Dorm asked to change holiday sign

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

This holiday season, Pangborn Hall put the Christ back in Christmas.

But the 19-foot-wide white and purple sign on the front of the dorm proclaiming “Have a Phoxy Christmas” didn’t always read as such. Until last week, when a University administrator asked Pangborn rector Kuukua Yomekpe to change it, the sign bore a more economical spelling: “Have a Phoxy Xmas.”

The events leading to this change began two weeks ago, when Yomekpe submitted a work order form to have work ers from the Maintenance Department hang the sign on the front of Pangborn. Construction of the sign had concluded just a day earlier after months of work by hall president Allie Carrick and a friend from Dillon.

With Thanksgiving just days away, no progress on hanging the sign was made until Nov. 20, when Yomekpe was able to speak with a staff member from Maintenance, she said. They agreed the sign would be hung in front of the dorm.

Hours later, Yomekpe said, she received a call from Associate Vice President for Residence Life Bill Kirk.

The sign was changed early last week from Xmas to Christmas.

Bookstore to add retail, seating space

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

The Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore began renovations earlier this week to add nearly 2,500 square feet of additional retail and seating space to the building.

The most noticeable changes will be made to the general books and cafe areas, said Keith Kirkpatrick, director of retail management for the Bookstore.

“The University wants to have the best bookstore possible,” Kirkpatrick said. “We saw that the areas that could use the most improvement from a quantity and presentation side were the general books and cafe areas.”

The construction for the project should be completed by April 2008. The cosmetic project should be completed by April 2008. The cosmetic details, like new carpeting and painting, are expected to be finished by fall 2008.

The new plans include several major changes to the store’s floor plan, the Bookstore to add retail, seating space

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

The Saint Mary’s Senior Gift Campaign provides an opportu nity for students to leave a legacy at Saint Mary’s, honor their community for students to leave a legacy at Saint Mary’s, and to meet its goal through donations from both students and alumni.

“Hopefully, through our ticket sales, our merchandise sales and donations from alumni who have boxed, we will make $10,000,” said club co-president and senior Whitney Endsley. Endsley, who joined the club in her sophomore year, has seen Baraka Bouts transform into one of Notre Dame’s premier fundraising events.

This year, the club set a record when 120 girls signed up. On Thursday, 44 women boxed in the exhibition, which lasted from 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

The women participating are part of one of the fastest growing clubs at Notre Dame.

“When I first joined the club it was still forming and getting its roots set somewhere,” said co-president and senior Marcella Rodriguez.

Papers give alternative news sources

Rover, Common Sense take different approach to journalism

By BRIAN MCKENZIE
News Writer

Common Sense and The Irish Rover provide students articles on different topics and with different styles than The Observer, said staffers at the two publications.

“Common Sense is a place where you can publish researched articles that are either too long to print in something like The Observer or too liberal for a publication like The Rover,” said senior Jacqueline Collins, a member of Common Sense’s editorial board.

The founder of Common Sense, political science professor Peter Walsh, said The Observer reports on a wide range of current issues.

“Common Sense has always been more focused on methods of justice, social justice and the common good,” he said. “We have a narrower focus, but one that’s very important for the campus.”

Senior Molly Hayes, Common Sense’s editor-in-chief, said the publication has a circulation of 3,000 copies and published around once a month. Common Sense’s objective, she said, was to “provide a more humanitar ian perspective on the news.”

At ND, sometimes we forget Davis said, but submissions are not exclusively religious.

She said Common Sense is Notre Dame’s “only publication to include work from faculty, alumni, graduate and undergraduate students.”

The theme of the November issue of Common Sense was immigration.

“Given the immigration forum, we felt that it would be appropriate to have an immigration-themed issue,” she said.

In addition to papers, Common Sense includes art, reflections and poetry, she said.

Junior Michael Angulo, a contributor to Common Sense, said it “provides a forum for progressive, liberal students engaged in global issues, whether their papers are rather formal or academic or more editorially.”

See RELIGION/page 4

SMC seniors collect funds for class gift

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

The Saint Mary’s Senior Gift Campaign provides an opportunity for students to leave a legacy at Saint Mary’s, honor their experience at the College and give back to a community that has given much to them, said Heathrey Frey, assistant director of Saint Mary’s Annual Fund.

“Giving back to Saint Mary’s is embraced from the beginning of a student’s time on campus,” Frey said. “The Senior Gift Campaign is just a culmination of their four years of fundraising.”

Saint Mary’s Annual Fund, which provides scholarships and financial aid for current students, runs the Senior Gift Campaign. The gift, which may be a physical present or a donation to a student scholarship fund, is presented to the College during the annual Alumnae Luncheon in May.

Past gifts have included clocks, trees and benches. Many of the statues found around campus came from seniors who were students in the 1920s and 30s.

“The Class of 2007 gave more than $10,000 for Holy Cross schools in East Africa, more than triple last year’s fundrais ing total.”

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INSIDE COLUMN

Getting into the spirit

Ah, the holiday season. With the fresh layer of snow on the ground and the knowledge that break is just around the corner, my festive mood keeps rising and is on the verge of going off the charts.

For some unexplainable reason, I have more Christmas spirit this year than I have had in a long time. I was pondering this thought over some classic Christmas music the other day when my roommate pointed out to me that all the Christmas carols seem to be much more poignant to her this year now that she is away from home.

It was a light bulb moment. I realized that she is entirely right. As a freshman, this is my first year away from my family during the holiday season. I never before felt a deep connection with Perry Como as he was singing, "There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays" but now I realize how right he is.

And hearing Frank Sinatra's version of "White Christmas" takes me right to my grandma's living room on Christmas morning.

I know it seems bizarre, but I think that being away from my family during the beginning of the holiday season is making me more festive. Maybe it is an unconscious effort on my part to compensate for what I am missing at home. My roommates and I have decorated our dorm room and we have been playing Christmas music since before Thanksgiving (an act that I am usually staunchly against).

The Christmas tree in the lobby of Holy Cross Hall fills me with a warm fuzzy feeling every time I walk in. Maybe it has something to do with the traditions of Christmas, and knowing that no matter where you are, they won't change. Every family has its own holiday traditions. Some play football in the snow, or watch the TBS "A Christmas Story" marathon, or have a white elephant gift exchange. I'm two hours from home, but I know that when I return, everything will be decorated just as it has been in years before. I know that Christmas I've means our family's wassail party, and Christmas at Grandma's will be by my grandma's with a bunny bracket.

I feel like a little kid again with all the excitement and wonder surrounding me. Christmas changes as you get older. It is no longer all about getting presents from Santa. It now is filled with an air of family and togetherness. The Christmas season at school brings your roommates and friends your family as you decorate together, and it makes you appreciate your family and the time spent with them on the holiday more.

Christmas truly is a magical time, and I wish all the joy and holiday pleasure on the Christmas season to all in the Notre Dame community. Let your Christmas spirit carry you through finals!

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Nikki Taylor at ntaylor18@nd.edu.

CLARIFICATION

Eric Brady, the author of first-page article “SMC senior holds personal party” in the Dec. 6 edition of The Observer, said Tuesday while he supports the Freedom of Choice act, he told her present primarily for women's reproductive freedoms. His view, he said, was not always a moral view of the law on partial birth abortion, is stated in the article.

QUESTION OF THE DAY

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE FAST FOOD RESTAURANT?

Robbie Bernardin, junior Siegfried

"Dog 'n' Mug - their root beer is creamly goodness." 

Katie Smith, senior Lyons

"Panera because Nicholas and I go on a date there."

Amanda Dosch, junior Pangborn

"Dairy Queen, because I am the dairy."

Jackie Dineen, junior Pangborn

"Chipotle, because they put the barrito in gourmet."

Brittany Pangburn, senior McCandless

"Wendy's, because you can buy stuff for $1."

OFFBEAT

The First Noel, the police did arrest

ANDERSON, Ind. — A Salvation Army bell ringer sang "The First Noel" while shoplifting Christmas ornaments on his break, police said. Sean M. Sayers, 23, Anderson, was arrested Wednesday on a misdemeanor charge of conversion.

Sayers was being held in Madison County Jail without bond for allegedly violating terms of probation on a previous case. According to a probable cause affidavit filed by police, Sayers was on his break as a bell ringer at a Wal-Mart in the city northeast of Indianapolis when he went inside the store and slipped about $20 worth of Christmas ornaments inside his jacket and a fast food bag. Police said he was singing the Christmas Carol as he shoplifted the goods about 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Store ad: Hams 'delicious for Chanukkah'

NEW YORK — This was REALY not kosher. A grocery store in Manhattan made a food faux pas, advertising hams as "Delicious for Chanukkah." Chanukah, an alternate spelling for Hannukah, is the eight-day Jewish holiday that began Tuesday evening, and hams as well as pork and other products from pigs can't be eaten under Jewish dietary laws.

A woman who saw the mistake over the weekend at the Balducci's store on 14th Street took pictures of the signs and posted them on her blog.

Jennifer Barton, director of marketing, told The Associated Press on Thursday that the signs were changed as soon as the error was noted. She issued an apology on the company Web site, saying the company would be reviewing its employee training.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Rosary will be said at 6:45 p.m. today. The Rosary is said daily.

To celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Campus Ministry is hosting prayer services to obtain special graces in St. Edward's Hall Choir at 9 p.m. each night through Sunday. The celebration is co-sponsored by the Institute for Latino Studies, En Alianza and OLA.

The annual football banquet will be held tonight at 5:45 p.m. in the Joyce Center Monogram Room. The featured speaker will be 1993 graduate Aaron Taylor, a two-year All-American Offensive Tackle and Lombardi Award winner. Tickets can be purchased through the Notre Dame Ticket Office at 574-631-7356.

The Glee Club will hold its annual Christmas Concert Saturday at 8:30 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The concert will benefit the Center for the Homeless in South Bend.

"HA-nukkah III: Pirates!" an improvisational and sketch comedy show will be presented by The Humor Artists on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 8 p.m. in theæ Library Auditorium. Admission is $2.

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

Local Weather

TODAY

HIGH 32
LOW 25

TONIGHT

HIGH 25
LOW 20

SATURDAY

HIGH 25
LOW 15

SUNDAY

HIGH 31
LOW 27

MONDAY

HIGH 34
LOW 28

TUESDAY

HIGH 32
LOW 25

ND seniors debate possible gifts

Legacy gift could be study abroad scholarship, environmental fund

By JOSEPH McMAHON

The Notre Dame Senior Class Gift committee is currently deciding how money raised by the Class of 2008 will help the University in the future.

Each year, the committee, which consists of 13 seniors and one junior, raises money by asking for donations from the graduating class and its parents to help benefit causes such as financial aid and study abroad programs.

"The Senior Class Gift is a fundraising opportunity for the senior class to leave a legacy," said Moira Madden, the assistant director of Notre Dame's Annual Fund, which coordinates the committee.

This year, the committee is considering several causes to benefit with the money it raises.

"The committee gets together and talks about what their class is interested in," Madden said. "We talk about a number of things — a lot of times classes talk about financial aid and how important that is to students (and they want other people to have the same experiences they've had.)"

Among the causes being considered is the Environmental and Conservation Operations Fund, which would be used to help Notre Dame improve its environmental record. The fund would be overseen and utilized by the Energy and Environmental Issues committee, the Students for Environmental Action and the Energy Center Student Advisory Board.

"A number of years ago, Notre Dame received a D-minus score for environmental issues on campus," Madden said. "Our environmental grade has changed since then, but this fund would go to help all their initiatives and help with different projects. It is a fund that would be endorsed so it's something that would be around forever, and they would be able to use the interest from it to continue on in its mission."

The committee is also considering using the money it raises to provide financial aid to future students, possibly to those hoping to study abroad.

"Money raised might be going to be financial aid, we just haven't figured out any restrictions," Madden said.

"It's possible that it would be for the abroad program, but right now it's mostly a financial aid package.

The committee hopes this year's Senior Class Gift is as successful as last year's, when 30 percent of the graduating class participated and approximately $90,000 was raised.

Madden said participating by donating to the committee — even if the donation is small — is important to the University and its mission.

"We want students to get involved," she said. "It's important to be involved and to support any way that they can. It's about participation, not a dollar amount."

The committee hopes to have decided upon a cause before winter break. It will send out letters around March inviting seniors to donate to the fund package.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon@nd.edu

English professor wins book award

Special to The Observer

Kathryn Kerby-Fulton, Notre Dame English professor, recently was awarded the John Ben Snow Prize from the North American Conference on British Studies for "Books Under Suspicion: Censorship and Tolerance of Revelatory Writing in Late Medieval England."

Published last year by Notre Dame Press, "Books Under Suspicion" offers a sharply revisionist account of intellectual freedom in the 14th and 15th centuries and examines the censorship issues that propelled the major writers of the period toward their massive use of visionary prose.

The award citation states: "Through its superb scholarship, "Books Under Suspicion" recasts our understanding of religious heterodoxy in late medieval England. Kathryn Kerby-Fulton challenges traditional historiography that privileges the radicalism of John Wycliffe and his followers. Instead, through close examination of visionary genres and texts, she establishes a significant, alternative intellectual history, one that shows a surprising degree of pluralism and tolerance for unorthodox thought...Kerby-Fulton's scholarship is remarkable, her methodology often ingenious, particularly her use of reception history and codicology. This book rests on rich sources, both literary and theological, vernacular and Latin. It integrates Europe and England in new ways and shows a pluralist culture under constant negotiation and evolution."

A member of the Notre Dame faculty since 2005, Kerby-Fulton was awarded a 2007-08 fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, for which she is working on a project titled "Medieval Reading Circles and the Rise of English Literature in England and Anglo-Ireland."

Specializing in Middle English literature and related areas of medieval studies, Kerby-Fulton also is the author of "Reformist Apocalypticism and Piers Plowman" (which won the John Nicholas Brown Prize from the Medieval Academy of America in 1994), co-author of "Iconography and the Professional Reader," and co-editor of three collections.

Kerby-Fulton has served as a visiting scholar at Princeton, Yale and Harvard Universities. Her research awards include 13 SSHRC leave, and fellowships at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University and the Centre d'Etudes des Civilisations et Societes at the University of Victoria, where she previously served as a faculty member.
Baraka continued from page 1

Elsdree said. "We've taken strides in terms of being organized and having really committed people behind us." The student government, lead by current senior senator, senior Colleen McCormick, is likely the club will send a check for at least $10,000 to the Folkett Mission in East Africa.

"The main fundraiser is called the "Power Hour," McCormick said. Additional funds will come from the main event, in the form of ticket sales for $3 and proceeds from $2 more that some money that was left over from last year's Baraka Booth, she said. The word "baraka" means"blessing" or "prosperity" in Swahili; it was picked as the event's name in 2006.

"We wanted to pick a word that encompassed who we are as a club, and what we work with East Africa, Swahili was a good language to go with," McCormick said.

With the help of RecSports, the women of Baraka Booths are beginning to raise the awareness of their fight, said McCormick. She hopes some money that was left over from last year's Baraka Booth, she said. The word "baraka" means "blessing" or "prosperity" in Swahili; it was picked as the event's name in 2006.

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"As of right now, I can promise that a sizable amount will be donated in the form of student scholarships, as is tradition," Kirkpatrick said.

The goal for the Senior Gift Campaign is 10 percent participation.

"Our campaign is more focused on participation rather than the actual dollar amount raised at the end of the year," McKevitt said. "In succeeding in reaching our goal of 100 percent participation among the senior class, we help improve the College's status in national rankings in publications like US News & World Report and enhance our national reputation.

Students begin raising money as freshmen through each class's Quarters campaign, a smaller version of the Senior Gift Campaign. The campaigns are "basically the same thing," Frey said, but the name changes for the year.

Each class has its own campaign and account, Frey said. This ensures that the gift a student makes during any year at Saint Mary's goes into her class's own account and will be shown as her senior class makes its gift decision.

"That is the biggest misfortune that's happening," Frey said. "When you donate, you're giving to your own class's campaign.

Both the Senior Gift and Quarters campaigns provide many opportunities to donate throughout the year, at such activities as "Karaoke Idol," held in November.

"The end goal is the same, so the campaigns compromise to work together to plan events," Frey said. ""Idol" was a joint effort because the amount of money raised is based on who gives. We reach out to all students and the money they give goes back to their own gift campaign.

Currently, both campaigns are stationed outside the Noble Family Dining Hall every night before dinner inviting students to contribute to the College before the holiday season. Kirkpatrick said students who donate in their own campaign will be entered into a raffle, with the winner announced at the annual Late Night Breakfast next Thursday.

Contact Liz Harter at chartse01@stmarys.edu

Baraka Booths

Continued from page 1

The expansion of the south wall will add 1,000 square feet to the general books section and an additional 60 percent of the section's current stock to the shelves. Towers from us will allow more room for seating areas with comfortable sofas chairs. The new bookstore will also expand the current cafe toward the ceiling, making it easier for customers to look up campus, Kirkpatrick said.

He said the northeast corner of the bookstore will be enclosed to include more comfortable seating, flat screen TVs, a business magazine and periodicals section and wireless Internet.

In addition, a new bookstore could be easily added into the future growth of the bookstore, Kirkpatrick said.

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The renovations are being fully funded by the Follett Higher Education Group, which has managed the bookstore's operations since it first opened in 1999 in its current location. The construction will be in partnership with Notre Dame's Office of Plant Operations and the contractor of the University.

The store will be displaying several artist renderings of the completed project so customers can see what the changes will look like when finished.

Contact Kristin Burke at kmccmah06@nd.edu

Papers

Continued from page 1

focused. Following a trip to El Salvador, Angulo is writing a paper on water privatization there.

"It was more like what you'd expect from an academic paper," he said. "Common Sense seemed like the best way to get published." He considered the Journal of Undergraduate Research (JUR) for his paper, but "my paper wasn't as intensively researched, at least not in the same way as the journal would want it," he said.

"They aren't as jaded, and they don't have much of a view of international political economy," he said. "There's still a sense that things can change.

Hayes said Angulo's article was "ideal for Common Sense." "It brought a topic to light that class politics sometimes get lost to the media, and did so in an insightful and personal way," she said.

Senior Matt Smith, the editor-in-chief of The Rover, said The Rover's niche is to cover Catholic campus issues on campus.

"There's a misconception that The Rover and The Observer are the same because we're both Notre Dame students," he said. "Any two organizations will have members that disagree, sometimes passionately, and that doesn't mean the organizations are at odds.

"The Rover campaigns not necessarily compete with The Observer," Smith said. "We respect the service The Observer provides. We aren't a daily paper and we don't aspire to be one.

He said the paper is concerned about the University's focus on academic rankings.

"The most we've observed is that we've tried year after year to improve our ranking, doing so requires conforming to certain standards like ideas of academic freedom and intellectual diversity that are defined by our peer institutions or ' aspirational peers,'" Smith said. "That's precarious because as the premier Catholic university in the world, we are precisely that diverse element that these peers aim to despire, and it's precisely that which the conventional wisdom would have us downplay to move up in the rankings.

Contact Brian McKenzie at bmckenzi@nd.edu

Papers continued from page 1

Continued from page 1

building set to open for the 2008-09 school year in honor of their class," Frey said.

While this year's gift is still undetermined, 2008 Senior Gift chair Beth McKevitt said the class will follow traditions set previously, but class will follow traditions set previously, but no decision will be made until spring.

"A lot of the paperwork the guys have to do so we started last year so that we could be at the same level as the seniors," top senator, Colleen McCorkin said. Along with the senior captain Nicole Koors, Burke introduces novices to the sport and trains the veterans.

Koors sees Baraka Booths as an opportunity to do something she loves while still making a good cause.

"Yesterday at Mass, Father [Brian] Daly, our faculty advisor, said that we all love boxing, and we're doing this for the sake of boxing, and the charity side of it just makes it that much better," she said.

Considering the club's growth in recent years, Kirkpatrick said. "Another club that makes up the Women's Boxing Club will join so that they can have a Bengal Bouts-style tournament, as opposed to one that might take place with one-on-one pairings.

However, just as Holy Cross men are barred from joining Bengal Bouts due to eligibility issues, Saint Mary's women are not allowed to participate in boxing. McCormick and Kirkpatrick were forced to turn away several girls who were interested in competing.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmmcmah06@nd.edu

Bookstore

Continued from page 1

most complicated of which involves pushing the south wall out to the edge of the current outdoor arcade.

Kirkpatrick said the arcade was originally intended as a space for customer lines. However, as the building's internal space provided enough room for longer lines, the area was being used. The bookstore is now in the process of converting it into a space to retail.

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Contact Gene Noone at enoone@nd.edu

Gift

Continued from page 1

Continued from page 1

Baraka continued from page 1

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Congolese women allegedly raped
JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Angolan soldiers routinely and repeatedly raped Congolese women who have crossed the border to work in South Africa's diamond fields, an international aid organization said Wednesday.

Document Without Borders said that over two weeks in October one of their teams saw 200 rape victims at their clinic in Western Kasai — soldiers routinely and repeatedly rape women found by Peterson's mother.

NATO sides with Rice against Iran
BRUSSELS, Belgium — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice won European allies Thursday for new U.N. sanctions against Iran.

Under a proposed plea agreement, Kyle C. Noble of Noblesville, Ind., a Carmel woman who served as the U.S. Olympic Committee faces child pornography charges.

The U.S. refuses greenhouse gas cuts
WASHINGTON, D.C. — In a blow to environmentalists, President Bush said Thursday that the United States would not participate in international greenhouse gas-cutting negotiations this year.

Ex-fundraiser arrested for child porn
SAN DIEGO, Calif. — A former top fundraiser for the Episcopal Church faces child pornography charges.

The Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin under the leadership of a like-minded, conservative Anglican diocese in Argentina. It is almost certain to spark a court fight over control of the $100 million in holdings and other assets.

The two-week conference, which opened Monday, is already in a tense standoff over the Kyoto protocol, the multilateral treaty aimed at reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 5 percent below 1990 levels by 2008-2012.

The two camps, with the United States on one side, and opponents such as the European Union, China, Russia and Japan on the other, have agreed to hold a conference in Bali to work out a new round of climate negotiations.

Local News

Woman leaves newborn in toilet
court

BURLINGTON, Ind. — A woman who gave birth along the way and left her newborn daughter in a toilet will be sentenced next month on a charge of neglect.

She initially was charged with attempted murder and neglect of a dependent but pleaded guilty as part of a plea agreement.

The bill now goes to the full Senate.

The United States, the world's largest producer of such gases, has resisted calls for strict limits on emissions at the U.N. climate conference in Bali, which is aimed at launching a new round of global climate talks. The bill now goes to the full Senate.

The Senate legislation passed a bill Wednesday to cut U.S. emissions by 70 percent by 2050 from electric power plants, manufacturing and transportation. The bill now goes to the full Senate.

Meanwhile, a parking garage under construction in Jacksonville, Fla., partially collapsed Thursday, injuring about 20 people, officials said.

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Further momentum for serious greenhouse gas cuts, came from a petition released Thursday by a group of at least 215 climate scientists who urged the world to reduce emissions by half by 2050.

We have to start reducing greenhouse gas emissions as soon as we possibly can," said Australian climatologist Tim Flannery. "It's still an increasing isolation of the Bush administration in terms of U.S. policy on this issue."
Huron congratulates University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College offer recipients.

At Huron, We invest in you.

To find out more about employment opportunities, visit our website at www.huronconsultinggroup.com/careers
Bush pitches mortgage crisis plan
pered the rebuilding effort.ous cases of waste, fraud and abuse that ham­modeled after the special watchdog for Iraqloans offer initial "teaser" rates for the first two toresponse to a serious challenge."The holidays are fast approaching and this will

The defense bill, which covers the budget year

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A medic protests Israeli fuel sanctions in Gaza. Not only have sanctions shut down service

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Sign

continued from page 1

Told her the sign could not be hung, as it was, so not to "take Christ out of Christmas," Chamberland said. "Only a few people understand why the change had to be made," Chamberland said. The letter X is also the written form of the letter χ in Ancient Greek.

Father Gary Chamberland, pastor of Pangborn Hall, said the use of the letter X as a shorthand for Christ does not have a part in that conversation. "We were sort of blinded," Carrick said. "We didn't expect there to be problems.

She expressed frustration because the "X" had been used in past church runs to balance correctly and conserve materials, thus cutting down on cost. After spending more than 40 hours converting the sign, she had wanted it to be on display for the largest possible time before winter break.

Kirk said he never believed his choice was intended by church officials or staff and appreciated their desire to display their decorations but stood by his decision to request change in the sign. "When you think about the rectors and students who live in dorms, it's their home," he said. "But when you put public decorations outside, it's open to the broader University community and visitors."

"The complete short­hand system includes the first two letters in the word spelling of Christ," Kirk said. "But, Kirk said. "I'm sure it would see it and say, 'At Notre Dame, can't we have Christ at Christmas?'

"It's to help young people to understand that all the change 'Christmas' to 'Christmas.'"

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Atlantis shuttle launch postponed

Two faulty engine sensors end NASA streak of on-time launches

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — NASA called off Thursday's launch of space shuttle Atlantis after a pair of fuel gauges in its big external tank failed to work properly, a recurring problem ever since the Columbia disaster.

Shuttle managers said the next launch attempt would be no earlier than Saturday. Atlantis is loaded with a European space station lab, Columbus, that has been waiting for years to fly to the international space station.

After meeting well into the evening, shuttle managers decided to forgo a Friday launch attempt to give engineers and the rest of the mission management team the chance to sleep on it and think about what was wrong and, quite possibly, work around the problem.

"We want to encourage the engineers and the rest of the team to sleep on it and think about what we might not be thinking about," said LeRoy Cain, chairman of the mission management team.

Preliminary indications were that the problem might be with an open circuit rather than the gauges themselves — perhaps a spliced line or bad connector — which would be easier to fix. Two of the four engine cutoff sensors failed a standard preflight test Thursday morning as Atlantis was being fueled with liquid hydrogen, these are required to provide accurate readings in order to proceed with a launch. NASA is considering the possibility of flying with fewer sensors working.

The sensors are part of a critical backup system to ensure that the shuttle's three main engines don't shut down too soon or too late during liftoff, a potentially disastrous problem. Trouble with the sensors has delayed shuttle launches before, most recently in September 2006. To NASA's puzzlement, the trouble began cropping up following the Columbia disaster. This time, two sensors went out instead of one.

"We really are scratching our heads," said launch director Doug Logan.

Because the problem is believed to be in wiring between Atlantis and the external fuel tank, the shuttle's engine compartment remained sealed and no repairs were planned, at least for now.

Thursday's postponement was a keen disappointment for the European Space Agency. The $2 billion lab has been in the works for nearly a quarter-century, and was held up for years by NASA's repeated space station design problems and, more recently, by the 2003 Columbia tragedy.

"Of course, we would love to fly on time, but we want to fly when it's safe," said Alan Thirsk, the European space station program manager.

The postponement ended NASA's streak of on-time shuttle launches for the year. Each of the year's previous three countdowns ended in on-the-spot departures. Because of poor sun angles and computer concerns, NASA would have to wait until the beginning of January to launch Atlantis if it is flying by next Thursday or Friday.

When the fuel sensors failed, the launch was still more than eight hours away, and shuttle commander Stephen Frick and his six crewmates had yet to climb aboard.

Information Meeting

for men interested in learning about the process for applying to live in Duncan Hall

Tuesday, December 11 • 7:00 PM
Thursday, January 24 • 7:00 PM
Montgomery Auditorium | Lal'orutne Student Center

Learn more about Notre Dame's newest living option orihndodu

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Songs of the ND Folk Choir ♦  psalms • homilies • prayers • meditative music
Basketball deserves support

The Observer

The night before Notre Dame's March 5, 1977 game against 29-0 San Francisco, coach Digger Phelps spoke to the student section at a pep rally. Phelps suggested the student body replace its traditional "We are," clap clap. "ND," chant with "29," clap clap, "and L," clap clap. The students did as they were told.

From the moment San Francisco entered the Joyce Center, it was greeted with chants of "29 and 1." Throughout the game, the students kept the noise in the Joyce Center at a deafening level. Soon, the rest of the crowd joined in and willed Notre Dame to a 93-82 victory. The crowd had such a big impact on the game that NBC announcers Dick Enberg and Billy Parker awarded the game MVP to the crowd in the Joyce Center.

Over the past few years, the student section at Notre Dame basketball games displayed that same ability to inspire the players to reach new heights. Last year's 99-85 win over No. 4 Alabama, when the student section rushed the floor like a rolling tide, showed that the enthusiasm for Notre Dame basketball did not die in the 70s.

But that enthusiasm has failed to show up on a consistent basis.

Unlike football games, when the student section is filled regardless of Notre Dame's record or quality of opponent, basketball games frequently have hundreds of empty seats in the student section. True, there are more basketball games than football, and the academic demands of Notre Dame often prevent students from making every game, but every student should try to attend this weekend's game against Northern Illinois. Northern Illinois may not be 29-0 San Francisco, but Notre Dame has a chance to set a record it probably could not reach without the help of the student section — the record for most consecutive home wins.

Students should show up not only to share this special moment with the team, but also to convince Notre Dame's athletic department that they deserve better seating in the upcoming Joyce Center renovations in 2009.

Coach Mike Brey has repeatedly said he wishes students could sit around the floor like they do at many other major universities around the country, but if the students fail to show up, why shouldn't the athletic department give those prime seats to paying customers who will attend games?

In order to convince the athletic department that students deserve this privilege, students need to show an appreciation for the history of the program and they need to show up to so-called "cupcake" games early in the year to demonstrate loyalty.

Otherwise, students have nobody to blame but themselves if they're stuck in the nosebleeds after 2009.
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Defining ‘news’**

I am a proud Notre Dame student. Recent football seasons aside, I cannot recall one instance in which I was in any way ashamed of my status as a student here. That changed Thursday morning, when I picked up an Observer and read Liz Harter’s front-page article, “SMC senior holds personal protest” (Dec. 6). Its presence on the front page, course, find her opinion abominable and ignorant. But that is also sense. If Erin Brady wants to bemoan America’s lack of “abortion babies aborted globally each year but to journalism and common

Erin Brady’s “activism in action” professor should be proud. On standing out in the snow, she elevated her personal opinion to the status of a news article. I think The Observer’s editors need to remember that there is a Viewpoint section and that it alone should be the main outlet for personal opinion. That is why Letters to the Editor are printed there.

In conclusion, The Observer needs to reconsider what it classifies as news and what it classifies as one person with an opinion. One person with an opinion — regardless of whether I agree with it — does not constitute a story. If the editors continue the blue:

I want them to know that tonight I too am holding a “personal protest” in my tiny Morrissey quarters. I have all sorts of good opinions:

Adam Hansmann

**Dining hall menu needs adjusting**

I want to elaborate on a serious issue affecting all South Dining Hall visitors: The lack of pie. Pie is an overlooked dessert option and there has not been nearly enough pumpkin pie. Also, what is up with the oriental line? When will pasta stir-fry make a much needed come-back into the weekly menu?

Patrick McHugh

**U-WIRE**

**Global health on the graying planet**

Our planet is graying. In every major society today, there are ever-increasing numbers and proportions of people over the age of 65.

Indeed, the fastest growing segment of most societies is now the “oldest old” — individuals who are 85 and older. This “graying of the planet” will continue for at least the next 50 years — until today’s high school students are senior citizens. As stated in a recent report by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, “no challenge is as certain as global aging and none is likely to have as large and enduring an effect on the size and shape of government budgets, on the future growth in living standards, and on the stability of the global economy and even the world order.”

The larger proportion of elderly compared to younger generations is the result of two population trends: declining birth rates and increasing life expectancy. These trends affect every part of the globe, although at different rates. For example, life expectancy has increased by roughly 40 years during the past century in Europe, and birth rates have fallen to below replacement rates, making Europe the continent with the highest proportion of elderly.

Developing societies — primarily in Asia, Africa and South America — are younger, but are aging at a faster rate than was historically true for industrialized societies. China, in particular, is aging rapidly because of its “one-child” policy, which has led to unusually small cohorts of children and young adults. The aging of society poses a variety of challenges to the younger generations that will support and succeed their elders. Chief among these is how to provide appropriate health care for older citizens. Here in the United States, Medicare costs are projected to account for 9 percent of the gross domestic product by 2050. Payroll taxes for Medicare alone would have to quadruple to maintain current coverage levels. Will younger generations be willing to pay the price of sustaining Medicare benefits at the current levels?

Worldwide, the vast majority of health care dollars have traditionally been spent on acute illnesses — medical conditions that either resolve with treatment or lead rapidly to death. But chronic illnesses are increasing at an astonishing pace in the United States and other developed countries. These are diseases such as diabetes and heart disease for which cure is an unrealistic goal, but which can be medically managed to maximize disability-free life.

Developed countries are painfully evolving from acute-care models of health care delivery to chronic care models. But the challenges are even greater in developing countries. As societies rapidly age, chronic diseases will become the major challenge to the health care systems in the developing world. This puts these countries in the untenable position of providing medical care for acute conditions and simultaneously developing the resources needed for managing chronic conditions.

What do those resources look like?

The keys to effective chronic care include early detection, consistent medical management and the necessary health care systems designed on acute care models. An older population is a sicker population. Medical school curricula must be redesigned to focus primarily on chronic illnesses. Health care manpower needs increase — not only the per capita number of physicians and nurses, but also a wide variety of medical technicians, rehabilitation workers and social workers. Different kinds of equipment are required for hospitals and clinics. Health care financing programs, whether public or private, need to reimburse more, different and likely more expensive services.

Thus, global health is largely an issue of global aging. Improving basic medical care and public health during childhood and early adulthood is important in part because they result in healthier older adults. But preventing and treating chronic illnesses will be the primary global health care priority for decades to come, no matter where in the world you live.

Linda George

**THE OBSERVER**

**EDITORIAL CARTOON**

**Global health on the graying planet**

Meeting the needs of an aging population requires a transformation of health care systems designed on acute-care models. An older population is a sicker population. Medical school curricula must be redesigned to focus primarily on chronic illnesses. Health care manpower needs increase — not only the per capita number of physicians and nurses, but also a wide variety of medical technicians, rehabilitation workers and social workers. Different kinds of equipment are required for hospitals and clinics. Health care financing programs, whether public or private, need to reimburse more, different and likely more expensive services.

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This column first appeared in the Dec. 6 edition of The Chronicle, the daily publication at Duke University.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Imagining going to Iraq to serve your country, only to be shot in the spine and paralyzed less than a week into duty without having fired a single bullet. Now imagine having your story told in an award-winning documentary co-directed by Phil Donahue.

"Body of War" follows the story of Tomas Young, a 25-year-old Kansas City native, as he returns home, injured, to start a new life with a disability. Throughout his journeys, Young becomes a powerful voice of activism against the war in Iraq. The documentary simultaneously follows Young's story and goes back to the debate in Congress leading up to the war. Donahue's documentary "Body of War" has already garnered critical attention. It premiered at the Toronto Film Festival in September, winning runner-up for the People's Choice Award. It also received the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Hamptons International Film Festival in October, and it is currently in consideration for Academy Award nominations.

Donahue, a 1967 Notre Dame graduate, co-directed the documentary with the award-winning Ellen Spiro. Spiro teaches film at the University of Texas and has directed several documentaries, including "Are the Kids Alright?" and "Room Sweet Home." Donahue asked Spiro to join the project because she's "a one-woman crew, allowing for a more personal and intimate result." Eddie Vedder of Pearl Jam also contributed two original songs to the film, inspired by Young — "Long Nights" and "No More." Donahue is widely considered to be the father of the modern television talk show, paving the way for talk shows hosted like Oprah Winfrey. His talk show, "Donahue," ended in 1996 after a 26-year run in national syndication. Donahue wasn't afraid to tackle controversial issues such as abortion, gay rights and AIDS. He also introduced a great deal of the nation to hip-hop and breakdancing in a 1984 episode. The television legend has interviewed leaders from all over the world, including U.S. presidents, Nelson Mandela and Henry Kissinger.

Browning Cinema Director Jon Vickers said Donahue's documentary "makes no bones about its anti-war message," but even if they don't agree with its politics, students should still come to learn more about a man who has had such an influence on the television landscape.

"I think just coming out for that reason should be a little bit enlightening," Vickers said.

With tickets for tonight already sold out, it is clear that there is not only an interest in Donahue the talk show host, but in Donahue the director as well. Young's story is both heartbreaking and controversial, but it sends a strong message about the ongoing effects of the war in Iraq and gives a face to a debate that has no clear end in sight.

Contact Cassie Belek at cebilek@nd.edu

BRAND NEW EXCELS WITH LATEST ALBUM

By JAMES COSTA

It's been awhile since Brand New came out with an album. Ever since the 2003 release of "Deja Entendu," fans have waited to see what the Long Island quartet would come out with an album. Ever since "Deja Entendu," fans have waited to see what the Long Island quartet would come out with an album. Ever since "Deja Entendu," fans have waited to see what the Long Island quartet would come out with an album.

"The Devil and God Are Raging Inside Me" is a strong, introspective and pulse-pulsing record full of every lyrical twist and scream we've come to expect from Brand New, coupled with a more mature and nuanced look on the world. The sound only improves with a more mature and nuanced look on the world. The sound only improves with a more mature and nuanced look on the world. The sound only improves with a more mature and nuanced look on the world.

What is best about the album is that not every song digresses into screaming and yelling after a minute and a half. So many similar bands go from soft to mad screaming, and after about seven years of hearing it, listeners have begun to appreciate bands that start songs soft and keep them soft until the next track begins. Yes, "The Devil and God Are Raging Inside Me" does employ the same tried technique. However, many tracks stay mellow, and it's a treat to aging ears to not have to ring in pain just to get through the songs.

"The Devil and God" brings Brand New to new heights. It improves upon the benchmarks set in the band's three previous and very good albums, delivering the listener to a realm that is distinctly Brand New, and yet still innovative. This rocking album will add depth to Brand New's current tour.

Contact James Costa at jcosta1@nd.edu
Ashworth's "Downtown" needs refinement and direction.

By ANALISE LIPARI
Agate Scene Editor

If the Indianapolis-based band Ashworth was trying to choose between rock and acoustic guitar on its latest album, "Downtown," it seems to be suffering from a crisis of indecision. "Downtown" is an album that teeters between a low-key, almost Dispatch-esque acoustic style and an angrier, rock 'n' roll sound. For a stronger band, these differences might have led to a successful, unified album. Unfortunately for Ashworth, "Downtown" is neither. While some of the album's acoustic tracks are decent, they feel incompatible with the rougher songs. The two styles could use some refining to mesh better on Ashworth's next release.

The album is not without its merits, however. Several songs are catchy and well written, it is too bad that the rest of "Downtown" does not follow suit.

Drummer Brian Meyers, bassist Cory Carlston and violinist Nathan Klutkin lead singer Adam Nevin to form the Indy-bred group. Nevin's vocals vary between that boisterous kind of white normally characteristic of Nickleback or Daughtry, and a softer sound on tracks like "So Aware." It is true that "Downtown" suffers from stylistic overextension. Where there is violin in one track, there is a weird tech-no-type noise in another. Both the title track and "Fire and Sultry" feel too much like Dave Matthews Band to make sense with anything else.

What makes it an interesting album from a rock standpoint, though, is when it toys with Christian themes. If you are vehemently opposed to the words "Christian" and "rock" being next to each other in a sentence, skip over "Downtown." At times Ashworth feels like a watered-down Mercy Me or Casting Crowns, but without either of those bands' level of craftsmanship. While it is far from being an overt worship and praise album, songs like "My Ring," which talks about marriage and prayer, are definitely not mainstream pop-rock. "This I know, I know to be true/ When I'm singing/ There's a love song/ That I must write," well written. It is too bad that the rest of Ashworth's next release with anything else.

The album opens with "I Miss You," one of Ashworth's more rock 'n' roll-style tracks. "I wanna be with you till the day I die/ I wanna be with you till the days of my life," Nevin croons. It's too bad for Nevins and Co., though, that the song's lyrics feel tired and predictable. Sure, there is something to be said for simplicity in a grassroots level and nod to the "Christian" market. This is an album that teeters between a low-key, almost Dispatch-esque acoustic style and an angrier, rock 'n' roll sound. For a stronger band, these differences might have led to a successful, unified album. Unfortunately for Ashworth, "Downtown" is neither. While some of the album's acoustic tracks are decent, they feel incompatible with the rougher songs. The two styles could use some refining to mesh better on Ashworth's next release.

"So Aware," which gets Nevin's vocal style! It's that catchy. Between "This I know, I know to be true/ When I'm singing/ There's a love song/ That I must write," the Olives are vehemently opposed to the words "Christian" and "rock" being next to each other in a sentence, skip over "Downtown." At times Ashworth feels like a watered-down Mercy Me or Casting Crowns, but without either of those bands' level of craftsmanship. While it is far from being an overt worship and praise album, songs like "My Ring," which talks about marriage and prayer, are definitely not mainstream pop-rock. "This I know, I know to be true/ When I'm singing/ There's a love song/ That I must write," well written. It is too bad that the rest of Ashworth's next release with anything else.

"Tell Me All" is an innocuous little ditty that wildly plays up Ashworth's acoustic tendencies with just a hint of electric guitar. The bridge consists of Nevin asking "love, come down," and here, the Christian themes work well. If "Downtown" kept up this with the rest of its tracks, it would be a much more solid album that it actually is.

The strongest song on the album is "So Aware," which gets Nevin's vocal style! It's that catchy. Between "This I know, I know to be true/ When I'm singing/ There's a love song/ That I must write," the Olives are vehemently opposed to the words "Christian" and "rock" being next to each other in a sentence, skip over "Downtown." At times Ashworth feels like a watered-down Mercy Me or Casting Crowns, but without either of those bands' level of craftsmanship. While it is far from being an overt worship and praise album, songs like "My Ring," which talks about marriage and prayer, are definitely not mainstream pop-rock. "This I know, I know to be true/ When I'm singing/ There's a love song/ That I must write," well written. It is too bad that the rest of Ashworth's next release with anything else.

The album opens with "I Miss You," one of Ashworth's more rock 'n' roll-style tracks. "I wanna be with you till the day I die/ I wanna be with you till the days of my life," Nevin croons. It's too bad for Nevins and Co., though, that the song's lyrics feel tired and predictable. Sure, there is something to be said for simplicity in a grassroots level and nod to the "Christian" market. This is an album that teeters between a low-key, almost Dispatch-esque acoustic style and an angrier, rock 'n' roll sound. For a stronger band, these differences might have led to a successful, unified album. Unfortunately for Ashworth, "Downtown" is neither. While some of the album's acoustic tracks are decent, they feel incompatible with the rougher songs. The two styles could use some refining to mesh better on Ashworth's next release.

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**Baraka Bouts**

Freshman Cara Norton upsets senior captain

*Squuegee* Low takes Bout with unanimous ruling; Cimino beats Elizondo; Erin Mullee wins shootout in last fight of night

By PAT STYNES

Erica Wilton

Cara "Boomer" Norton def. Emily "Raging backhand" Rhatican

Freshman Cara "Boomer" Norton from Illinois surprisingly defeated senior Emily "The Raging Backhand" Rhatican in a 2-1 split decision. While Rhatican was older and more experienced, Norton was able to capitalize on the senior's blows, and respond, further solidifying her way to her first victory.

**THE SQUEEJEE Low def. Lauren "Strong Island" Cummings

Senior southpaw Cigi "The Squeegee" Low and took control of the fight early, as ferocious combos, featuring quick left jabs and powerful hooks kept Cummings on the back foot. Low was most impressive with her low game was her ability to move around, and set up her punches, as there was barely any time the defend wasted jab or hook. Her patience and solid doling attack gave her great control in the fight. Later on in the fight, however, Cummings showed some promise and the possibility of a comeback.

"When she came out in that last round, I was pretty much thinking just stay out of the way that she don't get hit," Low said. "That's the name of the game." The senior kept her hands up well into the third round and used her elusiveness and patience to ultimately defeat Cummings, the judges ruling unanimously in her favor.

Megan Cimino def. Maria Paula "Tequila Hummingbird" Elizondo

Both fighters showed talent and moved well around the ring, bobbing and weaveng, constantly looking for opportunities. The difference in their speeds, however, allowed Cimino, a very quick and active fighter, to be too much for Elizondo.

While Elizondo made strides in the second round, over the timidity that held her back in the first, Cimino's stamina did not allow her to have any chance of a comeback as she was thrown more punches, as fast, until the bell of the third round. The senior's resiliance was rewarded with a unanimous victory.

"It was fun," Cimino said. "I didn't really have a plan, I just wanted to go in there and do my best.

Kayla "The Texan Terror" Birchfield, Kristin "Burlgirious" Burke

Freshman Kayla "The Texan Terror" Birchfield defeated sophomore Kristin "Burlgirious" Burke in an even match. Both Burke's and Birchfield's feet were quick, and both women maneuvered around the ring well, however, the beginning of the second round proved to be the difference.

"When I came out in the second round, I just tried to be more aggressive," Birchfield said. "I made sure my defense stayed up also, and not too overanxious.

He started our second-round bell rang, the "Texan Terror" used her advantage more effectiverly, keeping distance between herself and Burke, while constantly attacking to keep Burke in an unreachable position. By keeping her arms to the inside, punching efficiently in a straight line, she forced the sophomore to punch outside, which ultimately turned the fight as Burke left herself exposed when she attempted to attack around Birchfield's guard instead of through it.

Nicole "The Silver Bullet" Koors defe. Rebecca "The Claw" Neville

Fight 20: The 20th match of the night featured junior Nicole "The Silver Bullet" Koors and sophomore Rebecca "The Claw" Neville. The bout proved to be a back and forth battle, as junior Nicole "The Silver Bullet" Koors started off strong, using her reach and keeping her distance while maintaining pressure on sophomore Rebecca "The Claw" Neville. However, "The Claw" finished the first round strong, unleashing a barrage of jabs and hooks before the bell sounded, evening up the score. "I knew that it was going to be a really good fight. We're really good friends and we've sparred a lot against each other," Koors said. "And coming out in the second round and third round, I knew I had to be the first to throw a punch or I wasn't going to win it.

"The Silver Bullet" stood by those words, and came out swinging in the final two rounds. She danced effectively around the ring, avoiding most of the sophomore's punches, and attacked fiercely when the opportunity presented themselves. Despite Neville's strong showing to close the third round, Koors's efforts culminated in a split decision victory.

Sarah "Sunshine" Davidson def. Jen "And Juice" Malheker

Senior Sarah "Sunshine" Davidson came out of the gate on the attack, and put on a clinic for three rounds. Her quick moving feet, perpetually moving head and body, and southpaw hook simply overwhelmed anything sophomore Jen "And Juice" Malheker could muster in defense. "I just wanted to keep hitting until the fight ended," Davidson said. "I wanted to win, I didn't want to get tired in the middle of the fight, and I wanted to finish strong.

Malheker could not keep her punches straight and kept wandering to the outside, as Davidson's lefty position seemed to throw off her. When she seemed to be in the third and could not keep her hands up effectively, it was all over as "Sunshine" was still packing heat until the very end.

Erin "Yeah ... I Sling Like a Bee" Mullie def. Ellie "Eye on 3" Hoffman

In what proved to be one of the most exciting bouts of the night, junior southpaw Erin "Yeah ... I Sling Like a Bee" Mullie pulled off a victory in a mesmerizing shootout with sophomore Ellie "Eye on 3" Hoffman. From the minute the opening bell sounded, the fans were all on their feet as both fighters dealt each other ferocious combos, neither of them backing down for one second. Early on, Hoffman turned her opponent around a few times, causing stoppages in the match and garnering a small edge at the end of the 1st.

"I had absolutely no idea it was going to be like that," Mullie said. "I really had to work for it. I had everyone in my corner cheering for me, and gave me the pick-me-up I needed in the middle of the match."

The repeated chant of "Erinn, Erin" from her fans certainly inspired the boxer, as she came out even harder in the second round, rounding solid hook after solid hook. Hoffman certainly did not lay down and die, however, as she adapted well to the different angles shown when fighting a lefty, and kept it close until the very end. However when the clock finally settled, Mullie emerged victorious in the last match of the night.

Contact Pat Stynes at pstynes@nd.edu

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The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Name Desk office, 104 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $5 per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit.
**NBA**

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**Men's Basketball AP Top 25**

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**In Brief**

**Bonds to make first court appearance today**

SAN FRANCISCO — From Patty Hearst to the Jonestown Massacre, the Phillip Burton Federal Building here has hosted its share of high-profile trials over the years. But they may all pale in comparison to the spectacle of the Barry Bonds perjury case.

More than 200 journalists and members of the public are expected to crowd the courtroom and a second overflow room Friday for a brief hearing that marks the home run king’s first public appearance since he was indicted Nov. 15 on four counts of perjury and obstruction of justice.

The charges could mean prison time if Bonds is convicted.

In an attempt to corral the horde, the court has taken the rare step of bringing the judges to Bonds rather than requiring him to appear in two courtrooms, as is often the case with routine initial appearances by criminal defendants.

**Patriots ignore guarantee from Steelers’ DB**

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The New England Patriots have their own guarantee: They’d never guarantee a victory like Pittsburgh’s Anthony Smith did.

Some of them can’t even guarantee they’d recognize him.

“I know Aaron Smith,” Patriots defensive end Ty Warren said Thursday. “I don’t know Anthony Smith.”

Aaron Smith is in his ninth season with the Steelers, a standout defensive end who made the 2005 Pro Bowl and will be pressuring Tom Brady on Sunday when the NFL’s best pass rusher faces the league’s top-rated defense.

Anthony Smith is a free safety in his second pro season and starting only because Ryan Clark’s season ended in late October with an inflamed spleen that was removed last month.

“I didn’t know who he was until we started preparing for them,” Tom Brady said.

Some background:

A five-time All-Star, Jones will receive a $12.2 million signing bonus and a five-year contract worth a total of $100 million. Any excess salary in the major leagues.

**Wake Forest’s Grove to stay put despite Arkansas rumor**

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — First basketball, now football. Another coach has spurned Arkansas.

Wake Forest’s Jim Grobe was the latest to turn down the Razorbacks after he appeared to be headed to Fayetteville. The Razorback Foundation, a private fundraising arm for the University of Arkansas, had actually approved a salary supplement for the Wake Forest coach, but Grobe was still with the Demon Deacons on Thursday.

Before starting practice, some Wake Forest players cheered “Sooner!” — a reference to Arkansas’ famous “Fig Sower” cheer.

“I think Arkansas’s a great place,” said Grobe, who would’ve replaced Houston Nutt at Arkansas. “I wish them a lot of luck, I think it’s a great opportunity for somebody, but I just felt like this was the best opportunity for me right here.”

**Dodgers reach preliminary agreement with Jones**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Andrew Jones is following Joe Torre to the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Gold Glove center fielder and the Dodgers reached a preliminary agreement Wednesday night on a $36.2 million, two-year contract that gives him the fifth-highest average salary in the major leagues.

Jones, the former Atlanta star who has won 10 straight Gold Gloves, is coming off one of the worst offensive seasons of his career. But if he rebounds, he could give the Dodgers a desperately needed boost in the middle of the lineup. He must pass a physical for the deal to be complet ed, a person familiar with the negotiations said, speaking on condition of anonymity because no announce ment had been made.

A five-time All-Star, Jones will receive a $12.2 million signing bonus.

**Patriots quarterback Tom Brady answers questions from reporters Thursday at the team’s practice facility in Foxborough. On Sunday, the Patriots will face the Steelers, whose Anthony Smith guaranteed a Pittsburgh victory.**
Guillen, Gibbons suspended for use of HGH

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Jose Guillen and Jay Gibbons were suspended Thursday for the first 15 days of next season for violating baseball’s drug policy, an indication how the sport might treat players named in the Mitchell steroids investigation.

Guillen and Gibbons were accused in media reports of receiving human growth hormone after January 2005, when it was banned by baseball.

Gary Matthews Jr., Rick Ankiel, Troy Glaus and Scott Schoeneweis also were linked to HGH, but baseball decided there was “insufficient evidence” to determine they committed a doping violation. They were accused of receiving performance-enhancing drugs before 2005.

Former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell was asked to investigate drugs in baseball, before 2005.

The board’s athletic committee approved the extension Thursday with nearly all board members present.

The agreement doesn’t change Miles’ salary, which will already rise to at least $3.5 million — but that could grow depending on contract negotiations with other coaches around the country.

Left, Baltimore’s Jay Gibbons and right, Kansas City’s Jose Guillen, recently traded from Seattle, were each suspended Thursday for the first 15 games of the next season for violating the MLB’s drug policy.

The 15-day penalties match what a second offense would have drawn under 2003-04 rules. Current rules call for a 50-game suspension for a first offense, a 100-game penalty for a second and a lifetime ban for a third.

"Jay has acknowledged his mistake, and we appreciate his willingness to accept the consequences," Orioles president of baseball operations Andy MacPhail said.

The Chronicle reported last month that Guillen bought human growth hormone, two types of testosterone and the steroids stanozolol and nandrolone between May 2002 and June 2005.

Gibbons got six shipments of Genotropin (a brand name for synthetic human growth hormone), two shipments of testosterone and two shipments of human choric gonadotropin (HCG) between October 2003 and July 2005, SL.com said in September.


"We’re obviously pleased," said Scott Boras, the agent for Ankiel and Schoeneweis. "As we had said before with each of these players, they had not violated any baseball rule or any state or federal law.

Glaus, a Toronto third baseman, received multiple shipments of nandrolone and testosterone between September 2003 and May 2004.

"I’m thrilled to be here. I’m thrilled to be LSU’s head coach," he added.

The contract extension requires approval of the full governing board, which is expected to be a formality when the board meets Friday.

"I look forward to many years as the LSU head coach," he said.

The agreement does n't change Miles’ salary, which will already rise to at least $3.5 million — but that could grow depending on contract negotiations with other coaches around the country.

If LSU wins the national championship, the contract provides Miles would become among the nation’s top-earning college football coaches, no less than the third highest-paid. University officials estimate that would put his annual earnings between $3.2 million and $3.5 million, but that could grow depending on contract negotiations with other coaches around the country.

LSU (11-1) in the Allstate BCS Championship Game on Jan. 7 at the Louisiana Superdome.

Just before his team played Tennessee in the SEC championship game on Dec. 1, Miles effectively stopped predictions he would bolt Baton Rouge for Michigan, announcing his intention to remain at LSU.

Wolverines coach Lloyd Carr announced his retirement in November.

Miles wouldn’t talk about the speculation that had dogged him for the past weeks, where he played, worked as an assistant coach and met his wife.

LSU officials praised Miles’ coaching, his straightforwardness and his integrity.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Miles signs five-year extension, stays at LSU

Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — LSU head football coach Les Miles signed a contract extension Thursday that keep him at the university through 2012 and end speculation that Miles might leave for a job at the University of Michigan.

"I’m thrilled to be here. I’m thrilled to be LSU’s head coach," he said.

The contract extension requires approval of the full governing board, which is expected to be a formality when the board meets Friday.

The agreement doesn’t change Miles’ salary, which will already rise to at least $2.8 million annually based on LSU’s Southeastern Conference championship this year. An SEC championship win requires Miles’ salary to be at least the third highest in the conference.

The agreement doesn’t change Miles’ salary, which will already rise to at least $2.8 million annually based on LSU’s Southeastern Conference championship this year. An SEC championship win requires Miles’ salary to be at least the third highest in the conference.

Associated Press
ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame prepares for Purdue

Coach McGraw doesn’t want to overlook struggling Boilermakers

By JAY FITZPATRICK

Muffet McGraw

Purdue’s advance to last year’s Elite 8 is now a distant memory for the struggling Boilermakers, but it doesn’t forever an easy win, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said about Saturday’s road matchup.

“I think that if you look at their losses, they’ve lost to some high quality teams,” McGraw said.

“So I don’t you can look at their record and say that they’re struggling because they’re only losing to teams in the top 25.”

The Boilermakers (4-4), who fell to North Carolina in the Elite 8 of the 2007 NCAA Tournament, have had a tough start to the season. After two Tournament, have had a tough season, including a 0-3 performance at the U.S. Virgin Islands Paradise Jam tournament.

McGraw said the Boilermakers present some tough matchup problems defensively for the No. 16 Irish, especially Purdue’s top two scorers — guard Lakisha Freeman and center Danielle Campbell.

Freeman leads the Boilermakers with 14.1 of her team’s 56.9 points per game.

“Freeman’s been playing really well. She’s kind of a tough matchup for us. She’s a really athletic player, scores a lot in transition. She’s going to give us problems,” McGraw said.

But Freeman’s game suffers in some aspects. The redshirt junior has only four assists to go with her 21 turnovers and only grades 3.7 rebounds per game.

Campbell has been a dominant presence in the paint for Purdue, averaging 8.6 boards per game and 20 blocks already this season.

“Campbell is very good on the block. She’s a little quicker than we think,” McGraw said.

“There’s probably everyone on their team that concerns me, but those are the main two.”

Going into the matchup with Purdue, McGraw said her team needs to improve its defense significantly from its 86-79 win at Bowling Green Wednesday night.

McGraw said she was “not too happy” with the defense against Bowling Green, but that much of the problem stemmed from inexperience.

“I think that if you look at their losses, they’ve lost to some high quality teams.”

Muffet McGraw Irish coach

“I think a lot of it was freshness. [Freshman forward Devereaux] Peters was picked on a little bit and I think we can help that,” she said. “I think we can fix it pretty easily. I think we just have to see it on film and show them what they have to do.”

One positive McGraw took from the Bowling Green win was the confidence it gave her team.

“To be in that situation I thought was great experience,” she said. “Just to be in a game like that on the road with a great crowd, loud, everything you could ask for — you really learn a lot about your team.

“We learned a couple things defensively. We’re not good at defending, how can we get better and offensively we did great things.”

Notre Dame finishes its two-game road trip Saturday when it takes on Purdue at 4 p.m.

Notes

♦ Despite its 7-1 record, Notre Dame has had only the third best start in the Big East this season. No. 2 Connecticut and No. 15 DePaul are both 7-0.

♦ Notre Dame has averaged 83.7 points and 11.2 rebounds in its second matchup.

♦ We have really stopped thinking about the game against Calvin and we are now focusing on Tri-State. We are excited to play again another good opponent and really step up our performance. As a team, we need to become more consistent to be a top team in the conference. Tri-State is a good team and we are expecting to face a challenge.”

Alison Kessler Belles guard

“Be part of ND basketball history! This Saturday, help the Irish break the home win streak record, set in 1974.

McGraw’s Irish will face Tri-State so far this season, with 8.5 rebounds per game. Saint Mary’s has averaged 39.9 percent from the floor, giving the Belles an advantage over Tri-State’s 35.4 percent. The Belles have also shot 31.8 percent in their free throw attempts and posted 27.8 percent from beyond the arc.

Kessler is averaging 15.5 points per game with 5.2 rebounds.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mveselO1@ saintmarys.edu

Men’s Basketball

Free calendar for early arriving fans!!

Be part of ND basketball history! This Saturday, help the Irish break the home win streak record, set in 1974.

SMC BASKETBALL

Tri-State looms next for Saint Mary’s in MIAA

By MEAGHAN VESELIK

Saint Mary’s in MIAA

After a home-opening loss Wednesday night to rival Calvin, Saint Mary’s travels to Tri-State University on Saturday to play the Thunder (3-4) in their second MIAA conference game.

The Belles (2-4) beat Tri-State twice last season, 83-79 and 83-66, with junior Erin Newsom scoring 30 points and 11 rebounds in their second matchup.

“We have really stopped thinking about the game against Calvin and we are now focusing on Tri-State,” senior guard Alison Kessler said.

“We are excited to play again another good opponent and really step up our performance. As a team, we need to become more consistent to be a top team in the conference. Tri-State is a good team and we are expecting to face a challenge.”

The Belles will have to be wary of Tri-State’s 5-foot-9 guard Sarah Howe. Last season Howe averaged 13.6 points and 7.0 rebounds per game to lead her team. This year, she averages 19.5 points per game.

Tri-State is averaging 66.9 points per game compared to the Belles’ 64.2 per game.

Saint Mary’s has averaged 39.9 percent from the floor, giving the Belles an advantage over Tri-State’s 35.4 percent. The Belles have also shot 31.8 percent in their free throw attempts and posted 27.8 percent from beyond the arc.

Kessler is averaging 15.5 points per game with 5.2 rebounds.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mveselO1@ saintmarys.edu

This page is part of The Observer's Sports section. It contains articles about Notre Dame's basketball game against Purdue and Saint Mary's basketball game against Tri-State. The Notre Dame coach, Muffet McGraw, discusses the Boilermakers' struggles and the upcoming game against Purdue. The Saint Mary's coach, Alison Kessler, talks about the upcoming game against Tri-State and the team's performance against Calvin. The Observer also promotes their free calendar for early arriving fans at the basketball game.
American Molly Huddle. Sophomore Lindsey Ferguson will also be counted on to step up after she established a new school record in the 3000-meter steeplechase last year and finished third in the Big East cross country meet. In addition to the returning runners, the Irish will look for freshman Marissa Treece, who won two high school national track titles in the 3000 meter run, to carry some of the load. “She is a talented kid who had an outstanding senior high school season,” Tim Connelly, Irish coach.

“Marissa Treece is a talented kid who had an outstanding senior high school season.”

Tim Connelly Irish coach

Unfortunately for the Irish, many of the distance runners are suffering from injury or illness from full training. Both Olding and Treece have been plagued by injury or illness during the fall, and it could be long as February before one is back in top condition. “Hopefully they can both get back to full health and be contributors soon,” Connelly said. The Irish will return to youth in the sprint events. After losing seniors Mary Ann Erhga and Okechi Ogbugkiri, only sophomores Joanna Schulte and senior Chrysta Swasyer return. Freshmen Natalie Johnson, from Inglewood, Ariz., and Kali Watkins from Newport News, Va., will be counted on heavily to make contributions. Watkins was a high school All-American in the 60-meter hurdles.

Junior Mary Saxer will return to compete in the pole vault. She is the current Notre Dame record holder for the event with a height of 13-3 1/2 inches and is a two-time All-Big East performer. Connelly sees this meet as a measuring stick for his athletes before they head home for winter break. “The first meet is used to see where we are at. It gives us jumpers, throwers and runners a chance to compete,” he said. “They have been training since September, and it will be nice to see where they are at before they leave for finals and take a break from training.”

“Are there three months until the Big East meet and that is what we are most concerned about.”

Tim Connelly Irish coach

“Adam Beltran is a great athlete. The kids respond really well to him,” Connelly said. “The results have been very positive with him, and the kids are excited to have him here.”

Junior Anna Weber is the Irish assistant coach Tim Connelly, whose Notre Dame will lead the Sunni Olding two-time cross race team, set two school East Indoor throw records at the Big top returning thrower for live with him, and the kids Notre Dame. “There are three months until the Big East meet and that is what we are most concerned about.”

Tim Connelly Irish coach

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For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

“Dear Notre Dame Students: This event seeks to provide a safe space for students who may have experienced homophobia, discrimination, or bullying in the past, or may feel uncomfortable discussing these issues.

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at callouf@nd.edu.

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For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Tuesday, December 13
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

The Core Center for Gay and Lesbian Students invites you to join today’s lunch for students, parents, and friends. The event will discuss the upcoming holiday break and what to expect in the New Year.

Connect with efficace and confidence to assure (Lunch will be served)
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Look for posters in your dorm for more information...
Bouts

continued from page 24

Villanova overcomes 21-point deficit to knock out LSU

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Villanova was crushed. LSU was dazed.

No one on either side could remember a comeback — or a collapse — like this one.

Malcolm was incredibly good, buzzer after buzzer, setting up the shot that mattered most: the Wildcats' last one.

"I just caught a huge dose for the Wildcats coach Jay Wright, "was unbelievable." No one was more unbelieve-able than Grant, a 6-foot reserve freshman guard who came in averaging 7.2 points a game, scored seven points in 24 minutes.

Villanova's 6-1 team that seem-ingly had lost its shot, its confidence and the game.

LSU (5-3) dominated almost the entire game and most of the season and only lost because of a late three-pointer by Villanova's Jalen Brunson, who finished with 21 points.

Villanova took advantage of LSU's lack of defense by continuing to unfold books to their opponents. LSU's nose started bleeding just a few seconds before the end of the second round.

About a minute into the third round, LSU scored and knocked Dwyer out of the game.

Wildcats scored 13 points in the first three minutes, with senior star Gillyn Watson putting away a three-pointer from the left side for a 32-18 lead. The Tigers led 35-24 at halftime.

Certainly, it wasn't obvious that the two fighters had their experience in the ring. Both were wearing their experience on their faces, with several blows to the head.

In the opening fight, sophomore Kyle "R.I.P." Rocca faced off against sophomore Kia "The Hurt" Johnson, who came in averaging 7.2 points a game. He scored seven points in 24 minutes, with no Wildcat was anywhere within three. Then he was out of the game, and LSU scored on a 3-point attempt. This time the basket was no good, but he made all six of his shots from the floor and line, which had led 54-33, trailing LSU 67-66.

Grant tried to win it for the Wildcats on their last possession, but he missed a shot from the right side. Cunningham was there with the rebound layup that went the crowd into a frenzy.

"I just crashed and got the loose ball in my hands," Cunningham said.

Contact Griffin Dussault at gdus-ault@gmail.com and Kayuh Graybar at kgraybar@stcmg.edu

NCAA BASKETBALL

Wildcats guard Corey Fisher goes up for a layup as Tigers forward Garret Green defends in Villanova's 68-67 comeback win over LSU on Thursday.

"We had the game in our hands to win it," Brady said.

"We didn't do the things that we needed to do to win," Wright said. "We needed to make some shots, we needed to play defense.

"We showed great heart and poise and precision of a veteran, taking punches and responding with a flurry of her own."
All the Invisible Children is a set of powerful stories that deal with the most pressing and important of social issues—the neglect and exclusion of children and their deprivation of childhood. It comprises seven different segments by seven directors, each one representing a different country or region of the world.

Brazilian-born director Katia Lund will be present to discuss the film and her segment, Bilu e João. Lund’s work in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro has raised social consciousness in Brazil and around the world. Her most notable work has been as co-director of City of God. Joining her will be writer and actor Eduardo Gutemberg dos Reis, who co-wrote Bilu e João. Born in Rocinha, one of the largest favelas in South America, Gutemberg dos Reis most recently co-wrote a feature film titled Rice and Beans, which will be directed by Lund.

Saturday, December 8 at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. in Browning Cinema, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Katia Lund and Eduardo Gutemberg do Reis will present and answer questions from the audience at 9 p.m.

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Desert Bayou • February 22 • Director Alex LeMay will discuss his film
The Kite Runner • March 14
Blood Diamond • April 3 • Co-sponsored with Center for Social Concerns
Elite 8
continued from page 24
This time, however, Clark says his team will be ready.
"The only way to become comfortable playing in big games is to play in big games," Clark said. "This group of players has played in a lot of big games, so they should be ready."
Experience isn't the only thing the Irish gained from last year's Elite 8 game that's giving them confidence as they head into their game with the Demon Deacons.
Despite the fact that the match occurred over one year ago, the disappointment from that night in Charlottesville is still driving this year's Irish team.
"Everybody there last year hated the feeling of Virginia," senior co-captain Ryan Miller said. "They all know we ended and how we didn't play well. Everybody's prepared for the Wake Forest game, and they're trying to make up for last year."
No matter how prepared Notre Dame is, defeating the Demon Deacons will be a tall order. No. 2 Wake Forest enters Saturday's match with an impressive 19-2-2 mark, and the Demon Deacons had the No. 1 spot in Soccer America for nine weeks this season.
Wake Forest was in line for the No. 1 overall seed in the NCAA Tournament until an upset loss to Boston College in the ACC tournamentapro­­ved the Eagles to the top seed.
The Irish will have to work to stop Wake Forest's potent offense. The Demon Deacons average 2.75 goals per game this season, and they have scored three or more goals in all but one of their 12 losses. Compare that to Notre Dame's 1.49 goals per game and four matches with three goals or more.
Although Wake Forest has three players with eight or more goals, its top scoring threat is undoubtedly sopho­more forward Cory Aronson, who scored two goals in the season opener. He scored 3-1 win over West Virginia in the Sweet 16.
Armour leads the team in goals (15) and points (36). Clark said the Irish must try to disrupt his centering to prevent the Demon Deacons from scoring.
"I've said all along that it's not just the defense," Clark said. "We have to play the game in their half of the page. 2-16 goals per game there and defend and hope the defense hangs on." Miller said. "Take the entire team defending to prevent unwanted goals.
"We pride ourselves on team defense, not just the back line," he said. "We'll need or play defense team to full potential."
Luckily for Notre Dame, even if the defense fails, the Irish still have Chris Riley. The senior keeper has been exceptional all year for Notre Dame in NCAA tournament games, recording four shutouts—an Irish program record. Cahill's latest shutout came in last weekend's 2-0 win over Santa Clara.
The winner of Saturday's contest will play the winner of No. 3 Connecticut vs. No. 11 Virginia Tech Dec. 14.
Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

Princeton
continued from page 24
Friday
"They're a high energy team that we will have to value the puck against, they are probably going to be a look like RPI," Jackson said.
Notre Dame played Rensselaer two weeks ago in the Beanblossom Holiday Tournament. The Irish came from three goals down to win 4-3.
The Tigers bounced back Saturday with another 4-3 game against RPI. But this time they came out on top.
Princeton's top line, consisting of juniors Lee Jalubivilke and Brett Wilson and sophomore Cam Marcisty, was responsible for three of those goals, including the game-winner from Wilson.
MacIntyre, who had two assists against Union, currently leads the team with seven goals and seven assists. The trio has scored 16 of the team's 29 goals so far this season.
"As they play, they may get stronger and mentally gain confidence in their ability to do things with the puck," Jackson said.
Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Irish guard Tory Jackson drives to the basket during Notre Dame's 76-65 win over Eastern Michigan on Dec. 1.

Streak
continued from page 24
Thursday
Phelps, now an ESPN analyst, was in attendance at Notre Dame's (6-2) 68-59 win over Kansas State Tuesday at Madison Square Garden where he saw Irish forward Luke Harangody out duel the much-hyped Kansas State freshman Michael Beasley to the tune of 19 points and a career-high 14 rebounds.
"Harangody was awesome," Phelps said. "He put on a show at the Garden. He's a great kid. They're all great kids. What I like about this team, this year, there are no issues with personalities and I think that's what makes this team special. You build that internal bond and you build that together. There's a lot of things you have to do in games to get it done.
Phelps said the Irish have an opportunity to make it into the Sweet 16 this year, thanks in part to the guard play of sopho­
more Tory Jackson and junior Kyle McAlarney. For McAlarney, a win Saturday would mean a lot to the Irish, given the rich tradition established under Phelps in the 1970s and 80s.
"I guess as soon as the season started, Coach Brey was talking about us and we were talking about it. But it's just something special when you have an opportunity to make your mark in the history of Notre Dame basketball," McAlarney said.
"But at the same time, we can't get too over our head and we have to focus on Northern Illinois." Phelps led Notre Dame to numerous NCAA Tournament berths during his tenure and to its only Final Four appearance.
Phelps led Notre Dame to numerous NCAA Tournament berths during his tenure and to its only Final Four appearance.
"What made us that good back in the day was that the stu­dents never quit on us," Phelps said. "Every home game they came out, up, and we had a place that was packed.
While student attendance at early-season, non-conference games usually pales in compari­son to attendance at Big East games, Brey said there's no excuse for students not to show up to help break the record.
"I think we sold 2,200 student season tickets, and I'm expect­ing that that number will be bigger," Brey said. "This is the last time we're going to see them before the Big East starts and for them to be there where we have an opportunity to set the home record. The sixth man better be out or they may have to run sprints when they play back from Christmas break.
The Notre Dame student sup­port provides makes big games, such as last year's wins over Marquette and Alabama, more memorable.
"We're going to see the students out there, they really do give us an extra lift," Harangody said. A year ago, the Irish opened its season section through the years has been its ability to get inside the heads of opposing teams and make Notre Dame an intimidating venue to visit. And even though final exams begin next Friday, forward Zach Hillesland still hopes the stu­dents can fill the stands Saturday as well.
"We know there's big games, big tests, big projects coming up that this be a very special record," Hillesland said. "I won­der how many fans are really aware of the record that's potentially being broken on Saturday. The fact that a lot of students support would be a really spe­cial moment.
Northern Illinois enters the game 2-6, with only one starter, junior Jordan Miller averaging double figures (10.6 points per game).
Tip off is at 7 p.m. Saturday.
Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

Irish right wing Evan Rankin skate up ice in Notre Dame's 5-4 win over Nebraska-Omaha on Nov. 30.  

Irish guard Tory Jackson drives to the basket during Notre Dame's 76-65 win over Eastern Michigan on Dec. 1.

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EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lindsay Price, 31; Janine Turner, 45; Penn Badgley, 31; Jim Hanks, 64

Happy Birthday: You are a leader and if you actively try to make reforms or find solutions to ongoing problems, it will lead to better opportunities in those areas of your life as well. Money is in the picture and a settlement can be reached this year. Your numbers are 8, 11, 13, 25, 32, 35.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Figure out what you have to do to save money. If you can put a little away each week for something you really want, it will give you a sense of security. Don't go out with anyone you live with. 3 stars.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Spend time with friends and family. Whatever you can do to help your community or people in need, the better your opportunities will become regarding positions, proposals and finding new friends. 3 stars.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't take sides if an issue arises. Instead, play the middle way. A change with regard to your position may start you at first. Don't become emotional or you will be viewed as unprofessional. 3 stars.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Everything will work in your favor if you are concentrating today. A little give-and-take will go a long ways. A love relationship looks very promising. 4 stars.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't feel guilty for wanting to enjoy yourself. You can get more done in a shorter period of time than most. Money is in the stars — win money, settle arguments and even old debts can be collected. 2 stars.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Short trips will lead to positive changes. You may want to hold off making any changes around home. You aren't likely to get the respect or the job done that you require. 4 stars.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may not feel like taking the day off but fret yourself to put in the work and make the professional moves that will help you advance. An energetic approach to something could turn into a new position. 3 stars.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your emotions will be running at a fever pitch. Do not become emotional or you will be viewed as unprofessional. 3 stars.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You need to distance yourself from everyone. Use them wisely. If you are in tune with what you need in your life, you should go back to basics. Low looks possible or a person you love. 2 stars.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Partnerships and professional goals should be your prime concern. You can make some changes to secure your financial future. Don't give in to anyone making a loud noise about how to invest. 4 stars.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Someone may lead you in the wrong direction. Don't let your emotions get in the way of doing what's right. A problem with someone you have known in the past will crop up. 2 stars.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Put your time, effort and money into your home and your future. Invest in yourself and your surroundings. Fix up a workspace at home that will motivate you to follow your dreams. 5 stars.

Birthday Riddle: You are passionate, determined and serious about achieving your goals. You are categoric, open-minded and adaptable to whatever works best for everyone.

Eugenics' Web sites: astroweb.com for fun, eugenicsnet.com for confidential consultations.

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**MEN’S SOCCER**

**Shaking their Demons**

**Men tackle No. 2 Wake Forest in Elite 8 scrum**

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

One year ago, Notre Dame was in uncharted territory when it reached the program’s first-ever Elite 8, and it showed in its game against No. 4 Virginia. By halftime, the Irish had dug themselves a 2-0 first-half hole that they were unable to climb out of in their 3-2 loss to the Cavaliers.

"People take stage fright sometimes, and we panicked a little bit at Virginia last year," Notre Dame coach Bobby Clark said. "There were 6,000 people in the stands. [Virginia] was a good team, but we found out in the second half that we were as good if not a little bit better."

One year later, the Irish are back in the NCAA quarterfinals as they prepare to take on No. 2 seed Wake Forest on Saturday at 7 p.m. in Winston-Salem, N.C.

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**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Digger gives blessing for ND to smash record**

Irish can break home win-streak mark set in ’74

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Editor

Notre Dame began "the streak" with a 66-61 win over DePaul on March 4, 2006, and continued it with victories over then-No. 4 Alabama, Louisville and Marquette last season. Saturday night, the Irish have a chance to make history if they can break Northern Illinois to post their 25th consecutive win at the Joyce Center.

A win would break the previous record of 24 consecutive wins set between February of 1973 and December 1974, a streak that included one of the most famous wins in Notre Dame basketball history — a 71-70 triumph over No. 1 UCLA, which snapped the Bruins’ NCAA-record 88-game unbeaten streak. Notre Dame’s coach from 1971-91, Digger Phelps, said he’s pulling for this year’s team to break that record.

"All streaks are made to be broken and [Coach Mike Brey’s] a great guy and these kids are good kids, so go for it," Phelps said in a phone interview.

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**HOCKEY**

**No. 6 Irish head to Hobey’s house**

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame travels to Hobey Baker’s alma mater tonight to take on Princeton in both teams’ final series before the winter break.

The No. 6 Irish, who took over first place in the CCHA last weekend, will make the trip to the school made famous by college hockey legend Baker for the first time since late 2001.

"You always worry about the last series before break and final exams," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "It’s important for us to continue playing full, sixty-minute hockey games."

After this weekend, the team will have three weeks off before beginning the second half of the year at the Lightning College Hockey Classic on Dec. 29.

The Irish (14-4) head to the east coast with a seven-game winning streak that dates back to their 4-1 Nov. 16 win over Western Michigan. They have outscored their opponents 29-11 during that stretch, including back-to-back five goal games against Nebraska-Omaha last weekend.

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**BARAKA BOUTS**

**Women duke it out for charity**

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI and KATELYN GRABAREK
Sports Writers

Forty-four women fought Thursday night in front of a packed auxiliary gymnasium in the Joyce Center to raise money for "Freshman eastern African schools in upsets senior the annual Baraka Bouts."

"These girls have come a long way," Baraka Bouts president Whitney Endsley said.

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**ALLISON AMBROSIA/The Observer**

Irish forward Ryan Ayers dribbles during Notre Dame’s 76-65 win over Eastern Michigan on Dec. 1.

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**ALLISON AMBROSIA/The Observer**

Irish midfielder Michael Thomas evades a St. John’s defender in Notre Dame’s 1-0 win over the Red Storm on Nov. 11.

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**ALLISON AMBROSIA/The Observer**

Irish midfielder Matt Armstrong tries to gain control of the ball in Notre Dame’s 3-0 win over St. John’s on Nov. 11.

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**ALLISON AMBROSIA/The Observer**

Irish midfielder Thomas evades a St. John’s defender in Notre Dame’s 1-0 win over the Red Storm on Nov. 11.

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**ALLISON AMBROSIA/The Observer**

Irish midfielder Michael Thomas evades a St. John’s defender in Notre Dame’s 1-0 win over the Red Storm on Nov. 11.
Amanda Cinalli and the Irish head to the warmer air of Texas for the College Cup.
Deep midfield keeps players fresh and defenses guessing

Irish replace Kriacek and Buckowski with interchangeable options

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

An ad

Irish forward Kerri Hanks pushes the ball upfield during Notre Dame's 5-0 win over Villanova on Oct. 14.
Playing with passion

Senior captain Amanda Cinalli's enthusiasm has given her an edge on the field her whole life.

Irish midfielder Amanda Cinalli slides for a ball in Notre Dame's 0-0 draw with Michigan on Aug. 31 at home. The tie was part of a 3-4-1 start the Irish have since overcome to land in the NCAA semifinals.

"I’ve always wanted to play soccer for as long as I can. If it’s possible, I’d like to play until I was 30. It’s just being able to play a sport that you’re so passionate about and that you love so much, it’s an honor," Cinalli said.

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Amanda Cinalli spoke deliberately, answering questions with a measured demeanor. Her voice stayed even as she described her experience in high school, her fellow teammates and this season's rocky start.

"It's when she started talking about soccer that she got excited.

Her eyes lit up and her face widened into a smile when she told of the hours she spent outside as a kid — juggling and working on her footwork, learning her brother’s ‘secret moves’ and taking lessons with a foot skills coach named Kiko.

He was so much fun, a little short foreign guy but I loved being around him," Cinalli said. "I worked practically every day, and I loved doing it so it was easy to do every day.

That love of the sport has carried her from childhood to high school to Notre Dame, where she won a national championship as a freshman and has the opportunity to win another this weekend when the Irish travel to College Station, Texas, for the College Cup — soccer's equivalent of the Final Four.

Cinalli had played soccer all her life, but she said she became serious about playing in college when the recruiting process began at Laurel High School in Maple Heights, Ohio.

"I loved high school soccer. We weren't the best team around," Cinalli said of her soccer days at Laurel. "We played in a small private school league; the competition wasn't always that great.

Cinalli said the small size of Laurel, an all-girls school, fostered a bond between her and her teammates.

"Being at a small all-girls school, it was very, very close," Cinalli said. "It was just something that was really fun.

Cinalli went on from close-knit community to another when she chose Notre Dame. She said that aspect of life on campus, along with the University's religious values, entered into the decision. Cinalli also liked the dynamic players and the coaches enjoyed as well as the school's academic reputation.

"Just being able to be around the team and the coaching staff, it felt like a family here," she said. "I just really fell in love with it. You get a great education and came out with a wonderful experience at the end.

Coming from an all-girls school to Notre Dame, Cinalli said, "took some getting used to. You're with people that you're not as comfortable with, so they teach you to be very outspoken and speak your mind," she said. "It’s interesting and fun because there's guys around, and I'm just like.

Cinalli had another eye-opening experience when she returned to her freshman season when the Irish were 24-1-1 and defeated UCLA in penalty kicks to win the national championship. Cinalli started 24 games and scored 10 goals during the championship season and earned first-team all-Big East honors.

"We're coming in as a freshman, it's so much, kind of, overwhelming but just so exciting that you're actually in the national championship game," Cinalli said. "It's so much fun and it's an experience that we'll never forget.

Cinalli also got the chance to take her game overseas as a member of the U.S. U-21 national team. Along with fellow Notre Dame players Brittany Bock, Kerri Hanks and Michelle Weissenhofer, Cinalli played in Manchester, England, over that spring break. Weissenhofer also played on the 2007 U-21 team that won the Nordic Cup against international teams.

"It's always very beneficial to play internationally," Cinalli said.

Cinalli's role in the Irish offense shifted this season. After scoring double-digit goals in each of the past three seasons, she currently ranks third in the country with only three. Still, she said the change made no difference to her.

"It doesn't bother me at all. As long as our team's doing well, coach can put me wherever he wants me," Cinalli said. "If we're on top at the end of the season, I think that's the important thing.”

Irish coach Randy Waldrum said earlier in the season that Cinalli's versatility and skill with the ball made it easy for her to find a role, no matter where she played.

"She's the one that has that ability to be creative with it, she's got probably the most overall skill level of the three forwards, she's more technical, she's more clean with the ball, she can beat you off the dribble," Waldrum said.

"When 18, back when she was in that world, she could sometimes handle the ball. She is very, very creative in the way she attacks and continues to chase and continues to work.

Since then, Bock has played as a 10. Waldrum also said Weissenhofer and Cinalli have anchored the team, while Hanks has added to it.

"The thing about the girls internationally is sometimes they can be very technical, very skilful, very good too, but they can bring different types of games," said Waldrum.

Though Irish coaches named Cinalli the third solo captain in the team's history before this season, the team's captain's post is a revolving one, said the team's upcoming senior captain.

"Yes, I am the captain by title, but I think all the upperclassmen are great leaders and they all bring something unique to the team," Cinalli said. "It's not just me leading the team, it's several players.

This season, the Irish faced something they hadn't often had to deal with — losing.

"We had never really experienced something like that," Cinalli said. "We'd never really lost that many in a season.”

Notre Dame started 3-4-1. In that span, it lost 7-3 to Santa Clara, fell in overtime at home to Oklahoma State and Penn State. Since then, it has won 10 games and lost only once — to West Virginia in penalty kicks in the Big East championship.

"It's truly unbelievable. This team has come so far," Cinalli said. "It takes a lot of character to go from such a difficult time at the beginning of the season to grow so much and have the success we've been having. It just shows the character and the heart that we have for the game and for each other.”
Irish center back Lauren Fowlkes fights for the ball during Notre Dame’s 2-1 loss in overtime to Oklahoma State on Nov. 16. Fowlkes began the season at midfield but switched to defense early on.

"Our program is a point to where we should dictate the way the game is played...I think we can impose the way we want to play on them."

When asked to pick a favorite to win the national championship, the head coach gave a narrow edge to No. 1 UCLA but said the title will be determined against North Carolina in the round of 16. The forwards have combined for 130 goals and 97 assists in their careers.

Irish coach Randy Waldrum said the Irish defense will focus on shutting down Florida State's dangerous attacking trio of senior midfielder Kristen van de Ven, junior midfielder Mami Yamaguchi, and freshman forward Sanna Talonen. The three players, who all hail from foreign countries, have combined for 47 goals this season. Talonen recorded a hat trick in the Seminoles' 3-2 quarterfinals win over UConn last Friday.

"They're a very talented team and I think when Ben [Waldrum] gets dissecting how they're going to play, we'll know a little bit more how we want to attack it."

Randy Waldrum said Notre Dame's semifinal game will air live at 5 p.m. eastern time Friday on ESPN2 and ESPNU.

Even though the Irish will travel Florida State as a different opponent than the squad they took on last season, the teams are not entirely unfamiliar with each other.

"There's not a lot of us that lost between us and Florida State so it's going to be a great Final Four," Waldrum said.

Contact Fran Tolan at folan@nd.edu

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Irish face Seminoles in repeat of 2006 semifinals

Coaches discount last year's contest, make new game plan

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will head to College Station, Texas Friday to once again face Florida State in the College Cup semifinals. The Irish defeated the Seminoles 2-1 in last season's tournament but will treat Florida State like a team they have never seen before.

Irish assistant coach Ben Waldrum, who designs specific game plans for the team before every contest, said he will not take last year's game into consideration when coming up with a strategy to beat the Seminoles (17-5-3).

"In be honest, we won't look at last year's tape; last year is done and gone," Ben Waldrum said.

"We'll take a pick at their body of work throughout this season and some of their bigger games... We'll take a good look at that and come up with something."

The winner of the Notre Dame Florida State matchup will move on to the national championship game Sunday to take on the winner of the other semifinal between USC and UCLA. The Irish (19-4-2), who are riding a 17-game unbeaten streak, believe if they play to their potential, they will come out of the weekend with their second national title in four years.

"We have the capability to beat anyone if we all come together," midfielder Amanda Clark said. "I think that's kind of special about our team."

Irish head coach Randy Waldrum echoed Clark's sentiments, saying his team controls its own destiny.

"I don't think we change anything we've done," Waldrum said. "Our program is to a point where we should dictate the way the game is played...I think we can impose the way we want to play on them."

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"When you've got all three of them playing the way they are right now, it's a handful for anybody," the head coach said. "I wouldn't want to deal with that...I wouldn't want to be on the other side trying to devise some way to shut that down."

Waldrum said the Irish defense will focus on shutting down Florida State's dangerous attacking trio of senior midfielder Kristen van de Ven, junior midfielder Mami Yamaguchi, and freshman forward Sanna Talonen. The three players, who all hail from foreign countries, have combined for 47 goals this season. Talonen recorded a hat trick in the Seminoles' 3-2 quarterfinals win over UConn last Friday.

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