Students assist tax filing

Accounting majors earn credit to provide free help in community

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

As the April 15 deadline for filing income taxes looms, students in the Tax Assistance Program are helping members of the local community prepare tax returns as part of a two-credit course.

The program provides free tax-preparing services of federal and state income taxes for any individual or family with a combined income of less than $38,000.

The Tax Assistance program "gets students involved in the real world, applying what they are learning in the classroom to real help for real people," course professor Ken Milani said.

Beginning Feb. 9 and continuing through the tax season, 90 students will spend three hours a week at one of nine designated centers in the South Bend-Mishawaka area. These centers include the Mishawaka Public Library and the South Bend Public Library as well as on-campus locations such as LaFortune Student Center and the Center for Social Concerns.

The program extends beyond the area at another site in Plymouth, Ind.

Assistance is also available for students and staff who have tax returns that meet the income requirement. Accountancy majors who have taken a federal tax class are eligible to participate in the Tax Assistance Program, and some students like senior Kevin Manning and Masters of Accountancy student Tricia DeGroot will be participating in the program for a second semester.

"It just makes you feel good because you know that these people can't afford to have their tax returns done by any one else," Manning said.

The Tax Assistance Program started in 1972 by a law student and an MBA student. Milani said, "This program started with one center and one half a dozen students," Milani said. "Now, there are 10 locations and 90 students...It has changed..."
Just love

It's that time of year again. No, not when you're recovering from Friday's celebration of the 98th anniversary of the Bayou Scream of America. By Cupid, it's Valentine's Day season! Thursday, I will celebrate my 20th Valentine's in the same way I celebrated 18 of the previous 19 — by chilling at home and doing homework.

Valentine's Day is like Thanksgiving — they're both giving holidays. On Thanksgiving, we're supposed to give thanks. Meanwhile, on Valentine's Day, we should give love. Not necessarily love in a romantic way. And not necessarily love in a free way. I'm not sure in which "way" we should give love on Valentine's Day, but we should give it.

To our friends. To our family. To our dorm brothers. To acquaintances from class. To the people we don't like from class. Yes, even to the people we don't like from class.

(Column Intermission #1: My friend Kyle the Great just stopped by my room. She asked for a shout-out.)

Just as we give universal thanks on Thanksgiving, we should try to give universal love on Valentine's Day.

I know I may sound like a hippie, but I honestly have never smoked anything in my life. Some people say that's where I went wrong.

But hippies aside, Valentine's Day is more than a celebration for lovers, as the Kayakers commercial that just popped up on my TV suggests.

Tommy, the essence of Valentine's Day was best captured this weekend by Sunday's showing of Saving Private Ryan on TNT. What love could be greater than some guy he never even met?

During this show, we may be able to do something to make America suffer from depression, and to those who commit or contemplate suicide.

But depression isn't just limited to that.

...to be continued.

The Observer regrets this error. The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: What would it take for Notre Dame to classes canceled?

Cristina Anaya

sophomore

Howard

"It would take five feet of snow, because people like Cynthia would get lost and..."

Chris Savino

sophomore

Morrissey

"That's a joke!"

Emily Dool

junior

Howard

"It would take the second coming of Jesus."

Angelica Nguyen

Freshman

Pasquerasa West

"The death of Charlie Weis."

Joel Sharbrough

junior

Keough

"Maybe if there was an avalanche off of all the giant mountains we have around here... but maybe not."

Maggie Merkel

senior

Welsh Family

"Enough snow so that the doors to DeBartolo wouldn't open."

OFFBEAT

Cleaners find decomposing body in bathtub

PHOENIX — A dried and decomposing body was found in a bathtub filled with dirt in a Phoenix apartment that was stacked to the ceiling with garbage and human waste.

Owners of the small, standalone unit thought it had been abandoned in August, when they stopped receiving rent payments. Phoenix police Sgt. Joel Tranter said Monday.

Tranter said the owners didn't decide to do anything about the filthy apartment until last week, when they paid other tenants in the complex to clean it.

He said the cleaners began by removing garbage and boxes and buckets filled with human waste.

Dogs sacrifice their lives saving family

WINONA, Minn. — Bella, a 3-year-old golden retriever/coolie mix who was once rescued as an abused puppy, returned the favor to her owners by alerting them to a house fire. With help from Maddie, a 6-month-old golden retriever, Bella helped get Sue Feuling and her 9-year-old daughter, Mckenzie, out of the house last week. The dogs didn't make it.

"Those dogs were without a doubt the heroes," said Winona Assistant Fire Chief Jim Multhaup.

Bella had jumped on Feuling's bed early Friday morning and started barking, and Feuling then smelled smoke, grabbed her daughter and rushed out of the house.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

In Brief

As part of Ethics Week, Richard "Digger" Phelps will present a lecture entitled "Community Service: An Ethical Imperative" Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. at the Mendota College of Business.

Children's Storytime: Valentine's Day Party will take place today at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore. Stories and activities led by Kay Londergan.

Women's basketball will play Marquette Wednesday in the Joyce Center at 7 p.m.

Women's tennis will play Ohio State Thursday at 3:30 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Pavilion. Admission is free.

The film "9 Star Hotel" will be playing at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Thursday at 7 p.m. as part of the "Immigration: An Notre Dame Perspective" film series.

There will be Stations of the Cross Friday at 7:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Stations will be held each Friday during Lent.

The Kellogg Institute for International Studies is hosting a lecture entitled "Unsettling Accounts: Neither Truth nor Reconciliation in Confessions of State Violence" Thursday at 4:15 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center.

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

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LOCAL WEATHER

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Denim sale raises funds for hospital

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's Dance Marathon piloted a charity project called "Charity Denim," which took place the week of February 12, 2008. The event was aimed at raising funds for Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis through the sale of discounted designer jeans.

Charity Denim offered jeans from a variety of brands, including 7 For All Mankind, Citizens of Humanity, True Religion, Antik, Blue Cult, Joe's Jeans, Miss Sixty and Yanuk. The jeans were sold at prices ranging from $40 to $70 per pair, with a $10 discount from their original price. The proceeds were directed towards the total amount the university was donating to Riley Hospital for Children.

"We wanted to raise as much as we could and it went much better than I thought it could go," said Charity Denim's co-founder, Mary. "We had nearly 400 students attending the event, which equalled about 30 percent of the total jean cost. One hundred and four pairs of jeans were sold, along with 42 T-shirts and designer jackets, Clougherty said. Due to its success, Charity Denim is looking forward to welcoming Charity Denim back next year. "There are a few things we'd like to see happen differently, like having more guys come, but overall, it was amazing," Clougherty said. "We are thinking about doing it once in the fall and once in the spring next year."

While the event started at 2 p.m., students were lined up by 1,000 by 4 p.m. The lines extended to the far end of the campus. Clougherty heard about the event through a friend from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio who participated through her sorority. "My friend and I pass ideas back and forth and when she told me about this, I thought Saint Mary's would be a great place to do it," she said.

Charity Denim offered jeans from a number of brands including 7 For All Mankind, Citizens of Humanity, True Religion, Antik, Blue Cult, Joe's Jeans, Miss Sixty and Yanuk. The event was held on April 4.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohlert1@nd.edu

Halls compete in RecycleMania

Event raises waste reduction awareness on 400 college campuses

By KARA COYLE
News Writer

With more than 400 colleges participating in the 2008 RecycleMania challenge, the 10-week competition has propelled the students of Notre Dame to actively — and even stealthily — collect as many recyclables as possible. RecycleMania, established in 2001, is a national competition to increase recycling efforts and raise waste reduction awareness on college campuses.

Junior Lourdes Long, a member of the co-sponsoring Energy and Environmental Issues Committee, said the event is designed to increase consciousness of recycling and environmental issues. "Awareness is our No. 1 goal," she said. The competition is also sponsored by the Student Senate's University Affairs Committee.

Long said it is the hope of these two committees that over the course of the competition, recycling "will become habit" for students at Notre Dame.

While this is Notre Dame's first year participating in RecycleMania, the University has already increased the competitiveness of the challenge by encouraging cooperation between residence halls. "Our goals are to have some fun," said Long. "RecycleMania continues in its third week, the results from the first week have been revealed. In the Per Capita Classic, which measures the amount of recyclables per student in a dorm, Notre Dame amassed 1.7 pounds of recyclable goods per person in dorms, ranking the University No. 21 among participants, according to the RecycleMania Web site.

On the Notre Dame campus, Farley, McGinn and Cavanaugh amassed the most recyclables during week one, while McGinn, Cavanaugh and Howard were the three leaders during week two, Long said. Some students have gone to extremes to win the competition. Residents of some dorms have engaged in recycling raids, often involving costumes, while some editions of weekly dorm notes have encouraged residents to steal a competing hall's recyclables.

"I'm encouraging it," Lourdes said. "I'm leading the way."

The RecycleMania competition occurs during a year of increased University recycling efforts.

This fall, the University collaborated with student volunteers to initiate coordinated recycling on the days of some home football games. By handing out recycling bags at Notre Dame tailgates, Long said the group collected thousands of pounds of recyclables.

The 2008 Notre Dame forum will address the topic of "Charting a Sustainable Energy Future."

Contact Kara Coyle at kcoyle@nd.edu

Looking for solid business and accounting experience to put on your resume?

The Observer is accepting applications for a 2008-09 Business Manager and Controller. Responsibilities include preparing a yearly budget and handling payroll for a 200-person staff.

Since the Controller will take over as the 2009-10 Business Manager, Controller applicants should be sophomores, or juniors staying for a fifth year.

Both positions are salaried, about six to 10 hours a week.

Please contact Maddie Hanna at mhanmai@nd.edu or Kyle West at kwest1@nd.edu if interested.
Taxes

continued from page 1

quite a bit, but we still have enough committed and concerned students helping taxpayers." During the first four weeks of the semester, the class meets twice a week for instruction with Milani. The students learn about scenarios they could meet when they prepare tax returns at local sites.

"We go through different situations we might face with people in the area and do some practice returns," Manning said.

According to Milani, the program's students began work last Saturday in teams of two at various locations.

"It's great to be able to offer support to the South Bend community, especially the fact that it's done through a class that is organized ... you're well-trained and that makes you feel more prepared," DeGroot said.

There is also a group of seven students who will make house calls to individuals who are unable to get to the centers.

The program staffs a phone center Monday through Friday to answer questions about the service.

"There aren't a whole lot of phone calls, but we think it's a really nice service for people to be able to speak with a live person," DeGroot said.

DeGroot said one of the great features of the program is that students have some flexibility when they work at the centers during the week.

"We have center operations every day of the week except Sunday and Friday, and some in evenings and afternoons," DeGroot said.

Students end up working at the sites about six times during the semester.

The program advertises through Notre Dame and local newspapers and radio and television stations.

"A lot of the people that come to the sites come because they have been before," DeGroot said.

Manning has found that the learning experience extends beyond just preparing tax returns.

"It's a really rewarding experience to give something back to the community," Manning said. "You get to meet a lot of interesting people who have lived in South Bend their whole lives and talk to you while you're preparing their tax return."

A certified CPA is usually present at the major sites to handle more complicated tax returns and to assist the students.

Manning said there are usually very few errors on the student-prepared tax returns, but when an error does occur, the IRS contacts Milani. He then corrects any mistake that may have been made.

Manning said participating in the Tax Assistance Program has influenced his career plans.

"I think the program helped me decide that I wanted to go into the tax field," he said. "I didn't know for sure, but I really enjoyed doing this, so it strengthened my idea that I wanted to do something in taxes."
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Two CBS journalists missing in Basra
BAGHDAD — Two CBS News journalists were missing in the predominantly Shiite southern city of Basra in Iraq, the network said Monday.

CBS said all efforts were under way to find the journalists, who were not identified by the network. It requested "that others do not speculate on the identities of those involved" until more information was available.

Iraqi police said the journalists were taken and have been held by an unidentified gang since leaving the Saddam Sultan Hotel in central Basra. The police spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to media.

"CBS News has been in touch with the families and asks that their privacy be respected," the network added in a brief statement from CBS Corp. headquarters in New York.

Leader stable after failed coup attempt
BILL, East Timor — Bill, president of East Timor, was in stable condition Monday after a failed coup attempt by a group that seized a government building and shouted "freedom" on Saturday in Dili.

Several hundred officials and citizens were working through the night to remove bullet fragments he suffered in a failed coup attempt, the hospital's administrator said.

The victim, a 19-year-old senior, was critical condition at a hospital, authorities said. The suspect shooter, an 18-year-old known as Corp. Monique Martin, was in "extremely serious" but stable condition at a hospital, authorities said.

Still, the union's negotiating committee recommended Saturday that the contract be accepted, and the West guild's board of directors and the East Coast guild's council agreed. They called for a membership ratification vote, which will be conducted by mail over about two weeks.

Member approval of the contract and the strike's end appeared likely. At the time the association members meet­ings Saturday in New York and Los Angeles, the West Guild was resounding support for the proposed settlement, which could put TV and movie production back on track, salvage the rest of the TV season and allow many hit series to return at work Monday, industry members said.

The tentative contract secures writers a share of the burgeon­ing digital-media market, he said, including compensation for Internet-delivered TV shows and movies.

"If (they) producers get paid, we get paid," the contract makes that a reality," Verrone said. But, he added, "it is not all we hoped for and it is not a done deal.

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Abstain
continued from page 1

Weiss and Smith said they hope more students vote in the runoff election Thursday. The runoff will include the tickets of junior class presi­ dent Bob Weish and sopho­ more class president Grant Schmidt and student body vice president after he hearing commit­ tee, and there are waiting voters to abstain from the vote.

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Staff
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Kohler, a junior at Saint Mary's majoring in political science, began writing for the newspaper as a reporter her freshman year and was Saint Mary's editor for the past year. Kohler is a native of Milwaukee, Wis. "I've had a few serious intellectual discussions," Kohler said. "Mostly, I've had lively conversations about the kids' families, my family, what it's like to be here and what it's like to be away from home, and I always make a point to say 'Go talk to your teachers. Get to know them.'"

Along with Firth, Noble sought input from Vice President and Associate Provost Dennis Jacob, stu­ dent leaders, dorm rectors and representatives from the First Year of Studies, which universily is regarded as one of the flagship programs for first-year students in higher education and is a key reason the university reported its strong student retention rate from the freshman to sophomore years.

All participants, at the very least, are siepping out of their comfort zones. For some, the program's benefits have been obvious and invaluable.

"Last spring I ate dinner with Chris Maziar (vice presi­ dent and senior associate provost)," said sophomores Matthew Cassack from Shoreview, Minn. "I learned about being in charge of research at the University of Minnesota, which is near my hometown, so I told her I would love to do some type of research there over the summer. She sent me names of professors who work well with students, and I wound up getting a full-time position that led to a position of a prominent researcher. I spent most days purifying protein samples to look for biomarkers of various diseases, which was very appli­ cable to my biochemistry major at Notre Dame."

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Now a junior, Dennis Rankin of Valrico, Fla., was in the program last spring. "Before college, I imagined professors to be the most important thing about a college," he said. "I wanted to get a lot of attention from them, but it was just a lot of work."

"It was the best experience I had in high school," Rankin said. "I wish they had this experience when they were in high school."
In Brief

Homebuilders stocks rise amid unease

NEW YORK — Wall Street finished higher in an uneven session Monday as retail and homebuilder stocks rose on expectations for more interest rate cuts, but banks and insurers fell on worries about further mortgage debt troubles.

The Federal Reserve has been in rate-cutting mode this year and it is expected to lower the federal funds rate once more either this month or at its next regularly scheduled meeting March 18. And the cheaper cost of money is beginning to register in the stock market.

"The move announced Monday ends a six-year mortgage slump and credit crunch," Bush said.

But investors continue to grapple with bad news in the credit markets. The stock market fell $19.99 and include access to any of AT&T’s 70,000 free Wi-Fi and charged higher fees than AT&T will.

Yahoo’s rejection leaves investors guessing

SAN FRANCISCO — Yahoo Inc.'s rejection of Microsoft Corp’s unsolicited takeover bid left investors guessing about the next move in a tense merging dance that may build a more imposing challenger to Google Inc. or disintegrate into a bruising brawl.

The rejection, formally announced early Monday, wasn’t a surprise because Microsoft had leaked its intention over the weekend. The board of directors is evaluating all of its strategic options in the context of the rapidly evolving industry environment and we remain committed to pursuing initiatives that maximize value for all stockholders," said Yahoo in a statement.

Associated Press

President Bush speaks after signing the 2008 Economic Report Monday in the Oval Office. Bush is expected, later this week, to sign the $168 billion stimulus package passed by Congress.

WASHINGON President Bush, acknowledging that the country is suffering through a "perfect storm" of economic uncertainty, called on Congress Monday to do more to help people and businesses hurt by the housing slump and credit crunch.

In a brief introduction to his annual economic report, Bush said the $168 billion economic rescue package passed by Congress last week will keep "our economy growing and our people working.

Bush is expected later this week to sign the stimulus package, which includes rebates of $600 to $2,100 to most taxpayers and $300 checks to disabled veterans, the elderly and other low-income people.

"Money will be going directly to America workers and families and individuals," he told reporters. "It's going to help deal with the uncertainties in this economy."

In addition, the package includes tax breaks for business and would take some steps to boost the falling housing market, Bush said that other steps need to be taken to strengthen the economy, and he exhorted Congress to make his tax cut permanent and do more to help struggling homeowners.

But lawmakers have to pass additional legislation that would revamp mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and modify Federal Housing Administration, which insures mortgages for low- and middle-income borrowers. The president also said Congress should approve legislation allowing state housing agencies to issue tax-free bonds to help squashed homeowners refinance their mortgages.

These and other steps could help struggling homeowners "weather turbulent times in the market," Bush said.

The stimulus package includes provisions that would temporarily raise the limit on Federal Housing Administration loans and the cap on loans that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac can buy. Raising that cap on Fannie Mac and Freddie Mac should provide relief in the market for "jumbo" mortgages — those exceeding $417,000. The credit crunch hit that market hard, making it very difficult, if not impossible, for people to get those loans. And, that has plunged the housing market even deeper into turmoil.

Fallout from the housing bust and hard-to-get credit have catapulted home foreclosures to record highs, forced financial companies to rack up multibillion-dollar losses in bad mortgage investments, rooked Wall Street and dealt a powerful blow to the national economy.

The economy nearly stalled in the final three months of 2007, growing at a pace of just 0.6 percent. The odds of a recession have grown considerably over the last year, and an increasing number of analysts believe the economy may actually be shrinking now.
I have applied to write for The Observer every year since I graduated. This year I was finally fortunate to find a staff with enough pity to accept me. One of the sample pieces I used to format was about the similarities between fascism and the modern Left. As a short essay, it must stay on the surface in analyzing these similarities, which is about as much as I knew anyway. Those surface likenesses are pretty impressive, though. In fact, what first lit that particular bulb for me was a speech by Hitler advocating strict gun-control. It was pure liberal-hate, erate. It got me thinking, and without much effort, I'd identified plenty more parallels.

But anything I've written could only look ridiculous compared to Jonah Goldberg's new book, "Liberal Fascism." Jonah writes for the conservative standard-bearer, National Review, and is a syndicated columnist. He's been known mainly for his sharp but rather hearted wit and pro-found knowledge of pop-culture trivia. So it comes as some surprise to many that he uncorked a masterpiece, and not about "Star Trek" or "The Simpsons," but about politics and history.

According to Jonah, what motivated him was an enormous effort, was just what provoked my little sample tirade: he was sick of hearing "fascist" used reflexively by many liberals. and policies that they do not like. If you have never come across this slander, you probably haven't been paying attention. It can be found at every level, from moron street demonstrators with their "Bush is Hitler" banners, to media professionals like Keith Olbermann and Bill Maher, to college professors, I even remember seeing it in my high school government textbook. There, on an illustration of the political spectrum, was "fascist" — two steps over from "conservative." Some of you, while praying publicly for the unborn, may have even been taunted with "Go home, Christian fascists!" Is a richer irony even possible?

But Jonah argues that this is not a case of the pot calling the kettle black. No, it’s more like the pot calling the snowflake black. To dismiss the notion that conservatism is somehow akin to fascism isn’t hard. Fascism, like its cousin communism, is a form of totalitarianism. Anyone at all familiar with conservative thought can tell you that two broad conservative principles are limited government and decentralization. So far enough to the right, and you will end up with a near-libertarian order in which most if not all power the government has is concentrated at the local level. This is totally the opposite of a centralized, all-powerful state. And there are many other enormous differences which space forbids discussing.

Then why the smear? Liberals think that since conservatives are mean, and Nazis were mean, conservatives must be Nazis. They do not look in the mirror and see the na­tive and sheer vituperation regularly coming from Howard Dean, Hillary Clinton, Nancy Pelosi, The New York Times, Air America, left-wing blogs, Hollywood, racist racial demagogues, etc. I could use the rest of my column this year documenting what George W. Bush has labeled the "Terrorist Gap" between the Right and Left, and yes, encountered it at Notre Dame, too. Besides, people will think you are a totalitarian if you try to restrict what they most cherish, even if otherwise you’re completely anarchist. When she was little, I was far more indulgent with my niece than her parents were — except when it came to candy. I would have to say, sadly, you’re completely anarchist. When you're completely anarchist. When you’re completely anarchist. When you’re completely anarchist. When you’re completely anarchist. 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Dissecting the Democratic primary

In the Democratic presidential race, after analyzing voter trends in recent contests and the upcoming primaries on Tuesday, and last weekend's contests, one thing is perfectly clear: winning depends on slicing bits of support away from the opponent.

Analysts commonly agree that both Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama are likely to remain neck-and-neck in the race well beyond March. The competition is between the stinging Clinton brand and Obama's intellectual uniqueness. Clinton's campaign is based on the power of vote-turning, while Obama's is built on the power of vote-turning and the power of vote-turning by the young and the wealthy. Clinton brand and the stimulating competition is between the sterling American constituency with younger voters, the wealthy, older, less educated, union members and working class voters. Obama, on the other hand, draws from a highly educated liberals (the upscale elite Starbucks or Harvard campus). Clinton won the women's vote by more than a point. But allowing its facilities of Notre Dame to be used for the Notre Dame family and not flaunt anything that we practice Catholicism.

Overall, the campaigns can best be shaded to indicate their pockets of support — Obama has his African-American constituency with younger voters, the wealthy, highly educated liberals the upscale elite Starbucks or Harvard campus. Clinton, on the other hand, draws from a highly educated liberals (the upscale elite Starbucks or Harvard campus). Clinton won the women's vote by more than a point. But allowing its facilities of Notre Dame to be used for the Notre Dame family and not flaunt anything that we practice Catholicism.

Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge that this response to Christina Holstrom's letter regarding "The Vagina Monologues" ("The Monologues" encourage misinterpretation of women," Feb. 10) is not necessarily a refutation of her ideas, but an expression of an alternative perspective regarding Eve Ensler's play.

Holstrom references the V-Day slogan and agrees that "vagina monarchs" should be stopped. "The Vagina Monologues" initiate conversation every year about methods in achieving this exact goal. In contributing her valuable opinion about how to stop violence against women, Holstrom has begun this process at Notre Dame this year, and the tentative upcoming production of the play will initiate even more conversation.

In its proper perspective, women's experiences, "The Vagina Monologues" document the significance of sexuality as a part of womanhood. The women who speak of their positive sexual experiences in the play are examples of women as sexual beings, not sexual objects. As Holstrom suggests, "The Vagina Monologues" do not condone the perception of women as sexual objects. Monologues such as "My Vagina Was My Weapon" and "A Requiem for a 16-year-old girl" which number of Bosnian women recount their stories regarding rape as a war tactic, and "Crooked Braid," an account of the promiscuity of domestic abuse in Native American communities, clearly discourage the perception of women as simply "walking vaginas." I am unable to see how these monologues encourage women to "treat themselves as sex objects."

As a two-time audience member, I know that Notre Dame family and not flaunt anything that we practice Catholicism.

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POINT: SUPERMAN MORE THAN A MERE MORTAL

Before Romencl and Montgomery, or Lennon and McCartney. Before Tom and Jerry, or Hillary and Obama. Before Britney and Christina. Oh wait, that last one already has a clear loser.

Before any high-profile rivalry that may come to mind, there was Superman and Batman. It’s Superman and Batman, not Batman and Superman.

My esteemed colleague Jay Fitzpatrick will have you believe Bruce Wayne’s alter ego is better than the one and only Man of Steel. Jay is young and he means well but his I-love-explosions-and-cool-cars reasoning is exactly what drove the Batman fans at Warner to give us “Batman and Robin” in 1997.

How can one forget those opening lines?

“I want a car. Chicks dig the car,” Robin says.

“This is why Superman works alone,” Batman replies.

Is dumb chit. Not even George Carlin, who promoted keeping the movie from putting the final nail in the coffin of the entire Batman franchise.

And while “Batman Begins” unmistakably returned some much-needed credibility to the so-called Dark Knight, one cannot forget so easily how many times Batman has proved to be a joke in the past.

“Batman Begins” is a well-made film that features a shirtless Christian Bale in a training montage and very likeable sidekicks in Michael Caine and Morgan Freeman. But the glorious return of Batman didn’t come without flaws. The movie also put Katie Holmes in a role as annoyingly self-righteous as the only role in “Dawson’s Creek” could have been.

So don’t be fooled by “Batman Begins.” Batman still works.

Let us never forget that he and Robin have set gay men 30 years back on their quest to gain social acceptance and shed the awful stereotype that portrays them as immoral. If the Dynamic Duo just came out already they could help educate the more conservative Americans on the contributions of gay men to society.

But Batman — unlike Ellen — is a chicken so he won’t do that.

What he will do, though, is use his money to buy expensive cars and gadgets and trick Gotham City into thinking he’s a superhero. Anybody with those resources could put up a decent fight too.

And that’s exactly what Jay tells me that Bruce’s willingness to use his millions to fight crime is what actually makes him a hero. He seems to forget that Superman also has powers and abilities that he altruistically chooses to use to protect Metropolis.

He could easily be an NFL quarterback, or single-handedly bankrupt FedEx by charging customers less and guaranteeing a 30-minute delivery to anywhere in the world.

But he doesn’t do that.

Instead, he hides behind a pair of glasses and becomes a journalist. A journalist. That my friends, is what awesome people — or in his case, alters — do. He writes compelling, consciousness articles with well-phrased leads and whenever possible, puns. I bet that if he had studied at Notre Dame, Clark Kent would’ve worked at The Observer.

And a man like that is a far better catch than any millionaire playboy.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrius@nd.edu

MARCELA BERRIOS Scene Writer

SUPERMAN

VERSUS

BATMAN

COUNTERTOP: BATMAN’S HUMANITY IS KEY

Batman is an everyman. My esteemed colleague Marcela Berrios would have you believe that his immense wealth (estimated at $6.2 trillion by Forbes magazine in 2005) would make him above the common man. But Batman uses this wealth only for good.

His business, Wayne Enterprises, fights to improve the lives of even the lowest Gothamites in conjunction with the charitable Wayne Foundation. Superman’s alter ego Clark Kent takes on the role of journalist — a noble profession, to be sure, but one that does not come close to matching the level of humanity and decency that Batman shows both in and out of the mask.

Also, Batman should not be discounted for his use of gadgetry in fighting crime. Because Batman was born with the unfortunate circumstance of being human, Batman needs something to give him an edge against the forces of evil. With his wide array of Batarangs, Bat-Computers, and, of course, the Batmobile, he is able to defeat all but Superman, who through the safety and sanctity of Gotham City.

Ms. Berrios also provides the argument that Batman’s relationship with Robin was something more than just a Dynamic Duo. “I believe her statements — which I will not repeat because I feel they are offensive — propagate the false stereotypes she mentions. True fans of the Dark Knight understand that Dick Grayson, the original Boy Wonder, was Bruce Wayne’s ward. In effect, Grayson was his adopted son who Wayne took in after the boy was orphaned at eight years old when a gangster murdered his parents. Batman’s humanity makes him great. He understands that he has a certain responsibility to his fellow man.

Batman is also forced to combat a much more difficult class of super-villain than the Man of Steel. The Dark Knight has brought to justice a plethora of manicfiars, including the Joker, the Riddler and the Penguin. This trio, and all of Batman’s other villains, are clinically insane and willing to destroy anything in their way.

Who does Superman bring to justice in his career?

Lex Luthor. An old, bald mad-scientist-turned-businessman. This is the greatest challenge of Superman’s career? With the powers granted him by the Earth’s yellow sun, Superman should be able to solve the world’s energy crisis, find peace in the Middle East and cure cancer — all before dinner.

In another attempt to discredit the Caped Crusader, Berrios references the 1997 film “Batman and Robin.” Admittedly, this is not Batman’s best showcase, but Superman is not free from this fault either.

Berrios serious to forget that Superman has made his own forgettable flop: “Superman III.” “Superman III,” the Man of Steel is confronted with a disgruntled computer programmer played by comedian Richard Pryor. Not the most formidable foes by any standard.

Batman is flawed. He suffers from the same neuroses that make us all human. Well, all of us except Superman.

These human flaws are what make Batman so great. He fuses them with his ideals of justice to make his city a greater place to live.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu
By JAMES COSTA

The Observer Graphic

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Adams takes advantage of YouTube craze

MATT HUDSON / Observer Graphic

that Los Angeles was originally founded by pirates and spaceships. One of the most brilliant moments found within the album Horizon74 is Adams' acoustic version of the song "Everybody Knows" off of the Cardinals' most recent record "Easy Tiger." Closely engaged in a subtle but playful mockery of the thousands of YouTube users who film themselves covering (usually quite badly) famous songs in the privacy of their bedrooms and basements, Adams works through a rather butchered version of his own song as if he were just an average guy with a guitar, a video camera and a YouTube account trying to emulate himself. It's restrained comic brilliance. A lot of the movies are weird and eccentric, to say the least. Most have a decidedly low-budget feel. It's likely that all were made only with the help of invaluable tools available to Adams on his Apple iBook - Garage Band and iMovie. Yet he uses the tools he's got to achieve a kitschy but endearing effect, showing how his rock star life is filled with more bizarre and peculiar thoughts and impulses that the everyday artsy weirdo experiences.

The band grasps the way in which its subjects of heartbreak and emotional misery that dominate most of its official CD releases. A number of the videos are focused on his recent breakup with the redheaded Banana Republic model and writer Jessica Joffe. Apparently, the whole breakup didn't go well, and Joffe blocked Adams' cell phone and e-mail. In an effort to show her how sad he was, he started the YouTube account and loaded the video "Sad Days." Mainly just a slideshow of pictures of Jessica backed by sad music, the video was quickly taken down because "it was just too painful," as Adams wrote in the site's artist information area.

Contact James Costa at jcosta@nd.edu

Cursive's latest is anything but ugly

MATT HUDSON / Observer Graphic

The Ugly Organ

"The Ugly Organ" is a portraiture of life without the personal that was once the center of his world. It's an interesting follow-up to the band's previous album, "Domestica." Also a concept record of sorts, that album dealt with the unfixed entropy of Kasher's failing marriage and the frenzied heartbeat that often accompanies such a painful experience.

"The Ugly Organ" uses two basic premises for the term of the ugly organ. First, it addresses the male difficulty in living without physical gratification and the shame in being controlled by the whims of an organ that symbolizes not the power of love and affection, but fevered lust and possible sin.

The second meaning refers to the ugly organ that embodies the music machine. Since Kasher makes music for a living, he must recreate his misery on an album in order to make the money he needs to survive.

In order to tie the presence of the organ into the fabric of the record, recurring organ themes often erupt mid-song into the arrangement as a means of distancing the singer.

To open the album, Kasher offers a couplet, "And now we proudly present / songs perversive and songs of lament." It's a rather brilliant ploy to put the band ahead of whatever the critics might be thinking from the get-go, proving that the group anticipates the critiques and is already beyond their sharp judgments.

Kasher ups the ante for the record in the track "Art is Hard," which seems intended for him and the band. "Cut it out / Your self inflicted pain / Is getting too routine / The crowds are catching on / To the self-inflicted song." The band grasps the way in which its songs come off and knows it must forge new ground or run the risk of being considered trite and unimportant.

Most of the songs begin with harsh and foreboding music, making the first few seconds often the most alien and difficult to listen to. Yet almost all the songs incorporate the rich and shadowy texture of the cello, slowing the music down to an almost bulbous-like whisper, and then picking it back up into a deafening rush of exhausted exhilaration and pain. One of the few tracks that deviate from this theme is "A Gentleman Caller." The song ends with a soft and classically emo last two minutes of voice over pulsing cello as Kasher sings, "Whatever you need to make you feel / like you've been the one behind the wheel / The sunrise is just over that hill / The worst is over / Whatever I said to make you think / That loves the religion of the weak / This morning we love like weaklings / The worst is over." It's a rare moment of acceptance of loss and renewal on an album that relies heavily on the disastreous and dysfunction of love within life.

The record grows unexpectedly on the listener. It's a lot like reading Kerouac's "The Subterraneans," except that all you have to do is sit back and listen.

Contact James Costa at jcosta@nd.edu

The Ugly Organ

Cursive

Released by: Saddle Creek
Recommended Tracks: "Art is Hard" and "A Gentleman Caller"
Controversial call helps Georgetown edge Nova

Hoyas maintain Big East lead with win; No. 11 Texas squeaks by No. 3 Kansas for crucial Big 12 victory

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The score was tied. There was less than one second to play, and Georgetown’s Jonathan Wallace was dribbling 70 feet from the basket when he heard the whistle.

He wondered what was up. After all, there was no way a referee would call a foul in that situation.

Games again.

“At first I thought I stepped out of bounds,” Wallace said. “Because I was trying to make a play with the time running down. But I did kind of feel a nudge when I was trying to turn the corner.”

“So,” Wallace shrugged, “a call’s a call.”

And he’s not about to raise a fuss over it. That “nudge” was a bump from Villanova’s Corey Stokes, the 48th foul called in a frustrating, stop-and-start game. Wallace hit both free throws with one-tenth of a second on the clock to give the No. 8 Hoyas a 55-53 victory Monday night, their first home win over the Wildcats in more than a decade.

“Wallace was dribbling, and the ref called a foul,” said Stokke, who became the game’s fourth player to foul out on the play. “What are you going to do?”

Wallace scored 15 points for the Hoyas (20-3, 10-2 Big East), who have won seven of eight games since coach John Thompson III.

Villanova outrebounded Georgetown 41-35 and committed 11 turnovers to the Hoyas’ 18, and the Wildcats wouldn’t have needed a last shot had it not been for a 1-for-21 stretch from the field over first 12 minutes of the second half.

Villanova shot 13 percent in the second half — including 0-13 from 3-point range — and 25 percent for the game.

James finished with 14 points. Connor Atchley led Texas with 16 points and A.J. Abrams added 14 points.

Darrell Arthur scored 22 to lead the Hoyas (20-4, 7-2 Big 12), who lost for just the second time in 33 regular-season games dating back to last season.

Texas and Kansas have played some of the most exciting league games in recent years — their two meetings last year decided the Big 12 regular-season and tournament titles — and Monday night was no different.

This one wasn’t as high scoring as when these teams usually get together, but it lived up to its expectations in terms of big plays and big shots.

Texas even rolled out some football mojo to fire up the sellout crowd. Vonie Young, the quarterback of the 2005 national championship team sat a few seats down from iconic coach Darrell Royal and Aaron Ross, a rookie safety with the Super Bowl champion New York Giants, was introduced to the crowd before the game.

On the court, the Longhorns and Jayhawks batted their way through a game dominated by the Jayhawks’ physical front line and Texas’ 3-point shooters.

Texas led most of the first half, its best weapon coming in lanky 6-foot-11 forward Atchley, who caught the Jayhawks off-guards by shooting out for four 3-pointers and had three big blocks on defense.

Kansas kept throwing bodies at the basket, wearing down Texas with dunks and out-rebounded the Longhorns 23-13 in the first half. The Jayhawks trailed until Brandon Rush tied it with a long 3-pointer and followed it with a layup. The momentum was on Arthur’s side, and Baylor helped put Kansas up 42-38 at halftime.

Kansan forward Darrell Arthur, left, goes up against Texas center Connor Atchley during the Longhorns’ 72-69 win Monday.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Newseum office, 200 South St. Paul St. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character, per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for centers without unsolicited offers.

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Ostchill Condos for Sale: Students will love being here and parents will love knowing their child is looked after and taken Serene, updated, two-level furnished two-bedroom, two-bath condo with loft area. One thousand twenty-two square feet of beautifully renovated living space - includes 42" HD flat screen TV and parking space in front of condo. Garages are available at an additional cost. Please contact Mary Anne 312-574-2388 or 911 E Washington, 522 Napoleon Street: 1-2 students. www.workforstudents.com 574-273-3835.

For Rent

的生活

3-4 bdms, 2-story house near for immedi­ate occupancy or next school year: 3 blocks from ND campus, sleeping and eating. Less than one minute to other hot spots and mall by car. $200,000. Only serious offers considered. 562-733- 5166.

For Rent


For Rent

304 South Dinning Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character, per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for centers without unsolicited offers.
USA Today/ESPN Top 25

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Big East Standings

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In Brief

**Dolphins release Green, Booker in first Parcells purge**

Miami Dolphins head coach Nick Saban released quarterback Trent Green and receiver Rick 'Booker' Booker on Monday following the conclusion of the NFL draft. Shortly after, they signed quarterback Steve Bono to a one-year contract.

**Simpson's arrival at Las Vegas jail to be televised**

O.J. Simpson's arrival at the Las Vegas jail will be broadcast live on Monday night, according to a US Marshals Service official. The former football star is set to arrive at 6 p.m. PT, and it is expected to draw 100,000 viewers on ABC.

**Association says it won't 'gag' Olympians**

The Australian Olympic Committee has ruled out the possibility of gagging its athletes at the Beijing Games. A day after the BOA said it would require its athletes to sign a new clause in their contracts prohibiting them from making politically sensitive remarks or gestures during the Games, the association clarified its stance.

**Morgan Freeman's appearance in 'Jail'**

Morgan Freeman was released from the Clark County Detention Center on Monday afternoon after serving 11 days in jail for failing to report to a probation officer and violating parole terms. Freeman is expected to be released around 5 p.m. ET, according to the Corrections Department.

**Teammate's skate nearly severs forward's artery**

A teammate and trainer helped Florida Panthers forward Richard Zednik off the ice Sunday after a freak accident stopped gameplay for 15 minutes. Zednik underwent emergency surgery Sunday to repair a partly-severed artery.
Spurs' Ginobili drops 34 points, grabs 15 boards

Hughes scores a season-high 40 as Cavaliers top Magic; Lakers beat Bobcats, improve to 4-1 since acquiring Gasol

Associated Press

TORONTO — Manu Ginobili scored a season-high 23 points and added a career-high 15 rebounds, leading the San Antonio Spurs to a 93-88 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Monday night.

Tim Duncan added 22 points and 13 rebounds for the Spurs, who won their second straight game after a five-game slide. Ginobili had 25 points for Orlando, leading all five starters in double figures, but scored nine in the final 20 seconds when he rebounced his own miss and was fouled with the Spurs clinging to a three-point lead.

Toronto's Jose Calderon scored a career-high 27, and Andrea Bargnani had 12. Chris Bosh and Carlos Delfino each had 19 points and eight rebounds as the Raptors dropped their third straight at home.

San Antonio has won 10 of its past 12 against Toronto.

The Spurs led 29-24 of the third, but didn't score again in the quarter allowing Toronto to cut the gap to 66-60 at the start of the fourth. San Antonio couldn't get out after a jumper and by Jason Kapono made it 70-66 with 10:38 remaining.

Bosh made a foul line jumper Vaughn returned for the Spurs, who scored nine of the next 11 points to lead 79-68 at 7:44. But Toronto closed again, with 3-pointers by DeMar DeRozan and by Jason Kapono making it 87-84 with 2:32 left.

Both made it 91-88 on a jumper by DeRozan and from the foul line with 1:20 left, but missed an almost identical shot 45 seconds later that would have made it a one-point game.

Newman's two-pointers led the previous three games were against last-place opponents (Miami, the Los Angeles Clippers and Minnesota), struggled early against the defending NBA champions.

The Raptors missed their first seven shots and didn't score until a jumper from Jamario Moon at 8:13. San Antonio led by as many as 12 in the first and pushed their lead to 10, 53-43, on a second-quarter basket by Ginobili.

Toronto's hopes took a hit when Bosh limped off midway through the first after injuring his right knee in a knee-to-knee collision with Vaughn. Bosh returned three minutes later wearing a black wrap on his knee.

Raptors guard T.J. Ford played eight minutes in the first half but was kept on the bench in the second because of a sore right wrist. Ford returned Feb. 4 after missing 24 games because of neck and arm pain, the result of a Dec. 11 fall at Atlanta.

Cavaliers 118, Magic 111

Larry Hughes scored a season-high 40 points and LeBron James added 29 and 10 assists as the Cleveland Cavaliers beat the Orlando Magic on Monday night.

Hughes scored 23 in the third quarter on 6-for-7 shooting, including two 3-pointers and an assortment of drives and jumpers. He hit 9 of 10 free throws in the period.

Hedo Turkoglu had 25 points for Orlando, leading all five starters in double figures, but struggled the rest of the way as Cleveland collapsed inside with double- and triple-teams.

The teams were closely matched through three quarters, and entered the fourth tied at 86. But Cleveland opened a 98-88 lead, by far its biggest of the game, as the Magic scored only two points in the first 4:48 of the period.

Orlando lost its second straight, and third of a five-game home stretch before the All-Star game.

Miami Heat guard Mario Chalmers added 22 points and eight rebounds.

Cleveland won despite a lot of bad luck. The Cavs were without three of their top players, and nearly lost two others in a 30-point drubbing Sunday night to the Denver Nuggets — Zdravko Ilgauskas with back spasms, Damon Jones with a sprained ankle. Both played Monday, but were game-time decisions.

Cleveland's plane was grounded Sunday night with a mechanical failure. The Cavaliers tried to fly here before giving up for the night. They didn't arrive in Orlando until about 1:30 p.m. Monday for the 7 p.m. tipoff.

Drew Gooden was back in the lineup after missing three games with a sprained foot.

Orlando shot 48 percent from the field, 22 of 62. The Cavaliers shot 40 percent, 25 of 63.

The Bobcats played without leading scorer Gerald Wallace, who had scored 26, the Lakers continued to improve to 4-1 since they acquired Gasol from Memphis.

With Bryant hitting from outside and scoring 31 points and Gasol ebbing the middle to score 26, the Lakers continued their impressive road trip with a win over the reeling Charlotte Bobcats.

"Adding Pau to the mix, we have something that has to be dealt with," said Bryant after the Lakers improved to 4-1 since the trade for their new big man.

It wasn't an entirely pretty win for the Lakers, who improved to 6-2 on their nine-game trip. They allowed the Bobcats to cut a 13-point deficit to 89-86 midway through the fourth quarter.

Then Bryant went to work. His jumper with 4:30 left made it 96-90. His no-look pass to Lamar Odom for a dunk made it 100-93, and Bryant put the Bobcats to cut a 13-point deficit to 89-86 midway through the fourth quarter.

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Bryant had his third straight game of 30 or more points, but the Lakers didn't come back and double your effort and have a good game. He's not feeling the greatest now either, so that's a good game for him.

Raymond Felton scored 29 points and Naz Mohammed added 22 points and 11 rebounds for the Bobcats, whose seven-game losing streak matches the longest of their disappointing season.

The Bobcats played without leading scorer Gerald Wallace for the fourth time in five games. Wallace, bobbled by a strained right foot, was replaced a night earlier in Detroit by rookie Jared Dudley in the starting lineup.

Spurs guard Manu Ginobili drives past Raptors forward Andrea Bargnani during the first half of San Antonio's 93-88 victory Monday night in Toronto.


during junior parent weekend experience elegant dining on the notre dame campus

The perfect setting for Junior Parent Weekend is Sorin's. Our thoughtfully prepared meals, served by a professionally trained staff, ensure the ultimate Notre Dame experience.
PHOENIX — Shaquille O’Neal practiced with the Phoenix Suns for the first time Monday, showing no sign of the hip injury that has sidelined him since Jan. 21.

“It was different. It was very intense,” he said after the one-hour workout. “I learned a lot. Now I can see why they can go at the pace they play at. When you just do short bursts like this, then you can save it all for the game.”

Just when he will play in a game remained undecided.

“I haven’t done anything in a month, but I’m in pretty good shape,” O’Neal said. “It will probably take me a few more days to get in tune. The good thing about these guys here is they told me when I’m comfortable, when I’m one-thousand percent, then I can join them.”

Phoenix has two games before the All-Star break — at Golden State on Wednesday night and at home against Dallas on Thursday. The first game after the break is at home against Shaq’s old team, the Los Angeles Lakers, his former coach Phil Jackson and his old teammate Kobe Bryant.

“I think it’s going to take a little bit,” coach Mike D’Antoni said. “It’s going to be an adjustment for our guys and for him. It’s hard to think and play basketball at the same time. Right now, he’s going to go and all that.

It’s hard to think and play basketball at the same time. Right now, he’s going to go and all that. But it’s going to be good chemistry and it’s going to change things up, hopefully for the better.

D’Antoni said the Suns will “not rush him back for any reason.” The coach said he will meet with O’Neal and trainer Aaron Nelson after Tuesday’s practice to map out plans.

Phoenix is 2-1 since the trade last Wednesday that brought O’Neal from the Miami Heat for Shawn Marion and Marcin Gortat. The Suns have the conference’s best record at 36-15 and are currently the top nine teams in the West.

O’Neal injured his hip diving for a loose ball against Utah on Dec. 22. He returned Jan. 16 but was sidelined again five days later. An MRI showed inflammation in the left hip, shifting him down from all basketball activity.

In going ahead with the trade, the Suns were confident their staff would be able to get O’Neal in playing condition.

“The hip’s feeling pretty good, better than it’s felt in a while,” O’Neal said. “I’m used to just getting injections and going back out there. They told me they have their style, and they want me to stick with it.”

O’Neal said he needs to get back in basketball shape and has to be comfortable with playmaker Steve Nash in a system far different from the one used by Pat Riley in Miami.

“I’m not going to rush anything because this is already a fine-tuned machine, and any kink could throw it off,” O’Neal said. “I don’t want to be the negative kink. I want to step in like I’ve been with this team the last three years. I have to make sure that everything’s right.”

He’s been impressed by much of what he’s seen, particularly the ability of Amare Stoudemire, named Western Conference player of the week on Monday.

“I didn’t know he was that good,” O’Neal said. “I really didn’t.”

O’Neal’s arrival will allow Stoudemire to move to his more natural power forward position.

“I think it makes my job a little easier,” Stoudemire said. “If you look at me standing beside him I look more like a point guard than a center.”

The entire Phoenix team seemed energized by O’Neal’s presence.

“Most practices you don’t want to be out there,” Grant Hill said, “but today everybody wanted to be out there and look forward to making it work. That’s going to be the challenge. That’s going to be the fun part.”

O’Neal does not expect to be the star.

“I’m a historian of the game, so I understand that on this team I’m probably a big role player, and I have no problem with that,” O’Neal said. “I did my thing in my prime, and it’s Amare’s prime right now. I think it’s my job to get him to the next level. Toward the end of my career, I have no problem coming here and just fitting in and just helping these guys get to the next level.”

He compares his job to the role of an aging Kareem Abdul-Jabbar on the “Showtime” Lakers teams of Magic Johnson and James Worthy.

“Kareem was fortunate enough to have those style of players around him toward the end of his career, and I sort of feel like him now,” O’Neal said.

“I’m no idiot. I’m not going to come in here trying to take over and take 30 shots. I’m going to fit in very nicely — rebound, outlet to Steve, get some easy buckets, play some defense. That’s all we need.”

**Injured Shaq practices for first time with Suns**

**Former Heat center Shaquille O’Neal eyes the basket as Bulls forward Luol Deng defends during the 126-96 Bulls win on Jan. 16. O’Neal was traded to the Phoenix Suns on Feb. 6.**

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**NBA WALLACE CHOOSES TO TAKE GARNETT’S PLACE**

Feb. 12, 2008

Tuesday, February 12

5:00pm in 116 DeBartolo

If you cannot attend but would like information, please contact the Fellowships Office

105 O'Shaughnessy fellows@nd.edu

**Information Meeting for Juniors and Seniors interested in spending one year abroad after graduation on a Fulbright Grant or Teaching Assistantship**

- research
- study
- teach English

Tuesday, February 12

5:00pm in 116 DeBartolo

**Associated Press**

**NBA All-Star Game**

Wallace chosen to take Garnett’s place

Associated Press

BOSTON — Boston Celtics forward Kevin Garnett withdrew from the NBA All-Star Game on Sunday and was replaced on the Eastern Conference roster by Detroit Pistons forward Rasheed Wallace.

The announcement was made by the commissioner’s office after Garnett missed his seventh consecutive game with an abdominal strain. Celtics coach Doc Rivers, who will coach the East in the Feb. 17 game in New Orleans, said Garnett will not play until the team returns from the break.

“Time, this I’ll go for the kids. I guess once I get older or out of the game, they can look back on it and check it out.”

Rasheed Wallace Pistons forward

The Pistons forward will have to alter his vacation plans after being selected to replace Garnett in the game.

“This time I’ll go for the kids,” Wallace said to the Detroit Free Press. “I guess once I get older or out of the game, they can look back on it and check it out.”

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“He’s out until after the All-Star break,” Rivers said after the Celtics beat the San Antonio Spurs 98-90 to improve to 5-2 since Garnett was injured. “Garnett was averaging 19.2 points and 9.9 rebounds per game before being sidelined two weeks ago after straining a stomach muscle on Jan. 25 against the Timberwolves. He was the leading vote-getter for the All-Star Game before scoring 30 points in the All-Star Game in New Orleans.

“Time, this I’ll go for the kids. I guess once I get older or out of the game, they can look back on it and check it out.”

Wallace will join teammates Chauncey Billups and Richard Hamilton for the All-Star Game in New Orleans. It will be his fourth All-Star appearance.

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The Associated Press

2008-02-12

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The Associated Press
Women's hockey team rolls

Women's water polo sweeps weekend set; volleyball opens conference play

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame was able to stay ahead of the Chicago Snappers out of the water from start to finish this weekend, winning the first of two consecutive weekend games.

Junior Emily Chappell started the scoring off less than a minute into the game from a set play. Additionally, senior Alex Knoedler and sophomore Brittney Wilhelmy tied the game with late second-period goals. The Irish had the only two goals of the game to win 2-1.

Senior Mandy Chappell notched a hat trick with four goals, Cristina Romano had three and Meghan Pearl scored one. The Snappers were unable to stop Chappell, who had three goals in the first period.

With regionals looming next month, the Irish are now six wins ahead of the Snappers out of the water.

The Snappers struggled and were unable to stop Chappell from taking the puck on the second one-timer. The Irish scored an unassisted goal. Later that period senior Kai Abaritt turned the puck in to Taipei thanks to free passes from Knoedler and junior Amy Wilhelmy. Knoedler maintained the score against another assist by Chappell.

The Irish enjoyed success this year in large part due to the dedication of the seniors Bremont, Laura Steinbrenner, Alicia Burtner, Casey Bouskill and coach Chris Knoedler.

"They each brought something so different to the table," said Jack. "And next season will be so different without them."

Women's water polo

Notre Dame had its on-field portion of the season, including three nationally regarded rivals.

The Irish faced two conference foes on Saturday — Eastern Michigan and Miami of Ohio. The Irish shut down EMU 3-2, led by Beilsy O'Neill and Maggie Hyde in goal. All Durkin led the scoring with a pair of first places in the event. They had three and Meghan Pearl added another two.

Against Eastern Michigan, the Irish finished strong to post a 10-5 victory, allowing only two goals for the season. Against Miami durkin had three and Meghan Pearl scored two goals.

Against Eastern Michigan, the Irish dominated 15-2. They had three goals and three assists for the event.

Against Miami of Ohio, the Irish finished strong to post a 10-5 victory, allowing only two goals for the season. Against Miami durkin had three and Meghan Pearl scored two goals.

The Irish had the only two goals of the game to win 2-1.

The Irish faced Wisconsin-Milwaukee and current No. 1 and two-time defending national champions Wisconsin-Oshkosh in consecutive matches. The Irish came out strong against UW-Milwaukee, but its quick offense kept Notre Dame on its heels. The Irish lost the first game, but rallied back in the second, winning 25-22. A small lapse caused the Irish in fall behind in the third, but they rebounded with a 15-11 win.

The Irish were greatly tested against the No. 1 team. Notre Dame started with two straight losses, but struggled the rest of the match.

Sharchuk each were poised to finish on the podium after the first round, but both leaders were placed high on the podium in the second round, sending both skiers cartwheeling into the air. The Irish finished third after a strong finish with 6th and 10th to pace the squad to a third-place finish.

Due to the weather conditions, only Saturday's ski races were held.

Men's volleyball

The No. 21 men traveled to Northern Illinois and DeKalb, Ill., last weekend for their first of two conference play days. In a conference featuring the national champions from each of the past three years, the Irish had their work cut out for them.

The opening match was against last year's national runner-up No. 4 Lakeland. While the Irish kept pace with the powerhouse for the majority of the match, they were unable to break away and grab a victory. Despite the strong outside hitting of Dan Zibton, the Irish began the day with a loss in straight sets, 21-25 and 18-25.

Immediately after the loss to Lakeland, Notre Dame was pitted Illinois State. In the first set, starting Irish middle Tim Goldsmith suffered a groin injury that sent him to the showers. The day, but junior Jason Gott was able to fill in and carry the load. Notre Dame dominated the young Illinois State team in straight sets, 25-19 and 25-20.

The Irish then faced Wisconsin-Milwaukee and current No. 1 and two-time defending national champions Wisconsin-Oshkosh in consecutive matches. The Irish came out strong against UW-Milwaukee, but its quick offense kept Notre Dame on its heels. The Irish lost the first game, but rallied back in the second, winning 25-22. A small lapse caused the Irish fall behind in the third, but they rebounded with a 15-11 win.

The Irish were greatly tested against the No. 1 team. Notre Dame started with two straight losses, but struggled the rest of the match.

UW-Oshkosh controlled the match, handing Notre Dame its largest loss of the day, 25-22, 25-19.

In order to finish above .500, the Irish needed to close out the day with consecutive victories against Bell State and Iowa State. With a strong serving attack, the Irish succeeded and beat Ball State in consecutive sets, 25-18 and 25-21.

In its sixth and final match against Iowa State, Notre Dame was eyeing a respectable finish, behind sophomore Arthur Kinsey's defense and Ted Grossman's outside hitting, the Irish gained an early lead. The Cyclones fought back and managed to take the lead and close out a first game win. With their backs against the wall, the Irish found the intensity they needed and pushed back against ISU. Notre Dame closed out the final match with the series, 20-25, 25-23, 15-12, finishing the day 4-2.

Equestrian

Notre Dame and Saint Mary's competed in a pair of competitions over the weekend at the Taylor University BISA Shows.

On Saturday, Jennifer Gilardi qualified for regionals with a second place finish on a rosette and second place placing in a hunt class.

On Sunday, Jennifer Gilardi placed third in a hunt class.

"As a team, we made good progress this weekend," said coach Ollie Short.

Alicia Burtner, Casey Bouskill and coach Chris Knoedler.

"They each brought something so different to the table," said Jack. "And next season will be so different without them."

Women's water polo

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Notre Dame and Saint Mary's competed in a pair of competitions over the weekend at the Taylor University BISA Shows.

On Saturday, Jennifer Gilardi qualified for regionals with a second place finish on a rosette and second place placing in a hunt class.

On Sunday, Jennifer Gilardi placed third in a hunt class.

"As a team, we made good progress this weekend," said coach Ollie Short.

Alicia Burtner, Casey Bouskill and coach Chris Knoedler.

"They each brought something so different to the table," said Jack. "And next season will be so different without them."

Women's water polo

Notre Dame had its on-field portion of the season, including three nationally regarded rivals.

The Irish faced two conference foes on Saturday — Eastern Michigan and Miami of Ohio. The Irish shut down EMU 3-2, led by Beilsy O'Neill and Maggie Hyde in goal. All Durkin led the scoring with a pair of first places in the event. They had three and Meghan Pearl added another two.

Against Eastern Michigan, the Irish finished strong to post a 10-5 victory, allowing only two goals for the season. Against Miami durkin had three and Meghan Pearl scored two goals.

The Irish had the only two goals of the game to win 2-1.

The Irish faced Wisconsin-Milwaukee and current No. 1 and two-time defending national champions Wisconsin-Oshkosh in consecutive matches. The Irish came out strong against UW-Milwaukee, but its quick offense kept Notre Dame on its heels. The Irish lost the first game, but rallied back in the second, winning 25-22. A small lapse caused the Irish in fall behind in the third, but they rebounded with a 15-11 win.

The Irish were greatly tested against the No. 1 team. Notre Dame started with two straight losses, but struggled the rest of the match.


WASHINGON — Roger Clemens and his accuser, Brian McNamme, will be the main witnesses at a House hearing on the Mitchell Report after New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte and two others were dropped Monday night.

Former Clemens teammate Chuck Knoblauch and convicted steroids dealer Kirk Radomski were also dropped from the witness list for Wednesday's public session.

One new witness was added Monday night: a lawyer who worked with former Senate majority leader George Mitchell in December's report on drugs in baseball.

But all attention will be focused on Clemens, a seven-time Cy Young Award winner, and McNamme, his former personal trainer, who alleged he injected the pitcher with performance-enhancing drugs.

"I guess it's showtime, isn't it?" Clemens' lead lawyer, Rusty Hardin, said in a telephone interview.

Erik Wecht, McNamme's lead lawyer, declined to comment on the changes.


McNamme also accused Pettitte of using HGH — something Pettitte acknowledged he did do for two days in 2002 to deal with an elbow injury. Clemens' denials of his use of these substances or any other performance-enhancing drugs were raised in the Mitchell Report.

With Wednesday's decision, Pettitte was spared the potentially difficult situation of having to deliver public testimony that could hurt the position of Clemens, a friend, past teammate and former workout partner. Radomski has said he had no direct contact with Clemens, and Knoblauch's knowledge in the matter appeared to be peripheral.

Pettitte gave a sworn deposition last Monday, followed the next day by Clemens, and McNamme later in the week. Knoblauch, a former major leaguer who was a Yankees teammate of Clemens and Pettitte, was interviewed by committee staff last month, while Radomski had been scheduled for a pre-hearing meeting with the committee Tuesday.

All five originally were invited to testify Wednesday. "Mr. Knoblauch and Mr. Pettitte answered all the Committee's questions and their testimony at the hearing is not needed," committee chairman Henry Waxman and ranking Republican Tom Davis said in a statement. A representative for McNamme have also cooperated with the Committee in its investigation.

Following Pettitte's deposition, his lawyers asked the committee to excuse him from the hearing, a person familiar with the talks says. Pettitte was speaking on condition of anonymity because the negotiations weren't made public.

Pettitte's request to be excused was first reported by The New York Times on its Web site.

Pettitte's attorney, Jay Reisinger, declined to comment after the announcement, but a lawyer for Radomski did not immediately return a phone message left at his office Monday night.

"I'm not disappointed," said Knoblauch's attorney, Dick Ravich. "Chuck is not disappointed."

The new witness is Charles Scheeler, a partner with Mitchell's law firm, DLA Piper Rudnick. Scheeler was on Clemens' Web site, Scheeler mainly works in commercial litigation and white collar criminal defense.

Asked about Scheeler's addition, Hardin said: "It's interesting. I look forward to hearing what he has to say." Clemens' camp disputes several elements of the Mitchell Report's sections about him. Clemens said he was reprimanded under oath during his closed-door deposition with the committee and said in various settings publicly: "I've never used steroids or growth hormone."

McNamme, for his part, arrived for his deposition with color photos of what his side says is evidence — and what Clemens' lawyers have called "manufactured"— that was turned over to the Justice Department last month. McNamme's lawyers say they used needles saved for several years and that, when tested, they prove Clemens used performance-enhancing drugs.

McNamme, for his part, arrived for his deposition with color photos of what his side says is evidence — and what Clemens' lawyers have called "manufactured"— that was turned over to the Justice Department last month. McNamme's lawyers say they used needles saved for several years and that, when tested, they prove Clemens used performance-enhancing drugs.

While McNamme has been quiet, not speaking a word a reporters after his deposition, Clemens has been cross-examining Capitol Hill, speaking with nearly half of the members of the committee on Tuesday, a day before he testifies under oath after the hearing.

Pettitte was supposed to be there, too. Now the left-hander is free to get ready to head to spring training, Yankees pitchers and catchers are gathering in Tampa on Tuesday, a day before he testifies under oath after the hearing.

"Every witness should make the decision that best fits for them," Hardin said. "Pettitte is ready to be there and to answer questions. He felt fully and truthfully, it's not a problem, everything else did, that's their deal."
Peters continued from page 20
season, and we're looking for- ward to playing well and ready to go next season," she said.

"It was just cringeing," junior guard Lindsey Schruder, who missed all the shots for the Irish, said Sunday of Peters' injury.

Freshman forward Becca Bruzewski said she thought the play was a freak occur-
rence, not the result of any con-
tact with another player.

"It just kind of looked like she went to cut back and just went down," said Bruzewski, who was standing near Peters when she fell.

McGraw said losing Peters will change the team's strategy at times.

"It changes a little bit of what we do. I think we'll probably go smaller at times," McGraw said Sunday. "And the way Becca's playing, I'm very confident in her coming in and doing a lot of good things. It changes the press a little bit.

"Peters was the driving force behind Notre Dame's full-court, man-to-man defense, using his height and long arm to disrupt opposing offenses. McGraw said Peters was becoming less effec-
tive for Notre Dame, however.

"She's been a part of the lineup in the season, teams have figured out our press," she said Sunday. "Theustain court defense was really a lot better than our press tonight. We'll be able to get a good game plan without her.

McGraw looked at the injury as an opportunity for bench players to increase their roles.

"Part of the growing process in this game, and in life, is deal-
ing with obstacles that are put in your path," McGraw said in the release. "This presents an opportunity for some of our other players to step in and contribute down the stretch in this big finish conference season and I believe they will passion-
ately embrace that challenge and take advantage of it.

The likely candidates, McGraw said Sunday, are Bruzewski and senior center Melissa D'Amico.

"It's a great opportunity for [Bruzewski] to move to the perimeter a little bit more," McGraw said. "And it's a great opportunity for [D'Amico], and what will be waiting for her opportunity patiently since the beginning of the year." D'Amico, who averaged 20.4 minutes per game and eight points per game last season, averaged 9.4 minutes per game and 3.3 points per game this season. The 6-foot-6 center has only started 10 games this sea-
son after starting 29 of Notre Dame's 32 games last season.

Bruzewski was optimistic about the prospect of increased playing time, and McGraw was confident in Bruzewski's abili-
ties to contribute.

"She gets a body on somebody and she does a good job of box-
ing out," McGraw said Sunday. "The Panthers' center Marquette Walker was hurting us early, we weren't rebounding and I felt like she was the one that could come in and make a differ-
ence.

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Team continued from page 20
Peoples, Zeller finished with 11 points and Peoples finished with seven, including two free throws with 18 seconds left to put Notre Dame up 3-3, and keep Marquette from taking the lead.

"They were huge," McAlarney said. "Luke Z., in the first half was great, grabbing rebounds, hitting threes. He was amazing. Jonathan, those two free throws were huge. That's a lot of pressure for somebody coming off the bench and he knocked them down.

Peoples said his heart was racing when he stepped up to the line and the Joyce Center crowd became quiet as he took his shots.

"I was really nervous," Peoples said. "Everybody said I looked really calm, but I was nervous inside. I knew I had to make them, so I took my time and made both of them." Peoples may have been nervous, but Ayers knew he would knock down the free throws.

"He lives for the crunch time," Ayers said Sunday. "He's played a lot big games in high school and played a lot of good minutes for us here.

Sophomore guard Tory Jackson said the team likes to joke around with Peoples, especially his 36.7 three-point percentage.

"We ace him all the time," Jackson said. "He's Big Bear, that's his name. He's a good shooter and he never lets us do it but we joke with him, too.

On Saturday, Peoples did hit the shot prob-
ably the closest thing to a fallen short if not for a M arquette g a l l o n t o d e c l e s s e x a c t i o n. Even though he got credit for a made shot.

"It was a M arquette defender to illegally con-
test the shot won't spare him grief from his teammates.

"He's a little bit of a whipp-
ing boy, but he's a great player," McAlarney said.

"Peopleis isl a little bit of a whipping boy, but he's a great player," Kyle McAlarney
Irish guard

ITC continued from page 20
Irish senior Brett Hegleisin follows through on a swing during Notre Dame's 4-3 win over SMU on Saturday.

February 15-17 to compete in the ITC National Indoor Championships.

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ITC continued from page 20
for the Irish came Friday over No. 13 William & Mary, 4-3. With the match tied 3-3, Kelsey Tefft came through with a tough win in singles to clinch Notre Dame's only match win of the weekend.

"Kelsey was playing a girl with a big serve, but she made a lot returns, broke her serve and served a great tiebreaker," Louderback said.

The glaring weakness was doubles play in Notre Dame's losses Friday to No. 4 Georgia, 4-2, and Sunday to No. 11 Baylor, 4-0.

The Irish dropped the doubles point in all three matches. Buck and Tefft, the only doubles pair in the nation, lost for the first time this year against William with the first doubles pair lost again to Baylor on Saturday.

"They're playing top ten teams, and the match with Baylor was just a really good doubles match," Louderback said.

The team will look to bounce back as it prepares for a stretch of three games in four days starting Thursday.

"We all have our roles, we just get out and play, and we just go for it, we know what we can do," Zeller said.

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Mustangs continued from page 20
in the nation, lost to SMU senior Johnathan Jones in 3-0 straights sets. Fahgen took the first set 6-4 in convincing fash-
ion. After leading much of the second set, Hegleisin could not hold on as Fahgen swept home from Fahgen, who took the set 6-4.

SMU senior Adolfo Solares followed up the teammate's win by defeating Notre Dame fresh-
man Peter Anderson in a close- match, 7-5, 7-5.

Stahl took the next point for Notre Dame in the doubles gritty match against SMU sophomore Chris Hooshyar. After winning the first set 6-4, Stahl lost the sec-
ond set 2-6. However, he returned to take the third set 6-4 to earn the win.

SMU took the next singles point as senior Alex Skrypko defeated Irish senior Andrew Roth, both took the first set 6-4, but Skrypko won the next two sets 7-5, 7-5.

With the team scores tied at 3-3, the match came down to Parbhoo for the second straight day. Parbhoo fell behind 6-2 in the first set against SMU senior David Meier, with the next set to force a tiebreaker, which Parbhoo won 7-5. Kuczer won the next set 6-4 to force a deciding third set. However, Parbhoo dominated the set, as he joined Kuczer at 5-4 after a charge to a 6-1 win that clinched the match for the Irish.

Notre Dame travels to Seattle
TASSELS LIKE FAILURE

JOSEPH CONRAD

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MICHAEL MIKUSKA

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30 "Need this..."
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32 "...heavens"
33 "We still do this?"
34 "...in a brand new way"
35 "...remember"
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38 "...believe you already have"
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40 "...people who"¢..."¢...you what you"¢..."¢...should do"
41 "...to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.
42 "...you too much"
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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

ANS: A

Yesterday’s Jumble: MOTIF TANGY FUR BALL

When she refused to pay for her portrait, he turned into a "MAJ ARTIST"

THE OBSERVER

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Tuesday, February 12, 2008

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

Happy Birthday! This will be a great year if you put your imagination to work and follow your dreams, doing what you love and doing what you love to do.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You’re the boss, so take charge, set your standards and goals and put your ideas into play. Use your creative imagination and don’t be afraid to del-

LEXI (July 31-Aug. 2): You’re the boss, so take charge, set your standards and goals and put your ideas into play. Use your creative imagination and don’t be afraid to del-

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A sophisticated look combined with an intelligent approach in the things you want to do and you will have enough respect to actually accomplish your goals.

LONGER (Dec. 25-Jan. 10): Don’t let your emotions get involved in what you need to accomplish today and you will feel more at peace with yourself. Someone you care about close may throw you at the end of the line, but today is a great opportunity to enjoy yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You get everyone exactly where you want them to be so your move and don’t look back. You can expect things to get better at home if you are honest with yourself and treat the people you live with fairly.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You feel like everyone exactly where you want them to be so your move and don’t look back. You can expect things to get better at home if you are honest with yourself and treat the people you live with fairly.

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ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Peters out for season

By BILL BRINK

Freshman forward Devereaux Peters will miss the remainder of the season after tearing her anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in her left knee during No. 16 Notre Dame’s 81-66 win Sunday over then-No. 15 Pittsburgh. The women’s basketball program said in a press release Monday afternoon.

While under her own basket with the ball early in the second half, Peters collapsed, apparently untouched, and grabbed her knee, writhing in pain.

Team officials helped Peters off the floor and into the locker room. She didn’t put any weight on her left leg, and later returned with crutches and a full-length leg brace. Peters had an MRI Monday morning and team orthopedist Dr. Fred Ferlic confirmed the injury in the release.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw said in the release she is confident that Peters will be healthy enough to play next season.

"We expect she will bounce back from this injury with the same determination and desire that she has already shown this season," McGraw said. "The freshmen have been great in their injuries, and we expect Peters will be able to make a full recovery and return to the court."

Irish forward Devereaux Peters watches the game during Notre Dame’s 81-66 win over Pittsburgh on Sunday, after tearing her ACL during the second half. Peters will miss the rest of the season.

see PETERS/page 18

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Senior recognized by ITA

Coaches give Buck sportsmanship award

By DAN MASTERTON

Though the No. 19 Irish (3-4) dropped two of three matches this weekend at the ITA National Team Indoor Championships, they did not come home empty-handed.

Notre Dame senior Brooke Buck became the third player in school history to win the ITA Sportsmanship Award. The Irish coaches at the tournament voted on the award, which is given to one player who demonstrates outstanding sportsmanship and exemplifies the spirit of collegiate tennis.

Irish head coach Jay Louderback was proud of his team’s captain.

“She always plays fair and hard. She’s always on an even keel and doesn’t lose her temper,” Louderback said. “Even having won the national indoors in doubles last year, she’s still very humble.”

Irish senior Brooke Buck prepares to return the ball during Notre Dame’s 6-1 win over Louisville on Feb. 9, 2007.

see TEAM/page 18