Parents arrive at University for JPW

By ELLYN MICHALAK

New Writer

This weekend, for the 56th consecutive year, the parents of Notre Dame juniors will visit campus to get a glimpse of what their child's life is like while they are away from home during the annual Junior Parents' Weekend (JPW).

JPW began in 1952 when University President emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh decided parents should become more involved in their students' lives at Notre Dame before the following year's graduation ceremony.

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"Though the scale has changed, the core purpose of JPW has remained unchanged — that is, giving parents an opportunity to share the social, academic, spiritual and residential life of University with their students," JPW co-chair Brian Fremeau said.

He and fellow co-chair Leah Miller have been working hard to plan the event since April of last year. After months of preparation, Miller said she is looking forward to the event with excitement.

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"They are similar in that women discuss their experiences of sexuality, relation-

Lecture fights Muslim stereotypes

By NIKKI TAYLOR

News Writer

Dr. Fouta S. Qazi, a Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership (CWIL) Fellow and professor of mathematics, spoke along with Razia Stanikzai, a Saint Mary's senior international student from Afghanistan, about the Western world's thoughts on Muslim women Thursday in the Student Center.

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The lecture's main focus addressed the way Muslim women are portrayed to the Western world. Qazi began by showing pictures of Muslim women who break the stereotypes.

The prevalent stereotype of Muslim women is homogeneity, but there is a great deal of diversity," Qazi said. Qazi said that a Muslim practice of veiling is often associated with oppression of women in the Western mindset, Qazi said. She first showed how veiling is a fairly common practice and is not associated with oppression in other settings.

Most religions have some sort of veiling. Qazi said. Jewish women are often depicted wearing veils, as is the Virgin Mary in Christian art.

Vesting goes back to the days of colonization in the Middle East. Before the programs could colonize they had to see the natives as inferior and untouchable as a rationalization of their taking over Qazi said.

Stanikzai spoke about hijab, which is the Arab practice of wearing a veil. Hijab literally translates "to hide from view," but it also means separation from the mind, Qazi said. It often associated with oppression in other settings.

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Parents asked question, "Could it happen here?"

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News Writer

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SMC to host own version of 'Monologues'

Students, professor, alumnae will perform in annual event to stop violence against women

By KATIE KOHLER

Saint Mary's Editor

Coming on the heels of "V-Day" — the global movement to stop violence against women sparked by Eve Ensler's Vagina Monologues — the Saint Mary's community will gather for the fourth consecutive year to perform the SMC Monologues tomorrow at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. in Carroll Auditorium.

The Monologues were written by students, faculty, SMC Sisters and alumnae, producer Becki Faunce said.

"All writers are anonymous to protect their identities around potentially sensitive subject areas and to promote the fact that these could be anyone's stories," she said.

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Although this generation of Notre Dame students has grown up with school shoot­

By JOSEPH McMATHON

Assistant News Editor

Bob Reish and Grant Schmidt defeated Martin Braun and George Chamberlain to win student body president and vice president in Thursday's runoff election.

Junior class president Reish and sophomore class president Schmidt received over 2,000 votes, 65.06 percent of the total vote cast. "We're glad to see that the student body's support was behind us, and we're excited to take over office and execute some of our ideas that we've been working on for a while," Reish said.

Current student body vice president Braun and SORIN senator Chamberlain received 28.94 percent of the total. Their ticket faced a runoff election after Monday's primary when Reish and Schmidt won 48.43 percent of the total.

"To speak frankly, we gave it our all and did everything that we thought we could do," Braun said. "We had a lot of faith in our platform and a lot of faith in our experience and our leadership styles. I don't know if we would have done anything differently because we really believed behind us, and we're excited to take over office and execute some of our ideas that we've been working on for a while," Reish said.

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INSIDE COLUMN

A St. Patrick’s suggestion

Valentine’s Day — the day of same-sex siters in the dining hall, girls receiving chocolates and flowers and happy couples strolling hand in hand as they circle the lakes at Notre Dame or cross the bridge on Lake Marion at Saint Mary’s — is over.

Thankfully, now we have all the time in the world to focus on the next religious and commercial holiday that will be celebrated on campus. And celebrate we will.

Bring on St. Patrick’s Day.

This year marks the first year that the holiday does not fall during the time allotted by the University for spring break since 2005. Originally, this year’s spring break was not scheduled for March 1-9, but the University changed the dates because they were in conflict with Holy Week and the Easter holiday.

Therefore, students will be able to celebrate the traditionally Irish holiday with their fellow Irish faithful at both Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s.

Now, this inside column is not going to turn into the place and ways you can celebrate that one day, but rather, I am here to let you know of the incredible idea that our Irish brethren have adopted for this year, and this year only, of celebrating for TWO days.

The Irish Bishops announced in July of 2007 — see how late I am in letting you all know about this opportunity! — that because March 17 is the second day of Holy Week, the most holy week in the Catholic calendar, they are shifting religious celebrations for St. Patrick’s Day to March 15.

If you can do quick math in your head, I know that you are already smiling. If you can’t and had to check your cell phone calendar like I did, let me save you the trouble.

The Irish Bishops have moved St. Patrick’s Day to March 15 — Saturday, March 15.

The Council of Bishops in the United States have not made a similar declaration of shifting the feast day to the previous Saturday, and I’m not sure if they are planning on doing so.

Therefore, I think that we should exclusively celebrate St. Patrick’s Day on March 15.

Instead, I propose that we students spend two days celebrating the patron saint of Ireland who introduced the concept of the Trinity to the Irish people using the three leaves of a clover in whatever way you deem appropriate, whether it be fun to drink or cross the oceans.

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

Contact Liz Harter at ch9ar1e@notredame.edu

Corrections

Due to a production error, student body vice president Maris Brauns name appeared as Maris Brown in a photo caption on page 1 of the Thursday, Feb. 14 edition of The Observer. The Observer regrets the error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: ARE YOU GOING TO THE SPACE GIRLS’ CONCERT IN CHICAGO TOMORROW NIGHT?

Brittan Mawby
freshman Walsh

“arbitrary. They asked me to go, but I already have plans.”

Christina Karam
sophomore McGlin

“I think it would be fun to rock out to some fourth grade classics.”

Teddy Schaefer
freshman Fisher

“Hello yes! I ‘wannebbe’ their lover.”

Claire Kleinman
freshman Lyons

“I would, but my mini-skirt and platform shoes are at the cleaners.”

Lauren Kopsky
junior Farley

“Do you have an extra ticket?”

Sophomore Matt Hopke leaves Irish Gardens with a bouquet of flowers for his girlfriend on Valentine’s Day. Irish Gardens is the florist’s shop located in the basement of LaFortune. Shockingly, it was busy throughout the day there.

IN BRIEF

Ken Hackett, president of Catholic Relief Services, will lead a roundtable discussion about the accomplishments of the Millennium Challenge Corporation and its plans for the future, especially in Africa, today at 9:20 p.m. in 6-103 in the Hesburgh Center.

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

The Notre Dame women’s lacrosse team will play Canisius tonight at 5 in the Loftus Center. Admission is free.

The Black Cultural Arts Council is hosting its annual Black Coffeehouse tonight at 7:30 p.m. Student tickets are $6.

The Pasquerilla East Music Company (PEMCs) will perform “Kiss Me, Kate” tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Student tickets are $6.

Pasquerilla West is showing the movie "A Time to Kill" (1996) Monday at 9 p.m. in the dorm party lounge in honor of Black History Month. Admission is free and snacks will be provided.

The Notre Dame Jazz Band, Symphonic Winds and Symphonic Band will play a concert for Junior Parents Weekend Saturday at 2 p.m. in Leighton Concert Hall. Tickets are $10 for general admission, $8 for faculty/staff, $5 for seniors, and $3 for students.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to observer@nd.edu
SMC parents come to campus
Sophomore student board holds events for parents' weekend

By SARAH MAYER
News Writer

While most Saint Mary's students had the all-school formal and Diverse Students' Leadership Conference to break the monotony of winter, the sophomore class has an additional activity to keep things interesting.

Sophomore Parents' Weekend, which starts today and lasts through Sunday. The sophomore board has planned the weekend for about two months and some of the events have been booked for a year, sophomore class president Camille Gebert said. "It has been a lot of hard work, but it will definitely be a fun weekend," Gebert said.

About 200 parents will come to campus this weekend, Gebert said.

There will be a few scheduled events, Gebert said, but she didn't want parents and students to run from place to place. "It's important to have a parent's weekend because it's nice to be able to show your parent what your life is like at school," she said. "It's nice to share a weekend's events with your parents and show off your school to them. They get to see where your new home is."

The first planned event is a meet and greet with professors, taking place this afternoon. Parents will be able to purchase t-shirts and visit the bookstore, while they meet professors and listen to a performance from Saint Mary's a cappella group, Bellacappella.

For Saint Mary's women whose mothers also attend the school, Gebert said, it's nice to share a weekend's biggest event, "This is by far the weekend's biggest event," Gebert said. "It's nice to have a silent auction and a raffle for baskets made by the sophomore board, parents and friends of the College.

The weekend is about strengthening the relationships of Saint Mary's sophomores and their parents. "I hope that this weekend brings a sense of unity and bonding between the daughters and their parents," Gebert said. "As we are growing up fast, and maturing into women, it's important that our parents be witnesses to this growth."

Sophomore Kate Ortigara is excited for her parents to see the campus. "I hope my parents get a better sense of my lifestyle here and see the Saint Mary's atmosphere," Ortigara said.

Contact Sarah Mayer at smayer01@saintmarys.edu

BCAC readies to host 'Black Coffee House'

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

Students will gather to appreciate the power of words at tonight's Black Coffee House, hosted by the Black Cultural Arts Council (BCAC) in the LaFortune Ballroom. "It's a talent show of sorts, more focused on spoken words, poetry, song and dance," said Tristan VanVoorhis, president of the BCAC.

The show's theme this year is "Freedom of Expression." It will "celebrate the power of words," according to the BCAC website and will take place at 7 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom and will run for two hours, VanVoorhis said.

Attendees can expect a show similar to those in the past. "Traditionally, it will be the same sort of show, same type of acts," VanVoorhis said. Individual students as well as student groups, including Voices of Faith Gospel Choir, will perform at the event, VanVoorhis said. He also said dance acts are more oriented to interpretive dance style.

About 40 to 50 students will perform in 13 different acts, VanVoorhis said. In order to be part of the show, performers had to audition after Christmas break.

Event proceeds help the BCAC reach out to the Notre Dame community.

"We do it every year near Junior Parents weekend as an annual fundraiser for our Thurgood Marshall Scholarship," he said. The $500 scholarship is awarded to two freshmen students who are active in the Notre Dame community and usually goes to students from a financially disadvantaged background, he said.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscoll@nd.edu

GETS THE ADRENALINE GOING. YOURS AND WHOEVER READS ABOUT IT ON YOUR RESUME.

You can also visit us on the web! http://www.nd.edu/~army/home2.htm
Lecture
continued from page 1

the reason why it is seen as oppressive to women, but many women wore the burqa anyway. When they remove the burqa it is a sign of new political order, not women’s liberation. The real oppression was the women’s struggle for educational and economic opportunities, which were also banished by the Taliban, Stanikzai said.

“We believe that liberation comes from within. It is not passively received,” Stanikzai said. There has been a recent resurgence of hijab in the Muslim world. Women are making the informed choice to wear them. She sees it as a sign of pride and also it gives them liberation from a preoccupation with appearance from a proscription with beauty, Stanikzai said.

The burqa is also an important tool for Muslim women because it gives them anonymity and safety, she said.

The DSLC will continue today with workshops in the morning and afternoon. It gives them a chance to discuss different approaches and also it gives them the opportunity to learn from the process. The student body made their choice, and let the chips fall where they may. Reish and Schmidt launched their campaign in September and have spent much of the year campaigning. Reish and Schmidt said they are able to attract voters with a platform filled with well-researched ideas and a comprehensive campaign that included the Web site, bobandgrant.com.

“Part of the campaign was connecting to the students and trying to make sure that we’re not any better than anyone else,” Schmidt said. “The bobandgrant.com thing, a lot of people laughed at it, but it was something different — an informal way of presenting our ideas that was appealing. So we put it all out on the table and let the chips fall where they may.”

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“I think this is something that we’ve been planning for and that we were ready for to happen,” Schmidt said. “We both didn’t know what the results would be and we are looking forward to April 1 (when we take office).” According to Reish and Schmidt, they were able to attract voters with a platform filled with well-researched ideas and a comprehensive campaign that included the Web site, bobandgrant.com.

“One of those initiatives they hope to accomplish soon is making DVD rentals in the Huddle free. The pair also hopes that, over their year in office, they can significantly improve the overall life of the student body.

“All of our ideas are researched and most of them can be implemented pretty quick. I think the free DVDs is going to happen quickly,” Schmidt said. “Now that it’s all said and done, I hope students realize that we truly do want to make a difference.”

After learning of their defeat, Braun and Chamberlain gave a lot of credit to their opponents for the strong campaign they ran. Reish and Schmidt deftly ran a great campaign,” Chamberlain said. “We just focused on running our campaign throughout the process. The student body made their choice, and let the chips fall where they may.”

When asked how he felt about being the person to finally break this trend, Reish responded he thinks the student body needed a fresh perspective and hopes to be part of the team that will accomplish that. Braun said she knew her current position as student body vice president did not guarantee her victory in this year’s election.

“We came in here approaching the campaign with the sense that nothing is guaranteed,” she said. “The fact that it didn’t work out for us proves that legacy is not the end-all-be-all. That’s probably the way it should be. In this case I’m a first believer in the idea that things have a way of working themselves out, and it’s for the best of the student body.”

Both Braun and Chamberlain said they do not know what they plan to do next, although Chamberlain said that right now he is just focused on getting through Junior Parents Weekend.

“I think when God closes one door he opens a new window, and what that is, I don’t know yet, but I’m looking to find out,” Braun said.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon@nd.edu

Reish continued from page 1

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Israel, U.S. prepare for possible attacks

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Israel ordered its embassies on high alert and the FBI put U.S. embassies on alert Thursday in a precau-
tionary move following a series of threats by Hezbollah, which said it had vowed to destroy Israel.

The move is the latest in an election period in which the United Nations Security Council has been called to discuss the situation.

The United States and its allies have been monitoring the situation for several weeks, as Lebanon has been a major player in the region in recent years.

The move comes amidst increasing tensions between Israel and Hezbollah, which have been fighting in Syria.

The United Nations has called for a cease-fire between the two sides, but there has been no agreement.

The United States has been pushing for a diplomatic solution, including talks between Israel and Hezbollah, but there have been no significant developments.

The move by Hezbollah comes amid growing concerns about the potential for a major military conflict in the region, as Israel and Hezbollah have been engaged in a series of clashes in recent weeks.

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SMC

continued from page 1

ences of sexuality, relationship-
ships, among many other ele-
ments that shaped their lives,” she said. “The SMC Monologues provide a safe place for women to give a voice to these experiences—both positive and negative—but always empowering.

“The most important difference is that the SMC Monologues have a very local focus—these are the stories of Saint Mary’s—the voices of Saint Mary’s. The Vagina Monologues is a great play, however we feel that the SMC Monologues are a better fit for Saint Mary’s as they reflect the stories of our women.”

The Monologues have been successful over the past few years, attracting more than 300 people last year, Tances said.

Associate professor of psy-
cology Catherine Pittman, and faculty advisor to the Monologues, recognizes that what sets the SMC Monologues apart from the Vagina Monologues is its local focus.

“The Monologues follow the same tradition (of Esolen’s), allowing a variety of women’s voices to be heard,” she said.

“The difference here is that all of the stories, all of the experiences, are those of members of the Saint Mary’s Community. The stories have happened in a place that we are familiar with and in the lives of those people who we may know. These are our sto-
ries, reflecting our experi-
cences.”

“Saint Mary’s first Monologues has a very local focus. But always empowering.”

“Women’s voices should not and cannot be silenced. We need to use each change to recognize and celebrate our experi-
ences as women.”

Becki Faunce
SMC Monologues producer

40th Anniversary
COMMUNITY of
SANT’EGIDIO

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 15 at 4 pm
ROOM 330 COLEMAN MORSE

Paulo Mancinelli from Rome, Italy, will speak about the history and work of the Community

A COMMUNITY of SANT’EGIDIO PRAYER FOR AFRICA WILL FOLLOW AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE COLEMAN MORSE CHAPEL.

The Community of Sant’Egidio, begun in Rome in 1968, is a Catholic Lay Association, a movement of lay people dedicated to prayer, charity, and living the Gospel message. Today there are over 60,000 members in more than 70 countries. In 2001 the Community of Sant’Egidio received the Notre Dame International Award for its work in international peace negotiations and service to the poor around the world.

THE NOTRE DAME COMMUNITY PRAYS ON WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE NOTRE DAME LOG CHAPEL AND ON THURSDAYS AT 6:30 P.M. AT ST. AUGUSTINE’S CHURCH. OUR SERVICE TO THE ELDERLY IS AT CARDINAL WALTER HIRT HALL IN SOUTH BEND ON THURSDAYS AT 7:00 P.M.

For more information contact
Richard Lasalvia@sbcglobal.net or Michael Driessen at mdrisse@nd.edu

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Shakespeare
Co.

Saturday 10
Feb. 16th
PM

Special Guest Openers: Humor Artists of ND

"A two-act improvised comedy in the style of William Shakespeare could go wrong in so many ways.

"They’ve braved up to go their “There’s” and none other to ever experience the

"It was one of the funniest, most amazing things I have ever seen!" -The Christian Citizen Paper

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MARKET RECAP

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GOLD ($/Troy oz.)

PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)

-0.80

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MARKET RECAP

NEW ORLEANS — After downplaying the risks for months, the Federal Emergency Management Agency said Thursday it will rush to move Gulf Coast hurricane victims out of roughly 35,000 government-owned trailers because tests found dangerous levels of formaldehyde fumes.

FEMA Administrator R. David Paulison said the agency hopes to get everyone out and into hotels, motels, apartments and other temporary housing by the summer, when the heat and stuffy air could worsen the problem inside the trailers.

"The real issue is not what will take us the longest. It's how fast we can move people out," he said.

The trailers for Disease Control and Prevention said fumes from 219 tested trailers and mobile homes in Louisiana and Mississippi were, on average, about five times what people are exposed to in most modern homes.

Formaldehyde, a preservative commonly used in construction materials, can lead to breathing problems and in higher levels can cause cancer.

The words stirred worry and anger across the Gulf Coast, where FEMA is already a dirty word and housing has been scarce since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck in 2005.

"Am I angry at FEMA? Of course I am," said Lynette Hooks, 41, who lost her home since she began living in her trailer outside her damaged house in October 2006, in September. "Am I angry at FEMA? Of course I am," she said.

The CDC findings could also have disturbing implications for the safety of other trailers and mobile homes across the country.

Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said on Capitol Hill Thursday that the CDC study did not look beyond the FEMA housing.

Paulison vowed that the agency will never again use the flimsy, cramped travel trailers to shelter victims of disasters. Mobile homes are generally more roomier than trailers and considered less susceptible to buildups of fumes.

FEMA will press ahead with plans to supply left-over, never-used mobile homes from the twin disasters to victims of last week's tornadoes in the South, Paulison said. But the mobile homes will be opened up, aired out and tested first, he said.

The formaldehyde levels in some trailers were found to be high enough to cause breathing problems in children, the elderly or people who already have respiratory problems, CDC Director Dr. Julie Gerberding said. About 5 percent had levels high enough to cause breathing problems even in people who do not ordinarily have respiratory troubles, she said.

Gerberding said the tests could not draw a direct line between formaldehyde levels and the wide range of ailments reported by trailer occupants. But the CDC urged people to move out as quickly as possible.

Export growth shrinks trade deficit

WASHINGTON — Despite a soaring foreign oil bill and another record deficit with China, the overall U.S. trade deficit declined in 2007 after setting new records for five consecutive years.

The Commerce Department reported Thursday that the deficit dropped to $711.7 billion last year, a decline of 6.2 percent. The trade deficit with China continued to rise, jumping by 10.1 percent to $256.3 billion. That was the largest gap ever recorded with a single country, more than double what it was in 2001, the year Bush took office.

For December, the deficit fell by 6.9 percent to $58.8 billion, a bigger-than-expected improvement to close out the year.

Analysis said the decline in the dollar over the past two years has helped spur strong increases in U.S. exports, with American goods now cheaper and thus more competitive in many overseas markets.

Ian Shepherdson, chief U.S. economist at High Frequency Economics, said that the smaller December trade deficit will help to boost overall economic growth from the Federal Reserve's estimate of a mere 0.6 percent last year from the initial estimate of a more 0.6 percent expansion. He predicted trade and a better reading on inventory stockpiles would boost growth in the gross domestic product in 1.1 percent when the figure gets revised later this month.

In other economic news, the Labor Department reported that the number of newly laid off workers filing claims for unemployment benefits fell by 9,000 to 348,000 last week. That was larger than the 6,000 decline that analysts had been expecting.

The country's trade performance is expected to be a major issue in the upcoming presidential campaign, with Democrats arguing that the huge deficits have contributed to the loss of more than 3 million manufacturing jobs since 2000 as U.S. companies moved overseas and to low-wage countries such as China.

"These numbers provide further evidence of China's consistent and deliberate efforts to violate our trade laws and steal American intellectual property and American goods, hurting American workers and American companies," said Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich. "There is no doubt, this unfair trade hurts American businesses and hurts middle-class families."

Lawmakers have introduced a variety of bills to impose economic sanctions on China for what they contend are unfair practices such as manipulating its currency to keep its value undervalued against the dollar.

In brief

Bernanke calls economy "sluggish"

NEW YORK — Wall Street retraced Thursday after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke called the economy "sluggish" until later in the year and more mortgage-related losses at banks. The Dow Jones industrials average fell 175 points.

Though the Fed chairman's comments suggested the central bank is still open to further interest rate reductions, the tone was, as expected, somber. Bernanke said the housing and credit crises have weighed on the economy and curbed hiring. If the market deteriorates, consumers spending, which is crucial for growth, will wane, he warned.

The Labor Department said Thursday the average work week fell 0.1 percent to $256.3 billion, that was the largest gap ever recorded with a single country, more than double what it was in 2001, the year Bush took office.

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Students continued from page 1

"He probably picked Valentine's Day for a reason," junior Ryan Simmons said.

Sophomore Kyle Hagelskamp agreed. "It's too bad that people don't feel the love and support of the world and resort to doing something like this," he said. "We need to work on providing a loving and supportive environment to try to prevent this sort of tragedy."

Brown stressed that while she obviously hopes that no similar situation would happen at Notre Dame, the University has precautions in place designed to manage a tragedy.

"Certainly we hope it would never happen at Notre Dame," she said. "We think our campus is very safe. But if it were to ever happen, I'm thankful that we do have the correct measures in place to adequately inform the student body and react quickly."

These measures include the Emergency Networking System that will alert students to any emergency situations through text messages, phone calls and emails. These emergency situations include shootings.

Contact John Tierney at tierney.16@nd.edu

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Gunman dressed in black opened fire in Northern Illinois lecture hall with shotgun, handguns; four died on scene

Northern Illinois students are tended to by rescue workers after a gunman shot several students before killing himself Thursday.
Bishop conference relocation a bad idea

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) relocated its two-day “The Eloquence of Teaching” seminar because it didn’t want to be associated with an anticipated March performance of “The Vagina Monologues” on campus.

Given that the conference was not open to the public, theology department chair and seminar organizer John Cavadini said the USCCB did not intend to make a public statement by moving the seminar or picking a date exactly like what they did.

While neither Cavadini nor the Conference may have intended the relocation as a public statement, it nonetheless delivers an implicit message that Notre Dame’s campus has somehow become tainted or rendered unfit for the conference because it allows students to perform “The Vagina Monologues” on campus.

To ensure the USCCB’s holding a conference on Notre Dame’s campus with endorsing the “Monologues” seems as far-fetched and irrational as suggesting that the University is endorsing the show by simply allowing its performance. We see an important distinction between the two.

Regardless of one’s opinion of the “Monologues” themselves, there can be no denying that the show represents one end of the deliberative spectrum on faith and sexuality, however strong. How can the University and its institutional mind be devoted to resolving issues of sexuality and Catholicism at Notre Dame if we don’t allow all voices to be heard in the conversation?

The Observer Editorial Team
A tribute to our tainted water supply

Before I begin, I would like to thank my parents for reading during this JPW weekend. A couple of weeks ago (before I contracted the blog-plague and was quarantined to my side room), I was at The Rock doing some lifting when I realized that I had forgotten to bring bottled water with me. My choice: Risk my life drinking from the possibly contaminated drinking fountain. I decided not to, because I thought that the rest of us find so annoyingly charming.

Friday, February 15, 2008

Dear Notre Dame students,

As an alumnus from Our Lady's esteemed University, I have a suggestion to you: Don't limit yourself. You are some of the absolute best and brightest students that America has to offer. I have spent countless hours analyzing Notre Dame's academic freedom debates throughout the years, especially with regard to the Vagina Monologues. As I admit that I was pretty ignorant regarding the Monologues back in 2002, so in 2005 I started to read them through the lens of YouTube. In any case, I have been able to watch almost every skit. Not only is this play inappropriate for Notre Dame's performances, it is not suitable for us as a society.

Religion really has nothing to do with it. The play is vulgar, tasteless and destroys the spirit of womanhood. My question to so many universities is, "why do so many believe the Monologues are the answer to the end of violence against girls?" In my opinion, they don't.

We will not end violence against women until we appreciate women physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. I am trying to be as open-minded as possible, but I cannot accept the Vagina Monologues. I would forever love to have another fence built across campus about the drinking water.

Kyle Tennant

Jan. 31, 2001

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

**PERSPECTIVE: 2001**

The following extracts are from Letters to the Editor that appeared in The Observer in 2001 in response to Saint Mary's cancelling a production of The Vagina Monologues.

Surprised by censorship

Censorship is an ugly word. Vagina, apparently, is an even uglier one. Saint Mary's has decided to ban this year's performances of The Vagina Monologues. "Such a clear act of censorship should by no means be surprising, but it should also not go unchallenged," the editorial states.

"The decision to ban by itself would not wholly shocking. After all, we are talking about a Catholic campus. The problem here lies in the fact that the play was performed last year on the same campus. Last year's presentation generated an immense amount of discussion about sex on both campuses. Notre Dame administration had to consider this in light of the performance, which was performed by "a number of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Jeff Eyerman

O'Neill Hall

Jan. 24, 2001

Women's empowerment not expressed in 'Monologues'

In my last class I checked, rape and child molesta-

tion were not women's empowerment issues. They were considered violence against women issues.

One of the central messages of the show is that "great sex is possible between people who have absolutely no emotional commitment to each other." The show's final result is that it has condescended and glorified rape, child molestation, pornography and prostitution.

In a world where feminists and all those who fight against women's issues have worked so hard over these years to gain respect and admiration for the values of compassion, love, it is hard to see how this show could further the cause at all, other than giving someone untold opportunities to say the word rape.

Katherine Hopp

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O’Shea utilizes Ophelia archetype in one-woman show

By TAE ANDREWS

When senior Erin O’Shea takes the Philbin Studio Theatre stage tonight, all eyes will be on her and only her, which fits considering that “Watch Me” is a one-woman show.

In preparation for her FFT Honors Thesis Project, O’Shea spent the last year and a half conducting research into the character of Ophelia from Shakespeare’s “Hamlet.” To this end, she examined paintings, read scholarly articles and listened to music inspired by the story of Ophelia, and read plays and poetry which parallel the Ophelia story. Over the course of Shakespeare’s play, Ophelia goes mad and is later found dead.

The plot of “Watch Me” traces a young woman named Sammy Union who tries to deal with a stalker through songwriting. For the purposes of “Watch Me,” O’Shea said she tried to adapt the Ophelia archetype into a modern woman in her character Sammy Union.

“Sammy is the same person, but they may share many similar emotions,” she said. “The Ophelia archetype, in my opinion, is one of a victim. In Hamlet, she is more of a pretty object than an actual person. The male characters display great amounts of control over her. Ultimately, the various pressures and anxieties become too much.”

“Watch Me” is the latest performance on a resume which paints a picture of an actress unwilling to stay away from the stage. Prior to “Watch Me,” O’Shea performed in the P&MC Classical Revue during her sophomore and junior years, performed in “A Bright Room Called Day” and has a role in the upcoming production of “Dr. Faustus” at the DPAC. She also participated in Summer Shakespeare at Notre Dame during this past summer.

“Watch Me” is not just the latest performance on a resume which paints a picture of an actress unwilling to stay away from the stage. It is also a step towards fulfilling her dreams of moving to Chicago next year and just trying to act and direct professionally,” he said. “And he poder Professionally.”

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrewl@nd.edu

Mary Jesse Observer Graphics
The style is stunning, hilarious and horrifying, but also one that psychically challenges the audience to start to finish.

The story is set in a totalitarian dictatorship, a place similar to East Germany before the fall of the Wall, only more painfully humorous. It follows a few hours in the life of Katurian. Katurian (Stephen Iwanski). Katurian writes hundreds of disturbing short stories but has only managed publish one in his career. His parents are dead and his only remaining family member is his mentally-handicapped sister Michala (Katie Manfred), with whom he shares all the gruesome tales he writes. Katurian has a deep affinity with his stories, one that he'll sacrifice anything to protect. The play kicks up Katurian being interrogated by two police officers for a case of mud-lurders that bear strange resemblance to matching death sequences in Katurian's stories. One of the officers, Tupolski (Jose Edwards), is a fast-talking detective whose chief interrogation method is to 'disconnect and destabilize the prisoner with asinine nonsense.'

It's a method that works well, and he starts out by convincing Katurian that the totalitarian dictatorship is not about restrictions, but rather, about guidelines. He also claims he's the good cop.

The bad cop, Ariel (Joe Vittoria), had a rough childhood—a fact that will get you beaten to a pulp if you bring it up—and he operates on a very short fuse, dealing Katurian beat-downs on a whim. While Tupolski tries to befuddle a confession out of Katurian, Ariel just complains, 'Why don't we just start torturing him and cut out all this amateurish nonsense?'

The play takes a disturbing twist when Katurian finds out that his stories have influenced someone in a profoundly sadistic way. This is a profoundly sadistic way. But I won't spoil it for you.

O'Donoghue and Velazquez have done an incredible job with the play's direction and the actors all split their lines with impeccable timing. The interactions between the two cops and Katurian are an absolute riot and constantly tread between the hilarious and the shocking.

Iwanski does an excellent job evoking our sympathy for his character's imprisonment and feelings for his sister, while at the same time bringing out laughs with the occasional brutish outburst. Manfred convincingly pulls off Katurian's mentally-damaged sister. The show ironically opened on Valentine's Day. You won't find much in the form of materialistic, cutie-pootie love, but there's no lack of beauty.

O'Donoghue said one of the reasons she felt so attracted to the script is 'The Pillow Man' was because, 'It's a grotesque story, it's horrific, but it's beautiful in the end.'

When you see Katurian recite the full story of the Pillowman to Michala, you'll know why.

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu

St. Ed's Players' \"The Pillowman\" Thrives in Intimate Setting

By MARK WITTE
Assistant Scene Editor

There is a show running on the third floor in the back of Washington Hall that you might not know about.

It's a play about stories: dark, violent stories. It's a play about truth, lies, torture, little green pigs, slow motion smack-downs and vehicular beheadings. Most importantly, it's a play that you don't want to miss.

The St. Ed's Players have undergone a courageous endeavor with 'The Pillow Man,' which opened yesterday in Washington Hall's Lab Theater. The play is a work by the young and famous Irish playwright, Martin McDonagh. When it first opened in London at the Royal National Theatre in November 2003, it was to wide acclaim, eventually winning the prestigious Olivier Award for "Best New Play" in 2004.

It's in these giant footsteps that the St. Ed's Players are treading.

Director Megan O'Donoghue described the production of the play as having been a "really ambitious challenge," partly due to the show's venue. Unlike a regular theater, where the audience directly faces the performers, the Lab Theater is a "Theater in the round." One of the reasons the venue places the actors in the center of a stage which is surrounded by the viewing audience. It's tough for performers because they must constantly shift their positions, so as not to have their back facing any side of the audience for too long.

However, the Lab Theater suits this production well.

"Given the scale of this space, the show becomes a lot more intimate," assistant director Eddie Velazquez said. "It sets the mood for the style of the show."

The play kicks up Katurian being interrogated by two police officers for a child murderer that bear strange resemblance to matching death sequences in Katurian's stories. One of the officers, Tupolski (Jose Edwards), is a fast-talking detective whose chief interrogation method is to 'disconnect and destabilize the prisoner with asinine nonsense.'

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Warning: Do not operate heavy machinery while listening to this album.

Jack Johnson's latest, "Sleep Through the Static," is more of what we have come to expect from the island pop-rocker. It's filled with the same syrupy sweet, slow, smooth rhythms that drip from his guitar, and毫无疑问, it flows into a gentle and tranquil state.

This album features the same signature sound that permeates the halls of Johnson's work. Full of bar chords that was Caribbean and the silky-voice that is clearly meant for the beach, "Sleep Through the Static" will appeal to the average fan of Johnson's native island tunes.

This album sounds remarkably like his previous efforts (don't they all?). The CD appears to be the album you pop in for some good background music, something that doesn't really require your full attention. Maybe this is a good thing—but maybe it's not?

The album lacks a signature song. There is a "Better Together" or "Banana Pancakes," or even a "Flake" or "Bud's Too.

These songs are the type of songs that seemed to make up the "filler" in Johnson's other efforts.

Before all you island hoppers get your coconuts in a jumble, this isn't to say the album is bad. Actually, it's far from it. It's a decent album for what it is—a mix of love songs and island tunes.

Just don't expect for any of these songs to be a patch in the way that "Banana Pancakes" was. It's just not going to happen. The best these songs can do is just simply be forgettable. Not bad, not great—just there.

There are a few songs that assert themselves, albeit not impressively. If there is a "hit" on this album, it is "If I Had Eyes." This is the sixth track on the album and has a borderline catchy piano-influenced sound. Like many songs on the album, Johnson swaps his acoustic guitar for an electric model. For this song, at least, it works.

The title song, "Sleep Through the Static" is probably the second-best effort on the album but just doesn't have much going on. The song takes a political tone saying, "Who needs sleep when we've got love? Who needs keys when we've got clubs?" The song, however, is just not powerful enough to carry the anti-militarism message.

The song "Angel" is just in time for the season of love. It pulls off Katurian's mentally-damaged sister. The show becomes a lot more intimate, a fact that will get you beaten to a pulp if you bring it up—and he operates on a very short fuse, dealing Katurian beat-downs on a whim. While Tupolski tries to befuddle a confession out of Katurian, Ariel just complains, 'Why don't we just start torturing him and cut out all this amateurish nonsense?'

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The Observer • CLASSIFIEDS

Friday, January 15, 2008

NHL

Islanders edge Maple Leafs, stay in playoff race

Hurricanes’ three power-play goals key win over Penguins, Martin St. Louis tallies three points as Lightning defeat Flyers

Associated Press

TORONTO — After a seven-game winless slide damaged their playoff hopes, the New York Islanders are once again counting on a late-season run to get back to the post-season.

“We saw the improbable last year when we were left for dead,” goalie Rick DiPietro said after the Islanders slipped past the Toronto Maple Leafs 2-4 on Thursday night. “There’s still a lot of hockey left.”

The Isles won their last four games of the season last year to sneak into the playoffs and are hoping to do the same with 24 games left in the regular season.

Ruslan Fedotenko scored two of his team’s four power-play goals and the Islanders pulled within points of the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

“This is a big win for us,” Fedotenko said. “Everyone is fighting for a playoff spot and we need these points.”

Mike Comrie and Bryan Berard also scored power-play goals while Freddy Meyer added an empty-netter for the Isles, who have won two games in a row following a seven-game winless streak.

“There’s still belief in this room,” Comrie said. “That’s what I think the coaching staff have us focused on the game at hand. We’re not looking too far ahead.”

Alex Ponikarovsky, Matt Niskanen, Mats Sundin and Darcy Tucker scored for the Leafs, who dropped to 29th overall in the 30-team NHL after Tampa Bay beat Philadelphia on Thursday night.

The Leafs are eight points out of a playoff spot in the Eastern Conference with 23 games to play in the regular season and have five games left before the Feb. 26 trade deadline.

Basically, that’s what’s going on right now,” Ponikarovsky said. “But we can’t feel sorry for ourselves. We still have to play. You can’t just give up and do nothing.”

Rick DiPietro made 27 saves for the Islanders while Vesa Toskala stopped 24 of 28 shots.

“We should’ve won that hockey game, but we didn’t play well,” Niskanen said. “We can’t come in here and say we played as well as we could, because we didn’t.”

Berard opened the scoring on a power play 3:45 to go in the first period, sending the puck on his stick and redirecting a Miroslav Satan pass past Toskala.

Tucker got credit for the tying goal at 7:51 of the second period, but a shot deflected off both Tucker and Isles defenceman Aaron Ward and in under DiPietro’s legs.

The Isles slid in a rebound to give Toronto its only lead of the game.

The Souths’ Isles’ power play went to work as the Leafs took three consecutive penalties, Fedotenko tied it 2-2 at 14:36 when he banged in a puck that was sitting on the goal line after Josef Vasicek hit the post.

Comrie, with his 17th of the season, gave the Isles back in front 3-2 with a power-play goal at 17:25 when he took Satan’s nifty pass across the slot and slid it in past the goal line under Toskala.

Hurricanes 4, Penguins 2

The Carolina Hurricanes were missing key defencemen against their Pittsburgh foe that ranks among the NHL’s best.

They discovered they are capable of doing it without their Penguins’ goal-scorers. Turn up that pressure at the other end of the ice.

Ray Whitney had a goal and two assists against skating Carolina scored three power-play goals in its win against Pittsburgh on Thursday night, vaulting the Hurricanes back into first place in the Southeast Division.

Eric Cole and Eric Staal snapped long scoring droughts with goals and Ryan Bayda added his first goal for the depleted Hurricanes, who also lost captain and leading scorer Rod Brind’Amour in the opening moments with a torn arm in his left knee.

“We can’t afford to sit back and say, ‘Oh well, close was good enough tonight,’ with the personnel we had,” Whitney said. “We had to go out and get a win.”

Whitney, who entered with no goal in his last 15 games, broke a 2-all tie with 16:15 left when he took a feed from Staal who had crossed into the slot and beat Dan Sabourin with a low wrister from the left side.

“They kept it simple with traffic in front,” Sabourin said. “I saw a pass go through, but Cam was there. I knew it was coming.”

Cam Ward stopped 20 shots for Carolina, which held an overwhelming 46-27 shots advantage in winning its second straight and moving back into the division lead ahead of idle Atlanta and Washington.

Evgeni Malkin scored for the fifth straight game, defenceman Brooks Orpik added his first goal of the season and Sabourin made 42 saves for Atlantic Division-leading Pittsburgh, which dropped its second in a row and fell to 6-4-2 in their 12 games since star center Sidney Crosby sprained his ankle.

“We’re losing a lot of players and you know on the road it’s eventually going to catch up with you,” Pittsburgh coach Michel Therrien said. “I think the last two games have been tough. We just have to regroup.”

Lightning 5, Flyers 3

With each road victory, the Tampa Bay Lightning are desperately trying to make a late run at a playoff berth.

Once division leaders, the Philadelphia Flyers can only hope their postseason spot isn’t slipping away.

Martin St. Louis had a goal and two assists to lead the Lightning to a victory over Philadelphia on Thursday night, as the Flyers’ fifth straight loss.

“I think we’re realizing that we’ve got to win some games,” defenseman Dan Boyle said. “If we lose a couple we’re going to be finding ourselves in the back seat here. With so few games to go it’s no secret. We have to win games.”

The Lightning, owned by Michigan-based Palace Sports & Entertainment since 1999, are now two games back of the last playoff spot as the NHL’s 30 teams make approving the deal, which is expected to be completed in 37 months.

Steve Downie, Joffrey Lupul and Jeff Carter each scored for the Flyers, who are on their longest losing streak since a six-game skid in late December.

Hurricanes center Eric Staal celebrates his fourth period goal Thursday during Carolina’s 4-2 win over Pittsburgh.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the North Anna office, 514 South Davis Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be pre-paid. The charge is $5 per column inch, including all space. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without inquiring.

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit http://osa.nd.edu/departments/pre-counseling/

The Human Heart creates enough pressure to squirt blood 30 feet.

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**NCAA Men's Hockey**

**USCHO.com/CSTV Division I Poll**

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**MLB**

Roger Clemens, right, and Brian McNamee, left, swear in before a congressional hearing about McNamee's testimony in the Mitchell Report on steroid use in baseball that implicated the former New York pitcher.

McNamee's lawyer expects executive pardon

Associated Press

One of Brian McNamee's lawyers predicted Roger Clemens will be pardoned by President Bush, saying some Republicans treated his client harshly because of some Democrats focused on his friendship with the Bush family.

Richard Emery made the claims Thursday, a day after a congressional hearing broke down along party lines. Many Democrats were skeptical of Clemens' denials he used performance-enhancing drugs and Republicans questioned the character of McNamee, the personal trainer who made the accusations against the pitcher.

"It would be the easiest thing in the world for George W. Bush, given the corrupt proclivities of his administration, to say Roger Clemens is an American hero, Roger Clemens helped children," Emery said in a telephone interview. "It's my belief they have some reason to believe they can get a pardon."

During Wednesday's session before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Clemens repeated his denials under oath, which could lead to criminal charges if federal prosecutors conclude he made false statements or obstructed Congress.

"I'm not aware of Mr. Clemens having been charged with anything," White House deputy press secretary Tony Fratto said after being told of Emery's remarks.

Emery cited Bush's decision last year to commute the 2-year prison sentence of L. Lewis "Scooter" Libby, his vice president's former top aide. Libby was convicted in the case of the leaked identity of a CIA operative.

In addition, Emery said he believes Bush would pardon Clemens even before an indictment or conviction, as President Ford did with President Nixon.

During the hearing, Clemens cited his friendship with Bush's father, President George H.W. Bush, a baseball fan who regularly attends Houston Astros' games. Clemens said he was on a recent hunting trip when the older Bush called with words of support.

"When all this happened, the former president of the United States found me in a deer blind in south Texas and expressed his concern that this was unbelievable, and stay strong and hold your head up high," Clemens testified.

Emery said as he thought about the testimony overnight, Clemens' reference to the call from the older Bush convinced him the questioning by Republicans was a concerted effort.

**IN BRIEF**

Qualifying races set stage for Hendrick-Gibbs showdown

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — They showed up as favorites, endured their share of failures and found a way to stay at the front of the Daytona 500.

There's a reason Hendrick Motorsports and Joe Gibbs Racing are the ones to beat in NASCAR. Now, they'll try to beat each other in a super showdown in the biggest race of the year.

"It's going to be the epic battle, and it should be the battle of a lifetime and the century," Gibbs driver Tony Stewart quipped. "There may not be another battle of this proportion for the rest of my life, my career, for the century."

Stewart was of course overplaying the magnitude of Sunday's season-opener. But when Hendrick driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Gibbs driver Denny Hamlin each won a qualifying race Thursday, it set the stage for a fabulous battle.

Dolphins release veteran linebacker

MIAMI — If Zach Thomas decides to play a 13th NFL season, it will almost certainly be with the Miami Dolphins.

Thomas, a seven-time Pro Bowl linebacker and one of the most popular and productive players ever to wear a Dolphins uniform, was released Thursday, the biggest move yet in Miami's massive rebuilding project.

"I have a tremendous appreciation and admiration not only for the Dolphins organization, but for the fans as well, for all of the support that they have given me," Thomas said in a statement, in which he thanked owner Wayne Huizenga, new football operations head Bill Parcells and general manager Jeff Ireland.

The 34-year-old linebacker said he plans to play with another team next season. There's always a chance he could re-sign with Miami, although that seems, at best, doubtful.

"I am healthy and look forward to playing in 2008, but will always consider myself a Miami Dolphin," Thomas said.

Bryant chooses rest over surgery for injured finger

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. — Kobe Bryant was diagnosed with a torn ligament in his right pinkie finger Thursday and the Lakers All-Star has decided not to undergo surgery that could sideline him for six weeks.

The damage occurred when Bryant dislocated the finger at New Jersey on Feb. 5, and was aggravated in Wednesday night's game at Minnesota.

The team said Thursday that the damage was more extensive than first believed. There is a complete tear of the radial collateral ligament and avulsion fracture, in which a small bone fragment had been pulled off by a tendon.
Irish face tough field in first spring tourney

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

After a three-month break in competitive play, No. 20 Notre Dame heads off the second half of its season at the Central District Invitational tournament in Parrish, Fla., on Monday. Held at the River Wilderness Golf Club and hosted by Michigan State, the tournament should prove to be the toughest contest yet for the Irish, who started the season strong last fall with three first-place finishes in five tournaments.

Notre Dame will compete against stiff competition this weekend, including No. 7 Arkansas, No. 21 Michigan State and No. 25 Texas A&M. Head coach Susan Holt said the young Irish golfers, led by freshman So-Hyun Park, will be tested. "They're going to be tough because of the weather. We'll be right on our heels a lot of the time on this one," Holt said. "This is tough competition. These are tough teams. We'll be at a little bit of a disadvantage because of the recent weather in South Bend." Although the team has been able to practice at its indoor facilities, Notre Dame has not played in a competitive tournament since October's Ann Rhodes Intercollegiate in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Holt said it is difficult to prepare mentally for tournament play after the extended break.

"Golf is basically hitting shots and playing holes and managing our game," Holt said. "We're able to work on our short game indoors at our new practice facility and work on our driving outdoors. I want to look to get us back into our mode, that thought process that comes with managing the game."

As a result, the focus for the Irish this weekend is to ease themselves back into competitive play. "I'd like them to get comfortable again out on the course," Holt said, "if they can really hone in on managing the game and managing the course, we can save some strokes. I don't expect them to be spot on, I just want them to focus on managing the course and themselves."

"Golf is basically hitting shots and playing holes and managing our game." - Susan Holt, Irish coach

"We'll be right on our heels a lot of the time on this one." - Susan Holt, Irish coach

The River Wilderness Golf Club is a par 72, 6,100-yard course, featuring winding water hazards and tricky approach shots. It has hosted the Central District Invitational since 2002. "It's a playable, scoreable course," Holt said. "It's a good course to get back into it. The greens are large and undulating and can be fast depending on the weather. That's the real trick to scoring well, to play the greens well." After a practice round on Sunday, the tournament rounds will be played on Monday and Tuesday.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu
ND SOFTBALL

Irish open season at ASU tourney

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

The Irish will escape for the weekend from the South Bend cold to compete in Arizona State's season-opening Kajikawa Classic in Tempe, Ariz., this weekend. The team will run a gauntlet of five games in the course of the three-day weekend. The tournament starts Friday and will include two of the top teams in the nation — No. 1 Arizona and No. 3 Texas A&M.

"We are going into a hot-bed of competition right off the bat," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "These are five very good teams we are going to play."

Notre Dame is coming off a 32-24 Irish in the 2007 season and its ninth consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance. The Irish hope that their tough early schedule will help them prepare for the remainder of their spring schedule.

"These first couple of games will give us an idea of where we are at as a team," Gumpf said. "We have to believe that we are good enough to beat anyone."

The Irish return only five starters, two of which are seniors. Despite being a young team, Notre Dame will look to play a balanced game this weekend and in the upcoming season. The experienced trio of senior second baseman Katie Laiing, junior pitcher Brittany Barger, and senior infielder Linda Kohan will lead the new Irish players.

"Katie [Laiing] will be very important to us this year, especially since she is only one of two seniors," Gumpf said. Freshman pitcher Jody Valdivia is expected to make an immediate impact. It will be up to Valdivia and her fellow freshmen to step up and fill in the gaps in the Irish batting order. "I would have to say youth is our only real concern right now," Gumpf said. "But I like a lot of what our young players bring to the table."

The Irish will kick off a tough Friday morning with a game against Texas A&M, who are off to their best start since 1986 and are a tough opening match for the Irish.

Friday afternoon won't be any easier for the Irish as they are set to take on two-time defending NCAA champion Arizona. The Wildcats went 50-14-1 last year and will return six position starters along with All-American pitcher Taryne Moffatt. The Wildcats enter the tournament ranked No. 1 in almost every preseason poll.

"I think that if we don't get the jitters, we will be able to very well play," Gumpf said. The Irish face Western Kentucky and No. 3 Texas A&M on Saturday. The second game will likely prove more trying for Notre Dame as Texas A&M is 5-1 on the season. But Gumpf said the Aggies are only one team of many in the competitive pool.

"There are no easy teams in the field," Gumpf said. "Cal is the only team below .500, and they won't be for very long."

The Irish finish the weekend Sunday morning against California (2-4) before returning home.

Contact Jared Jedick at jedick@nd.edu

SPORTS

Irish optimistic about MIAA meet

By PETE REISENAUR
Sports Writer

A season of preparation has led up to this weekend for the Belles, who travel to Michigan to compete in the MIAA championship meet over the weekend.

The meet starts Thursday at the Holland Aquatic Center in Holland, Mich., and continues until Sunday.

Although the Belles have dropped four meets in a row, the season's performances caused the Belles to have high hopes for the weekend. Saint Mary's coach Ryan Dombkowski said he's excited to see how the all-freshman 400 medley team does in the first big meet of the season.

"I would have to say youth is our only real concern right now," Gumpf said. "But I like a lot of what our young players bring to the table."

Contestants are ranked only five seniors," Gumpf said. "These are five very good teams we are going to play."

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Contact Jared Jedick at jedick@nd.edu

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Firing Sampson could be costly for Indiana

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Getting rid of coach Kelvin Sampson might not be the solution to Indiana's problems. It's a move that might just create a bigger mess.

When Sampson was accused Wednesday of five major NCAA infractions, it immediately set off a widespread debate over what the university should do next and whether Sampson should continue coaching at Indiana, which hasn't had a major NCAA rules violation in nearly half a century.

"The thing I'm disappointed with is that the allegations have come out, and I feel we have to react in some way that's in the best interests of the university," trustee Philip Eskew Jr. said. "I think there are options."

There's no guarantee the NCAA would reduce Indiana's potential penalties, and the university, which has spent the past decade pouring millions of dollars to fund coaches and athletic directors, could wind up in another costly split-up.

According to the contract signed in April 2006, Indiana pays Sampson an annual base salary of $2.5 million. With five years left on the deal, the cost could reach at least $25 million.

Sampson's deal includes termination clauses for violations of university or NCAA rules that eliminate the payments. Attorneys, however, have differing views on whether the accusations, which include providing false or misleading information to investigators, would allow Indiana to fire Sampson with cause and get off the financial hook.

Athletic director Rick Greenspan acknowledged Wednesday there are only allegations since the NCAA has not yet made a final ruling on the infractions committee June 14, with a final ruling expected within a month.

"It's a move that might just create a bigger mess."

Greenspan acknowledged the university could use either one to make its case for firing Sampson versus retaining him. Both attorneys believe they are broad enough provisions that the university could use either one to make its case for firing Sampson with cause.

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**Men's Golf**

**ND begins spring with Florida invite**

By PETE REISENAU
Sporst Writer

Notre Dame starts its second season this weekend when they travel to Ponce Vedra Beach, Fla., to compete in the John Hayt Collegiate Invitational.

North Florida will host the invitational at the Country Club, where national powers No. 2 Alabama and No. 5 GLCA teams rode.

The Irish faced well during the fall despite not winning any tournaments. They have finished no worse than ninth and as high as second on a number of occasions.

This season continues the team's resurgence under head coach Jim Kubinski. Until the start of this year, Notre Dame's play against national-

by-ranked opponents has helped its rebirth. Since Kubinski arrived, the Irish have defended 13 top-25 teams and posted 12 top-five tournament finishes.

The underclassmen have performed well for the Irish this season. Four of the top five scorers for the Irish are underclassmen, and the two lowest scorers have come from freshmen or sophomores.

Sophomore Doug Fortner leads the team with a 73.72 stroke average, followed by freshman Tyler Hock, who has a 73.20 average.

Freshman Jeff Chen (73.33), senior Greg Rodgers (73.62) and junior Josh Sandman (74.00) round out the top five leading scorers.

Contact Pete Reisenaust at preisena@nd.edu

**SMC Basketball**

**Belles face last-place Kalamazoo**

**Squad looks for second win of season over Hornets after Albion loss**

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will look to bounce back after a 78-70 loss to second-place Albion last weekend. The seventh-place Belles head back to the court Saturday to take on last-place Kalamazoo at home.

When Saint Mary's (5-8 MAIA, 9-17 last season) took on Kalamazoo (11-12 MAIA, 4-17) last February in the first game of the season, the Belles suffered their sixth straight loss and were surprisingly outscored 72-69 in the first half and up until the last minute of the game to give the Belles the 72-69 win bringing their game total to a school record 41 points.

"We have to find a way to play forty minutes of team defense in order to be successful down the stretch," head coach Jenn Henley said.

"Our focus continues to be our defense in order to be successful down the stretch," head coach Jenn Henley said.

The Hornets kept the game close the entire 40 minutes of that loss, leading at the half and up until the last minute of the game.

Since that game, the Belles have gone 2-5, defeating Tri-State and Adrian 74-71 and 61-51, respectively. However, the Belles have continued to post impressive numbers offensively and defensively.

In addition, Kessler set a new Saint Mary's career three-record in last week's loss to Albion. The senior has led the Belles in rebounding, averaging 11 points per game, respectively. Kessler leads with 415 leading scorers.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@stmarys.edu

**Irish use week off to prepare for Big East**

**Irish freshman Justin Schneider prepares to jump in the pole vault at the Blue/Gold Invitational on Dec. 7.**

**By EUGENIA ALFONZO**
Sports Writer

Just because the Irish have the week off doesn't mean they won't be working.

"We don't have a meet this weekend so we're going to be training very hard," head coach for Piano said "Especially on the indoor season, we'll be working hard and then see what happens a week from now."

The Irish nabbed over 42 Big East qualifications during the indoor season, but are now focusing on the Big East conference championships, which take place at the Armory in New York, N.Y., on Feb. 23 and 24.

Notre Dame had some setbacks to their performance, Piano said. "Actually a lot of people have gotten sick with the flu, but they have gotten better and are expecting to do well," he said.

It's not going to just be the flu that the Irish will be battling in a week and a half. Piano said, "In fact, Georgetown might be the most improved team of the Big East, while Louisville won the outdoor Big East meet last year."

The strong showing at the Meyo Invitational last weekend helped give the Irish momentum before heading to New York next week. "It was a great meet overall," Piano said. "There were over thirty teams here and times were terrific jumps and throws were very good as well."

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at calfonzo@nd.edu

**An Evening of Prayer From Around the World**

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Laxers begin season with Canisius, Duquesne

By MATT CAMBER
Sports Writer

Coming off an 11-6 year (3-2 Big East), No. 12 Notre Dame will host Canisius at 5 p.m. tonight before taking on Duquesne at noon Sunday. Both games will be played in the Loftus Sports Center.

Despite losing five starters from last year’s squad, including a pair of all-Big East performers, the Irish will enter tonight’s season opener with both experience and confidence, thanks in part to senior captains Caitlin McKinney and Becky Ranck.

“We did lose some starters, but we’ve traditionally had a good bench and I think that’s the case again this year,” said Ranck, a two-time All-American who scored 44 goals and recorded 21 assists a year ago. “With these positions opening up, you do kind of hold your breath, but the people who have been in there have been doing awesome. It’s nice to see new faces and fresh people in there.”

A highly-touted freshman class joins the returning cast of McKinney, Ranck, junior attacker Jillian Byers — a two-time All-American who scored 58 goals last season — and junior midfielder Erin Stoeckert (21 goals, 15 assists) to provide the Irish with a balance of youth and experience.

Coach Tracy Coyne said the ups and downs the senior class has undergone — from three wins to a Final Four appearance as sophomores to missing the NCAA tournament last year — are a positive heading into another campaign.

“Now, here this group is as seniors with a good perspective and a good vision,” said Coyne, who is entering her 12th year at the helm of the Notre Dame program. “The younger players on this team have definitely felt the unity of the senior class, and the seniors have done a great job outlining what we want to accomplish this season and then demonstrating that in practice.”

Between Ranck’s ability to lead the defense by example and McKinney’s light-hearted, more vocal leadership style on offense, the Irish seem to have just the right recipe for success.

“The older girls on the team have really been able to welcome the freshmen and teach them how we do things,” Coyne said. “Because of that, the burden really isn’t on the younger players to have to do things other than follow the things the older players do.”

Coyne also said the athleticism of freshman midfielders Kaitlin Keena and Shaylyn Bianry will have them starting soon.

Though Notre Dame seems to have the leadership aspect of the game down, much is yet to be determined as far as playing strategy goes. The Irish have yet to even scrimmage heading into tonight’s opening contest, a first in Coyne’s tenure here.

“I guess we’ll find out tonight what our style’s going to be,” Coyne said. “Generally, we like to be an up-tempo, aggressive-on-defense type of team. There are a lot of unknowns, but we know what we do well. We’ll go out with a game plan, but we’ll be ready in-game to make any adjustments that are necessary.”

While the Irish are still unsure of how their returners and newcomers will mesh during the season opener, a first for Canisius and Duquesne,” Coyne said. “We’re going to go out and bring what we need to get it done — which is win. Bottom line: 2-0 after the weekend.”

Contact Matt Camber at mgamber@nd.edu

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ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

Irish take down OSU to even their record

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

After participating in three matches in as many days at the ITA National Team Indoors, Notre Dame now has a lot on its plate this weekend as the pace of the season begins to pick up again.

The Irish started their three-game weekend by standing with a 2-5 victory over No. 47 Ohio State on Thursday bringing their record up to an even 4-4 this season.

Irish coach Jay Louderback commented on the overall season to cover those.

Louderback focused on conditioning in the competition.

“We want to continue our good play," Bayliss said. "It is a wide open event, but we want to play well. I will be happy with any result since we haven't seen some of these teams in a while.

Another freshman who impressed Bayliss this spring season was David Anderson.

“Anderson has come through the door," Bayliss said. "He's a doubles team, and that will be very important for our success in the close matches.”

Bayliss has really improved his game this fall and last season, Bayliss said. "They have each taken turns in being the spotlight. Tyler Davis is a very posed doubles player.

The team is mostly healthy heading into Seattle. Bayliss said his squad has a few bumps and bruises, but no major injuries. Bayliss also said strength and conditioning intern Eric Overland has emphasized stretching and cool downs after each practice. "We're taking it one step at a time," Bayliss said. "It’s a long season and we want to improve as a team.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabarek@nd.edu

Irish senior Sheeva Parbhu looks to return a shot during Notre Dame's 4-3 win over Wisconsin on Feb. 9. Parbhu won his match, which lasted four hours, in three sets.

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**Big East**

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5.0, Michael at 7.9 and Jones
3.5, McGraw said. Even though the loss to Connecticut knocked the Irish from the second-place slot in the Big East standings that they had occupied for several weeks, junior forward Ryan Ayers said the team is more concerned with simply playing well every game.

"It's not really an issue," Ayers said. "Connecticut's a really good team. We lost a really good team so we shouldn't even worry about that." Irish sophomore Luke Harangody's 32 points and 16 rebounds against Connecticut raised his overall averages in those categories to 20.8 and 10.4, respectively. In conference play, Harangody's 24.3 points and 12.1 rebounds per contest lead the Big East.

Brogan, meanwhile, lacks a superstar but has a balanced offensive attack. The Scarlet Knights feature three players—J.R. Inman, Corey Chandler and Anthony Farmer—who with double-figure scoring averages for the season. In addition, Rutgers freshman guard Mike Coburn averages 16.9 points per game during Big East play.

Hilleland said the Irish are happy they do not have a long layoff and are hoping to get back on the right track.

"We really thought we could have won that (Connecticut) game and it is kind of leaves a bad taste in your mouth," Hilleland said. "So we definitely need to get back on the road and try it out against Rutgers.

Contact Fran Tolan at
ftolan@nd.edu

**Orange**

continued from page 24

guards Fantasia Goodwin and Nicole Michael at 13.0 and guard Erica Morrow at 12.4.

McGraw said that what makes the Orange scoring threats even more dangerous is their offense is so versatile.

"They're just all really good at doing anything on the ball, shooting the ball," she said. "It's a nightmare matchup for us.

McGraw said Syracuse presents her team with a lot of tough matchups especially because senior guard Tasha Gaines—who has been the team's best defender all season—can guard any player at a time.

"Obviously there's a lot of mismatches. We're going to work on it all day (Thursday) on the ball, just see if we can guard her," McGraw said.

Notre Dame will also look to continue improving their rebounding Saturday. The Nanooks have three players (Goodwin at 9.5, Michael at 7.9 and Jones at 7.8) who all average more rebounds per game than anyone on Notre Dame's roster.

"They're more athletic, they're better. Again we're working on containing and containing the ball.... We're going to get in and get a body on them, because we aren't going to be out-rebounding people."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

**Nanooks**

continued from page 24

practices (this week), both high contact and intense, so I think we're ready to get things going.

The Irish will attempt to overcome potential symptoms of jet lag following a journey that began with the team's bus ride to Chicago on Wednesday, continued with Thursday's flight from Chicago to Columbus, and ended with the flight from Columbus to Anchorage, where the Irish landed via a flight from Seattle.

"The travel is more of a challenge. It's not really an issue unless you make one out of it," McGraw said. "So we definitely need to get back on the road and try it out against Rutgers.

"For my parents and a lot of the extended family making the trip up there, it'll be a neat experience."

Jordan Pearce
Irish goalie

**Wright State**

continued from page 24

are Connecticut, or we'll be in trouble.

Irish junior forward Zach Hillesland said Notre Dame will not make any drastic adjustments for the contest with the Rutgers.

"We have to be ready to play Rutgers were Connecticut, or we'll be in trouble."

Mike Brey
Irish coach

Guard Lindsay Schrader leads the team with 5.8 assists per game and seven or more assists in 12 of 20 games played.

"They're more athletic, they're better," McGraw said. "Again we're working on boxing out and containing the ball.... We're going to get in and get a body on them, because we aren't going to be out-rebounding people."

Gaines has played exceptionally well on both ends of the court in late, scoring in double figures four times in a row—the longest streak of her four years at Notre Dame.

"She's playing like a senior," McGraw said. "She's just got to do everything she can to put us in a good position." Wednesday night's 99-76 win over Marquette was a good sign for the Irish that they could win without freshman forward Devereaux Peters, who tore her left ACL on Sunday against Pittsburgh.

"I really feel like the injury to Devereaux has given the other players more inspiration to do more," McGraw said.

"It's a great feeling when your team feels that they're going to win and they're going to win with their efforts."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach
Across
1 Like the reading
2 Of the thermometer
7 Molly who wrote
12 London locale of
16 Relations of
20 Facility
21 Unwavering
22 Crossword clue, noteworthy in being medically
23 Unwavering
25 Pilferers from
26 Alabaman who
27 Foreign title
30 Makes a fraidy-
cat raise
32 Cause
33 Put two and two
35 Claudia ___
36 "I almost forgot.
40 Deborah who
42 Give praise
44 Observatory
45 Strength of a
46 Parts of a

Down
1 20 Makes a fraidy-
cat raise
2 Horse of the
Year that won the
1949 Preakness and
Belmont
3 " said many times."
4 Soprano
5 Put in to start
9 Fit
10 Ones without a
chance in the
world
11 "Now listen!"
13 London locale of
Pride, Dor.,
Gussi and
George Amrani
14 Wife
17 Gets ready for
dinner
22 ___ de frase
24 Olivia de
Haviland film of
1949
25 Pilferers from
28 Part of Act IV
30 'The first
network for men'
31 Overplayed?
35 Claudia ___
37 "What have
you ___?"
39 Meet away from
39 Time out for

By Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

**FRIDAYS WITH FRAN**

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Listen to Pharell and ask "Far real?"

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Double stamp it but beware of the all-powerful triple stamp.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Don't color outside the lines or you won't get a gold star.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): We have figured out the input on the DVD player. Go home and praise Fred Claus.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Call (845)729-1043 and say, "Hi Mom!!!!!!"


**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Remember the golden age when pencil meant weiner and eraser meant butt?

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I'll sharpen your pencil with my eraser.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): JPW equals 'Johncandy Punching Willywink.'

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Overdose on Tylenol this weekend. But be careful not to overindulge.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Did you ever wonder how they build suspension bridges? My theory is that glaciers did it during the Ice Age. Nature sure is amazing, huh?

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Il leggero the inbox of Poohgas Woman at kkarlix@nd.edu. It doesn't even matter what you say. Just make sure to address it to Poohgas Woman.

**THE OBSERVER**

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Sports Writer

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Road redemption?

Squad travels east to face Scarlet Knights

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

After an 84-78 loss to Connecticut on Wednesday night, Notre Dame will again head east to play Rutgers on Sunday. Despite the tough loss to the Huskies, the Irish had an upbeat attitude before practice Thursday.

"I think our confidence is still sky high," senior captain Rob Kurz said. "We've been playing great and one loss is not gonna derail our confidence in any way."

The defeat at Connecticut dropped Notre Dame's Big East road record to 2-3, but coach Mike Brey said his team is excited to play away from the Joyce Center.

"I love that we have another road game in an on-campus facility," he said. "That fan base is on us always — it's a tough place to play."

While the Irish fell to 8-3 and tie for third place in the Big East with the loss to Connecticut, Rutgers has lan-

see BIG EAST/page 22

ND Women's Basketball

Team's 3-game road stretch starts with Syracuse

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame begins a three-game conference road trip — the only one this season for any team in the Big East — on Saturday against Syracuse in the Carrier Dome.

"I think he's up for coach of the year," said Irish coach Muffet McGraw of Hillsman.

"He's done a great job. He has a really good group."

One reason for Syracuse's success this season is its ability to take care of its home court. The Orange have fallen only once in the Carrier Dome — a 65-59 loss to then-No. 1 Connecticut.

The Carrier Dome presents a unique problem for the Irish. So far this season, the Irish have played in front of an average of 5,367 fans per game, including three games of over 10,000 people. But at Syracuse, where the maximum capacity for basketball is 13,133, the Orange have fallen 15th in the conference.

"They're just getting going, it's just a vast, empty backcourt," McGraw said. "It's just a vast, empty backcourt."

see ORANGE/page 22

MEN'S LACROSSE

Record-setting defense back for season opener

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

Two teams with postseason expectations will face their first test Saturday. As Notre Dame travels to Maryland to play ranked Loyola-Maryland to open the season. The Irish, ranked No. 10 in the preseason poll, will travel to Baltimore to face the No. 17 Greyhounds. The same two teams met in last year's season opener, a close match in South Bend.

The Irish trailed late but rallied for a 9-7 win thanks in large part to goalkeeper Joey Kemp, who held Loyola scoreless over the last 22 minutes. Despite the win in last season's opener, the Irish are 2-3 all-time against Loyola. The Greyhounds are 15-1 at home openers in the program's history.

Even though Loyola lost several starters from last year's NCAA Tournament team, Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said their junior college team has a strong, talented skill set, including four average double-digit scorers. Guard Chris lantern, who transferred from Odessa College (a junior college) after last sea-

see DEFEND/page 21

MEN'S TENNIS

ND carries streak to Seattle

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame carries a two-game win streak to Seattle this weekend for the National Team Indoor competition, which begins today. The Irish have not lost since falling 5-2 to No. 1 Virginia on Jan. 27 and will face No. 8 UCLA in the first round of the tournament.

The No. 9 Irish (7-1) won two matches last weekend over Southwestern Midwest University and Wisconsin.

see PARBHU/page 21