University clarifies absence policy

Provoost: Students not allowed 3 unexcused cuts; ND extends Thanksgiving break

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

Attendance policies may grow stricter this semester following a letter from University Provost Thomas Burish reminding professors that students are not allowed three unexcused absences.

"Contrary to common student lore, there is no University policy permitting students... three unexcused absences from class without consequences," Burish said in the letter, which was sent to professors near the end of winter break.

The letter also outlined a schedule change for fall semesters.

"Students will have the Tuesday before Thanksgiving off, but will have one fewer study day before winter final examinations.

"Most" faculty members that were surveyed supported this change, the letter said, providing "a strong and clear statement be sent to students and faculty alike reiterating the University policy that classes must be held on all scheduled class days, including the days before and after holidays, and that class attendance was expected.

Executive Assistant to the Provost Brandon Roach said the letter was sent out primarily to clear up any confusion about attendance policies.

But English professor Noreen Deane-Moran said she wasn't sure why students and professors believed Notre Dame allowed each student three unexcused cuts.

"Some people have strict attendance policies and some do not. But there was no University allowance of three cuts or that every teacher had to let students take them," Deane-Moran said. "I don't know where that idea got started."

University academic policy states that instructors are allowed three unexcused absences per semester.

NDtv airs revamped programs

First-ever female host takes over 'Late Night'

By ELIZABETH KELLY
News Writer

Students can look forward to seeing all of their favorite shows return to NDtv this fall season, with a few tweaks and the possibility of added programming.

NDtv's student-run TV station that airs 24 hours on channel 53 on Notre Dame's on-campus cable system, launched its 2007-08 lineup on-campu system, Monday night with a new fall program schedule.

NDtv's late night variety show, "Late Night ND," aired its semester premiere Monday night with a new host and head writer, junior Elise Yahner. As the first female host in the station's history, Yahner says that the jokes and overall tone of the show might be a little different from previous seasons.

But fans of "Late Night ND" shouldn't expect female-centric humor.

"It's not going to be 'The Girlie Show,'" she said with a laugh.

Yahner said she intends to take the show in the same direction it was headed last semester under host Joe Kwaczala.

"My only worry is that people don't think girls are funny," Yahner said.

Juniors win SMC election

Gr USCinski, Falvey named student body president, vice president

By LIZ HARTER
Assoc. News Editor

Juniors Mickey Gruscinski and Sarah Falvey were elected the next Saint Mary's student body president and vice president Monday after running an unopposed campaign.

The pair received more than 50 percent of the vote, according to an e-mail the Board of Governance sent to the student body Tuesday. The e-mail did not specify how many students voted, or what percentage of students voted abstain.

"We decided to run because it seemed like a great way to get involved on campus and meet students," Falvey said.

"Though we look our campaign seriously, we had a lot of fun with it."

The pair campaigned extensively last week, even though they ran unopposed. Gruscinski and Falvey visited all of the residence halls, met students, and worked to promote NDtv and Notre Dame.

Local kids treated to Pitt game

Unknown benefactor gives away 100 tickets

By THERESA CIVANTOS
News Writer

Thanks to an anonymous donor, 100 children in the South Bend area have free tickets to see Notre Dame's women's basketball team play Pittsburgh on Feb. 10.

Three quarters of the 100 tickets were given to area children involved in Lead-ND, the campus organization that takes Notre Dame volunteers to different schools across South Bend to help the children develop leadership skills. The other 25 tickets were distributed through Children's Campus, which treats severely emotionally disturbed children.

And the children will get to see an important game for the Irish. Pittsburgh is ranked No. 14 in the country and is an important Big East opponent for the Irish.

The game will be broadcast nationally on ESPNU.

"It just happened by chance," said junior John Waneck, an executive board member for Lead-ND.

"We've done these trips before and I called the ticket office with this beautiful desperate speech to ask for tickets. But it turned out it didn't even matter what I said. They told me that some donor had bought 100 tickets and he wanted the money to be used for kids. It just kind of fell into our laps."
INSIDE COLUMN

National security

In her anti-utopian novel The Giver, Lois Lowry presents a superficially perfect world that is later revealed to be fatally flawed. One key dialogue occurs when the eponymous Giver describes one of this society's choices.

"We gained control of many things, but we had to let go of others." The 12-year-old protagonist, Jonas, immediately replies, "We shouldn't have.

The Giver is surprised that Jonas is so quick to realize this truth that more was lost than was gained by the trade-off their society elected to make. Unfortunately, many decisions we make as a nation fall into the 'shouldn't have' category — like the state department, one of the First Nation scholars' Tuogr Ramadan's entrance into the United States, where he was to teach Islamic ethics in a new, tenured position at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

Ramadan is currently teaching at Oxford. Yes, that Oxford. Because he donated $1,336 to a Swiss charity later designated as a terrorist group, the United States didn't want him teaching there.

We're big on national security threats in America — sometimes a little too big, I don't think anyone feels it that it was world attitude toward communists in the 1950s that was responsible for bringing us out of the Cold War as capitalists. It makes sense that national security is a top priority, but we need to look at the big picture in terms of cost and benefit.

If I ever assume that Ramadan's $1,336 bought a tafifin of one of Hamma's rockets, we have to at least admit the possibility. But if my assumption could enlighten us as to what exactly is motivating terrorism in the first place, we need to realize that perspectives outside of the Patriot Act have value — even when it comes to fighting security threats.

As a small illustration of the importance of putting human capital high among national priorities, one of the first action items that had been pushed under the rug earlier was determining whether we were even more militaristic. Were we even more militaristic?

Even if we assume that Ramadan's $1,336 bought a taifin of one of Hamma's rockets, we have to at least admit the possibility. But if my assumption could enlighten us as to what exactly is motivating terrorism in the first place, we need to realize that perspectives outside of the Patriot Act have value — even when it comes to fighting security threats.

In brief

Prints from the Snite Museum of Art's collection that focus on artistic subjects from the 17th century will be displayed today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibit, "Rembrandt and the Art of Printmaking in Holland," will highlight the golden age of Dutch art.

The Winter Career Fair and Diversity Reception will be held today at the Joyce Center. The Diversity Reception will be held from 12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The Career Fair will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Further information can be found online at the Career Center Web site.

The SugarTone Brass Band, New York's premier New Orleans-style brass band, will perform tonight at 7:30 in the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Women’s basketball will play Providence tonight at 7 in the Joyce Center arena.

The film "In July" will be shown at 7 p.m. and again at 10 p.m. Thursday in the Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets will cost $2 for students, $5 for faculty and staff, and $6 for general admission.

Men's basketball will play Providence on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Joyce Center arena.

Men's hockey will play the U.S. Under-18 Team Friday at 7:35 p.m. at the Joyce Center ice rink in an exhibition.

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

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
News Writer

Pauline Kiska and Francesca Johnson, Saint Mary's dance marathon organizers, attended the Board of Governance's (BOG) meeting Tuesday asking for funding for the upcoming event, which has raised more than $68,000 in two years for Riley's Children Hospital.

In its third year, organizers are looking to finance the marathon without resorting to money collected from registrants so far this year.

"We feel it is our responsibility to raise the money without dipping into the money we have raised for the hospital," Kiska said.

The marathon, which has a staff of about 75, was recently voted the "Best New Dance Marathon" in the country by the Children's Miracle Network.

Participants pay a $12 registration fee and provide the addresses of people they believe might donate money. Event organizers then send a letter to each address asking for a contribution.

The dance will be held from 8 p.m. on April 4 to 8 a.m. on April 5 in the Angela Athletic Facility at Saint Mary's. More than 150 dancers have already registered, and organizers are hoping to get as many as 400.

After their presentation, Kiska and Johnson submitted a proposal to BOG requesting funds for the marathon. Board members did not discuss the proposal during Tuesday's meeting.

In other BOG news:

♦ Sophomore parents weekend will be held Feb. 15-17, sophomore class president Camille Gilbert said.

♦ Athletics commissioner Norven Sherrard said the first — and only — home swim meet for the Belles will take place at 6 p.m. on Feb. 1 in the Bulls Aquatic Center at Notre Dame.

♦ Cassie Quaglia, president of the Residence Hall Association, said Little Sibs Weekend will be held Feb. 22-24.

♦ The all-school formal will be held this Saturday at the Palais Royale, Quaglia said. There will be a bus to drive attendees to and from the dance.

♦ The new Heritage wall will be unveiled Thursday at 2:15 p.m. in the basement of the Student Center, missions commissioner Mary Frantz said.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@stmarys.edu

Notre Dame turns to locally produced food

By DENNIS SLATER
News Writer

In an effort to give a boost to the economic and environmental life of local communities, many people across the nation have turned to locally grown foods to fill their shopping carts — and Notre Dame is no exception.

Jim Yarbrough, the senior associate director of Food Services and chairman of its social responsibility committee, said that last year, Notre Dame spent more than $2,243,000 on local products. Any state that borders Indiana was used to buy Michigan and Wisconsin apples, and another $460,000 on local meat products. Approximately $45,328 was used to buy Michigan and Wisconsin apples, and another $27,675 for Indiana tomatoes.

Resorting to local products, he said, cuts down on expensive fossil fuels that would be needed to transport the products. In addition, in some cases eliminates — the need for chemical preservatives that could be detrimental to a person's health.

Last year's local foods purchases were part of a regional effort a coalition of Indiana colleges began five years ago to drive up the demand for organically produced foods, he said.

Food Services strives to benefit the community in other ways.

"Aable leftover food is sent to the Hope Rescue Mission or the Center for the Homeless," Yarbrough said. "There is an energy conservation program within our staff to reduce food waste, conserve electricity, natural gas and water."

The Food Services staff members involved in this program examine the campus, making sure to replace incandescent light bulbs, which produce more heat and waste more electricity, with fluorescent light bulbs, which are more efficient and produce less heat.

In addition to the conservation program, Yarbrough is also responsible for maintaining a campus-wide recycling effort that has been in place for more than 18 years.

Yarbrough and his crew have placed a multitude of recycling receptacles to make more students aware of how easy it is to recycle. Educating students to recycle their newspapers is a top priority for Yarbrough.

"We have placed the blue recycling bins across campus and especially at the dining halls to discourage students from leaving their newspapers on their trays and tables or throwing them in the garbage," he said.

Food Services, for its part, uses compactors to dispose of any cardboard boxes to make sure they can be reused. And these are not processes or programs that are ending anytime soon. It is an ongoing agenda exemplified by the weekly meetings to brainstorm ideas and maintain a greener Notre Dame, Yarbrough said.

"Our staff is committed to purchasing less waste, more food and staying environmentally friendly," he said. "This is a continuing process and we are happy to be educating our students about recycling and the benefits of local food purchase and consumption."

Contact Dennis Slater at dslater@nd.edu
Virgin, Richard Branson. Notre Dame normally attracts, and the CEO and founder of
stamped with the club’s logo.
you decide to go into.”
nervs, including Bill Gates, p­
less of successful e n tre­
pose of the club was to “edu­
mary push,” vice presi­
regardless of what profession
Urquijo said. “We really think
very well be participating. So my
part of the grade and if a student
responsible for stipulating atten­
tance its professor gives to in­
Moran, participation is a signifi­
tances guests.
for a new on-air look.
chara c ters, the flamboyant
Kale von Hoffmann and Mark
Iluguelet, Urquijo and two
Club also hosts a CEO speaker and dinner
And he also hopes to add a new show to the station’s current lineup by mid­
there for every class,” she said.
if it can help students boost
in South Bend.
and the look of various sets, especially those of “Late Night ND” and “NDTV
shows at any
time. For many viewers, he, watching videos online is “the easiest way to catch a new show.
he hopes to put as many of the station’s shows as possible on the Web site in
hensive
you to choose to go to
class. You’re not going to get as
the look of v a rio u s sets,
show at South Bend."

Absences continued from page 1
responsible for stipulating atten­
dence policy can depend on the degree of impor­
But that concept seemed to be overlooked around breaks and
Hollywood Goodson, professor of
the letter clarified the University’s stance on students that cut
to the student to choose to go to
class. You’re not going to get as
overlooked around breaks and
the look of v a rio u s sets,
show at South Bend."

E-club continued from page 1
ate you in the business world, regardless of what profession you decide to go into.”
In order to market the club to undergraduates, the mem­
non were handing out keychain and bookmarks that
stamped with the club’s logo.
just completed a huge marketing push,” vice presi­
management Jaime Urquijo said. “We really think it’s a great club and now a lot of
of people know about it.
followed Bennetts’ pitch, vice president of projects Bob Huguet’s.
and Marketing, said that
Bennett’s pitch, vice president of projects Bob Huguet’s.
and Marketing, said that
by mid­semester. The plans
include updated lighting and
And he also hopes to add a new show to the station’s current lineup by mid­
There are unlikely to do well on these.”
defined by performance on
that part of the purpose of the letter is to remind faculty
that they are expected to hold class when it is scheduled, she
Goodson, who teaches a chem­
try class with more than 350 students, explained that class size
affects attendance policy.
As soles such as a seminar
class participation is an impor­
tant part of the learning process
for undergraduates, it should really be up to the student to choose to go to
to the student to choose to go to
class. You’re not going to get as
overlooked around breaks and
the look of v a rio u s sets,
show at South Bend."

Contact Becky Hogan at
rhogas2@nd.edu

Contact Joseph McMahon at
jmcmahon@nd.edu

Tickets continued from page 1
Lead-ND consistently relies on donations to fund its pro­
grams.
we acquire all our funds through different grants and
we really work off what people give us,” Wanek said.
Random acts of generosity like this donation are really
not that rare at Notre Dame, said Stephanie Menio,
the director of operations for women’s basketball.
Things like this actually happen on a regular basis, Menio said. “We have a Take a Kid to a Game day where fans
discount to under­privi­
ted kids. We work with the Girls’ and Boys’ Clubs and Big Brother, Big Sister. Any place that’s in need of tickets and
can’t really afford them, that’s who we target.
This season alone. Menio said, over 200 donors have provided more than 3,000 tick­
ets to youth in need of them.
As for the Lead-ND kids, the trip to see the women’s team
play in the Joyce Center is one of several they’ve enjoyed —
including a trip to the mayor of South Bend — but this one is for
we field trips throughout the year. They usually incorpo­
rate service or learning,” said
senior Antoninette Bronensky, a Lead-ND volunteer. “This one is purely for fun but it is intended to show students what
‘giving back’ really means, like and where the volunteers
spend their time. We hope it gives them something to aspire
to.

And the children are excited about this particular field trip, Bronensky said. “The kids love the Notre
Dame mothers. They are, they’re like gods, she said.
Lead-ND works to inspire under­privi­
ledged students to become leaders themselves,
rather than merely give them aid.
We’re trying to equip the kids with leadership skills so they can become leaders in their
community,” Wanek said. “We’re helping the kids to be leaders in South Bend.”

Contact Theresa Civanto
scivanto@nd.edu
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Battle for Mosul will be difficult, slow**

MOSUL, Iraq — The top U.S. commanders in northern Iraq predicted Tuesday the battle to oust al-Qaida in Iraq from its last urban stronghold will not be a swift strike, but could drag out for months as the insurgents fight a "decisive" attack as soon as all reinforcements are in.

"It is not going to be this climactic battle, it's going to be a probably slow process," said Maj. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, commander of U.S. forces in northern Iraq.

In a telephone interview from his head­quarters in Tikrit, Hertling described the strained warfighting resources — as the same step-by-step tactics used in winning the U.S.-led troop offensives in Baghdad: win strategy for Mosul — Iraq's third-largest city.

"It's going to be probably a slow process," he said. "But rather a grinding campaign for Mosul that Iraqi forces were gathering for a "decisive" battle."

Men caught after taking hostages in bank

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Men caught after taking hostages in bank

**Study: Afghanistan may be forgotten**

WASHINGTON — Afghanistan risks sliding into a failed state and becoming the "forgotten war" because it is not in Iraq, and officials are sending heavily invested in Iraq, and officials are sending mixed signals that troop reductions there will slow or stop altogether this summer. And congressional officials are debating how best to re­source and win the insurgency efforts in Afghanistan and Pakistan, where al-Qaida is regenerating. But the U.S. still remains heavily committed to Iraq, and officials are sending strong signals that troop reductions there will slow or stop altogether this summer.

**Iraq troop reductions to end this summer**

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration is sending mixed signals that U.S. troop reductions in Iraq will end this summer, a move that would jeopardize hopes of relieving strain on the Army and Marine Corps and revive debate over the one-two­punch U.S. commitment in Iraq.

The indications of a likely slowdown reflect con­cerns by U.S. commanders that the improve­ment in security in Iraq since June — to a degree few had predicted when President Bush ordered five more Army brigades to Iraq a year ago — is tenuous and in place.

**LOCAL NEWS**

**Hate crime bill will stall in House**

INDIANAPOLIS — A bill that would cre­ate a hate crimes law in Indiana would die in the House after not emerging from committee this week, its author said, and he did not expect it to be revived this session.

Greg Porter of Indianapolis said Tuesday he was not going to introduce the legislation to considera­tion of changes before a deadline this week for bills to advance past the amend­ment stage. Bills that do not clear the amend­ment stage will not be eligible for vo­ting later in the session. Porter was set for bills to clear their house of origin.

Porter said a couple of amendments filed on his bill by Republicans in the Demo­crat-controlled chamber would give them a chance to attach political state­ments to his bill, not ones based on good public policy.
**IRAQ**

**Insurgents blast U.S. patrol with roadside bomb**

*Five American soldiers killed in explosion, raising Pentagon’s January death count to 36*

Associated Press

BAQHDAD — In a daring ambush, insurgents blasted a U.S. patrol with a roadside bomb Monday and showered survivors with gunfire from a mosque in increasingly lawless Mosul. Five American soldiers were killed in the explosion — even as Iraqi troops moved into the northern city to challenge al-Qaida in Iraq, Iraqi reinforcements, along with helicopters, tanks and armored vehicles, converged on Mosul for what Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki pledged would be a decisive battle against al-Qaida in Iraq and a cease-fire order by radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

The attack on the U.S. patrol — the deadliest on American forces since six soldiers perished Jan. 9 in a booby-trapped house north of Baghdad — raised the Pentagon’s January death count to at least 36.

The toll so far is 56 percent higher than December’s 23 U.S. military deaths and marks the first monthly increase since August. But the figures remain well below monthly death tolls of more than 100 last spring.

Tensions in Mosul, Iraq’s third largest city, have spiked after the explosion last week in an abandoned apartment that authorities say was used to stash insurgents’ weapons and bombs. As many as 60 were killed and 200 injured.

The unrest in Mosul stands in sharp relief to a significant decline in bloodshed most elsewhere in Iraq in recent months. The relative calm has been credited to a U.S.-led security crackdown — along with a Sunni revolt against al-Qaida in Iraq and a cease-fire order by radical Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr for his powerful Mahdi Army militia. But influential members of al-Sadr’s movement said Monday they have urged the anti-U.S. cleric to call off the six-month cease-fire when it expires in February — a move that could jeopardize the security gains.

In Mosul, the attackers struck in the southwestern Tumar neighborhood, a middle-class district popular with former officers in Saddam Hussein’s military and now a suspected hotbed for the insurgency.

After the roadside bomb blew apart the American vehicle — killing the five soldiers — gunmen opened fire from a mosque. A fierce gunbattle erupted as U.S. troops moved into the mosque but the insurgents had already fled, according to a statement.

"The insurgents are willing to sacrifice a place of worship by using it to attack soldiers to further their agenda," said Maj. Peggy Kragbor, a U.S. military spokeswoman in northern Iraq. There was other fighting in the neighborhood. An Iraqi officer, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information, said three civilians were wounded and helicopters bombarded buildings in the district, the scene of frequent attacks on U.S. and Iraqi forces.

Also Monday, insurgents attacked four police stations burning home from work south of Mosul, killing two and wounding the other two. Nineveh provincial police said.

U.S. commanders have described Mosul as the last major Iraqi city with a significant al-Qaida presence, although they have warned that insurgents remain a potent force in rural areas south and northeast of Baghdad.

But the military has said Iraqi security forces will take the lead in the city — a major test of Washington’s plans to someday shrink the American force and leave it as backup for Iraqi security forces.

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**Election continued from page 1**

knocking on doors, posting flyers in restrooms and hallways and asking their fellow students to vote on Saint Mary’s PRISM Web site Monday.

"Even though there is only one ticket, they are working just as hard as if there were five tickets," executive director of elections Maggie Siefert said last Thursday.

Gruscinski said she thought the PRISM voter drive "really helped voter turnout."

The BOG also tried to increase voter turnout by setting up a booth-like station in the Student Center where students could cast their votes.

Placing the booth in the atrium, Siefert said, helped "to recruit more voters and to create a better awareness of the politics of the Saint Mary’s student government."

Siefert, who was stationed at the booth, said she had seen a "very good" turnout.

Falvey agreed, saying she’s "a bit in shock" and eager to start working on the goals that made her a winner.

"It’s surreal right now, since we have not been able to take office next year," Siefert said she was unsure how that situation would have affected her campaign.

But those questions didn’t bother Gruscinski and Falvey.

"We’re very pleased," Gruscinski said.

"And it is a very good feeling," Falvey said.

"It’s not as hard as if there were five," Gruscinski said.

Regardless of the outcome, Siefert said she was unsure if precedent for such a scenario.

"There was other fighting in the neighborhood. An Iraqi officer, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information, said three civilians were wounded and helicopters bombarded buildings in the district, the scene of frequent attacks on U.S. and Iraqi forces."

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**New Year’s Resolutions for 2008**

1. I will download and run ND’s free antivirus and anti-spyware software.

2. I won’t share my password with anyone.

3. I will dispose of bank statements and credit card bills/offers using a crosscut shredder.

Visit secure.nd.edu for more information.

**Are you secure?**

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**Write News.**

**Call 631-5525.**

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**Are you secure?**

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MARKET Recap

**Stocks**

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**Commodities**

- **Light Crude (dollars)**: $69.66
- **Gold (dollars) per ounce**: $1,362.30
- **Pork Bellies (cents per lb)**: $3.658
- **Canadian Dollar per dollar**: 1.3006
- **Yen per dollar**: 96.41
- **Euro per dollar**: 1.2483
- **Gold per ounce**: 1,362.30
- **Treasuries**
  - 10-Year Note: +2.01, 1.362.30
  - 30-Year Note: +1.26, 1.362.30

**Exchange Rates**

- **yen**: 105.790
- **Euro**: 1.2483
- **Canadian dollar**: 1.2483
- **British pound**: 0.6773

**IN BRIEF**

**FBI, SEC target 14 companies for fraud**

WASHINGTON — The Federal Bureau of Investigation on Tuesday said it is investigating 14 companies for possible fraud or insider trading violations in connection with loans made to risky borrowers, and investments spun off of lenders to financial firms that bundle home loans or securitize them and sell them to other investors.

Agency officials did not identify the companies under investigation but said the wide-ranging probe, which began in spring 2007, involves agencies across the continent from mortgage lenders to financial firms that bundle home loans into securities and sell them to investors.

The FBI is working in conjunction with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Neil Powell, the bank's new CEO, and U.S. Attorney John Foster of the Southern District of New York, said during a briefing with reporters.

The development comes as authorities in New York and Connecticut investigate whether Wall Street banks hid crucial information about high-risk loans bundled into securities that were sold to investors.

Power said federal authorities are looking into the practices of so-called subprime lenders, as well as potential accounting fraud committed by financial firms that hold subprime loans on their books or securitize them and sell them to other investors.

**Oversight of Microsoft continues**

WASHINGTON — Federal oversight of Microsoft Corp.'s market power, which began in 2000 when a landmark antitrust settlement was reached, has been extended by 18 months.

The court's ruling "should not be viewed as a sanction against Microsoft," U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly said late Tuesday. The court ruled on Tuesday whether to extend the 18-month timetable for ending a series of legal challenges faced by Microsoft.

The judge was based on delays by Microsoft in filing technical documents related to the licensing of its software.

**House easily passes tax rebate bill**

WASHINGTON — The House voted Tuesday to rush through $468 billion to $1,200 to most taxpayers, but a partisan battle brewed in the Senate over Democrats' efforts to add jobless benefits and help for the economic stimulus package.

The House plan, approved 385-35 after little debate, would send rebates to some 111 million families and give tax breaks to businesses, costing $161 billion over two years.

President Bush and House leaders urged the Senate to take the bipartisan agreement and pass it quickly. Sen. Max Baucus, the Senate Finance Committee chairman, plummeted Wednesday in his panel on a $196 billion package that could face a slower path to passage.

"The temptation is going to be for the Senate to load it up," Bush said in the Oval Office. "My concern is that we need to get this bill out of the Senate and on my desk."

Baucus' measure adds $52 billion for seniors, the unemployed, and the employed, and shrinks the rebate to $500 for individuals and $1,000 for couples. It would deliver checks to all but the richest taxpayers, who are disqualified under the House-passed measure.

Congressional leaders are aiming to send the package to Bush by Feb. 15, but experts say they will need a few more add-ons — could drag out that schedule.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said she hoped the Senate would "take this bill and run with it." Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D- Nev., said that was unlikely in the freewheeling Senate, where members in both parties have elaborate wish-lists for adding to the bill, including food stamps, Medicaid and heating assistance for low-income people and spending on infrastructure projects, among other things.

"I think that there's 51 Democratic senators without exception who believe this package can be made better," Reid said, adding that he also expected to have substantial GOP support for changes.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., the minority leader, signaled he would try to block Baucus' measure and prevent senators from adding items.

"This is a time to show we can rise above part­isan­ship, do something important and do it quickly," McConnell said. "The only way to achieve that would be to take up and pass the House-passed bill."

The House plan brought together Democrats and Republicans, both of whom surrendered cherished proposals to reach a deal.

Pelosi cautioned against adding items that could hinder an economic recov­ery or scuttle the biparti­san agreement.

**Market up as interest rate cut looms**

NEW YORK — Wall Street advanced sharply Tuesday as the Federal Reserve appeared to be setting the stage for another interest rate cut as soon as March as the weak economy and crunched financial industry brews in the Senate over what the Fed's take is on the economy.

Last meeting for seven weeks, but that will be. A barrel of light sweet crude oil rose 96.41, or 0.78 percent, to 12,480.30. The blue-chip index closed near its high of the day.

Broadader indexes also rose. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 8.24, or 0.62 percent, to 1,362.30, and the Nasdaq composite advanced 8.15, or 0.35 percent, to 2,358.06.

Government bond prices fell as stock rose, indicating that investors feel less need for the safety of Treasuries. The 10-year Treasury note's yield, which moves opposite its price, was at 3.66 percent, up from 3.58 percent late Monday, and rose to 3.68 percent in after-hours trading.

The dollar was mixed against most major currencies, and gold prices fell.

Oil prices moved higher as traders continued to look on what the Fed's next move will be. A barrel of light sweet crude rose 65 cents to $91.64 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Wall Street has been extremely volatile in recent weeks amid fears of a U.S. recession and further write-downs in the financial sector. However, that has given way to a more quiet tone this week as investors looked for their second-quarter day of gains before the Fed decision.

Central bankers are widely expected to lower its key rate, now at 3.5 percent, by as much as one-half percentage point to 3 percent. But that will be the last meeting of seven weeks, but that won't rule out another emergency rate cut in the meantime.
Big business has gotten a bad rap. No doubt some of it is well deserved. From the Enron and WorldCom scandals in the early part of this decade to the recent trend of rewarding failing CEOs with absurd severance packages, many consumers have reason to feel a profound distrust for many of our largest corporations. However, some of the vitriol seems to be directed at the wrong companies for the wrong reasons. It’s popular to bemoan the profits and tactics of Big Oil, the auto industry, Wal-Mart or Starbucks, because these companies are large and seemingly indifferent. But what are we really complaining about?

Is it the fault of the oil companies that we are destroying our environment? Can we blame Starbucks for putting all seven of our independent coffee houses out of business? Businesses are dictated by profit margins, and the bottom line is largely determined by consumers. Most businesses are merely providing the products and services demanded by the average American. Instead of blaming big business for all of our evils, perhaps we should be reassigning our own consumer habits.

We are blessed to live in a country that has relatively little business and consumer regulation. By and large, we are free to purchase whatever we want from whomever we want. But as the old saying goes, “with freedom comes responsibility.” Since we are free to choose, we have the responsibility to make wise consumer choices. Many of us blame all the evils in the world on large corporations because that’s a lot easier than coming to grips with our personal responsibility as consumers. We blame the oil companies for gouging us at the pump, yet few of us make any effort to reduce our fuel consumption. We still drive solo to work and are reluctant to trade our SUVs for a compact car. Or we blame Wal-Mart for contributing to an evil consumer culture, yet most of us still shop there because we know it has the best prices. Corporations are criticized for only caring about profit and trying to nickel and dime their operations, yet our consumer spending habits are different from the business habits of these corporations. We often buy the cheapest good without regard to the social repercussions of our purchase. We talk a lot about corporate social responsibility, but very little is said about consumer social responsibility.

As consumers, and as drivers of the bottom line, our spending habits affect the business practices of corporations. For example, many companies are making more efforts at sustainability due to increased demand from consumers for “green” products. Consumer boycotts can also be effective tools to affect social change. For example, many corporations will change to meet our standards and try to nickel and dime their operations, yet our consumer spending habits affect the business practices of corporations. We are blessed to live in a country that has relatively little business and consumer regulation. By and large, we are free to purchase whatever we want from whomever we want. But as the old saying goes, “with freedom comes responsibility.” Since we are free to choose, we have the responsibility to make wise consumer choices. Many of us blame all the evils in the world on large corporations because that’s a lot easier than coming to grips with our personal responsibility as consumers. We blame the oil companies for gouging us at the pump, yet few of us make any effort to reduce our fuel consumption. We still drive solo to work and are reluctant to trade our SUVs for a compact car. Or we blame Wal-Mart for contributing to an evil consumer culture, yet most of us still shop there because we know it has the best prices. Corporations are criticized for only caring about profit and trying to nickel and dime their operations, yet our consumer spending habits are different from the business habits of these corporations. We often buy the cheapest good without regard to the social repercussions of our purchase. We talk a lot about corporate social responsibility, but very little is said about consumer social responsibility.

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In a recent edition of our fine student paper, The Observer, the Viewpoint contained an editorial on behalf of the March for Life written by our esteemed professor emeritus Charles Rice (“Embrace Life” — Jan. 23). In this editorial, Professor Rice explained the moral and theological evils inherent in what he termed the “contraceptive ethic” in general, and the legalization of abortion in particular. The article as a whole is a beacon of holy light in a country currently shrouded in secular darkness, and an important step in the right direction. However, as much as I admire Professor Rice’s courage in standing up for the rights of the millions of unborn who are aborted every year — those who are “nonsrovers” as seen through the distorted lenses worn by our cynical, worldly lawmakers and judges — I feel that he does not go far enough on the evils of abortion and abortifacient drugs.

Each of these evil little cells has the potential for joy and the creation of life. The importance of making sure that these cells carry out their mission is made clear in the Bible, where in Deuteronomy we see God strike down a man named Oznin for the crime of “spilling his seed upon the ground.” But instead, no less than abortifacient drugs, a moral failing as well, for it does not recognize the intrinsic value of every human life — potential, conceived or born — instead subjecting gametes to death for the sake of social acceptance.

Clearly the moral attitudes of the vast majority of the United States are intrinsically disordered with respect to the unconceived millions, the potential population. The girls who menstruate away their fertile ova, the boys who thoughtlessly fire off knockdown children without even considering destroying their unwanted semen to a sperm bank, the adults and doctors who encourage them to use condoms and IUDs — all perform a separation far more sinister than the separation of the unitive and procreative purposes of sex: the separation of the very ingredients of life. The genocide for there is no other word for murder on such an enormous scale — that results from such an inexcusable mindset.

Contraception, affirms that man has the right to control whether and when human life shall begin. If you claim the right to decide when life begins you will preempt the role of the Church as the arbiter of whether and when human life begins. Although he recognizes that “Contraception ... affirms that man has the right to control whether and when human life begins far earlier than conception — at fertilization” (NFP), Brooks Smith is a mathematics major and a member of the Class of 2011. Hécan be reached at him/his@m.f.edu. The views expressed in this article are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Robert McKeon agreed in his January 23rd letter (“Contraception: does it (don’t equal abortion)” by equating artificial contraception with other forms of birth control. There are stark differences between the two. NFP goes back to nature. It doesn’t involve the use of drugs or surgery. Contraception can double women’s risk of depression, increase risk of breast cancer, blood clots, bone density loss, weight gain, nausea and decreased sex drive.

NFP, while challenging, leads to the development of virtue in marriage and deepened respect for one’s spouse’s total gift of self, fertility and all. Contraception can lead to use of one’s spouse as an object of pleasure and children can be seen as optional rather than the natural fruit of a healthy marriage.

Most importantly, these methods differ morally. Man and woman fully image God in the total gift of themselves to each other in marriage. The sexual act is the outward sign and consummation of the marital vows. Because the nature of love is to overflow (in God, who is love, the bond of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit), the love of a husband and wife is designed to overflow in the form of children.

The Church does not mandate a couple to unite with each other at a given frequency and abstinence does not artificially separate these two purposes. Thus, as Humanist vice states, it is licit for couples to use NFP for “serious reasons.” If NFP is used for arbitrary reasons with an amoral, anti-children attitude, it is morally wrong.

The Church opposes contraception because it attacks the heart of God’s plan for the world — that man and woman share in his love by imitating him through joyous, fruitful, marital union. The Church does not desire to “deprive us of our sexual being,” but to guide us to the full enjoyment of our sexuality by living in the freedom of the Truth.

Caitlin Shaughnessy Dwyer
Class of 2006

Please remember to recycle The Observer.
SAG ceremony boosts flagging awards season

With no Golden Globes awards ceremony to showcase designer gowns on the red carpet, the stars of movies and television brought as much glitz and glamour as they could muster to Sunday night’s Screen Actors Guild Awards. But even though the guild was celebrating its 25th anniversary, its 14th annual awards ceremony was underwhelming.

There were few surprises on the TV side of the awards: Edie Falco and James Gandolfini both won lead acting awards for their roles on “The Sopranos,” a fitting end to a television award season that has shut out the two actors. “The Sopranos” won Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Drama Series, even though “Mad Men” took home the Golden Globe for best drama series. But the win for the mob drama still came as no surprise after the wins for Falco and Gandolfini—and after the series’ win at the Emmys in September.

Alec Baldwin and Tina Fey won top awards for their hilarious work on “30 Rock,” but in an unexpected win, “The Office” took home the award for Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Comedy Series. “30 Rock” won the Emmy for best comedy series and has since been picking up the momentum that “The Office” had been losing before the writers’ strike.

Even though the evening offered few surprises, the awards show locked down four Oscar races. Daniel Day-Lewis (“There Will Be Blood”) won Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Leading Role, Julie Christie (“Away From Her”) won Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Leading Role, Javier Bardem (“No Country for Old Men”) won Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Supporting Role, and “No Country for Old Men” won Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. The three actors are almost guaranteed Oscar wins, and the momentum behind “No Country for Old Men” is nearly unstoppable.

One of the few Oscar races still wide open is Best Supporting Actress. While Ruby Dee (“American Gangster”) took home the SAG award, Cate Blanchett (“I’m Not There”) won the Golden Globe, and Amy Ryan (“Gone Baby Gone”) won the Critics Choice Award and awards from multiple cities’ critic associations.

The evening’s acceptance speeches were more touching than humorous. The exception was Tina Fey, who said, “If you’ve seen me on the show with Alec Baldwin, then you know it’s sort of like watching Fred Astaire dance with a hat rack. And after a while, you’re like, ‘Oh, that hat rack is pretty good, too.’ So, you’ve given an award to the hat rack, and I thank you.”

Tina Fey
“30 Rock”

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Daniel Day-Lewis
"There Will Be Blood"
"Sticks and Stones" leaves fans wanting

By BOB COSTA
Scene Writer

For music groups lumped into the "jam-band" category, studio albums are usually an afterthought. It is the live show that is crucial for groups such as Dave Mathews Band and the Grateful Dead. A band is judged in the jam-hand community not by how well it mixes its tracks in some cramped New York City studio, but how innovative it can be on stage with guitar solos and melodic syncopation, night after night.

For moe. — Yes, that is the correct spelling for the uninitiated — being a great jam-band comes easy. Since forming at the University of Buffalo in 1990, moe. has released live and studio albums on its own independent label. The band has developed a national fan base and has become a favorite at music festivals, like Bonnaroo and Vegoose.

Last week, moe. released "Sticks and Stones," a new studio album that features eight songs from the band that have never been performed live and two previously unreleased songs. On its previous albums, moe. released compilation albums of live material and fan-favorites played on the road. Albums such as "The Conch" (2007) and "Wormwood" (2003) were stellar examples of the group's instrumental prowess, but it is "Sticks and Stones" that finally shows the band's ability to make magic happen outside of a live stage.

For "Sticks and Stones," moe. recruited producer John Siket, who is well-known for his skilled production work on previous albums by Phish, Dave Matthews Band and Dispatch. Siket also worked with moe. on its previous records, including stand-out album "Dither," released in 2001. "Sticks and Stones" was recorded in three-weeks in an old New England church house. The effect of the setting is heard on the first track, "Cathedral," which has epic guitar melodies interspersed with a dynamic rhythm section.

Various overdubs and final mixing were done at the world-renowned Allaire Studios in the Catskill Mountains. Mastering was handled by the legendary, Grammy Award-winning Bob Ludwig (Led Zeppelin, The Rolling Stones, Beck, Pearl Jam). This is an album where the production has enhanced the band's music — giving resonance to tunes such as "Queen of Everything" that capture much straighter, like many classic songs in the Dead and classic rock bands from the 1970s.

"The material differs quite a bit from 'The Conch' and 'Wormwood,'" guitarist Al Schnier told the press in November during production. "[Those albums] which were largely cultivated from songs nurtured through live improvisation." Schnier added that "the songs that comprise 'Sticks and Stones' are much straighter, like many classic songs in the moe. canon, and have a roots rock quality to them, as opposed to the more progressive rock element of 'The Conch.'"

The group does not let itself get carried away on "Sticks and Stones," clocking the album at under 40 minutes and sticking to concise songwriting over the ambiguous but colorful live music for which they are known. Undoubtedly, the music from this album will be fleshed out in a live setting this spring and summer to the delight of the band's enthusiastic fans. But for first-time listeners to this New England jam-band, "Sticks and Stones" is a tasty appetizer.

Although the band has been around for close to eighteen years, its sound is truly coming into its own with "Sticks and Stones," with the band's new songs having an accessibility and maturity that hasn't revealed itself on every past moe. album. "All Roads Lead To Home" is a wonderful pop-rock track that showcases moe.'s songwriting ability. Another great tune is "Raise A Glass," which shows the band loves to have some fun, blending Celtic grooves with good-natured vocal harmonies.

The band is an independent band that releases its material on its own label, shunning any guidance from a major-label. Still, "Sticks and Stones" has a professional gloss that actually benefits the at times disorganized jam-band sound of moe.

Over the years the band has developed a reputation as down-to-earth and eager to collaborate within the jam-band community. Guest musicians on "Sticks and Stones" include Cornmeal's Allie Krai playing violin and viola on "Cathedral," "Conviction Song," "September" and "Raise A Glass." Emilio China also played violin on "Cathedral." Notre Dame alumni and fellow-jam band Umphrey's McGee added backing vocals in "Raise A Glass," and Nadine Lafond lends additional vocals on several songs.

Contact Bob Costa at ccosta1@ud.edu

Sticks and Stones
moe.

Released by: Fatboy Records
Recommended Tracks: "Cathedral," "All Roads Lead to Home" & "Raise a Glass"
Without Garnett and Allen, Celts still win big
Nets end 9-game skid against Milwaukee; Jamison leads Wizards to OT victory over Bosh, Raptors

Heat forward Ricky Davis pulls down a rebound in the second quarter of Miami's 117-87 loss to the Celtics Tuesday night.

Afshin Quran
Miami — Ray Allen arrived at halftime, a white sweat jacket over his flu-riddled head, and took a glimpse toward the scoreboard.

He probably felt much better. Boston's 'Big 3' were almost silent, and the Celtics still put a big beating on the hapless Miami Heat.

Leon Powe scored a career-high 25 points, Rafer Alston earned a career-high with 23 points and Tony Allen matched a season-best with 20 points as the NBA-best Celtics rolled to a 117-87 victory Tuesday night over the Heat — who followed the win that snapped their 15-game losing streak with an absolute cluster.

"I'm embarrassed by the effort," Heat coach Stan Van Gundy said. "They played without Kevin Garnett (strained abdominal muscle) and Ray Allen (flu), and the third member of their star triumvirate, Paul Pierce, was scoreless for most of the first half and finished with only seven points.

Don't misrepresentation. Boston led by 17 after one quarter, 31 in the second before settling for a 22-point edge at intermission, and when Dwyane Wade checked out for good with 4:41 left in the third quarter the Celts were up 88-53.

"One of the things we talked about before the game is that no one before the game is that no one was going to be Ray Allen and no one is going to be Kevin Garnett," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "But all of them could do a little extra."

"We got stops, we shared the ball and guys made plays," said former Heat forward James Posey, as he pulled his 2006 NBA championship ring out of his left pants pocket and fumbled with his specially-made cuff links — exact replicas of that ring. "If you do that on any team, they can have sports like that."

Maurice Haslem provided 20 points for Miami (9-34), which only has spurts like that. "One of the things that we didn't bring anything," Kidd said, "to be a part of the winning streak pulled the Heat."

Caron Butler, with plenty of help from Antawn Jamison and others, has been frustrated with the Nets' disappointing play and finally acknowledged Monday in a story on ESPN.com that it might be best to trade him, saying: "It used to be if I get a triple-double that was an automatic win. That's just not the case now. We tried to make this work. We've found out it doesn't. It's time for us all to move on."

The Wizards aren't ready to do that just yet — especially if it means shipping a local deal. Even with their skid, which included six losses in a West rifle Conference streak, they are in eighth place in the East.

Kidd has been frustrated with any questions about his trade wishes, but showed why Nets fans — who cheered him before the game despite the comments — would hate to see the point guard go. "I enjoy it when the game is close," Kidd said, "to be a part of a play or make a shot, and that hasn't happened."

Richard Jefferson scored 20 points and Vince Carter had 16 points and matched a season high with 12 rebounds for the Nets. Busch Najach had 14 points.

Bosh finished with seven points on 1-for-9 shooting, and departed after the third quarter with flu-like symptoms. The Heat left Udoka Adams, who was the only Miami player to start all 43 games, with a sprained left ankle in the second quarter.

Heat guard Eddie House added 20 points for the Celtics, who improved to 35-18. It was Miami's fifth straight loss.

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"One of the things we talked about before the game is that no one before the game is that no one was going to be Ray Allen and no one is going to be Kevin Garnett," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "But all of them could do a little extra."

"We got stops, we shared the ball and guys made plays," said former Heat forward James Posey, as he pulled his 2006 NBA championship ring out of his left pants pocket and fumbled with his specially-made cuff links — exact replicas of that ring. "If you do that on any team, they can have sports like that."

Maurice Haslem provided 20 points for Miami (9-34), which only has spurts like that. "One of the things that we didn't bring anything," Kidd said, "to be a part of the winning streak pulled the Heat."

Caron Butler, with plenty of help from Antawn Jamison and others, has been frustrated with the Nets' disappointing play and finally acknowledged Monday in a story on ESPN.com that it might be best to trade him, saying: "It used to be if I get a triple-double that was an automatic win. That's just not the case now. We tried to make this work. We've found out it doesn't. It's time for us all to move on."

The Wizards aren't ready to do that just yet — especially if it means shipping a local deal. Even with their skid, which included six losses in a West rifle Conference streak, they are in eighth place in the East.

Kidd has been frustrated with any questions about his trade wishes, but showed why Nets fans — who cheered him before the game despite the comments — would hate to see the point guard go. "I enjoy it when the game is close," Kidd said, "to be a part of a play or make a shot, and that hasn't happened."

Richard Jefferson scored 20 points and Vince Carter had 16 points and matched a season high with 12 rebounds for the Nets. Busch Najach had 14 points.

Bosh finished with seven points on 1-for-9 shooting, and departed after the third quarter with flu-like symptoms. The Heat left Udoka Adams, who was the only Miami player to start all 43 games, with a sprained left ankle in the second quarter.

Heat guard Eddie House added 20 points for the Celtics, who improved to 35-18. It was Miami's fifth straight loss.
Twins trade pitching ace Santana to Mets

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Johan Santana is a contract extension and physical from going to the New York Mets.

Twins trade pitching ace Santana to Mets

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

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NBA

NBA Basketball

Cavaliers at Trail Blazers
9 p.m., ESPN

Collegiate Basketball

Virginia at Maryland
7 p.m., ESPN

Cincinnati at West Virginia
7 p.m., ESPN

Texas at Texas A&M
9 p.m., ESPN2

MLB

Former Twin Johan Santana pitches against the New York Yankees in the first inning during a July 2007 game. A tentative agreement was reached Tuesday to trade Santana to the New York Mets.

Twins trade pitching ace Santana to Mets

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Johan Santana is a contract extension and physical from going to the New York Mets.

Twins trade pitching ace Santana to Mets

In Brief

Point guard Kidd tells Nets he wants to 'move on'

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.—Jason Kidd says he wants to be traded from the slumping New Jersey Nets.

"We tried to make this work. We've found out it doesn't," Kidd told ESPN The Magazine on Monday. "It's time for us all to move on."

The Nets, losers of nine in a row, were scheduled to play the Milwaukee Bucks at home Tuesday night. Kidd attended the team's morning shootaround but did not talk to reporters.

Nets president Rod Thorn said he hadn't talked to Kidd on Tuesday, and declined to discuss which teams have expressed interest in the nine-time All-Star. He said he wouldn't be forced into making a deal.

60-year-old Crennel signs 2-year deal with Browns

CLEVELAND—Willie McGinest always believed Romeo Crennel would turn the Cleveland Browns into winners.

For a long time, though, it seemed like the veteran line­backer was about the only who didn't.

There was a lot of prejudgment about Romeo," said McGinest, who played for Crennel in New England. "And it was really unfair. It takes time. It takes players, and it takes a coach to do that."

Crennel did it.

The 60-year-old former defensive assistant, whose future in Cleveland was shaky after two for­gettable seasons, signed a two­year contract extension on Tuesday with the Browns, who won 10 games in Crennel's third season and finally appeared to have to pass physicals and the pitcher would have to formally waive his no-trade clause.

The Mets emerged as the top candidate for a trade after the winter meetings, when the New York Yankees withdrew their offer, which included pitchers Phil Hughes and Ian Kennedy, and the Red Sox refused to improve their proposals, which would have sent pitcher Jon Lester or out­fielder Jacoby Ellsbury to the Twins along with prospects.

Minnesota general manager Bill Smith called teams last weekend and asked them to make their best offers. Smith turned the Cleveland Browns.

Mizzou basketball players suspended by coach

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Missouri coach Mike Anderson suspended five player­s indefinitely Tuesday after a weekend brawl left his top scorer with a broken jaw.

In a statement from the university, Anderson declined to indicate the reason for the discipline, calling the infractions a violation of team rules.

But the move comes as Columbia police confirmed that several team­mates were with senior guard Stefon Hannah when he was attacked outside the downtown nightclub Athena early Sunday morning. The injury could cause Hannah to miss the rest of the sea­son.

Hannah, who returned home to Chicago following surgery, senior guard Jason Horton and forwards Marshall Brown, Darryl Butterfield and Leo Lyons were suspended. Each is either a starter or a key reserve.

around the dial

NBA BasketBall

Cavaliers at Trail Blazers
9 p.m., ESPN

College Basketball

Virginia at Maryland
7 p.m., ESPN

Cincinnati at West Virginia
7 p.m., ESPN

Texas at Texas A&M
9 p.m., ESPN2
Barbaro to be interred at Churchill Downs

Euthanized Derby winner’s clinching stride will be immortalized with bronze statue at entrance to track

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The image of Barbaro blasting down the stretch at Churchill Downs, all four hooves off the ground as the powerful bay colt crushed the field in the 2006 Kentucky Derby, is seared in Roy Jackson’s memory.

It’s the way Jackson prefers to think of Barbaro, whose thunderous surge left 19 of 20 fellow 3-year-olds in his wake and whose courage after a breakdown at the Preakness two weeks later made him an icon.

When it came time to decide how best to honor the horse, who was euthanized on Jan. 29, 2007 from complications of the breakdown, there was only one place Roy Jackson and wife Gretchen felt Barbaro would feel at home: a short gulpup from the site of his greatest triumph.

Barbarno’s ashes and a bronze statue will be placed in front of an entrance gate at Churchill Downs sometime in 2009. The Jacksons announced plans for the memorial on the one-year anniversary of Barbaro’s death, a day they called “an emotional touchstone for so many.”

“After the Derby and then when he got injured, he really became America’s horse,” Roy Jackson said. “I was able to land an internship at the architecture firm of Shepley Bulfinch Richardson & Abbott. The firm currently designs buildings throughout the country and even internationally. I am interested in "green" building and SBRA makes this a priority.”

Graphic and Web Design intern, 2007

“His accomplishments as a racehorse are certainly lauded by the courage and resolve he displayed after his injury,” Churchill Downs president Steve Sexton said.

The Jacksons say they continue to be amazed at the outpouring of support for Barbaro, much of it from non-racing fans who were captivated by images of him winning on the track at Pimlico Race Course following the injury and his heroic attempts to deal with the myriad of setbacks that ultimately proved too much.

“I don’t think any of us know how widespread the interest was,” Roy Jackson said. “We’ve gotten a tremendous amount of response and we continue on almost a daily basis to get some correspondence and very articulate art on what he meant.”

As painful as Barbaro’s battle was, the Jacksons say it was not in vain. His plight drew attention to the laminitis, an oft-fatal hoof disease that Barbaro contracted in both rear hooves before his death.

More than $2.7 million has been raised for the Laminitis Research Fund. The laminitis initiative will foster training programs and studies for new treatments of equine diseases. The fund includes a $7,000 donation received Monday from the fans of Barbaro, a group of people spread across the country who met over the Internet in support of the colt.

It’s a fund that grows a little bit each day, Jennifer Campbell of Louisville stuffed $20 into a donation box for the fund on Tuesday while the Jacksons autographed pictures of jockey Edgar Prado urging Barbaro across the finish line at the Derby.

“You just see how they persevered under those circumstances, and how the horse persevered,” said Campbell, who was wearing a green Barbaro hat. “He’s an inspiration and I think it’s great that they chose to share him with us.”

The Jacksons have also helped raise $1.3 million for the Barbaro Fund at New Bolton. The money will go toward expansion of the George D. Widener Large Animal Hospital, and the purchase of equipment like a new operating table and recovery room.

Tuesday, however, was about remembering the horse who captivated the nation.

Pictures of Barbaro from both his racing career and his rehabilitation at the large animal hospital at New Bolton flashed above a stage before the Jacksons spoke. The Jacksons smiled while watching a short film featuring local schoolchildren talking about Barbaro and showing pictures they drew of the horse following his injury.

Barbaro will be the first Kentucky Derby winner to be buried on the grounds at Churchill Downs. Four previous winners — Sunny's Halo, Carry Back, Swaps and Broke In — are interred at the Kentucky Derby Museum, which is adjacent to the track.

Barbaro wins the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs in May 2006. The horse’s ashes will be interred at legendary track.
Wednesday, January 30, 2008

The Observer

& diversity reception

Career & Internship Fair

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ALDI
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American Eagle Outfitters
American Red Cross
AmeriCorps St. Louis
Anning Johnson
Aon
AT&T
Bank of America - Global
Corporate & Investment Banking
Baxter Healthcare
Baxter Pharmaceutical Solutions
BearingPoint
Becker Professional Review
Belcan Advanced Engineering & Technology
Boling
Camp Sweeney
Camp Tannadoonah
Camp Tecumseh
Capital IQ
Central Intelligence Agency
CHEP
Chicago Partners
Chicago Police Department
Church World Service
Citadel Solutions
Citi
Clarity Consulting
College Football Hall of Fame
College Pro Painters
Countrywide Financial
Covance
Credit Suisse
Crowe Chizek
Data Ltd.
Deloitte US Firms
Department of Veterans Affairs
Division of Public Administration, Northern Illinois University
DoubleClick
Duke Realty
E & J Gallo Winery
ECHO
EchoStar Satellite
eLovaly
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Epic Systems
Ernst & Young
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F.H. Paschen, SN Nielsen
Family Justice Center of St. Joseph County
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Fund for Public Interest Research

The Career Center
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

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PricewaterhouseCoopers
Procter & Gamble
Progressive Insurance
Protiviti
Quantitative Risk Management
Raytheon
Relay Worldwide
Rothstein Kass
Schneider Corporation
SCOR
Scott A. Jones
Sears Holding
Shaw Industries
SMART Business Advisory and Consulting
SPX
Starcom Worldwide
State PIRGS
Styker (Corporate)
Styker Medical Target
Teach For America
Tech Data
The adidas Group
The Bradford Group
The Children’s Museum of Indianapolis
The Coca-Cola Company
The HON Company
The MATCH School
The Walsh Group
Travelers

True Partners Consulting
UNITE HERE
University Directories
University of Notre Dame - Alliance for Catholic Education
University of Notre Dame - Center for Social Concerns
University of Notre Dame - Human Resources
University of Notre Dame - Master of Nonprofit Admin. Program
US Army Health Care
US Department of Justice - Antitrust Division
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US Patent and Trademark Office
US Probation & Pretrial Services
Valassis
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To an alphabetical list of Employers, click on "Employer"

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MLB

Pettitte HGH meeting delayed until Monday

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte’s meeting with a congressional committee investigating drug use in baseball was postponed until Monday.

He originally was slated to appear for a deposition or transcribed interview Wednesday.

But the date was changed Tuesday by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. It’s the latest in a series of switches to the schedule of witnesses’ meetings with staff members before testifying at a Feb. 13 hearing.

"Just a mutually agreeable postponement," said Keith Ausbrook, Republican general counsel for the committee. "It gives us a little more time to prepare and gives him a little more time to prepare."

Also asked to appear at next month’s hearing are seven-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens, his former personal trainer Brian McNamee, his former teammate Chuck Knoblauch, and former New York Mets clubhouse employee Kirk Radomski.

"Mr. Pettitte is cooperating voluntarily with the committee, and we look forward to his testimony on Monday," panel chairman Henry Waxman and ranking Republican Tom Davis said in a joint statement. "We appreciate Mr. Pettitte’s willingness to assist the committee."

In last month’s Mitchell Report on the use of performance-enhancing substances in baseball, McNamee said he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone, accusations Clemens has denied repeatedly.

Clemens is to follow Feb. 5, with McNamee down for Feb. 7, and Radomski on Feb. 12 — pending further changes to a repeatedly shuffled schedule.

Letters sent by Waxman and Davis to Clemens, Pettitte and Knoblauch on Jan. 16, requesting their appearances both at the hearing and a pre-hearing meeting, said: "The committee asks that you provide testimony about allegations in Senator George Mitchell’s report ... that you and other Major League Baseball players used performance enhancing drugs during your professional baseball career."

Clemens, Pettitte and Knoblauch were among more than 80 players named in the Mitchell Report.

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Vols shooting downs Bama

Lofton, Smith nail threes to seal game

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — With the game in doubt, No. 7 Tennessee turned to its shooting as No. 3 Alabama struggled to keep up.

Tennessee (18-2, 5-1 Southeastern Conference) outscored Alabama (17-3, 5-1 Southeastern Conference) 23-9 in the final 7 minutes, but never grabbed control until the 11th minute of the final period.

Lofton had five 3-pointers and 16 points for Tennessee, which improved to 35-2 at Coleman Coliseum and hadn't won in Tuscaloosa since 1999.

"The big motivator is I'd never won here before," Lofton said. "I feel our rebounding has improved all season and we need to continue those efforts," Henley said. "Our goals continue to be improving our defense and keeps points out of the paint." Olivet (5-3 MIAA, 7-9 overall) comes home after a three-game road winning streak. Freshman forward Ameina Ross led the Comets with 16 points and is averaging 9.5 points per game this season.

"They are a solid team," Henley said. "I am expecting another great game."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@ saintmarys.edu

Want a paid job in The Observer office? Contact Karen at klangle1 @nd.edu

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Europe is calling. Will you answer?
The Observer • SPORTS
Wednesday, January 30, 2008

Playoffs
continued from page 20

two games at home against Michigan on Feb. 8 and 9, a series that will be critical in CCHA playoff positioning.

Michigan, 33 pts.
After a 10-game winning streak culminating in a two-game sweep of Notre Dame on Jan. 18 and 19, Michigan (15-2-1 CCHA) looked to have a good shot to win the CCHA title, but a loss and tie against Michigan State this weekend may cause some concern for the Maize and Blue.

Spend Rink’s partner and Chad Kalarik make up the highest scoring duo in the conference, combining for 72 total points on the season, while netminder Billy Sauer has posted a 1.68 GAA.

While Michigan is still the favorite to win the CCHA, it has by far the toughest remaining schedule of any contender, with two games at Miami and a road/neutral series against the Spartans on Feb. 22 and 23.

Michigan State, 29 pts.
The Spartans (13-3-2) went a long way toward helping their CCHA title hopes with four points against Michigan this weekend. Michigan State must continue to rely on its blinding power play, which has scored on 26.9 percent of its chances in CCHA play so far this season. The Spartans three percent more than any other team in the CCHA. Junior Tim Kennedy has netted 13 goals overall, seven of them coming with the man advantage.

Because the Spartans have two games at home on the leading RedHawks, a good result this weekend against Nebraska-Omaha could propel them into second place in the CCHA. The late-season rematch against the rival Wolverines looms in the future, so the Spartans have a large effect on both team’s title hopes.

Notre Dame, 27 pts.
The Irish (13-4-1) rebounded from a 2-5-1 Christmas break slump with 6-1 and 4-1 wins over Bowling Green this weekend and seem almost assured of a top-four seed because of their easy remaining schedule.

To avoid any upsets, though, Notre Dame must add life to a power play that has scored on only 14.2 percent of its chances in CCHA play this season, 10th in the conference.

But with the top three teams playing each other a total of six times, somebody ahead of Notre Dame is bound to drop points, and with a little bit of luck, the Irish can slide into the top spot.

Nebraska-Omaha, 19 pts.
With Notre Dame seemingly back on track, the Mavericks’ (8-9-3) hopes of gaining a top-four seed and first-round bye in the CCHA playoffs took a serious hit.

UNO must now hope to hold on to a tenacious one-point lead over Bowling Green, with the Falcons having played fewer two games. A Feb. 15 and 16 matchup between the two teams will likely determine the No. 5 seed in the conference tournament.

Bowling Green, 18 pts.
The Falcons (19-9-0) hope to rebound from two losses to Notre Dame in their next four games against bottom-dwellers Alaska and Ohio State. Bowling Green still has a shot at a top-four seed, a sweep this weekend would bring the Falcons within five points of the Irish. The Falcons still need help, though, to get a first-round bye.

Ferris State, 16 pts.
With two games at hand against current fifth-place UNO, the Bulldogs (7-9-2) still have a strong chance to move up in the standings. It would take their best buckey of the season, though, with two games each against Notre Dame, Michigan and Miami.

Northern Michigan, 14 pts.
The Wildcats (7-11-0) will have to rebound from losing four of their last five if they want to improve their playoff positioning, but it will be no easy task with two games each against Michigan and Michigan State.

Alaska, 13 pts.
Given Northern Michigan’s difficult schedule, the Nanooks (5-12-3) have a definite chance to improve their standing for the playoffs. A Feb. 15 and 16 trip to Notre Dame is the only overly difficult game remaining on their schedule.

Ohio State, 9 pts.
Lake Superior State, 7 pts.
Western Michigan, 7 pts.
Recent poor play, combined with difficult remaining schedules, give little hope to the Buckeyes (4-13-1), Lakers (7-13-3) and Broncos (13-14-1). Though anything can happen in the remaining games, first-round playoff exits appear likely.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

Men's Basketball
Thursday, January 31st @ 7pm
vs. Providence

Come out and support the Irish for ESPN's student spirit week!

CAMO NIGHT
All Fans in the Lower Bowl will receive a Free T-shirt!
Men's Tennis
ND, MSU will fight to rebound
Spartans play their third straight rival match

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Both Notre Dame and Michigan State have a chance to rebound after losses when the Spartans visit the Irish today at 4 p.m.

On Sunday, Notre Dame lost to No. 1 Virginia, and Michigan State lost to Vanderbilt. Still, the Spartans are off to one of their best starts, heading into the contest against the Irish with a record of 2-1.

"They came very close to beating Vanderbilt this past weekend," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "They served for the match at 3-4 but couldn't hang on to the lead." Bayliss said "We have beat them soundly in the past, but we're young and they returned just about everybody."

ND Women's Basketball
Defying Providence

McGrath pleased with team's focus on improving its defense

By DEIRDRE KIRKUSLA
Sports Writer

Even though the outcome of the past two games says otherwise, Irish coach Muffet McGrath thinks her team is headed for a turnaround.

"I feel like we are on the upswing," McGrath said. "I feel like we did a lot of good things against Connecticut that we can really build on and I'm anxious to get back out there and play somebody."

No. 20 Notre Dame heads into tonight's match at home against Providence with a 15-5 record, but dropped its last two games — 81-80 to DePaul and 81-64 to No. 1 Connecticut.

Thanks to its improving defense, however, Notre Dame boasts an impressive showing against Connecticut on the boards. The Irish outrebounded the Huskies 31-28 — the first time all season any team outrebounded Connecticut.

Even though the Irish failed to walk away with a win, McGrath said she was happy with the way the team performed against the Huskies. As a team that has struggled since last season with its defense, the Irish finally started to show promise against the Huskies.

"We are finally starting to get

Hockey
Playoff scenarios uncertain
Notre Dame still has chance at top spot in CCHA tournament

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

After an exhibition matchup this weekend against the U.S. Under-18 National Team, the Irish will have only eight games left to solidify their CCHA playoff position. All 12 teams in the conference make the CCHA tournament. The top four teams in the conference get a first-round bye, and the teams are reseeded after each four team in the conference.

Miami (Ohio), 34 pts.

The RedHawks (17-3-0 CCHA) regained the national No. 1 ranking, as well as first place in the CCHA this weekend, beating Alaska twice and receiving help from previous No. 1 Michigan, who failed to defeat Michigan State last weekend.

Miami has won seven straight, outscoring opponents 35-9 over that span. Junior goaltender Jeff Zatkoff has played himself into Hobey Baker contention, leading the CCHA with a 1.50 goals against average and a .937 save percentage.

Though Miami currently has a three-point lead on Michigan, it has played two more games than the Wolverines. The RedHawks are idle until they face off for

SMC Basketball
Belles head to Olivet, try to slow Comets

By MEAGHAN VESELICH
Sports Writer

The Comets have a full head of steam, and it's up to Saint Mary's to slow them down.

The Belles travel to Olivet, which has won its last three games by a combined 58 points, to face the Comets tonight at 7:30.

Saint Mary's 8-9 overall managed to hold its own Saturday against Hope (9-0 MIAA, 17-0 overall), leading 33-30 at the half. But Hope's leading scorer Joddyn Boles hit 18 points in the first 10 minutes of the second half to give her team a lead Saint Mary's couldn't overcome. The Belles lost 82-73.

"I thought our team played very well all last week, despite two losses," Saint Mary's coach Jennifer Henley said. "If we can keep that same type of forus and intensity throughout the rest of the season, we will have a strong finish."}

Regardless of the loss, Saint Mary's put up some impressive numbers. Senior guard Alison Kessler, who leads the MIAA in scoring, scored a team-high 21 points. The Belles shot 49.3 percent from the floor and 81.8 percent from the free-throw line with four players scoring in double digits.

Kessler, however, isn't the only scoring force on the Belles. Juniors Erin Newsom and Katie Rashid average 10.8 and 9.4 points per game, respectively.

Sophomore Anna Kammrath holds her own in this group of upperclassmen with 9.9 points per game this season.

Throughout the season, the Belles have worked on their rebounding — and they are starting to see results. Saint Mary's outrebounded Hope this weekend 38-37 and has averaged 41.4 rebounds per