SAO rules frustrate political groups

Long club recognition process makes it difficult for students to organize for presidential candidates

**By KAITLYNN RIELY**  
Assistant News Editor

The Students for Barack Obama Web site lists a Notre Dame chapter, but no Students for Barack Obama organization exists at Notre Dame — at least not officially.

Last spring, junior Molly Slavin signed up on the Obama Web site with the intention of starting a grassroots campaign at Notre Dame. She received a packet in the mail from the site last May. It included flyers to post around campus in support of the U.S. senator from Illinois’ campaign for president. But Slavin never put them up.

All advertising must be approved by the Student Activities Office, according to dolac, Notre Dame’s student handbook. Slavin said she went to Student Activities to get the flyers approved, but Student Activities would not approve them because the group was not a University-recognized student organization. She asked how her group could become official but, she said, a Student Activities official told her the office did not allow clubs that supported specific candidates. Slavin did not recall the name of the man she met in the office.

Assistant Vice President of Student Activities Brian Coughlin said he did not meet with Slavin last year and was not sure with whom she spoke.

“I’m sorry if she got that message last year,” Coughlin said. “I don’t know if that’s necessarily a policy.

Every group goes through the same process to become a University-recognized organization, Coughlin said. He said he did not think Student Activities would tell a group before it applied that it wouldn’t be approved.

“It seems like that wouldn’t be an answer that we give,” he said.

Mary Kate Havlik, the student program coordinator in the Student Activities Office, said any group, political or not, must get two approvals — one from Student Activities and one from the Club Coordination Council.

“It comes down to a couple things,” Havlik said. “Student Activities checks to see that it

see GROUPS/page 4

Electronic reserves resolution passes

Executive Vice President Affleck-Graves briefs group members on campus development

**By KAITLYNN RIELY**  
Assistant News Editor

The Student Senate passed a resolution Wednesday that encourages professors to increase their use of electronic reserves in place of course packets, which spiked in price this year.

The resolution, presented by Senate Academic Affairs chair Carol Hendrickson and Fisher senator Stephen Bant, “respectfully encourages” professors to use electronic reserves instead of course packets “when it seems in the best interests of their students based on the price and convenience of the materials.”

A similar resolution was presented to the Senate on Oct. 31 but failed to pass. High course packet prices have been discussed in the Senate over the past several weeks. Hendrickson and Bant conducted an e-mail survey of students last month and found that the majority of those who answered were unhappy with the higher prices of course packets.

This semester, the packets

see SENATE/page 8

see GROU PS/page 4

Firth talks about ND journey

Student Affairs official daughter of immigrants

**By MEG MIRSHAK**  
News Writer

Ann Firth’s father, a German doctor, was taken prisoner by the Russians and sent to a concentration camp during World War II. Firth’s Notre Dame’s associate vice president for student affairs described her journey as the daughter of immigrants during a panel Wednesday.

Firth prefaced her story with her father’s. After the Russian army captured the doctor, who had been drafted into the German army, he was enslaved and tortured by the Russian government. But Firth’s father persuaded a Russian doctor he had tuberculosis. He was then freed, since the Russians feared he would infect other prisoners of war.

After Firth’s father and mother met, they immigrated to the U.S. but maintained

see FIRTH/page 8

Woman president a possibility

Professors discuss whether America is ready for female chief executive

**By AMANDA JOHNSON**  
News Writer

American citizens are ready for a conservative, “brand name” woman president, agreed panelists Wednesday in a debate entitled “Is America ready for a woman president?”

Much of the discussion, which took place in the Oak Room of South Dining Hall, focused on Sen. Hillary Clinton’s possible nomination as the Democratic candidate for the 2008 presidential election.

To begin the discussion, history professor Gail Bederman questioned the phrasing of the event’s title. She proposed the real question should be “Is the history professor Gail Bederman discusses Wednesday in South Dining Hall whether Americans would vote for a female president.

see DEBATE/page 4

SMC holds annual Hunger Banquet

**By NIKKI TAYLOR**  
News Writer

More than 75 Saint Mary’s students traded in a meal at the dining hall Wednesday to learn about worldwide hunger as part of the Student Diversity Board’s third annual Hunger Banquet.

Upon entering the West Wing of the Noble Family Dining Hall, students who registered for the event were asked to draw a colored card out of a bag without looking. This card designated their “social status” for the night. A select few students got to sit at a table and eat a full meal, representing the upper class. The middle class sat on chairs and ate beans and rice. The lower class, which comprised more than half the people in attendance, sat on the floor, eating a scoop of rice.

The cards also told a story about the life of a person in that situation. For example, an upper class-card might describe the life of a Hollywood plastic surgeon and a lower-class card might describe a girl in Africa who is HIV-positive or an unemployed teenage mother.

After the meal, Sarah Barnes, the co-chair of the

see HUNGER/page 6
Contemplate

topics

Like all other Notre Dame freshmen, I am required to take Contemporary Topics to complete my P.E. requirement. All I heard from students who had already taken the class was relief at being done. News Wire Editor Madeline Buckley and most people seemed to regard it as a joke.

My first impression was that this class has more going against it than it can possibly achieve. On my first day, I was bombarded with fear after scary fact about what happens when a student drinks, does not get enough sleep, etc.

The sad paradox of Contemporary Topics is that while I am sitting in class learning about the importance of sleep, I could be in my room receiving that extra hour of sleep that I so badly need.

My question for the average Notre Dame freshman is, will this class inspire you to change your habits? Will most students give up drinking on the weekends because they hear about all the adverse effects in this class? Will they go to bed an hour earlier every night because they learn that lack of sleep causes health problems? My gut feeling is no. I do not believe it is the fault of the class, but rather the nature of the students. It is the natural reaction of a student to rebel against someone continually telling them to not do something, especially in a class most don't want to walk in time.

Also, people are so entrenched in habits that it does not seem likely that information from one class will be reason enough for students to change their lifestyle. Although I am sure there are some who will take what they learn in Contemporary Topics seriously, the best reaction the class will get out of many students is a slight twinge of guilt for their bad habits.

Simply teaching students about health does not seem to be enough because as far as I can see, the teaching does not inspire action. What is the solution to this problem then? Although the class does seem to have minimal impact on students, discontinuing it just seems like giving up. Students should learn how to take care of themselves.

Maybe it is too soon to gauge the effectiveness of the class. Perhaps the information will slowly filter into the minds of students, and then be reinforced by experience.

Maybe a gradual change will take place. I am not sure.

However, my personal solution is to make peace with the class. Although I will resist dragging myself out of bed each morning to sit in a class that will tell me how important it is to get enough sleep, I will try to open my mind, and maybe even learn something.

The views expressed in the Inside Columns are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at obsnews@nd.edu so we can correct our error.

MADISON BUCKLEY

QUESTION OF THE DAY: SHOULD A WOMAN BE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES?

Mary Souder

freshman

McCandless

"Does Hillary count as a woman? If yes, then no."

Mary Reilly

freshman

McCandless

"Only if that woman's me."

Robert Scully

junior

Alumni

"These days anyone can be a woman."

Mary Beth Scully

senior

Cavanaugh

"No matter what I say, it will be controversial."

Nicole Medina

sophomore

Pascarella West

"Yes, but not Hillary."

Students gather around the grill at an Alumni Hall Mentor Mixer. The mixer is part of the "Big Dawgs" academic mentor program, intended to give freshmen the opportunity to seek advice from upperclassmen in similar programs of study.

IN BRIEF

"Loyal Daughters and Sex: Sexuality and Sexual Assault As Told by Notre Dame Students" will be performed at 8 tonight through Friday at Washington Hall. Tickets are $5 and are available at the LaFortune Box Office.

"A Bright Room Called Day" will be performed on the Decio Main Stage in the D'Artakllo Performing Arts Center tonight, tomorrow and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. There will also be a performance at 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are $12 for the general public, $10 for seniors, faculty and staff and $8 for students.

There will be a presentation on Careers in the State Department today at 6:30 p.m. in Montgomery Auditorium of LaFortune.

Archbishop Celestino Migliore, the Vatican's permanent observer to the United Nations will deliver the lecture "Catholicism and the Points of Convergence and Divergence, Encounter and Cooperation" today at 8 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center auditorium.

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

The Black Cultural Arts Council is holding modeling tryouts for its annual fashion show on Sunday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. for any interested, for any interested, and for any interested women. The men's tryouts will take place next Tuesday from 8 p.m. to 10. 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.
OIS prepares students for abroad
University works to ensure travelers know laws of foreign countries

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

Before the next wave of Notre Dame students leave to study abroad in January and February, the Office of International Studies (OIS) wants to make sure they understand the laws of their new country.

OIS program coordinator Lesley Sullivan said students are required to read and sign documents acknowledging that they will abide by the laws of the country in which they will study.

"Students must be aware of their country's laws," Sullivan said. "For example, public intoxication is illegal in most countries."

Sullivan, who has been director of the study abroad programs in Angers, Bologna, Brescia, Berlin and Rome's Intercollegiate Center for Classical Studies since the summer of 2004, organized a program for women to discuss safety and health while living abroad. "Women and Study Abroad" addresses five areas: cultural rules and missteps, personal health and safety, emotional health, alcohol and self-defense.

The program features presentations and testimonials from previous study abroad students. In addition, student representatives from PILLARS (Peers: Inspiring, Listening, Learning and Responsible Socializing) come to discuss issues with students drinking overseas.

"While rules in other countries regarding drinking may differ from those in the United States, Sullivan said she has never encountered drinking-related problems with students studying abroad.

"Personal safety is a topic discussed in great detail in the program, Sullivan said. Students are sometimes the victims of theft while abroad, she said.

The meeting is required for women studying abroad, Sullivan said, but students studying in Washington are also invited to attend.

Another safeguard for students studying abroad includes the emergency information card the OIS office issues students studying in foreign countries. The card, said Kathleen Opel, the associate director of International Studies Programs and director of programs in Tokyo, Beijing, Nagoya, Shanghai and Rome. The card includes numbers for the police, ambulances, taxi, the U.S. Embassy and an SOS number that connects directly to the Notre Dame Security/Police.

Students are advised to use this card if they get in trouble with the law, have medical emergencies, or in the case of a terror attack, Opel said.

The University is in no position to bail students out of jail or engage in any other legal matters, she said. Sullivan also said that Notre Dame does not get involved in cases of stolen passports, which are a legal issue.

"Students are bound by the laws of the country in which they are studying," Opel said.

If a student faces legal trouble, the U.S. Embassy sends a representative to the jail to speak with him. Then, Opel said, the Embassy notifies the student's parents, guardians or anyone else the student might want to contact.

Opel said she has never had any significant legal troubles with students studying abroad. "Our students do a good job with behaving themselves," Opel said.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

ND VS DUKE BOOK SIGNINGS
FRIDAY, NOV. 16

11am-1pm
Dorothy Corson
Cave of Candles

11am-1pm
Matt Tardy
Signing for his mother, Jo Anne Tardy
A Light Will Rise in Darkness

3pm-5pm
Sharon Bui
Future Domers
A Child's First Look at Notre Dame

1pm-3pm
Matt Cashore and Kerry Temple
Celebrating Notre Dame

SATURDAY, NOV. 17

5:30 am-11:30pm
Connie McNamara
Go Irish: My First Notre Dame Wishes

9:30 am-11:30pm
Pete Connolly
When shadows fell at Notre Dame

11:35am-1:30pm
Matthew Cashore & Kerry Temple
Celebrating Notre Dame

11:30am-1:30pm
Phillip Brooks
Forward Pass

3pm-5pm
Angi Juerkovic
Notre Dame Coloring and Activity Books

3pm-5pm
George Porter-Young
Boy Arland the Rubble

11:30am-1:30pm
Anne Cise Murray '74
Anne Gifts '82
Bridget Keating '08
Jane Pitt '72
Thanking Father Ted

Events are subject to change.
Please call 574-631-5757 to confirm.
We want to make sure... there is an appropriate way for students who support a campaign to officially advertise.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Russia completes troop withdrawal

MOSCOW, Russia — A top Russian general said early Thursday that Russia has completed its withdrawal of troops that had been based in Georgia since the Soviet collapse, according to the ITAR-Tass news agency.

The presence of Russian troops in the ex-Soviet republic was one of the longtime irritants between Georgia and its giant neighbor.

"There are no more Russian troops in Georgia, there remain only policemen... in Abkhazia and those that are part of the combined forces in South Ossetia with the participation of Georgia," the news agency quoted Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Ground Troops Gen. Alexei Maslov as saying.

Chile

Major earthquake hits northern Chile

Magnitude 7.7 quake felt in Santiago, Peru, Bolivia; injures at least 20 people

SANTIAGO — A major earthquake shook northern Chile on Wednesday, toppling power lines, closing roads and sending terrified residents into the streets. Authorities reported 20 injuries, no deaths from the quake, which was felt in the capital Santiago and neighboring Peru and Bolivia.

The earthquake, which struck at 12:40 a.m. local time (16:40 a.m. EST), measured magnitude 7.7 and was centered 480 miles north of Santiago, or 25 miles east-southeast of Tocopilla, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

The U.S. Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said it could allow the return of sectarian prayers to schools, hospitals and other buildings evacuated in several cities, according to media reports from the area.

Some homes were damaged in the city of Tocopilla, according to Deputy Interior Minister Felipe Harboe. "Some people were injured, apparently none seriously." He gave no figures but the government had "lost control" of its borders and let the earthquake play itself out.

I’ve concluded that New York state cannot successfully address this problem on its own," Spitzer said at a news conference after meeting with members of the state’s congressional delegation.

Spitzer said overwhelming opposition led to his decision.

"It’s not a take-a-stethoscope-to-hear-the-pulse of New Yorkers on this topic," he said.

Jury finds Marine instructor guilty

SAN DIEGO — A Marine boot camp drill instructor was sentenced Wednesday to six months in prison for inebriated recruits.

A military jury found Sgt. Jerrod M. Glass, who was relieved of duty as a drill instructor last year, guilty of personal property, assault, and violating orders on the proper treatment of recruits.

Glass, who was relieved of duty as a drill instructor in February, faces as many as 11 years of confinement, dishonorable discharge, reduction in rank, and forfeiture of pay and benefits. A sentencing hearing began immediately after the verdict.

Telephone calls to Glass’ attorney and his family were not immediately returned.

Glass, who volunteered for two tours in Iraq, had worked as a drill instructor for less than a year when the mistreatment occurred at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot near downtown San Diego.

ACLU asks court to reconsider case

ATLANTIC CITY — An illegal sports gambling ring run out of a high-stakes poker room in an Atlantic City casino was busted Wednesday, authorities said, and 18 people were arrested, including four with mob ties.

The off-the-books exchanges of cash and casino chips were unraveled only when an informant told authorities what to look for using the casino’s eye-in-the-sky surveillance cameras, Milgram said.

"The suspected ringleader of the operation, Andrew Micali, 32, of Ventnor, is an associate of Philadelphia mob boss Joseph "Skinny Joey" Merlino, according to the investigation and let authorities what to look for using the casino’s eye-in-the-sky surveillance cameras, Milgram said.

"The suspected ringleader of the operation, Andrew Micali, 32, of Ventnor, is an associate of Philadelphia mob boss Joseph "Skinny Joey" Merlino, according to the investigation and let authorities what to look for using the casino’s eye-in-the-sky surveillance cameras, Milgram said.

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Police arrest 18 in sports gambling ring

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Hunger

continued from page 1

event, gave a talk about the differences between poverty and hunger. Hunger and poverty are not the same, she said. Hunger is the complete absence of food and nourishment. Poverty is more of an issue in the U.S., she said, although there are 854 million people suffering from hunger worldwide.

The past two years the Hunger Banquet proceeds went to an international organization called Oxfam, which gives people money not only for food but also for smaller farm animals, like chickens.

This year, the Diversity Board decided to support the Hope Rescue Mission, a local organization that provides food and shelter for people in the South Bend area. They do not ask for identification and all are welcome.

"We decided to keep it local this year to drive it home that there is poverty and hunger in South Bend." Sarah Barnes, co-chair Hunger Banquet

"We decided to keep it local this year to drive it home that there is poverty and hunger in South Bend."

Sarah Barnes
co-chair
Hunger Banquet

"I'm from South Bend and I have seen people in South Bend who have nothing," she said. "I've seen it firsthand. I wanted people to realize that it goes on here and globally, to make people aware of the situation."

Many students participated in the event to show their support of the Diversity Board and the Hope Rescue Mission.

"I was really happy with the turnout," she said. "It's always a little scary. The goal was 100 and I don't think we were far off."

Contact Nikki Taylor at ntaylor01@saintmarys.edu

University Resources for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students

Information, education, and resources
Contact: Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, 1-5550, or Melanie (Mel) Bautista, Bautista.5@nd.edu

Office of Campus Ministry

Annual retreat for gay/lesbian/questioning students and their friends; pertinent library resources in 304 Co-Mo; discussion and support
Contact: Fr. Joe Carey, CSC, at 1-7800

University Counseling Center

Individual counseling
Contact: Dr. Maureen Lafferty at Laffertv.3@nd.edu

Visit our web site at http://corecouncil.nd.edu/

Recycle The Observer.
United, Delta deny merger rumors

Anonymous official claims the nation's second- and third-largest carriers may combine

**Friday, November 15, 2007**

**MARKET RECAP**

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**In Brief**

Ford workers ratify new contract

DETROIT — Ford Motor Co. no longer can complain about being basement-competitive with high U.S. labor costs that prevent it from making money domestically.

The United Auto Workers, represented by workers on Wednesday ratified a historic four-year contract that sets lower pay for new hires and has employee's huge retiree health care liability into a trust run by the United Auto Workers.

The UAW represents about 44,000 Ford workers, and 79 percent of those voted in favor of the accord, the union said Wednesday. The UAW typically does not release vote totals.

Workers at General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC already had ratified similar deals, with the contract passing at Chrysler by only a small margin.

The deals are historic because they will help to rescue the troubled Detroit Three and make them more competitive with Japanese rivals who build cars in the U.S., said David Cole, chairman of the Center for Automotive Research in Ann Arbor.

Chevron pays $30 million settlement

WASHINGTON — By agreeing to pay $30 million, Chevron Corp. has reached the largest of five settlements in the government's ongoing investigation of illegal kickbacks made to inflate contracts made with the U.S. of-off-fuel program.

The Securities and Exchange Commission on Wednesday said Chevron settled charges brought under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act without admitting or denying allegations that kickbacks were made part of oil purchases in 2001 and 2002. But the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York said the nation's largest oil producer had told the corruption issues might cost it could be prosecuted for criminal tax violations.

Chevron agreed to remit $25 million in profits and pay a $3 million civil penalty. The company also will pay the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Asset Controls $2 million.

**United Airlines**

**ATLANTA** United Airlines and Delta Air Lines have been discussing a combination between the nation's second- and third-largest carriers that would keep the United name.

A Delta Air Lines jet takes off at Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport in Atlanta. The renamed United-Delta merger would keep the United name.

Merrill Lynch names Thain new CEO

NEW YORK — In the game Wall Street's 50th smallest-chip company, the biggest seats has just been taken.

Merrill Lynch & Co. named the New York Stock Exchange's John Thain to lead the world's biggest brokerage just two weeks after it ousted Stan O'Neal for presiding over the biggest quarterly loss in its 93-year history.

The 52-year-old will need to lean on his reputation as a consensus builder to win the allegiance of Merrill's army of some 16,000 brokers worldwide. Many felt betrayed going on for some time and continued as recently as a week or so ago, the official with knowledge of the talks said Wednesday. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak publicly. The official stood by the assertions about the talks after learning of the statements by the United's senior vice president.

The Wall Street Journal's senior writer, citing uniden­

The biggest challenge: Help guide the United-Delta combo and make them more competitive with other airlines, the official said. One possi­

**THE OBSERVER**

**BUSINESS**

**FINANCIAL PAGE 7**

**United, Delta deny merger rumors**

Anonymous official claims the nation's second- and third-largest carriers may combine
Firth continued from page 1

their German heritage and identity. Firth spoke German fluently — things she said were not easy as a child. "I appreciated our German heritage," she said, "but at the time, I was different." Firth has long moved past the memories of those who tormented and teased her as a child, but she underscored the importance of those who were kind to her.

"The first lesson I learned at that stage in my life was the importance of kindness," she said. This principle has remained with her.

Firth spoke to faculty, staff, recent graduates and students at the Ceman-Morse Center lounge as part of the nominating -chon series titled "Telling Hillstory.

The nomination was the third in the series, which is an initiative to highlight, honor and celebrate students in female leadership positions on campus.

Firth shared memories of events and influential moments that have shaped her life as a student and professional woman at Notre Dame. Firth said her high school principal, a Holy Cross nun, was one of the people that helped direct her story. She encouraged Firth to attend Notre Dame, and she became a student in 1977. Since she attended Notre Dame in its early years as a co-educational institution, Firth said she has watched the evolution of women at the Catholic Church during her career at Notre Dame. "I have been extraordinarily blessed to find work that I love with great colleagues who have allowed me the flexibility to fit it in with my family." Firth said.

Ann Firth, associate vice president for student affairs, serving God and serving the Catholic Church during her career at Notre Dame. "I have been extraordinarily blessed to find work that I love with great colleagues who have allowed me the flexibility to fit it in with my family." Firth said.

Firth said she could never pretend to have all the answers to balancing a career and family. She admitted that it is "a little hard to have it all, all at once." Firth said she could not tell her story without sharing her faith. Although her parents were not religious people, Firth said, she emulated her German grandmother, a very devout Catholic, who said, "It’s just the fact of it growing." .

"What I really want is for people to say at the end of my life that I loved and served God," she said. The next speakers in the Telling HerStory Series will be student body president Liz Brown and vice president Maris Braun on Dec. 10 in the Ceman-Morse Center Lounge.

Contact Meg Mishbak at mmishbak@nd.edu

Senate continued from page 1

were sold at the Hammers Notre Dame Bookstore instead of copy centers around campus, as was done in the past. The Bookstore added a profit markup, resulting in complaints from students about the high prices they were paying for course materials.

At the Oct. 17 Senate meeting, senators passed a resolution recommending course packets no longer be sold exclusively through the Bookstore, but rather from campus copy centers, like those in Doden and O’Shaughnessy Halls.

The senators were less receptive to the version of the resolution presented two weeks ago, which recommended professors increase their use of e-reserves to be environmentally friendly.

The resolution presented Wednesday included that assertion and also included more research to show that students would be in support of a switch to e-reserves.

"We need to collaborate with our additional research ... that we have a better resolution to present to you today," Hendrickson said.

Firth and Bant gave a PowerPoint presentation in support of their resolution. Their survey, Bant said, showed that 67.3 percent of students were "very dissatisfied" with course packet costs.

Unlike with course packets, students will not have to pay for markup or copyright costs using e-reserves through University Libraries. According to the resolution, the University Libraries’ Course Reserve department has said it is "willing and able" to put more academic materials on electronic reserves. And also "willing and able to cover current and future copyright costs for any materials they allow to be placed on e-reserves."

"The building that’s going on campus is there to provide more opportunities for you. It’s just the fact of modern universities that you grow."

John Affleck-Graves executive vice president encouraged the senators to support their resolution.

"We do not expect unanimity across campus or Senate," Hendrickson said. "But considering the student body at large, after extensive research, and much deliberation, our committee has concluded that this option is best for the majority of students."

The resolution passed with 18 senators voting for it and three against it.

Some senators left before the meeting was over, so the Senate did not have quorum and was unable to conduct any new business after the e-reserves vote.

The amendment proposed by Siegfried senator Jim Lockwood, which asks the student body president to report the events that occur at Community/Campus Advisory Coalition meetings, will be discussed at the next Senate meeting.

In other Senate news: Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves spoke to the Senate for more than 30 minutes about campus development plans for the next year or two. Using a detailed PowerPoint presentation, he outlined the senators through the plan for the campus, the new architectural drawings of construction projects. Affleck-Graves pointed out Duncan Hall, a male residence hall to open next fall, the new Law School, Stinson-Remick Hall, the new engineering building; athletic facilities development, and Eddy Street Commons.

"The building that’s going on campus is there to provide more opportunities for you," Hendrickson said, which asks the senators. "It’s just the fact of modern universities that you grow."

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Best Value in Town Come See Why! 

Indoor/Outdoor Tennis and Basketball Free Tanning Heated Pool Relaxing Jacuzzi Gated Community Community Business Center No Application Fees for Students Close to everything...far from ordinary!

Best Value in Town Come See Why!

Indoor/Outdoor Tennis and Basketball Free Tanning Heated Pool Relaxing Jacuzzi Gated Community Community Business Center No Application Fees for Students Close to everything...far from ordinary!
Chinese

CCP seeks help from minor political parties

Communist government wants to retain full control but seeks input from smaller groups

Associated Press

BEIJING — China's communist government wants to play a greater role in advising the leadership, though without challenging its authoritarian hold on Chinese society, the government said Thursday.

The statement of support for the eight minor parties came in a policy paper that follows on Chinese President Hu Jintao's call last month for more open, consultative decision-making to help the government cope with a fast-changing society.

While stressing the advisory and supervisory roles played by the eight minor parties, the government said Thursday.

"The eight minor parties are holdovers from the early days of the revolution. De-fanged and co-opted by the party over the decades, they have served mainly to rubber stamp decisions taken by the leadership. Many of the parties' individual members remain influential in business and academic circles, providing a key conduit of communication for Chinese leaders."

Though the Communist Party has the final say, it has shown a willingness to go outside its expert apparatus between the two cases but said his relationships with both women were troubled.

"I would say that right now Drew Peterson has gone from being a person of interest to clearly being a suspect" in his fourth wife's disappearance, Illinois State Police Capt. Carl Dobrich said last week.

"I can look right in your eye and say I had nothing to do with either of those incidents," he told NBC. "I can look right in your eye and say I had nothing to do with either of the two cases."

"He wants me dead, and if he has to, he will burn the house down just to shut me up," she wrote.

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PUERTO RICO

Animal control agencies inhumanely kill strays

Investigation found companies tossed scores off bridges

Associated Press

TRUJILLO ALTO — Back roads, gorges and garbage dumps on this tropical island are littered with the decaying carcasses of dogs and cats. An Associated Press investigation reveals why, possibly thousands of unwanted animals have been tossed off bridges, buried alive and otherwise inhumanely disposed of by taxpayer-funded animal control programs.

Witnesses who spoke with the AP said that, despite pledges to deliver adoptable strays to shelters and humanely euthanize the rest, the island’s leading private animal control companies generally did nothing.

News that live animals had been thrown to their deaths from a bridge reached the public last month when Animal Control Solutions’ former board of director’s president, was accused of inhumanely killing some 80 dogs and cats seized from three housing projects in the town of Barceloneta. A half dozen survived the fall of at least 50 feet.

The AP probe, which included visits to two sites where animals were slaughtered, found that inhuman killings were far more extensive than that one incident. The AP saw and was told about a scale and brutality far beyond even what animal welfare activists suspected, stretching over the last eight years.

A $22.5 million lawsuit against Animal Control Solutions and city officials — including those who helped round up the animals — was filed on behalf of 16 Barceloneta families whose dogs and cats were seized under rules prohibiting pets at the city_projects. The animals’ deaths show “a cold and depraved heart and has stirred public disgust of strays. Pet Delivery, who was interviewed separately, spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of retaliation. Both said they left the animal disposal jobs voluntarily.

The AP contacted all eight animal shelters and sanctuaries across Puerto Rico, and they confirmed that none had received animals for potential adoption from Diaz’s companies.

The AP could find no sign that any of the municipalities checked to make sure the companies had contracts with municipalities and other clients worth $1.1 million in the past eight years, according to the Puerto Rican comptroller’s office.

The AP could find no sign that any of the municipalities checked to make sure the companies dealt with the strays humanely.

"We have never thrown animals off any place."

Julio Diaz
owner
Animal Control Solutions

Investigation found companies tossed scores off bridges

"Last Tuesday, I saw one of the survivors back at its home," Kortright said.

Animal welfare activists have complained to government agencies for years about allegations of improper disposal of animals, but no officials didn’t act. Preventive action also is almost nonexistent. Puerto Rico has at least 100,000 stray dogs and cats — and no island-wide spaying or neutering programs.

Activist Alfredo Figueroa said the animal disposal companies acted with impunity because government agencies ignored allegations of cruelty, rather than investigate the companies or address the overpopulation of strays. "There is apathy," Figueroa said. "No one wants to take responsibility."

A former employee of one of Diaz’s companies told the AP that the firms rounded up thousands of animals over the years, brutally killed many and discarded the corpses wherever it was convenient. One of the former employees led the AP to two different killing sites and he and another former employee described a third.

"Not a single animal was turned over to a shelter," a former dogatcher for Animal Control Solutions told the AP.

Both he and an employee of Pet Delivery, who was interviewed separately, spoke on the condition of anonymity for fear of retaliation. Both said they left the animal disposal jobs voluntarily.

The AP contacted all eight animal shelters and sanctuaries across Puerto Rico, and they confirmed that none had received animals for potential adoption from Diaz’s companies.

Diaz co-founded Pet Delivery in 1999 and created Animal Control Solutions in 2002. Pet Delivery appears to be defunct, having reported no earnings since 2004. Facing little competition, the companies had $5 contracts with municipalities and other clients worth $1.1 million in the past eight years, according to the Puerto Rican comptroller’s office.

The AP could find no sign that any of the municipalities checked to make sure the companies dealt with the strays humanely.

"It wasn’t our responsibility," said Edwin Arroyo, special assistant to the mayor of Barceloneta, which paid Animal Control Solutions up to $20,000 per year and in October hired a company to remove banned pets from housing projects — allegedly the ones that wound up at the bottom of the bridge.

The pet disposal scandal adds to Puerto Rico’s poor reputation for treatment of animals. Cockfighting is legal, with ties.

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FDA warns Avandia users
Popular diabetes drug may cause increased risk of heart attack

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government stopped a prominent, confusing, warning on the popular diabetes drug Avandia on Wednesday — telling patients that it may or may not, increase the risk of heart attacks.

The move is less stringent than steps Canada took last week to restrict the drug's use in hard-to-treat diabetes.

But the U.S. Food and Drug Administration concluded that studies are too contradictory to tell if Avandia really is riskier than other treatments for Type 2 diabetes.

So the FDA described the controversy in a black box on Avandia's label — the most severe type of warning the agency can provide — pending further research. Unlike most black-box warnings that urge strong caution, Avandia's says, "The available data on the risk are inconclusive."

"It's still an open question," said Dr. John Jenkins, FDA's drug chief. Still, he said, "We want to make sure health care providers and patients are aware this signal of risk has been identified."

Patients may need a medical dictionary to interpret the new warning. It says Avandia may be associated with "myocardial ischemic events such as angina or myocardial infarction."

In layman's terms, that's chest pain or a heart attack.

Manufacturer GlaxoSmithKline PLC is to develop a pamphlet for providers and patients are urged to obtain a copy on the product's website at www.avandia.com.

The study will begin by next November and won't end until 2014, but the FDA will order interim checks to see how the patient's heart may be affected. The study will be done in conjunction with a similar one conducted by Canada's health ministry.

Janet Woodcock, FDA's chief medical officer, said for now, Type 2 diabetics who also have heart disease or are at especially high risk for it should talk with their doctor about Avandia's potential heart effects as they decide among treatment options, FDA advised.

In contrast, Canada's drug regulators last week withdrew approval of the drug as a stand-alone therapy except for people who can't tolerate other medications.

Health Canada announced that Avandia should be used only in combination with certain other drugs for hard-to-control blood sugars.

Dr. Steven Nissen of the Cleveland Clinic, who first started the controversy on Sept. 27, 2004, said that Wednesday's warning is important, if premature.

"It is a black-box warning, and no matter what the language says, it's telling you something," Nissen said. "A black-box warning is telling you there's enough evidence here that physicians and patients ought to be concerned."

What should Avandia users do?

"The easy answer is talk to your doctor, but that doesn't help much because the doctors are just as much in the dark as the patient," said Dr. Thomas Pickering, a cardiovascular disease expert at Columbia University Medical Center and an FDA advisory. While he has convinced of the heart attack risk, he advises trying other drugs first, and adding Avandia if they're not enough.

It is not the first warning about Avandia's heart effects.

In August, the FDA ordered a black-box warning for both Avandia and a competitor, Actos, that they may cause or worsen heart failure, a different cardiac problem.

About 1 million Americans with Type 2 diabetes use Avandia. It helps control blood sugar by increasing the body's sensitivity to insulin.

Diabetics already are at increased risk of heart disease.

Type 2 diabetes, the most common form, is linked to obesity, which in turn harms the heart. Plus, high blood sugar over time damages blood vessels. Losing weight, therefore, prevents many diabetes complications, such as blindness and kidney failure.

The hope is that intensive treatment can reverse the risk of a heart attack.

But on Wednesday, the FDA also said Avandia's competitors must change their own labels — to say none has been proven to reduce diabetics' risk of heart disease. That includes the treatment mainly for older patients who are just as much in the dark as the patient, "It isn't as if we're going to be clueless until 2014," said Dr. Steven Nissen of the Cleveland Clinic, who first started the controversy on Sept. 27, 2004.

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I drank before I was 21. I have not inhaled — and neither has Bill Clinton. I have viewed Internet pornography. I have discussed all of the above online with friends.

I have made jokes I now regret. I have been said to have been involved in nearly every inappropriate topic. I have served on a board of directors. I have never been solicited for gay sex in a men’s room.

I have never been convicted of any crime. I have never done cocaine. But Barack Obama has. Obama’s first book, “Dreams from My Father,” includes the following passage: “Put that helped, and booze; maybe a little low when you could afford it. No smoke, though.” Of course, when Obama wrote the book, he likely wasn’t considering its implications on his future presidential campaign (this may not be entirely true — Obama’s brother-in-law has said that Obama considered the possibility of the presidency as early as 1992. But Obama would have had to admit to his past at some point — the same way Bill Clinton admitted — or lied to marjuana use in 1992. The rise of the Internet, and the accompanying flood of need-to-be-personal information, requires some way to be frank. Earlier this year, the New York Times published portions of letters Jillynn Chilton had written as an undergraduate. Imagine what it will be like for our generations: newspapers are written already (likely, Matt Drudg) will publish old e-mails; saved somewhere in the bowels of the Google empire, old AIM conversations, which you know at least one creepy friend is saving note to his friends: I’m that creep, and old Facebook wall posts. Imagine the 2036 presidential elections. Both candidates, in all likelihood, will have had Facebook profiles. (If you’re reading this in 2016 and the candidate didn’t have a Facebook profile, you should not vote for him/her. He/she sucked a logical idea or so concerned about the views that they’ll likely make an awful president.) Of course, that means that each candidate will have pictures, to look at, which will likely reveal all sorts of foolish college activities that they would— might—as well their mother for the rest of the voting public) knowing about. Who knows, they might even have written an offensive joke or two on a wall that they’ll promptly discuss as “a regrettable decision made when I was young and thought I knew everything.” It won’t just be political candidates, though. You’ll be able to pull up a plethora of information on your co-workers. Google the guy at the desk next to you and you’ll learn something about his teenage years, which (despite his self-fashioned image) he probably spent as a high school dealer who probably didn’t talk to girls. That sort of thing is already happening in college. Our Career Center is telling us to check out our Facebook profiles and make sure they’re “clean,” so that potential employers think that all we do on weekends is play Scavenger or online porn. I’ve heard reports of funny faces while we volunteer at centers for underprivileged youth and the Career Center are already worried about us doing a good job at a football party last Friday night — doesn’t get it. They don’t understand what the Internet means today and it will remain in the future.

Starting with our generation, all sorts of information our parents understood as private will become public. There will be — embarrassing, rude, bad behavior, even bad news about nearly everybody. And it will have an important effect. It will force us to be more honest about what we’ve done in our past. It will force us to present ourselves as real human beings, not carefully constructed images of human beings, in all aspects of our lives. The Internet behaves like a giant polychromatic test. The threat for, in the case of the Internet, the increasing certainty that our thoughts and actions mean something people are more likely to tell the truth on their own terms.

Andrew Nesi
Spicy Sea Nuggets

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Enhance understanding of religions

When traveling throughout Spain last summer, conducting interviews with Muslims, I heard that leaders for my Muslim Science thesis, none of my survey questions provoked quite as much thought as this one: Are Muslim and Western values compatible? It seemed to me that one had a clear or easy answer. While I’ll save my results for my thesis, I can say that Spanish Muslims either certainly felt differently than the Spanish population overall. Many westerners felt that Muslim values were in great contrast to their own; Muslims themselves didn’t quite feel that way. Ignoring this, build Western culture and values, I’m sorry to say, is not merely a Spanish problem. Westerners, including Americans, lack a true understanding of the differences and, more importantly, lack a true understanding between western and Muslim cultures and values. Notre Dame provides a perfect example — we have one of the best theology departments in the country, if not in the world, but have only three classes on world religions for spring 2008. Everyone has to take biblical foundations, but there’s no requirement and very little encouragement to take our theological and religious studies beyond that which is embedded in all aspects of our Notre Dame, Catholicism. Imagine going to high school and only taking American history — it would certainly impact your understanding of the world.

We at Notre Dame will have an opportunity tonight to enhance understanding of the religion of more than a billion people worldwide. Archbishop Celestino Migliore will present the Terrence R. Keeley Visiting Vatican Lectures, “Catholicism and Islam: Points of Convergence and Divergence, Encounter and Cooperation,” at 8 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium.

Archbishop Migliore has been the Vatican Permanent Observer to the United Nations since 2002, and his presentation promises to be an enlightening one. Even after all my interviews, I still find my understanding of Islam and what it has in common with Catholicism sadly lacking. I look forward to hearing Archbishop Migliore speak on this very important topic, and I encourage everyone to attend as a way to broaden our view of the world. Hopefully this will be the first of many more events focusing not just on America and the West, but also on how the West and Catholicism can interact with the rest of the world.

John Grothaus
c/o our Career Center is telling us to check out our Facebook profiles and make sure they’re “clean,” so that potential employers think that all we do on weekends is play Scavenger or online porn. I’ve heard reports of funny faces while we volunteer at centers for underprivileged youth and the Career Center are already worried about us doing a good job at a football party last Friday night — doesn’t get it. They don’t understand what the Internet means today and it will remain in the future.

Starting with our generation, all sorts of information our parents understood as private will become public. There will be — embarrassing, rude, bad behavior, even bad news about nearly everybody. And it will have an important effect. It will force us to be more honest about what we’ve done in our past. It will force us to present ourselves as real human beings, not carefully constructed images of human beings, in all aspects of our lives. The Internet behaves like a giant polychromatic test. The threat for, in the case of the Internet, the increasing certainty that our thoughts and actions mean something people are more likely to tell the truth on their own terms.

Andrew Nesi is a junior American Studies major from Fish Creek, Conn. He is starting to regret this column already, but he needs the information for his moderating effect on the language used herein. He can be reached at andrewes@nd.edu.

This is a new look for the Observer. We will be reaching out to the campus to ask for feedback on the new look. We hope to hear your thoughts and suggestions.

John Grothaus

The Observer ONLINE

www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Success is relative. It is what we can make of the mess we have made of things."

T.S. Eliot
British dramaticist and poet
Last Thursday in FaithPoint, Father Lou DeFry wrote about the struggles many students have with pornography. Not surprisingly, he fully covers the power of human sexuality, the easy accessibility the Internet offers, and the stresses and strains of life at a demanding university. It is good to expand on his valuable insights and offer a refined twist,

Kate Barrett

FaithPoint

The lowest common denominator in relationships

Check terminology

With the campus a little stirred up about gays and gay rights and gay sex, I think it’s important that we all take a second look at the old Catechism, lest we go the route of Mary K. Daly and start coming with homosexual acts. Merely having homosexual desires no more makes homosexuality as an orientation, and a lifestyle” (“Campus, Catholicism, and homosexuality.” Nov. 13).

While much of what Daly says in regards to gender and sexuality is true, she unfortunately makes the same mistakes we have often taken, and misunderstands Church teaching.

Here is what the Church says: “Homosexuality is intrinsically disordered.” This misreading is what leads eventually “homosexuals are gravely disordered.” This misreading is what leads to swallowing the attempted divide between homosexual persons. In each category, we are called to create a welcoming environment in which all wounds are healed, the wounds of personality and discovery personal traits — one of which is said to exist — only one of which is sexual. As individuals created in the image and likeness of God, our inherent compulsion to be in relationship with others and love is “open to new life,” but 1 think anyone reading this letter can probably guess what I am talking about. That book, “homosexuality is gravely disordered” and “the homosexual lifestyle” (“Campus, Catholicism, and homosexuality.” Nov. 13).

The church teaches that sexuality is a gift from God, not something chosen. As Father David Burrell notes on the Notre Dame Gare Council Web site (counsel­ cilll.edu), “The Catechism of the Catholic Church takes pains to distinguish homosexual acts from orientation, and homosexual acts.” This means that there is nothing wrong with being a homosexual, ac­cording to the Church, the problem comes with homosexual acts. Merely having homosexual desires is not a problem. But letting the desires lead you into a sin which can damage yourself and others is what Many resources (brochures, pamphlets, videos) are available through the Campus Ministry. Every hall rector is fully versed in Church teaching.

These resources are the public face of the University of our community. In developing an approach that is “holis­

tically Catholic. However, we must balance the role of the community and that of the indi­vidual. Dealing with an intimate aspect of an individual’s personal and spiritual life requires utmost care and concern.

As a community, we are called to create a welcoming environment in which all wounds are healed, the wounds of personality and personal faith.

To minister to individual needs we must provide a safe space in which people can explore their faith and rec­oncile themselves before God in a loving environment. This does not mean that Church teaching, in its fullness, should not be laid out or provided as a model.

Ultimately, however, after careful dis­cussion, prayer, and consultation, it is for the individual to reconcile him or her­self to the tradition of the community — to support the community’s role to share the love and good news of Christ — not to declare judgments reserved for God.

Grant Van Eaton

St. Peter's College

Re-evaluating "teachings" on homosexuality

In Mary K. Daly’s letter (“Campus, Catholicism, and homosexuality.” Nov. 13) on the Catholic approach to including homosexual students with great interest, but also with some puzzlement. She re­iterates a point made by many in regards to this issue, which is that the Catholic Church does not consider homosexual people to be exceptionally flawed as human beings because they just as everyone else are made in the image of God. However, as her letter states, “The Church does teach that homosexuality is intrinsically disordered but that this is not we have curves or muscles in the right places.

Pardon the chitchat, but this seems to be a rhetorical attempt on the part of the increasingly politically correct Church to have one’s cake and eat it, too. Can the idea of homosexuality even be coherent when divorced from the very context, i.e. life forms of two distinct sexes, from which it originates? If some­one can formulate a clear explanation of what homosexuality is, without drawing reference to a member of God’s creation, my mind will be set at ease. If not, then it must be admitted that to say that homosexuality is intrinsically disordered or evil is to say that God has created a being, a person, who is sick, who is a virus, who is un­healthy, and who is a disease.

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Why do you believe Tony Kushner decided to give the play the name he did?

The title comes from a misunderstanding or a mishearing. Kushner was at an exhibit of some sort that had video of an Agnes de Mille ballet playing on a TV set. From across the room, Kushner thought he heard the announcer say the name of the ballet was "A Bright Room Called Day." In fact, the name of the ballet was "A Bridge Called Death." A happy accident. In honor of Ms. de Mille, Kushner has named the lead character "Agnes."

In what, if any, ways have you tried to put your own spin on the material?

"I don't have any kind of 'spin' per se. I'm asking if you are asking what I think the play is about, I can answer that. 'A Bright Room Called Day' is about fighting historical amnesia by resurrecting historical truths that have been concealed or obscured. To redeem history by preventing the reoccurrence of similar disastrous mistakes in the present and future. "Also, I believe Kushner is telling us that in order for our political system to thrive and progress, we must make room for the voice of dissent."

In the past the theater department has used some very unusual sets. Is there something unique about the play of this set?

"We have at least one large, theatrical moment. To say more would spoil the surprise."

The play features scenes involving a woman named Zillah who moves from Long Island to Berlin in 1933. Do you believe the play continues to have enduring relevance in terms of the current global political landscape?

"Yes, yes, it is hard to think of an American play that goes to Germany she once knew and loved. It seems to finish the sentence. "The world is perched on the edge of joining the KPD and the Nazi party takes the majority of seats in the German Parliament. Weimar Coalition and KPD members attempt to unify against the Nazis, but the plot ultimately fails, and Hitler is elected Chancellor of Germany on January 1933. It is in this period of turmoil that the hopes and dreams of the characters rise and fall. United in their distaste for the Nazi party, the play's characters watch helplessly as fascism descends upon them. The play centers on the hopelessness while raising questions about what an individual can do against the surging tide of unwanted political change. Despite this overbearing, oppressive gloom, the characters are a delightful bunch. Husz, a one-eyed revolutionary banned from Hungary and kicked out of Russia, now making films for the Germans—whom he claims are all insane—is delightful in his anxious and epic take on life. Gorchings is a hardworking member of the KPD, and her occasional arguments with Bazwald, a homosexual sex synonym, make for sharp comical relief. Paulinka is a famous actress, evidently in love with the idea of selling one's soul to the Devil, yet holding a supreme distaste for "Faust." She doesn't seem to understand the times, but nevertheless, she makes her opinion known.

"Psychoanalysis makes more sense than Communism.

Agnes, the focus of the tale, is a character perched on the border of joining the KPD and just plain staying out of the whole mess. Her character evokes a great amount of sympathy as she tries so desperately to hold onto a Germany she once knew and believes will soon return. There is a scene in the play where she tries to think of the Reagan administration, coming on the scene after the disappearance of the political zeal as she rips on the Reagan administration, calling him the devil and comparing him to Hitler. Fortunately, the tirade carries enough jolly humor to overshadow their extreme politics.

The acting is entertaining and engrossing. Robin Witt's direction is wonderful, and on the whole, a learning experience. Slideshows detailing the history of the period flash during scene transitions, keeping the audience occupied and informed. There is also a quite impressive show of theatrical spectacle about midway through the play when Husz literally calls up the Devil from beneath the ground. If the foreboding descent of Germany into evil has not been sufficiently fore-shadowed by this point, the Devil makes it clear when he informs his stunned onlookers, "I have taken up temporary residence in this country."

At one point of the play, Husz says, "This age wanted heroes, it got us instead." "A Bright Room Called Day" examines what it's like to be that "instead." Though it seeks to push a heavy political message, it is touching in its portrayal of hope, overshadowed by Hitler's dark, rising sun.

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nld.edu
\textbf{The Importance of Being Earnest opens at Saint Mary's College}

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

\textbf{"The Importance of Being Earnest" opens at Saint Mary's College}  
\textbf{Tonight 7:30, Friday 7:30, Sunday 2:30, 7:30}  
\textbf{Tickets $10, Seniors $8, Staff $7, Students $5}

Thursday, November 15, 2007

Saint Mary's College

The play, starting its run at the paved and exposed College Theater, offers a balance of humor and soul music.

**By TAE ANDREWS**
Scene Editor

The Importance of Being Earnest, the comedy takes place originally penned by playwright Oscar Wilde during the late Victorian era. The play's emphasis for role that has made people think we didn't kill it is our greatest challenge. "Performing this show makes us make people think we didn't kill it is our greatest challenge.

"I wanted to write a play, he said. "Perfoming this really gave me a new appreciation for (Wilde's) wit. Wilde supposedly modeled my character (Algeron) after himself."

When performing such a famous and hilarious play, Haley said the original text presented the cast with its most challenging task trying to live up to the billing of such a renowned work.

"We're trying to elevate it in order to play up the humor. We have such a huge source. With all the wit that's in the show, there's where each actor can put his or her own spin on the script," he said. Haley said the direction of the production allows individual actors to exercise creative freedom in trying to emphasize the humor of the show.

"Our director (Mark Abram-Goplenhov) has been great about letting each actor make his or her own choices," he said. "He likes to leave a lot up to us, let us take the reins first and then push us in a direction. He's been phenomenal." Stage manager Carole Deeter agreed. "Mark really looks for places where he can bring out things that are really funny in the script and highlight them," she said. "So we tried to make sure those points are really emphasized. Almost every line in the play is a joke and very funny, so one of our approaches was to make sure everything funny will be perceived as funny." Deeter also said the production drew from the original source material in designing the stage aesthetic for the show.

"One of the things we really were pulling for we got from the script," she said. "In the play, there's a line by Lady Bracknell that says, 'Algeron has nothing but looks... everything.' So for his apartment we wanted it to be any way he likes it and it's so much about how it's perceived as funny. It's just a zany character." The Importance of Being Earnest features a diverse, tri-collegiate cast, including all four female actresses from Saint Mary's, three male Notre Dame students and one male Holy Cross student.

"He's a really tough role," he said. "It's the kind of play that allows that to happen. The cast has really bonded, and I think it shows in the chemistry on stage." Contact Tae Andrews at tande@nd.edu

Keenan presents philosophy event

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

Keenan Hall will host a talk with philosophy professor Alasdair MacIntyre entitled "Why Philosophy Matters" tonight at 7 p.m. The event will take place in the basement of the church. The event is open to the public and will include both the entire hall and any other interested people.

"Professor MacIntyre is one of the most renowned philoso­ phers and professors here at Notre Dame," resident assis­tant Tae Kang said in an e-mail Tuesday. "He is truly a brilliant mind and has greatly impacted many students and academics." Kang said he organized the talk to stress the importance and enduring relevance of philosophy in social life, both on campus and in the greater world.

"In the dorm, I hear lamentations of 'Why do I have to read philosophy? What's the point of reading these books by dead people? I don't understand this,'" he said. "I wanted to address this view and show that philosophy is fun and a mental tool to show we function as a society and interact as humans." "Philosophy matters because it is the foundation of our beliefs and views about the world. It is a great intellectual tradition handed down from men like Plato and Aristotle to Aquinas and Descartes to Mill and MacIntyre. We cannot have proper discourse without proper understanding of philosophy and truth." Contact Tae Andrews at tande@nd.edu

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Napoleon Suarez, a former ND track star, returns to campus as a hip-hop artist.

Suarez sent his album to family friends, and after receiving positive feedback, he decided to release it on Sept. 11. The same day Kanye West dropped his third album "Graduation," Suarez named his CD "Napoleon Dynamite" as a play on both the popular movie and the ND surname.

As a new soul artist, Suarez says his musical influences range everywhere from Tupac to Metallica and include artists like Kidiz in the Hall, Skyzoo, Little Brother, Fall Out Boy, Coldplay, Lupe Fiasco, Jay Z, Nas and Gemini. He also pointed out the subtle difference between soul and neo soul music.

"Soul music taps into your soul and just makes you feel good inside," he said. "Neo soul music does that as well, but I feel it is more poetical. More sophisticated. It is less structured, giving you a little more freedom to say what you have to say without the restrictions of a rhyming pattern. The beats are less edgy but more thought provoking.

"Working with native superstar Kanye West has been a great experience, said Suarez. "It's really crazy to think to think that the last time I was there, they were taking money from me, but now that I'm going back they are paying me," he said. "It's funny how quickly things turn around in the music business." Contact Tae Andrews at tande@nd.edu

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Napoleon Suarez, a former ND track star, returns to campus as a hip-hop artist.

"We are trying to elevate it in order to play up the humor. We have such a huge source. With all the wit that's in the show, there's where each actor can put his or her own spin on the script," he said. "In the play, there's a line by Lady Bracknell that says, 'Algeron has nothing but looks... everything.' So for his apartment we wanted it to be any way he likes it and it's so much about how it's perceived as funny. It's just a zany character." The Importance of Being Earnest features a diverse, tri-collegiate cast, including all four female actresses from Saint Mary's, three male Notre Dame students and one male Holy Cross student.

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NBA

LeBron's triple-double not enough against Magic

Washington beats Indiana for second straight win; Atlanta beats Charlotte but loses Smith, Law to injury

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James heard the whistle and figured he was headed to the free throw line.

He got there. Just not to shoot.

Driving down the lane in the final seconds of overtime, James was tied up by Orlando's Hedo Turkoglu for a game-ending jump ball as the Magic, paced by Dwight Howard's 35 points and 16 rebounds, remained unbeaten on the road with a 117-116 win over the Cleveland Cavaliers on Wednesday night.

Howard, almost unstopable near the basket, made two free throws with 5.8 seconds left in OT to put the Magic up by one.

Following a timeout, James, who finished with 39 points, 14 assists and 13 rebounds, took two inbounds passes at the top of the key and quickly drove past Keith Bogans.

But as he approached the basket, James was wrapped up from the side by a helping Turkoglu, who had been called for a critical three-shot foul against James with 2.6 seconds left in regulation.

Orlando's forward got his hands on the ball but also appeared to make contact with James' forearm. Referee Leon Wood, though, signaled for a jump ball, and as Cleveland fans howled loudly, James walked around with a puzzled look on his face.

Washington Wizards to a victory over the Indiana Pacers.

The All-Star guard has been taking it easy on days off and before games. But he decided Wednesday he needed to get a feel for the basketball court, so he went to the gym to shoot Tuesday night, then hoisted up 100 3-pointers before tipoff Wednesday.

"I was coming to games cold turkey, wasn't getting the ball up, just banking off my natural ability, and I was struggling," Arena said. "My handle wasn't as crisp."

"Then, Resting the knee," Arena said. "They told me to stay off the knee, so I stayed off of it."

Caron Butler scored 25 points, and Brendan Haywood had 16 points and 11 rebounds for the Wizards, while reserve Marquis Daniels led the Pacers with 19 points. The teams are headed in opposite directions, with the Wizards going 2-0 after an 0-5 start, and the Pacers going 0-5 after a 3-0 start.

"We've got to make some adjustments," said Indiana's Jermaine O'Neal, who had 17 points and nine rebounds.

"We're a little concerned right now, but we don't feel like the year is over," Arena said.

The Observer

Thursday, November 15, 2007

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 524 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next day classifieds is 2 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 50 cents per character per day, including spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Kobe Bryant scored 39 points, including 13 of 13 from the free throw line, and the Los Angeles Lakers beat the New York Knicks 106-99 on Wednesday night.

But the Lakers' victory was marred by an injury to point guard Derek Fisher, who left the game with 6:47 left in the third quarter with what appeared to be a severely sprained ankle.

Fisher said he was not sure whether he would be able to play Thursday when the Lakers play at the Portland Trail Blazers.

"I don't think it's broken. I'll have an MRI tomorrow and see where we are. We have to mix and match right now until we see what our injuries are," Fisher said.

"We'll have an MRI tomorrow morning. I don't really think that bad," said Smith. "I don't think that long to heal."

The Hawks twice tied the game with 18 points in the first half and were up 63-48 at the half behind Johnson's 20 points. Atlanta shot 24-for-35 in the first 24 minutes (68.6 percent). Washington had 12 points for Charlotte and Richardson added 10.

Atlanta took the lead for good at 64-63, never looked closer than six points in the second half, trailing 69-63 on a basket by Richardson with 5:20 left in the third period.

"I wanted to come out and attack the basket early and get myself in a rhythm. We did that and we attacked the basket. We didn't look for jump shots. That was the key," Johnson said.

The Observer
**A Higher Learning**

~~by William C. Rhoden~~

The song in the locker room was called "I'm Just a Southern Boy." It wasn't playing now, but it was a perfect fit. It was aynytime he was feeling down, the music that had a New Orleans accent was on the soundtrack.

"I've been here 12 years," Rodriguez said, "and the players always used to joke about me being a little like that." He pointed to the A-Rod logo on the tarp nearby, which was where the sculpture of him had been placed before construction began on the park. "When that gets finished, they'll be able to call me a New Yorker.

Rodriguez was talking from the dugout, where he had been the day before, after the Yankees' 9-2 victory over the Blue Jays. He had hit a solo home run and driven in two runs. He had also hit two doubles in the game, raising his batting average to .306. It was his first game at home after being traded from Texas, and he seemed content with his new surroundings.

"I'm glad I'm here," he said. "I love the fans here. They've always been great to me."

The trade had been a surprise to many, especially the Rangers, who had been expected to keep Rodriguez around for another year. The Yankees had sent Texas a package of players in return for Rodriguez, including outfielder Kevin Youkilis and starting pitcher Joba Chamberlain.

"I'm excited to be here," Rodriguez continued. "I've always wanted to play for the Yankees. And now that I'm here, I want to make sure I do everything I can to help this team win a championship."
Despite chance to pitch in homeland, Matsuzaka may miss trip due to timing of pregnant wife's due date

MLB
Red Sox, Athletics to open season in Japan

Associated Press

Boston — The Boston Red Sox will open the 2008 season in Tokyo, and the World Series champions hope they could be breaking Japan's biggest baseball barometer.

Pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka, who might miss Boston's March 25-26 visit to the Oakland Athletics at Tokyo Dome because his wife is expecting their second baby around that time, Red Sox president Larry Lucchino said the team and the commissioner's office were exploring the potential conflict.

"We're hopeful that their second child will be born at such a time to allow him to participate," Lucchino said Wednesday in a conference call. "We are hopeful, but we do recognize that he has an important obligation with respect to the birth of that child."

Matsuzaka's first child was born in Japan. It's not clear whether the Matsuzakas plan to deliver in Japan or the United States this time.

The Red Sox paid a record $51.11 million for the rights to talk to Matsuzaka last offseason and another $5.2 million to sign him for six years. He went 15-12 with a 4.40 ERA as a rookie, and after stumbling in his first two playoff starts he won his last two to help the Red Sox win their second World Series in four seasons.

Even if he can't pitch in his homeland, the Red Sox won't be visiting empty-handed. Lefty Hideki Okajima, who was a key reliever for the Dodgers and their U.S. Open Series champion, will be with two games against the Dodgers Stadium and one planned for the Los Angeles Coliseum, where the Dodgers played for four seasons after moving West from Brooklyn 50 years ago.

The Red Sox and As will resume their regular-season schedule with a two-game series at Oakland April 1-2.

The Japan visit is one of two Asian trips Major League Baseball hopes to make next year. Talks have been under way for months to have the Dodgers and San Diego Padres play exhibition games in Beijing, most likely on March 14-15, at the ballpark to be used for the 2008 Olympics.

That would be Major League Baseball's first trip to China.

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Even if he can't pitch in his homeland, the Red Sox won't be visiting empty-handed. Lefty Hideki Okajima, who was a key part of the Boston bullpen in the regular and postseason, could return to the stadium where he spent most of his 12-year Japanese league career.

The Japan trip had been in the planning for months as baseball officials tried to make the trip more comfortable for the players and gain their consent. Lucchino said the team would fly on a "big plane, and stop in Tokyo, and the World Series champions could be leaving Japan for the third time is another example of Major League Baseball's commitment to continue the global growth of the game," commissioner Bud Selig said in a statement.

Larry Lucchino
Red Sox president

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY

CLAS 10200 GREEK AND ROMAN MYTHOLOGY T. Mazurek (MW 12:50-1:40)
A survey of the mythologies of ancient Greece and Rome, tracing their transmission and influence down to the present day.

CLAS 30110 THE GREEKS AND THEIR GODS I. Torrance (MW 3:00-3:50)
An introduction to the varied and unique religious beliefs and practices of the ancient Greeks.

CLAS 30110 ROMAN LAW AND GOVERNANCE T. Mazurek (MW 9:35-10:25)
An introduction to the nature and influence of Roman law, one of the most celebrated and distinctive elements of ancient Roman culture.

CLAS 30233 SPORT AND SPECTACLE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD J. Banta (TR 3:30-4:45)
An introduction to the centrality of athletics and spectacle in ancient Greece and Rome.

CLAS 30338 THE GREEK AND LATIN ORIGINS OF MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY D. Ladouceur (TR 11:00-12:15)
An introduction to the ancient Greek and Latin languages that enables students to appreciate the rich vocabulary of modern medicine.

CLAS 48355 GREEK AND ROMAN EPIC POETRY C. Schlegel (TR 9:30-10:45)
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CLCA 20004 READING AND WRITING LATIN PROSE D. Ladouceur (TR 12:30-1:45)
An introduction to stylistic analysis of classical Latin prose through close readings of Cicero and the younger Pliny and through Latin composition exercises.

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A basic introduction to all aspects of the Arabic language through a comprehensive and integrated method focusing on language proficiency in all areas of the language including speaking, reading and writing.

MELC 20800 WOMEN IN ISLAMIC SOCIETIES A. Afsaruddin (TR 12:30-1:45)
A broad survey of women's and gender issues in various Islamic societies, with a focus on the Arab Middle East.

MELC 30400 CHRISTIANITY IN THE MIDDLE EAST J. Amar (TR 3:30-4:45)
An introduction to the largely untold story of Christianity that expresses itself in the native Aramaic language and culture of the Semitic East.
Recent wins resurrect Georgia’s SEC title hopes

Four straight victories have Bulldogs back in hunt for conference crown, but Georgia still needs Tennessee to lose again

Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — A little over a month ago, Georgia coach Mark Richt stopped talking about the Southeastern Conference race. He figured there wasn’t any point after the Bulldogs were blown out by Tennessee.

These days, the Bulldogs can’t help but think about their title hopes.

No. 8 Georgia (8-2, 5-2 SEC) has won four straight, including huge victories over Florida and Auburn, and goes into its final conference game leading the SEC East.

“Oh yeah, that’s on all our minds,” freshman linebacker Reenie Curran said. “I know for a fact that all the guys want that ring. We all have in our business,” safety Kelin Johnson said. “We all know the SEC is unpredictable right now. There’s a lot of ball left. A lot of teams are still in it. We’ve just got to keep working hard. All we can do is take care of ourselves.”

Indeed, four teams — Tennessee, Kentucky, South Carolina and Vanderbilt — are within one loss of each other in the SEC East. Only South Carolina and Vanderbilt have been eliminated.

By contrast, the Western Division race is over. LSU will be in Atlanta on Dec. 1 face whoever emerges from the down-to-the-wire race in the East.

“We’ve got to go out and win,” Georgia quarterback Matthew Stafford said. “That is what’s on our minds. I don’t know when Tennessee plays. Who are they playing this week? I don’t even know.’’

Told it was Vanderbilt, Stafford didn’t miss a beat.

“We’ve just got to concentrate on us more than anything else,” he said.

Still, the Bulldogs have reason to be proud of themselves for turning things around. They failed to score a touchdown in a home loss to South Carolina early in the season, and put up very little fight when Tennessee raced out to a big first-half lead in Knoxville.

After that, Richt challenged his players to show more emotion. They took him up on it against Florida, the entire team storming the field after the first touchdown in a 42-30 victory.

Last Saturday, the Bulldogs wore black jerseys for the first time in the modern era against Auburn, giving them an emotional lift that paid off with a 45-20 triumph.

“If Georgia can win one more — and Tennessee loses one along the way — the Bulldogs will play for an SEC championship they wouldn’t even talk about a little over a month ago.

Associated Press

Bulldogs quarterback Matthew Stafford throws a pass during Georgia’s 45-20 win over Auburn on Nov. 30.

If Georgia can win one more — and Tennessee loses one along the way — the Bulldogs will play for an SEC championship they wouldn’t even talk about a little over a month ago.

Associated Press

Bulldogs quarterback Matthew Stafford throws a pass during Georgia’s 45-20 win over Auburn on Nov. 30.
Hull returns in star role for Dallas

Associated Press

DALLAS — Eight years after Brett Hull won the Stanley Cup for the Dallas Stars, his job is to find the players who can bring them another one.

As the Stars’ new interim co-owner and general manager, Hull will have a lot on his plate, starting with answering the always-Opinionated Hull blip when it comes to what the team needs.

“Just can’t snap your fingers and go, ‘Let’s be the Russians,’” Hull said Wednesday. “We’re going to get together and figure out the best way to make that happen.”

The Stars own Tom Hicks fired Doug Armstrong on Tuesday and replaced him with Hull, added to the Dallas front office last year, and Les Jackson. The change came after the Stars’ 7-3 loss that followed three straight first-round playoff exits.

Hull will continue Wednesday with Stars president Jim Lites being replaced by Jeff Thomas, who was solely the team president. But things changed twice since then, the last time in 2001-02 before Tippett took over.

The shake-up continued Wednesday with Stars president Jim Lites being replaced by Jeff Cogin, who was plucked from the front office of Hicks’ baseball franchise, the Texas Rangers. Cogin had the same role with the Rangers.

Jackson was the Stars’ assistant GM.

Dallas embarking on such an internal overhaul, one of Hull’s first gestures as GM was to throw his support behind sixth-year Stars coach Dave Tippett, whose contract expires after the season.

“We believe wholeheartedly that he has the talent to lead this team where we want to go,” said Hull, who left the Stars for Detroit and won another Stanley Cup in 2001-02 before Tippett took over that season.

The retired NHL great, whose 741 goals rank third on the career list, is a sentimental choice for Stars fans who remember Hull knocking in the Stanley Cup-winning goal in triple overtime against Buffalo in Game 6 of the 1999 finals.

But the Stars’ recent playoff fortunes have been less rosy. Dallas has won multiple series in the post-season since 2000, when it lost to New Jersey in the finals. The Stars have reached the second round just twice since then, last in 2003.

Hicks, when asked how far he thought Dallas was from returning to its glory days, said “about the middle of the round of the playoffs.”

Hicks said although he couldn’t hire a “world-class general manager in the middle of the season,” he believes Hull can make the moves necessary to help the Stars get younger and faster.

“Hockey in the old days was easy,” said Hicks, who signed Hull as a free agent the summer before the Stars won the Stanley Cup. “You just went out and spent money. Go get Brett. You can’t do that anymore.”

Goalie Marty Turco, a team-mate during Hull’s last two seasons in Dallas, is among the Stars players satisfied with the new boss.

“He was a guy you looked up to, a potential Hull of Framar,” Turco said. “His knowledge and intelligence speak for themselves in my mind. He led by example. He played on a lot of great teams. He’s used the last time in the presure.”

Of course, Hull was known as much for shipping his mouth off as he was for scoring during his playing career. In St. Louis, his 11 years with the Blues were marked by a long public rift with the front office. His outspoken nature helped land him a studio analyst job with NBC last season.

If Hull doesn’t agree with Tippett’s philosophy on the ice, there’s no doubt he won’t keep it private.

“He hears what I think,” Hull said. “But it’s up to him whether he goes with it or not.”

The 43-year-old Hull also was candid about his rise to the top of the Stars organization, saying he didn’t expect to be in this position so soon.

“Ever heard of a 43-year-old GM? You can’t be, but that doesn’t mean you’re just going to step in,” he said. “I never thought it was going to be like this.”

NBA

Marbury joins team after fine

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stephon Marbury rejoined the New York Knicks in Los Angeles on Wednesday, one day after skipping a game at Phoenix. It’s unclear whether the star guard will play against the Clippers.

Earlier Tuesday, the team fined Marbury more than $180,000 for missing the Suns game, the latest clash between the disgruntled point guard and coach Isiah Thomas.

The Knicks sent Marbury a letter informing him of the fine, according to a person with knowledge of the penalty who spoke to The Associated Press on Wednesday. He requested anonymity because he wasn’t authorized to discuss it.

The Knicks wouldn’t confirm the fine.

According to the NBA’s collective bargaining agreement, players are docked 1/110th of their salaries for a missed game without a reasonable excuse. With Marbury scheduled to earn $20.1 million this season, that would be about $182,800.

Thomas brought Marbury back to his hometown in a trade with the Suns on Jan. 5, 2004, and the two enjoyed a close relationship while Thomas was solely the team president. But things changed when he took on the job of coach as well before last sea­son.

They clashed early last year after Thomas benched him in the second halves of two games, though they patched things up and Marbury played well the second half of the season.

But any problems on the court were minor compared to Marbury’s strange summer. The behaviorally erratically during a televised interview, then testified in a sexual harassment trial against Thomas and Madison Square Garden that he had a sexual encounter in his truck with a team intern.

Marbury was smiling and singing on his way out of the courthouse.

Marbury also was forced to apologize after defending Michael Vick’s participation in dogfighting.

The Knicks hoped their summer of woes would be forgotten once the season started, but instead they’ve blown up on their first road trip.

Marbury played poorly down the stretch in New York’s 75-72 home loss to Miami on Sunday, and the Knicks hoped the team would reduce Marbury’s role or get him entirely out of the rotation.

That created tensions between Marbury and Thomas — Westchester County neighbors who share the same agent. Who two reportedly even fought on the plane to Phoenix, which the Knicks denied.

“There is no truth to that whatsoever,” said Knicks spokesman Jonathan Supranowitz, who was on the flight.

Marbury then left the team immediately, telling the New York Post on Tuesday he had permission from Thomas. Thomas would not confirm that, but did say the team would welcome back Marbury.

Thomas refused to discuss any potential penalties against Marbury before the game Tuesday, saying the matter would be kept "in-house.”

Several of Marbury’s teammates said his departure took them by surprise, but they expressed no hard feelings.

“You always support your teammates,” forward Jared Jeffries said Wednesday night.

"A lot of people on the outside don’t understand what guys go through with their family, their friends, with this team, with anything. Whenever somebody goes through a tough time you support your teammate.”

Messages left for the agent, Jordan Bazant, were not returned.

Marbury is still one of the Knicks’ best players, averaging 15.2 points and 6.8 assists. He is under contract with the Knicks through next season, scheduled to earn about $42 million. That makes him difficult to trade, especially since he has created problems off the court and never won a playoff series in it.

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The Observer • SPORTS

page 21

NLF

Williams back in Miami after 18 months away
Dolphins welcome back 2002 leading rusher

Argonauts running back Ricky Williams stands on the sideline during Toronto’s pre-season game against Hamilton June 2, 2006.

Associated Press

DAVE. Fla. — Ricky Williams’ suspension ended after more than 18 months when he was reinstated Wednesday by the NFL, and the wireless Miami Dolphins might welcome him back.

The 2002 league rushing champion was scheduled to fly to South Florida for a physical Thursday and meet with coach Cam Cameron, said Williams’ agent, Leigh Steinberg.

The first-year Miami coach, whose team is 0-9, said he talked with Williams by phone “for five or six minutes” Wednesday, but hadn’t made a decision about activating him.

“I want to see where he is, and also let him know where we’re headed, and we’ll go from there,” Cameron said.

Cameron has been in contact for months regarding whether he would want Williams back, but Steinberg said he was encouraged by a phone conversation Wednesday with first-year coach Matt Thomas.

Dolphins general counsel-football administration, “His indication was that he was interested in Ricky,” Steinberg said. “The spirit of the discussion was positive. It was a very similar discussion to what you would have regarding a draft choice or any returning player. The only contingent was whether they would have him practice Friday or Monday.”

The return of Williams would be only part of backfield shake-up. Rookie quarterback John Beck was promoted to the first team Wednesday and will make his NFL debut Sunday at Philadelphia.

The 30-year-old Williams, who has played in only 12 games since the start of the 2004 season, was suspended in April 2006 for violating the league drug policy for the fourth time. His return was delayed when he tested positive again for marijuana last spring.

He played in the Canadian Football League last season and applied for reinstatement Oct. 1.

Williams is eligible to attend team meetings and practice immediately, but the earliest he would be allowed to play in a game would be against Pittsburgh on Monday night. Nov. 26. The team will have a roster exemption for up to two weeks and when he starts practicing.

“Ricky worked extremely hard to meet the requirements for reinstatement,” said his attorney, David Cornell. “He is grateful for commissioner Goodell’s decision. Ricky is committed to making the most of the opportunity to rejoin the NFL.”

Williams rushed for 3,225 yards in the 2002-03 seasons after being traded to the Dolphins from New Orleans. He retired in 2004, traveling in India and Australia before returning to the Dolphins in 2005, when he ran for 743 yards alternating with rookie Ronnie Brown.

Brown was placed on injured reserve, leaving the woeful Dolphins short on running backs.

As part of NFL drug program, Williams underwent therapy for the past 37 months. He was released from treatment, Steinberg said.

“This is the program working exactly as it should — treating a player for an underlying life problem in a positive and sophisticated way, and returning him to health,” Steinberg said.

Steinberg said Williams has been working out on a weight of 230 pounds.

“The Dolphins, or whatever team, is getting a highly motivated player with a new lease on life,” Steinberg said.

Perhaps the Dolphins can be persuaded. In May, when discussing Williams’ most recent relapse, Cameron said it’s difficult to salvage the careers of troubled players.

The easiest predictor of behavior is previous behavior,” the coach said.

That comment, however, was not directed at Ricky.

Coincidentally, Miami general manager Randy Mueller traded Williams to Miami when both were with the Saints. Since that deal, the Dolphins have endured a playoff drought now in its sixth season, the longest in franchise history.

NLF

Croyle keeps composure
Kansas City’s rookie QB looking forward to first career start

“Going in there and playing one of the best quarterbacks that’s ever played, playing a great defense — defending Super Bowl champs, you just go in there and play. I’m anxious. I’m ready to get in there,” said Tom Beck, who will be d irect­

ing the San Diego Chargers.

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Surronded by a veteran offensive line, a three-time Pro Bowl running back and an eight-time Pro Bowl receiver at right end, he’s not likely to start barking out orders.

“Talking to a guy who’s never started a game, for him to come in and try to give a rah-rah speech... that would probably not go too far or go too well. You’re just going to go in there, try to play well and win some games,” Beck was promoting all the leadership kind of comes.”

He does acknowledge hav­ing a few butterflies.

“I’m anxious,” he said. “I’m ready to get in there.”

Edwards agrees it’s not the time or place he would have chosen to break in a young quarterback.

“That’s football,” Edwards said. “He’s going to find out a lot. You want to play quarterback? OK, play quarterback. Would you like a better situation? Yeah, but it didn’t work out that way. He’ll get a home game, and he’ll get to go on the road. That’s football.”

But Edwards acknowledged that whatever happens to him, he will learn from it.

The Chiefs (4-5) have been giving Croyle almost as many apologies as problems with the first team as Huard.

“That’ll be a big help for everybody,” Gonzalez said. “It’s not like we’re seeing something that we haven’t seen before. Brodie is pre­

pared. He’s been prepared since the beginning of the season. I think he’s going to respond well.”

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Sorenstam attempts to avoid winless season

Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. This might be as true as any mantra of Annika Sorenstam's year. At the season-ending ADT Championship, she'll be looking to get an audience with the Donald. Donald Trump has been the ultimate motivator this season, and it all started when Sorenstam was diagnosed with back and neck injuries in April after a back injury in her season opener and she wound up missing nearly two months of competition. When she returned she was barely out of the stretch the whole season, and when she missed the cut in her season opener and for the final three majors, she was essentially playing golf at full strength.

Still, the landscape of the LPGA changed before her eyes.

First came October. Webb, coming off a year in which he missed seven majors, was playing like a soft-spoken rookie in 1994.

Then there was November. Williams ran down by a lot of dropped balls.

Before this season started, he had a hunch that he was so fast."

Illinois quarterback leads resurgence under Zook's guidance

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — On a Saturday night in mid-September, there was little question of who the Illini were, and their scores will be erased. Sunday brings an 18-hole shootout, with $1 million on the line, and it all started when Sorenstam was diagnosed with back and neck injuries in April after a back injury in her season opener and she wound up missing nearly two months of competition. When she returned she was barely out of the stretch the whole season, and when she missed the cut in her season opener and for the final three majors, she was essentially playing golf at full strength.

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Then there was November. Williams ran down by a lot of dropped balls.
Jagr keeps Brodeur from 500 wins

NEWARK, N.J. — Jaromir Jagr and the three rookies.

Thursday, November 15, 2007
The Observer

He has a seven-game point streak, which has coincided with the turnaround of New York's season. The Rangers are 2-0-2 through their four-game road trip and have won seven of eight while allowing just 11 goals.

Dawes got the Rangers even at 1 in the first period, Dubinsky gave them the lead in the second, and Staal pushed the advantage to 4-1 in the third.

"They are the future of our team," Rangers coach Tom Renney said. "They have to contribute. That's why they're here."

Henrik Lundqvist made 22 saves in his first road win of the season (1-5-1), and should be back in goal Thursday when the Rangers face first-place Philadelphia. He was sharp following his first career shutout Wednesday night was provided by the young trio of Nigel Dawes, Brandon Dubinsky and defenseman Marc Staal.

"It's a great mix. It reminds me of teams we had here," said former Devils forward Scott Gomez, who had two assists.

"They're answered the bell and the challenge and we expect it."

"They've answered the bell and we expect it," said Rye

He got the best of Brodeur.

"It feels good," Lundqvist said.

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Seattle picks up first win in nine-game-old season against Miami

Associated Press

MIAMI — Kevin Durant said it was an acrobatic layup, replete with a tumbling to the court — like he did so many times in his first four seasons. He dove for loose balls, didn’t seem to shy from contact and showed flashes of the explosiveness that was missing late last season when the knee pain him.

It just wasn’t enough.

The Sonics shot 49 percent in the first half, were 7-for-11 from 3-point range in the opening two quarters and outrebounded Miami 40-15 over that stretch to take a commanding 61-41 lead into intermission.

Even after all those eye-catching numbers, one stat stood out 14-0.

That was Seattle’s first-half scoring advantage when O’Neal was on the floor. He played 4 minutes, 23 seconds of the half, going in the break with no points, no rebounds, three fouls and two turnovers.

Wade’s return couldn’t come at a better time for the Heat, who entered averaging an NBA-worst 33.3 points.

But having Wade, who averaged a career-high 24.7 points last season, is sure to help. As Wade said, going to be one man that’s going to turn this around,” Riley said, echoing a line Wade has used in recent days. “He will change the game for us, as he progresses in live action.”

Wade had surgery on his left shoulder and left knee May 15, and was told by doctors that the rehabilitation process would last six months.

Thursday is the six-month anniversary of those procedures, and Durant was almost wide-eyed after his first matchup with the 2006 finals MVP.

“Even though they say he is not 100 percent, he is amazing,” Durant said.

Wade scored 15 points in 25 minutes on 7-for-11 shooting for Seattle, who scored 22-12 with Wade entering amid loud cheering from the home crowd, who first looked like the Wade of old.

Soon looked like the Wade of many times in his career.

Ricky Davis scored 19 points and Shaquille O’Neal finished with 18 on 6-for-9 shooting for Miami, which is 0-4 at home for the second time this season against Miami, which is 0-4 at home for the second time this season.

The Sonics led 22-12 with 94-83.

They sealed the outcome.

Early in the fourth quarter, he dove for a loose ball, didn’t seem to shy from contact and showed flashes of the explosiveness that was missing late last season when the knee pain him.

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Gray

continued from page 28

So Gray, after undergoing physical therapy to strengthen her inner quadriceps, had to start from scratch — a trying experience, to say the least.

"My first run back, I just did one lap around the lake at Notre Dame," Gray said. "It was probably the worst thing I've ever done because it was so hard and I felt so out of shape. Now I totally understand why people never want to start running, because it was terrible — but once I was able to break through that wall, I got back in shape."

After running in just two races as a sophomore, Gray came back "with no expectations other than to stay healthy," she said.

"Runners are a unique breed," Gray said. "We're kind of crazy as far as mental strategies go. I just want to feel good when I'm running, stay healthy and feel strong. Improving my time every week is definitely something I want to do, but I just want to feel good when I'm running."

And, other than some brief bouts with tendinitis in her feet and her Achilles, Gray has remained injury-free, much to the credit of her head coach.

"Jackie and I have worked closely to figure out how to keep me healthy," Gray said, noting the more structured training regimen and the added expectations of Bauters, who became head coach before Gray's sophomore year.

"I've gotten to know a lot about what my body can and cannot handle over the past four years. Without [Bauters], I wouldn't have been able to get to this level."

For all Gray has taken from Bauters, she has given it all back to the program and then some, Bauters said.

"The girls on the team see Megan's success and believe in it. They believe in themselves and their ability to do things that once seemed out of reach," Bauters said. "Nothing can top giving the gift of confidence to a group of young, talented runners. Success is contagious, and they all want to be a part of it, which is a really exciting thing."

A change in attitude around the program was evident, Bauters said, even in her pre-season meetings with the team.

She noted freshman Mary McDonnell, who has made nationals a concrete goal for herself, despite injuries throughout her rookie season.

"M McDonnell is focused, she is driven, but mostly, she has a great role model," Bauters said.

"If you lose Friday, you might still squeeze into a top-16 seed, and you might not," Irish coach Bobby Clark said.

The top 16 teams in the NCAA Tournament are guaranteed a first-round bye and a home game in the round of 32. In 2005, failing to get a top-16 seed, the Irish had to defeat Western Illinois in the first round and win at defending national champion Indiana in order to reach the round of 16. Compare that to last year, when the Irish secured a top-16 seed, allowing them to reach the round of 16 with a bye and win at home over Illinois-Chicago.

"Getting to the final would pretty much guarantee you a top-16 seed, maybe even a top-eight seed," Clark said. "It's hard to predict because other team's results will play a role as well.

"Breaking into the top-eight seeds would guarantee Notre Dame not only a first-round bye and round of 32 home game but also a home game in the round of 16, should the Irish advance that far.

With ten teams ranked ahead of them in the polls, if the Irish only advance to the Big East finals they would need a fair amount of favorable results from teams currently ranked ahead of them in order to achieve a top eight seed. Likely, the Irish would need No. 10 Tulsa, No. 9 Boston College and No. 4 Virginia Tech to all lose before reaching their respective conference title games.

Case No. 3 — Notre Dame wins the Big East Championship

"We'd be in a very strong position," Clark said. "It'd certainly put you as a top-eight seed and possibly a top-four seed.

Obtaining a top-four seed would guarantee that Notre Dame would play the Final Four in Cary, N.C. runs through South Bend. It would also likely ensure that the Irish would not play teams like No. 1 Connecticut and No. 2 Wake Forest until they reach the Final Four.

Whether winning the Big East championship nets the Irish a top-eight or top-four seed depends on other results, too.

Still, capturing Big East Championship would likely include a win over No. 1 Connecticut, which plays Louisville in the Big East semi-final on Friday.

A Notre Dame victory over Connecticut is certainly not out of the question, as the Irish were only 15 minutes away from defeating the No. 1 Huskies in October before playing to a 3-3 draw.

"For a lot of reasons, a home game is really important," Clark said. "It's one of those things that teams win more home games than road games. It's familiarity. They know the field.

"The other thing from our point of view is that, coming to the end of the term, it's important not to miss class time with the academic pressure we have."

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

Women's Soccer

#4 Seed Irish Hosting NCAA Tournament

Friday, November 16th (1st Round)

Game 1 @ 5 pm: Illinois vs. Louisville

Game 2 @ 7:30 pm: Notre Dame vs. Loyola-Chicago

Sunday, November 18th (2nd Round)

Game 3 @ 1 pm: Winner of Game 1 vs. Winner of Game 2

Women's Soccer
The Observer  •  SPORTS

Thursday, November 15, 2007

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Recruits

continued from page 28

Eriea Williamson and freshman Devereaux Peters had won state championships in high school. "All-Star Girls Report" named Novosel the No. 32 player in the nation. McGraw said Novosel can score both inside and out, a combination that the Irish are currently missing.

"Novosel is a kind of a cross between [freshman guard] Brittany Mallory and [sophomore guard] Ashley Barlow," McGraw said. "They've helped us get out of one, maybe one in that style that I think that's going to be really good for us. She's going to help us right away."

Slokom is a 6'2 forward from Detroit Country Day School in Oak Park, Mich., knows junior wide receiver David Grimes. They both attended Saint Martin de Porres High School before the school closed. Solomon talked to Grimes when she made her visit to campus, McGraw said.

"They did get to speak before the pep rally," McGraw said. "We always look on the rosters and see where there's a connection somewhere."

Solomon tore her ACL in February 2006 and did not play for much of last season. But she received all-state and all-county honors three times. McGraw liked the athleticism she will bring.

"She attempted a dunk in a game last year, and it just rolled off the rim," McGraw said. "She's athletic, she can rebound, she's got great hands, she's really quick in the post. She's somebody that we think we're really going to need to be helping us inside."

Despite her 6'2 frame, Watson played many different positions at Ionia High School in Ionia, Mich, where she averaged 24 points and eight rebounds per game last season.

"She's the biggest wing we've ever had. She's 6'2 and plays point guard for her team," McGraw said. "She's the jump center, plays the point, does the shooting, guards the other team's best player. She's a great passer."

Watson broke the school record for career points by the end of her junior season. As a freshman, she led the state of Michigan in three-point percentage, hitting 43.2 percent of her shots behind the arc. She received all-state, all-city and all-conference honors in each of the past three seasons.

The Irish recruited well in the Midwest, something McGraw said was one of the program's goals.

"We want to be the school that everybody in the Midwest looks at as the best program," McGraw said.

Notre Dame may not be doing recruiting, however. Losing senior guard Tulyah Gaines to graduation will leave a defensive gap that McGraw said she doesn't yet know how to fill.

"When I watch Tulyah right now, I just wonder what we're going to do without her defense next year," McGraw said. "It's a little bit of a hole, I think, in our game plan that we don't have that great defender. That's something I think we really are thinking about right now, do we want to bring somebody in late to fill that spot?"

Contact Bill Beink at wbrink@nd.edu

Irish guard Ashley Barlow defends against WKU's Jessica Magley.

Allison Marie/Photo/CSU

University of Notre Dame Horace & Chamber Orchestra Fall Concert

"God, Country, Notre Dame"

8:00 PM
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2007
LEIGHTON CONCERT HALL
DPAC

STUDENT TICKETS $3

Recruits

continued from page 28

"This is the best team we've had in that we all get along and I'm so excited to see everybody every day for practice," Karas said.

The Irish know they have a legitimate shot at another national championship to bookend their careers with triumphs.

"I just want everybody to feel that sense of accomplishment that we had as freshmen," Karas said.

Karas said with that. And that's just as huge impact for the Notre Dame soccer program. "I think they're one of the winning-

Programs in the
nation over those
four years."

Randy Waldrum
Irish coach

"I think they're one of the winningest programs in the nation over those four years," Waldrum said. "You've got to give them a lot of credit for what we are."

The seniors have pushed a combined record of 87-9-3 in their four seasons. But Waldrum also praised the class for its dedication off the pitch.

"This particular class has not only been great on the field, but great ambassadors for the program," Waldrum said. "Community service and [public relations] and just things we do off the field, they've been great with that. And that's just as important as what goes on on the field."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Smyth

continued from page 28

"It was our No. 2 guy and my interest in the sport was officially sparked," he said.

The improvement shown in his freshman season as a runner hasn't stopped. From last year's regional semifinals to this year's state championships, Smyth knocked nearly 45 seconds off of his time and vaulted seven positions in the meet. Part of that improvement can be attributed to the fact that, for Smyth, there is no off-season.

Consistency has been the key for Smyth. The solid track season that I had last spring, put in some serious summer training, and some high expectations for myself this fall.

All of that work has now paid off, as Smyth became only the second Notre Dame in school history to take first in the NCAA regional meet. The enormity of that accomplishment is not lost on Smyth.

"We follow in the footsteps of those who have come before us," he said. "We are chasing
Happy Birthday: Don't let personal and emotional issues cause you to make mistakes this year. Express your emotions and romantic situations. Love your work for you,
ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

In a class of their own

After four incredible years, four seniors are down to their last shot

By FRAN TOLAN
Sport Writer

Coaches often implore their teams to play every game like it's their last. Notre Dame's senior class needs no such motivation.

As the Irish prepare for the first round of the NCAA Tournament against Loyola (Ill.) Friday, the seniors realize they have no more room for error.

"After this, there are no more opportunities (for them)," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "The next loss and the season's over and these girls know that.

The group of fourth-year players, who were part of a national championship team as freshmen, immediately bonded to the national meet, people — and she did both twice. She finished first for Saint Mary's in every race over the past two seasons, and she captured the individual title in three meets.

"I couldn't be more proud or happy for her to have achieved everything she has over her career," Bauters said. "She deserves everything she's worked for. I just wish she had another year with us."

Gray's road to success, however, was not always a smooth one. In the spring of her freshman year, Gray was slowed by knee trouble that was eventually diagnosed as patella femoral pain syndrome, a result of a runner's natural tendency to overdevelop the outer quadriceps.

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