and then watch it on TV. Watching as many pilots as possible is the most instructive thing you can do...how did these shows get started," she said.

Before working at NBC, O'Connell worked at Imagine Television, where she developed projects, including the Emmy-award winning cult hit " Arrested Development."

That project, which was cancelled after its third season on FOX, is an example of how "television is heartbreakingly," she said. "We have to deal with a lot of emotion in the creative process.

Also, the fate of " Arrested Development" is illustrative of "how many factors go into why certain television shows are successful," O'Connell said.

"It is quite possible if " Arrested Development" was on NBC after "The Office" that it would have had a different trajectory," she said.

A Notre Dame graduate, O'Connell encouraged students interested in careers in entertainment to take classes in the Department of Film, Television and Theatre.

"Having a knowledge of storytelling and writing is very important in this very subjective industry," she said.

After she was asked her opinion on the Writers Guild of America strike, which reached its eighth day Tuesday, O'Connell said, "I want it to be over very soon."

"I completely understand what they are looking for, but this could create so much collateral damage...People are losing their jobs...it could have an enormous, irrevocable effect on the business," she said.

O'Connell also showed "dailies," or raw, unedited footage, from "Blue Blood," a show currently in its second season, is "one of the best shows we have," she said.

"My theory (about " Friday Night Lights") is like if I talk to a person who's never seen it, they love it. The trouble is getting an audience," she said.

Students planning on pursuing a career in television should be an audience, she said.

"It's OK to watch TV. It is really important to read a script and then watch it on TV. Watching as many pilots as possible is the most instructive thing you can do...how did these shows get started," she said.

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O'Connell also showed "dailies," or raw, unedited footage, from "Blue Blood," a show currently being filmed and directed by Brett Ratner of " Iron Man" fame.

"You have to learn how to watch these shows," she said. "It is interesting to see the raw material and then what it has the potential to turn into."

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

The Shirt
continued from page 1

Nearly 180,000 Shirts have been sold each of the past five years, LeNoël said. The success has spawned several spin-off items, including a "The Shirt" sweatshirt last year and "The Shirt" hat this year. However, sales of these items have not been as good as the original product.

"The hat wasn't as successful as we had hoped," LeNoël said. "Part of that was because it didn't come out until the Boston College weekend, and we should have pushed it sooner before the season turned."

Nonetheless, he said both items have been effective as limousine tools for future "The Shirt" products.

"It's good to see what products we can profit from for our 20th anniversary in two years," LeNoël said.

Beyond plans to expand sales of 'The Shirt' beyond the Notre Dame bookstore and to possibly explore new products, Gott said he doesn't plan to change the design process, which is currently done by a committee.

"I'm comfortable with the process as a whole," Gott said.

In other COR news:

◆ The council discussed how to include student input in the selection of a commencement speaker. After corresponding with the office of University President Father John Jenkins, senior class vice president Chris Dougherty said he was able to gain a better understanding of how the selection process works.

"It is the decision of Father Jenkins, and sometimes that decision is not made until late spring," Dougherty said.

Jenkins will accept letters of recommendation from students in addition to hearing the opinions of several student and faculty groups, Dougherty said. However, Dougherty said he hopes to have a sit-down meeting with Jenkins to discuss the available options and share student opinions with him.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon6@nd.edu
Chlamydia cases set record for U.S. STDs

Associated Press

ATLANTA — More than 1 million cases of Chlamydia were reported in the United States last year — the most ever reported for a sexually transmitted disease, federal health officials said Tuesday.

Officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said they think better and more intensive screening accounts for much of the increase, but added that Chlamydia was not the only sexually transmitted disease on the rise.

Gonorrhea rates are jumping again after hitting a record low, and an increasing number of cases are caused by a "superbug" version resistant to common antibiotics.

Syphilis is rising, too. The rate of congenital syphilis — which can deform or kill babies — rose for the first time in 15 years.

"Hopefully we will not see this turn into a trend," said Dr. Khalil Ghanem, an infectious diseases specialist at Johns Hopkins University's School of Medicine.

The CDC released a report each year on chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis, three diseases caused by sexually transmitted bacteria. Chlamydia is the most common. Nearly 1,031,436 cases were reported last year, up from 976,000 the year before.

The count broke the single-year record for reported cases of a sexually transmitted disease, which was 1,013,436 cases of gonorrhea, set in 1978.

Putting those numbers into perspective, there were about 348 cases of chlamydia per 100,000 women in 2006, up 5.6 percent from the 329 per 100,000 rate in 2005.

Since 1993, the CDC has recommended annual screening in sexually active women ages 15 to 25. Meanwhile, urine and swab tests for the bacteria are getting better and are used more often, for men as well as women, said Dr. John M. Douglas Jr., director of the CDC's Division of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention.

About three-quarters of women infected with chlamydia have no symptoms. Left untreated, the infection can spread and ultimately can lead to infertility. It's easily treated if caught early.

Health officials believe as many as 2.8 million new cases may actually be occurring each year, he added.

Chlamydia infection rates are more than seven times higher in black women than whites, but it's a risk women of all races should think again," said Dr. Stuart Berman, a CDC epidemiologist.

"Hopefully we will not see this turn into a trend," said Dr. Khalil Ghanem, an infectious diseases specialist at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

"If (health care) providers think young women in their practice don't have chlamydia, they should think again," said Dr. Stuart Berman, a CDC epidemiologist.

The gonorrhea story is somewhat different.

In 2004, the nation's gonorrhea rate fell to 112.4 cases per 100,000 people in 2004, the lowest level since the government started tracking cases in 1941.

But since then, health officials have seen two consecutive years of increases. The 2006 rate — about 121 per 100,000 — represents a 5.5 percent increase from 2005.

Health officials don't know exactly how many superbug cases there were among the more than 358,000 gonorrhea cases reported in 2006. But a surveillance project of 28 cities found that 14 percent were resistant in 2005, and 7 percent were resistant in 2004. The appearance of the superbug has drawn the public's attention, and the CDC is advising doctors to stop using those drugs against gonorrhea.

Douglas said it doesn't look like the superbugs are the reason for gonorrhea's escalating numbers overall, but they're not sure what is driving the increase.

Polls not accurate

Special to The Observer

Current polls tell us that Sen. Hillary Clinton clearly is the frontrunner for the Democratic nomination, and Rudy Giuliani has taken the lead among Republican candidates. But with a year to go before elections, can we be sure that these will be the two names on the ballot for president?

Not necessarily, according to University of Notre Dame political scientist Darren Davis, a nationally recognized expert in public opinion, elections and voting behavior and author of "Negative Liberty: Public Opinion and the Terrorist Attacks on America."

"Public opinion polls are an indispensable resource in elections and governance, and if done correctly, provide a reliable snapshot of how the public perceives candidates and issues," says Davis.

"However, without a complete understanding of how voters reach their decisions, the factors that impinge upon those decisions, and equally important, the underlying methodology of opinion surveys, polling results can be — and often are — misleading. It is true that one can get public opinion polls to say what people want them to say.

Consider the record of some previous Democratic year-ahead polls:

♦ In November 1971, surveys predicted that Democratic would nominate Edward Kennedy or Edwin Muskie. In 1972, the nominee was George McGovern.

♦ In November 1975, Kennedy again was predicted the Democratic nominee; but in 1976, Jimmy Carter was nominated.

♦ In early November 1979, polls predicted that Kennedy would defeat Carter for the Democratic nomination — he didn't.

♦ In 1987, Jesse Jackson was the frontrunner, yet in 1988, Michael Dukakis was the nominee.

♦ In 1991, Mario Cuomo was the predicted nominee, yet Bill Clinton was the actual nominee.
"The Catholic identity of the University," says the Mission Statement, "depends upon ... the ... presence of a predominant number of Catholic intellectuals." & Charles Rice

Right or Wrong?

The cardinal's remarks are relevant to Notre Dame in its treatment of religious diversity and the marginalization of religious education by the academic establishment. He questioned the pursuit of diversity as a goal in itself. "Postmodern students ... imagine that change and diversity are desirable for their own sakes." Students should be educated for the world of today (and a variety of cultures may be a source of enrichment. But for nations living together in peace and friendship, they must share common convictions regarding the basic norms of morality.

Religious diversity," he said, "is not desirable in itself. It appeals chiefly to those who believe there is no truth in religion anyway. If we believe that God is one, and that Jesus is his incarnate Son, we will hope that all peoples, with their different voices and idioms, may someday unite in praising him. To make this goal persuasive in the contemporary atmosphere, what is needed for the son of John Foster Dulles, President Eisenhower's Secretary of State, the Cardinal has rendered distinguished service to Catholic higher education. Using as his "primary guides" ECE and Cardinal John Henry Newman's "The Idea of a University," Cardinal Avery Dulles addresses bluntly the hiring of Catholic faculty. He does so in the context of culture and the relation of the university to the Church and its magisterium or teaching authority. A "Catholic institution," he said, "must be founded on these two principles: that there is a God, that he has made a full and final revelation of himself in Christ Jesus and that the Catholic Church is the authorized custodian and teacher of this body of revealed truth.

The Cardinal proposed that "all disciplines involving human values should be taught in a Catholic institution with due attention to their religious implications." "Graduates," he said, "should not possess a skill set that is full and final revelation of himself in Christ Jesus and that the Catholic Church is the authorized custodian and teacher of this body of revealed truth.

The Cardinal stressed that the Catholic university "participates ... in the mission of the universal Church," and that the teaching authority of the Church should be welcomed: "Cardinal Newman points out the advantages that the guidance of the magisterium gives for the university itself. Just as we turn to physics for answers to questions in which we are expert, so we turn to the Church to give answers in matters of religion. For it is to the Church that God has entrusted the deposit of faith... For answering important questions that arise in the human heart, without the help of the Church, Newman contends, the human mind gravitates toward nihilism." The Catholic university should gracefully acknowledge the mercy of God who has provided an institution that has for two thousand years kept the Christian revelation complete and unsmudged. Whatever the latest theories of professors or the inclination of students may be, the collegiate system should not be allowed to constitute a exclusionary system.

But if it means that professors should not manifest their religious beliefs or seek to influence students according to the demands of the marketplace, as though the measure of success is according to the demands of the marketplace, as though the measure of success was to create more buildings and increase student enrollment. Our colleges and universities must guard against being coopted into this culture, which is anti-Christian and dehumanizing.

Editors:

Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include the name and home address of the writer. Assistant Managing Editors and department editors have reserved the right to reject letters that they deem inappropriate. Letters cannot be found, but because of the newspaper's policy, not suitable candidates can be found. Meeting the challenges facing a Catholic university, Cardinal Dulles said, "cannot be accomplished alone. He must have backing from the trustees and cooperation from the faculty and administration." The administration and the ad hoc committee seek to build such cooperation. The proportion of Catholic faculty at Notre Dame is declining, however, not because suitable candidates cannot be found, but because the obstacle course any seriously Catholic candidate faces in obtaining departmental approval.

The University mission is subordinated to the contrary will of component departments. The Academic Articles, however, vest the power to appoint faculty in the president himself. The existing processes will produce only marginal and fruitless tinkering. The president has power in effect, to govern by veto. In support of the mission, he ought to use that power.

"When you are kind to someone in trouble, you are not only kind to them, but kind to someone else. And it will become a wildfire." —Whoopee Goldberg

American actress

QUOTE OF THE DAY
Letters to the Editor

Thanks, Band

What things can you count on every football Saturday? Several things for sure: candlelight dinners, that random dude completely flipping out over yet another bad play. Officer Tim McCarthy, TV timeouts, but above all, the Notre Dame Marching Band. As seniors looking at the tail end of a season that we’re not so proud of, we’d like to say thank you for the amazing antics of the band and to Band Director Kenneth Dye.

Aircraft carriers, Chevys, tradition. What’s next? If we’ve learned anything this semester, we’ve learned that we can’t list down ONE Campaign goals, signing the ONE declaration and beginning to raise awareness on campus by wearing white ONE bands and T-shirts. Together, as ONE, we can do our part to make poverty history.

Joe Yousouf
Meehy Hall
Nov. 12

Student section deserves appreciation

Where’s the thanks? This past Saturday, my eyes could not believe what they were seeing. And so, I’m not talking about when our team officially and statistically placed itself as Notre Dame’s worst ever by losing to Air Force 41-24. That came as no surprise. Ten generadoes played in the 41-24 thrashing, something positive to come from our football team. Look like Charlie and the gang played in a conventional game. That’s the promise given at the Pep Rally about giving the students something legitimate to cheer for.

But that’s not what caught me off guard. For years, it’s been a Notre Dame tradition for the football team to salute student body after every home game. You can find a picture anywhere of golden helmets raised in thanks to the student body — win or lose. And this year especially, Coach Weis has really emphasized the relationship between the team and the students.

If the relationship is so good, and the team appreciates the fans so much, why didn’t they show their appreciation after the game Saturday? What the students got instead was a bunch of rejected football players, hanging their heads and looking at the ground, stumbling into the tunnel and the locker room after ND’s alma mater was played.

Sure, it’s been a hard season. But it’s been hard for everyone! The students and team together feel the pain of losing, and in past years have together felt the bliss of winning together. That’s what the football team must think that they don’t need to thank anyone anymore. Well, the student body stood for four hours on Saturday in really cold weather to cheer on a football team who has constantly all year looked lazy and lethargic.

We have a marching band who, it seems like, practices more than the team does. Sure, Coach Weis can thank the band at the Pep Rally, but on game day all that goes out the window. The students are not formally recognized. I’d just like to challenge the football team to continue on the nice tradition of saluting the student body by raising their helmets to them after every game — win or lose.

Matt LaFluer
Notre Dame
Nov. 13

Forging a new path of Christian-Muslim rapprochement

Recently, 138 Muslim scholars and clerics from various backgrounds and countries, including the U.S., drafted a letter addressed to all the major Christian religious leaders of the world emphasizing beliefs common to both religions. These central beliefs are the love of God and of one’s neighbor — beliefs that immediately resonate with Christians. The Christian leaders addressed included Pope Benedict XVI, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch and evangelical Christian leaders.

Although the letter did not receive overwhelming attention in the media press, it touched a chord among many Christian interlocutors. Since the letter’s circualtion, a number of representatives of various Christian denominations, including a spokesperson for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Archbishop of Canterbury himself, have responded graciously, reciprocating the Muslim desire to seek common ground between the two faiths on the basis of shared beliefs and values. This reciprocity signals a potential sea-change in Christian-Muslim relations.

Never has the time been more propitious for seeking a Christian-Muslim rapprochement and building a solid alliance in confronting religious extremism and the violence it often engenders that so plague our world today. The alternative is grim. Religious rivalries in the past have resulted in lethal wars, and today’s societies are more vulnerable than ever. The rise of religiously affiliated political parties in many countries is a disturbing trend. We need to thank anyone anymore.

For those of us who study the historical trajectory of these religions this is anything but a pipe dream. Current efforts at seeking a Christian-Muslim rapprochement represent a rather belated recognition of the historical fact that the destinies of these two world religions and civilizations have been and continue to remain inextricably conjoined. In a seminal work entitled “The Case for Islamo-Christian Civilization,” historian Richard Bulliet of Columbia University has remarked that, “(looked as a whole and in historical perspective, the Christian and Muslim worlds have much more in common than we are accustomed to think.”

Much of Muslim and Christian history in fact cannot be fully understood in all its dimensions in isolation from the other. While a part of this intertwined history has been painful memories, part of it continues to inspire hope in the present and into the future. Moving past the jibes and the crusades, we would do well to remember, for instance, that the sharing of learning between Muslim realms and Christendom kept the intellectual legacy of classical antiquity alive in the pre-modern period and contributed to the European Renaissance. Islamic civilization finds its roots in the Judeo-Christian religious tradition and Greek-Human intellectual legacy as much as Western civilization does.

We are at a historic crossroads. The prophets of doom and damnation are plentiful on both sides, overshadowing the less sensational efforts being made by a growing number of Christians and Muslims of good will to build bridges based on shared ethical and moral values. Among such shared values is protection of human life and of the environment as sacred. The Muslim and Christian prophets of doom claim that the alternative is the violence it often engenders that so plagues our world today. The alternative is grim. Religious rivalries in the past have resulted in lethal wars, and today’s societies are more vulnerable than ever. The rise of religiously affiliated political parties in many countries is a disturbing trend. We need to thank anyone anymore.

Asma Asfaruddin
Associate Professor, Arabic and Islamic Studies
Department of Classics
Nov. 13

Global poverty, a call for awareness

Fact: More than one billion people live on less than one dollar each day. Extreme poverty affects over a billion people on our planet. This effect is this hardship reach further than most realize. Poverty cannot suffer from insufficient food, clean water, schooling and education, hunger, disease and political unrest. As Notre Dame students, we are given a unique opportunity to work on the solution of the hardships it creates.

We have the responsibility to raise awareness, both on our campus and throughout this country. Awareness is the most effective way to promote a solution to extreme poverty and AIDS. The ONE Campaign is an American social movement designed to fight extreme poverty and global disease worldwide. ONE pursues this goal through a campaign of awareness, education and activism on campuses and in communities across our nation. Notre Dame students can get involved in the ONE Campaign at Notre Dame by joining the Notre Dame ONE Campus Group, signing the ONE declaration and beginning to raise awareness on campus by wearing white ONE bands and T-shirts. Together, as ONE, we can do our part to make poverty history.

Joe Yousouf
Meehy Hall
Nov. 12

An old-fashioned pep rally

I would really like to see an old-fashioned pep rally this Friday. As an alumna, I have been attending pep rallies for several years at the Jordan Center. They seem so spiritual. How about, for Duke, a good game of football? The band marches the entire campus, students and the marching band pep rally at Stepan, only students allowed in. If the alumni and parents need to see it, tele­vise it to the JACC or onto the side of Grace Hall.

There is something about the heat in Stepan, the crush of the crowd, the band storming in from the side, the drums so loud you can’t hear anything, including your own cheering, the team up close and personal on the stage. Make this Friday an old-fashioned pep rally when the student body and the team by holding an old-fashioned, motivating pep rally.

D.O. Childers, Jr.
alumnus
Clas of 1979
Nov. 13

Students give Stadium energy

I’m writing in response to Robert Russo’s bitter and false letter to the Editor about the football experience, "Nov. 13). Russo rather clearly missed the sarcasm in the letter and the obvious implication that Charles Weis was back for the students for a terrible season. He launches into a rant about appreciation for football experience and then makes the laughable statement that the athletic department could instead sell our student tickets for full face value.

That’s a great idea, Russo. Let’s change the dynamic of the stadium from approximately 70,000 people sitting and rarely cheering to an excitably bloated and rarely cheering. Let’s completely disreg-
The observer scene

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Roll the dice on some winter board games

Classic Board Games

By STEPHANIE DePREZ
Scene Writer

The winter season is fast approaching, and that means two things:
First, Notre Dame students are gearing up for the weather and the long
hours spent hanging in the dorm to avoid freezing to death. Second, now
begins the frantic search for Christmas gifts. And what better way to deal with
both issues than by buying an entertaining board game for those long winter nights?

Many people scoff at the idea of board games, Why bother when we have such
honorable amusements as Guitar Hero III? The day must come, though, that you do
master the expert level of every song, and the glory is over. There’s still TV, though, right? Well, as long as studio productions refuse to sit down with the
Writers Guild of America, all you’re going to see on your Comcast-provided
cable for the next few months is “America’s Next Top Model.” There is a
remedy, though, and way to consistently counteract boredom. That would be the
great American pastime of gathering your roommates — and whomever is
wandering around your section — and no matter what your talent is (or what you lack),
there’s bound to be an edition for you. Whether you are a film buff or a casual moviegoer, this game is
perfect for those winter nights.

Many people consider Scattergories one of the best board games on the market this Christmas.

Scene News: Movie Edition (2nd Edition): This is an updated release of the classic from a few years ago. Pop the
disc into your DVD player and set up the board on your coffee table. Teams com­
pete in answer questions about movies, but the best part is, for a lot of the ques­tions
it doesn’t matter if you’ve seen the movie or not. Whether you are a film buff of a casual moviegoer, this game
is fun and ever amusing. Other editions include Disney, Harry Potter,Marvel Comics, Sports, Music and
TV.

Scattergories: Each team gets a pad with a list of everything from “musical group” to “vegetable.” Roll the die and
get a letter. Turn the timer, and each team has to come up with something for
each category that begins with that letter. But be careful — you only get the point if no other team came up with the
same answer.

Cranium: If you haven’t played it already (or read the back of the box while waiting for your Starbucks back home), you are missing out. This game
appeals to all sides of the brain. Teams move around the board, which is divided into quarters. On one section you act out
erasings in a variety of categories. Tailor-made editions include Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, Chicago, New York,
Totally 80s, Pop Culture, Nickelodeon and Book Lovers.

Contact Stephanie DePrez at
sdprez@nd.edu

Scene and Heard: Gaming

Board games such as Scattergories can provide indoor winter fun.

By ANALISE Lipari
Assistant Scene Editor

Maybe you were a Candy Land junkie, always searching for that elusive Queen Frostine card that would carry you to
the top. Maybe you got your kicks by playing Clue and Ladders — even if you didn’t realize that a
“chute” and a “slide” were the
same thing until years later. Or
maybe you even played Hungry Hippos until every hungry hippo­pota­mus had had his or her fill of
those white, marble-like things.

Regardless of the particulars, each of us goes into nostalgia mode when some­one
sparks a conversation about child­hood board games. Some of them may
ever have been based on a particular television show or movie, while others have
concepts so zany — I’m looking at you, Crackerz in My Bed — that they have to
be seen in game board form to be believed. Either way, mention even one
of the many board games of the eighties and nineties that
helped make our collective childhood as
great as it was. Mousetrap was huge
“farmhouse” with the colorful critters
than your opponents. Sometimes playing
those white, marble-like thingies.

Regardless of which board game you played in your youth and
undoubtedly your friends will claim in
top three, five or even 10
years later. Or
maybe you even
可知的，你有资格参加本周的活动。
Thanks to cast, Samantha Who? is worth figuring out

By CAITLIN FERRARO
Scene Writer

The highest rated new comedy of the season, "Samantha Who?" centers on a woman who suffers from retrograde amnesia. The show is definitely worth remembering.

The premise is simple, yet unoriginal: A girl named Samantha (Christina Applegate) wakes up after an eight-day coma with amnesia, only to discover she was a horrible person.

The comedy had its own identity issues from its beginning, when due to copyright concerns (from Dr. Seuss' estate) it had to change its name from "Sam I Am" to "Samantha Be Good," before finally settling on "Samantha Who?"

The Emmy-winning Applegate masterfully portrays the titular character, Samantha Newly. Applegate has not been this good since her 10-year embarrassment of trashy Kelly Bundy on "Married ... with Children." This show is her comeback as she shines as a funny, charming and chic leading lady.

The cast of actors surrounding Applegate is superb as well. After waking up, Sam discovers she has unstable relationships with all those around her. Seasoned comedic actors Jean Smart and Kevin Dunn, who form a dynamic duo, play the parents to whom Sam has not spoken in two years. When Samantha first wakes up, her mother (Smart) is disappointed because it interrupts her video entry for "Extreme Home Makeover." The only other two people who go to the hospital are Sam's boyfriend, Todd (the adorable Barry Watson), and Sam's quirky junior high best friend, Dena (Melissa McCarthy of "Gilmore Girls"). It turns out Sam's supposed best friend, raging alcoholic and Smart constantly finds playing the parents to whom Sam has not spoken in two years, when复 m2k e re G i lac m a G m or a t s c h e m a a o f "Gilmore Girls" fame. It turns out Sam is cheating on Todd and ditched Dena in high school to be popular. All this while "My Name is Earl," Samantha aims to turn over a new leaf and be a better person. But "Samantha Who?" has yet to perfect the format. The episode sometimes seem a bit frantic and can jump around at times.

Some of Sam's deep philosophical conversations with Todd's apartment door neighbor, Frank (Tim Russ) border on ridiculous. While directoro depicts evil Sam incurring wrath upon those around her (and often Applegate with a different hairstyle), they do not always directly contribute to the show.

Following the thematic pursuit of "My Name is Earl," Samantha aims to forget her past sexual experiences. Future episodes promise similar conversations with Todd's apartment door neighbor, Frank (Tim Russ) border on ridiculousness, but most are great fun. Even the episode entitled "The Job," Sam consults Frank on her outfit. He responds: "Coco Chanel said that to avoid over-accessorizing, women should look in the mirror and remove one thing. With you, it was often your dignity." Ouch.

The other episodes thus far include Sam pretending she was away in rehab instead of in a coma, crashing a wedding in which she had encouraged the bride to have an affair and stressing over forgetting her past sexual experiences. Future episodes promise similar insanity as Sam tries to regain her memory by visiting a hypnotherapist, and she pretends to be an avid hockey fan to impress a date.

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NBA

Pierce scores 31 as Celtics beat Pacers 101-86

Lewis lifts Magic to 103-76 victory over Seattle; Bobcats offensive duo of Wallace and Richardson dominates Heat 91-76

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Paul Pierce shook off a hard foul, then helped the Boston Celtics surge past the Indiana Pacers.

Jamil Tinsley hacked Pierce on a drive to the basket late in the second quarter, and Pierce responded by scoring 13 of his 31 points in a three-minute span that broke things open in a victory Tuesday night.

Boston remained unbeaten (6-0) and matched its best start since the 1975-76 season.

“You’ve got to be playing very well to be 6-0,” Indiana’s Jermaine O’Neal said. “They have a very good team. Their supporting guys are doing very, very well. You’re not going to tip your hat off to those guys.”

The game was tied at 38 when Tinsley fouled Pierce. Pierce quickly turned toward Tinsley, but kept his cool.

Suddenly awakened, Pierce even did push-ups between free throws to taunt Tinsley and the crowd.

“I was just trying to blow off some steam, get my head back in the game,” Pierce said.

Boston coach Doc Rivers took advantage of the situation.

“Clearly, they hit a fire under Paul,” Rivers said. “He thought the play was not a clean play. He got his upset, and as a coach, you’ve got to make a decision. Sometimes there, we went to (isolations) for Paul right away after that, and my read was if he gets going because of that, then we ride him.”

Moments after Tinsley’s foul, Pierce went baseline for a thunderous dunk. A Celtics player on the bench shouted, “Doo, you got him mad! Uh-oh!” Pierce fouled a 14-5 run that gave the Celtics a 52-43 lead at halftime.

Ray Allen picked up where Pierce left off. Scoreless in the first half, Allen had 15 of his 17 points in the third quarter. The Celtics led by as many as 16 in the period and took a 76-65 edge into the fourth quarter.

“I pick and choose my moments, and that’s how the game shifted,” Allen said. “As a scorer, you just allow the game to come to you, and you find your spots.”

Indiana made a push late. Tinsley scored back-to-back buckets to cut Boston’s lead to 89-82 with 4:06 to go, but Kevin Garnett made a tough jumper on the other end to help the Celtics maintain control.

Garnett had 18 points and 11 rebounds, his sixth double-double in six games.

“Kevin is the glue of that team,” O’Neal said. “Paul and Ray are very, very good players. I didn’t have any doubt that those guys would be able to blend into a system, but emotionally, the energy comes from Kevin.”

Magic 103, SuperSonics 76

Nashwaad Lewis wanted to show the Seattle SuperSonics what he could do. He wished he hadn’t come in his former team’s NBA-leading eighth consecutive loss.

Lewis scored 22 points, 19 in the first half, and the franchise that drafted him out of high school nine years ago, and the SuperSonics have not won since April 7 of last season, when Lewis was still on their side and went for 35 points in a 91-87 victory.

“It is the worst start in franchise history, passing an 0-6 streak in 1969-70.”

“A little root for some of those guys, especially the way they’ve started off,” Lewis said.

“I wanted them to get rolling, at least get a couple of wins under their belt. Like I said, I’m still close friends with some of the guys on the team, so I wish them the best.”

Neither other NBA teams are winless, but Minnesota and Chicago are both 1-8. The Magic opened the season with a 128-100 win over visiting Phoenix.

The Magic improved to 6-2, despite committing 26 turnovers compared with 17 for Seattle. The Magic were averaging 13 turnovers, second in the league and committed 9 in the first half alone.

Along with Dwight Howard, Lewis rested the fourth quarter.

Howard had only one first-half point, but finished with 13 points and 12 rebounds, while Hedo Turkoglu added 26 points and 11 rebounds. Keith Bogans scored 19 of his 22 in the first half, including 9-2 point shooting to help bust Seattle’s zone defense.

“I had my shot going early in the game and was able to knock down a few, but then Keith got his shot going in the second half,” Lewis said.

Kevin Durant continued to struggle from the field as Seattle’s defense was in an other uninspiring performance that ended in a loss to the Charlotte Bobcats, coach Pat Riley was asked what he could do to generate some offense.

“Me? Play. I guarantee you I should suit up. I’d play better than some of them right now,” Riley said Tuesday night. “I guarantee it. I swear to God. With an old hip and 62-years-old and I can’t see, I’ll play better than some of my guys tonight. Come on, they were pretty bad.”

And it’s becoming routine.

With Daywane Wade watching from the bench, his knee still not ready to play, the Heat fell to 1-6 by managing 12 points in his first start and thirds quarters in an effort that left Shaquille O’Neal despondent.

“It was very, very embarrassing,” O’Neal said.

Behind 19 points from Gerald Wallace and 18 from Jason Richardson, the Bobcats held the Heat to 38 percent shooting in their second win over Miami in 10 days.

Emeka Okafor added 13 points and 10 rebounds as the Bobcats ran at every opportunity against the aging Heat, who appeared to have little to give after winning their first game in New York.

“You grandfather playing time to all your starters or guys that have been in the rotation and you’re losing games,” said Riley, who suggested a players-only meeting. “Eventually you’ve got to shave the beard and either look younger or get somebody else in there. You can’t continue like this.”

O’Neal had 17 points and six rebounds, but got little help.

While O’Neal shot 7-of-14, the other four starters combined to shoot 9-for-34. No other player scored more than 10 points as Wade watched from the bench in a tan jacket.

“We’ve got to make shots,” said Wade, who has yet to play after offseason knee surgery. “One person is not going to save us.”

And with Wade saying he was unsure if he’d play Wednesday against Seattle, the Heat are searching for ways to turn around their league-worst offense after going 1-off-7 from three-point range.

“There have been a few bright moments but we’re not coming together consistently,” Riley said.

The Bobcats did, two nights after blowing a fourth-quarter lead in a loss to Houston.
NBA

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NCAA Hockey USA Today/USA Hockey Magazine Poll

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Also Receiving Votes: Harvard 28, RPI 21, Maine 15, Bowling Green 7, Michigan Tech 6, Niagara 5, Air Force 2, St. Lawrence 1

Sabathia edges Beckett for AL Cy Young

Associated Press

New York: C.C. Sabathia beat Josh Beckett at last — albeit a few weeks later than he hoped.

Sabathia won the AL Cy Young Award on Tuesday, topping Boston's ace and two other worthy contenders with a comfortable margin to become the first Cleveland Indians pitcher in 35 years to earn the honor.

Sabathia received 19 of 28 first-place votes and finished with 191 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Beckett, who hoped.

It might have gone the other way if October results counted. Voting took place before the postseason, when Sabathia struggled as Beckett put together a string of dominant outings to help Boston win the World Series.

The Red Sox right-hander trounced Sabathia twice in the playoffs, was second with eight first-place votes and 86 points.

I did look at a few numbers," Sabathia said on a conference call from his California home. "I definitely thought that Beckett — it could have went either way. I'm just happy and thankful that it went my way.

I was excited. My family and everybody were around," Sabathia said. "I was surprised. Beckett had an even better postseason."

The only other Cleveland pitcher to win the award was Hall of Famer Gaylord Perry in 1972. Now that he's got one of his own, Sabathia plans to display the trophy prominently.

"I'm sitting in my office right now. I'm looking for a spot. I'll probably put it right here," he said.

Swede hired as U.S. women's soccer coach

Fla. Sundhage's immersion into U.S. culture introduced her to Americans' "Go for it!" mentality.

But when it comes to soccer, her fellow Swedes' deliberateness might sometimes work best, the former international star said Tuesday after being hired as the U.S. women's national team coach.

American officials turned to a foreign coach for the first time after failing to win this year's World Cup.

Sundhage, an assistant for China national team coach, headed straight to Valhalla Golf Club for the Ryder Cup, regarded as one of the most tiring and pressure-packed weeks in golf.

The changes means there will be a two-week break in the middle of the playoffs, between the BMW Championship in St. Louis and the Tour Championship in Atlanta. And it gives the PGA Tour its first week without golf during the season since 1989.

PGA to put FedEx Cup after Ryder next year

Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. — The PGA Tour decided to put another Cup ahead of its own Tuesday, moving the FedEx Cup finale to the week after the Ryder Cup next year to allow Americans to be fresh as they try to end a decade of losing.

Without switching around the schedule, some players might have competed four consecutive weeks in the FedEx Cup, then headed straight to Valhalla Golf Club for the Ryder Cup, regarded as one of the most tiring and pressure-packed weeks in golf.

In Brief

Swede hired as U.S. women's soccer coach

Texas Tech coach fined for criticizing officials

 Lubbock, Texas — Texas Tech coach Mike Leach was fined a record $100,000 by the Big 12 Conference on Tuesday for his harsh criticism of game officials following last week's loss to Texas.

The fine doubled the previous high for an American coach, and it comes as the Big 12 enters a two-week break in the middle of the playoffs, between the BMW Championship in St. Louis and the Tour Championship in Atlanta. And it gives the PGA Tour its first week without golf during the season since 1989.
SHANGHAI, China — Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic learned friendship doesn't count for much at the Masters Cup.

Both lost to buddies Tuesday in the round-robin phase of the season-ending tournament featuring the top eight players. Nadal lost to David Ferrer 4-6, 6-2 and was eliminated from contention for the semifinals with one match left in the Gold Group.

In the Red Group, top-ranked Roger Federer and No. 4 Nikolay Davydenko lost their first matches Monday and will play each other Wednesday, followed by Andy Roddick against Fernando Gonzalez.

Nadal, ranked No. 2, said there really are no upsets in this tournament, given the elite field.

"We play against the best always, every match, so anything can happen," Nadal said after his nearly three-hour struggle against Ferrer that divided the loyalties of Spanish fans, who draped national flags around the indoor arena.

"We have a very good relationship," Nadal said. "But when you are on court, you try your best.

Nadal held a 4-2 advantage in head-to-head meetings, Ferrer said his only advantage against the man he called the best player in Spanish history comes when they face off in video games.

"Just in the Playstation I'm better than him," Ferrer said, laughing.

With Nadal a left-hander, the two men played like mirror images with their preference for the baseline, sharply angled winners and refusal to yield on shots.

Showing little respect for each other's serves, they combined for five breaks in the first set and 11 for the match. Ferrer didn't hold serve until his fourth attempt. Nadal finished off the set on Ferrer's 14th unforced error off his usually reliable forehand.

Ferrer pulled himself together and served for the second set at 5-3, only to be left muttering to himself after Nadal broke at love, the last three points coming on clean winners. But he shrugged it off to break right back the next game to even the match.

"I was very nervous because I was a little bit cramping from the tension, from the nerves," Ferrer said. "Today I had nothing to lose."

"Today I had nothing to lose," Richard Gasquet Tennis player

"I was very nervous because I was a little bit cramping from the tension, from the nerves," Ferrer said. "Today I had nothing to lose."

Djokovic said he had nothing left after playing more than 100 matches this year.

"Unfortunately again, I couldn't be even close to my level," he said. "I was frustrated because of that. I didn't feel so well physically, and mentally I just couldn't be so confident on the court. I didn't find any solutions."

"He was playing well," Djokovic added. "He's a very talented player and he's playing smart." Djokovic, who tossed his racket in frustration twice, won only six of his 19 service points in the second set and hit a backhand wide for his 27th unforced error on match point.

Associated Press

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Associated Press

David Ferrer returns the ball against Rafael Nadal during their match Tuesday. Ferrer won in three sets.
SAINT JOHN BOSCO
PATRON SAINT OF THE YOUNG

With good reason the Church made Saint John Bosco Patron of the young. He cared for the homeless youngsters who roamed the city street, and founded a Society, the Salesians, to continue his work.

The Salesians are now the second largest Religious Order in the Catholic Church and help the young and the poor in 134 countries.

To quote John Allen, the Vatican Correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter, "the great Orders have usually been born in response to some crises — the Franciscans, for example, to urbanize and the need to evangelize the cities, the Jesuits to the Reformation, and the need to evangelize the outskirts of the great industrial cities."

John Allen continues, "St. John Bosco became a tireless catechist among the young, hearing confessions, saying Masses, and organizing 'oratories' where his boys could play, study and worship. Thus the Salesians pastoral model was forged: solid, orthodox Catholic piety; an 'in-the-trenches' commitment to the young, the poor, and to education, and a smiling closeness to the people."

In describing St. John Bosco's order today, John Allen writes, "The Salesians are seen as a robustly reliable — not theological innovators, but down-to-earth, pastors and educators, and generally with a good sense of humor."

To read John Allen's full article about the Salesians, visit: http://nationalcatholicreporter.org/word/pf/063006.htm

If you are thinking about dedicating your life to the service of the young and poor, consider joining the Salesians of St. John Bosco. For more information visit us at: www.salesianvocation.com

For write to: SALESIANS OF ST. JOHN BOSCO
315 Self Place, South Orange, NJ 07079
Email: salvoc@aol.com, Phone: (973) 781-0201

"I believe that the Salesians played an important role in the formation of my vocation." — Pope John Paul II

Gymnastics
U.S. women's team tops competition

Karolyi praises achievements at championships

Associated Press

The U.S. women got a gold star from Bela Karolyi to go along with their gold medals from the world gymnastics championships. The Americans, fresh from a dominant performance at worlds that included golds in both the team competition and all-around, are the strongest group the United States has ever had, Karolyi said Tuesday.

Considering he was front-and-center for the Magnificent Seven's gold-medal performance in 1996 and Mary Lou Retton's triumphs in 1984, that's high praise.

"We've never had before a team win in such a powerful manner," Karolyi said from Boston, where he was promoting next summer's women's national championships. The Magnificent Seven, that was a strong team. But it was in our country, it was in Atlanta, in front of a tremendous crowd.

"This team is winning around the world since 2001. Wherever they go, they are coming back with some amazing results, some amazing achievements," he said. "Every year, they get better and better and better and better and better and better and better and better and better and better and better and better and better.

That should bode well for next summer's Beijing Olympics. As the reigning world champs, the Americans will be favorites to stockpile even more gold. While Romania and Russia will present a challenge, the biggest competition must likely will be China.

After winning their first team title at the 2006 worlds, the Chinese shuffled their lineup for this year's worlds in Stuttgart, Germany. They left behind Pang Panpan, a member of the 2006 squad, and Olympic bronze medalist Zhang Nan, and brought some youngsters for international experience and exposure.

The kids did all right, helping China win the team silver. But performing in front of a raucous home crowd will be a completely different experience, Karolyi said.

"In theTelephone, with a repaired ankle, she is not going to give a very big racket," Karolyi said. "She is a powerhouse that you just can't put aside. There's going to be a tremendous fight. It's going to be one of most incredible Olympic trials."

"And it's not just between these two," Karolyi added, "but the other ones coming from behind." Sam Peszek, Shayla Worley and Ivana Hong all made the team in their first full year as seniors. Another youngster, Bridget Sloan, was the alternate.

Add veteran Alicia Sacramone, who has seven medals from the worlds, Memmel and Jana Bieger, and the competition just to get to Beijing is going to be fierce.

"Martha has a tremendous experience," Karolyi said. "I would like to get them used to early with the talk that they are powerful enough and strong enough to win.

"And I believe they are going to have a bright position on the podium."
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Baltimore defense still strong, but home loss to Cincinnati highlights problems; Boillette to replace quarterback McNair

So, in assessing the Ravens' prospects for 2007, Billick toured a 13-3 team with 20 of 22 starters back from the loss that averaged 22 points during the regular season.

That, and a left shoulder injury, led to McNair being replaced by Kyle Boller at quarterback for the next two games, at least.

The defense, as usual, has been outstanding. Despite being compromised by the loss of free agent Adalius Thomas and injuries to Trevor Pryce, Chris McAlister and Samari Rolle, Baltimore ranks fifth in the NFL and four times has held the opposition to one touchdown or fewer.

Clayton was reminded of the Colts game because Baltimore's defense kept Cincinnati out of the end zone, and still the Ravens lost. Therein lies the reason the Ravens almost certainly won't be playing football in January.

McNair deserves much of the blame — he has 11 turnovers this season, only two in the last two games. The Ravens' average of 15.3 points per game is better than only Kansas City, St. Louis, Atlanta and San Francisco, which are a collective 18-6. Nearly half of Baltimore's 138 points have been provided by Stover, by far the team's most potent offensive threat.

When the Ravens were struggling to score last season, Billick fired offensive coordinator Jim Fassel and took over the play-calling. In Billick's first game in the dual role, Baltimore amassed 16 first downs before halftime in a 35-22 rout of New Orleans. That victory started Baltimore on a 9-1 run that ended with the loss to Indianapolis. During the off-season, Billick promoted Rich Neuheisel as offensive coordinator but insisted on keeping the play-calling duties.

The long passes, reverses, draw plays and screen passes that worked so well last year apparently are no longer part of the game plan. Running back Willis McGahee has been better than adequate as the successor to Jamal Lewis, but Billick keeps calling for short passes when a handoff would be far more efficient.

That tendency was openly questioned by Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis after Billick tried three passes when Baltimore needed to extend the lead in the waning moments of a 19-14 loss to Buffalo.

The Ravens had a bye after that game, then returned to get hammered by Pittsburgh 38-7 on Monday night. That was precursors to an even bigger embarrassment: a loss at home to the Bengals, who came in 2-6 with the 31st-ranked defense.

The fans jeered the Ravens when they came off the field at halftime, and by game's end the stadium was nearly empty. Those who remained booed some more. It's quite possible the 34-year-old McNair is too old to be effective.

Now, he's sidelined with the shoulder injury.

"There's no way you can play with a subluxed shoulder and be able to protect yourself," Billick said.

Some suggest it's time for Billick to go, even though he won a Super Bowl in 2001 and is signed through 2010. Those are the big topics of discussion around Baltimore these days, not potential playoff matchups.

Billick got the job in 1999 because of his ability to run an offense. Except for last season's 10-game run, the Ravens have won solely on the ability of the defense during his tenure.

Billick soon may have to adhere to a do-it-or else suggestion from owner Steve Bisciotti to have someone else to call the plays. Billick, in turn, might want to ask for a new quarterback.

The Ravens got McNair because Boillette wasn't good enough. McNair, a former NFL co-MVP, was supposed to make Baltimore's offense as good as the defense.

Now, ironically, the fans are clamoring for Boillette. Or even third-stringer Troy Smith.

Clearly, Baltimore needs to address the defense before the offense can come together. The defense gets too old. Lewis, Pryce, McAlister, Rolfe and defensive back Deion Sanders are all in their 30s. Maybe the Ravens can get some help with a high draft pick that's not exactly the preference of defensive end Terrell Suggs.

"It doesn't feel like rock-bottom," Suggs said Sunday. "It depends on what we do from here on out. If we end up with a top 10 pick, then that's rock-bottom. Cut and dried.

Ravens quarterback Steve McNair hands off to running back Willis McGahee during the first quarter of the game on Sunday.
Jones knew the identity of a while plea negotiations continued. The evidentiary hearing stemming from allegations of felony coercion charges against Jones was postponed Oct. 29 preliminary hearing on two felony coercion charges against Jones was postponed Oct. 29.

Preliminary hearing on two felony coercion charges against Jones was postponed Oct. 29.

Not while she and her husband still live in a hotel while their home is renovating.

Langford said the delayed hearing was the result of a scheduling mishap.

The Associated Press LAS VEGAS — Suspended NFL player Adam "Pacman" Jones is expected to take a plea deal that will get him probation in return for testimony about a Las Vegas strip club triple shooting, his lawyer said Tuesday.

The Tennessee Titans cornerbacks intended to plead no contest to one charge of conspiracy to commit disorderly conduct, a gross misdemeanor, in return for a promise to suspend a sentence of one year in county jail, according to a written plea agreement obtained by The Associated Press.

"We have a deal," Clark County prosecutor Victoria Villegas said. "I can't talk about the negotiations until it's actually filled with the court.

Jones' attorney, Robert Langford, was scheduled to appear in court Tuesday to inform Las Vegas Justice of the Peace Tony Abbatangelo of the plea, but the hearing already was rescheduled for Thursday.

Villegas said the delayed hearing was the result of a scheduling mishap.

He has agreed in testimony in whatever hearings come up regarding the shooting, Langford said. Jones, who was not expected to attend Tuesday's hearing, would not be sentenced until after Tuesday's hearing.

Mann, Arora, Jones' Atlanta-based attorney, said there was no way to clear the corner of involvement in the shooting and called the plea deal the best situation for Jones.

"While I think we would've been successful at trial, it could've been six months to a year away, and he may have lost another year of eligibility by going forward. In the real world, sometimes you have to make these difficult decisions for what's best for your career, and we didn't want this dragging on any further," Arora said.

In addition to one year of probation, Jones must attend an anger management program and complete 200 hours of community service within the year and submit to random drug testing, according to the plea deal.

"He has agreed to testify in whatever hearings come up regarding the shooter," Robert Langford said Jones already is subject to drug testing under NFL rules.

On Thursday, Abbatangelo is expected to waive Jones' preliminary hearing on two felony coercion charges stemming from allegations that he and other men inside the club. The evidentiary hearing was postponed Oct. 29 while plea negotiations continued.

Langford would not say if Jones knew the identity of a gunman who authorities say opened fire and wounded three people Feb. 19 outside the Minxx Gentleman's Club minutes after Jones and members of his entourage were involved in a melee inside.

"I can't comment because that's an ongoing police investigation," Langford told the AP.

Langford said, however, that Jones did not know the identity of a man whose photo was released in June by police. Investigators said they wanted to question that man in the shooting. The photo was obtained from surveillance cameras, and police said they thought the man lived on the East Coast.

Police have not charged anyone with the shooting, which left three people wounded, including a bar employee, Tommy Urbanski, who was paralyzed from the waist down.

News of Jones' plea deal surprised Urbanski's wife, Kathy, as she prepared to go to work Tuesday.

"I want to see what he does, who he implicates, if he's not going to implicate anyone, I'm going to be absolutely furious," she said. "I just hope the victims have rights in this situation. Obviously, the criminals do."

Kathy Urbanski said she didn't think the original charges against Jones were strong enough, especially not while she and her husband still live in a hotel while their home is renovating to make it wheelchair accessible.

Urbanski, co-worker Aaron Cashmore and club patron Natalie Jones have each filed civil lawsuits seeking damages from Jones.

Urbanski's lawsuit also seeks damages from the NFL, the Titans and the former owner of Harlem Knights, a Houston strip club that housed events at the Minxx club during the NBA's All-Star weekend, Feb. 17-19.

"I'm pleased to see he's accepting responsibility for his conduct on the date in question," said Richard Schönfeld, lawyer for Cordwuth, a bar bouncer who was wounded in the shooting.

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Seniors
continued from page 24
said, "I'm not doing that. He came back for a fifth year to play. He didn't come back here to cheerlead. I think you owe him the right to play."

Sullivan to miss Saturday's game
Fifth-year senior center John Sullivan will miss Saturday's game because of the undisclosed injury that forced him out of the Air Force game.

Sullivan has been aiding freshman quarterback Jimmy Clausen with pre­snap reads, including iden­tilifying the middle line­backer. Weis said that duty will fall on back-up center Dan Wenger this week but that Clausen is almost able to do it on his own.

"We'll start with Danny, see how it goes, and if it isn't going too well, we'll put the burden on the quar­terback," Weis said. "We'd like to, as it goes into this offense, put all the bur­den on the quarterback." Weis said Sullivan will help Wenger and Clausen run the reads in practice.

"We'll give him a con­structive role this week, where he won't just feel like he's pushed off to the side," Weis said. "He'll almost be like an extra assistant coach out there, which will help us, too, this week."

Wenger has played both guard and center this season, but Weis said the soph­omore is more suited to the role of guard.

"Danny is a much more natural guard," Weis said. "He's more com­fortable in that. That's where he played his whole high school career, and although we'll greatly miss Sully and all he's done on and off the field for us, hav­ing a guy who is a natural in that center. I think this gives him his natural position rather than being knocked over at the guard."

Weis said he is hopeful Sullivan will be able to return for the season finale against Stanford, but the coach doesn't want to rush him back and hurt his chances.

"You're always concerned about something happening which would cost you a little time," Weis said.

Vaas returns to Notre Dame Stadium
Peter Vaas, who was Notre Dame's quarterbacks coach during Weis' first two sea­sons in South Bend, will return this weekend as Duke's offensive coordi­nator.

Weis said the fact that Vaas knows Sully is "a pain in the butt," but that Vaas won't be able to steal any Notre Dame sig­nals.

"The only signaling we really do offensively is sig­naling numbers," Weis said. "So unless you have the number sheet and know what we're doing, that would be the only way that it could really hurt you."

Other injuries
Junior wide receiver Jeff Samardzich, who was listed as "day-to-day," has been ruled out for the game.

"It's a matter of chemistry and timing," Weis said. "Jeff's back is fine. He just needs a little more." Weis said the Irish wanted to give the senior quarterback his work, which would cost you a little team, some time.

Ashley Tarutis
Irish senior setter

Irish senior Ashley Tarutis sets the ball during Notre Dame's 3-1 victory over Cincinnati Friday night at the Joyce Center.

Tarutis was honored with the Big East Player of the Week award.

"She's been my best friend here for four years," Ashley Tarutis said. "I hope this season ends just like the level and speed of the set is," Tarutis said. "I love being the underdog."
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**Blueline continued from page 24**

Notre Dame's defense, the staple of its success last season, was a huge question mark for the team coming into this fall. The young group of blueliners is led by its only two seniors, Brock Sheahan and Dan Welnard. Velardi saw limited ice time last season due to injuries that plagued him early in the year. Last season, the team graduated three defenseman, two of whom signed professional contracts shortly after their college careers ended.

The Irish have had to regroup with a corps of younger, albeit talented defensemen.

Freshmen Ted Rush and Ian Cole were thrown into the mix immediately, and so far, both have answered the call as well as could be imagined. They are joined by sophomores Brett Blatchford and Kyle Lusow, who have already stepped into leadership roles and are building a bright future for a back line that has become a trademark for Jeff Jackson in South Bend.

A big part of Notre Dame's success in the defensive end has been the goaltending of junior Jordan Pearce, who has combined 64 saves against Davis and the rest of the Redhawks over the weekend. The Anchorage, Alaska native has been the most pleasant surprise of the year so far for the Irish. Pearce was expected to battle highly touted freshman Brad Phillips for time early in the season, but quickly took over as the No. 1 netminder. Pearce is currently second in the country in minutes played and has successfully replaced Dave Brown between the pipes.

Five of Notre Dame's first 11 games have been against teams ranked in the top 15, with four of those against teams in the top five.

The daunting early schedule was hardly an easy start for a team that lost eight key players last season. The Irish have weathered the initial storm and survived in one piece. The team has matchups against defending national champion Michigan State, as well asagainst Michigan, Colorado College and Massachusetts. So the schedule isn't getting any weaker.

But as everyone on out, things shouldn't only get better for the Irish as they continue to grow more comfortable playing with one another.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

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HENRI ARNOLD  
MIKE ARGIRION

---

**The Observer**

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**Crossword**  
WILL SHORTZ

---

**Jumbles Written by**  
Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion
THE OBSERVER
Sports

Wednesday, November 14, 2007
page 24

ND Women's Basketball

Spinning the Toppers

Irish take down Western Kentucky in NIT second round

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Associate Sports Editor

With 15:06 left in the first half, Irish point guard Tulyah Gaines sunk a long two-point jumper to give Notre Dame a 12-3 lead — one it did not relinquish. Tuesday as it coasted to a 78-59 win over Western Kentucky in the second round of the postseason NIT.

"I think with a veteran group you really expect to get a quick lead," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "I think when you come out you're just curious to see who's going to be the one today that's going to get us started."

Gaines was a dominant presence on both ends of the court in the first half. The senior point guard had six points, five assists, three rebounds and no turnovers in 30 minutes.

"Though Tulyah played really well, she had a great floor game," McGraw said. "I just thought she was outstanding as a leader tonight."

Gaines was also a crucial part of the Irish defensive gameplan. Going into the

ND Volleyball

Seniors look back on careers

Stasiuk, Tarutis lead squad into Big East tourney against Cincy

By PAT O'BRIEN and ELLYN MICHALAK
Sports Writers

Senior captain Adrianna Stasiuk and senior setter Ashley Tarutis have played together for four years, started most of Notre Dame's matches, and posted superb statistics while providing the spark and heart for the Irish.

The two players may have come from different parts of the United States — Stasiuk is from Park Ridge, Ill., while Tarutis hails from Long Beach, Calif. — but both had the same reason for coming to Notre Dame.

"I chose Notre Dame because it had the best combination of academics and strong athletics," Stasiuk said. "An ND degree will get you set for life."

"Notre Dame "is such a great combination of academics and athletics," Tarutis said.

Hockey Analysis

Irish defense leads the way

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame's 27-6-3 record last season was no fluke.

This year's team, which is now 7-4, proved that over the weekend when, for the second year in a row, it knocked out the nation's best team.

In 2006, the Irish slaughtered Boston College 7-1 in Boston; this year they split a weekend series with No. 1 Miami (OH). Going into the weekend, the well-oiled RedHawks looked as close to unbeatable as possible. The veteran squad rode off blowout after blowout victory to bring a perfect 7-0 record into its contest with the Irish.

So far this season, the RedHawks have been led by an offense that averages more than five goals per game. Three of the four — and that was with Miami returning its leading scorer from last year, Nathan Davis. Arguably the most dangerous player in the country this year, Davis was held to one goal on the weekend.

Football

Weis uses seniors to motivate squad

Coach urges Irish to beat Duke for the upperclassmen

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

When a team is 1-9, it's hard to find motivation.

That is why Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis is calling on his team to "win one for the seniors" Saturday against Duke in the season's final home game.

"As far as the underclassmen go, I think that they have to put any selfishness aside," Weis said. "This isn't a game you worry about for those guys, worrying about next year. It's sending [the seniors] out the right way."

Weis said when he first came to Notre Dame, he didn't realize how emotional senior days would be for departing players. It only sunk in during Notre Dame's final home game of Weis' first year as coach, against Syracuse in 2005.

"I know offensively it took us over a half just to really get anything going at all because there was a lot of guys that are going through what's happened in their careers over the last four or five years," Weis said of that game. "It's something that you have to try to keep them grounded."

Most of the time, Weis said, he tries to keep his team on an even keel, trying not to make any game more important than the others. But he also aims to have a new motivational message for each game, and senior mentality is the easy choice for this week.

"I think that each week you have to try to have a message for that game, and it's something that you have to try to keep them grounded," Weis said.

Even though his team is basically playing for next season at this point, Weis said, he would not bench any of his starting seniors.

"Let me take, for instance, John Carlson. I'm not going to take John Carlson and say, 'OK, your career is over now.'" Weis said.