College Democrats sponsor visit by Obama supporter, RFK widow at Washington Hall

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Writer

The Notre Dame College Democrats have had their hands full with the lively Democratic campaigning this spring and their efforts will continue this weekend with another historical guest speaker on campus.

The group will sponsor a talk by Ethel Kennedy, wife of the late Robert F. Kennedy, at 2 p.m. on Saturday in Washington Hall.

"The [Barack] Obama campaign had been wanting her to come to Notre Dame," said Chris Rhodenbaugh, current vice president of College Democrats and freshman from St. Edward's Hall.

Rhodenbaugh said Kennedy, along with brother-in-law, Massachusetts senator Edward Kennedy, endorsed Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama earlier this year.

Rhodenbaugh said the purpose for Kennedy's visit is twofold. "She is coming to demonstrate the presence of Obama's campaign on campus and [because] she is Catholic," Rhodenbaugh said.

College Democrats finalized plans for Kennedy's appearance earlier this week. "Chris let me know the Obama campaign wanted her to come, then we went to S.A.O. [Student Activities Office] to work out the details and the policy," said Cory Mehlos, co-president emeritus of the College Democrats and a senior in Dillon Hall.

"It was pretty simple." The visit marks the 40th anniversary of Kennedy's husband's campaign trip to the South Bend area. Mehlos ran for the Democratic Party nomination. Robert Kennedy had spoken at the Stepan Center the morning of April 4, 1968, the day on which Martin Luther King Jr. was shot later in the afternoon, Mehlos said.

Mehlos said following his talk at Notre Dame, President Kennedy was notified that King was shot and put together a few notes on his way down to Indianapolis. Police, fearing riots, urged him against speaking publicly, but Kennedy spoke anyways and moved the crowd deeply.

"[Indianapolis] was perhaps one of the only major cities in the nation where there were no riots that day," Mehlos said.

Peters to address '08 grads

By LIZ HARTER
Notre Dame's Editor

Three days after Notre Dame announced the speaker for its 2008 commencement exercises, Saint Mary's announced its speaker as well.

The College revealed that Susan Peters, vice president of Executive Development and Chief Learning Officer of General Electric (GE), and 1975 graduate will deliver the principal address on Monday, May 17.

Along with delivering the commencement address, Peters will receive an honorary doctor of humanity degree. Colleen Ryan, a member of the College Board of Trustees, and Mary Kay Kinberger, a nun who worked with the Mariannites of Holy Cross community in New Orleans, will also receive degrees, according to a news release from the College.

"It is a true honor to be named as the commencement speaker for the class of 2008," Peters said. "It is particularly meaningful to come back to Saint Mary's and share some thoughts with the graduates, knowing that I was in their shoes 35 years ago.

A graduate with a degree in English literature, Peters has been active in the Saint Mary's community since she graduated. She currently serves on the President's Advisory Council.

University hosts Spring Visitation

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions, in its efforts to increase diversity on campus, welcomed prospective students from underrepresented ethnic groups to campus Thursday for the annual Spring Visitation Weekend (SVW), commonly referred to as "Spring Vis." High school seniors of African, Asian, Latino and Native American descent will spend Thursday through Sunday learning about Notre Dame while living on campus with student hosts.

This year, 102 students will attend SVW, a near 30 percent decrease from last year in an attempt to focus the event and provide the students with more personal attention, said senior Jessie Carrillo, head event coordinator for SVW.

"We have fewer students this year because we really want to give them more one-on-one support," Carrillo said. "We want to do everything to get their questions answered."

SVW, directed by supervisors from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, has been lead by former admissions counselor Balam Sherburne.

Students vie for Irish Idol crown

By AMBER TRAVIS
News Writer

More than 200 students gathered at Legends last night to watch ten finalists vie for the ultimate title of Irish Idol 2008.

In the end, sophomore Carolyn Rose Sullivan won the competition.

During the top ten competition, Sullivan sang the Frank Sinatra hit "They Can't Take That Away From Me." For her winning performance, she performed Diana Krall's "Peel Me A Grape."

Sullivan participated last year but did not make it to the top three.
Join the bash, Sorin

Even as both the Office of Residence Life and Housing and my m-l-a-ed obsessed mother chained me to an e-mail account with messages reminding, prodding and attempting to coerce me into applying for a spot in the brand-new Matt Gamber Duncan Hall, I have officially signed my letter of interest for, more commonly, my housing contract.

My decision? To remain a resident of Sorin College. Hey, it's good enough for Monk, it's good enough for me.

Despite Sorin's status as the first and consequently oldest dorm on campus, only a small handful of its residents applied to live in Duncan — so I'm not alone in my proclamation (but Sorin is irrefutably the greatest residence hall under the dome.)

Thanks to its prime location on God Quad, Sorin is under the watchful eye of Our Lady and well within earshot of some of the finest Sunday morning wake-up calls-around (thank you, Basildon helix.) While other dorms subject their freshmen to embarrassing rituals during Frosh Ed, the residents of Sorin College set up camp in the backyard, a cigar in one hand and a water balloon in the other, just waiting for the next group of giddy girls' attempt to serenade them.

And why? We've got nothing to prove. How many other dorms had the audacity to be in the '90s to make a statement about the University's stance on Vietnam? Zero.

What other hall contains leaders like the former president of the University (Bill Monk Molloy, C.S.C.), the current vice president of the student body (Bob "We want our DVTS NOW," Reish), and the future president of the United States (Soren "Yeah, like the dorm," Palumbo)? None.

And what other building on campus has housed such Notre Dame legends as Knute Rockne, the Four Horsemen, Johnny Lattner, Paul Hornung and Matt Henry? Don't even try to think of one.

OK, so other dorms have traditions, too. Like Alumni's Wake Week that's coming up — yes, it sounds pretty cool from what I hear. But who really wants to live in the dorm most often used as an impromptu urinal for those late-gate times on weekend nights waiting for a Main Gate to open up?

But hey, we're not here to bash other dorms. We're here to get other dorms to join the bash — Sorin.

It's not just about our prime location, illustrious tradition or impressive inhabitants; Sorin also boasts the largest social room on campus (perfect for video games and book club meetings.)

And while I thank my esteemed college—und (Harry Potter) enthusiasm obsessed Ball Brink for his clever rendition of the sorting hat song, praising each dorm for its unique qualities, I can leave you with only one thought.

Come hang out at Sorin — Bobby Powers does.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Matt Gamber at magentord@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please notify us at editor@nd.edu so we can correct our error.

INSIDE COLUMN

QUESTION OF THE DAY: IF YOU COULD PULL A PRANK ON SOMEONE, WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Jared Zenk junior Dillon

"I'd tell the American people Hillary won the election."

Lauren Wickel junior Radin

"I'd paint the White House black."

Marissa Treece freshman Lewis

"Brady Quinn, I'm having your baby."

Roxanne Blair junior Dillon

"I'd tell Lauren the Rock is having her baby."

Travis Allen junior Dillon

"I'd put Jared Zenk's mattress on top of the stalls in the bathroom."

IN BRIEF

Lyons and O'Neill Halls will sponsor Recreau today from 3 until 6 p.m. on South Quad. The event includes free food, games and tie-dying.

The Notre Dame men's tennis team will play Ball State at 4:00 p.m. today at Eck Tennis Pavilion.

The Notre Dame baseball team will play Rutgers today at 5:05 p.m. at the Eck Baseball Stadium.

La Alianza will host Celebracion: Latin Expressions tonight at the L'Olaughlin Auditorium at Saint Mary's College. Tickets are on sale in the LaFayette Box Office at $7 for students and faculty.

The Notre Dame Dance Company will perform "Taboo" tonight at 7 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are available at the door for $5.

Notre Dame College Democrats will host a talk by Ethel Kennedy on Saturday at 2 p.m. in Washington Hall. Admission is free.

The Black Cultural Arts Council (BCAC) will sponsor the fashion show "Rep: Me" at the Century Center in downtown South Bend. Admission is $7 for students.

Saint Mary's will host its third annual Dance Marathon tonight from 8 p.m. until 8 a.m. All proceeds will go to Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis.

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

Students through Human Rights ND set up a "South Quad Refugee Camp" in front of O'Shaughnessy Hall to raise awareness about the plight of refugees.

OFFBEAT

Woman bites dog who bit her dog

MINNEAPOLIS — Amy Rice feared for her dog's life when a pit bull jumped over a fence into her yard and attacked her pooch. So she took matters into her own mouth.

Rice says she bit the pit bull on the nose Friday after trying to pull the dog's jaws off her Labrador retriever, Elsa. The dog had jumped a fence to get into Rice's northeast Minneapolis yard, and Rice says she feared the pit bull would kill Elsa.

Rice says she drew blood when she bit the dog, and her doctor will have to determine whether she should get shots for rabies. The pit bull was quarantined. Rice is recovering with staples and stitches to her head and a crushed ear canal.

Calf carcasses found at Wyoming high school

CASPER — A student from a rival high school was disciplined after the carcasses of two dissected calves were found outside Natrona County High School, a school official said. The calves were found just before 7 a.m. Wednesday and quickly covered so most students were not exposed to them. One carcass was placed on a hurdle on the school's track. The other was placed on a railing near the front entrance of the main building, with internal organs on the ground around it.

Wayne Beatty, Natrona County School District safe schools administrator, said he didn't think there was any malicious intent behind what he termed a prank.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

SOUTH QUAD

REFUGEE CAMP

Students through Human Rights ND set up a "South Quad Refugee Camp" in front of O'Shaughnessy Hall to raise awareness about the plight of refugees.
Students gather to discuss peace

Conference organizers say attending discussions is just a first step

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

Students from across the globe will gather on campus this week-end to discuss ways to make peace both possible and practical at the annual Student Peace Conference at the Reshbaugh Center for International Studies.

The conference, entitled, “Bringing Peace Down to Earth,” will consider “practical, down-to-earth, hands-on approaches to peace building,” said senior Ryane Burke, conference co-chair.

“Even if you’re not a peace builder per se, that you can - or possibly should - be involved in building peace because peace is something we should all be working toward,” Burke said.


Jones said “Bringing Peace Down to Earth” involves converting peace from an abstract idea into something people can incorporate into daily life.

“Based on the idea behind the title of the conference, I really think that, for me, the whole conference is playing off the theme of how to take this very big, overwhelming problem of peace and all of the problems that fall underneath that rubric and how to make that something everyday people can engage in, rather than just something that is done by nation states or governments or even activists,” Jones said.

Jones said his speech aims to show people possible ways to carry out the conference’s theme in their everyday lives.

“My area of interest really lies in what I call the democratization of activism,” Jones said.

The conference will include a musical entertainment portion, a video clip and panel discussions.

“[The conference] allows people to come together and really flesh out what we’re talking about,” he said. “We have to take what is talked about, and we have to somehow integrate it back into what we do. This is where a lot of conferences fall short and this is what particularly attracted me to this conference.”

He hopes conference attendees will apply what they learn during panels and discussions to their own lives and share it with others.

“The question is ‘Where do I go from here?’” he said. “And to really complete the picture, what we need is for people to be able to give other people the opportunity to take this information back with them, act on it in some practical way and make a difference and pass it on to other people.”

The event is sponsored by the Institute for International Peace Studies and attendance is free.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscol@nd.edu

Anthropology chair receives CSC award

Special to the Observer

Mark Schurr, associate professor and chair of anthropology at the University of Notre Dame has received the 2008 Rodney F. Ganei, Ph.D. Faculty Community-Based Research Award from the Center for Social Concerns.

The $5,000 award annually honors a Notre Dame faculty member whose research has made a contribution to a local community organization.

Since 2003, Schurr has done research with the Kankakee Valley Historical Society (KVHS) to learn about how Native Americans in Northwest Indiana responded to forced removal from their lands during the 19th century. Schurr’s project has involved some 40 Notre Dame students in archeological field work which helped support the KVHS mission to restore and interpret the Kankakee Valley environment while preserving its archeological resources.

Also announced by the Center for Social Concerns, which manages the Taney projects, were three mini-grant projects which will receive $6,000 funding each to explore:

- Factors that perpetuate criminal activity—Michael Jenuwine, a member of the Law School’s Legal Aid program and an associate professor of psychology, and undergraduates Andrea Laidman and Martha Calcutt will investigate the impact of such factors as poverty, lack of education and job training, mental illness, drug use and abusive home situations on violent crime. They will partner with Doones House of Michiana and Companions on the Journey.

- Lead exposure and asthma—A team directed by psychology professor John Borkowski and led by psychology graduate student Jody Nicholson will partner with Memorial Hospital and the St. Joseph County Head Start Consortium in an effort to reduce exposure to lead and other household pollutants.

- Elementary school switching and student achievement—Students of Jennifer Warlick, associate professor and chair of the Department of Economics and Policy Studies, have learned that South Bend’s most economically disadvantaged elementary school students frequently switch schools during the year, a change associated with poor academic performance and increased behavioral problems. Warlick, student Nicholas Krafft and a partner in the South Bend Community School Corp. will explore low-cost programs that reduce student mobility.

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**Visitation continued from page 1**

SERVING TODAY'S STUDENTS, TEACHING FOR TOMORROW's


**Peters continued from page 1**

She also spoke at the College in 2005 as a Shannon E. B. Sc holar Lecture speaker.

Shannon Lecture, which takes place annually, features an alumna speaking to current students.

Peters was recently appointed to serve on the National Board of Directors for Girl Scouts of the USA and will begin her term in late 2008.

She joined GE in 1979 through the Human Resources Management Program and was appointed a company officer in 1997. In 2007 she assumed responsibility for GE's Learning and Development Institute.

"Just learning that she is a graduate...that's fantastic." - Monica Mastroacco Saint Mary's senior

Paula Mastroacco's Alumna to come back to College.

**Kennedy continued from page 1**

The visit marks the 40th anniversary of her husband's campaign trip to the South during his run for the Democratic Party nomination.

Robert Kennedy had spoken at the Siena Center the morning of April 1, 1968, which Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot later in the afternoon. Mastroacco said.

Mehlos said following his talk at Notre Dame, Robert Kennedy wanted to have an event with students who were signers of the March on Washington movement. The young man was shot and put together a few notes on his way down to Indianapolis. Police, fearing riots, urged him against speaking publicly, but Kennedy spoke anyway. He moved the crowd deeply. "Indianapolis was perhaps one of the only major cities in the nation where there were no riots that day," Mehlos said. "The crowd was all for peace and股权 ensured that the American dream might live on in the 21st century."" College Democrats sponsored a visit from Chris Clinton and Sean Assin, the actor who played the title role in the movie "Idol," last week. Mehlos said Assin endorsed Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton.

"I was really happy to hear that we have a Saint Mary's alumna to come back to College." - Monica Mastroacco Saint Mary's senior

Visit the synagogues of Rome to meet the Holy Father. In 1980 Pope John Paul II visited the synagogues of Rome. In that first business, Klaus Menke said.

Corey Mehlos

College Democrats Co-Presidential emeritus

**Ido continued from page 1**

"I wanted a chance to go it at again," Sullivan said.

"The experience was fantastic, because almost all of these kids are my friends. It was really a blast," Sullivan said.

Notre Dame students senior John Fister and junior Whitney Young were among the top three performers in the competition.

"Winning felt pretty good." Whitney Young "put up a good fight," Sullivan said.

Notre Dame senior Bridget Higgins, who took in just over 300 words, said all of the judges enjoyed last night's performances, "especially the top three performances. "All three of the judges were unanimous on our top three, so the division was pretty easy," Higgins said.

Higgins said the quality and individuality of the performances were the key to last night's competition. "Everybody did well, but those three stood out particularly because they made the performance their own," Higgins said.

Legends press writer Bridget Keating said the club staff played a huge role in organizing the Irish Idol. She said the club has been planning the event for the past two years, but deadlines were not held until right after Easter Break, during which time several other events were taking place.

"Anything like this showcases the amazing talent that we have here on campus," Keating said. "Every year the competition gets more and more here and we see more and more talented students every single year."

Keating also said more than 50 students auditioned for this year's Irish Idol and any student from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's or Holy Cross was eligible to participate.

Many students and parents came out to support the finalists for this year's competition.

Notre Dame sophomore Clarissa Ramos said she and her friends enjoyed last night's performances.

"I don't know who the people who really went for entertainment the most interesting," Ramos said. "I definitely found the performers that people who were supporting their friends showed that the Notre Dame community is a bigger part of it. It shows each other in everything that we do," Ramos said. "I think it's just one of those kinds of events."
CUBA

Castro lifts limits on consumer goods

Peso is too weak to allow most citizens to actually make use of new economic freedoms

Associated Press

HAVANA — President Raul Castro on Thursday lifted restrictions on consumer goods and hotel stays, but most Cubans got paid in virtually worthless pesos, which have lost all basic items like toilet paper, let alone a DVD player or poolside cocktails at the Hotel Capri.

Negotiations all Cubans want or need must be bought with a separate currency, created for tourists and foreigners. So, until the regular pesos increase in value, Castro's moves will be Bitter sweet promises.

The new leader's solution, now the talk of the island: merge the two currencies. But this turns out to be much easier said than done.

Shelves remain virtually bare at the few stores where Cubans can buy things like regular pesos, which they mostly use for heavily subsidized items like rationed food, medicine and transport. In one store we visited, we included a half-dozen motorcycle helmets, a thin blanket and a single pair of boy's underwear.

Overpriced DVD players, that sell for $100 billion, French cosmetics and Uruguayans steaks are now available to anyone who can afford them at the elite stores. But they must be bought with the "convertible" pesos Cubans get when they trade in their dollars, euros and other foreign currency.

Cubans who dare to use their regular pesos to buy "convertible pesos known as CUCs, (pronounced "kooks"), but at a dizzying exchange rate of 24-to-1. And even then, few can afford expensive goods on average salaries equivalent to $19.50.

Regla Jimenez, 15-year-old daughter wants an MP3 player for her birthday, but "I can't give it to her," complained the 45-year-old office worker, who earns the equivalent of $17 a month. "With my salary of 350 Cuban pesos, my priority is food."

If Castro could do a 24-fold increase in the value of all state salaries with a wave of his hand, it would cause an unprecedented buying spree, but with a terrible hangover when the few available goods are gone.

And the government lacks the hard currency needed to pay much higher salaries, so Cubans could soon find themselves even worse off, with little reason to work harder, save more and spend their pesos.

"Let's assume the government decides tomorrow to gradually reach one single monetary system and starts by making one CUC equal to eight pesos instead of 24," said Carmelo Mesa-Lago, a Cuba economics expert and professor emeritus at the University of Pittsburgh.

"People will immediately change their pesos to CUCs, which suddenly buy three times as much, and clean out the shops. Then what does the government do the next day?"

The dual currency system is despised among Cubans because it has created two classes of people in a socialist country supposed to be based on egalitarianism: the 60 percent who have at least some access to CUCs, and the rest who don't.

In pockets of extreme poverty, especially in western Cuba, people are restless over their dire living conditions. Even middle-income workers in Havana can hardly benefit from their newly announced freedoms.

"Now I can go to hotels. That's nice, but with what? Not on my salary," said Silvita, a 42-year-old doctor who like many Cubans would not give her last name to international media.

"If they don't give the peso more value or create one money system, I think these measures will be worse. Because they'll just remind us that our salaries don't buy anything."
The whistleblowers who exposed maintenance and inspection problems at Southwest Airlines told Congress their jobs were threatened and their reports of noncompliance were ignored for years.

Federal Aviation Administration inspector Douglas Peters choked up Thursday as he testified and needed a few sips of water to tell lawmakers about how a former manager came into his office, commented on pictures of Peters' family being most important, and then said his job could be jeopardized by his actions.

Rep. James Oberstar, D-Minn., said the actions displayed "malfeasance bordering on corruption," adding that if presented to a grand jury, the evidence would result in an indictment.

The FAA last month took the rare step of ordering the audit of maintenance records at all domestic carriers following reports of missed safety inspections at Dallas-based Southwest. The airline was hit with a record $10.2 million fine for continuing to fly dozens of Boeing 737s, which carried an estimated 145,000 passengers, that hadn't been inspected for cracks in their fuselages. Southwest has said it will appeal the penalty.

Both FAA whistleblowers — Charalambe Bouris and Peters — said the agency views the airlines as its "customers" instead of companies to be regulated. They said the FAA's chief maintenance inspector at the time, Douglas T. Gawadzinski, knowingly allowed Southwest to keep planes flying that put passengers at risk, and that another inspector ignored the problem and did nothing.

Transportation Department Inspector General Calvin J. Scovel III echoed concerns about the FAA's office of maintenance for Southwest Airlines, testifying that it had "developed an overly collaborative relationship" with the carrier.

"FAA's oversight in this case appears to allow, rather than mitigate, recurring safety violations," Scovel said.

His office found that the agency fails to protect employees who report safety issues and doesn't adequately respond to problems when they are identified. He recommended immediate action he take to fix the carrier oversight programs.

Herb Kelly, Southwest Airlines' founder and executive chairman, apologized for allowing planes to fly that should not have. "Our people made engineering judgments they were not entitled to make," he said, adding that passenger safety was never compromised.

Southwest Chief Executive Gary Kelly said the airline increased the number, scope and frequency of audits and implemented more stringent requirements of maintenance plans after the problems were discovered. The airline will take further action after independent investigators, the FAA and Southwest staff finish their reviews, he said.

When FAA inspectors blew the whistle in March 2007, Gawadzinski was their superior. He's still employed by the FAA, but has no responsibility for safety decisions, said Nicholas Sabatini, the agency's associate administrator for aviation safety.

Oberstar disputed that assertion and said Gawadzinski had retained oversight responsibility after his removal from the Southwest office. Sabatini said he would look into it those claims and promised that the FAA will "take whatever action the law will allow" when the investigation is complete.

Gawadzinski was not asked to testify at Thursday's hearing because of the ongoing nature of the investigations and he was considered to be a hostile witness who would most likely refuse to answer questions that could have incriminated himself, according to a spokesman for the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

"Our people made engineering judgments they were not entitled to make," Herb Kelly, Southwest Airlines founder

"Our people made engineering judgments they were not entitled to make."

"Our people made engineering judgments they were not entitled to make."

Herb Kelly, Southwest Airlines founder.

"Our people made engineering judgments they were not entitled to make."
Budweiser

MARKET RECAP

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Lawmakers from California to Kentucky are trying to save money with a drastic and potentially dangerous budget-cutting proposal: releasing tens of thousands of convicts from prison, including drug addicts, thieves and even violent criminals.

Officials acknowledge that the idea carries risks, but they say the one thing they wouldn’t be doing because of huge budget gaps brought on by the slumping economy.

“If we don’t find a way to better manage the population at the state prison, we will be forced to spend more money to expand the state prison system — money we don’t have," said Jeff Broderick, a spokesman for Rhode Island Gov. Don Carcieri.

At least eight states are considering freeing inmates or sending some犯people to rehabilitation programs instead of prison, according to an Associated Press analysis of legislative proposals. If adopted, the early release programs could save an estimated $450 million in California and Kentucky alone.

A Rhode Island proposal would allow inmates to deduct up to 12 days from their sentence for every month they follow rules and work in prison. Even some violent offenders would be eligible but not those serving life sentences.

A plan in Mississippi would offer early parole for people convicted of selling marijuana or prescription drugs. New Jersey, South Carolina and Virginia are considering drug treatment for drug-addicted offenders instead of prison, which is cheaper than prison.

The prospect of financial savings offers little comfort to Tori-Lynn Heaton, a police officer in a suburb of Providence whose ex-husband went to prison for beating her. Heaton has already finished his prison term, but would have been eligible for early release under the current proposal.

"You’re talking about victim safety. You’re talking about community member safety," she said. "You can’t balance the budget on the backs of victims of crimes." That prisons "are one of the most expensive parts of the criminal-justice system," said Adam Lawrence, who studies corrections policy for the National Conference of State Legislatures. "That’s where they look to first to cut down some of those costs.

Rhode Island Corrections Director A.T. Wall was not sure how many prisoners could be freed early. The payoff for doing so may be relatively small: less than $1 million for the first fiscal year, although that figure would increase over time.

In California, where lawmakers have taken steps to cut a $16 billion budget deficit in half by summer, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed saving $400 million by releasing more than 23,000 inmates who had less than 20 months remaining on their sentences. Violent and sex offenders would not be eligible.

"I think we’re going to have a big test coming up," Lee said. "Are U.S. stocks poised for another downturn, or are U.S. stocks telling us the worst is behind us?"

With a broad swath of corporate earnings reports set to arrive in the coming weeks, investors appear upbeat. Over the past few weeks, the market has occasionally been knocked lower by disappointing economic readings, particularly on consumers’ discretionary spending, but it has ultimately righted itself amid signs that the credit markets are improving.
ZIMBABWE

Mugabe to campaign in run-off

Attacks on opposition, journalists a sign incumbent to use violence

Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe — President Robert Mugabe launched his campaign for a sixth term Thursday, as experts said he has no real prospect of winning. Opponents believe he will try to manipulate the election, but will face a fight to avoid a blow to his battered reputation.

Mugabe, who is expected to win with ease, said his new campaign would focus on achievements over the past 18 years, including trade deals with China and foreign aid from Taiwan. He also predicted a strong showing for his two main allies, theMovement for Democratic Change and the Zimbabwe National Provident Fund.

Mugabe, who is 82, has been in power for nearly 30 years, and his party has held a majority in parliament since 2005. But there are concerns about the election, which is due to take place in March 2013.

The Movement for Democratic Change, which is led by Tsvangirai, who is Mugabe's main rival, has accused the government of using violence, intimidation and fraud to rig previous elections. The group is calling for the international community to intervene to ensure a fair and transparent election.

In the past, the government has been accused of using violence to suppress opposition. The police have been involved in violent attacks on opposition supporters, and there have been reports of voters being threatened or intimidated.

The Movement for Democratic Change has also accused the government of using its media to spread disinformation and to suppress criticism of the president and his party.

The government has denied these allegations, saying that the opposition is trying to undermine the country's democracy.

Mugabe has ruled Zimbabwe since 1980, and his party has been in power since 1987. He is the world's longest-serving ruler, and his tenure has been marked by economic decline, political repression and human rights abuses.

The government has faced widespread international criticism for its human rights record, and many countries have imposed sanctions on the country. However, Mugabe has managed to stay in power through a combination of fear, repression and international support.

The government has managed to maintain control over the economy, and has been able to keep unemployment low. However, many of the country's resources are controlled by foreign companies, and there is widespread corruption.

The government has also been accused of using fears of a possible military coup to maintain control over the country. However, there have been no signs of a coup, and the government has been able to maintain control over the country.

Mugabe has been under pressure to resign, but he has so far refused to do so. He has been accused of using his position to enrich himself and his family, and there are frequent reports of corruption in his government.

The government has been able to maintain control over the country, but it is facing increasing pressure from the international community. The government has been criticized for its human rights record, and many countries have imposed sanctions on the country.

The government has so far refused to step down, and it is unclear whether Mugabe will be able to stay in power for much longer.
ROMANIA

NATO supports Bush's missle defense plan

Alliance leaders extend membership to Albania, Croatia, but decline admission to Ukraine, Georgia, Macedonia

President Vladimir Putin, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said it was "a breakthrough document" in the Crawford talks on missile defense for the alliance. At Bush's first NATO summit in 2001, "perhaps only two allies gave even lukewarm support for the notion of missile defense," Rice said.

This was Bush's final meeting with members of the 26-nation alliance, and White House officials described it as a day of freewheeling talks as each leaders and their foreign ministers got off script and gathered in crowds to debate the wording of a statement. "It doesn't happen in NATO meetings a lot," said Bush's national security adviser, Stephen Hadley.

He said a group of leaders — "men in suits" — gathered around German Chancellor Angela Merkel to talk about putting former Soviet republics Ukraine and Georgia on a path toward NATO membership, a step they oppose. Moscow heatedly opposes any further eastward expansion of the alliance.

Summit leaders refused to grant the two countries a membership plan now, but said they would look at the issue again in December and they empowered their foreign ministers to decide it. The Balkan nations of Albania and Croatia were invited to join the alliance. Macedonia was turned aside at the insistence of Greece, which says the country's name implies a territorial claim to a northern region of Greece, also called Macedonia.

France helped resolve a sensitive issue for NATO by pledging to send as many as 3,000 more combat troops to Afghanistan's eastern part. That would free up U.S. forces to move into the south, home of fierce fighting with Taliban and al-Qaida fighters. Canada had threatened to pull its soldiers from the south unless it received 1,000 reinforcements from another ally.

Some allies, notably Germany, Italy, Turkey and Spain, refuse to send troops to the Afghan front lines because of the unpopularity of the war at home. Hadley said military commanders in Afghanistan are pleading for more forces. Already the largest contributor to NATO's 47,000 troops in Afghanistan, the United States is dispatching an additional 3,500 Marines and readiness plans to send in more in the south next month, Hadley said.

With U.S.-Russian relations in a deep chill, Bush and Putin will meet Saturday and Sunday in the Black Sea resort of Sochi in their last talks before the Russian leader steps down in May. Bush's term ends in January.

Rice said the two leaders were expected to produce "a strategic framework" to guide relations between Washington and Moscow under their successors.

"Part of that has to be some discussion of missile defense," Rice said, but she stopped short of saying the two leaders would find agreement on the prickly subject.

Russia views the system as designed to weaken its military might and upsetting the balance of power in Europe. Bush says that the shield is not aimed at Russia but at Mideast countries such as Iran.

In a series of concessions, the White House has offered to let Moscow monitor the sites and promised to delay activation of the shield until Iran or another adversary tests a missile with a range to reach Europe.

Rice said the Russians said these measures were viewed as "useful and important" when he and Defense Secretary Robert Gates were in Moscow last month. "We hope that we can move beyond that to an understanding that we all have an interest in cooperation on missile defense. But we will see.

Aside from the NATO endorsement, the anti-missile program advanced on another front with the Czech Republic's agreement to host a radar system that would track the sky for any threats. The White House has to complete a deal with Poland where 10 interceptor rockets would be based.

The NATO statement said "ballistic missile proliferation poses an increasing threat to allies' forces, territory and populations. Missile defense forms part of a broader response to counter this threat.

The statement called on NATO members to explore ways in which the planned U.S. program could be linked with future missile shields elsewhere. It said leaders should come up with "a broader set of options to be considered at their next meeting in 2009.

Significantly, the document prodded Russia "to take advantage of United States missile defense cooperation proposals" and said NATO was "ready to explore the potential for linking United States, NATO and Russian missile defense systems at an appropriate time."
Seniors deserve voice in choice of Commencement speaker

This week, the University announced that Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, archbishop emeritus of Washington D.C., would give this year’s Commencement address. No doubt, Cardinal McCarrick is a worthy Commencement speaker. He is a distinguished career and was with members of Notre Dame in France earlier this year to celebrate the beatification of Fr. Basil Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

But how much of a voice did the senior class have in the process of choosing Cardinal McCarrick? Apparently, not much. Senior class president Bridget Keating and vice president Chris Doughty said the Provost’s office contacted senior class officers and asked for their input last May. In response, the senior class officers sent e-mails to their class members and asked for their suggestions. The suggestions assembled a list of three eligible candidates and sent it to the Provost’s office: Stephen Colbert, the Emmy and Peabody-winning host of “The Colbert Report,” was the most popular choice. The senior officers also submitted 12 other potential candidates to the Provost’s office. The class officers also sent suggestions for the types of speakers seniors would like to see, Keating said.

However, after the officers submitted this list, the Provost’s office did not ask them to have further involvement in the process of selecting a speaker, despite the senior class officers suggestions to have more input.

This should change. Commencement is one of the most important moments in the year’s academic career and seniors should have a stronger voice in the selection of a Commencement speaker. It isn’t fair to have the seniors submit suggestions, only for them to have no further input as to the final decision.

According to the vice president for News and Information, Dennis Brown, students, faculty and others at the University can submit suggestions for a Commencement speaker. University President Fr. John Jenkins then makes the final decision regarding the selection of Commencement speaker with consultation with board members, and other officers at the University.

If the seniors’ suggestions for Commencement speaker are not viable options, and since he makes the final decision, can’t Fr. Jenkins work with the seniors to ensure the selection of a speaker, both the University and senior class would like? After all, this is a weekend for the seniors and their families. We’re not saying Fr. Jenkins should always select whom the seniors want, but they should have a greater voice in the decision.

Brown said the University pays each speaker a “modest honorarium” so money shouldn’t play too much of an issue in the selection of a speaker. Brown also said the University tries to vary the fields the Commencement speakers come from. One year the speaker could be somebody from entertainment, another year from politics or business, another year from the Church or some other field. If the class officers select speakers from the field of a recent Commencement speaker, Fr. Jenkins shouldn’t simply toss the seniors’ suggestions to the side, he should consult the senior class officers and work with them to select a speaker from the field the University wishes to represent this year.

And if he does try to look one of the seniors’ suggestions and he can’t, he should communicate that to the council and work with them to select another speaker.

This way, everyone has a voice in the process, and the seniors will know the administration respected their input in preparation of one of the most significant days of their lives.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Speaker approval

I understand the disappointment of Chad Lavimontier (“Ramant excitement for commencement speaker,” April 3) and perhaps others that this year’s Commencement speaker will be Cardinal Theodore McCarrick. He isn’t young and witty like Stephen Colbert or even rich and powerful like last year’s speaker, GE CEO Jeffrey Immelt. Perhaps many in the Class of 2008 had hoped for someone different, someone famous, someone unconnected with the Catholic Church. Yet I do not believe I am alone in saying that I am happy with Notre Dame’s choice of speaker this year.

While he may not be young, rich and powerful in the worldly sense, or particularly famous, Cardinal McCarrick, from what I've learned about him, has a good heart and much wisdom, which I believe is what really is needed in a good commencement speaker. I disagree with what Lavimontier writes, albeit in jest it is, that “That’s McCarrick? In our last big chance to hear someone unimportant lies about the real world before we’re jettisoned into it.” While I grant that he is really poking fun at the way most Commencement speeches turn out to be, I take the less cynical view that it doesn’t have to be this way. Simply because Cardinal McCarrick is a man of the Catholic Church does not mean that his speech will be just another homily, as Lavimontier expects.

I do not know what his speech will be like, but I do not expect it to be overly religious or clerical. I expect from a man of Cardinal McCarrick’s character an honest and well-informed talk on what we are taught from life and how we go about living it well. As I see it, a good commencement speaker is one who has lived a good, moral and happy life and can aptly guide us fledgling adults in how to spread our wings and fly. Therefore, I am 함illed with this year’s choice of speaker and I look forward to hearing what he has to tell us.

Chri Spellman
off campus

Share the wealth

Even though an unfortunate side effect of submitting this letter is that my fervent love for Colbert (“Bubbly”) was overplayed and overrated, but the rest of her CD? Life-changing.) might be division to the entire Notre Dame community, it is a risk that I am willing to take in order to make my point.

Included in the “In Brief” section of the March 31 Observer was the announcement that Ms. Guillot herself would be at Saint Mary’s College on April 10 to perform in O’Laughlin Auditorium. Where can I get tickets? Well, the paper informed me that I cannot, because “tickets have already been sold.”

I am not sure if this event is closed to non-Saint Mary’s students or if tickets simply ran out, but somehow I know some “interested” student saw an advertisement for the concert at Notre Dame. This is a disappoint­ment to me because it is my understanding that Saint Mary’s students can attend concerts put on by Notre Dame at Legends, the Stopan Center and the Joyce Center.

Saint Mary’s is often the subject of derision because, though it calls itself Notre Dame’s sister school, many claim that the College benefits from the relationship far more than does Notre Dame. While I do not wholly support that line of thinking, I do believe that the administration, students and fac­ulty at Saint Mary’s could make progress in quelling dinging comments. The next time they do the same courtesy to Notre Dame that we show them by making concerts open to students from both schools.

Mary Margaret Skelly
Passaic/En

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Hell is other people."  
Jean-Paul Sartre
French philosopher
Keep current Frosh-O

‘Absurder’ in poor taste

Rethinking alcohol consumption

Hesburgh’s choice

Lack of ticket lottery

Make it black and white
It's time to cast off the shackles of winter and rejoice in the fashion freedom that is spring. Banish the mittens, chunky scarves and earmuffs. Spring is here to liberate you from the winter blues, drab wardrobe and sweatspants. As you plan your spring style, here are some tips to help you shine.

**BOOT-LICIOUS**

Now that Uggs are no longer necessary to your survival, you can expand your horizons. Despite appearance, there is more out there than just furry, tan boots. Use the nice weather as encouragement to try out new styles. Rain boots are always a nice, practical staple, with lots of styling potential. With their new found popularity, it seems that there may be no end to the variety of styles available. No doubt with the multitude of colors and patterns you can find a pair that tickles your fancy.

Whether you like cute polka dots, chic plaid, vintage yellow or playful graphics, rain boots can give your outfit a nice pop. Plus, for those of us a little tight on cash, you can find these gems in a variety of price ranges. Stores from Target to DSW to J.Crew all seem smitten with this trend. It's hard not to love a practical guard against puddles that doesn't look like your grandma's fishing boots.

**PRINTASTIC**

A neat pattern, whether a romantic floral or a bold geometric design, never fails to give your wardrobe some more depth. While this trend may help you mix things up, remember to approach with caution. Excessive, clashing patterns are not only a fashion no-no but also a head ache to look at. Mixing and matching prints is more than fine, but make sure some complimentary factor ties the different pieces together. For example, contrast a masculine plaid with a feminine floral or compliment similar colors and styles.

**HATS, SWEATERS AND SCARVES, OH MY**

One thing Notre Dame "fashionistas" know how to do is layer. It's the cardinal rule of South Bend styling — so don't get rid of all winter supplies just yet.

**RAIN BOOTS AND SARONGS**

For cute looks on a low budget, make the most of what you already have. Scarves can be retied and wrapped in funky, new ways, and worn over a casual t-shirt for a relaxed look that is more sophisticated than jeans and a t-shirt. Same goes for hats, a cool and underused accessory.

Sweaters are ideal for April's constantly shifting weather. Whipping this layer on and off can not only help you adjust to DeBartolo's hot and cold extremes, but also adds an interesting additional aspect to your look.

**LET ME SEE YOUR SARONG**

Perhaps the most versatile piece that you can use in any season is a sarong. It may come as a surprise, but sarongs are amazingly useful. For those who have not discovered their fabulous potential, a sarong is basically a huge piece of fabric, usually about 6 feet long and 3.5 feet wide.

Classic sarongs usually have an Asian, particularly Indian, look with bright colors and metallic accents. But the trend has diversified recently, so they are also available in simple solids, flirty florals and still bold, briliant hues. Sometimes they are stiffer fabrics, other times they are thicker and warm, and sometimes they are loose, thin or crinkly.

Sarongs can be used in many ways. In the fall and winter they are best used as full scarves. In the summer, skirts and dresses work on and off the beach. For spring, the possibilities are endless. Scarves, skirts, tops and dress creations are totally acceptable when incorporated with weather appropriate additions, like leggings. Wrap, tie, and twist until your heart's content.

Whatever may appeal to your spring whims, take risks, go to extremes or try something new. That's what spring is all about. Just remember to flatter your body; you'll look good and feel even better. Otherwise take the liberty of the season to be true to your own inner style guru and explore.

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

Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffen@nd.edu

JESS SHAFFER
Scene Writer

Friday, April 4, 2008
Stop-Loss Depicts Casualties, Home and Abroad

By Mark Witte
Assistant Scene Editor

Commonly referred to as a “Back Door Draft,” stop-loss is a contractual loophole, in which the United States military, in times of war, can retain servicemen by involuntary extending their enlistment terms and refusing to let them retire. This is one of the subjects Kimberly Peirce, the director of the Academy Award winning “Boys Don’t Cry,” tackles in her latest film “Stop-Loss.”

Sgt. Brandon King (Ryan Phillippe) and a few of his comrades, Sgt. Steve Shriver (Channing Tatum) and SPC Tommy Burgess (Joseph Gordon-Levitt), return from what should have been King and Shriver’s final tour in Iraq. However, upon turning in his gear, King learns that he’s been commissioned to ship back out to Iraq in less than a month. “You’ve been stop-lossed,” a military clerk tells him.

Feeling betrayed, he takes the issue up with his commanding officer, Lt. Col. Boot Miller (Timothy Olyphant), arguing with the Lieutenant that because the Iraq conflict has not been officially declared a war, the stop-loss clause invalid. His case falls on deaf ears, and when the Lieutenant threatens to put him in the stockade for insubordination, King starts a scuffle and flees the base.

However, there is more to King’s defiance than just betrayal. At the heart of King’s refusal to return to Iraq is a deep-rooted type of trauma. But to understand this we must retrace our steps to the first ten minutes of the film.

The movie opens in Tikrit, Iraq, where a car full of insurgents breach Sgt. King’s roadblock. He and his men pursue the insurgents into a back alley where the insurgents ambush them from the rooftops. In the intense shootout that ensues, three of King’s men perish and another soldier is critically wounded. Near the end of the skirmish, Sgt. Shriver charges into an apartment building and when King storms in to retrieve him, he ends up taking the lives of a number of Iraqi civilians.

Shortly afterward, the men return back to the United States. During the bus ride to the army base in King and Shriver’s hometown, their commanding officer, Lt. Col. Boot Miller (Timothy Olyphant) informs his men that they are not to drive drunk or get into fights with civilians. Upon their arrival the inhabitants of the small Texan town hail the returning soldiers as heroes. However, there is something destructive brewing inside these soldiers waiting to erupt. And it doesn’t take long.

Burgess starts the night off by getting into a bar fight with a man who mistakenly hits on his wife. Before the night is over, she gets upset over his drunkenness and throws him out, prompting him to drive drunk. Likewise, Shriver, in a drunken haze, and hallucinating that he’s still in Iraq, hits his fiancée Michelle (Abbie Cornish) before digging a foxhole in her front lawn.

King, Shriver and Burgess decide escape to King’s family ranch to regroup. In a scene embodying of their struggle to readjust, they shoot-up all Burgess’ unopened wedding gifts. It is a disturbing portrait of the contrasting lifestyle soldiers returning home are forced to reintegrate into.

And their lives don’t get any easier when King is forced to flee town. Without their squadron leader, the lives of Shriver and Burgess really begin to fall apart.

Peirce’s film works itself in a circular fashion, bearing toward ending that is inevitable as the future it represents. The soldiers are all connected in their struggles to cope with the horrors they witnessed in Iraq and in their struggles to reenter American society.

Stop-Loss avoids judging the Iraq conflict directly, leaving that up to its viewers, but it is unwaveringly honest in its portrayals of pain and confusion. When King describes the Tikrit episode to Michelle, he tries to come to terms with the death of his men and the Iraqi civilians by relating just that confusion: “Everybody’s got a weapon. Nobody knows whose what.”

It is this kind of world where soldiers and civilians, both home and abroad, carry weapons, and it is this kind of world where the last person who knows whose who is the war-torn soldier, struggling to find a home.

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu
Royals earn opening series sweep as Tigers’ offense swoons

Hunter homers in emotional return to Minnesota, Napoli and Matthews also go yard to lift Angels

Associated Press

DETROIT — The Kansas City Royals were supposed to provide a perfect launching pad for the hot Tigers' highly touted offense.

The Royals pitchers did not cooperate as the Tigers failed to launch.

Zack Greinke had another outstanding outing, but performance for Kansas City, allowing one run on seven innings and five hits. The Royals finished off a season-opening sweep with a 4-1 win Thursday.

The Tigers and their $138.7 million payroll managed five runs in the series, including just one in the final 21 innings.

"We just don't have another stretch like that all year," Kansas City manager Jim Leyland said. "We look like we just gave up three runs giving at-bats away without any purpose. The manager's responsible for the preparation and the performance of the club, and right now, we don't look very prepared.

"We just look like deaf. Detroit is hitting 206 with 24 strikeouts in three games."

That's not going to happen too many times in the six games in 2003. Last year, the Royals didn't win a series until the two of three against Minnesota from April 20-22.

"Obviously, we're very pleased by this — especially with our pitching," Tigers manager Ron Gardenhire said. "It's nice to come in here and play this well against a team like that.

Alex Gordon and Mark Teahen homered for Kansas City. Gordon's two-run shot, a 410-foot bomb, put another run on the left-center, but the Royals además in the fourth. It was the second of the two runs.

"We know that Detroit's going to be very good, so we're going to celebrate this sweep," Gordon said. "Hopefully, we can go to Minnesota and do the same thing.

As a highly touted rookie last season, Gordon didn't hit his second home run until April 21, and in 2003, he knows that he's got that power in him," Hillman said. "It's nice to see it coming out in the first series of the year.

The Tigers lost their first three games for the first time since 2003, when they began 0-9 and finished with an AL-record 119 losses.

"It's early, but you still care about it," said Pioli Polanco, who is 1-0-14. "We're not hitting enough, and if you don't score runs you don't win. You worry when you don't win games.

"I think the missed opportunity against Granderson because of a broken hand, the Tigers played without Cybert Cabrera, who is day to day with a quadriceps strain, and starting pitcher Gallardo

Sheffield tear a tendon in his left ring finger on a play at second base. Griffin said, "I would have not been able to hit if I were to come around to him in the ninth," Leyland said. "I don't know how serious it was, but he couldn't bunt it."

Brandon Inge ended Detroit's 18-inning scoreless streak with a solo homer in the seventh.

Greinke (1-0) gave up six hits while improving to 7-3 against Detroit. Damon Ramirez and Joakim Soria finished, with Soria getting three straight outs for his second save.

Jeremy Romander (0-1) gave up four runs and eight hits in 3 1-3 innings. He had been 5-0 in eight previous starts against Kansas City dating to April 2006.

"I threw the ball, but I made two mistakes and they punished me," he said.

Detroit had runners in four of the first five innings, but couldn't get any runs past the second hour. Teahen made it 3-0 with a two-out homer in the sixth.

Maglio Ordonez loosed off the top half with a long double to center, but Greinke with infield popups from Carlos Guillen and Ivan Rodriguez before Edgar Renteria grounded out.

Jesse Guillen had an RBI single in the seventh. Biggio struck out to end the eighth with a runner on third.

Angels 6, Twins 4

After being on the mount of standing ovations, two pregame ceremonies to honor him and a day's worth of reminiscing, Torii Hunter is ready to go home.

For the first time in 10 years, home does not mean Minnesota, not even to Los Angeles with the Angels after a draining opening series against his former team, but he made sure to leave Twins fans with a little something to remember him by.

In the final game of an emotional return to the Metrodome, Hunter homered leading off the seventh inning to back a strong start from Ervin Santana and help Los Angeles beat Minnesota 6-4.

"That's kind of cool of it that way," said Hunter, who was homered with a preseason video on opening day and given his Gold Glove before Game 2. "It started to slow down the last two games. I didn't have any opening-day ceremonies or anything like that.

"It was more emotional, man, than anything. Just coming back, walking up the wrong way, going in the wrong club house, running to center field from the wrong side. It was weird."

Prior to his drive, Hunter had gone just 2-14 for the season and admitted to being passed from the pagentry and warm welcomes he received from Twins fans who watched him star in center field for the previous nine years.

On getaway day, he had just enough in him to munch a mistake from Brian Baisse in the seats in left-center field, and the small crowd at the Dome gave one last standing ovation to the fan favorite who signed a $90 million, five-year deal with the Angels in the offseason.

Mike Napoli and Gary Matthews Jr. also homered for Los Angeles on Thursday.

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"It was more emotional, man, than anything. Just coming back, walking up the wrong way, going in the wrong club house, running to center field from the wrong side. It was weird."
Bengals cut ties with troubled WR Henry

CINCINNATI — Bengals receiver Chris Henry lost his job while in jail awaiting arraignment on assault charges on Thursday.

The Bengals cut him after his fifth arrest since 2005.

An attorney for Henry, 24, entered not guilty pleas for him after Henry was accused of punching an 18-year-old man in the face and breaking his car window with a beer bottle.

Henry's attorney, Casey Wann, said he plans to challenge the base of the 5-foot-11, 240-pounder.

A Municipal Court Judge Bernie Bouchard set bond at $51,000 on charges of misdemeanor assault and criminal damaging.

Noting Henry's previous arrests involving drugs, guns and alcohol, the judge called Henry "a one-man crime wave." He ordered electronic monitoring if Henry makes bail.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said it was premature to speculate on Henry's future in the league.

"It will be reviewed under the standard conduct policy," Aiello said.

Henry did not speak at the hearing. His lawyer, Perry Ancona, disputed the allegations in the complaint sworn by Gregory Meyer.

We have a different set of facts we ask the court to consider," Ancona said.

Minutes before the arraignment, Ancona broke the news to Henry that he had been released.

Bengals president Mike Brown said in a statement that Henry, an often brilliant receiver who would be in his fourth pro season this year, had forfeited his career with the club.

"His conduct can no longer be tolerated," Brown said.

Henry was suspended by NFL commissioner Roger Goodell for the first half of last season for repeatedly violating the league's conduct policy. He was also suspended for two games in 2006.

"The Bengals tried for an extended period of time to support Chris and his potentially bright career," Brown said. "We had hoped to guide him toward an appropriate standard of personal responsibility that this community would support and that would allow him to play in the NFL. But those efforts end today, as we move on with what is best for our team."

Henry's agent, Marvin Frazier, thanked the Bengals for their patience.

Athletes to be tested for HGH before Olympics

LONDON — Athletes around the globe will be subjected to out-of-competition tests for human growth hormone in the lead-up to the Beijing Olympics, marking a potential breakthrough against one of the most widely abused performance-enhancing drugs.

David Howman, director general of the World Anti-Doping Agency, said that new testing kits soon will be distributed to accredited doping labs around the world to screen blood samples for the banned performance-enhancing hormone.

An improved HGH test also will be in place during the Aug. 8-24 Olympics.

"We are expecting that an athlete will see this is going to happen and will be deterred from using the substance," Howman said in a telephone interview.

"There may be those who will take major risks. We hope that they are more quickly caught, simple as that."

AROUND THE NATION

Friday, April 4, 2008

COMPIL ED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES
Del Rio signs five-year contract extension with Jaguars

Jacksonville is 45-35 during his tenure with two playoff appearances including an 11 win season last year.

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE — Jaguars coach Jack Del Rio signed a five-year contract extension Thursday, a reward for winning his first playoff game.

Del Rio's salary was not disclosed, but it was believed to be a significant jump from the original five-year, $6.5 million contract he signed in 2003.

The Jaguars were 11-5 last season, beat Pittsburgh in the first round of the playoffs and then ended the season with a 31-20 loss at New England.

"Clearly when I reflect back on the last five years, great things have happened," team owner Wayne Weaver said. "Under Jack's leadership, this franchise has continued to really make great progress."

Jacksonville is 45-35 in five years under Del Rio and has two playoff appearances, the first of which landed the coach a contract extension that paid him $2 million annually the last two years.

Del Rio's deal could keep him in Jacksonville through the 2012 season.

"I look forward to building on what we have begun," Del Rio said a day before his 45th birthday. "I really do feel that there is something very special taking place here in Jacksonville right now."

Del Rio believes the Jaguars have closed the gap on AFC powers New England and Indianapolis, especially after the team's offseason makeover.

Del Rio hired four new assistant coaches, including defensive coordinator Gregg Williams, and parted ways with several aging veterans. Then he signed corner-

back Drayton Florence and receivers Jerry Porter and Troy Williamson in free agency.

He also traded oft-injured, three-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle Marcus Stroud to Buffalo in exchange for two draft picks.

"We believe the arrow is up and we ought to be able to compete at the very highest level this year," Weaver said.

With Del Rio's deal done, Weaver said the Jaguars will turn their attention to getting quarterback David Garrard a new contract.

Garrard is entering the final year of a four-year deal worth about $2 million annual-

ly.

"I think you can expect something on the quarter-

back," Weaver said. "We hope it will be sooner than later. We think the world of David. He's the guy that we believe can lead us and bring that world championship here to Jacksonville, so hopefully we'll get that done sooner than later."

Summer Internship Position Available

Concessions Supervisor Internship in Baseball

Professional Sports Catering and the South Bend Silver Hawks are seeking a Concessions Supervisor Intern to help run the concessions operation at Coveleski Stadium. This is a great internship for a driven, hard-working student seeking a fun summer job in a promising career-oriented position!

The Concessions Supervisor Intern is responsible for:

• Scheduling/mgmt of 100+ hourly FS employees
• Assisting with product ordering
• Overall organization, sanitation, and stocking levels of all concessions stands and food ports
• Compiling concessions-related reports

This is a full-time seasonal internship starting ASAP and going through August. This position is heavy on the hours and on the responsibility, but also is paid at $425 per week. Prior food service experience preferred.

For more information, please view our job posting on Golfrish, or contact Jeff Osborn at josborn@prosportsmarketing.net.
Spring Visitation Weekend Prospects Arrive on Campus

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions would like to recognize and welcome the 101 prospective African American, Asian American, Latino and Native American students visiting campus to attend this year’s Spring Visitation Weekend.

The University of Notre Dame Welcomes the Following Students:
Squad ousts top ranked Blue Devils
Strong play from goalie Goodman key to win

By ANDY ZICCArellI
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame and Duke women’s lacrosse teams entered Thursday’s game heading in different directions, with the Irish having won 5 of 6 and with Duke riding a 2-game losing streak. Thanks to arguably their best performance of the year, the Irish were able to keep their momentum going and keep Duke stuck in neutral — defeating the seventh-ranked Blue Devils by a score of 12-8. The win was Notre Dame’s first over a top 10 opponent this season.

“We were able to dominate them from start to finish,” said Irish coach Tracy Coyne. “It was an awesome all-around team performance.”

She mentioned strong showings from players from all over the field, noting the play of junior midfielder Caitlin McKinney.

Duke opened the scoring in the game, running out to a 1-0 lead just 33 seconds into the game. However, the Irish were quick to respond, scoring the next five goals in the game and taking a lead that they would never relinquish. Notre Dame went into the half with a 7-2 lead.

“We had a solid game plan and we executed it to a tee,” said Coyne. “And when we came out with adjustments, we handled those as well.” It was evident, as the strong play continued into the second half. The teams traded goals until, with an 11-2 lead, junior attacker Jillian Byers scored with 1:58 left, dealing the proverbial nail in the coffin. Byers has been a consistent scoring threat all season long, but was quick to deflect the spotlight onto her teammates as well.

“We have a lot of young guns who are stepping up,” Byers said. “I definitely don’t do it by myself.”

Also crucial in the victory was the ability to shut down the Blue Devils’ top scoring threat, Carolyn Davis. The junior attempted 10 shots, but only found the net once, and was bounded by the Irish defense all game long.

The win marked the first time the Irish have ever won in Durham, N.C. — they were previously 0-5 — and only the second time they have defeated the Blue Devils in school history. More significantly, the win solidifies Notre Dame’s spot among the game’s elite.

“This game shows that we can beat a top 10 team,” said Coyne. “Not just play with them, but actually beat them.”

Additionally, the win was a crucial first step in a grueling three-game stretch in which the Irish will travel to top-ranked Northwestern and will visit Big East leader Georgetown. Coyne thinks the team now has the mental makeup to make some noise in the season as they push for a Big East championship and, eventually, a run at the National Championship.

“Obviously this win gives us a lot of confidence,” said Coyne.

Armed with confidence, the Irish will take on No. 1 North Carolina in Evanston, Ill. on Thursday at 7 p.m.

Contact Andy Ziccarelli at aziccare@nd.edu

SMC GOLF
Belles compete in tourney

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s will compete in its last tournament before playing its first NCAA qualifying match when they tee off at the Tri-State Invitational event this weekend in Angola, Ind.

The Belles have some ground to make up after finishing third in the MIAA conference during the fall season.

The first two tournaments of the spring season have yielded discouraging results. In their first event, the St. Andrews Invitational, the Belles finished 10th place out of 11 teams.

The second event was more of the same — the Northern Kentucky Invitational, the Belles finished 18th out of 21 teams.

The competition levels in these tournaments are much higher than what they will be facing in the NCAA qualifier.
Roddick wins 11-match streak against Federer in Florida

Williams advances to the finals with comeback win against Svetlana, on verge of fifth Key Biscayne Tournament victory

Associated Press

Roddick ended a streak of 11 consecutive losses against his nemesis Thursday at the Sony Ericsson Open. Roddick dominated with his serve, and took advantage of Federer's suddenly shaky play down the stretch to win 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5) in the quarterfinals.

"I came in knowing that nobody has beaten me 12 times in a row," Roddick told the delighted capacity crowd afterward. "So I had that on my side."

In the women's semifinals, Serena Williams overcame a slow start to outlast Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-3, 7-5, 6-3. Williams needs one more win for her fifth Key Biscayne title and second in a row.

"I haven't won anything five times in a row," Williams said. "I think that doesn't count."

Roddick improved to 2-15 against Federer, who came into the tournament hoping to quell talk that his game is in decline. Slowed by mononucleosis early in the year, the top-ranked Federer has yet to reach a final in 2008, making this his worst showing ever.

"I just sort of disappeared not to see my name playing in the finals," Federer said. "I think I have the game to obviously beat him.

Roddick's opponent in the semifinals Friday night will be No. 4 Nikolay Davydenko, who beat unseeded Janko Tipsarevic 6-3, 6-2.

"To beat Federer for the first time since 2003, Roddick had to be on his best form especially on the stretch. He fell behind love-30 serving at 3-3 in the final set. Roddick went on to win 11 points, five of them thanks to an ace by Federer. Twice during the stretch Federer Shanked shots.

"I figure I was due," Roddick said. "He hadn't missed a ball in a crucial moment for about six years against me. I figured the law of statistics had to come my way eventually."

Federer lost serve at love to fall behind 5-3, losing the only break point he faced in the match. Roddick closed out the victory with a decisive set and a winner. He served and won in all 18 sets, including two in the tiebreaker.

That helped him end a streak of 10 consecutive sets lost against Federer.

"I always said it's tough to play against Andy — you know, that serve," Federer said. "He's always going to have a chance. That's why I'm quite amazed about my record against him."

Roddick improved to 1-0 against Federer since his recent suggestion to Kuznetsova to Brooklyn Decker, who watched from the stands.

"Being happy and content off the court is only going to help in my mind," Roddick said. "I was kind of实验室 ending a 6-3, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-4 win over Kim Clijsters for a place in the final.

Kuznetsova, the 2006 Key Biscayne champion, eliminated three-time champion Venus Williams in the semifinals and made a strong bid to complete a sweep of the family. Serena Williams had a flurry of unforced errors at the start, and she appeared to hurt her back chasing a backhand on the final point of the fourth game. In the next game, Kuznetsova fell behind love-40 on her serve, then won five consecutive points for a 4-1 lead.

Williams then took an injury timeout, and said it later felt as if she had been stuck in the back. A massage from a trainer alleviated the problem.

"Once she came out it got bet­ter straightaway," Williams said, "and it got even better after that.

ND Men's Lacrosse

Laxers carry offensive momentum to Illinois

By GRiffin DAssATti

NoTRE Dame will split up this weekend, as the Irish will participate in both the Stanford and Purdue Invitational teams.

Senior runner Jacqueline Clary and throws junior Anna Weber and seniors Jaclyn Espinoza will travel with some other members of the men's team to compete in the 43rd annual Stanford Invitational in Palo Alto, Calif.

The Stanford meet is a very high level of competition, especially in the distances and throws," Irish coach Tim Connolly said. "We sent people whom we felt would benefit from that level of competition."

The Purdue Invitational will provide solid practice for the rest of the Irish who will be competing against a variety of schools.

"Some of our top people should find good competition there [at Purdue], but there should also be competition that our more developing athletes should benefit from," Connolly said.

The outdoor season has been a success so far for the Irish.

The first meet of the season, the Arizona State Invitational, produced a number of solid results.

"Our throwers, throwers, and 800 meter runners got off to a very good start, with a number of NCAA Regional qualifying marks," Connolly said.

Junior Alyssa Hasen and the Irish 4x400-meter relay team have each qualified to compete in the NCAA regional meet at the end of the season.

Freshman Marissa Treese will compete in this weekend's meet and will be held out of competition until then.

"Treece won't compete until the week before the Big East meet," Connolly said. "She needs to recover from the World XC meet so that she can have a strong May and June."

Contact Alex Barker at abarker@nd.edu

ND Women's Track

Irish to run in separate meets

By aLex bARKER

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NEW YORK — In a locker room outletburst equal parts joy and angst, Jamar Butler finally dropped the charade.
Ohio State had been playing for nearly three weeks and revealed its main motivating factor for a roughshod run through the NIT.
"This is what happens when you put an NCAA tournament team in the NIT," Butler yelled, surrounded by his teammates after beating Massachusetts 92-85 in the title game Thursday night.
"Write that down and send that to the committee."
A year removed from a loss in the national championship game, the Buckeyes have a trophy to carry home — even if it’s not the one they had wanted most.
"Kind of a sore loser," coach Thad Matta said, when asked whether he would watch the Final Four this weekend. "I don’t know what I’m going to do. I think I’m going to rest."

The Minutemen had 19 points and eight assists in their final college game, which culminated with the kind of raucous victory celebration inside Madison Square Garden that he couldn’t have had last year in Atlanta.

The Buckeyes lost to Florida in the Final Four, and a snub by the NCAA selection committee kept them from playing for another trip there.
They rebounded to dominate each of their four opponents on the way to New York, then had enough to withstand every UMass run.

"We didn’t even know if we were up or down, we were just giving it all we had," Brower said. "They’re a solid team."
Massachusetts put a scare into Ohio State from the moment the last notes of the national anthem were played, rushing the entire length of the court to shake hands with its stoic, started Big Ten opponent.

The Minutemen kept racing once the ball was thrown up, forcing three turnovers in the first two minutes and taking a 10-2 lead on a basket by Milligan.

The Buckeyes came right back, with Hunter scoring four of his 11 points on a 13-2 run and take a brief lead. But the Minutemen again edged ahead, and Forbes 3-pointed with 3:50 left before halftime got the team’s assistant coaches so animated the referees stopped to calm them down.

Fourteen buses of people were ferried to New York from the UMass campus in Amherst, but they represented just a fraction of the partisan crowd. The school sold its allotment of tickets quickly, and appeared to have far more dressed in its slightly darker shade of red than its counterpart from Columbus.

"You can see by the fan support that came out, we made a difference since I’ve been here," said Forbes, a senior playing his last game. "A lot of fans have come out, supported us, and this has been a great season."

Now they all have to sit back and wonder whether the popular Ford will stay in town. His name has popped up as a leading candidate for the opening at LSU, which could offer the former Kentucky player a chance to return to his roots in the Southeastern Conference.

One fan, wearing a UMass jersey a couple rows behind their bench, held up a sign that pleased, "Please Stay Travis." A couple rows down was another sign that read, "Travis Ford, Forget LSU."
Ford said he hadn’t spoken with any other schools, but wouldn’t say whether he would listen to offers in the coming days.

Ohio State guard Jamal Butler cuts a piece of the net in celebration after the 92-85 Buckeyes win to seal the NIT title Thursday.

NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL
Buckeyes clinch NIT title with win over UMass

Associated Press

Ohio State guard Jamal Butler, left, and forward E'Twaun Moore, right, celebrate after Ohio State’s 92-85 victory over Massachusetts in the NCAA Tournament’s National Invitational title game in New York, Thursday, March 27, 2008.

The Buckeyes' win came in the Buckeyes' fourth consecutive trip to the Final Four, and a snub by the NCAA selection committee kept them from playing for another trip there.

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**NBA**

**Gordon’s well-timed free throws clinch win**

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Hunched over an ice-filled tub as he soaked his ankles and feet, LeBron James rubbed his forehead and groaned.

The back spasms weren’t relenting.

They kept coming back — just like the Chicago Bulls.

Ben Gordon made five clutch free throws down the stretch and Larry Hughes scored 19 of his 25 points in the second half against his former team, rallying the Bulls to a 101-98 win over the Cleveland Cavaliers on Thursday night.

The Bulls, with nothing to play for in the season’s final weeks, overcame a 17-point deficit in the second half and snapped a six-game road losing streak.

Hughes, traded by the Cavaliers to Chicago at the Feb. 21 deadline, added nine assists and eight rebounds in 45 minutes. Gordon scored 24 points and Luol Deng and Andres Nocioni had 15 each.

James scored 33 to lead Cleveland, but with his back tightening, he scored just one point in the fourth and missed all five field-goal tries. With their go-to-superstar unable to cut, jump and move as usual, the Cavaliers scored only 13 points in the final 12 minutes.

“Just tough to do some of the things that I wanted to do,” he said.

Still, the Cavaliers had a chance to take the lead in the closing seconds. But James, the NBA’s leading scorer, drove the left side and was short on a double-pumping layup with 5.9 seconds to go. James as well as coach Mike Brown felt he was fouled by rookie Joakim Noah, who stepped in front to contest the shot.

“I went up and got hit on the arm,” James said. “But that’s not why we lost the game.”

Following James’ miss, Gordon was fouled and made two free throws with 3.4 seconds remaining to put the Bulls ahead by three.

Cleveland had one last chance, but after catching a pass from James, Daniel Gibson missed a potential game-tying 3-pointer before the horn.

The Bulls’ season has been a complete disaster, but they never quit against a Cleveland team still trying to secure home-court advantage in the first round.

“It says a lot about our guys to get down 17 on the road against a team like this and fight our way back,” interim coach Jim Boylan said.

Zydrunas Ilgauskas scored 23 points for the Cavaliers, who are trying to nail down the No. 4 seed in the Eastern Conference.

Trailing since early in the second quarter, the Bulls finally caught the Cavs and took the lead at 99-98 with 1:42 left when Gordon knocked down three straight free throws after being fouled by Delonte West while attempting a 3-pointer.

Bulls guard Ben Gordon drives past Cavaliers guard Daniel Gibson in a 101-98 Chicago victory in Cleveland Thursday.

**Bookstore**

continued from page 24

**665 by forfeit over Prima Ballerinas**

The team known only as “665” won by forfeit over the Prima Ballerinas, who didn’t make it to the court. In their first round game, 665’s opponents almost didn’t make an appearance either, not arriving until 10 minutes after the game was scheduled to start. They didn’t know who they’re playing next, but, “They might as well not even show up.” 665 team member Emma Klosterman said.

“It’s disappointing because we were excited to play,” Lynch said. “But we’re looking forward to Wednesday.”

Lynch, Klosterman, along teammates Colleen Flahive, Michelle Maitz, and Nicole Bobowski will compete Wednesday against the winner of the Nickelodeon Moushouse or Academic Freedom.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

**Youth Ministry**

The parishes of Mt. St. Peter and All Saints in New Kensington, PA, (located in the Diocese of Greensburg) are seeking a dynamic leader for a full-time position as Coordinator of Youth Ministry. This position is envisioned as one of coordination of junior and senior high youth. An intergenerational, experiential catechetical model is desired. Weekends and evening hours required. Applicant should possess a BA in theology, religious education or related field. Persons submitting resumes should be Catholics in good standing. Send cover letter, resume and two letters of recommendation to Bill Staniszewski, Mount Saint Peter Church, 100 Freeport Road, New Kensington, PA 15068 by April 15, 2008.
Big East
continued from page 24
they hope not to repeat this weekend.
After exploding for eight runs against IUPUI on March 26, the Irish offense has been in a bit of a slump, scoring only five runs in the three games since then. Thanks to stellar pitching, however, they were able to come away with wins in two of those contests with the only loss being a 2-1 defeat at the hands of DePaul, who is No. 18 in the latest NFCA poll.
St. John’s (15-9, 2-4) and Seton Hall (11-13, 0-6) opened their conference schedules in a doubleheader against Army on Wednesday.
While their upcoming opponents may have struggled lately, the Irish will be careful not to take anything for granted for this weekend.
“The biggest thing for this team to stay sharp is to play seven hard innings every game,” Bargar said. “We can’t let up on anything, not a single out or pitch. Every play, we have to finish.”
Action in Jamaica, New York against St. John’s is set to begin at noon on Saturday, while the doubleheader against Seton Hall will begin at 11 a.m. in South Orange.

Florida
continued from page 24
and hopefully that’ll give us some momentum heading into the Big East Tournament.
This season has been marked by historic successes for the Irish. The squad has had a program-best four first-place finishes this season, including a program-first three consecutive tournament victories. Notre Dame also collected honors at Golf World Magazine’s mid-season awards banquet, being named the most surprising women’s team, while Irish freshman So-Hyun Park was named most surprising women’s player. Park is on pace to shatter the program’s single-season scoring record of 74.12 with a season average of 73.26, and has carded eight consecutive top-10 finishes, including two first-place finishes. Holt is not surprised by the team’s successes.
“As a group, we’re right on target,” Holt said. “As a team, at the beginning of the year, we set high goals for ourselves. People on the outside might be surprised, but to be honest, we aren’t. We made a commitment to do exactly what we’re doing. We’re on track.”

Streak
continued from page 24
After losing their previous seven matches, the Orange have found some momentum by winning three in a row over Villanova, Colgate, and St. John’s.
Syracuse has played well against its foes from the Big East, going 6-4 in conference play this year. Notre Dame will face just its third conference opponent of the dual season and enters the match with a 2-0 record against the Big East.
Syracuse will travel to South Bend for the first time in history. Notre Dame has won the previous two meetings, all at other venues. The match has been moved back to 1 p.m. ET to make it the back half of a Sunday morning doubleheader with the Notre Dame women’s tennis match against William & Mary.
With the level of competition and amount of matches rising, the depth of Notre Dame will continue to be tested. Notre Dame Head Coach Jay Louderback recognizes the need for depth and how important it has been this season.
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Contact Chris Doyen at cdoyen@nd.edu
The Observer apologizes for the absence of Black Dog.

**LOLLERSKATES**

Cardinals that would be more interesting than the one
ND selected for the commencement ceremony.

**THE SINGLE LIFE**

Dude, look at these kids who are playing badminton.
It's out for a pout.
31 Providers of exceptional service?
45 Boulogne-sur-
60 Jarrow's river
51 What some are
52 It's out for a pout
54 Holder of many
55 _Mets_ (Rocks rival)
57 Title syllables in
58 _Incompleto_ picture?
59 Subject of the 2004 book
60 Jaxton's ever
61 Outdoor toy that attaches to a garden hose
62 _NAME_ member: Abbv
63 Bolognese—or
64 Response of feigned innocence
65 _Lose_ successfully
67 _Poo_ who won a Pulitzer for "The Dust Which Is God"
69 _Prof_ with a directional
71 _Shorten_ in the kitchen
74 _Level_ of _Krispy kreme_ Var.
76 Cases of colonial unrest
77 _With_ don't say?
78 _Hide_ in the woods
80 _Photo_ raw
81 _Page_ Bear of the N.F.L.
82 _Watch_ the_possession_
83 _Underboss_ author Peter
85 _Ruler_ of Scotland, 1567.
86 _Innovate_ in Jussieu
87 _Macquartean_ novel
88 _On_ in Dusseldorf
89 _Caper_
90 _Bit_ of kitchen year
92 _Execute_ exactly
94 _Over_ with "it"
98 _Suffered_ a blow to one's pride
101 _Magazine_ holder
103 Creation of St. John
106 See 29-Down
107 "Underboss"
109 _Ruler_ of Scotland, 1567.
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132 Suffered a blow to one's pride
135 Magazine holder
136 Creation of St. John

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**JUMBLE**

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

OGOIL

NEKEL

WURPAD

KLYFNU

Print answer here: TO

**HOROSCOPE**

FRIDAYS WITH FRAN

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) The guy that sits next to you in class is turning it in.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Doesn't it make sense that Adam Sandifer might be a child molester? How many of his hit movies prominently feature children? Big Daddy, Bigly Madison...oh wait, that might be it. Scratch that molester rumor.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) You are not a Communist. You might be lazy, a trailer and a Communist but you are not a port site.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) If it's in your hosewheel, don't miss it.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you're Jewish you'd definitely be the American Idiot front-runner if she didn't have that hideous tattoo. Are we in agreement on this palp?
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Isis you ever notice that the words 'jolly' and 'chuckle' are only used to describe fat men? Uh oh, someone called your laugh a jolly chuckle this week, right?
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Counter the Monologue with the Hamburger.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Do you know how to Charlie Brown? If you do, you're the only one.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) One of you was gonna get props for responding 'Legally Blonde' to last week's question. But unfortunately, the recipient of the responses deleted them because he's an idiot. So if you're reading this, you get props. Too? I'm generous. Free props for all.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) What is the funniest object that comes in a box? Test your response to 630(5247)-4042. The best answer will get a shout-out next week, it's in the stars.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Raise your hand if you enjoy an occasional Snappy Joe Magwich.

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**SQUAD looking to keep winning streak intact**

**By DAN MASTERTON**

No. 20 Notre Dame (14-7) looks to extend its season-high seven-game win streak this weekend, traveling to No. 46 Iowa today and then returning home to face Syracuse on Sunday.

The Hawkeyes (11-4) started the season by winning eight in a row but have struggled of late. Historically, Iowa has not fared well against Notre Dame, winning just once in 15 matches all-time.

Iowa’s doubles lineup will pose a legitimate threat to Notre Dame’s eight-match streak of doubles point wins. Freshman Aleva Dorr and senior Jacqueline Lee lead the Hawkeyes’ doubles attack. Both are 10-5 in singles play, and the two have played together as Iowa’s No. 1 doubles pair in every match this year, going 16-5.

Senior Milica Veselinovic, who leads the team with a 14-1 singles record on the dual season, teams with junior Merel Bouwman for doubles. The duo has gone 7-4 playing in the No. 2 slot.

Junior Kapla Jarry and freshman Lynn Poggensee-Wei round out the lineup. The pair boasts an 8-3 record giving them the best winning percentage of the Iowa’s main doubles teams.

Junior Jody Valdivia and junior pitcher Brittney Bargar believe their team is ready for the challenge.

“I just have to stay with one another and play some great ball. There is nothing we aren’t prepared for, and we are ready for every challenge thrown our way,” senior Aleva Dorr said.

Notre Dame (18-10, 1-1) opened the conference season last weekend with a split at DePaul. As has been the case often in the early part of the season, the pitching staff carried the team to its victory. The same thing happened Wednesday against Toledo, where freshman Jody Valdivia and Bargar teamed up to pitch seven innings while allowing only one run between the two.

The Irish scored only two runs on RBIs from senior second baseman Katie Laing. The two runs were enough for Valdivia and Bargar, but the Irish stranded several runners in scoring position, something Van Gorp said is a common occurrence for his team.

**Irish head south for invitational**

**By MICHAEL BLASCO**

Coming off a hard fought fifth-place finish at last week’s Betty Rawls Longhorns Invitational, No. 20 Notre Dame hopes to take care of business next week at the Canes and Cardinals Classic in Miami, Fla. The tournament will be three rounds — held over two days — at the par-72, 6,982 yard Senator Course at Don Shula’s Golf Course.

The University of Miami-hosted tournament is the final test of the year for the Irish before they play in the Big East Championship at the end of the month.

Notre Dame head coach Susan Holt is optimistic that the team will perform well.

“The course at Miami will be a fun course,” Holt said. “We should play well there.”

Sophomore Kristen Wetzel prepares to tee off at the Irish Invitational last September, where the Irish finished second.

**WOMEN’S TENNIS**

**By SAM WERNER**

Two Pats and a MAT 21, I’ve Made a Huge Mistake... 17

Two Pats and a MAT took advantage of an enormous number of missed lay-ups by I’ve Made a Huge Mistake and advance to win their first-round, reshuffled game.

“Lay-ups killed us today,” Mistake captain Dan Hussey said. “We came to win, it didn’t work out so well.”

Hussey seemed to make no mistakes early, putting his team up early with a couple of early baskets. Teammate James Smith ran the point for Mistake, assertively carrying out plays at the top of the key. However, it seemed that any play he called inevitably ended up in a failed alley-oop or a missed lay-up down low. Smith got on his teammates about the lack of easy baskets.

“I was talking (expletive) to Jordan,” Smith said. “But I missed a few too. Honestly the game is on everybody.”

Both the Pats and the MAT were thrilled with their hard-fought victory.

“It was huge win,” captain Alex Cota said. “They’re a bunch of juniors and we’re just little freshmen. We were undersized, but we came out to play today.”

Despite their differences on the court, both teams agreed on one thing after their game, which ended around 8:00 p.m.

“We are extremely satisfied,” Cota said. “We’re gonna go eat right now.”

Smith agreed.

“We played hard,” Smith said. “And I’m so hungry.”

**BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL**

**By CHRISS DOYEN**

The Observer Sports Writer

No. 20 Notre Dame (14-7) looks to extend its season-high seven-game win streak this weekend, traveling to No. 46 Iowa today and then returning home to face Syracuse on Sunday.

Syracuse (9-11) are coached by former professional tennis player and ESPN analyst Luke Jensen.

This is the first conference road trip for the Irish this year, and junior pitcher Brittney Bargar believes her team is ready for the challenge.

“Talented freshmen oust juniors, 21-17

By DAN MASTERTON

No. 20 Notre Dame (14-7) looks to extend its season-high seven-game win streak this weekend, traveling to No. 46 Iowa today and then returning home to face Syracuse on Sunday.

The Hawkeyes (11-4) started the season by winning eight in a row but have struggled of late. Historically, Iowa has not fared well against Notre Dame, winning just once in 15 matches all-time.

Iowa’s doubles lineup will pose a legitimate threat to Notre Dame’s eight-match streak of doubles point wins. Freshman Aleva Dorr and senior Jacqueline Lee lead the Hawkeyes’ doubles attack. Both are 10-5 in singles play, and the two have played together as Iowa’s No. 1 doubles pair in every match this year, going 16-5.

Senior Milica Veselinovic, who leads the team with a 14-1 singles record on the dual season, teams with junior Merel Bouwman for doubles. The duo has gone 7-4 playing in the No. 2 slot.

Junior Kapla Jarry and freshman Lynn Poggensee-Wei round out the lineup. The pair boasts an 8-3 record giving them the best winning percentage of the Iowa’s main doubles teams.

Syracuse Orange who are in rebuilding mode.

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