University switches to Common App

Office of Admissions will accept standardized format next year with supplemental portion

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

Prospective students will apply to Notre Dame through the Common Application next year as the Office of Admissions abandons its custom application for the first time.

The change was made to ease the rigorous admissions process for high school seniors, said Dan Saracino, director of the Office of Admissions. Students will be able to access the Common Application on July 1.

The Common Application originated in 1975 when 15 private universities agreed to accept a single, standardized application for admission. More than 300 universities and colleges in the United States are now members of the Common Application. The Common Application is designed to let admissions officers evaluate all aspects of a candidate’s record, Saracino said.

“You, as an institution, have to be committed to viewing application files holistically — not just looking at numbers — and be committed to diversity,” he said.

Though Notre Dame has been asked to join the Common Application several times, the University said, joining before this year “did not seem necessary.” The Common Application was once considered new and experimental, Saracino said.

“Now they have gotten all the kinks out of it,” he said. “I have heard nothing but good things about it recently. Students and colleges are happy with it.”

Now that the Common Application is completely online and supported by software, its use will allow elimination of paper waste and confusion from written applications, Saracino said.

“It will be much more efficient,” he said.

The Common Application will also simplify the admissions process for students who can use the same form for the majority of their applications, he said.

“Virtually all of the schools that our students also apply to are members of the Common Application,” he said. “We know the schools our students also apply to. If a student applies to Northwestern, or Stanford, let them for convenience sake, be able to apply to Notre Dame the same way.”

Northwestern and Stanford, along with the University of Chicago, are among a number of schools that recently joined the Common Application, Saracino said.

“Joining just seemed like the right thing to do,” he said.

“Notre Dame’s Common Application will have a supplemental application, which we can have, and we always want to have our student body this year,” he said.

“We’ve been very pleased with our fan support, and in particular the student body this year,’’ Berio said. “We always want a full building. When filled to capacity, the JACC holds 11,418 people.

“We want as much of a home court advantage as we can have, and we always want to have our student body in hand and with us along the way,” he said.

This season, ticket sales increased from last season, which saw only two black men on campus.

Two-year Wabruda president, senior William David Williams, said he envisioned the conference a year ago but began planning the event in December.

The Conference was sponsored by the Notre Dame student group Wabruda in honor of Black History Month. Wabruda, a group whose name means “brother” in Swahili, promotes brotherhood and leadership among students and colleges in the United States.

Tickets set aside specifically for some away football games, there will be tickets set aside for students who are interested, provided that the student body has had on our campus,” Williams said.

Presentations given by three students Saturday afternoon attracted about 100 students, faculty, staff and community members, he said.

The Conference was designed to address black history and its effects on American society today, Williams said.

“I think that we commit cultural genocide by ignoring these issues,” Williams said.

Fan support is essential for the Fighting Irish, Berio said. He did not say how many tickets will be available through the University for the Big East tournament.

Unlike ticket distribution for some away football games, there will be no Big East tournament tickets set aside specifically for students.

Student tickets will not be set aside for the Big East tournament in New York City.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Campaign strategies

Every student by now has noticed the plethora of campaign posters canvassing the walls of their dorms, classroom buildings, and dining halls. Everyone we go, we’ve been reminded to vote for some generic ticket for class council in yesterday’s election. Most of the posters are exactly the same. They feature the four candidates in formal attire smiling, arms crossed and standing in front of some school landmark like the Dome or that giant granite ball in CoMo. As someone who has seen both his parents run for election four times in the past eight years, I know how important it is to make yourself stand out to the voters.

Distinguishing yourself from the other candidates is one of the most important things you can do, and one of the best ways to do this is through effective, unique advertising.

The trend of smiling faces in front of some Notre Dame landmark has to stop. If you want to win, you have to do something that really reaches out to voters and makes them want to do something that really reaches out to voters and makes them want to vote for you.

One of the major reasons Bob Reish and Grant Schmidt were so successful in their campaign for student body president and vice president was because of their Web site, bosandgrant.com. This was easy for students to remember, and Reish and Schmidt won their election by more than 1,000 votes.

However, most tickets for both junior and sophomore class council candidates have failed to learn from this example. There is one — the sophomore class council ticket of Zach Reuvers, Steven Ouyang, Melissa Truitt and Nicole Navas.

Through their Bob and Grant inspired Web site, zachandsteve.com, Reuvers and Ouyang have separated themselves from rest of the generic tickets.

However, it is in their poster that really helps set them apart. Inspired by the Will Ferrell movie “Anchorman,” the four candidates are set in front of a red background that features the words “News Team 11.

Ouyang, set to the far left, is wearing a cowboy hat while waving at the voters. Reuvers is in the center, flanked by Truitt and Navas and although he does have his arms crossed, his face conveys the joking-seriousness that Ferrell is best known for.

Steve Carell’s character from the movie, Brick Tamland, is also featured standing in the right corner.

It is this type of poster that will really stick in students’ minds and influence their voting. Besides, having Steve Carell in your poster is way cooler than that granite monstrosity in CoMo.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho6@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets much of a professional publication and errors by the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize the errors we make and strive to ensure that we make the minimum. If you have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

OFFBEAT

German police dogs to wear shoes

BERLIN — Police dogs in the western city of Duesseldorf will no longer get their feet dirty when on patrol — the entire dog unit will soon be equipped with blue plastic fiber shoes, a police spokesman said Monday.

“All 20 of our police dogs — German and Belgian shepherds — are currently being trained to walk in these shoes,” Andre Hartwich said. “I’m not sure they like it, but they’ll have to get used to it.”

The unusual footwear is not a fashion statement, Hartwich said, but rather a necessity due to the high rate of paw injuries on duty. Especially in the city’s historical old town — famous for both its pubs and drunken revelers — the dogs often step into broken beer bottles.

School bus driver claims he is a cop

ECONOMY, Pa. — A school bus driver in Beaver County said he told students he was an undercover officer so they wouldn’t misbehave on the bus. They didn’t.

But the real police said what William Dunn, 59, did was wrong and have him charged with imper-sonating a public servant. Police said Dunn flashed a badge and identified himself as an undercover offi-cer to at least three people on Feb. 5.

Dunn said a fellow bus driver, who has asthma, had been harassed by stu-dents, and he was driving her route that day. Dunn said he didn’t mean any harm.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

THE OBSERVER

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IN BRIEF

Jo Reger, associate professor of sociology at Oakland University, will speak on “Fashion & Feminism in the Contemporary U.S. Women’s Movement” at 12:30 p.m. today in the auditorium of the Heschburgh Center for International Studies.

Former Senator Rick Santorum will present a lecture entitled “Gathering Storm of the 21st Century” today at 7 p.m. in the McKenna Hall audi-torium. The lecture is sponsored by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute and the Ethics and Public Policy Center.

ND women’s basketball will play South Florida Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

The Gender Relations Center is presenting a Notre Dating panel discussion Wednesday at 9 p.m. in the Coleman-Morse lounge. The discussion will address how competition and perfectionism affect gender relations at Notre Dame.

The Bengal Bouts quarterfinals will be held Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Joyce Center Fieldhouse. Tickets are available at the Ticket Office.

The film “The Diving Bell and the Butterfly” will be shown at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on Thursday at 7 p.m.

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

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

Question of the Day: If you could have a lifetime supply of anything, what would it be and why?

Jen Padgett junior McGinn

"Cupcakes because every day is delicious."

Sean Mallin junior Keough

"Spam — it doesn’t need a reason."

Caitlin Hildebrand junior Lewis

"Tommy Gruff because he’s a rock star."

Charles Ramsey junior Mayrissay

"I’d like a lifetime supply of ‘Hint of Lime’ Tostitos — taste one and you’ll know why."

Mark Lyons sophomore Knott

"Crispix ... dah."

Mary Beauciar sophomore Pangborn

"98 percent dark chocolate."

Graduate student Ed Crago, left, and art professor Garrett Krueger, right, pour molten brass into molds in Riley Hall of Art & Design for a project by graduate stu-dent Emily Gustafson, standing in background.

Local Weather

TODAY TONIGHT WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

HIGH 27 20 19 20 20 25

LOW 20 15 15 15 15 15

Wealther

Atlanta 55 / 48 Boston 44 / 30 Chicago 29 / 26 Denver 46 / 18 Houston 61 / 53 Los Angeles 74 / 50 Minneapolis 24 / 17 New York 44 / 34 Philadelphia 50 / 32 Phoenix 78 / 50 Seattle 51 / 36 St. Louis 33 / 32 Tampa 78 / 65 Washington 51 / 37

DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Students wear shoes, a police spokesman said Monday. They are presenting a public servant.
Former prof. publishes religious education text

Surveying 12,463 students in 169 institutions, the study suggests the existence of a "great divide" between the desires of faculty members to encourage "critical thinking" and students' desires for spiritual development, and examines the methods many faculty employ to address it.

According to one review by Raymond Brady Williams of Wabash College, Walvoord's new book is "instructive, inspiring, practical. This is scholarship of teaching at its best—careful analyses of students' and teachers' goals and evaluations along with detailed case studies of effective teaching. Every teacher can learn from this book how to become a better teacher."

Other books by Walvoord include Academic Departments: How They Flourish, How They Change; "Assessment Clear and Simple: Effective Grading A Tool for Learning and Assessment," and "Helping Students Write Well: A Guide for Teachers in All Disciplines."

"This is scholarship of teaching at its best—careful analyses of students' and teachers' goals." Raymond Brady Williams book reviewer

Model UN draws students

By DAVIS RHORER, Jr.

While students at Saint Mary's College have studied abroad for years, one student organization is bringing the themes of international diplomacy and cultural diversity back to campus.

This March, five members of the Around the World club, a group comprised of students interested in studying different cultures and foreign nations, will travel to the University of California-Berkeley to participate in a national collegiate model United Nations forum.

"I always wanted to participate in model UN," said Meghann Ferrara, an around the world junior.

"We're expanding what our objectives and goals are," said Meghan Ferrara, an around the world junior.

"I always wanted to participate in model UN." Jingqiu Guan, an around the world freshman.

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 Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu or Kyle West at kwesi1@nd.edu if interested.
Admission

continued from page 1

will contain "more information than ever before," he said.

For example, Saracino explained that the University is interested in the religious background of the applicants, but "it’s left as is left off the Common Application. The supplement will also contain an additional essay question, he said.

He attributed high sales to coaching and the way that the team is playing, as well as the success of the season.

"Coach Brey and the team have done a fabulous job of playing and of course riding a 36-game winning streak," Berio said.

Junior Troy Sunseri, who has attended nearly every home game this season, agreed that the success of the team does encourage attendance.

"The atmosphere in the Joyce Center has been "pretty electric," he said.

"We have a great fan base, and when the team is hot ... fans will get real into it and will bring the team back into it," Sunseri said. He added that Notre Dame fans are "very knowledgeable" about the game and "know what they are talking about."

Sophomore Tommy DeGregoris, who purchased student tickets and has attended most home games, has also noticed the size and liveliness of the fan base growing throughout the season.

"As the season goes on, other than the Marquette game — which was a huge spike — the student section has been getting bigger, but more importantly, the energy of the section is getting better and better," DeGregoris said.

"It looked like the student section was sold out, it was pretty much packed, a lot of good energy," he said.

"Coach Brey and the team have done a fabulous job of playing … and of course riding a 36-game winning streak."

Josh Berio
director Ticket Office

"Historically, tickets have been made available to students if at all possible."

Josh Berlo
director Ticket Office

The University of Notre Dame Multicultural Student Programs and Services is proud to invite you to a theatrical production of "Expanding the Crossroads of Learning Through Innovation and Discovery".

"Black ingenuity is an integral part of everyday life. Peek into the lives of a suburban family as they try to survive in a world gone mad when the inventions of Africans and African Americans disappear!"

Please recycle

The Observer

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

The TheOberSor ◆ CAMPUS NEWS

Shirt

continued from page 1

In 2001, a memorial scholarship was created in honor of Connor Murphy, a junior who died of leukemia, Gaines said. The Fund’s other function is to help students pay for medical expenses.

Gaines said the Financial Management Board will not process applications for memorial scholarships until after the initial funds are allocated, representatives of The Fund will work with the student’s family and friends in order to establish the criteria by which scholarship recipients would be selected.

"Normally, these criteria would reflect some aspect of the memorialized student," she said.

If the necessary $25,000 is acquired, Gaines said the scholarship would pay approximately $750 per year to the student recipient from interest on the endowed sum. However, the scholarship can grow with donations from donors and other on-campus organizations.

The scholarship for Mara Fox, a freshman struck by a car in 1993, has been funded by Fox’s former dorm, Lyons Hall, through the Mara Fox Fund.

"With [Fox’s] dorm, they created an event that currently kicks money into this endowed memorial scholarship," Gaines said.

Gaines said she will be meeting with the Student Bar Association to discuss a scholarship for Aber and with representatives from Pasquerilla East Hall to discuss a scholarship for former resident brain.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon@nd.edu

Tickets

continued from page 1

The Ticket Office directly, Berio said.

"Students are a top priority for any athletic event, Berio said. "Their season tickets have been sold out — the student section has been getting bigger, but more importantly, the energy of the section is getting better and better.""

"Student interest in the Big East Tournament has been markedly low in past years, Berio said last March. "While ticket information for the 12-team Big East tournament is available, NCAA ticket information will not be available until after March 16, when the Irish will know when and where their first, and possibly second, round games will be held," he said.

"Details regarding the cost, quantity, availability and on-sale date are entirely dependent on the NCAA host site and will be made available at least a week after the tournament field is determined," Berio said.

Berio said the Ticket Office and the Offices of Student Affairs work together to determine NCAA ticket availability for students and staff.

"Historically, tickets have been made available to students if at all possible," he said.

"I don’t think [the crowd’s] energy ever dropped off from [last year’s] game to this year’s game," DeGregoris said.

"I think it’s getting bigger pretty much every game," Berio said.

"Students contribute a lot of energy and excitement to the games," he said. "I know our season ticket holders appreciate and enjoy that."

"Everyone prefers it when the students are here for our games," Berio said, however, that student fans are considered important to the success of the teams.

"Whenever possible, the men’s basketball team and Athletic Department want our student body cheering on our teams at our home games," he said.

Contact Emiel Tierney at pierney@nd.edu

Fans

continued from page 1

sellouts — Villanova and Marquette — according to Berio. Student ticket booklets came close to selling out this season.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

N. Korea welcomes N.Y. Philharmonic Powerful gun roar, a showdown

The New York Philharmonic Friday on its way to North Korea appears to have ended a musical diplomatic standoff, one that has swirled for five weeks. The American orchestra was to play in Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, on Tuesday for the first time since the mid-1940s.

Associated Press

Police shooting arouses suspicion

A gunman with a baseball bat killed a police officer in Queens, N.Y., Friday night as the officer and several colleagues were leaving a strip club on Willets Point Boulevard after a night on the town, police said.

Prosecutors said the suspect was a 25-year-old studying industrial management, who was in his final year at the college. The victim was shot in the head near the bus stop outside the club. He died at New York Presbyterian Hospital early Saturday,

Deputy Chief Inspector John E. O'hara, who spoke to reporters at the scene, said the man was shot as he got off a bus and was walking away. He was found dead in the street with his head blown off, he said.

He said the man had the look of a gangster, and that police were trying to determine whether he was linked to the recent violence in the city's boroughs.

Am. Airlines defends staff after in-flight death

NEW YORK — American Airlines defended its staff as professional and its equipment as sound Monday after a swift response to a request for medical attention on a flight from Port-au-Prince to New York.

Flight attendants were trained not to automatically give oxygen to every passenger who requests it but instead use airline criteria to judge when it's needed, said Leslie Mayo, a spokeswoman for the airline.

"By that time the situation was worsening, and they immediately began administering oxygen," she said.

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History
continued from page 1

A planned lecture by Reginald Robinson, a profes­
sor at Southern Illinois University, was prevented
from reaching campus by bod
weather. In his
stead, James Ford spoke to a
student at Notre Dame. He
discussed the history of
black history, Ford spoke of
the history of the Underground Railroad with
black Americans. He added that many blacks knew
and appreciated where they came from, a
theme Williams said was central
to the conference.

After Ford's talk, Verge Gilham, founder of the Association of African-American Role Models
(AARM), discussed black history during the Civil War and the impact of black migration northward.

Saturday's final presentation featured Bishop Gideon Adjei,
founder of Crystal Horizons
Investment and father of Notre Dame junior Alex Adjei.

His lecture, called "Visions for Victory," focused on the number of different platforms on which people must focus in order not only to achieve equality in society, but also to better the world.

Adjei began by introducing himself as the descendent of Ghanaian slave traders. He apologized to the black community for his family's help in selling many blacks into slav­
ey. He noted that his ances­tor was unaware of the inhumane treatment that they were to receive upon arrival in the Americas.

"On behalf of the South Bend and Notre Dame communities, I accept his apology," said David Moss, assistant vice president with the Office of Student Affairs and advisor for Wabruada.

Moss said Adjei's public
apology was one of the most profound aspects of the Conference for him.

"We can now look past this since we have reconciled and look at what we can do to move on," Moss said.

Adjei discussed a number of different areas, or "visions," on which to focus, from regaining spirituality to strengthening family relationships to taking care of educa­
tion, which he said is "the key to success.

Adjei said there is a need for universal betterment of socie­ty, regardless of race, age or socioeconomic status.

These visions for victory can be applied to anyone.
Adjei said.

Saturday's events closed with a performance by spoken
word artist Taalam Acey at
Legend, where the Conference saw its highest attendance with more than 100 audience members.

Williams said.

Sunday's activities took partici­pants out of the classroom with an excursion into south­ern Michigan to view a numer of important Underground Railroad sites, including a visit to the Underground Railroad Cemetery in Vandalia, Mich., a family farm in Paw Paw, Mich., and the Sojourner Truth

statue in Battle Creek, Mich.

Williams and Moss both said they were pleased with Sunday's turnout, particu­larly with the numbers of South Bend community members.

"It was a successful way of building the community between Notre Dame and South Bend," Moss said. Many community members shared their personal
histories of the Underground Railroad with the Wabruada members.

"The Conference really aimed to create some dialogue," Moss said. "The more we can talk about these issues honestly, the more the Notre Dame community can move forward."

Already, the Turkish military says it has killed 153 rebels since fighting began last

Thursday, Turks fired barrage after barrage of artillery shells at rebels Monday, and its mili­
tary said it had hit some 30 targets in the last 24 hours.

The Turks have posted their own death toll at 17; a funeral service for three troops was held Monday.

"Whenever the children hear the military operations, they feel frightened," said school headmaster Aoni Mashaghhi. "Most of the women came to school to take their kids out. Whenever they hear any sound of bombardment, the school becomes empty."

Hawzam Hussein, who lives in a community of about 160 families, said people are wor­ried because some of the Turkish targets are so close to their homes.

The explosions "have become a daily scene that frightened me with the possi­bility of hitting our house any time," the 25-year-old said.

Associated Press

AMAMIYA – Turkey says it is not targeting civilians as it chase after separatist rebels in northern Iraq, but people in Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdish region say they have lived in fear since the invasion began.

Some residents of this area 18 miles from the Iraq-Turkey border thought they'd escaped to a safe haven, having aban­
donned homes closer to the bor­der to avoid skirmishes between the Kurdish Workers' Party, or PKK, and Turkish troops.

But with the Turks mounting their first confirmed ground operation in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion in 2003, some say they are fearful of getting caught in the deadly crossfire.

Already, the Turkish military says it has killed 153 rebels since fighting began last

Then, at the time of writing, the number had risen to 189.

The PKK has accuses the Turks of targeting civilians as it chase after separatist rebels in northern Iraq, but people in Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdish region say they have lived in fear since the invasion began.

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Turkey has assured Iraq and the U.S. military that the oper­
ation would be limited to attacks on rebels. The U.S.

and European Union consider the PKK a terrorist group.

Lt. Gen. Carter Ham, direc­tor of operations for the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters at the Pentagon on Monday that the United States has no indications that the Turks are straying from their original assurance to Washington that their incur­sion would be "limited in depth and in duration."

Attention Seniors!

Notre Dame's Office of Undergraduate Admissions anticipates hiring Admissions Counselors this spring:

As part of the Undergraduate Admissions staff, the counselor is expected to make an important contribution to the recruitment and selection of the first-year class by managing relations with the prospective applicants, their parents, high school personnel and alumni in an assigned geographic area.

Responsibilities include extensive planning, travel and communication within the geographic area, assessment and evaluation of applications and conducting group/individual information sessions. Additional responsibilities will be assigned by the Assistant Provost for Enrollment.

Among our candidates, we will specifically seek an African American Recruitment Coordinator.

Candidates should possess a bachelor's degree and strong familiarity with all aspects of student life at Notre Dame.

Essential qualities include strong communication and organizational skills, enthusiasm, diplomacy and the willingness to work long hours, including many evenings and Saturday mornings.

Please Note: Interviews will be scheduled after April 1.

Preferred start date is July 1, 2008.

Please forward your resume to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions
220 Main Building
Attention: Alisa M. Fisher, Senior Associate Director

Details:

The Observer • NEWS
Tuesday, February 26, 2008
Wall Street storms upward, revives hope

WASHINGTON — Internet users should be free to surf where they want and download what they please. But shouldn’t the owners of the network that makes it all possible also have rights? That, in a nutshell, is the topic of debate at a special public meeting of the Federal Communications Commission at Harvard Law School on Monday.

Recent events involving Comcast Corp. and Verizon Wireless have raised questions about network owners interfacing with customer traffic flow. The meeting also is expected to attract a rally on minority media ownership and network neutrality.

The session is the agency’s most serious public discussion to date of the principle of "network neutrality." That is the idea that all Internet traffic should be treated equally.

Among the speakers are the federal policy chiefs for Comcast and Verizon Communications Inc. as well as representatives from public interest groups and academy who have criticized the companies.

Comcast is the subject of an FCC investigation regarding charges it has hampered traffic between users without notice. This practice was raised by an Associated Press story in October.

"I’m concerned about Comcast limiting the ability of people to go anywhere they want on the Internet," said the commission chairman, Kevin Martin, in an interview for the AP on Friday. "And that’s what the hearing is about."

The company is accused of violating the FCC’s policy against Internet discrimination. Comcast has denied the allegations.

"To be clear, Comcast does not pass, not, and will not block any Web sites or online applications, including peer-to-peer services, and no one has demonstrated otherwise," company spokesman Ron McFadden said.

The public meeting also will address Verizon Wireless’ decision to limit traffic of Internet content. The Internet possible also have the same effect.

"To be clear, Comcast does not pass, not, and will not block any Web sites or online applications, including peer-to-peer services, and no one has demonstrated otherwise," company spokesman Ron McFadden said.

Federal Communications Commission chair Kevin J. Martin, center, listens to testimony during a public meeting of the FCC at Harvard Law School Monday.

Among the speakers are the federal policy chiefs for Comcast and Verizon Communications Inc. as well as representatives from public interest groups and academicians who have criticized the companies.

Comcast is the subject of an FCC investigation regarding charges it has hampered traffic between users without notice. This practice was raised by an Associated Press story in October.

"I’m concerned about Comcast limiting the ability of people to go anywhere they want on the Internet," said the commission chairman, Kevin Martin, in an interview for the AP on Friday. "And that’s what the hearing is about."

The company is accused of violating the FCC’s policy against Internet discrimination. Comcast has denied the allegations.

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Internet users should be free to surf where they want and download what they please. But shouldn’t the owners of the network that makes it all possible also have rights? That, in a nutshell, is the topic of debate at a special public meeting of the Federal Communications Commission at Harvard Law School on Monday.

Recent events involving Comcast Corp. and Verizon Wireless have raised questions about network owners interfacing with customer traffic flow. The meeting also is expected to attract a rally on minority media ownership and network neutrality.

The session is the agency’s most serious public discussion to date of the principle of "network neutrality." That is the idea that all Internet traffic should be treated equally.

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Minister regains control of Muslim movement

Farrakhan recovers to lead Nation of Islam again

Associated Press

CHICAGO — A year after delivering what the Nation of Islam deemed its ailing leader's final public address, Minister Louis Farrakhan has regained control of the movement and his place in its spotlight, a top aide said.

Months before delivering the 2007 Saviour's Day speech in Detroit, Farrakhan had passed daily leadership of the Chicago-based religion to an executive board as he recuperated from serious complications from prostate cancer.

Some experts were quick to predict an inevitable fracturing of Nation of Islam leadership without Farrakhan, the organization's best-known leader and charismatic speaker.

But on Sunday, a healthy-looking Farrakhan returned for another Saviour's Day, delivering a two-hour speech in which the 74-year-old expressed his hopes for the presidential election and outlined his view of the Nation's future tone.

Minister Ishmael Muhammad, top assisting minister at the organization's Mosque Maryam on the city's South Side and who is widely believed to be Farrakhan's successor, told The Associated Press that Farrakhan has quietly reassumed full responsibility for the Nation during the past year.

In fact, Farrakhan passed daily leadership duties to an executive board for only a few months before taking back the organization’s reins, Muhammad said.

"God has spared his life and kept him here," Muhammad said. "He has work to do and complete."

In May, Farrakhan delivered a message of unity at St. Sabina Catholic Church on Chicago's South Side. In October, he addressed a crowd of about 5,000 in a commemoration of the 12th anniversary of the Million Man March. He has since produced a series of lectures for youth with titles like "Black Youth in Peril."

On Sunday, Farrakhan spoke for two hours to an estimated 20,000 people during a series of lectures for youth with titles like "Black Youth in Peril."

He told followers his weight was up to a robust 192 pounds — up from a low of 158 pounds in late 2006 — and suggested that he may be ready to assume a more public profile.

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Recycle the Observer.
Associated Press

GREENSBORO, Ga. — Nearly four decades after this rural Georgia county stopped segregating its schools by race, it wants to divide students again this time by sex.

Greene County is set to become the first school district in the nation to go entirely single-sex, with boys and girls in separate classrooms — a move born of desperation over years of poor test scores, soaring dropout rates and high numbers of teenage pregnancies.

"At the rate we're moving, we're never going to catch up," Superintendent Shawn McCollough told parents in an impassioned speech last week. "If we're going to take some steps, let's take some big steps."

McCollough pointed to research showing that boys and girls learn differently, and said separating them will allow teachers to tailor their lessons. Also, boys won't misbehave as much because they will no longer be trying to impress the girls, and the girls will be more likely to speak up in class because they won't be afraid to look smart in front of the boys, he said.

The school board's move to radically overhaul the system next fall has angered parents, teachers to tailor their lessons. It exempts only the preschool and a charter school, which is public but operates independently.

"I am outraged," said Tammi Freeman, who has two children at the high school. "I am disturbed. It's making our county look like our kids are trouble when they're not."

Leonard Sax, head of the National Association for Single Sex Public Education, said that while single-sex schools and classrooms are on the increase, he knows of no other community that has converted its entire school system. He called the move illegal.

Federal law allows single-sex classrooms or schools, but parents must also have the option of publicly funded coeducation for their children, Sax said.

"This is the worst kind of publicity for our movement," he said. "It misses the whole point. Our movement is about choice. One size does not fit all. Even a small school district needs to provide choice."

U.S. Education Department spokeswoman Samara Yudof said officials "do not have sufficient facts to determine if the district would be in compliance with federal law."

Austria

Documents may reveal Iranian nuclear plans

Tehran may have developed arms after 2003

Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — The U.N. nuclear monitoring agency presented documents Monday that diplomats said indicated Iran may have focused on a nuclear weapons program after 2003 — the year that a U.S. intelligence report says such work stopped.

Iran again denied ever trying to make such arms. Ali Asghar Soltanieh, the chief Iranian delegate to the International Atomic Energy Agency, dismissed the information presented by the agency's 35-nation board of intelligence findings from the U.S. and its allies and other information purporting to show Iranian attempts to make nuclear arms.

It's 8:30 pm on Tuesday, and I need help with my computer.

Call the OIT Help Desk at 631-8111.
Challenging male promiscuity

The Observer Online
www.ndsmcobserver.com

Greg Yatorola
Dome and Domer

The old double-standard—promiscuous males are studs, promiscuous females are sluts. A pernicious source of outrage, befuddlement or rejoicing. It seems this double standard is rapidly vanishing, and that chastity is almost as stigma­lized among younger voices in particular as among men. But, insofar as the double-standard still exists, it’s usually challenged by women, isn’t that partly what “The Vagina Monologues” is about? I’ll understand if some of you think “only at Notre Dame...” as I challenge it from the men’s side.

When I was little, a Bon Jovi song recalled being taken to a motel by some woman and being made by her into a man. There’s probably few people on Earth with less knowledge of being or becoming a man than Jon Bon Jovi, it’s common sense that one cannot give what one doesn’t have, so the idea of a woman giving men their manhood is idiotic. But common sense wasn’t my strength, and I was very interested in becoming a man, so the suggestion intrigued me.

I soon learned what was meant by it, but it didn’t matter if I hadn’t. The idea that being a man meant being unchaste was thrown at me constantly as I grew up — by teammates, upperclassmen, bosses, popular culture, sometimes even older relatives — and I still encounter it. I’d say it’s part of our society’s cultural wallpaper.

I find this attitude as bizarre as it is prevalent. Is it that sex itself makes one more beautiful? Our very instincts tell us so. There’s a place in our psyche in which the Samson story rings true. It makes sense to us intuitively for athletes to abstain from sexual activity before competition, as is customary. We know what Dietrich von Hildebrand meant when describing the perfumed, suffocating atmosphere of sex. And don’t we have an innate respect for asceticism? Isn’t there a love of pleasure one reason we despise the French, and don’t we suspect it’s somehow connected with their lack of courage?

Okay, maybe “success” with women isn’t the cause of one’s manliness so much as its effect? Again I’d say no. On the contrary — aren’t the guys who get lots of girls usually just a bit promiscuous? Maybe a lot promiscuous?

Well, so what? Am I just that annoyed by guys boasting about fornicating, or even going to strip clubs, as if it were some kind of heroic accomplishment? Yes, but that’s not it. Having taught in Catholic schools, I’ve seen how hard it is to evangelize teenage boys. There’s many reasons, including evangelizers like me, but one major obstacle is their perception of the faith as effeminate. The Ilirguy’s one problem. Catholic moral teaching is another. Now, it’s terribly wrong to reduce the faith to morality, or reduce Catholic morals to sexuality. But for many people, old and young alike, a salient feature of Catholicism is the Church’s prohibitions about sex.

We need to present the Church’s teachings differently. Saint Thomas Aquinas taught that a measure of wrath is necessary to protect one’s purity. But this is a big topic, and here might be a good place for a small mind to drop it.

Greg Yatorola is a 1999 alumnus. He hopes “The Vagina Monologues” might encourage more men to consider celibacy as a life choice.

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**EDITORIAL CARTOON**

**Image Description:**

A cartoon with a title, "Politician Talents Play the Victim." It features political figures in exaggerated cartoonish forms. The title suggests a play on words, combining "politician" and "talents." Each character is depicted as a cartoon, with one labeled "John Maynard Keynes English economist." The image humorously contrasts Keynes’ economic theories with modern political scenarios.

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**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"The avoidance of taxes is the only intellectual pursuit that carries any reward." — John Maynard Keynes, English economist.

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**TODAY’S STAFF**

**News:**
Karen Langley
Becky Hogan
Ashley Charney
Kelly West

**Sports:**
Fran Tolan
Michael Bryan
Deirdre Krasula

**Graphics:**
Matt Hudson
Viewpoint
Kara King

**Observer Poll**

**Question:** What are you doing for spring break?

- Going somewhere warm
- Going home
- Staying on campus
- Spring break at work

**Instructions:** Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at www.ndsmcobserver.com

For more information, contact Ashley Charney at (574) 631-5323 or obsnews.l@nd.edu.
Acceptance, not tolerance

Racism is a reality that will never be completely extinguished as long as differences among people exist in society. What we can strive for, however, is acceptance through understanding. Acceptance, not tolerance. For to merely “tolerate” someone different carries the implication that we agree to live side-by-side without strife because it is “the right thing to do.” But we must look beyond what we have been taught in the classroom about the ideal of equality and examine what it truly means to achieve this ideal.

Equality is not the status quo; it is an uncommon balanced state that is only achievable through combined effort and individual commitment. Each individual on this campus must care enough to question his or her subconscious prejudices, and reach out to learn about others outside of his or her comfort zone in small, but significant, ways on a daily basis. Sadness and anger are humane and important reactions of those who have been exposed to the depth, history and continuing reality of racism.

For instance, Irving Howe commended the novel “Native Son,” because “Wright forced his readers to acknowledge his anger, and in that way, if none other, he wrested for himself a sense of dignity as a man. He forced his readers to confront the disease of our culture, and to one of its most terrifying symptoms he gave the name of Bigger Thomas.” But anger is useless if it is not backed by the strength and conviction needed to accomplish change; and change doesn’t always happen in loud movements. There is no reason to remain heartbroken, for as long as the students at Notre Dame really are the good-hearted and willing people that I have had the fortune to encounter in the past few months, there is every reason to believe that we can come closer to the delicate balance of equality, and remain distinct and true to our backgrounds in the process.

Melissa Harintho
McGlinn Hall
Feb. 25

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PERSPECTIVE: MARCH 9, 1967

The Observer is looking for bi-weekly columnists (of the humorous persuasion) for the Fall 2008 semester.

E-mail Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu to apply.
STRIKE-AFFECTED SHOW STILLS GARNERS SOME LAUGHS

For the record, I love the Oscars. Wait, that’s an understatement. I’m obsessed with the Oscars. Which is why even though the Sunday night telecast was a tad underwhelming, I’m not going to say I was disappointed. Jon Stewart was much more at ease than last time, we had some wonderful victory speeches and the In Memoriam montage made me cry again.

In fact, everything that went wrong with the Oscars I’m going to blame on the fact that they only had 11 days to write the telecast due to the writers’ strike. So kudos to writer Bruce Vilanch (that’s right) and host Jon Stewart for making it happen.

I’ll admit that I was a little harsh on Stewart two years ago, but he made me proud this time around. My favorite joke came when he was commenting on all the dark themes and psychopathic killers present in this year’s nominations. He quipped, “All I can say is thank God for teen pregnancy.” Adding, I’m not wrong with the Oscars I’m going to blame it on Stewart again.

The ceremony was once again heavy on the montages, but since I love old movies so much I always enjoy those. Stewart gave us a taste of what an even more monotonous affair might have been like if the writers’ strike hadn’t ended. We saw snippets of “Oscar’s Salute to Binoculars and Periscopes” and “Bad Dreams: An Oscar Salute.” Was the only one who wanted to see more?

Stewart kept the jokes coming when he gave a little tribute to the acting skills of Cate Blanchett, saying that she had played a queen, a man and although it was a little known secret, the pitbull in “No Country for Old Men.” The “Daily Show” anchor even played Wil on the giant screen with the 11-year-old girl who sang “Rape it Up,” nominated for Best Song.

Speaking of Best Song, I have to admit that the performances from “Enchanted” were disappointing and awkward. Poor Amy Adams did a brilliant job singing “Happy Working Song,” but it was just her, alone onstage. The song loses some of its charm when the CGI rats and cockroaches are missing. But the classiest moment of the evening and of recent Oscar history came after “Falling Slowly” won the category. Glen Hansard got to give his thanks, but right as co-writer Marketa Irglova stepped to the microphone, the orchestra cut her off. Stewart saved the day when after the commercial break, he escorted Irglova onstage so she could have her Oscar moment. She said, “This is such a big deal, not only for us, but for all other independent musicians and artists that spend most of their time struggling, and this, the fact that we’re standing here tonight, the fact that we’re able to hold this, it’s just to prove no matter how far out your dreams are, it’s possible.”

Unsurprisingly, the presenters didn’t offer much entertainment this year. Jennifer Garner didn’t slip this time and when presenting the award for Best Makeup, Katherine Heigl stated how nervous she was and said “I’m not very good at this.” She could have fooled me since she’s famous and everything for acting and being composed under pressure. Maybe she suddenly became aware of how heavy her bronzer was.

Nevertheless “La Vie en Rose” won the category, and as soon as I saw the joy on Marion Cotillard’s face, I wanted her to win Best Actress. It was an unusual year for Oscar because all four acting awards went to Europeans. Javier Bardem (Spanish) won Best Supporting Actor for “No Country for Old Men.” Tilda Swinton (British) won Best Supporting Actress for “Michael Clayton,” Marion Cotillard (French) won Best Actress for “La Vie en Rose” and Daniel Day-Lewis (British) won Best Actor for “There Will Be Blood.”

I’ve got to say, though, that those Europeans sure do know how to give an acceptance speech. In his speech, Bardem joked, “Thank you to the Coens for being crazy enough to think that I could do that and put one of the most horridly haircuts in history over my head.” He then spoke in his native tongue, dedicating his award to his mother, grandparents and Spain.

Swinton, who won in a category that was still wide-open by the time the awards began on Sunday, wished Oscar a happy birthday and said, “...and George Clooney, you know, the seriousness and the dedication to your art, seeing you climb into that rubber bat suit from Batman & Robin, the one with the nipples, every morning under your costume, on the set, off the set, hanging upside-down at lunch, you rock, man.”

Backstage, Swinton explained that she was just rubbing Clooney as usual. For me, it was nice seeing someone remind Clooney that he plays a guy who the guy who wore the nipple suit.

Bardem became the Oscar sweetheart of the evening after beating expected winner Julie Christie. The French actress in the much-doubted fish-inspired dress beamed as she said, “Thank you all, thank you love, and it is true, there is some angels in this city.” I personally think we need more people like Cotillard to remind us that sometimes, Hollywood is magical. She had me in tears.

Other awards on Sunday went to the expected winners Diablo Cody for Best Original Screenplay for “Juno” for Best Original Screenplay, and Hugh Jackman for Best Actor for “Australia.” So there you have it. Not too spectacular, but not too terrible. We had a little something for everyone. Gooding Jr. momen
ting,赢得了人们的好评。他用他那独特的口音向观众致辞，他用最地道的"N<"来表达他的热情。

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Although the Academy Awards would not have taken place without the great films of the past year, the fashions on the Red Carpet drew a large number of viewers before any statuettes were handed out. Whether audiences hoped to see elegant gowns or wanted to mock a fashion faux pas in real time, this year's pre-Oscars festivities did not disappoint.

There were several standouts in the early evening festivities: Cameron Diaz wore a pale pink Dior gown with clean architectural folds that fell into a nicely draped bodice and skirt while Jennifer Garner's Oscar de la Renta was another interesting design. Strapless at the top and fitted through the thigh, the gown featured a unique texture, with layers of black material that fell into larger ruffles at the bottom.

Kelly Preston strolled by the paparazzi on John Travolta's arm in a gown featuring a recently popular silhouette. What set Preston's look apart was the fresh and interesting marigold shade by Roberto Cavalli. Pregnant beauties Jessica Alba and Cate Blanchett glowed in richly colored gowns by Marchesa and Dries van Noten, respectively.

True to its name, the Red Carpet featured several dresses of the same color. Teen pop sensation Miley Cyrus wore an elegant, age-appropriate Valentino gown. Reminiscent of Old Hollywood glamour, Katherine Heigl showed off a vintage-inspired Escada gown, with an equally fitting hairstyle. The always classy Helen Mirren touted a deeply colored Georges Chakra gown with stunning Swarovski crystal sleeves.

Also in crimson, Heidi Klum's bold John Galliano gown was auctioned off after the big night to benefit The Heart Truth, an organization founded by the National Institute of Health to promote awareness of women and heart disease throughout the country. The red dress is the national symbol of women and heart disease awareness, and Klum began her efforts promoting the cause when she wore a red Marc Jacobs creation on National Wear Red Day at the recent Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week.

The most debate-inspiring gown on the Red Carpet was certainly French actress Marion Cotillard's mermaid-esque gown by Jean Paul Gaultier. Regardless of the design, even skeptics of the dress could not deny Cotillard's beauty when she stepped forward to accept her Oscar for Leading Actress for her role in "La Vie en Rose."

One of the biggest misses of the night was Tilda Swinton's shapeless and overly modest black washed silk satin Lanvin gown that perplexed many. One of the biggest misses of the night was Tilda Swinton's shapeless and overly modest black washed silk-satin Lanvin gown that perplexed many.

Miller's black frock featured large black gems on the bust and red ribbon bows as straps, along with long sleeves that appeared below her bare shoulders. Further confusing the evening's audience were the simple shoes that Diablo Cody showed off to photographers. Cody was scheduled to wear a pair of million-dollar metallic T-strap heels designed by Stuart Weitzman that featured roses of Kwiat diamonds. In the days leading up to the ceremony, the writer of Indie film "Juno" had made known her disappointment at being used as a stunt to publicize the shoes.

Despite the few exceptions, the ladies of Hollywood cleaned up nicely for the industry's most important night. However, even those gowns that impressed viewers the most still lacked a certain something that memorable gowns in recent years had brought to the table. Loyal Red Carpet fans will certainly be waiting for more noteworthy looks from both the best and worst dressed, at next year's event.

Contact Kelly O'Sullivan at kosulli2@nd.edu
BENGAL BOUTS

Whalen wins unanimous decision over Zehrbach

Senior Grissinger defeats freshman Cray in third round; Gough knocks Gallic out of ring, wins by TKO in second round.

BY MATT GAMBER, JARED JEDICK, PETE REINSEUER, SARAH MINNER AND LAURA MYERS

Sports Writers

166-pound division

Scott Whalen def. Nick "Jackhammer of Truth" Zehrbach

Whalen, a freshman, took advantage of his height by knocking the senior Zehrbach down twice in the first round. The second round saw continued dominance from Whalen, as Zehrbach was forced to defend most of the round. Whalen continued to control the fight and scored a winning punch, earning an unanimous victory.

Bryant Grissinger def. David Cray

Grissinger dictated the tempo of the bout by displaying a loose, confident swagger. Cray didn't back down, though, doing most of his damage in the second half of each round. Grissinger finally took a decided advantage by blooding Cray near the end of the second round and then putting the fight away following a brief stoppage.

Charlie Gough def. Rob Gallic

Gough was able to black out the ring in the first fight, knocking down his opponent, and through the ropes early in the second. Gallic landed several punches early in the first, but once Gough gained an advantage, he didn't relinquish it in the first round ended by TKO.

Nazar Ahmed def. John Tierney

The contrast in styles was immediately evident, as Tierney stood up high and looked for headshots while Ahmed's strategy was to throw from lower than his taller opponent. The latter approach prevailed, and Ahmed was able to land the final two rounds en route to victory by unanimous decision.

170-pound division

Mike Doran def. John Soltis

Doran displayed perhaps more aggression than any other fighter on the night before jumping out of his corner before every round, engaging the crowd and otherwise giving off an air of confidence unmatched during the preliminary rounds. In a split decision that truly went down to the wire—a advantage wasn't clearly established until the final round when Doran landed a bomb on junior Soltis against the ropes before Soltis could only hold on for dear life. Doran, a freshman, was able to advance.

Drew Whiting def. Brendan Collins

The senior Collins used a distinct height advantage to take an early decision, out-punching Whiting, a senior, nearly three to one throughout the first round. Whiting forced his way covered in blood, wouldn't let his smaller stature hold him back, unloading several hooks that eventually gave him the momentum needed to win by split decision. The fight appeared to be a draw after two rounds, but Whiting outlasted Collins, forcing him into the corner repeatedly in the final minute and winning the third round decisively because of his ability to land a series of jab-hook combos.

Christopher Jordan def. Charles Costello

Jordan's experience proved too much for Costello, who was knocked down near the end of the first round. The officials stood up the fighters after an accidental punch.

Eric Jones def. Matt Paletta

Jones, a junior, knocked down Paletta, a sophomore, who appeared to tweak something in his lower body. The fight ended the fight early in the first round.

Ben O'Brien def. Andrew Renz

O'Brien defeated Renz by unanimous decision to advance to the quarterfinals. The fight came out aggressively in round one, but O'Brien maintained his control throughout. He outscored several jabs against his opponent. Renz got in some good body shots, but ended the fight bloody and beaten.

Mike Cimino def. Scott Jarvie

Cimino, a senior, held off a late charge to beat Jarvie by unanimous decision. Jarvie came out with fists flying, getting strong in the first round, but Cimino blocked well and countered with some good series of his own. Both fighters tired late in the fight, and Jarvie got Cimino against the ropes late in the third round. Unfortunately for Jarvie, though, the comeback was too little, too late.

Matt Gimlett def. Vincent Keneally

Keneally defeated Gimlett by a unanimous decision. The fight started off with a quick pace, and Keneally was able to take control of the bout early. Gimlett was able to advance.

Bernardo Garcia def. Patrick Martin

Garcia, a freshman, won over his opponent with the decision. Martin had trouble protecting himself throughout the fight, and Garcia was able to advance to the quarterfinals with relative ease.

176-pound division

Mike Lee def. Джак Hassann

The fight went down to the wire, but Lee dominated the combination of body shots and jabs in the final round to take the win. Fighters adapted a somewhat defensive style early on, with both getting in a few good, calculated shots. Lee took control in the final round, though, and advanced to the next round by unanimous decision.

Pat Jackson def. Jonathan Parr

Pat Jackson didn't tire and managed to beat junior Parr by unanimous decision. The fight was close at the start, but Jackson came out aggressively in each round, and was able to get more consistent punches than his opponent. Parr saw the nail in Parr's coffin in the third round, when he began to lose against the ropes and landed a flurry of jabs and body shots.

Dimitri Golub def. Richard Paulus

In a fight that was fast-paced from start to finish, Golub defeated Paulus by unanimous decision. Both fighters came out strong, and neither seemed to tire as the bout wore on. The intensity ramped up at the end of the second round when both fighters continued to throw punches after the bell sounded. Golub proceeded to take control in the final round, landing a flurry of jabs and uppercuts. His opponent's head and leaving him bloody.

Mike Delach def. Ken Shamrell

Delach, a freshman, outlasted a tough contest from Shamrell, winning the unanimous decision. Both fighters did a lot more punching than defending and with the fight close all the way through, both came out swinging aggressively. Delach was able to land a series of solid body shots and advanced to the quarterfinals.

Josh Von Schaumburg def. Daniel Gies

Gies came out more aggressive than Von Schaumburg, who may have focused on blocking Gies' attack instead of mounting his own in the first round. After getting knocked down in the first, Von Schaumburg turned the tide in the second round by focusing on several jabs to the body and hooks to the face that knocked down Gies, a junior, twice. Von Schaumburg was more of the same in the third, and Von Schaumburg dominated the last two rounds en route to a victory by unanimous decision.

Matthew Belton def. Gavin Payne

Payne, a junior, dominated the first half of the opening round, immediately backing Belton into the corner and keeping him there for the majority of the round, landing near a dozen solid jabs. Once Belton got out, though, it was a different story as he faked in a few uppercuts to go along with a more aggressive arsenal of hooks and jabs. The story continued throughout the first two rounds, Belton landed a flurry much like the fight's beginning, with Payne able to get Belton in the corner and keep him there for the most part. But on the third, the senior Belton elicited a stoppage by winning the decision by unanimous decision.

Jordan Smith def. Pat Allare

Smith was able to corner Allare several times, giving him plenty of opportunities to rank up the punches and points that gave him the victory by unanimous decision. Allare mounted a substantial comeback in the final round by landing three or four uppercuts, but Smith's recovery ensured him the win.

Andres Vilalba def. Barry Clark

Like many of the night's successes, Vilalba established himself by immediately controlling the pace and putting his opponent on the defensive. Clark had to focus on his own offense, attempting to retaliate with hooks and jabs — so much so that he could hardly fight back during Vilalba's unanimous victory.

189-pound division

John Tchoula def. Bobby Hicks

Hicks dominated this fight from start to finish — which was ended midway through the first round. He was simply too tall, strong and aggressive for Hicks.

Kevin Carrier def. Daniel McDonald

Carrier charged at McDonald before the opening bell even finished ringing, immediately taking his opponent into the corner with a series of jabs before attempting several uppercuts. McDonald hardly lasted a full round to mount an attack of his own until the second, and then, Carrier had pulled too far ahead, guaranteeing him the win.

Andrew Mrugala def. Kyle Kownacki

Despite being just a freshman, Mrugala came out showing no hesitation — the opening bell had to be re-sounded because Mrugala had come out of the gate so quickly. A knockdown in the second round and a bevy of body shots in the third ensured Mrugala the unanimous victory over Kownacki.

Xavier Burton def. Matthew Gray

Both fighters kept up the pace throughout the first two rounds. Gray attempted to stop back in the second, but Burton landed off the attack, and effectively countered with his own flurry of punches. Burton won by unanimous decision.

Chris Hapak def. Thomas Smith

Hapak dominated Smith and beat the freshman by unanimous decision. Hapak was

Every time you lick a stamp, you save $110 of a calorie.

You share your birthday with all the people who share your exact birthday.

22,000 cheques will be deducted from the wrong bank accounts in the US in 2010.

Coca-Cola translated from Chinese means 'to make the mouth happy.'

Human jaw muscles can generate a force of 200 pounds on the molar teeth.
### NCAA Men's Basketball AP Top 25 Poll

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<tr>
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### NCAA Men's Basketball ESPN/USA Today Poll

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### MIAA Women's Basketball Standings

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### NASCAR

Edwards takes Sprint Cup despite rain delay

Carl Edwards does a backflip off his car after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cup Auto Club 500 at the Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif., Monday.

As the Associated Press reports, Edwards, known for his aggressive driving style, won his first career victory in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series.

Edwards and Roush Fenway Racing were the guys to beat today. Edwards said after capturing the eighth victory of his career. "They still were second and third and they were the guys to beat today. I hope this is an indication we're up to their standards, to their level."

Jimmie Johnson, Jeff Gordon, and Mark Martin were the top three finishers. Edwards went on to win his second straight Cup title and the team rolled up 18 victories in 36 races. The Hendrick Motorsports team is the most successful in NASCAR history.

In Brief

Tennessee takes over No. 1 spot, Memphis falls to No. 2

Tennessee surged to the top of the Associated Press college basketball poll for the first time Monday on the strength of its victory over Memphis in a Nos. 1-vs.-2 matchup.

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Tennessee, which had been ranked No. 1 during four seasons, including two national titles, has won six of its last seven games and moved up to the No. 1 ranking since the poll began for the 1948-49 season.

Tampa Bay to pursue Barry Bonds

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — The Tampa Bay Rays have had internal discussions about the prospect of pursing Barry Bonds.

Manager Joe Maddon said Monday he knew "little" about what was going on, but acknowledged some thought has been given to the career home-run leader. "A minor discussion was thrown out there a little bit, and it's really not gone any further than that," Maddon said after Monday's workout at the team's spring training facility. "That's all it is right now."

The St. Petersburg Times reported Monday's editions that some Rays officials have conferred among themselves about Bonds and other veteran unsigned free agents, such as Kenny Lofton and Mike Piazza.

Andrew Friedman, Rays vice president of baseball operations, called the report a "non-story."

Forsberg to finish season in Colorado

DENVER — The Avalanche and Peter Forsberg have agreed to deal that bring the NHL's 2003 MVP back to Colorado through the end of the season.

Forsberg will earn about $1.1 million prorated from a one-year, $5 million deal, since there are about six weeks left in the regular season.

Forsberg was traded from the St. Louis Blues to the Avalanche in March for a late-season deal that ended Monday on a soggy field and 77-77 tie. The two teams had a second game scheduled for Tuesday.

Foot and ankle injuries have plagued him in recent years. Until Monday's announcement, it appeared Forsberg wouldn't return to an NHL team this season. His agent, Don Bailey, informed teams last week that Forsberg didn't have enough confidence in the strength of his surgically repaired right foot to play.

### Around the Dial

NCAA Basketball Ohio State at Indiana 8 p.m., ESPN

NCAA Basketball Tennessee at Vanderbilt 10 p.m., ESPN
Announcing the Year 2008 Annual Awards of the Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship

Thanks to a generous gift from the Albert Ravarino family, the Italian Studies Program is pleased to announce the year 2008 annual competition for travel in support of summer research and foreign study in Italy. Grants will be made in amounts not to exceed $3,000, and will not normally cover all expenses. Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students who are planning to pursue research or a formal program of summer study in Italy are invited to apply. Students must have completed at least one year of Italian language. The course work will normally be in Italian; will involve the study of Italian language, literature, and culture; and must be applicable to a student’s degree program at the University of Notre Dame.

Recommended programs for foreign study include, but are not limited to: Loyola University in Rome, Boston University in Padua, UCLA in Pisa, Miami University in Urbino, Columbia University in Scandiano. Interested students are encouraged to consult the materials on Italian foreign study in the Department of Romance Languages, 343 O'Shaughnessy Hall.

Students are invited to submit a letter which should include:
1) an explanation of how the proposed research or foreign study will enhance their degree program at Notre Dame;
2) a personal statement indicating their background, interests, and long-term goals;
3) a description of the research project or the program they intend to follow;
4) a budget indicating the costs involved;
5) two letters of recommendation
6) a transcript showing all grades and courses completed
7) a list of other sources of funding (being sought or confirmed) for the same project (i.e. Office of International Studies, Nanovic Institute, etc.)

Application Deadline: Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Albert Ravarino Italian Studies Travel Scholarship
Program in Italian Studies
343 O'Shaughnessy Hall
University of Notre Dame

O'Connor's head, and he was unable to defend himself as he was unable to stand up to the law student's onslaught.

Thomas Haan def. Ryan Landsberg

Haan took control in the second half of the fight and defeated Ryan Landsberg by unanimous decision. Both fighters started off with a defensive style, with each getting in only a few jabs in the first round. Haan landed a series of solid jabs to start of the second round and dominated for the remainder of the round. Haan's supremacy flowed into the final round, and he will advance to the quarterfinals.

Alexander Lough def. Fritz Schoenhut

Lough defeated Schoenhut easily, with the referee stopping the fight in the second round. Both fighters came out tentatively, but Lough took control late in the first round, barking Schoenhut into a corner and attacking him with a barrage of jabs and uppercuts. The sophomore continued to rely on a strong uppercut in the second round to put Schoenhut on the defensive and cause the referee to end the fight.

206-pound division

James DiGiacomo def. Wil Henderson

DiGiacomo, a sophomore, landed one of the night's most thunderous blows, knocking out the MBA student, Henderson, with a haymaker midway through the first round.

Dex Cure def. Ryan Hawley

Cure more than made up for in quickness what he lacked in height in this battle of Siegfried residents. The fight was fast, with Cure scoring a knockout of the law student in the first round and a half, but Cure continued to land some heavy shots to knock Hawley off balance and eventually bloody his nose on the way to a unanimous decision.

Brent Coudron def. Reid Mahoney

Coudron used his southpaw stance to establish an early advantage and catch the freshman Mahoney off guard, taking it to him for the first 20 seconds. The fight's pace slowed considerably from there, as Coudron, a law student, forced Mahoney to come to him. Each fighter sporadically landed punches in the final two rounds, but Coudron's fast start proved to be enough to earn him a unanimous decision.

Tony Klausing def. Brian O'Connor

Klausing defeated O'Connor when the referee stopped the contest in the second round. Klausing chased O'Connor around the ring from the beginning of the fight, at points sprinting after him to level a flurry of punches on the freshman. O'Connor never really appeared to have a chance, as he was unable to land solid punches on Klausing at any point in the fight. Klausing swung his arms wildly, but all his punches found...
Dakich passes his first test as Angels in the outfield and start— and only — World Series lifelong dream — being introduced to the home fans as the Hoosiers’ new coach. To Dakich, who laments the circumstances surrounding Kelvin Sampson’s resignation last week, it will be a bittersweet moment.

“T’m obviously thrilled to be sitting here. I’m not thrilled at the circumstances and I hope that’s obvious, too,” Dakich said Monday night on his first weekly radio show. “But I do want to thank a ton of people who sent me e-mails, text messages, letters and phone calls. The messages they left were unbelievable to me and my family. It tells me the magnitude of Indiana basketball, regardless of how things go, and it’s just been an incredible thing for me personally.”

For Dakich and the 12th-ranked Hoosiers (23-4, 12-2 Big Ten) it’s been a tumultuous couple of weeks. Since the university released an NCAA report accusing Sampson of five major rules violations Feb. 13, basketball has taken a rare backseat to rumors, speculation, criticism and consternation. Many fans questioned whether Sampson should have been hired at a school that prides itself on not having committed a major NCAA violation since 1990. Some critics responded by booing Sampson during pregame introductions of the Hoosiers’ last three home games even though the Hoosiers continued to chase their first outright Big Ten title since 1993.

Sampson’s resignation Friday and Dakich’s subsequent promotion were followed by a threatened players’ boycott that never materialized Saturday at Northwestern. The result: An 85-82 victory that was more impressive in demonstrating the Hoosiers’ resilience than their play.

Still uncertain is how fans might react to the players, six of whom skipped Dakich’s first practice Friday. Dakich has repeatedly downplayed the supposed rift, reflecting on the hypothetical situation of how he would have acted in a similar predicament during his playing days.

“You don’t miss practice, ever. But this isn’t ever. This is extraordinary circumstances,” he said.

New acquisitions give Angels depth for 08

Associated Press

TEMP, Ariz. — The Los Angeles Angels have been one of baseball’s better teams over the past several years. They’ve won the AL West three of the past four seasons — and gone home frustrated in October.

“One of the things that I believe hurt us the last few years is depth. I think the real good teams have good, solid depth,” said Arte Moreno, who bought the Angels in 2003, the year after they won their first — and only — World Series title.

Last fall, about half of the lineup was slowed or sidelined by injuries when Los Angeles was swept by Boston in the AL division series.

The way the Angels stack up this spring, depth shouldn’t be a problem. There’s a surplus of Angels in the outfield and starting rotation, with some other spots also deep in talent.

“I have to win your division first. You have to win your division outright,” Moreno said. “That’s obviously the goal, the goal is to win your division outright.”

With five starters seemingly set, the Angels added a sixth when they sent shortstop Orlando Cabrera to the Chicago White Sox for Jon Garland. His acquisition looks more significant now, since 18-game winner Kelvim Escobar is sidelined with a sore shoulder and may miss part of the season.

A few years ago, if Kelvim Escobar went down, we’d have a problem,” Moreno said, alluding to the added depth.

Where, Manager Mike Scioscia intends to keep all four in the lineup, using some sort of rotation at DH. Two other outfielders, Juan Rivera and Reggie Willits, will battle to fight for playing time. Rivera hit .310 with 23 homers and 85 RBIs and had an AL-high 13 outfield assists in 2006 but missed most of last season recuperating from a broken left leg. He has been working some at first base this spring, with Scioscia thinking he may be able to add depth there.

Willits, impressive during his rookie campaign last year despite being hampered by a gallbladder problem, batted .293 (1430 at-bats) with 27 steals.

The mound is almost as crowded as the outfield.

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Not only do they have an abundance of proven players, the Angels have a number of highly regarded prospects in the pipeline.

Join Us For Our Karaoke Pajama Party

Wednesday, Feb. 27 9:00 PM ‘til 2:00 AM

$1.25 Beverages!

K’s Grill & Pub

K’s Grill & Pub

Are you considering graduate school and are you

African American, Hispanic, Native American, or a first-generation college student from a low income family?

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AN 8-WEEK RESEARCH EXPERIENCE WITH HOUSING, MEALS, AND A STIPEND; FREE PREPARATION FOR THE GRE; TIPS ON APPLYING TO GRADUATE SCHOOLS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2008 5:00 – 6:00 PM

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Recycle The Observer.
Emotional Huskies return to court after tragedy

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Michael Patton heard the news and immediately grabbed his phone. A gunman had just opened fire in a crowded lecture hall at Northern Illinois University, and he wanted to know where his brother was. No luck.

He tried again. And again. Michael Patton was safe at basketball practice, but his brother was somewhere on campus.

Ricardo Patton was worried, too. On the way home from a recruiting trip, the Huskies’ basketball coach knew one son was fine, but the whereabouts of the other remained a mystery.

Cell calls were going nowhere, but finally, after nearly three hours, Michael’s phone rang. His brother was on the other end, and the mystery was solved.

“We got lucky,” Michael Patton said.

No one needs to remind him.

Northern Illinois will take another step toward normalcy when the Huskies host Western Michigan on Tuesday in the first athletic event on campus since the shootings on Feb. 14.

Classes resumed Monday, but getting back to routine won’t be easy.

Not when there are white crosses on a knoll. Not when there’s crime scene tape outside the auditorium where the gunman opened fire, killing five students before taking his own life. Not when counselors are attending classes, offering help to students.

For a school determined to move on, a basketball game is just a small step. Or, maybe it is more than that.

“I think it’s huge,” coach Ricardo Patton said. “When you talk about trying to get over as best you can and move forward after such a devastating tragedy, I think it’s great to get back to some sense of normalcy as best you can.”

No NIU athletes were among the killed or wounded, although a student’s son was in the class during the rampage.

The shootings stirred the elder Patton’s memories of the Columbine High School massacre in 1999. He was the head coach at Colorado and one of his players, Josh Townsend, lost a sister. Patton took over 11 months ago at this rural school in DeKalb, Ill., about 65 miles from Chicago.

“I think it’s great to get back to some sense of normalcy as best you can.”

Ricardo Patton

Huskies coach

Senior Shaun Logan had film analysis class the day of the shootings in the lecture hall where they occurred.

“I was just in there that morning,” said Logan, a forward. “If this would have happened any earlier, I would have been in there. So it makes you feel kind of weird.”

Michael Patton’s friend was there during the shooting, but she escaped without injury. He has a theater class in that hall, but hasn’t been in there since.

He and Logan have been in the class during the shootings, but NIU had closed down by then.

“Another step toward normalcy,” said Logan. “If this would have happened any earlier, I would have been there that morning.”

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PGA TOUR

Tiger's hot start fuels thoughts of Grand Slam

Associated Press

MARIANA, Ariz. — The closest anyone came to a perfect season on the PGA Tour was Ben Hogan.

He won every major championship he entered from 1950 to 1953 and every official tournament he entered except for the Seminole Pro-Am Invitational, where he tied for second. Then again, Hogan only played six times that year because of battered legs from a bus accident.

Tiger Woods will play no more than 17 events on the PGA Tour this year, so a 20-shot might be a little early for anyone to get excited.

Even so, expectations were as high as the desert sun at noon when Woods left Arizona with yet another victory. It was his fourth in a row on tour since early September, all done in record fashion.

He set a 72-hole scoring record at TPC Scottsdale outside Phoenix and won by eight shots at the Tour Championship and the Buick Invitational, both record margins. On Sunday, he smoked Stewart Cink 8 and 7 in the Accenture Match Play Championship, the biggest blowout in the finals in 10 years of a tournament that Woods considers the toughest to win this side of a major.

"I think this certainly is the best stretch I've ever played," Woods said. "Strong words — downright scary — considering that Woods won nine times, including three straight majors, in 2000 and that he won six consecutive PGA Tour events at the end of 2006, a streak that reached seven until losing in the Match Play the following year.

Woods, who also won in Dubai earlier this month, has never before started a season with three straight victories, and it is hard not to speculate how long he can keep winning given his history at some of the tournaments coming up.

Next is the Arnold Palmer Invitational March 13-16 at Bay Hill, where Woods won four straight times from 2000 to 2003. The week after that is the CA Championship at Doral, where he has won the last three years.

Then the Masters April 10-13. "He just morphs his game into the courses," Cink said. "So I don't think there's a course that's going to present him with a real obstacle as far as him not being a favorite." Woods did little to squash the notion of a perfect season when someone asked him if winning them all was within reason.

NFL

Bush skips deposition in illegal gifts lawsuit

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Reggie Bush failed to show up for a scheduled deposition on Monday, the latest twist in the civil lawsuit against the former Heisman Trophy winner who allegedly accepted cash and gifts from sports marketers during his sophomore and junior seasons at Southern California.

"He literally ran from his deposition," said Brian Watkins, the attorney for sports marketer Lloyd Lake, who is suing Bush. Watkins requested that Bush's attorney, David Cornwell, decline to comment.

"I have nothing to provide for you," Cornwell said when reached on his cell phone.

Watkins requested that Bush bring extensive financial records, including those documenting the purchase of a car, as well as canceled rent checks for the suburban San Diego home where his parents lived and for a condo in Los Angeles. lake is seeking to recover some $291,000 in cash and gifts the star running back and his family allegedly accepted from Lake and his former partner, Michael Michaels, while Bush was at USC.

Lake claims he gave Bush cash to buy a car and that Michaels allowed Bush's parents to live rent-free in a San Diego-area home. Lake and Michaels were trying to attract Bush as a client for their marketing firm, New Era.

"That's my intent. That's why you play," Woods said after collecting his 63rd career tour victory and his 15th title in the World Golf Championships. "If you don't believe you can win an event, don't show up.

But it also is his intent to make every putt and hit every shot just how he wants. No one does that, of course. No one wins every tournament. Byron Nelson holds the record with 11 straight victories during a year in which he won 18 times in 30 events. That means he lost 12 times that year. A perfect season in golf?

"I do find that laughable," Hal Sutton said Monday. "Anybody who knows golf knows that ain't going to happen. You can only own this game for a certain period of time. Even if your name is Tiger Woods, you don't own it forever.

Sutton was among those who beat Woods during a time when the world's No. 1 player looked unbeatable, going head-to-head with him at The Players Championship in 2000 and winning by one shot.

He watched part of the championship match Sunday "until I got bored.

"Tiger is definitely more dominating," Sutton said. Curtis Strange is among those who played in the prime years of Woods and Jack Nicklaus, and he said it is pointless to compare generations.

The Office of Student Affairs is now accepting nominations for the Denny Moore Award For Excellence in Journalism

Candidates must be seniors who exemplify the qualities for which Denny Moore was known, including personal integrity and character, commitment to Notre Dame, and writing ability.

Candidates may be nominated by faculty, staff, or fellow students.

For a nomination form, please visit our website at: http://osa.nd.edu/programs-and-links/dennymooreaward.shtml Nominations are due by Tuesday, March 11, 2008.
One of our team goals was to be in the top four of the MIAA so that we could be at home. Last season, Henley led the Belles in one of their best seasons in the program history with a record of 12-13, 10-6 MIAA. The squad reached the semi-finals of the post-season tournament, which it lost 71-52 to Hope.

Olivet was knocked out of last year's tournament by Albion in the first round. The Belles hope to hand Olivet a similar fate tonight. The Belles hope to hand Albion in the first round.

"One of our goals was to be in the top four of the MIAA so that we could be at home."

Jenn Henley
Belles coach

"We need to carry over the momentum we had from Saturday into tonight's game."

Jenn Henley
Belles coach

"We need to carry over the momentum we had from Saturday into tonight's game."

Jenn Henley, Belles coach

Cont.'d

continued from page 19

down, coming right at Maier. There was not much contact in round two, with both fighters feeling each other out for weaknesses. Maier, a sophomore, came alive in the third, finally taking advantage of his height advantage over Lara, but it would not be enough to defeat the scrappy Lara, who won by split decision.

Mark "Senior Marco" Bennett def. Hamilton Marx

There was very little action right off the bat, as both fighters sought to overwhelm each other early. The senior Bennett knocked down Marx with a ferocious right hook in the second round, almost knocking him out of the ring. Marx, a senior, fell for a second time later in the round, causing the referee to stop the fight.

Pat "My Room is a 24-hour Space" O'Brien def. Michael "Wu Shack" Wu

Both fighters traded numerous body shots to start the first round. O'Brien, a senior, took control in the second round with repeated left-right combinations. The freshman Wu continued to back away, trying to keep in the fight. In the third round Wu took some serious punishment when O'Brien pounced on the pressure. O'Brien was awarded the fight by unanimous decision.

161-pound division

Joe "The Roman Catholic" Church def. Colin "Oscar" Meyer

Church connected with several big punches early against Meyer, nearly knocking him down. Meyer kept pace with Church, but Church was able to keep the pressure on, proving weakness in Meyer's defense. The third round brought much of the same, with both fighters blocking the other's attacks, but Church struck more often than Meyer. Church received the nod from the judges by unanimous decision.

Jason Miller def. Kevin "Just One More" Goodwin

Miller took advantage of his size, keeping Goodwin at a distance and connecting on several combinations. Goodwin couldn't get up to Miller's height, as Miller gradually wore him down. Goodwin made a spirited attack in the final round backing Miller down, but it was just not enough as Miller continued to assert himself. Miller won by unanimous decision.

"One More" Goodwin

"You are seeing teams for the third time in a season and everyone should be playing their best basketball. There is not a lot of down time between games, so teams really have to be focused."

Tonight's winner will play Thursday against the winner of tonight's game between No. 8 Tri-State and No.1 Hope. Hope bumped Saint Mary's out of the tournament last year, and has beaten the Belles twice this season.

"One of our goals was to be in the top four of the MIAA so that we could be at home."

Jenn Henley
Belles coach

This workshop will bring together researchers working on the frontiers of activities in probability and mathematical statistics. Emphasis will be on expository lectures which survey the "state of the art" in a particular sub-area with a specific goal of communicating and promoting interactions with scientists, social scientists, and engineers who wish to make use of methods and concepts from probability and statistics.

http://cam.nd.edu/upcoming-conferences/spring2008/

University of Notre Dame

Emerging Directions in Probability and Statistics
February 29-March 1, 2008
(Friday—Saturday)

This workshop will bring together researchers working on the frontiers of activities in probability and mathematical statistics. Emphasis will be on expository lectures which survey the "state of the art" in a particular sub-area with a specific goal of communicating and promoting interactions with scientists, social scientists, and engineers who wish to make use of methods and concepts from probability and statistics.
beat No. 21 Syracuse in the Carrier Dome on Feb. 16 and outlasted DePaul on Sunday with a two-point win.

Notre Dame did slip up once on the road in losing 57-51 at No. 4 Rutgers last Tuesday, but that loss is to be expected in the Big East. Even though that loss did not sever Notre Dame's chances of a bye, it did expose an alarming trend for the Irish this season.

Notre Dame has beaten inferior teams all season, but has struggled mightily against other ranked opponents. Other than Rutgers, the Irish played three teams currently ranked in the top five, and were blown out in two of them — both by the Hoyas and Huskers.

Notre Dame played No. 1 Connecticut on Jan. 27 and lost 81-64 and then lost to No. 3 Tennessee 87-63 on Jan. 5. The Irish also lost to No. 13 West Virginia in Morgantown 56-50, a rematch after the Irish managed only 11 first-half points.

Currently, only Connecticut (13-1), Rutgers (12-2) and West Virginia (12-2) sit ahead of the Irish (9-4) in the conference standings. But what makes the final three games so crucial for Notre Dame is the logjam behind it.

Syracuse, Louisville and Pittsburgh all sit one game back of the Irish at 8-5 and DePaul is 7-6, with both having strong chances of overtaking the Loggers in the Big East standings.

One major factor in deciding the No. 4 seed in the Big East tournament is scheduling. The Irish have already faced their toughest conference season in the Huskies and Scarlet Knights, and look to finish off the year against some of the bottom teams in the standings.

The Orange still have to host the Mountaineers before traveling to Seton Hall on Saturday for a matchup with Rutgers, meaning they could conceivably finish the season 1-2. Louisville and Pittsburgh each have easier roads to the tournament; each plays West Virginia and two other schools that are in the bottom half of the league standings.

In its last three regular season games, Notre Dame will play host to South Florida (3-10) on Wednesday and Seton Hall (2-10) on Saturday before finishing with St. John's (4-9) on March 4.

On paper, those games look like they should be easy wins, but McGraw fears these games the most heading into the stretch run. This is the last season in which only 12 of the 16 Big East teams make the conference tournament, leaving the bottom four to start their seasons a week earlier than they would like to. Currently, the Red Storm occupy the No. 12 spot, but the Bulls and Pirates are only a game out. This means that Notre Dame, with its postseason spot all but guaranteed, will be playing teams that are in must-win situations from here on out.

McGrath is not the type of coach that will let his team slack off at the end of a season, so she needs her team to stay focused and to make sure it wins these next three games. The worst thing that could happen for Notre Dame at this point is any kind of letdown. Last year, the Irish had a two-game home skid to end the regular season and then lost in the first round of the Big East tournament to DePaul. Even though the Irish still made the NCAA Tournament, they were a No. 8 seed and had to play a tough No. 1 North Carolina in the second round — not the ideal situation for any team.

The best way for Notre Dame to make sure they are the bulging picking off middle-ranked teams in March is to finish with three solid wins that would impress the NCAA Selection Committee.

The Irish have a knack for winning games they are supposed to. They just need to do it three more times.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckfitzpa5@nd.edu

The Wildcats (8-7) were ranked for much of the early season but fell by the wayside with a five-game losing streak in late January. They get another shot at a big win on March 2 against Louisville.

Syracuse (7-8) is on life-support for a bid. The Orange have a big win over Georgetown, but have lost four of their last five. They still have big games left against Pittsburgh and Marquette.

Cincinnati sits at 8-6 in conference play and will probably beat out some of the above teams for Big East tournament seeding. However, the Bearcats had an uneven non-conference experience and are only 13-13 overall. They have a chance to play spoiler against Pittsburgh Wednesday and when they visit Connecticut in their regular season finale.

Hoping to get to New York

The top 10 teams in the conference all feel comfortable about their prospective trips to Madison Square Garden (although if Syracuse falls apart, it could be left out).

However, there is a logjam in slots 10-14 and only two of those teams can get to the conference tournament. If the season ended today, Seton Hall (6-9) and DePaul (5-9) would be in, but not on their heels are St. John's (4-10) and Providence (4-11).

South Florida (2-12) and Rutgers (2-13) need monumental collapses by the teams in front of them to make the conference tournament and are just hoping to stay out of the Big East.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckfitzpa5@nd.edu

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The Observer

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

LOLLERSKATES

DI RIDER LEWIS

Dude, girls here are so frigid. It would be so much easier if we just went into a state school.

Totally, dude.

BLACK DOG

M ICHEL A MIKUSKA

Tuesday, February 26, 2008

THE OBSERVER

Horoscope

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Santa Jutte, 66; Piano Arick, 37; Team Cowherd, 37.

Happy Birthday: There will be lots going on behind the scenes this year. You will have to be adaptable to the changing positions you must be in to be successful. Opportunities are present and you may be able to make lots of extra money, but only if you are flexible and willing to take advantage of them. 4 stars.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You have to be on your toes if you want to keep up with the fast pace of life. You should offer your services and donate your time to something you believe in. You will make new friends if you are honest and kind. 3 stars.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Getting involved is the first step to getting what you want. By trying something new or visiting a destination to which you've never been, your eyes will be opened to a new way of doing things. 2 stars.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): There will be lots going on behind the scenes this year. You will stand still. Your numbers are 10, 14, 22, 27, 41, 47.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll be the one to come out on top. Your true friends will be there for you when the going gets tough. 3 stars.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A few alterations at home will make things easier for you. You will learn something new by exploring a new area. Keep up the good work and, although you may not be able to do it all, you can be successful. 3 stars.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A slight change of plans will lead to a more secure future. Do the unexpected. 2 stars.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You don't have to be on the run to impress someone. A trip will spark some creative ideas that can help you reach your new direction. 3 stars.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Concentrate on work and a good job will materialize. It's easy for someone else to distract you, but if you take what you do seriously, you will not be disappointed. 2 stars.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Getting involved is the first step to getting what you want. You should offer your services and donate your time to something you believe in. It's a chance to meet someone who can boost your confidence. Your numbers are 9, 13, 21, 25, 33, 37.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): To turn your ideas into something tangible. Taking action doesn't have to cost a lot. 4 stars.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Things are looking up so don't hold back when there is so much to gain. A chance meeting with someone who can help you financially will be very successful. 3 stars.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A great chance to make new friends. Your numbers are 4, 8, 17, 26, 31, 35.

The Observer

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**BENGAL BOUTS**

**First day of tourney showcases 182 fighters**

By PETE REISENAUER, LAURA MYERS, JARED JEDICK, SAM WERNER and MATT GAMBER
Sports Writers

The 78th-annual Bengal Bouts boxing tournament began Tuesday with 91 fights between fighters of 13 weight classes.

130-pound division

Jack Dillon def Daniel Brannon

In the night's opening bout, Dillon won a close fight that wasn't decided until the final round. Neither fighter established a definitive advantage until Dillon landed a couple of combos early in the third, earning him a unanimous victory.

Matt Conti def. Joe Camarda

Conti was able to knock Camarda down twice in the first round, causing the referee to stop the bout.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL ANALYSIS**

**First place up for grabs at top of Big East pack**

After a murky beginning, the teams of the Big East are beginning to separate as the conference tournament draws near.

Most of the league's top three teams getting a bye.

Chris Khorey
Sports Editor

Three teams — Georgetown, Louisville, and Notre Dame — are tied at the top of the league at 12-3. All three are in good position to earn a bye in the first round of the conference tournament, but the main goal for these three is to win the regular season conference championship.

Behind those top squads, several teams are trying desperately to get a few more wins to solidify their places in the NCAA Tournament.

The Big Three

The Hoyas and Cardinals are tied at the top of the league at 12-3, with the Irish close on their heels at 11-3. All three are in good position to earn a bye in the first round of the conference tournament, but the main goal for these three is to win the regular season conference championship. Georgetown started the conference season hot, winning nine of its first 10 league games. Recently, however, the Hoyas have faltered, losing to Louisville and Syracuse. Over the next two weeks, Georgetown has two more major tests — a visit to Milwaukee to play Marquette and a rematch with Louisville in Washington. The Hoyas finish up with a game against bottom-feeder St. John's. Louisville might have the toughest road through the final stretch of the season. It faces Georgetown and a home match-up with the Irish.

The Big Three will also play a home game against Villanova, which will be fighting for its NCAA Tournament life.

Despite having to play the Cardinals on Thursday, Notre Dame might have the easiest schedule of the three. After taking on Louisville, the Irish play DePaul, St. John's and South Florida, none of who have a winning record in conference play.

The conference champion will be fighting for its NCAA Tournament life.

**ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ANALYSIS**

**Team attempts to earn bye**

With six games left to play in Notre Dame's conference schedule, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said her team needed to go 4-2 if it wanted to secure a first-round bye in the Big East tournament. So far, everything is right on schedule.

The Irish come home on Wednesday after their three-game road trip — the longest in the Big East this season — having gone 2-1. Notre Dame

**SMC BASKETBALL**

**Belles set to take on Olivet in tournament**

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's begins postseason play tonight at home at 7:30 as the Belles take on rival Olivet in the first round of the MIAA tournament.

The Belles have the advantage of playing a play-in game between Nos. 9 Kalamazoo and No. 8 Tri-State in which the Thunder knocked the Hornets out with an 80-70 victory.

The Belles (11-12, 8-8 MIAA) defeated Olivet 74-56 Saturday in their last regular season game — giving them a fourth-place finish in the regular season and earning them home-court advantage for tonight's contest.

"It's nice to host this part of the MIAA tournament," Belles coach John Henley said. "We have been on the road so much this season.