Immigrant admission policy examined

Undocumented students could gain acceptance to University, but few actually apply

By BECKY HOGAN

After last fall’s campus-wide forum on immigration, senior Michael Kozak was left with questions about the University’s role in the debate.

Kozak, who had completed a four-credit field study course on Mexican immigration last semester, was inspired to research the University admissions process for undocumented citizens. He wanted to find out if Notre Dame allowed undocumented citizens a genteel euphemism for illegal immi-

nants— to apply and enroll. One of his starting points was that he is entirely possible for undocumented students to be admitted to the University, Kozak said.

Assistant Provost for Enrollment Dan Saracino said while the University does not prohibit undocumented students from applying to Notre Dame, it does require that they apply as international students.

“We have no policy against admitting an undocumented student if the student is academically qualified,” Saracino said. However, few apply, and few are admitted. Saracino said he wasn’t certain the University had any undocumented students enroll in the past 10 years.

The applicant pool is so small in part because a limited amount of financial aid is available for international students. Applying to the University of Undergraduate Admissions Website, the University “meets 100 percent of every student’s demonstrated need,” though it also requires international student applicants to submit a Certificate of Finances proving they can pick up the costs for their education.

Because undocumented students are treated like international students, they must be “able to show the University that they have the funds to pay for a four-year experience at Notre Dame,” Saracino said.

“A U.S. citizen or a permanent resident is eligible for federal grant money and federal loans, and then we are capable of meeting the difference of what the federal programs provide,” Saracino said. “We cannot afford to offer admission to undocumented students who can’t afford to pick up the tab themselves.”

Columnist says era of religious right at an end

Dionne claims Christian voters have shifted party affiliation over past three decades

By CLAIRE REISING

After over 20 years of association with right-wing conservation, Christians are redefining their relationship with politics and moving away from the religious right to support the Democratic Party, Washington Post columnist E.J. Dionne Jr. said.

“The era of the religious right is over. The end of the religious right does not signal an end to conservative Christianity,” Dionne said in a lecture Monday in Carey Auditorium.

“It is a sign of a reformation among Christians who are disentangling their great religious movement from a political machine.”

Christian conservatives have adopted “a broader definition of what it means to be a Christian in public life,” he said.

Dionne said religion has traditionally been a conservative force but religious Americans are now focusing on other faith-influenced issues such as social justice and Jesus’ emphasis on serving the poor.

“This is a change which is now underway, for liberals and conservatives alike, to abandon their sometimes narrow view about who real Americans are and what they believe,” he said.

Voting trends among young people indicate this ideological shift, Dionne said when he compared Ronald Reagan’s 1980 election with today’s political climate.

Voters under 30 voted three to two for Reagan, who was a Republican, but in 2006, young voters supported democratic

see DIONNE/page 3

Maura Weis details family’s struggle

Husband, Charlie, leaves practice early to help promote wife’s new book

By SARAH MAYER

To introduce of his wife’s book during a discussion and book signing in McKenna Hall, Notre Dame football coach Charlie Weis said Monday was the first occa-

sion in coaching career that he has ever left a practice early.

“I told the guys this morning this is something important enough for me to leave practice for,” Charlie said.

Maura Weis’ book, “Miles From the Sidelines: A Mother’s Journey With Her Special Needs Daughter,” focuses on the tribulations see WEIS/page 6

CAMPUS LIFE COUNCIL

Group discusses change to Orientation format

By KATIE PERALTA

In its last meeting before the new administration takes office the Campus Life Council (CLC) discussed improving the format of First Year Orientation (FYO) Monday.

Brian Coughlin, assistant vice president for Student Activities, presented a plan to update and improve the first three days a freshman experiences on cam-

pus.

“The programming of FYO seemed awkward and forced — with some of the inter-gender socialization,” Coughlin said, referring to socializing activi-

ties between men’s and women’s dorms typically planned for students during the orientation days.

Coughlin said students have too little time to move into their rooms and say goodbye to their parents during the current FYO schedule and advocated free time for the students in his pro-

posal.

He also said more in-dorm activities should be planned for the weekend to foster friendships among men and women in their respective dormitories.

“We want to plan activities in

see CLC/page 4

Burglary cases may be linked

NSDP description matches Valpo suspect

By BILL BRINK

Notre Dame Security/Police (NSDP) has received new information about burglaries in Lyons Hall last week that may identify a suspect and link him to similar crimes at Valparaiso University.

During the burglary, three laptops and two wallets were stolen from two unlocked rooms last Wednesday. NSDP assistant director Dave Chapman said last week.

Johnson said “several peo-

ple” had seen the man NSDP considers to be a suspect. He was described as a black male, between 5-foot-6 and 5-foot-11, with a thin build, “frizzy, long, black hair” in a pony tail or braid, possibly bad or missing teeth and possi-

bly facial stubble, Johnson said.

The man had a duffle-type bag, Johnson said, and entered unlocked rooms when students were present. When he saw the students, he asked for someone by name who did not live in the room, Johnson said.

NSDP learned from Valparaiso that similar robberies took place on its cam-

pus in recent months, and the

see IMMIGRANT/page 4
A guide for writing to Viewpoint

It's that time of the year again when Viewpoint becomes intensely 'Monologues' oriented. So here it is, a shameless plea for letters. But not just any letters. Good letters. Articulate letters. Letters with a logical argument.

Below are some helpful tips for letter-writing, guaranteed to increase your chances of publication.

1) Proofread — Don't just write a letter in anger and send it off. Remember that you are submitting this for publication. It is not just a friendly or not-so-friendly e-mail. If there are typos or basic grammatical mistakes, your letter won't be taken seriously. Have some pride in your work.

2) Sign your name — We have only printed one anonymous letter in our 42 year history. We are unlikely to do it again. If you are uncertain about your opinions, perhaps you should reconsider sending it out there for the world (or at least the campus) to see. And sign your real name. We can't publish under pseudonyms.

3) Provide the necessary contact information — It's frustrating when we receive a well-written letter but cannot run it after we fail to get in touch with the author. If you're a student, give us your dorm and class year. If you're a graduate student or faculty member, give us your email address.

4) Don't make stuff up — If you quote facts or figures, cite your sources at the end of the letter.

5) Find something new to write about — This isn't necessarily a shameless plea...but it's that time of the year again. If you have a time-sensitive topic, e-mail it to letters@observer.nd.edu.

6) Keep it brief — I can't stress this one enough. Anything over 350 words or so will be losing readers. It's supposed to be a letter, not a manifesto. Be concise. You'll get your point across to more people if you can manage this one.

7) Don't be afraid to ask — If you have a time-sensitive topic, e-mail us as ahead of time so we can do our best to accommodate the letter. If you're interested in writing in a guest column, let us know. We are open to suggestions.

8) Do your best to print letters representative of what you receive, but if you can't print everything that comes in, if yours doesn't quite make it, find a new topic and try again.

Viewpoint is representative of our community. If you find it boring, new topic and try again.

If you have a time-sensitive topic, e-mail it to letters@observer.nd.edu.
Dionne
continued from page 1

instead of arguing over issues like Roe v. Wade, which legalized abortion in the United States, Dionne proposed that both pro-life and pro-choice advocates should seek abortion-reducing policies, such programs that combine abstinence and contraceptive approaches to prevent unwanted pregnancy.

While some religious Americans are reddefining their political priorities, Dionne said secularism and neo-atheism are on the rise in the American political scene.

In a study conducted by Pew Forum Religion and Public Life, 16 percent of Americans now claim no religious affiliation and 31 percent of that sample said Catholicism was their childhood religion, Dionne said. He offered several reasons for this trend, such as disputes over science and the notion that religion implies conservatism.

Dionne said although some atheists take belief seriously and engage in intellectual discourse, the neo-athiests can be as adamant in their right-wing conservative Christian views.

"They are operating in a tradition too," he said. "There's a sort of elitism in some of their line of argument, which I find no less troublesome than a right-wing Christian who votes differently than I do in every political contest."  

Contact Claire Reising at cvcsin@nd.edu

"The era of the religious right is over. The end of the religious right does not signal an end to conservative Christianity."

E.J. Dionne Jr.
Washington Post columnist

Wednesday April 2nd
Thursday April 3rd
10am to 7pm
In the bookstore, by the fireplace.

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While you're there, we'll have caps and gowns for you to use for your professional headshot. Being $10 and have your portrait taken the same day as your fitting. Your portraits will go online for you and your family to view within a few days.

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By MADELINE BUCKLEY

Shakespeare scholar Stanley Wells used public records from Shakespeare's hometown Stratford-upon-Avon to understand the sexual behavior of Shakespeare and his contemporaries during his lecture "Sex and Literature in Shakespeare's Time." Monday.

Sexual misconduct was not blatant under the eye of Queen Elizabeth, who was often referred to as the Virgin Queen, and the church or the state did not taxate adultery, incontinence or pre-martial sex, Wells said.

"It was a sexy business. Rumors circulated about the sexual conduct of the players."

Stanley Wells
Shakespeare scholar

"Stratford records give record of prosecution for fornication," Wells said.

In spite of the danger of punishment, evidence shows that Shakespeare himself engaged in pre-marital sex, as his wife Anne Hathaway was already pregnant at the time of their marriage, Wells said. It seems as though he escaped prosecution for this and escaped "scot-free."

"Shakespeare's personal sexual experiences are reflected in his writing," Wells said. In Shakespeare's "As You Like It," Rosalind discusses pre-marital sex, and in his Sonnet 151, Shakespeare gives an "extraordinary description of an erection, detailing the rising and the falling of the penis," he said.

This frank discussion of sexual encounters gave Elizabethan theater a bad reputation, Wells said. There were some religious leaders who blamed the plague that spread throughout Europe on the atypical performances and the players who dominated the Shakespearean stages to the current celebrity culture.

"It was a sexy business," he said. "Rumors circulated about the sexual misconduct of the players." Like actors now, players were scrutinized for more than their acting skills, Wells said.

While prostitution was also a component of Elizabethan society, it is left out of much literature of the time, Wells said. Although the practice did occur, public records are scarce on the subject, he said. However, one prison record indicated the existence of a prostitute from Shakespeare's hometown. A woman by the name of Elizabeth Evans lived a colorful life as a prostitute until she was finally arrested for using a 5-year-old girl to earn money as a prostitute, Wells said.

Homoeoticism was another scandalous literature theme "in vogue" at the time of Shakespeare, he said. Although sodomy was punishable by death, "male-to-male relationships were common," he said. Most famously, accounts detail the sexual exploits of Queen Elizabeth's successor, King James I, who has been described as homosexual.

While homoerotic themes were popular in the literature of Shakespeare's contemporaries, and many believe that some of Shakespeare's work falls in the same category, Wells is skeptical that Shakespeare's writing can be classified as homosexual.

"Shakespeare succeeds in writing verses that could be applied to homoeroticism," Wells said. "But ultimately, he simply captures the very essence of human love."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu
**Immigrant continued from page 1**

Kozak, however, said the policy should be changed to simplify the process of applying as an undocumented student or to receive a student visa.

"Undocumented immigrants have to physically go back their country (of origin) to get a visa..." Kozak said.

Kozak said reevaluating the current policy is part of the University's duty as part of its Catholic mission.

"In the same way that the University does not deny admission to poor people because of the additional burden they will place on financial aid, it ought not deny admission to undocumented immigrants based on financial ease alone," Kozak said. "This is a moral decision and one that ought to reflect our Catholic sense of morality."

Michael Kozak senior

**CLC continued from page 1**

the dorm that talk about dorm traditions as well as the brotherhood and sisterhood of each dorm," Coughlin said. "We want to look at what makes each hall unique."

He said the new proposal introduces activities that "take some of the attention away from some of the running around and chaos" of current activities.

In the newly formatted FYO, there will be a divergence from other types of student activities, such as anything that is physically demanding, which, Coughlin said, can alienate people.

"We want to keep this as organic as possible," he said.

Coughlin also advocated eliminating certain activities between men and women's halls, such as tie or shoe exchanges.

According to Coughlin, in the newly proposed schedule, first-year students will participate in more activities within the dorm for very specific reasons.

"First-year students will get to know their floor-mates, section-mates and floor-mates before moving out into the greater campus in general," Coughlin said.

He said in order to implement the new proposal, Coughlin plans to work with the rectors of each dorm and implement a formal University committee on orientation.

According to Coughlin, a junior or senior hall orientation is one that takes the place of the current sophomore commissioners that have served an unpaid faculty position in previous years.

"We need someone with a little more experience before they become the coordinators of events," Coughlin said.

In Other CLC news:

Shawna Plumstott, head of the Task Force on Campus News, announced a proposal to advocate proper serving sizes on dining hall trays was rejected.

Plumstott said Notre Dame Food Service recently ordered around 15,000 new trays which nullifies the task force's plan to print the serving sizes of each food group on the trays.

The idea led on focus on eating a balanced meal, not just showing what foods are healthy."

The group now is looking into getting plates made with portion sizes marked.
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Mideast peace talks seem productive

AMMAN, Jordan — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Monday that Mideast peace talks are "moving in the right direction," although U.S. officials conceded it would be a hard slog to meet the goal of an Israeli-Palestinian deal in 2008.

Speaking after two days of talks in the region during which she won hard-fought but limited concessions from Israel to ease the economic isolation of Palestinians in the West Bank, Rice said more needed to be done, and singled out a halt to settlement activity as an obstacle.

"I think it's all moving in the right direction," she said at a news conference in the Jordanian capital after meeting Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

New digging project at Stonehenge

LONDON — Some of England's most sacred landmarks were disturbed Monday for the first time in a quarter-century of attempts to understand their mysterious origins.

The excavation project, set to last until April 2011, is designed to uncover and interpret the earliest known and least understood landmarks.

The World Heritage site, a favorite with visitors the world over, has become popular with Druids, neo-Pagans and New Agers who attach mystical significance to the strangely shaped circle of stones, but there remains great debate about the actual purpose of the structure.

**LOCAL NEWS**

Indiana toll road increases rates

HAMMOND, Ind. — Motorists who pay cash to drive on the Indiana Toll Road will see their rates increase starting Tuesday.

The highway's private operator is authorization from the state to increase tolls as it starts operating an electronic toll transponder system on the full length of the 135-mile highway.

The toll for the full length of the toll road will rise from $0.90 to the current $4.65 for car drivers paying cash. Drivers who use a transponder won't see a toll hike until 2016. All will be charged $3.25 for a one-time enrollment fee. The new rates will more automatically will pay toll increases, regardless of whether they use the electronic tolling system known as E-ZPass.

"The spirit of the toll freeze is for local users," said Matt Pierce, a spokesman for the Indiana Toll Road Concession Co., the highway operator.

**CUBA**

Resorts opened up to Cuban citizens

HAVANA — Raúl Castro's government opened luxury hotels and resorts to all Cubans Monday, ending a ban imposed a year ago as a result of the country's financial crisis.

The measure was announced as part of the administration's plans to attract more foreign tourists to Cuba and spur its ailing economy.

"The change is a signal," said microbiologist and public health expert Dr. Francisco González, who also heads the Havana chapter of Cuba's Communist party. "We are ready to move forward."

**WASHINGTON** — HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson steps down from post amid speculation of political favoritism

Jackson resigns as scandal swirls around him

HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson resigned Monday amid a swirl of controversy over his personal and political relationships, the latest in a series of top-level departures from the Bush administration.

Jackson, who was appointed to the post by President George W. Bush in 2006, had been under increasing pressure for months over controversies involving his residence, personal finances and personal friends with ties to the housing agency.

While there was no official word on Monday on his way out of the country for a trip built around a NATO summit, Bush said he wants Congress to modernize HUD's Federal Housing Administration, allowing more struggling homeowners to refinance their mortgages.

Jackson has been a political centrist who has consistently backed President George W. Bush's anti-terrorism policies.

Jackson's department has faced problems with catastrophic failures of public housing, and with its Inspector General recently reviewing the way Jackson was hired for the post.

Jackson said in a statement that stepping down was the toughest decision of his life but that he was acting in the best interests of his family and his department.

Jackson's departure comes as the Bush administration faces growing public demands to reform government programs designed to help low-income people buy homes or prevent foreclosures.

Bush's team has been seeking ways to improve the nation's housing programs, including higher down payments and stiffer requirements for borrowers to qualify for mortgages.

He has described the situation as "a high-risk, high-cost mortgage problem on minorities and the elderly, who often are targets of predatory lending practices that put people into loans they are incapable of repaying."
Maura Weis
continued from page 1
Maura and her husband have encountered raising their autistic daughter, Hannah. All proceeds of the book go to the Weis’ charity, Hannah & Friends, which helps children with special needs.
Charlie called the book “a heartfelt, sincere story of living the life of a parent with a special needs child” during his introduction. He said any parent with a child that has special needs could have written the book but his wife was a good candidate because she has truly experienced what it is like.
After the introduction, WNDU’s Maureen McFadden interviewed Maura on both the book and her background as a parent of a special needs child.
Maura said she knew something was wrong with Hannah around the time she turned two.
“She used to want to be around people but suddenly she just wanted to be by herself,” Maura said.

“Hannah used to want to be around people but suddenly she just wanted to be by herself.”

Maura Weis
author

Hannah was diagnosed with autism and at age 10, she began to have seizures. Doctors were unable to find a diagnosis for the seizures but she began receiving treatment. The family learned Friday the treatments Hannah received were successful and she should never have a seizure again.
Maura said the family has adapted to Hannah’s wheat-free diet and she has had a positive impact on those she comes in contact with.
“Charlie Jr. has learned patience and understanding and to love someone unconditionally through Hannah,” Maura said.
Maura said Hannah has also impacted Charlie’s life.
“Coach loves her, she is his little angel,” Maura said. “My husband is a wonderful human being. He does not play golf or go out with his friends; being with his family is his hobby.” Maura admitted having a daughter with special needs has been a struggle.
“No one looks at us like; hey can I give you a hand,” she said.
In spite of this, Maura said the South Bend community has been very supportive.
“Oh, the weather’s not great,” she said. “But I wouldn’t want to live anywhere else.”

Contact Sarah Mayer at smayer91@saintmarys.edu

Weis
continued from page 1

Brand new, furnished townhomes

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A limited number of new Irish Crossings three and four bedroom townhomes, specifically geared for today’s college student, are now available for lease for this fall semester.

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in BRIEF

Lehman Brothers filing suit for fraud

WASHINGTON — It’s a Herculean task: revamping a financial regulatory system that failed to stop the greatest economic War to deal with 21st century crises imperiling the country.

Under an ambitious Bush administration proposal, the Federal Reserve would take on the unwieldy role of ushering in changes of financial market stability. Other regulatory agencies could see their influence diminished.

The proposal won’t fix the host of economic and financial problems that threatens to plunge the United States into a deep recession, but it might help guard against future troubles. It would take years and a lot of political wrangling — in Congress, on Wall Street, in statehouses and elsewhere — to implement all the changes envisioned.

Yet, the initiative, formalized and announced Monday, casts a fresh spotlight on the way to protect the country from financial catastrophes in an intricate web of complex, often-changing financial products and the wide array of financial players using them in the United States and beyond. That debate probably will take center stage in the next president’s administration.

And the current administration’s goal was to get the revamp under way before he leaves office, press secretary Dana Perino acknowledged Monday in responding to the New York Times: “We’ll have to see. It is a big attempt,” she said.

Democrats in Congress said the administration should be focusing on efforts to ease the country’s current woes, including providing more relief for millions of distressed homeowners clubbed by the housing collapse and credit crunch. Foreclosures have hit record highs.

“We must take steps now to provide help to families who are hurting,” said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. Senate Banking Committee Chairman Chris Dodd, D-Conn., called the administration’s proposal a “wild pitch.”

“It’s not even close to the strike zone,” Dodd said. “This is a very legitimate issue, but why bring this up today when really this had nothing to do with the current problems we’re facing?”

Democratic presidential contender Hillary Rodham Clinton was even more emphatic: “No amount of rearranging the deck chairs can hide the fact that our housing and credit markets are in crisis and they are sinking deeper every day.”

Sen. John McCain, who has wrapped up the Republican nomination, welcomed Pelosi’s recommendations. “I think consolidation of the various supervisory bureaucracies is very important recognition that we are in a global economy, and transparency and closer oversight is necessary,” he said.

The plan would greatly expand the role of the Fed, created in 1913 after a series of bank panics, to oversee the stability of the entire financial system including commercial banks, investment banks, insurance companies, hedge funds, private-equity firms and others.

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**New economic strategy proposed**

Federal Reserve overhaul will not ease current problems but help in the future

**Small corn crop means higher prices**

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This is no response to any specific Viewpoint article, rather to the overflow of press coverage regarding Barack Obama's relationship with his church pastor, Rev. Jeremiah Wright. It occurred to me that the media has seemed to place an unfair weight on the relationship Obama has shared with Wright over the years. For anyone unaware of the issue, Wright is the pastor of Trinity Church and recently became famous for his controversial remarks regarding race in America. While I do not need to go into the specifics of his comments, they are seen as quite heated and contentious.

The media has thus been highly critical of Obama's relationship with his pastor, and rightly so. If we are to elect an individual to the highest public office in this country, are we not allowed to scrutinize their character? After all, a lot may be said to be said by the people with whom we associate. However, the media has taken it too far.

Before I go on, I should state that I am not a Barack Obama supporter, nor am I a Clinton supporter. I simply want to see a fruitful debate among the Democratic Party that is fair and worthy to produce a candidate to the general election. Obama recently answered questions regarding his relationship with Wright, and even went on to comment on racial divisions that still exist today. I have to admit I was extremely impressed with the articulate Obama and can fully understand why he is such an attractive candidate to a lot of people. But even with his answers, the media did not let it go. They still ask the piercing questions concerning his character, almost as if to make up for previous lack of scrutiny.

All I ask is that we do not forget the issues. While it is easy to say that this upcoming election is a momentous one for the history of our country (every presidential election cycle says that), it does have importance. We are currently in a war that has passed its fifth anniversary. We have major issues with the continuation of social security. The economy appears to be in a slump. We have serious thinking to do in the coming years.

I want to know both where Obama stands and what he has done in the past as a senator to affirm those beliefs. Sure, it is easy to go on his Web site and read about it, but I want to listen to him articulate it more. I want the media to foster debate about the issues. I want to know how Obama will manage to stabilize the Middle East with his steady withdrawal of American troops. I want more specifics on government-sponsored healthcare. Exactly how will it work? What are the consequences?

These are only a few of the many issues on which the media could focus, but instead their attention is elsewhere. Do I think scrutinizing character is unimportant? No. But I do believe the media has to do a better job balancing that with debate among the issues. I do not support Obama, and I disagree with what I do know of his stance on issues. All I ask is give him an opportunity to make a case for what he believes in. Debate amongst the issues will better serve this country in the long run.

Patrick McDonnell
fresman
Fors Hall
Mar. 19
Disability awareness not just for March

Disabilities are something that I’m sure many people on our campus do not think much about, think about them every day. I have a learning disability, and at the very beginning of my freshmen year, I felt like I was the only one on campus who did. That all changed when I was invited to get together with other students with disabilities to create a group. We started meeting every week and eventually called ourselves Perspectives. This came about because we feel that being a person with a disability at Notre Dame gives you a different perspective, but also because we want people with normal abilities to try and understand that.

Our goal is to offer support to each other and promote awareness and education about disabilities. Having a disability is not a necessary component to membership, just an interest in our goal. We worked hard to gain group status, and I am very proud of the work we have done. We have had panels, simulations, and socials, and have worked with other groups such as Best Buddies and the Logan Center. It has been a very rewarding journey.

I write because March is Disability Awareness month. There have been many great events, but the promotion of disability awareness does not have to end. There is so much that you can do. You can be more understanding of people with disabilities all year and educate yourself.

I invite anyone who is interested in any of this to join Perspectives. It has been one of the best parts of my four years here at Notre Dame.

Molly Rivard
Welsh Family Hall
Mar. 30

Impressionable youth

"The Vagina Monologues" have stirred up a lot of passion in many students at Notre Dame. This led students to a debate with each other and panelists, and as a result, I witnessed one of the most compelling and insightful conversations I have ever seen.

This exploration of sexuality strengthened my own ideas on the subject, which I would classify as conservative. Not changed, strengthened.

Bishop D’Arcy has noted that college students are impressionable, and such a play could be dangerous to our Catholic understanding of sexuality.

There are many aspects of the world we live in today that are dangerous for a young Catholic to see. For example, the Kennedy Revue gives our college boys who are open about their sexual lives, sex scenes of masturbation, and sex meaningless to women. Yet tickets to the Kennan Revue sell out within an hour of availability.

Clearly, Notre Dame students are regularly exposed to “sexual revolution propaganda.” The Vagina Monologues offered students an opportunity to discuss complex issues of female sexuality, and each panelist gave an alternative to the sexual revolution.

Is there a better place to be exposed to the sexual revolution than Notre Dame? I doubt that, had the play been held elsewhere, anyone would have cared to conduct such a respectable conversation as the debate on Friday night.

You cannot hide reality from us. It will hit us eventually. I thank Fr. Jenkins and the organizers of “The Vagina Monologues” for offering a dose of the reality of sexuality in the world today, and providing me with a remarkable and beautiful response to it.

Flannery Kearney
sophomore
Depauw Hall
Mar. 29

Revalidate the concert

Bored on a cold day, watching UCLA blow Xavier out of the water, I was listening to music on my computer to make the game go by faster. I was listening to Bruce Springsteen when I wondered, when was the last time Bruce played at Notre Dame?

Let’s just go this far, most readers of The Observer weren’t born yet. So I decided to look into the online archives of The Observer to find a mention of the Boss, and one completely blew me away.

Just over four years ago, on Feb. 9, 2004, there was an article labeled: “University rejects concert.” I first thought, “They canceled a potential Bruce concert!” I then reasoned with myself that probably wasn’t enough money. I continued to search, but upon returning to “University rejects concert,” I discovered a horrible incident.

According to the article, Notre Dame SUB has planned potentially the greatest concert in Notre Dame history – even greater than the 2001 U2 concert. U2 and Bruce Springsteen in the Stadium.

Upon reading this, I choked on my Arizona iced Tea and did a double take. I was shocked that SUB could pull something like this together, but once again I thought, “It must be a pipe dream and there is not enough funding.” As I read on, I discovered that SUB raised $100,000 over the estimated $1.25 million required for this show. Not only was money not a problem, but the reason for the concert was not just the pleasure of Notre Dame, St. Mary’s, and Holy Cross students, but for a greater good: all proceeds from the concert were going to fund the AIDS effort in Africa.

After skimming it, I read deeper into the article to find out why this epic endeavor was never carried out. I found it: University spokesman Matt Stobaugh explained that the concert was not approved by the administration.

"Several university officers considered this proposal and decided that we did not have the resources or personnel to pull off an endeavor of this size within the necessary timeframe," Stobaugh said.

At this became very upset. I mean, a university that has enough security, personnel, parking, and other resources to maintain order on the six to seven home game weekends each year can’t provide enough for a one-time concert that would cater to far fewer patrons? Notre Dame had a chance to host one of the greatest concerts of the decade and the administration balks.

I also wonder what happened to SUB continuing to fight for this endeavor. At the end of the article there is a mention of how this idea will come to be, but there have been no echoes of it coming to fruition, not a mention in the rest of the Observer archives.

In the end, I can only stare back at the University’s missed chance to host a musical talent that have combined to sell more than 200 million albums. The chance of a lifetime.

I hope that SUB has great events in motion for the 2008-09 season, but I also hope this can get gears turning again because settling for one hit wonders and alternative rock shouldn’t be the highlights of a year.

Tim Stobaugh
sophomore
Dillon Hall
Mar. 30

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Patriotic protest

As a senior leader in Army ROTC who faces the likely prospect of being sent to Iraq in the next year or two, I found the discussion about last week’s protest interesting. I would like to offer my two cents and thank those who started and continued what I found to be a thoughtful and well­timed protest.

What are you supporting by sup­porting the war? The Army does not declare war, Congress does. A soldier takes no part in deciding whether or not to go to war; a soldier goes to war when he or she is told to by the gov­ernment.

Since we are fortunate enough to be governed by a democracy, “the peo­ple” are essentially the ones who decide to go to war, and our support of the war means supporting the cause and the deployment of troops to realize that cause. If you do not sup­port the war, you are simply opposing a government decision, and the best way to support the troops in that case is to discourage the government from sending troops into harm’s way (in a thoughtful manner, of course).

A soldier’s mission is to support and defend the people of the United States and its Constitution; to support a sol­dier is to support this mission, not necessarily a particular war.

Patriotism does not mean blindly fol­lowing the dictates of the present administration; it means encouraging the course of action which is best for our nation and the whole world.

The recent protest, by provoking thought and discussion about that best course of action, was an act of patriotism.

Phillip Hickser
senior
Dillon Hall
Mar. 28

The Observer
By MYCHAL STANLEY

Since coming onto the scene in 1999, Explosions in the Sky has made some of the most intense, emotionally rich music in the genre of post-rock.

Put simply, post-rock is the use of rock instruments like guitars, drums, and bass to create musical styles that are not common to rock music. Most post-rock bands, including Explosions in the Sky, are purely instrumental.

The band creates beautifully layered textures and narrative guitar lines with their instruments, and uses this talent to grab the listener.

In 2000, they released their first album, “How Strange, Innocence.” It was first released on just 300 CD-Rs, but they re-released it in 2005, and fans were able to see how they got their start.

In the debut album, their sound is more stripped down, but their ear for arrangements is apparent. Songs like “Snow and Lights” and “Glittering Blackness” show basic textures that are the beginnings of more thickly layered songs on their later albums.

The album “The Earth Is Not a Cold Dead Place” from 2003 presents a hopeful view of life. While the title says the Earth is not awful, one had to think it was initially to need that kind of assurance.

In “The Earth Is Not a Cold Dead Place,” the band fully realizes everything they are trying to achieve. Intricate guitar lines, precise drum work and explosive crescendos lend to an emotional palette only Explosions in the Sky can create. The songs “Memorial” and “Your Hand in Mine” are perfect representations of what the band does best.

Finally, in 2007, they released “All of a Sudden I Miss Everyone.”

Everyone.” For the first time, the album did not show any measurable development in the band’s sound, besides a small introduction of piano into their music. But this latest work still provides some solid songs.

The band also released an EP entitled “The Rescue” in 2005, in which they wrote and recorded a song a day for eight consecutive days. In many ways, this is their most accessible due to the relatively short lengths of the songs. The band also did the entire soundtrack to the film “Friday Night Lights.”

The music of Explosions in the Sky is some of the most explosive (no pun intended), rich, emotional, cathartic and beautiful music you will ever hear. The fact that they are able to draw so much out of basic rock instruments is incredible. The music of Explosions in the Sky is almost too epic, if only it didn’t fit so well within our lives.

Contact Mychal Stanley at wstanley@nd.edu
the cacophonic ride of lights and sounds took off from there. Drums, bass, guitar and piano managed to create a sound full enough to elevate the crowd to euphoria.

The crowd stood on its feet the whole time as different people sang along with different snippets of songs. Though few people know the album by heart, many people have heard their songs and were able to get into it along with McMahon.

The artist spent the evening banging on the piano. He felt the music to the point that he appeared almost paralyzed at moments. McMahon never sat, but hunched over the keys and sang into the mic with his head turned toward the audience. It was almost existential to watch him completely living within the sound of his own music.

Most of the songs from "Everything in Transit" were performed. Near the end of the evening, McMahon sat calmly at his keys and played a more introspective song off the album yet to be released.

The band played for an hour and 20 minutes, including one encore. When they left the stage the second time they ignored the crowd's cry for another song leaving the audience to mistakenly cheer the roadies as the lights came up. The evening was generally deemed a success by everyone. The energy that had been buzzing for an hour and a half was carried out into the night as students walked home under the stars.

By STEPHANIE DEPREZ
Assistant Scene Editor

Stepan Center is not exactly the ideal spot for a concert. Not only is it acoustically stifling, but also reminiscent of chemistry related events, including dreaded Organic Chemistry exams. Additionally, it takes a bit of a hike from civilization to reach the complex. Nonetheless, on Friday night the lights came up on Stepan Center when Jack's Mannequin took the stage.

Jack's Mannequin's Andy McMahon was a member of Something Corporate before writing his own songs while the band was taking a break. His songs from the hiatus became the first and only album of the newly formed Jack's Mannequin, "Everything in Transit." The album has slowly gained a wide following, and a new one is expected soon.

The real story behind Jack's Mannequin is unusual for a band riding the punk-pop wave. After the album was recorded in 2005, the band was ready to go on tour to promote it. Just before the tour, McMahon was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. His little sister was the marrow donor, and he made a full recovery. They are now touring and will eventually end up on the Warp Tour circuit.

The set was typical, except for the large black grand piano center stage. No opening band in sight, Andy McMahon and his crew bounded onto the set at around 9:15. Bursting into the opening chords of "Dark Blue," the cacophonic ride of lights and sounds took off from there. Drums, bass, guitar and piano managed to create a sound full enough to elevate the crowd to euphoria.

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Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@nd.edu
Women's water polo

Women's water polo wins Miami Invitation; Rugby beats Loyola 66-0; Rowers begin season at Lubbers Cup

Special to the Observer

Women's water polo

The nation's top-ranked club program in the country, Notre Dame captured the prestigious Miami Invitational in Ohio this weekend. On Friday, the Irish opened play against the Crimson of Harvard, who finished No. 8 in the country. The game was back-and-forth, with the Irish holding a 3-2 lead massing their first three goals from a two-goal deficit in the fourth quarter to tie at 1. After Bridge O'Neill fouled out early in the fourth quarter with the Irish down two, Kelly Horner took over in overtime, scoring a backhand goal to win it 3-2 and lead the Irish to a 12-10 victory. Ali Durkin, Kristen Harkins and Cristina Romano each contributed a goal, while goalies Betsy O'Neill made 12 saves.

On Saturday, the Irish defeated Wisconsin 14-4. O'Neill and Romano led the squad with four goals apiece, and Horner added another three. Durkin, Emily Harrington and Katie Nagel also each exploded one home for the Irish. Goalies O'Neill and Romano had the Irish making a combined nine saves.

The women's water polo team takes on Michigan 5-3 Saturday night. In the championship game on Saturday afternoon, No. 3 Cal Poly led in a long-anticipated game that lived up to its expectations. In the end, the Irish came from behind to win 4-0. O'Neill hit a lob shot in the second half with goalies Jon Kelly performing. The game ended in a shootout as Sue O'Neill answered with a goal to put the Irish up 2-1. Purdue answered with a goal from each. Purdue answered with a goal from each. O'Connor also finished with 11 saves.

For the right to play in the national championship tournament, the Irish must have a strong showing in the Midwest. The Irish face a tough match against the University of Rochester card in the Midwest regional tournament. The Irish swept Loyola University Maryland 14-4 as they opened their season. The Irish looked to gain some stability and momentum going into nationals.

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North Carolina's Tyler Hansbrough and Kansas State's Michael Beasley were unanimous selections to The Associated Press All-America team Monday. For the first time, no senior was chosen.

Beasley and Kevin Love of UCLA made it two straight years there were two freshmen chosen. Sophomore D.J. Augustin of Texas and junior Chris Douglas-Roberts rounded out the selections, shutting out the seniors.

Until this group, Hansbrough, a junior and the Atlantic Coast Conference player of the year, and Beasley, the Big 12 player of the year and third baseman to lead the country in rebounding, were named on all 72 ballots and received 360 points from the same national media panel that selects the weekly Top 25.

"To be one of just two players in the country to receive such an honor is very humbling," said Beasley, who led Kansas State to its first NCAA bid since 1996. "I've never been about individual accomplishments, but about helping my team win games. I wish we were still playing, but I am happy with the success we had this season." Hansbrough, a second-team selection last season, compiled impressive numbers (123.0 points, 10.4 rebounds) and lived up to his "Psycho 7" nickname while leading the Tar Heels to a school-record 36 wins and their 17th Final Four.

Douglas-Roberts, the third member of the All-America team playing in the Final Four, had 52 first-team votes and 309 points. The 6-7 swingman averaged 17.2 points and 4.1 rebounds and shot 44.9 percent from 3-point range for the Tigers, who lost just one game this season and earned the school's second No. 1 ranking.

"It's an honor. I've put a lot of work in, over the summer, during the season and staying after practice just trying to improve. I feel now that I'm finally getting the recognition I deserve," said Douglas-Roberts, Memphis' first All-American since Penny Hardaway in 1993. "But I still say when people look at that All-American list, it's a motivation because I'm the one that people know the least about."

Notre Dame sophomore Luke Harangody was sixth in the voting with 211 points, and he was joined on the second team by seniors Shan Foster of Vanderbilt, D.J. White of Indiana and Roy Hibbert of Georgetown, and college basketball's newest star, Davidson sophomore guard Stephen Curry, who led the Wildcats to the regional final by averaging 34.5 points in the NCAA tournament.

In Brief

Indians' Martinez out with a hamstring injury

CLEVELAND—Indians All-Star catcher Victor Martinez left Cleveland's season opener on Monday in the second inning after injuring his left hamstring while running to second base.


Lonard's lucky putt lands him an invite to the Masters

NEW ORLEANS—Peter Lonard figured the closest he would get to the Masters this year was in front of his television. Thanks to a 5-foot par putt on the final hole that he thought was only worth money, he was added to the field Monday by squeezing into the top 30 in the world ranking.

Lonard was at No. 72 and figured he had to win the Zurich Classic. He was one shot behind Andres Romero and faced a 45-foot birdie putt on the 18th to force a playoff. Lonard ran it 5 feet by the hole, then made that to finish alone in second. Had he missed, Lonard would have tied for second with Tom Wilkinson and moved up only to No. 53.

The Masters now has 93 players expected to compete, with one more spot available to the winner in Houston if he is not already eligible. Among those still not eligible is Davis Love III, whose 70 consecutive majors is the longest streak among active players.

Olympic torch lighting in Beijing goes without protest

The elaborate ceremony to relight the Olympic torch went off without a hitch Monday in closely guarded Tiananmen Square with hundreds of cheering women in brightly colored T-shirts, flower-toting children and confetti. There were no protests in Beijing, although some are expected during the 85,000-mile world tour.

Demonstrations are expected as the torch goes to London, Paris and San Francisco. Even stops in Kazakhstan on Wednesday and Turkey on Thursday could be flash points for China's Muslim Uighur minority living abroad.

President Hu Jintao presided at the elaborate ceremony in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, where the flame—carried from Greece in a lantern aboard an Air China flight—reignited the Olympic torch.

around the dial

NCAA Women's Regional Championship

Tar Heels forward Tyler Hansbrough scores a basket during North Carolina's 83-73 win the NCAA Regional Championship game over Louisville. Hansbrough and Kansas State's Michael Beasley were top picks for the All-America team.
Saint Mary's searching for first MIAA win

By MEAGHAN VESELIK

Saint Mary's 4-8 overall, 0-2 MIAA, is looking for its first Metro Athletic Conference win this season because of its non-conference schedule and due to improve in singles, but "Singles did well this past weekend and I feel pretty good about playing Olivet," Belles coach Chuck Rubino said. "We are not picked as one of the top teams in the conference, like we've been playing.

The Belles have played Albion and Calvin in their first two conference matches this season. Albion (1-0, 3-0 MIAA) is currently leading in the MIAA, and Calvin (8-2, 1-0 MIAA) is third. Saint Mary's fell 6-3 to both Albion and Calvin in the past two weeks. "Unfortunately, the conference teams we have played so far have been some of the three toughest teams in the MIAA, so they have brought some great players and good competition," sophomore co-captain Camille Gebert said.

"Tomorrow's match should be slightly easier than the games we've been playing so far. Hopefully it will be a good match to bring us out of our slump.

The Belles are coming off a 0-2 second weekend at the Jack Swartz Invitational at Wheaton College, Ill., where they lost to Olivet Nazarene and Wheaton College, both ranked in the top 20. The Belles lost 6-3 to NAIA No. 16 Olivet Nazarene on Friday, and 8-1 to Wheaton, which ranks No. 28 in Div. III, on Saturday.

"We had a lot of tough matches this weekend and I think we're going to put that experience into this match," Rubino said.

Rubino said one main problem in the weekend losses was the team's doubles play. "I want to see improvement in our doubles," Rubino said. "Singles did well this past weekend, we want to continue to improve in singles, but I hope to sweep the doubles and if we can win — the singles too.

Saint Mary's heads into competition today having played better teams than Olivet. However, both teams have yet to win a conference match, and will be going into play hungry for a win.

"I just don't want to go in there overconfident," Rubino said. "It's not like playing Albion or Calvin. Olivet isn't in the top 20, and we want to continue the play that we had this weekend.

The Belles are similar to Saint Mary's in that both teams are comprised mostly of freshmen and sophomores. To Rubino, this means his Belles have a lot of untapped potential.

"We are starting to get to that level of playing up to their potential," Rubino said. "We still have a way to go until we peak.

Rubino said his team is hungry for a long-awaited win. "Unfortunately, we had to play to both the better teams right away, but we'll certainly get our chances in the conference meet in a couple of weeks," Rubino said. Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel@stmarys.edu

NCAA Basketball

Stanford brothers to go pro

Twin brothers Robin and Brook Lopez announce intention to enter NBA draft

Associated Press

The Lopez twins are going pro together.

"We feel confident and proud of what we have accomplished at Stanford," senior Robin Lopez said. "I have always hoped I would have an opportunity to play in the NBA and I feel now is the right time to make that dream a reality.

"Brook Lopez, a three-team All-American and a first-team Pac-10 selection, averaged 19.3 points and 8.2 rebounds to go with 36 blocks this season. He scored the game-winning basket with 1.3 seconds left in an 82-81 victory over Marquette in the second round of the NCAA tournament to put Stanford in the regional semifinals for the first time since 2001.

Both Brook and Robin will hire agents and thus forgo their remaining two years of college eligibility, their mom said.

"That's something we're still working on and finalizing," she said. "It's a definite decision. A long time coming for them.

He averaged 16.0 points and 7.1 rebounds in his two college seasons, blocking 101 shots and shooting 48 percent from the field in 33 games. Brook, who missed time earlier in the season because he was academically ineligible, scored in double figures in 41 games and scored a career-high 31 points at Washington this season.

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Royals win in extra innings on opening day

Indians defeat White Sox with help from seven-run second frame; Jim Thome hits two home runs

Associated Press

DETROIT — Money can't buy wins. Just ask the Detroit Tigers.

Tony Pena Jr. hit a two-out, tiebreaking single in the 11th inning and the frugal Kansas City Royals held on to beat the big-spending Tigers 5-4 in Monday's opener and give Trey Hillman a win in his major league debut as manager.

Detroit closer Todd Jones said a team's payroll is "totally irrelevant on any given day. "But the beauty of baseball is it's all about the long haul, not one game," Jones said. "Hopefully with the kind of talent we have, we'll find a way to grind out more wins than other people."

Hillman made the right moves and his players executed in the field to rally from a three-run deficit and hold off a late comeback.

"This is pretty cool for me," said Hillman, who was successful as a manager in Japan. "It's a great honor, it's humbling."

The Tigers will spend about $138 million on their star-studded team, putting them in the pack with Boston and the New York Mets — behind only the Yankees.

Kansas City, meanwhile, will try to compete with a payroll of approximately $58 million — ranking among the smallest.

"I don't think we'll win most of the time just because our payroll is big," Detroit manager Jim Leyland said. "We just left some guys on base and we left a couple pitches up."

The Tigers stranded 10 runners, including Clete Thomas, who was on third base with only one out in the 11th.

Joakim Soria got out of the jam and earned the save by striking out Edgar Benterin and getting help from third baseman Alex Gordon, who snared Placido Polanco's grounder in the hole and threw him out.

"We had one of the best hitters in baseball up with a man on third and two outs the last inning," Leyland said. "I'll take that situation every time."

Miguel Cabrera hit a homer in his Detroit debut, helping the home team go ahead 3-0 through five innings, but Justin Verlander had a huckster start to spoil the party.

"This is just Game 1 of many, you can't get too upset about it," Verlander said.

Leo Nunez (1-0) threw two hitless innings, but Pena's single to center brought John Buck home.

Carlos Guillen helped send the game into extra innings with a solo shot in the eighth.

Cleveland, 10, Chicago 8

CLEVELAND — As the inning unfolded, C.C. Sabathia felt as if he was watching a favorite movie, one with a dialogue he knows by heart and predictable ending.

"Not to sound cocky," the reigning AL Cy Young Award winner said. "But I think everybody knew what was coming."

Say this for the Cleveland Indians, they can do drama.

The defending AL Central champions won in familiar fashion at Progressive Field their ballpark previously known as Jacobs Field — as Casey Blake hit a three-run double in the eighth inning Monday for a 10-8 opening win over the Chicago White Sox.

Blake's shot off the wall against Octavio Dotel capped a 3-hour, 21-minute opener that featured five homers, controversial calls and unseasonably pleasant weather in a city finally thawed out from the snowiest March on record.

After blowing a 7-2 lead, the Indians loaded the bases in the eighth on two singles and a two-out walk before Blake's clutch hit.

"It was not that big of a surprise," said Sabathia, who made his fifth and potentially final opening day start for the Indians. "Nobody in this clubhouse was ever in doubt. We always have faith that somebody would come through and it was Casey — once again."

They may not play in the ball park's new corporate seating area with a no-decision. The lefty struck out seven in 5 1/3 innings.

The White Sox threatened in the ninth as Jermaine Dye homered off Joe Borowski, who bounced back and got two quick outs. Franklin Gutierrez, who hit a three-run homer in Cleveland's seven-run second off Mark Buehrle, walked to load the bases.

Blake fell behind 1-2 in the count before lifting a shot high off the 19-foot-high wall in left, barely missing a grand slam but starting a new chapter of memories for Indians fans, who have resisted the ballpark's new corporate moniker.

"I was begging for a homer," said Blake, who batted just .190 with runners in scoring position last year.

Chicago's Jim Thome hit a pair of two-run homers off Sabathia, who couldn't protect a 7-2 lead but wound up with no-decision. The lefty struck out seven in 5 1/3 innings.

The White Sox threatened in the ninth as Jermaine Dye homered off Joe Borowski, who couldn't protect a 7-2 lead but wound up with no-decision. The lefty struck out seven in 5 1/3 innings.

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BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL

Jordan’s Nephews
downs SensAsians

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

SensAsians tried for the third year in a row to make it to the second round, but its dreams were shot down by five tall guys who hardly gave the team a chance to score in the first half. Jordan’s Nephews took down the hopeful SensAsians squad 21-5.

Jordan’s Nephews, led by captain Tommy Mumford, were taking fancy shots and throwing full-court passes as they dominated the SensAsians, captained by Jean Nguyen. The girls showed little skill on the court, often throwing weak passes and shots that didn’t make it into the net. What they did have were nicely-decorated red jerseys, complete with numbers and last names on the back, designed by Nguyen, along with a lively cheering section.

SensAsians was down 11-1 at halftime, with its only point coming from Melissa Harintho. Harintho scored three more in the second half, and Tatiane Isu added a basket early on in the second period.

As the second half started, Jordan’s Nephews started to ease up on the SensAsians, letting the team take more shots, most of which ended up being airballs. The boys continued with their long passes and fancy shots they knew would never work on any other court. SensAsians started to gain some momentum, but was stopped short by the Jordan’s Nephews ball-hawking defense. However, the men did ease up on their defense a little, standing in front of the basket with their arms raised, which was defense enough due to the height advantage they had.

As the SensAsians kept taking shots that bounced off the rim, Jordan’s Nephews continued to make them. But the winning team was courteous in the end and congratulated its opponent.

“We play as a group,” SensAsians captain Nguyen said. “We have a little bit of a disadvantage with the height. It was fun, but hopefully one year we’ll win a game.”

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

John Paul II and the Jews

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Write Sports. Call 574-631-4542.

Bookstore continued from page 20

Although the lack of energy proved detrimental to team 490, the Tortoises put up tough resistance as 535 tried to get the last two points in the second half. Lupp said 535 will not significantly change its approach. "The strategy will probably not change. Our goal was to win one game and we did that."

Spiny Backed Arabian Tortoise 21, Team Bad Life Decisions 15

The Spiny Backed Arabian Tortoises earned a well-fought victory over Team Bad Life Decisions. Although the male Tortoises ended up winning, the girls from Decisions played them even in the first half.

In the hour and 10 minute game, the defense of Decisions made it difficult for the Tortoises. However, their offense created the intense defense from the Tortoises, which proved to be the difference in the contest. Both teams threw up multiple airballs and displayed passable passing to make the game intensified as the Tortoises couldn't make their final shot.

After several failed attempts, Tortoises guard Kyle Hanratty ended the marathon game with a corner shot from three-point range.

We're the Real Reason Brett Favre is Crying 23, U Got A Bad Draw 1 1/2

In an epic struggle that lasted nearly an hour and forty-five minutes, We're the Real Reason Brett Favre is Crying held off U Got A Bad Draw 1 1/2 in the biggest upset of the tournament so far.

Bad Draw, which was composed of club lacrosse players from Holy Cross, came out with a Thay display of confidence.

But this cockiness was short-lived as the all-female team, Brett Favre, stormed out to an 11-5 halftime lead.

"We simply need more electricity," Bad Draw team member Dave Bendel chanted as he ran over to his team's community Gatorade bottle.

Similar to the bottle of "Alche's stuff" from the movie "Space Jam," the Gatorade seemed to revitalize Bad Draw as it managed to fight back and tie the game at 17.

The final minutes of the game were grueling as the two teams traded baskets.

As the members from other games began to come over to cheer for the ladies of "Brett Favre," the girls capitalized on the crowd momentum and pulled the narrow victory.

"We absolutely played our hearts out today. We kept it together at the end when we needed to," captain Emily Dore said. "We were truly amazing." Bendel was quick to dismiss the loss.

"It was just the weather... and the hot girls," he said.

On this day, the only thing slower than the rainy weather was the play of the two teams. Frequent turnovers, errant shots, constant complaints, and even a 15-minute scoreless period all contributed to the ridiculous length of this contest.

Carolynn's Chub Club 21, Scurrying Lemurs 12

A bone-chilling, earth-shattering block by Patrick Mulligan was all Carolynn's Chub Club needed to down the Scurrying Lemurs Monday at Lyons courts.

"I saw her coming down the court. It was just me and her," Mulligan said about the block. "As soon as I smelled weakness, I attacked."

Mulligan sent the ball flying out of bounds, but the damage had been done. The Scurrying Lemurs' confidence was shot and Carolynn's Chub Club, the defending team name to sneak by the Bookstore censors in years, took over from there.

After forcing an 11-2 deficit heading into halftime, the Scurrying Lemurs thought they had a good second half plan to get them back in the game.

"We need to get the ball to our secret weapon," captain Holly Hinz said to her team between halves.

What they failed to account for was Mulligan's game-breaking ability that ultimately sealed their fate.

"We tried to pull it together and make a comeback," Hinz said. "It just wasn't enough and we came up short."

LHOOQ 21, Equestrians 3

The Notre Dame/Saint Mary's Equestrian Club usually just rides horses and competes, but Monday it took to the court to play a game of LHOOQ, a team named after a French painting making fun of the Mona Lisa.

The Equestrian girls came out fast in front of a few energetic fans, mostly in riding breeches, a few in riding boots covered in flames, and one in a riding helmet. Their opponents were two guys, one in shorts and some other in about four shirts and a bandana around his curly mass of hair, and three girls, all in regular sweatsuits and tee-shirts.

The game started off as a contest of which team could actually hit the rim first. Airballs were the trend for much of the first half, but the Equestrians squad was the first to draw iron. However, LHOOQ scored the first point of the game, which was somewhat surprising since the team had a majority of the game's air balls up against that point.

Equestrians was unable to score many points in the first half, with its only point scored by helmet-clad Karstina Stuart. But it did keep its opponents fighting for the ball as they raced up and down the court. LHOOQ's most aggressive Equestrian players were from the center, Kelley Daniels, and Andrea Kochert, the team captain. The guys from the LHOOQ team were too happy with having to fight for the ball with girls, but they still showed no restraint.

LHOOQ led 11-1 at the half, and carried its momentum into the second half. The Equestrians scored their second point of the game, made by Solidair, right after, LHOOQ had scored three more times. LHOOQ continued to score but the team's baskets were few and far between.

The girls scored the third basket for the Equestrians, bringing the score to 18-3. LHOOQ pulled out the win after a 20-minute game of air balls and back and forth.

"It was a really physical game, but both teams played hard until the last point," LHOOQ's first captain Stephanie Brauer said.

"We played mean and strong, and showed up with three points, but we could out­horsecrack them any day," Equestrians captain Andrea Kochert said.

Contact Eugenia Alfonso at calfonso@nd.edu, Alex Barker at abarker@nd.edu and Meaghan Veselik at mveselik@nd.edu.
including an eight-run fourth inning and cruised to an 8-3 victory over a weaker Western Michigan team.

For coach Maurice Crum, Jr., his improved Broncos tomorrow will be an Irish team that has played well of late, winning eight of its last 11. But the team has also suffered several frustrating losses.

Notre Dame is batting .305 and has a 4.52 ERA. The Irish also lead the Big East in fielding but have yet to see their offensive output translate into as many wins as they would like.

"It's frustrating to play well as we have and lose some tough games," Irish coach Dave Schrage said. "We have to step up and make some plays, hit with men in scoring position, do the little things to win.

The Irish were unable to do the little things over the weekend, dropping two games to the Bearcats by a total of three runs. Notre Dame lost 5-3 Saturday in the first game of a doubleheader and struggled to score off Cincinnati starter Wade Korpi. The Irish were unable to do anything to help Korpi, giving up an early 4-0 lead. Notre Dame fought back with relievers Weiland and freshman Cole Johnson holding Cincinnati scoreless in the final seven innings.

David Mills attempted to score on a two-out single in the ninth, but was thrown out at the plate to end the game.

Schrage said the Irish focus on making plays in the non-conference and exhibition games this week in preparation for the Big East series this weekend.

"We want to get back on track this week and build some momentum before our big series against Rutgers this weekend," Schrage said.

The first pitch against Western Michigan is scheduled for 5:05 p.m. at Eck Stadium.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

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**MAC continued from page 20**

The few areas of concern for the Irish of late, an area that Gumpf has addressed with her squad.

"Our defense really does need to improve," Gumpf said. "I believe the problem to be is that we are not keeping everything simple. Sometimes I like us rushing things and we just need to slow down and watch the ball into the glove.

The Irish will first face a Ball State team they beat 3-0 at home last year. Gumpf is not taking the contest lightly, as she knows Ball State has strong pitching and good hitting characteristics of the MAC.

"When we played them last year they had very good hitters," Gumpf said. "And this year they have added an outstanding transfer pitcher, junior Tiffany Garofano, so it is going to be very tough.

Gumpf said the key to beating the Cardinals is Notre Dame's pitching.

"To beat Ball State we are really going to have to locate our pitches and control their hitters," Gumpf said.

On the offensive side, Gumpf would like to see the team maintain its strong showings of the past couple weeks and keep focusing on the fundamentals.

"Offensively, we really need to keep it simple," Gumpf said.

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**Bonding continued from page 20**

"When the head coach is at a meeting, that's good," Brown said. "When the head coach is watching your individual drills, that's good. There are no negatives to that, none. It means the players are on alert, it makes sure the coaches are doing what you're supposed to do, which you should be doing anyway.

Weis has also become a frequent attendee — and has brought a little humor — to the defensive meetings.

"I sat in the defensive back meeting room [Friday]. It's funny because Corwin's coaching and I'm in the back of the room and he's making fun of his guys because they have a guest visitor in the classroom," Weis said. "It's actually been kind of fun to tell you the truth.

So far, the players have responded in different ways to the increased presence of Weis in their lives, but ultimately, the players know what Weis is trying to accomplish with this change, rising fifth-year senior Maurice Crum said.

"He's letting the guys know he's the coach but he wants us to be more part of the team. Some guys tighten up, and at the same time, guys get a better understanding of who Coach Weis is and what he means when he speaks," Crum said. "He's still the same coach Weis and he's still about business and about winning. With him being around more, it just lets you know he's willing to change and he wants to do whatever it takes to win."

Now that he's not involved

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Mid-term week at Saint Mary’s

OMG, I love mid-terms. Can’t wait to study tonight!

No! Glad the weekend is over!

20 Enjoying an outing, of sorts (warship)

16 Moves like a trolley sound (sludge)

14 Oratorio with a punny title)

2 Speak well of someone who will support what you are doing. 3 stars

49 How some tuna is packed (diner fare)

52 Home wader (diner fare)

6 River of Spain

60 Doesn’t dally

52 53 54 55

32 33 34 35

25 26

23 Comrade in arms

37 Latvia’s capital

52 Home wader

69 Comrade in arms

19 Comic Smirnoff

44 Yin’s counterpart

43 52 53 54 55

40 Fishing line

34 Speak well of someone who will support what you are doing. 3 stars

35,40 According to your plans this year. You are likely to overreact if you aren’t prepared. Oversee your direction. 3 stars

53 How some tuna is packed (diner fare)

15 CT (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will be the driving force behind what gets done.

17 CAPOIRN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will be the driving force behind what gets done.

20 AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Hidden matters will lead to trouble. Try to keep everything unfolding. 3 stars

8 Port of Israel

4 Ad infinitum

35 Gymnast Korbut

27 Ad infinitum

56 57 58 59 60

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**FOOTBALL**

**Changing priorities**

Weis devotes more time to coaching 'D'

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Coach Charlie Weis said he wanted to get to know his entire team a little better — not just the offense — and this spring, the defense is finding out exactly what that means.

It means they see a lot more of their coach on the field in practice and off the field in the weight room and in meetings.

Weis said part of his reasoning behind giving play-calling duties to offensive coordinator Michael Haywood was to enhance his relationship with his players and become more involved in their individual development. And the defense has noticed a little more Weis in their day-to-day operations since the beginning of spring practice.

"He's definitely a more visible figure, in the off-season and practice," rising senior Kyle McCarthy said Monday after practice. "When you're on defense and you're not used to seeing coach Weis behind you, you're kind of tripping a bit, but it's been good. It's been putting the pressure on some guys but I think it's going to work well for us."

Weis said his increased visibility with the defense at practice has enabled him to interact with the players and coach more on that side of the ball.

"It gives me a chance to coach a lot more players instead of having to worry about the quarterback or the offense," Weis said after practice Friday. "I stopped practice more times (Friday) to give a coaching point and I'll probably give as many of them to the defense as I give to the offense. I'm not talking about scheme of the defense, but there's things that I notice."

Weis has left most of the schematic adjustments to defensive coordinator Corwin Brown and assistant head coach/defense Jon Tenuta, who was the defensive coordinator at Georgia Tech for the past six seasons.

"He's going to be the first one to evaluate the talent, put the guys in the right positions of how he sees it and go from there," Tenuta said Monday.

"He's been around for a long time. There's nothing I've done in my career — having faced him two times and being here — that he doesn't understand how we do it or why we do it," Brown said while having Weis help out more during practice could only improve the team in the long run.

**ND SOFTBALL**

Irish prepare for pair of mid-week contests

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame hopes to enjoy some sunny skies — and play some good softball — when it hosts Mid-American Conference opponents Ball State (20-16) and Toledo (6-10) Tuesday and Wednesday. The Irish will look to rebound in a tough series against a strong DePaul team Saturday and Sunday.

"Our gameplan consisted of getting more defense and some good softball," rising senior Brittany Bargar said. "Our strategy to win the game is to set the tone and make them hit the ball."

"Our goal was to put the ball in play and score as many runs as possible," rising senior Kari Kolda said.

Notre Dame will look to rebound against DePaul this weekend after a four-run loss to the Blue Demons on Friday. The Irish were held to two runs on four hits in the game and only scored on an infield hit in the sixth inning.

"We're looking to hit the ball and score runs. We need to be more aggressive at the plate," rising senior Jen Giacoletti said. "Our goal is to get more hits and score runs.

**BASEBALL**

**Squad looks for home win**

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

After dropping two of three in a tough series against Cincinnati this past weekend, the Irish will look to rebound in a non-conference game against Western Michigan today.

The Broncos (12-7-1) suffered a three-game sweep at the hands of Ohio in their first three MAC conference games. Sophomore catcher Chris Lewis leads Western Michigan in most offensive categories. In 19 games this season, Lewis is batting .403 with four home runs and 19 RBIs. The Broncos offense is batting over .300 combined this season, scoring almost seven runs per game.

The Irish will hope for a result similar to last year's game, a 17-9 Notre Dame win at home. Notre Dame pounded the Broncos for 22 hits —

**BOOKSTORE**

**Basketball**

ND ballers begin play in tourney

By EUGENIA ALONZO, ALEX BARKER and MEGHANA FESLEK
Sports Writer

The 2008 Bookstore Basketball tournament kicked off Monday. Despite bad weather, the first day featured excited players and at least one big upset.

Team 535 defeated team 490 and won with intricate passing, great teamwork and key steals and blocks. But the strategies of the two squads also proved to be a key in the well-played game.

"Our strategy to win the game was just wing it," said senior Derek Jipp of team 535. "We have four seniors and a freshman on this team and it was especially fun for the seniors because this was our first win ever."

It was a different story for team 490, who dedicated the game to physics professor Christopher Kolda.

"Our gameplay consisted of going to the Rock two hours before our game and surrendered some random team," freshman Ben Linskey said. "Then we went to dinner afterwards, so we had absolutely no energy when it came time to play."

**FOOTBALL**

**Changing priorities**

Weis devotes more time to coaching 'D'

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Coach Charlie Weis said he wanted to get to know his entire team a little better — not just the offense — and this spring, the defense is finding out exactly what that means.

It means they see a lot more of their coach on the field in practice and off the field in the weight room and in meetings.

Weis said part of his reasoning behind giving play-calling duties to offensive coordinator Michael Haywood was to enhance his relationship with his players and become more involved in their individual development. And the defense has noticed a little more Weis in their day-to-day operations since the beginning of spring practice.

"He's definitely a more visible figure, in the off-season and practice," rising senior Kyle McCarthy said Monday after practice. "When you're on defense and you're not used to seeing coach Weis behind you, you're kind of tripping a bit, but it's been good. It's been putting the pressure on some guys but I think it's going to work well for us."

Weis said his increased visibility with the defense at practice has enabled him to interact with the players and coach more on that side of the ball.

"It gives me a chance to coach a lot more players instead of having to worry about the quarterback or the offense," Weis said after practice Friday. "I stopped practice more times (Friday) to give a coaching point and I'll probably give as many of them to the defense as I give to the offense. I'm not talking about scheme of the defense, but there's things that I notice."

Weis has left most of the schematic adjustments to defensive coordinator Corwin Brown and assistant head coach/defense Jon Tenuta, who was the defensive coordinator at Georgia Tech for the past six seasons.

"He's going to be the first one to evaluate the talent, put the guys in the right positions of how he sees it and go from there," Tenuta said Monday.

"He's been around for a long time. There's nothing I've done in my career — having faced him two times and being here — that he doesn't understand how we do it or why we do it," Brown said while having Weis help out more during practice could only improve the team in the long run.

**ND SOFTBALL**

Irish prepare for pair of mid-week contests

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame hopes to enjoy some sunny skies — and play some good softball — when it hosts Mid-American Conference opponents Ball State (20-16) and Toledo (6-10) Tuesday and Wednesday. The Irish will look to rebound in a tough series against a strong DePaul team Saturday and Sunday.

"Our gameplan consisted of getting more defense and some good softball," rising senior Brittany Bargar said. "Our strategy to win the game is to set the tone and make them hit the ball.

"Our goal was to put the ball in play and score as many runs as possible," rising senior Kari Kolda said.

Notre Dame will look to rebound against DePaul this weekend after a four-run loss to the Blue Demons on Friday. The Irish were held to two runs on four hits in the game and only scored on an infield hit in the sixth inning.

"We're looking to hit the ball and score runs. We need to be more aggressive at the plate," rising senior Jen Giacoletti said. "Our goal is to get more hits and score runs.

**BASEBALL**

**Squad looks for home win**

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

After dropping two of three in a tough series against Cincinnati this past weekend, the Irish will look to rebound in a non-conference game against Western Michigan today.

The Broncos (12-7-1) suffered a three-game sweep at the hands of Ohio in their first three MAC conference games. Sophomore catcher Chris Lewis leads Western Michigan in most offensive categories. In 19 games this season, Lewis is batting .403 with four home runs and 19 RBIs. The Broncos offense is batting over .300 combined this season, scoring almost seven runs per game.

The Irish will hope for a result similar to last year's game, a 17-9 Notre Dame win at home. Notre Dame pounded the Broncos for 22 hits —

**BOOKSTORE**

**Basketball**

ND ballers begin play in tourney

By EUGENIA ALONZO, ALEX BARKER and MEGHANA FESLEK
Sports Writer

The 2008 Bookstore Basketball tournament kicked off Monday. Despite bad weather, the first day featured excited players and at least one big upset.

Team 535 defeated team 490 and won with intricate passing, great teamwork and key steals and blocks. But the strategies of the two squads also proved to be a key in the well-played game.

"Our strategy to win the game was just wing it," said senior Derek Jipp of team 535. "We have four seniors and a freshman on this team and it was especially fun for the seniors because this was our first win ever."

It was a different story for team 490, who dedicated the game to physics professor Christopher Kolda.

"Our gameplay consisted of going to the Rock two hours before our game and surrendered some random team," freshman Ben Linskey said. "Then we went to dinner afterwards, so we had absolutely no energy when it came time to play."
Vaginas present at ND since ’72

Exposé rocks campus; Bishop, alumni express outrage

By PHYLLIS McFILLY
Vaginal Correspondent

An Absurder investigative report that vaginas have been enrolled in the University since 1972 drew outrage from already-ebullient opponents of “The Vagina Monologues” this weekend.

Chief among critics was Bishop Tom Farcy, who argued that vaginas — and all parts associated with them — should be kept private.

“As spiritual guardian of the community, I must deplore the presence of the v***** at a supposedly Catholic university,” Farcy said in a prepared statement Friday. “The recent findings that the University of Our Lady has welcomed v*****s since autumn of 1972 is appalling. If God wanted us to honor and respect all parts of a woman, he wouldn’t have made female sexuality embarrassing and offensive.”

University President Father Jim Spankins said he is not yet ready to draw conclusions about reported presence of vaginas on campus. He said, however, that he plans to initiate campus-wide discussion about the spiritual and academic significance of the vaginas.

“We must join together in thought and prayer to determine the place of vaginas at an institution that is both Catholic and a university,” he said.

Spankins said it is far too early to predict his eventual edict, but he suspects it will incorporate the essential parts of each opposing view.

“While the presence of the vagina would seem an egregious violation of Church teaching, it might be acceptable in a strictly academic setting,” Spankins said. “Or maybe not.”

Vaginas were initially brought to the University during the tenure of University President Emeritus Father Fred Mepsburg, an outspoken proponent of vaginas equally.

“I had started to notice that the longer I was at Notre Dame, the more brutal the men were becoming,” Mepsburg said. “Without women, men degenerate into something less than human.”

Thousands of fetal corpses found under South Quad

NDSP names no suspect, but encourages students to report ‘all suspicious towneys’

By IGONIMINY
Staff Writer

SOUTH QUAD — In a shocking turn of events, the white crosses that adorn this quad periodically to commemorate aborted fetuses were shown to mark the graves of thousands of actual fetuses.

The fetuses were discovered Monday night by an NDSP sting operation, the first of its kind to be launched entirely on a fleet of Segway and Rascal scooters.

Alerted to the possibility that vandals would desecrate the crosses that adorn this quad, the Notre Dame Right to Life Club went moonlighting as gravediggers.

All students involved were immediately tased.

“Using our full force of six security — I mean police — officers, we were able to apprehend the suspects,” said NDSP spokesperson Jill Phonson.

Phonson was unable to say the last time a troupe of pro-life activists had buried fetuses on campus. He did not have access to information about the time, exact location, number of suspects, where the fetuses came from or where they would be taken.

The Absurder contacted Right to Life President Virginia Hend the suspects,” said NDSP.

see VAGINAS/page 3

NDSP believes that ‘(flipping) towneys’ hacked into the Notre Dame tunnel system to create the morbid scene. Thankfully, Notre Dame students had memorial crosses at the ready.

HEADLINE INFLATION: A ONE-PART SERIES

Tuition or grades: which rise faster?

Students will get more points for more money

By MARVEY HERSFELD
Department Editor

Citing competitive pressure from other leading universities and the popular notion of “you get what you pay for,” University President Father Jim Spankins announced that the average GPA of a Notre Dame graduate will increase 4.5 percent for 2008-09 academic year.

“We need to remain competitive,” Spankins said.

see SATAN/page 5

University considers a deal with the Devil

By RITA SKEETER
Wizard Authority

Absurder sources have learned that University President Father Jim Spankins is currently weighing accepting a deal with the Devil himself, who also goes by the Prince of Darkness, Lucifer, Satan and Mephistophiles.

Under the proposed agreement, Lucifer himself would see to it that the University of Notre Dame football team, which had a miserable 3-9 record last season, would go 13-0 en route to winning the national NCAA Championship over Ohio State by no less than a 45 point margin of victory.

In return, Satan asks only that “The Vagina Monologues” become required First Year of Studies curriculum for all students.

“It’s a pretty simple deal,” the Absurder said.

see SATAN/page 5
I declare a Viewpoint war!!!

Hey fellow Yenm! Inside Column here: Some of you may know me from my daily musings on life, but others of you may pass right over me on your way to Sports to read about Charlie Weis’ rose-scented bowel movements or those other “Sports” that we tolerate in between football seasons.

If you’re one of my fans, then I want to say thanks for being there for me through the years as I write about topics that only I care about; like spring weather, assorted lists, passing torches or 9/11. But if you do enjoy reading me everyday, then you’ll notice that I don’t get quite as much attention as a certain other section of this paper. I’m ready to make a confession: I hate Viewpoint and I’d like to take this opportunity to declare war. Viewpoint war.

I mean, why hasn’t there been an Inside Column vs. Viewpoint war yet? Sure I don’t talk about the state of Notre Dame’s Catholic identity or the ineffectiveness of student government, but opinion is opinion and at least I don’t ramble on about soap operas and “How I Met Your Mother” or whatever else Scene & Heard feels the need to talk about as she watches marathons of America’s Next Top Model” all day.

And it’s not like Viewpoint is little Miss Perfect either. I was driving to my apartment in Clover Ridge and I totally caught Viewpoint walking back from Turtle Creek wearing the same Britain-worthy dreads and red high heels from the night before. Rumor has it, she’s been spending a few too many nights at Sports’ apartment. For as much as she’s against the “Vagina Monologues,” her vagina sure has been doing a lot of talking lately. Maybe she’s getting some pointers from those Saint Mary’s girls she seems to love so much (Ah! Stereotype!).

Anyway, this Viewpoint war has been around the block with everyone except for Scene. Scene’s too busy watching “The Wire” and talking about how excited he is for the new “Indiana Jones” movie.

All I know is that if Viewpoint wants to keep her credibility, she better stop flirting with Comics so much. I mean, really? All he does is sit on his futon playing “Halo,” thinking of lame jokes about squarrels or ugly girls because guys here really have room to talk. So bring it Viewpoint, I hear Crossword and Horoscope talking behind your back everyday. And it turns out that Question of the Day and Offbeat were talking smack too before I scared them off in the bathroom so I could smoke cigarettes rolled with old copies of the Irish Rover and Scholastic. So let’s start a war and try to give Notre Dame students a break from all this talk about vaginas. Retaliation is up to you.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are divine revelation so don’t get so worked up about it.

Question of the Day: Who is Notre Dame Football’s top rival?

Bob Davies
ESPN’s white noise generator

Lionel Lomasingham
amateur golfer

Ryan’s Myth
a new Talley

Yellow Mate
super fast... or super stud?

Melvin Black
athletic director

“High expectations.”

“Bike locks.”

IDI scanners.”

“Stanford.”


Beoff:

Heath Ledger jokes finally deemed funny

GOING TO HELL, Kan. — Although the premature passing of the Oscar-nominated actor Heath Ledger in January was a tragic end to a young life, celebrity expert Classy B. has decided that jokes about the deceased heartthrob are now funny.

“Enough time has passed,” says Classy. “His death has become open game, just like AIDS, 9/11 and poverty in Africa.”

Classy believes that her favorite Ledger jokes are sensitive and thought-provoking.

“E! is reporting that production has begun on ‘The Patriot 2,’” Heath Ledger will once again play the role of the dead son,” Classy jokes.

But her favorite joke goes, “What do Jake Gyllenhaal’s cherry and a bottle of Paul have in common? They both got popped by Heath Ledger.”

SMC students shave heads for Britney, not cancer

FIRECROTCH, Calif. — Reports on Monday that on Saint Mary’s students had shaved their heads in support of cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy proved to be false. Instead, the students reportedly shaved their heads in solidarity with Britney Spears, who has made great strides in recent months toward a comeback.

“We, like, love Britney!” said sophomore Kimberly Johnson. “Why would we shave our heads for cancer? Cancer patients aren’t famous.”

Information compiled by someone who just wants to be famous. Really, that’s all she asks out of life.

Correction:

The Abouncer regrets itself as a professional publication. But, truthfully, we pretty much suck. Scholastic sucks, too. That’s what she said.

Think we made a mistake? Seek it up.

Boxers or Briefs?

Former New York governor Eliot Spitzer will be on the Saint Mary’s campus today. He may or may not have $5,500 to burn, but either way he’d like to get to know you better.

NDSP will put an underage drinker in the stocks and pelt him with tomatoes tonight at 7. The University community is invited to attend. Bring your own tomatoes.

Turtle Creek Apartments will showcase its units tonight in a session geared at underclassmen entitled “You, the Excise Police, and Turtle Creek: A Winning Combination.” Beverages will be served.

University auditor Will Igtromoechien faces a.real-life hearing Wednesday. He was yelling “COLLEGE!” while caught playing drinking games in the hall.

Finnigan’s and Club Fever announced they will raise Thursday night cover charges to $15 a person. The statement came as part of the South Bend Bar Association’s “You or me, they can’t have it all else are you going to do around here?” campaign. A bar spokesman said underage girls will still be allowed to cut you in line as long as they give the bouncers sexual favors.

The Irish Rover is seeking new writers. Applicants should exhibit poor grammar and a self-important attitude that lends itself to holier-than-thou journalism.

Seriously, who goes to talks on Jamaican immigration from 1962-66?

If you have something to submit, you have no life.

Full Weather

TODAY TONIGHT WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

HIGH 17 HIGH -12 HIGH 107 HIGH 22 HIGH PI HIGH 32
LOW 5 LOW 50 LOW 10 HIGH 0 LOW 0 LOW 22

Holtiana 46 / 33 Beattown 38 / 29 Chi-town 22 / 10 KC 34 / 20 Houston 68 / 42 City of Angels 50 / 43 New York 39 / 31 Nick’s mom 39 / 30 Phoenix 66 / 37 Seattle 44 / 26 St. Lunatics 29 / 17 Tampa 74 / 59 Do you really read the weather?
Illinois senator's approval rating among Big East basketball fans falls sharply; choice provides 'balance,' analysts say

Tee ineffectual defenses in his world to be a zoo.

continued from page 1

Vaginas
continued from page 1

human. That's why God put vaginas here, because he didn't want the world to be a zoo.

Meanwhile, the entire Notre Dame female population responded by running through LaFonorte wearing only crotchless panties.

"We thought the administration realized accepting vaginas was part of becoming a co-ed institution," one student said.

Contact Phyllis McFilly at vaginarévolution@nd.edu

Fetuses
continued from page 1

Christianson at her Grotto office, where she was praying for the souls of "the tased, the taserers and the babies." When asked why Right to Life had not revealed sooner that the "Graveyard" was not in fact a metaphorical demonstration, Christianson said campus apathy required drastic measures.

"They just weren't getting it," Christianson said. "But if planting the remains of thousands of babes beneath the main campus thoroughfare doesn't convince this student body of the seriousness of protecting human life, I don't know what will.

Within student government, Council of Representatives was called to an emergency meeting to advise student body president Liz Clow about responses to the Graveyard revelations. The group was dissmissed after failing to meet majority, though the burials typically take place after dark, some club members experience scheduling conflicts with their night theology classes.

"Fortunately for us, Notre Dame has been accommodating to any — and all — requests for funding, heavy machinery, exceptions to SAD regulations... Really, you name it," Christianson said. "In this case, they said our members can be excused from classes for what is, after all, an activity that supports our mission."

University spokesman Bennis Brown said he cannot comment on specifics of the case. "The University supports in whole the traditionally Catholic mission — and tactics — of the Right to Life Club," Brown said. "Sometimes the ends justify the means. Look, [insert reporter name], haven't you ever heard of the Inquisition?"

Contact Ignominy at noshame@fetus.com

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Sexually Frustrated?

Come and Enjoy Student Government's Newest Initiative:

The Daily Bouncing Castle on South Quad

Sponsored by Old College, Vocations @ ND, South Food Market, Reckers, hungry, AllianceND, Asian-American Association, Ebony, Irish Students of America, Knights of Columbus, Children of Mary, Office of the President, LBGTQ, North Dining Hall, Waddicks, Hannah and Friends, Morrissey Manor, Zahn House, Carroll Hall, Bishop John D'Arcy, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Rice-A-Roni (The San Francisco Treat), PLS, GoDaddy.com, the Keough Institute for Irish Studies and Barack O'Bama (The Candidate for Change).
Motorola brings voice of truth

Thank God for Greg Motorola. If it weren't for his blowzy columns defending the Pope, the conservative Catholic-American way, I would have long ago doused the pagan pages of this godless newspaper with holy water and "the Prince" would have been thrown into the fires of damnation, not to mention cancelled my subscription.

I love this man. He has a privilege and pleasure of interviewing this freedom fighter, a mensch, and good people of America, sit back, enjoy and relax in the comfort of knowing we have one of ours dedicated to shedding light on the increasingly murky morals of Notre Dame. Blue state bleeding hearts, read with caution, as the sheer amount of hard truth contained in the following paragraphs may make your liberal eyes go blind or cause your brains to sublimate inside your very skulls.

"I calls 'em like I sees 'em," Observer columnist Greg Motorola says. "I like to think of myself as the voice of reason, or maybe the voice of the people. Or even better, as the lightning-rod carrying the torch of truth to the people, all over campus, regardless of whether or not I still attend that campus."

Whether it involves calling out liberals for being the fascists that they are, or calling out Barack Obama and his supporters as a popular-fu-tude fab, Motorola's slings words count the way a cowboy slings lead — hard, fast and stinging to the heart. And unlike gunackers, who can pack a mere six rounds into their sharephooshers, Motorola's lengthy columns prove he never lacks ammunition.

Even when Greg Motorola graduated nearly a decade ago in 1999, he has wanted to fight the good fight through the pages of The Observer's Viewpoint section. "Absolutely not," he answered after being asked whether his advancing age has made him lose touch with his college audience. "Nothing about starting to write for my alma mater's student newspaper nearly a decade after the fact screams 'impending mid-life crisis.'" In fact, like the great Strom Thurmond, I firmly believe that I only continue to get better with age.

As far as his personal morals go, Motorola refuses to compromise. "I don't do a lot of what you might call "play,"" Motorola said. "Or 'action,' or 'fear end' or (posterior). Fortunately, I have a lot of Photoshopped Ann Coulter porn which gets me through the long lonely nights."

"Hell, I said as much in my recent column, 'Challenging Male Promiscuity.' I've been afraid to call people out, even if that means inducing myself."

Upon being asked whether he would ever consider defecting from The Observer to leave and write for The Rover, Notre Dame's fortnightly toilet paper substitute, Motorola giggled soft­ly to himself and replied, "See, therein lies the beauty of it all. You know how those terrorists gut sleepy cells working undercovered? Same goes for me. I'm like a covert agent planted deep within the Observer bullpen, "fallowing" the campus, "doo-da, behind enemy lines."

"Just don't question his patriotism."

Upon being asked about the ethnic origins of his last name, Motorola says, "Not yet."

As far as his personal morals go, I do not want to ask any questions, as I do not know of any. He does not appear to lack ammunition.

Motorola was an immigrant to the United States.

The views and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer, although unless you hate freedom, love terrorism and defeat the Almighty himself, you will agree 116% with all of the above.

Polesy Babberini
Alum Class of 1943
Mar. 51

Submit a Letter to the Editor at www.ndsmcymomama.com

Questions regarding Observer policy are answer: Sharr the line up and go home.

POST OFFICE INFORMATION
The Observer's mailroom receives letters by hand in the office. They are then scanned and sent as an e-mail to the editor. This ensures that your letter gets noticed. See page 4 for more details.

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Sports
Martha Burke
Buster Oney
Viewpoint
Jeremiah Wright
Graphics
Ron Reagan Jr.

Observer Poll
Do partisans prevent you from thinking about the opposite sex? (A) Yes
(B) Most of the time

Vote by paper ballot in the University president's office.

THE ABSURDER
The Independent, Notre Dame: Working for Absurdism Since Jesus May
PO Box 775, Notre Dame, IN 46556
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Email: The Absurd - Observer, Observer to leave and write The Observer to leave and write

American Catholic, and we aren't used to seeing eye to eye with John Paul's apostles. But the Catholic Church made it perfectly clear the first time around in its formal condemnation of Galileo, and should never have backed down in the face of prevailing, unfounded opinion. Notre Dame need not follow such a cowardly example.

After saying seventy of our fathers and under the escort of a priest, I made my way inside the offending building, only to discover that the floor itself depicts the blasephamous conception of the solar system that Galileo sought to sponsor, placing the sun at the center of the planetary orbits.

When, exactly, did Notre Dame stop teaching retrograde motion? Why were the alumni not consulted?

The solar system, however, was nothing compared to the shock I received upon laying eyes on another floor depiction. "Nothing In Biology Makes Sense Except In the Light of Evolution."

All the while the current focus remains steadfast on the equally blasephamous yet comparably tolerable "Vagina Monologues," Catholics of Notre Dame, realign your perspective. Fight for what you know you need to be right. Join me tonight at midnight to raze Jordan where she stands, and put an end to this dark chapter in the history of our life.

Polesy Babberini
Alum Class of 1943
Mar. 51

Saint Mary's is treated unfairly.

Fetuses do not have the rights they deserve.

Abortion is morally reprehensible.

The only human rights "Monologues" are offensive.

Homosexuality is different. Too different.

The comics are offensive.

Don't do that one. Cheer that offenders at basketball games. The football coach should be fired.

The football coach should be fired.

Notre Dame isn't Catholic enough.

Everyone
Mar. 31

QUOTE OF THE DAY
"Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country."
-Marion Barry
Former mayor of Washington, D.C.

 viewpoint Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Hall of science must go

Redux

It has recently come to my attention that the wisdom of the papacy has been ignored. This problem goes far deeper than the comparatively superficial conflict of The Vagina Monologues. The solution starts here.

The Absurd is the official student newspaper of the University of Notre Dame, established to provide: an independent voice on campus a course of study for no one else a larger, more diverse community than Notre Dame a better, brighter future for everyone. A宽度: 817.9x1225.7 体积: 3701.116524 旋转: 0 逆时针旋转: 0 有效：true 图片位置: 0x0 未找到板条: true 文本转换: true
The Absurder endorses student government. All of it.

Student government has done it again. Despite the student body's typically demanding expectations, no one was surprised when, mirroring last year's success, Body president Fiz Beige at the impromptu, surprise ceremony, summed up the general attitude handedly stopped the Common Council ord

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Hardcore fans camp out in "Belle-topia"

By NEWBIE FRESHMAN

"We just love Belles basketball!"

Katie O’Katiehan SMC sophomore

Saint Mary’s basketball fans camp out in front of the Angela Athletic Center before a recent game against Calvin.

FOOTBALL

ND releases 2009 schedule

By DeKENDrick Fowlah

Athletic Director Melvin Black on Monday announced Notre Dame’s 2009 football schedule.

The schedule will be a historic slate, with Notre Dame becoming the first team to host an opponent twice in the same season. The Irish will play Stanford in Week 9 and then again in Week 12. The second game officially will be a neutral site game at Mishawaka’s Penn High School, as part of the two neutral site games in Black’s new 3-1 scheduling model, but all gate receipts and TV revenues will belong to Notre Dame.

"Stanford is perhaps the greatest challenge for the country for combining academic and football excel­lence," Black said. "Why wouldn’t we want to schedule them as many times as possible? Sore, we’re upping the ante that we will be unable to fulfill our three-game commitment with the Big East, but that could change. They will have replaced them with an even better regional com­mitment."

That commitment Black mentioned in Notre Dame’s new initiative: the Joyce Bungalow. Notre Dame will play at the Joyce Bungalow in consecutive weeks. The Irish will kick off the mini­slate in Baton Rouge against Louisiana State. They will then travel to Pyongyang, North Korea, to battle Tulane. Games against Louisiana Tech, Louisiana Lafayette and Louisiana Monroe follow in South Bend.

"We’re proud to have the opportunity to represent Notre Dame in many national and interna­tional games,” Black said. "We believe this schedule represents a true return to the barnstorming tradition — and we also feel that this schedule is well-balanced, well­rhythmed and well­planned."

Contact DeKendrick Fowlah at athletics@nd.edu

HOCKEY

Late-running season scares team

By ADAM BANKS

Players not used to having games in April, run in fear

A frightened and confused South Bend girl refused to step onto the ice for practice today after seeing that the calendar had changed to April. The Irish, who are headed to Dublin and have not played since January 25, are on a road trip in Canada.

"This just isn’t right," said Irish captain Clark Van Builder, who had wrapped himself in tin foil to camou­flage himself from April. "We’ve never had to do this before and we’re all scared. I heard that if you play hockey in April, you face a seven-year suspension. Can you imagine that?"

Saint Mary’s head coach Jack Jefferson confirmed that his team was still playing hockey in the crucial offseason training period, called the Irish “the biggest bunch of lazy, take-eating pan­nies he had ever seen.” Jefferson vowed the Irish will play daily for all the a.m workouts they will miss while

Playing in the Frozen Four.

"They thought 6 a.m. was bad? Wait till they see what I have planned for them."

The Belles have won three straight games at home. Hanzad said the team hopes to increase that total next year.

We’re going to need all the help we can get from our crowd.

Contact Newbie Freshman at quoteless@nd.edu

Moving off campus?

Don’t mind the occasional gunshot ... or 10?

Enjoy talkative crack addicts that sell socks door-to-door?

You may lose your security deposit, you may be forced to move, but you’ll never be evicted.

Properties still available for the 2008-09 school year.

I Have-No-SHAMER

You may lose your security deposit, you may be forced to move, but you’ll never be evicted.

Call I-Have-No-SHAMER.
Wise continued from page 8

requested that he be struck dead if he used the word "rebuiting," the Supreme Being said. "He used that word today. In accordance with heavenly policy, Mr. Wise was summarily smote."

Heaven press secretary Michael the Archangel said that Wise "had been living with heavenly policy, Mr. Wise was summarily smote."

Wise continued from page 8

"He was the No. 1 coming out of fall baseball," Crag said. "But when he got hurt, we had to pursue other options."

For the first few games of the season, with Tauson hurt, Crag decided to start base-stealing expert Demetri Smith.

"We were hoping to surprise Liberty, Iowa, and Albany by playing small ball," Crag, who usually prefers power hitters, said. But the Irish mustered just two runs against the Flames, and Smith made six errors as Notre Dame allowed 14 and 12 runs against the Hawkeyes and Great Danes. Crag pulled him and inserted Sharpey. Frustrated, Smith transferred to Cincinnati.

"I thought when he left, that it was my chance to show what I could do," kind of dangerously." "The team sucked last year," Michael said. "And even though God doesn't care who wins football games, his mother does. And you do not want to see Mary angry."

Michael also said that God considered using a giant finger to smite Wise, but that he decided on the lightning bolt "because it's way cooler."

The Notre Dame theology department was quickly convened to discuss the implications of the smiling.

We felt that God acted unfairly, because Wise was clearly talking about a rebuilding season and not the rebuilding of an actual building," associate professor Abicus O'Hoolihan said. O'Hoolihan was later found in his office transformed into a pillar of salt. God was not available for further comment.

Former Notre Dame defensive coordinator Cordaro Braun was promoted to interim head coach. Linebacker Marty Krin said the team, while sad at the loss of coach Wise, expects to continue spring practice as planned.

"We're just going to keep working hard," Krin said. "We're just trying to get better."

Linebackers coach Tom Thanata was promoted to defensive coordinator in place of Braun. "Thanata no scared," he said. "Thanata blitzi!"

Sharpey continued from page 8

"Tauson was No. 1 coming out of fall baseball."

Sharpey said.

For a time, it was. Sharpey started every game for the next few months and hit six home runs. But Crag said he wasn't satisfied.

"He took way too long to swing," Crag said. "He took too many looking strikeouts."

So starting tonight, Tauson will be the starter at first. "It's finally healthy," Crag said. "He's not banged up anymore. We're very excited to see what he can do."

Note: • Crag said that outfielder Silver Trail, who saved Notre Dame's 11-10 win over Maine March 4 with several diving catches, will not play regularly until he learns to catch balls that are somewhere other than over his head.

"As you saw, he's great at going back," Crag said. "But we're not satisfied with his ability to come in or move to his right or left."

Contact Kosuke Fukodome at japansenpo@cubs.com

Freshman first baseman Timmy Tauson addresses the media at the College Baseball Hall of Fame last spring.

Help Wanted

Position Open: Quarterback who can run the spread option

- No previous signal calling experience necessary
- Kinesiology course credit available

If interested, please contact Rich Rodriguez at dickrod@umich.edu
**SPORTS**

**FOOTBALL**

**God strikes Wise dead**

Coach says 'rebuilding,' is smote by Supreme Being as requested

By HORSEMAN NO. 3

Of The Apocalypse

In August, Notre Dame coach Chuck Wise told reporters that "God strike me dead" if he used the word 'rebuilding.'

Monday, God delivered on that request.

During a post-practice news conference, Wise updated the media on his plans for a new headquarters for Banana and Friends, his charity for developmentally disabled children.

"We aren't buying any new land," he said. "We're really just rebuilding the existing headquarters.

At that moment, the roof of the Guglielmo Athletic Center was ripped open and a lightning bolt from heaven smote Wise.

God later issued a statement explaining the smiting.

Mr. Wise expressly

*see WISE/page 7*

**ND ATHLETICS**

**Big East to expand to 24 teams**

'We didn't think 16 was enough schools,' commissioner says

By JOHN THOMPSON IV

Just three years after expanding to 16 teams, the Big East is getting bigger again.

The league is raiding several different other conferences and will add eight new members next school year.

"We didn't think 16 was enough schools," conference commissioner Mikail Troperese said. "We need a few more to have a competitive conference.

The new teams will be Memphis, Xavier, Davidson, Harvard, North Florida, the Cleveland Center, and Fuzzy Navels.

'These are really just rebuilding the best chance to win," Crag said.

Tauson, who hit .432 and hit 163 home runs over four years at Westlake High School outside Los Angeles, was the No. 1 high school player in the country last year.

He was expected by many to turn pro after being drafted by the Tampa Bay Rays out of high school, but, in a highly publicized announcement at the College Baseball Hall of Fame, he decided to come to Notre Dame.

"I was really impressed by the combination of athletics and academics," Tauson said.

Crag said that Tauson would have started "from the very beginning" if not for a bone spur in his throwing elbow that required surgery over Christmas break.

*see SHARPEY/page 7*

**BASEBALL**

**Sharpey loses starting job to freshman — yet again**

By KOSUKE FUKUDOME

Japanese Dude

For the second straight season, junior Eric Sharpey has been beaten out by a freshman.

Sharpey, who passed over for the starting quarterback job in favor of all-world recruit El Jimador Paulsen last fall, will not be in the lineup at first base for tonight's game against Western Michigan at Frank Eck Stadium, coach Agro Crag said.

Instead, freshman Timmy Tauson will start for the Irish.

"I think Tauson gives us the best chance to win," Crag said.

"He was really impressed by the combination of athletics and academics," Tauson said.

Crag said that Tauson would have started "from the very beginning" if not for a bone spur in his throwing elbow that required surgery over Christmas break.

*see SHARPEY/page 7*

**INTERNET CRAZIES**

**NDNation gathers in person, mongers hate**

By NDSWEET23015

Unofficial Student

Members of the Notre Dame sports message board ndnation.com gathered outside the South Bend Tribune building for a rally Monday that onlookers mistook alternately for a large all-male fraternity party and the announcement of a new round of layoffs.

"We fight so that we may live. We die so that we may watch. We suffer with sharpened keyboards. An elaborate ceremony followed in which pairs, out-of-shape posters fought each other to the death with sharpened keyboards.

"We lived so that we may die. We died so that we may live. We died so that we may watch. We suffered with sharpened keyboards.

Trogese said. "We need a competitive conference."

The league is raiding several different other conferences and will add eight new members next school year.

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The new teams will be Memphis, Xavier, Davidson, Harvard, North Florida, the Cleveland Center, and Fuzzy Navels.

*see BIG EAST/page 5*

Photo courtesy of StanfordO?