Obama fuels debate, gives speech to well-wishers

Democratic nominee holds political rally at Washington High School

By BILL BRINK
News Editor

Illinois Senator and Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama told supporters Wednesday at Washington High School in South Bend that changing parties in the White House will not suffice, outlined his plan for drastic alterations and gained an endorsement along the way.

South Bend Mayor Stephen Lukece, preceding Obama, endorsed the Senator to raucous approval from Obama supporters.

"Let’s not hold the surprise," he said.

Obama, who entered the packed gymnasium with U2 playing in the background, received a huge response when he asked how many Notre Dame students belonged to a professor, the statement said, and the professor later identified the laptop. The suspect was arrested for burglary and taken to the St. Joseph’s County Jail.

Two other cell phones and a laptop were still missing, the statement said.

The stolen laptop belonged to a professor, the statement said, and the professor later identified the laptop. The suspect was arrested for burglary and taken to the NDSP building, and later to the St. Joseph’s County Jail.

Other cell phones and another laptop were still missing, the statement said.

Chapman said it was still unknown who took them.

South Bend police were contacted because of the suspect’s believed involvement in off-campus thefts, the statement said.

The stolen laptop belonged to Chris Kolda, a physics professor. He said he left his office for five minutes and left the door open. NDSP contacted him, he said, to see if his computer was missing.

When he returned to his office, his laptop was gone.

Police told Kolda, who never saw the thief, that they caught the suspect, he said.

"I was very happy with Notre Dame security," Kolda said.

"Nothing like getting your computer back before you know it was stolen," he said. "Police picked out the suspect, because he was wearing rosary beads, which looked out of place, Kolda said. He also said NDSP said the burglar matched previous descriptions and that they had been searching for him for three weeks.

NDSP found Kolda’s computer on the suspect’s person, he said, and the suspect was arrested.

SAB to host events for annual SMC-Tostal

By NIKKI TAYLOR
News Writer

Saint Mary’s Student Activities Board (SAB) will host its annual SMC-Tostal today. The event will be marked by an afternoon of activities in the student center, culminating in a concert featuring artist, Colbie Caillat.

The name SMC-Tostal was modeled after an Irish spring festival from the 1960s America. The festival included a gathering of people and has just been one of those traditional events that never lost steam. Special events for the day include a performance by "Katie," an alternative rock band from Dayton, Ohio, in the Student Center Lounge. There will also be balloon animals available from 12 to 2 p.m., Gallon said.

There will also be a special dessert open for all residents in the Noble Family Dining Hall for dinner. The headlining event of the day is a free concert at 7 p.m. in O’Laughlin Auditorium featuring Colbie Caillat, accompanied by an intersection to reports of burglary and suspicious activity on campus Tuesday, a statement released by NDSP reported.

NDSP assistant director Dave Chapman said in a phone interview that it is not known whether the incidents are related to the recent burglaries in Lyons and Howard Halls.

Around 10:50 a.m. Tuesday, a statement said, a call to NDSP reported that a man may have stolen a cell phone from an office in Stepan Chemistry center. The caller lost sight of the suspect, the statement said, and did not know if he left the building.

NDSP officers searched the area and eventually stopped the suspect as he left the building. He had a laptop computer under his shirt that he was carrying.

The suspect was arrested and the cell phone was recovered.

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Chocolate box men

I would not be who I am without what happened. I would not be stronger, I would not be who I am. I cannot learn without being taught, and we cannot know what flavor of love we like without tasting them all. Just because you were surprised by the coconut center you ate, doesn’t mean the creamy caramel won’t be the one you pick next. However, even if you get four hundred bad flavors in a row, you have to know, that eventually you will find your favorite. You will find the guy who is milk chocolate all the way to your favorite. You will find the guy why you continue to take a bite.

Without even tasting it, without one nostril. They are molded into beautiful shapes, and it is taking every ounce of restraint you can muster to prevent yourself from plunging in. Without even tasting it, without one little bite, you already think you know just how perfect it will be. Then, the rueful moment when you realize that the inside does not match the outside. One of the advantages of a guy is that you can ask him his flavor. Beware of the marketeers though, ladies. Some will try to sell you to their mates with things they aren’t, others will tell you that you should deny your taste buds and give in. Eventually though, with practice, these self-advertisers will be much easier to spot. I guarantee to you, the outside won’t be the one you pick next, because she won’t be the one you pick next. However, even if you get four hundred bad flavors in a row, you have to know what flavor of love you like without tasting them all. Just because you were surprised by the coconut center you ate, doesn’t mean the creamy caramel won’t be the one you pick next. However, even if you get four hundred bad flavors in a row, you have to know, that eventually you will find your favorite. You will find the guy who is milk chocolate all the way to your favorite. You will find the guy why you continue to take a bite.

IN BRIEF

Donna Smith, from Michael Moore’s movie ‘Sicko,’ will speak about her experience in the documentary and the current state of healthcare tonight at 6 in Dellarto room 126. Cobbie Calliat will be performing at Saint Mary’s tonight at 6 in the Angela Athletic Facility as part of SMC Toastal. A Frozen Four GameWatch will be set up in the Joyce Center for students to watch the Notre Dame Hockey Team play against Michigan tonight at 9 doors open at 8. There will be free food and giveaways.

The play “The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus,” a Christopher Marlow play about a professor who sells his soul to the devil, will be performed April 10-13, 17 and 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Decca Mainstage Theater at the Dellarto Performing Arts Center.

The Vietnamese Student Association of ND is hosting the 6th annual “Vietnamese Interacting As One” conference April 11-13. The theme this year is "Golden Dreams- Redefining Success for our Generation." Visit www.vial.org for conference information.

Anne Thompson, Chief Environmental Correspondent at NBC News, will give a lecture called “Green is the ‘new black,’ but will it stay in style?” Friday at 10:40 a.m. in Jordan Auditorium at the Mendoza College of Business.

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

Special to The Observer

Tim Russet, Washington bureau chief of NBC News, will deliver the 25th anniversary Red Smith Lecture in Journalism at Notre Dame on Monday.

Russet’s lecture, “When Politicians Meet the Press,” will begin at 8 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are required for the talk, and they are available without charge at the LaFortune Student Center ticket office.

Moderator of “Meet the Press” since 1991 and the network’s chief political analyst, Russet also serves as senior vice president of NBC News and as anchor of “The Daily Ribsarest.” He has written two best-selling books: “Big News” (2004) and “Wisdom of Our Fathers” (2000).

Prior to NBC, Russet was a columnist for The New York Times. The Smith Lectureship seeks to foster good writing and to recognize high journalistic standards. It is administered by the John W. Gallivan Program in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy at Notre Dame. Previous Red Smith Lecturers include James Reston, James J. Kilpatrick, Art Buchwald, Charles Kuralt, Judy Woodruff, Ted Koppel, Jim Lehrer and Frank McGur.

The series is produced by a gift from John W. Gallivan and Universal Press Syndicate. A South Bend native and 1957 Notre Dame alumnus, Gallivan is chairman of Andrews McMeel Universal, the parent company of Universal Press Syndicate. He’s a member of both the advisory council for Notre Dame’s College of Arts and Letters and the advisory committee of the Gallivan Program.

Senate continued from page 1

will be held next week.

Events include an ally pledge campaign at the dining halls and LaFortune, a screening of the film, “Boys Don’t Cry” and T-shirt distribution. The week will culminate with a Holocaust Memorial on South Quad next Friday, with a prayer vigil for hate crimes at the Grotto that evening.

According to former Social Concerns Chair Karen Koski, student government was involved in adding an academic panel on “History, Catholicism and Homosexuality,” which will feature history professor Gail Bederman and theology professor Mary D’Angelo.

“The speakers were what we were looking for in shedding an academic and historical perspective on relationships and issues faced by people who’ve experienced homosexuality,” Koski said.

Gender Issues Committee co-chair Patrick Tremain announced that campus will hold Take Back the Night on later in April to spread awareness about rape and sexual assault.

“It’s going to involve a rally and march around campus where men and women will actually speak out about how they’ve been sexually assaulted. It will end at the Grotto with a prayer service,” he said.

In the University Affairs Committee, student body vice president Grant Schmidt said they are continuing to plan election initiatives to raise student awareness on 2008 campaign issues. He said suggested polling students to gauge what issues students are interested in, as well as to set up posters contrasting the candidates’ issue positions. Schmidt also said that the committee will discuss how to bring popular speakers to campus.

“It’s a formality that [Father Jenkins] did invite Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and John McCain to campus, and Hillary took up that offer by sending Chelsea,” he said.

In addition to University Affairs, Schmidt said he is working with Community Relations chair Gus Gari to discuss a student government campus proposal. Schmidt plans to discuss the proposal next week.

After enough senators arrived, Schmidt officially convened the meeting, and the Senate unanimously passed two resolutions that proposed adding amendments to the Student Body Constitution, which would require the president and vice president to take oaths of office.

In other Senate news:

Howard Hall is hosting a bone marrow registry in the Dooley Room from 12-8 p.m. today. This allows participants to become potential bone marrow donors if their DNA matches cancer patients in need of transplants.

Keenan Hall will hold its annual Muddy Sunday mud volleyball tournament April 20. Teams can register on Keenan’s website, and proceeds from the event will be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

Contact Claire Reising at creising2@nd.edu

Tostal continued from page 1

paned by singer/songwriter Jason Reeves.

Callat, 22, is most recognized for her recent hit song, “Bubbly.”

While Callat was not exactly the performer that SAB originally set out to find, they were quite happy with the match.

“We had our eye on a group of performers,” Callan said. “Once we started calling around to agencies to see which performer best fit with our Tostal date, Colbie [Caillat] seemed like a perfect match. We are very excited to have her on our Tostal date, Colbie Caillat.”

The concert has been much anticipated around Saint Mary’s campus, and SAB’s hard work to put on this event year after year is appreciated by students.

“Tostal is always one of the highlights of our school year,” said freshman SAB member Tracy Thiel. “It’s a night that we look forward to all year.”

Contact Nikki Taylor at

staylor001@saintmarys.edu

This past Sunday, these sixteen Candidates for Full Communion, with the help of their sponsors, completed their initiation into the Catholic Church by receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at the 11:45 a.m. Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Please keep them in your prayers and help us to welcome them into our Catholic Community.
The Question of What Defines the African American Community

The African American community is one with a shared history of oppression, and some that the black community results when its members are labeled as black. Audience members discussed ways of defining the black community. Some felt that the black community is one with a shared history of oppression, and some that the black community results when its members are labeled as black. Panelists also addressed the role of history in Obama's speech. "The words that came to me as I was thinking about the speech were 'truth' and 'reconciliation.'" Monica Maria Tetzlaff, associate professor of history at Indiana University South Bend, said. Tetzlaff said that Obama made "very accurate historical references that the American public can learn from." Panelist Jennifer Mason Mcaward, associate professor in the Notre Dame Law School, emphasized the importance of remembering history. "One of the points I look from Senator Obama's speech is that we have to always be aware of that history — the devastating history of racial injustice, and this idea of equality that was written into our constitution," she said.

The meeting also addressed inclusion and who should participate in conversations about race relations in the United States. "You're talking about a context in which the society has not lived up to its principles and values," said Professor Wright. "We need to decide what does make a person black. If Obama wasn't multiracial or black defined as multiracial, how would he have responded to Reverend Jeremiah Wright and how would his remarks have been taken?"

Panelists also addressed the role of history in Obama's speech. "The words that came to me as I was thinking about the speech were 'truth' and 'reconciliation.'" Monica Maria Tetzlaff, associate professor of history at Indiana University South Bend, said. Tetzlaff said that Obama made "very accurate historical references that the American public can learn from."
Panel grantsographer amnesty

BAGHDAD — An Iraqi judicial committee has dismissed terrorism-related allegations against Associated Press photographer Bilal Hussein and ordered him released nearly two years after his arrest by the U.S. military. Hussein, 36, remained in custody Wednesday at Camp Cropper, a U.S. detention facility near Baghdad's airport.

A decision by a high-level judge panel said Hussein's case falls under a new amnesty law. It is the first Iraqi court to use the provision on foreign journalists, and it ruled that Hussein should be "immediately" released unless other accusations against him can be substantiated.

Robbers escape with $1 million

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Robbers shot and wounded six people at Malaysia's main international airport before fleeing with $1 million, police and news reports said.

The robbers fired at security guards accompanied by two currency exchange workers who were carrying a bag of cash at Kuala Lumpur International Airport Wednesday, the Bernama news agency said.

District police chief Zahedi Ayub said two bystanders were also wounded in the robbery. The victims all have been hospitalized with gunshot wounds to the legs, the reports said.

The guards said they opened fire at the getaway car, and police found about 40 cartridge cases on the ground.

National News

Lawyers defend polygamists' privacy

SAN ANGELO, Texas — Lawyers for a polygamist sect that is the subject of a mass child-abuse investigation argued in court Wednesday that although its members' multiple marriages and cloistered ways may be unusual, they have a right to their faith and privacy.

Gerry Goldstein, a San Antonio lawyer representing the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, also told a judge that the search of the temple in the sect's West Texas stronghold was a "purely fraternal and legal enforcement search of the Vatican or other holy places.

Goldstein asked the judge to throw out at least some of the search warrants as unconstitution­­ual, but failing that authorities agreed to handle any documents seized with respect.

Govern signs mental health bill

RICHMOND, Va. — The governor signed into law Wednesday a bill aimed at tightening the state's mental health system and improving campus security in response to last year's deadly Virginia Tech shootings.

The new laws, which go into effect in July, are intended to improve oversight and accountability of a mental health system harshly criticized after a mentally disturbed student killed 32 people and himself at Virginia Tech on April 16.

"It has been a difficult year, but it has been a year where people haven't tried to stay in the dark and improve," Gov. Timothy M. Kaine said at the bill-signing ceremony as lawmakers and the parents of a student wounded in the shootings looked on.

Local News

State senators hopeful for tax break

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana Sen. Evan Bayh and state Sen. Brandon Hill are optimistic that Congress will create a new property tax deduction aimed at helping homeowners and businesses weather the housing crisis. The Senate was expected Wednesday that although its members' multi­ple marriages and cloistered ways may be legal appeal of the law as it stands, Bayh said that it is intended to improve oversight and accountabil­ity.

State senators hopeful for tax break

WASHINGTON — America's war commander in Iraq told Congress Wednesday he is unprepared to endorse any new buildup of troops even if the country deteriorates, signaling that the limits of the U.S. military's reach are set by what he now calls "the 130,000 mark reached for now.

Gen. David Petraeus, closely questioned by law­makers for a second day, described Iraq as a frail state still struggling to provide its own security. That volatile situation figured in his recommendation to President Bush that a gradu­al pullout of U.S. troops be halted this summer — a recommendation Bush is expected to embrace in a speech Thursday.

But Petraeus also spoke of the burden on U.S. ground forces, warning that he would address that, too. In his speech at 11:30 a.m. EDT, Bush will announce plans to cut the combat tours of active-duty soldiers from 15 months to 12 months. The reduced deployments will not apply — at least initially — to any soldiers currently serving in Iraq, unless conditions improve to the point that commanders believe some could go home early.

"I am keenly aware of the strain on the military, noting his own deployment since 2001. "And I can tell you that there is nothing that a commander feels more than the fact that we have sustained, and we have sustained over there."

His resistance to the idea of any renewed increase of troops in Iraq reflects — at least in part — the reality that the rotation pool of some 1.3 million soldiers in the Army and Marines has been exhausted. Army soldiers in particular have been on repeated tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, and senior officers warn that the ser­vice's "strategic reserve" is at an all-time low.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Mike Mullen, says current troop commitments in Iraq make it impossible to send extra forces into Afghanistan.

Andrew Krepinevich, president of the independ­ent Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments in Washington, noted that Petraeus' promise to the House Armed Services Committee was a limited one. The four-star general is expected to resign his command position at the end of the year.

While Democratic con­tenders Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton have promised voters they would start withdrawing troops if elected, Republican John McCain supported last year's troop increase and believes condi­tions on the ground should dictate force levels.

Still, Krepinevich said, it's easy to imagine that Army officials agreed to the 2007 buildup on the assumption that Petraeus would give troops a "breather" at some point. Every commander "rotates them out of the line every once in a while to get rested and refitted. Otherwise, you really do burn up the force," he said.

Petraeus wants the U.S. to complete, by the end of July, the withdrawal of the 20,000 troops that were sent to Iraq last year to deal with the violence there. Beyond that, the general proposed a 45-day evaluation period, to be fol­sowed by an indefinite per­iod of assessment before he would recommend any fur­ther pullouts.

The plan leaves open the possibility that roughly 140,000 U.S. troops will be in Iraq when voters head to the polls this November and Bush leaves office next year.

"We think it makes sense to have some time, to let the dust settle, perhaps to do some adjustment of forces, re-evaluation," Petraeus told House mem­bers on Wednesday.

When asked by Rep. Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, whether he would call for another influx of U.S. troops if security conditions deteriorated during that 45-day window, Petraeus said that would be a last ressort of assessment before he would recommend any fur­ther pullouts.

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Arrests
continued from page 1

had stolen laptops and cell phones before.

At around 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, NDSP received another phone call reporting suspicious behavior by a man between Badin and Howard Halls. When NDSP responded, they found the suspect walking towards the Rockne Building and stopped him for questioning. The man matched the “general description” of the suspect seen in residence halls at the time of recent burglaries. He was not, however, seen in any dorm on Tuesday, and “could not be detained,” the statement said. NDSP gave him a No Trespass Notice.

NDSP is looking for a link between the arrest and detainment Tuesday and recent burglaries in residence halls, Chapman said. "Right now, we haven't found [a link], but that doesn't mean that there's not [one]," he said.

Residents of Lyons and Howard hall reported laptops and wallets stolen between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. last week. The burglaries in Howard took place on April 1, and the burglaries in Lyons happened on March 26.

The suspect in both cases has been described by “several people” as a black male, between 5-foot-8 and 5-foot-11, with a thin build, "frizzy long black hair" in a pony tail or braid, possibly bad or missing teeth and possibly sporting facial hair stubble, NDSP director Phil Johnson said last Monday. NDSP learned that Valparaiso University has experienced similar burglaries with a suspect whose description matched that of the suspect in Notre Dame's recent campus robberies, Johnson said last week.

Claire Reising contributed reporting to this story.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu
Airline cancels over 1,000 flights

American works to fix faulty wiring after intense scrutiny from federal regulators

American Airlines canceled more than 1,000 flights Wednesday, as it spent a second day fixing the wiring on some of its jets.

The airline had already scrubbed 460 flights on Tuesday after federal inspectors found problems with wiring work done two weeks ago, during the first set of shutdowns.

The issue stems from an order that the Federal Aviation Administration gave airlines in September 2006 — and gave airlines until last month to meet. About the handling of wires in the auxiliary hydraulic systems of MD-80 aircraft.

The fear is that improper wiring bundles could cause a short-circuit or even a fire and explosion.

The largest — and largest in a wave of cancellations at major U.S. airlines that have caused long lines at ticket counters and made flying even more stressful for usual passengers.

Executives at American said safety was "not compromised," and they suggested the nation's biggest airline was the victim of "stupidly stepped-up scrutiny" by federal regulators.

American estimated that more than 100,000 travelers were booked on the canceled flights. Many had to scramble to book new flights and were stranded at hotels far from home.

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The issue stems from an order that the Federal Aviation Administration gave airlines in September 2006 — and gave airlines until last month to meet. About the handling of wires in the auxiliary hydraulic systems of MD-80 aircraft.

The fear is that improper wiring bundles could cause a short-circuit or even a fire and explosion.

The largest — and largest in a wave of cancellations at major U.S. airlines that have caused long lines at ticket counters and made flying even more stressful for usual passengers.

Executives at American said safety was "not compromised," and they suggested the nation's biggest airline was the victim of "stupidly stepped-up scrutiny" by federal regulators.

American estimated that more than 100,000 travelers were booked on the canceled flights. Many had to scramble to book new flights and were stranded at hotels far from home.
Obama continued from page 1

were present. He explained his reasoning for running for president while he was still young, citing Martin Luther King's "Fierce urgency of now." He said the ongoing war, the recession and the mortgage crisis necessitated change that could not wait.

"We can be too late, and the hour is upon us," he said.

Obama placed emphasis on improving education, but said it started in homes with good parenting.

"Every child is our child," he said. "Every child deserves support, every child deserves the American dream, and we need to start investing in those children."

To foster educational improvements, Obama said, he wants to reward teachers by paying them higher salaries.

Standardized tests alone should not determine educational improvement, he said.

Instead, students should receive a well-rounded education that includes art, music and civics.

To continue his educational goals, Obama said he will offer $4,000 per semester in tuition credits to college students with the stipulation that students serve their community in some way. He offered the Peace Corps as an example of the service required.

"We invest in you, you invest in America," he said.

To keep jobs in America, Obama said he would end tax cuts to companies that shipped jobs overseas. He also pledged to roll back President George Bush's tax cuts for the wealthy and give them to people who needed them.

Obama's health care plan, he said, is intended to accommodate both those with health care and those without. For families with health care, he said he would lower premiums by $2,500. If families had no plan, he would make available plans similar to the government plan he receives as a member of the Senate.

The plan would have no conditions, and if a family could not afford it, the government would subsidize it on a "sliding scale," he said.

He ended with a discussion of the war in Iraq, which he said he opposed from the start. He pledged to pull the soldiers out of Iraq, which he said distracted the country from the war in Afghanistan "that we needed to win."

Notre Dame sophomore Angela Anido, whose father is a teacher, said she appreciated the proposal to increase teachers' salaries. It was really moving," she said.

Fellow sophomore Alena Christiansen was also impressed by the speech. "It was relatable to every race, every gender, every person," she said. "He's an awesome speaker."

Contact Brill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

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Hurry! You won't want to miss one of the limited number of Irish Crossings Townhomes available for lease this fall. Just two blocks east of the ND athletic fields, off Willis Street, these three and four bedroom townhomes come furnished, including a 42" flat panel HDTV.

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The Observer - CAMPUS NEWS

Thursday, April 10, 2008

Please recycle The Observer.
**Pakistan**

7 killed in street fighting

Associated Press

KARACHI — A street fight between political rivals spiraled into rioting in Pakistan's biggest city Wednesday, with armed men smashing cars and setting fires. Five people burned to death in one building and two were shot and killed.

It was the worst political violence Pakistan's new government has faced since taking office last month, vowing to curtail the powers of U.S.-allied President Pervez Musharraf and cement democracy after eight years of military rule.

The trouble broke out when pro- and anti-government attorneys punched and beat each other with sticks near the main courts complex in Karachi. Soon after, armed men in began shooting and torching cars in several districts, witnesses said.

A nearby building was set ablaze, and five charred bodies were found on the sixth floor, said police officer Syed Salman. Two other people died of gunshot wounds, including a paramedic whose ambulance came under fire while trying to the injured.

Salman Naguri, a 22-year-old shopkeeper, said he saw two men on a motorcycle shoot at passing ambulance, which crashed into an electricity pylon.

"For 15 or 20 minutes an injured man was crying for help from inside the ambulance but nobody helped him," Naguri said. When another ambulance crew arrived, the man was dead, he said.

It was the second episode to tarnish a powerful lawyers' movement that led months of protests against Musharraf, galvanizing his opponents and contributing to the defeat of his allies in February parliamentary elections.

Attorneys from the movement were involved in an assault Tuesday on former Cabinet minister Sher Afgan Niazi, who was beaten as he emerged from his office. Police hurried him into an ambulance, which was stoned and had its ignition key stolen, forcing security forces to push it away from the scene.

A group of lawyers allied with the pro-Musharraf Mutahida Quami Movement, or MQM, had been protesting the assault on Niazi when the violence erupted in Karachi.

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Wisdom comes in sheep's clothing

Do you have many people in your life who know you — who really, really know you? Sure, we all have lots of friends, pals, buddies, acquaintances, section-mates; people we love to sit next to and chat with in this class or that. Perhaps we eat lunch with because we always see them in the dining hall on Monday–Wednesday–Friday. But with whom do you really have intimate, life-giving relationships, the ones that have built up layers of strength and knowledge, forgiveness and grace over time? Who do you trust enough to let in on your embarrassing flaws, your deepest fears, your most far-reaching dreams, and who has let you in on theirs?

One of the most famous images in all the gospels has given its name to the Fourth Sunday of Easter: Good Shepherd Sunday. This weekend, as we do each year on the Fourth Sunday of the Easter season, we will read from one of the gospel passages in which Jesus describes himself as a shepherd who knows his sheep so intimately that they will follow the voice of only his voice and no one else's.

I have always wondered about this phenomenon — I mean, I get my own children's voices mixed up sometimes, when I can't see which one of them I'm talking to. And yet these sheep — perhaps hundreds of them, who by all accounts are dumb as dirt — follow the guy who leads them in and out to eat each day just by listening for him, and don't get it wrong, ever.

Jesus describes for the Pharisees a shepherd who knows the name of each of his sheep, and who leads them out of the sheepfold by means of an intimate relationship which has obviously been built up over time: "The sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out... He walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice."

Of course, Jesus used this analogy, which anyone listening in that sheep-laden time and culture would have understood, to explain why he came as God's son — to know each and every one of us by name and to call us safely to everything we need. Those sheep needed only a patch of good grass to chew on and maybe somebody who would keep an eye out for wolves or poachers; we have a much more serious need for that shepherd who knows our name. The one who tells us, as we will hear on Sunday, that he came for us so we "might have life and have it more abundantly.

"Wouldn't it be great if it were just that easy?" If we could just recognize the voice of Jesus whenever we need to figure out where to go, what choices to make, what direction to turn? If we have a significant decision to make, we just listen for the voice of Jesus and recognize it above all the competing din, and boom — we're good. Just as the sheep, by listening to the shepherd, knew where to go for lunch, we could hear the voice of life and know exactly what to say, or do, or choose in our search for the life Jesus promises.

Here's where we could learn from the sheep. They know the shepherd's voice because they have made a habit out of listening for it, many times a day. Deep in their little brains, they know their lives depend on that shepherd and that they'd better be paying attention. We will certainly recognize the voice of Jesus more easily if we make a point to pray each day, to listen intently to how our shepherd speaks to our hearts.

And here's where we're much luckier than the sheep. Our God, who knows each of us by name and knows the sound of each of our voices, speaks to us first of all through the sacraments and through our prayer, but also through the voices of those most significant and life-giving relationships in our lives. If we hear and recognize the voice of Jesus when we listen to or read the Scriptures, when we receive the Eucharist or the sacrament of Reconciliation, we will be able to discern his voice in the sounds of the people in our lives whom we love most deeply and who truly love us. We will recognize the "thieves and robbers" of the gospel for who or what they are — people, material things, ambitions, insecurities, false desires, that come to "steal, kill, and destroy" — and who will only distract and deter us from the abundant life God promises through Jesus Christ.

Let's learn a lesson from the sheep: listen, and listen good.

Kate Barrett is the director of Resources and Special Projects for Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu.

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

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**EDITORIAL CARTOON**

"Sit back... relax..."

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"Luck is a dividend of sweat. The more you sweat, the luckier you get." — Ray Kroc, American entrepreneur
Alcohol: Enemy of academic and moral development

No legs. No hard liquor. No "games" (although drinking is never a game). These were the first baby steps toward alcohol eradication taken years ago, and it seems that a next step must be taken. Alcohol is a deterrent toward the academic and moral development of students here at Notre Dame. This is not only an effect on the student and body, which were raised in Daniel Cerrone's article ("Ithickinking alcohol consumption," Apr. 4) Some disturbing facts about the effects of alco hol were presented to me in the form of a PL-LARS poster by my roommate freshman year. "Did you know ... consuming five or more alcoholic beverages in one night can affect brain and body activity up to three days?"

Moreover, "two consecutive nights of drinking five or more alcoholic beverages can affect brain and body activity for up to five days!" The poster is blatantly saying that alcohol will adversely affect the students. Learning even after the deed has been done. It is unbelievable to me that the administration can be aware of these facts and still turn a blind eye to the rampant consumption of alcohol on campus. Do they want students to fall? This is absurd. Alcohol consumption also leads to poor decision-making; stupid things can be done (I have heard of kids running through hall-ways with alcohol paraphernalia, right past the rooms of Assistant Rectors, and of others who lose personal items such as clothing and musical instruments but many possibly life altering decisions can be made well for example, I know a student who habitually rides his bike around campus and South Bend while drunk, putting his life in perilous danger)

Alcohol is a main vector of sexually promiscuous activity here on campus, and many locales off. It is a depressant not only of our mental activity but also of our moral development. As a Catholic University whose goals are to educate the mind and develop the soul, Notre Dame should seriously reconsider its stance on on-campus perm issibility of alcohol. Alcohol use runs counter to the goals and mission of this great university. The prohibition of alcohol would cause an increase in academic and moral development across Notre Dame.

Cerrone, I tip my hat to you, for trying to bring change for the better.

Ryan Slaney sophomore Cerrid Hall April 8

Top 10 reasons to love The Backer

We would like to respond to Didier Lewis's deviantly Lofflerskain comic strip printed on April 8. We are proud proponents of the Linebacker Lounge as South Bend's superior drinking establish­ment and would like to elucidate the reasons why.

1. Longevity — This institution has served the Notre Dame community for over 45 years!
3. Potent Long Islands — You only remember the experience is unlike any other. Call it sketch if you want.
4. The Linebacker Bash — Within walking distance from campus and TC, saving you money on cab fare.
5. Freebies — Drink ticket with $5 cover and freshly popped popcorn.
6. The Backer Pole — I dare you to lick it.
7. Men's Bathroom — Everyone wants a T-shirt explaining "I Hate the Linebacker Pole."
8. Website Bliss of Your Favorite Bartenders —

www.backernd.com

9. Special Events — Have you ever been to a wed­ding reception or bachelorette party at the Backer? I have, though not for anyone I know. ... yet! 10. Old Alumni — "The beautiful 1914 Aggra... "Yes, this was a real pick-up line used at the Linebacker Lounge."

If the Backer truly sucked as Lewis' comic claims, why is it packed every Friday and Saturday night of the year? In 50 years would you come back for a football game and go to "The Feve?" Of course not, Backer Sludge is disgusting, but the experience is unlike any other. Call it sketch if you must, but as Greg "The Turf God" says, "If you don't have fun at The Backer, it's your own damn fault!"

Christine Scacco and Rachel Murphy

Foley and Beene-Phillips Halls April 8

Drinking not purely a personal choice

For some reason, a lot of college students seem to believe that drinking is a compulsory aspect of college life, a precept as fundamen­tal as any listed in the Bill of Rights. Certainly, the 2,000 students who stormed the Main Building 24 years ago in protest of Notre Dame's then-new alcohol policy would agree. Relegating college doesn't entitle us to do as we please and we must remain sensitive to the effects of our choices — whether they involve alcohol or not — on other people. Although I do not drink alcohol, I've always believed that the right to drink in college is a matter of personal choice as long as those who drink respect those who don't. However, my patience runs thin when one person's choice becomes another person's problem. I can't imagine that my dorm's cleaning people are amused as they scrub the vomit of drunk students from toilet seats after a weekend of "responsible" drinking. Certainly, excessive drinking by Notre Dame students has rankled local residents and undermined relations between Notre Dame and nearby communities.

There's nothing intrinsically wrong about drinking, but a heavily inebriated person simply cannot appreciate how offensive his or her actions can be to others. It's a pretty dis­gusting when a person is so intoxicated that he confuses a sink with a urinal.

Colin Litchfield

St. Edansk Hall April 8

The consequences of drinking

Drinking is an important part of life at Notre Dame, as it is on virtually every college campus. In fact, it is so integral to the culture here that it is difficult to imagine what it would be like if no one drank. Beer and college life seem to be a match made in heaven. What then is the problem? College students love to have a good time and alcohol just makes things even better. To this I say, "Party on!" But where should we draw the line? Should we even draw a line? College is a time of great freedom, of trial and error, of finding oneself. It's also a time when we can do lots of things that we won't be able to do in 10 years. While we may seem ahead to get drunk 2-3 nights a week in college, once someone has a family to take care of, doing this may war­rant the label "alcoholic."

The issue is not whether one should drink or not, for this is simply a matter of personal preference. The issue is rather how a person should drink. Put simply, we must decide whether getting so drunk that one vomits, has blurry vision, and cannot remember what happened is worth the temporary fun in the moment, but is it really worth the consequences?

Richard Yhara

Munsey Hall April 8

Stir-fry changes a good thing

Sorry, Cornelius ("Unnecessary change in stir-fry," Apr. 8), but I believe you may have fudged your argument concerning the new change in stir-fry process at North Dining. I too, was angered at the loss of long privileges, but a 30-second conversation with the stir-fry guy cleared everything up.

Any leftover food served by a non-food services employee (i.e. students) must be disposed of at the end of the day. So at then end of every day, all the food self-served by students must be thrown out according to health regulations. If the food is only handled by food services staff, however, that food can be saved for the following day instead of being wasted. Over the course of a school year, this adds up to a heck of a lot of food being saved.

The decision to fix this problem reflects Notre Dame's mis­sion to make a positive impact on our environment through the elimination of wastefulness. So when it comes down to it, I will gladly wait a few extra minutes in the stir-fry line and eat a few extra pieces of pasta and pepperoni in order to contribute to this mission.

Mark Weber

Junior Keenan Hall April 8

Win the crowd by writing a column for Viewpoint and you will win your freedom!

Contact Kara at kking5@nd.edu

Richard Yhara
"Stop Kiss," directed by Katie Sullivan, opens tonight and runs through Sunday at the Little Theater at Saint Mary's College. Starring St. Mary's theater majors Caroline Walker, as the confident Callie, and Ayslinn McGovern as the Midwestern Walker, as the confident Callie, and Ayslinn McGovern as the Midwestern Sara, the play chronicles a friendship that develops between the two characters and a love they share which forever changes their lives. It is a story about relationships, the power of love and the devastating effects of intolerance, hate and violence.

The play appealed to Sullivan both in credentials and in theme. "I am always looking for a play which features great roles for women," she said. "I am interested in supporting women playwrights, and I am particularly interested in contemporary plays which have been received well by the larger theatrical and literary community."

As well, the play's deeper matters were hard to pass up. "The play spoke loudly to me in its plea for non-violence in our world," Sullivan said. "Both in the larger global picture and in the small individual choices we make every day." "Stop Loss" was written by the black playwright Diana Son and first performed in 1998 at The Public Theater in New York City. After singing from the core for eight years, it is entirely likely that he needed a fresh perspective on the music. If anything, which doesn't quite measure up, seems bad. Sullivan also said that working with the lead actresses has been a delight.

I feel so fortunate to have them in these roles," she said. "They are both hard-working, serious actors who are very receptive to notes, enjoy the process of rehearsing, and set the tone for the rest of the show going with a director."

Moreover, Sullivan felt that their dedication paid off and that both Walker and McGovern grew immensely as actors during their two months of rehearsal.

I especially applaud them because in addition to having to go back and forth in time (and emotional states) constantly, they now have to be able to handle the practical matters like extremely fast costume and set changes," she said.

However, Sullivan has faith that both her actresses as well as her entire thirteen man crew, including a female, are up to the task. All she needs now is an audience.

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu

Joseph Arthur's 'Let's Just Be' pales in comparison

By MARK WITTE
Assistant Scene Editor

"Stop Kiss"

Little Theatre, Saint Mary's
Tonight, Friday, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, 2:30 p.m.

"Stop Kiss"

By JAMES COSTA
Scene Writer

Joseph Arthur has been spoiling us for the last eight years. With such albums as 2000's "Come to Where I'm From," 2002's "Redemption's Son" and 2004's "Our Shadows Will Remain," Arthur listeners have been treated to superb solo albums. A significant element of the "OC" and "American Pie" period of American teen culture, Arthur's song "Honey and the Moon" was featured on both the popular Fox show and in "American Wedding."

Unfortunately, the level of achievement in Arthur's 2007 release, "Let's Just Be," is sadly mediocre. The album contains a few wonderful moments, but unfortunately, the majority of the album sways between crashing and clunky where Arthur never seems to find his stride.

The problem with this record isn't even that it particularly bad music, because it's not. Some of it is even good, and a few of the songs sound better on re听ion. The problem is that Arthur himself has just good the past that anything, which doesn't quite measure up, seems bad.

Perhaps the most prevalent feeling expressed on the record is one of emptiness. Where earlier records were filled with tender, emotive, yet subtly powerful imagery, this new set of songs seems mostly vacant of any real emotional expression. Maybe that's what Arthur was going for.

After singing from the core for eight years, it is entirely likely that he needed a fresh perspective on the music. If so, then he's achieved it. Unfortunately, by achieving a new perspective, he's also lost (for the moment) his distinct and lovely way of expressing thoughts and feelings through distinctly unique and original songs.

The album is at its best with the tracks "Take Me Home," "Chicago," "Lack a Version" and "Yer the Reason." For a wonderful four minutes to the feelings and styles that made his earlier album releases so poignant and memorable. Relying on a simple chord structure, with soft drums and a melancholy singing voice, Arthur sings of the moments which have been lost when two old lovers face each other with a sad tenderness found only in the meeting of two hearts and arched desires. "I can see the sun / I think the evening's done / Take me home / You look good on your own / Sometimes it's good to say goodbye / Before you make it to the end of time," It's a brilliant, sad song, perfect for those moments when you want the music to make you think, rather than lament. It's a song of memories and one that anyone who believed in Arthur's words and promises, will love. He sings: "Your mirror is destroyed / I see you now trying to avoid / The truth of who you really are / The heat will stay with the flame / So your beauty never will change / It is not you will always be a star." It's clear that Arthur is trying to convince someone to stay around and to hold onto a feeling that has become fractured and distant. With its rousing chorus, the song is catchy and a joy to listen to on repeat.

Basically, the record is OK. It's definitively more rocking than the earlier Arthur stuff, though it doesn't quite equal the majestic power and beauty of the prior releases. If you're willing to accept a new sound and perspective, then album is worth a look. If not, download "Take Me Home" and "Chicago" and you'll be set.

Contact James Costa at jcostal@nd.edu

Friends, lovers face tragedy in "Stop Kiss"

By JULIE GRISANTI
Observer Graphic

Joseph Arthur's 'Let's Just Be' pales in comparison

By MARK WITTE
Assistant Scene Editor

"Stop Kiss," directed by Katie Sullivan, opens tonight and runs through Sunday at the Little Theater at Saint Mary's College. Starring St. Mary's theater majors Caroline Walker, as the confident Callie, and Ayslinn McGovern as the Midwestern Sara, the play chronicles a friendship that develops between the two characters and a love they share which forever changes their lives. It is a story about relationships, the power of love and the devastating effects of intolerance, hate and violence.

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friends, lovers face tragedy in "stop kiss"

By JULIE GRISANTI
Observer Graphic
Midwest Undergraduate Film Conference returns to Notre Dame

By MARK WITTE
Assistant News Editor

The 2nd Annual Midwest Undergraduate Film Conference kicks off this Friday at the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, and runs through Saturday evening. Admission is free for all speakers will present in Browning Cinema. Assistant Professors of Film, Television and Theater, Christine Becker and Christopher Sieving co-organized the conference and have worked to collect undergraduate authors of 30 of the best papers on film and media from all over the Midwest. All students in Notre Dame’s FTT Honors Program were encouraged to submit proposals for the conference, but proposals from non-Honors students were accepted as well.

The conference, which began last year under the direction of Associate Professor of Film, Television, and Theater, Pam Wojcik, is once again a landmark event.

“This is the sole undergrad-only media studies conference in the country,” Becker said.

Six Notre Dame seniors were among those chosen by Becker and Sieving to present this weekend along with undergraduates from other schools such as Indiana, Northwestern, the University of Chicago and Loyola University Chicago. Becker sees the conference as an instrumental learning experience for all the students involved.

“It's a great way for these students to learn more about media studies, it helps them develop relationships with their peers from other area schools, and it also gives them professional presentation experience,” Becker said.

"Many of the presenters are interested in going on to graduate study, so the conference offers a great venue for them to get a taste of that kind of advanced academic experience."

For the weekend's papers are wide-ranging and diverse. Topics include “Female Revenge Films,” “Forgotten Film Stars,” Canadian and Iranian cinema, classic directors such as Alfred Hitchcock and Robert Alderson, as well as discussions of more recent films — like “Atonement,” "Stranger Than Fiction," “Atonement,” “Female Revenge Films,” “Forgotten Film Stars,” Canadian and Iranian cinema, classic directors such as Alfred Hitchcock and Robert Alderson, as well as discussions of more recent films — like "Atonement," "Stranger Than Fiction," and "Hero in Cinema" on Friday evening, they get to hear these great new ideas that their peers are writing instead of dry, academic drivel in their text books. We're presenting on a lot cool shows and movies," said Senior Honors student Jenni Fong. who will be giving her paper entitled, "Because We Believe: Cult TV Perversion: Domesticity in Hitchcock's "Counterculture." On Saturday, senior Cassie Belek will present her paper, "A Hint of Burgers said. "I'm talking about horror and 'Independence Day.'" Another paper is on "The X-Files." It's not just films you haven't heard of."

And there are other reasons for attending too.

"(Students) should come because they're doing work that is of publishable quality," said Becker, "This conference will help to give them the recognition they deserve for those efforts."

The conference will function in three person panels with each panelist presenting a 20 minute paper, followed by 15 minute question and answer session run by a moderator. Becker pointed out that she was very pleased with how many of the moderators and panelists lined up. "For instance, FITT's Donald Grafton will be moderating the panel on silent film efforts."

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For a complete schedule with paper topics go to http://ftt.nd.edu/mufc.shtml
Western Conference turns up the heat in second half

By ANDY ZICARELLI and GRIFFIN DASSATI

In a 1-7 lead at halftime of Thursday’s Western Conference tournament game, the Bookstore Basketball team was able to hold Team 318 to one basket and pull away with the 21-6 victory.

Freshman Grayson Petersen-Fitts credited the inspirational halftime speech of senior William David Williams as the reason for the team’s success.

“Sometimes I feel like it’s not really fair when I’m on the court,” he said. “I had to have at least 15 rebounds. I kind of lost count.”

For those unsure of the name, the Western Conference is the NBA’s dominant league, home to the best players and teams in the league. By placing themselves on the same level, it is clear this Bookstore team does not lack confidence.

For a team with a couple of varsity athletes, such talent and athleticism is expected. However, in the future, do expect the Western Conference to need a halftime speech to fire themselves up.

“Sometimes I feel like its really unfair when I’m on the court,” he said. “I had to have at least 15 rebounds. I kind of lost count.”

While the conference is a popular choice for bets such as handicap, over-under, and spread, the Western Conference is still a tough conference to win. That said, we think this team could do well in the next few weeks, turning the clock back to a 21-6 victory. After all, they went on a small run of their own during that game. That said, we think their better is better than their last few games.

“We created a good diversion for the Bailers’ strategy. We gave us a chance to redeem ourselves,” she said. “But we need to play better in the next game.”

“The scoreboard says 0-0 right now, and we won’t quit until it says 21 on our side. That said, we think our better is better than their last few games.”

Pete Dolan Sophomore

No. 8 Anthony Travel def. Last Team in 21-6

Despite a late run by the Buttercutting Bailers, Team Two-Liner’s effective first half ultimately earned a 21-6 victory. Team Two-Liner began the game on a 17-0 run and looked poised to go wire-to-wire in a shut-out victory, but just considering the short driving distance of the two teams, the Bailers’ defense allowed the here-and-now. We’re looking forward to relying entirely on our team’s height, we had the hustle and determination did come to fruition fairly well in the back and finishes quick in the front,” he said. “We’ve had two pretty weak teams so far, and it really speaks clearly as to how powerful they can be.”

“Sometimes I feel like its really unfair when I’m on the court,” he said. “I had to have at least 15 rebounds. I kind of lost count.”

After a short break, Anthony continued its run-and-gun style, accelerating the pace on the face and pushing their lead to 17-4. Despite two quick baskets by Last Team, Anthony closed the game out on a lay-up by Henry.

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“We’ve had two pretty weak teams so far, and it really speaks clearly as to how powerful they can be.”

After complimenting his Mango player Gebert’s pride he feels for his team after their first win, Gebert added, “I think our team really starts hard in the back and finishes quick in the front,” he said. “We’ve had two pretty weak teams so far, and I think they should probably take another sport...like knitting. One, they didn’t have us in the 17-0 and tested coming up against our next opponent.”

Contact Andy Ziccarelli at aziccare@nd.edu and Griffin Dassatti at gdassat@nd.edu

SMC TENNIS

Belles get drubbing from Flying Dutch

By MEAGHAN VESELIK

Saint Mary’s fell to Hope 8-3 Wednesday afternoon, dropping their overall record to 5-9, 1-3 MIAA.

The Flying Dutch swept the doubles matches, won five of the six singles in victory over the Belles.

"Today was a tough match against Hope," sophomore co-captain Betsy Reed said. "They are a very strong team, with a lot of experience."

In the doubles matches, Saint Mary’s could not carry over its momentum from last week’s 3-4 domination at Olivet. Hope’s sophomore co-captain Lisa Rubio and junior Sammi Sulli defeated Saint Mary’s No. 1 doubles pair Gebert and Freshman Mary Petersen-Fitts resulting in their eighth loss as a pair this spring. Saint Mary’s No. 2 doubles duo of captain Lisa Rubio and Freshman Mary Petersen-Fitts defeated Saint Mary’s No. 3 doubles pair Freshmen Jessica Koedl and Frances Peluso 8-5. "We created a good diversion for the Bailers’ strategy. We gave us a chance to redeem ourselves...it’s just a matter of getting over the hump,” Gebert said.

Saint Mary’s will use all of this experience for the conference tournament. "We will be seeing all of these guys again for a second time. We will give us a chance to redeem ourselves..."it’s just a matter of getting over the hump,” Gebert said.

Saint Mary’s next faces conference rival Tri-State at home. The regular season will play this Saturday at 1:00.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel@smn.edu

SMC GOLF

Saint Mary’s earns second place start

By ALEX BARKER

Saint Mary’s started off the MIAA conference strong after shooting a 337 and placing themselves in second place. Despite Saint Mary’s strong finish, they still maintain their overall record to 5-9, 1-3 MIAA.

"We’ll see what happens on this weekend, but we feel powerful well behind Olivet with only two qualifier events remaining,” Gebert said. "We played well today,” Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. "Unfortunately, Olivet played as well as they possibly could have experienced.”

Heading into the second of three MIAA qualifiers, the Belles are 18 strokes behind Olivet who shot a 319 on the first day.

Freshman Rosie O’Connor led the Belles with a round of 80 and classmate Emily Gore was not far behind matching a solid 84.

The next two qualifying rounds will be held April 25-26. Before them, the Belles will look to improve at the Vasser Invitational in New York this weekend and at the Illinois Wesleyan Spring Fling the following weekend.

"Hopefully we can even it up in the next round and have a chance to redeem ourselves with a good chance to win,” Hamilton said.

The team who sits in first at the end of the three MIAA rounds will be the team to beat the rest of the tournament. And as the team to beat, the Belles will be behind a spot in the Div. III National championship tournament in August.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker@nd.edu

For Rent

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around the dial

GOLF
2008 Masters - First Round
4:00 p.m. EST

NCAA Men's Basketball
Frozen Four
Boston College vs. North Dakota
7:00 p.m., ESPN
NOTRE DAME vs. Michigan
8:30 p.m., ESPN2

NCAA Women's Lacrosse
Bounce/Inside Lacrosse Top 20

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<th>Rank</th>
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<th>Record</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Nevada</td>
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<td>Western Mich</td>
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NCAA Men's Lacrosse
Inside Lacrosse Top 20

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Big East Women's Lacrosse
Conference Standings

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<th>Conference Overall</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Quinnipiac</td>
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<td>Bellarmine</td>
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<td>Air Force</td>
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Big East Men's Lacrosse
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In Brief

Guillen's 15-day suspension delayed until Tuesday

NEW YORK — Jose Guillen's 15-day suspension was put on hold through Tuesday by Major League Baseball and the players' association, an indication they are nearing an agreement that would eliminate the penalty and toughen the sport's drug rules.

Guillen and Jay Gibbons were suspended Dec. 6 by commissioner Bud Selig following media reports linking them to performance-enhancing drugs. Major League Baseball and the players' union announced March 28 they were putting the suspensions of Guillen and Jay Gibbons on hold for 10 days, giving lawyers more time to reach an agreement that would toughen the drug policy.

Lawyers have said for several weeks that the sides are close to a deal, and two said Wednesday that the sides have narrowed their differences to the point where they are confident an agreement will be reached.

UCLA's Love and Collison undecided about NBA

LOS ANGELES — UCLA All-American Kevin Love and teammate Darren Collison have not yet decided whether they will make themselves available for re the NBA draft, coach Ben Howland said Wednesday.

He dismissed a report on the Los Angeles Times' Web site that said the players had decided to leave and were expected to hire agents, which would prevent them from returning to the Bruins next season.

"It's an erroneous report," Howland said. "I have not discussed the future with them." The Bruins haven't had a third-round pick in the past two seasons.

Love, a freshman center, led the Bruins in scoring (17.5 points) and rebounds (10.6). Collison, a junior guard, was a third-team All-American who averaged 15.2 points and 3.9 assists.

Favre not ruling out comeback with Packers

GULFPORT, Miss. — If the Green Bay Packers are ravaged by injuries this season, Brett Favre might consider returning to make the team whole, Packers coach Mike McCarthy said Tuesday.

"But to think that if they called me in October and said, 'Hey, we need you this week,' that would be hard," Favre said in a story that appeared on the paper's Web site on Tuesday. "So there's been a steady flow of speculation that Favre would have a change of heart in the wake of the March 4 announcement the league's only three-time MVP was retiring.

Favre added he would not return unless he was in shape.
MLB

Diamondbacks stretch winning streak to six

Napoli hits first career grand slam for Angels

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Arizona can still win the close ones, too. The Diamondbacks stretched their winning streak to six games on Wednesday with a 4-3 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Erick Byrnes hit a go-ahead, two-run double in the seventh-inning off Hiroki Kuroda and Michele Owings (2-0) allowed three runs and seven hits in seven innings as the Diamondbacks finished a three-game sweep of the Dodgers.

"We've been scoring some runs and getting some timely hits," Arizona manager Bob Melvin said. "Today it just looked a little different. They got the lead early on and had some momentum, then we got the big hit."

All six victories in the streak have come against NL West foes. This time, Arizona looked like the team that went 32-20 in one-run games a year ago.

"It's a scrappy team that happens to be able to hit some home runs, too," Byrnes said. "I know we hit a lot of home runs in those first two games, but I think the greatest thing about this team is we can win games in different fashions."

Brandon Lyon, who was 3-for-5, said that it's important that his bullpen corps, including Justin Penny, have come against Cleveland on Wednesday.

The Dodgers took their first lead of the season in the second when Juan Pierre doubled to right with a runner on first and A.J. Ellis' sacrifice fly scored him.

Arizona took advantage of Byrnes' throwing error in the fourth, taking a 2-1 lead on a run-scoring grounder by Reynolds — his major league-leading 13th RBI — and Upton's run-scoring single. Andre Ethier's sacrifice fly tied the score in the fifth.

Arizona's massive winning streak to six games.

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Angels 9, Indians 5

ANAHEIM — The Los Angeles Angels usually don't rely on home run clusters like the one they had against Cleveland on Wednesday.

But the Indians are giving them up at an alarming rate, and one thing led to another.

Mike Napoli hit his first career grand slam, Garret Anderson and Casey Kotchman also went deep against Paul Byrd, and Vladimir Guerrero added a three-run shot.

"We're hitting home runs right now, which is good for us, but we're a situational team," Napoli said. "We know what we've got to do. Moving guys over, going from first to third, being aggressive on the bases — that's who we are."

"But anytime you get home runs up and down the lineup, it's pretty good," said Byrd.

Dustin Mosley (1-1) allowed six runs on nine hits and struck out five over six innings after getting staked to a 6-0 lead. The ballclub rallied with four runs in the sixth as Jhonnny Peralta homered, Casey Blake hit an RBI double and Kelly Shoppach added a two-run shot.

But Guerrero greeted Lewis with a drive to left-center in the seventh for a 9-4 lead after Chase Fitzgerald led off the inning with a broken-bat single and Gary Matthews Jr. reached on a fielding error by Blake at third base.

Byrd (2-3) allowed six runs and five hits in three innings, raising his ERA to 11.05. The 37-year-old right-hander, whose name was included in the Mitchell Report on performance-enhancing drugs, had his $7.5 million option for this season picked up by the Indians after capping off a 15-8 campaign with victories in both of his post-season starts.

"It's been a distraction at times when I'm not on the mound, but it hasn't really caused me to lose concentration," Byrd said of the Mitchell controversy. "My head's pretty clear. I just haven't had my command at all and I haven't had very good stuff. To pitch up here, you have to have one of the two, and I have neither right now."
The Development Phone Center would like to recognize the following "Businesses of the Month" for their support in our semi-annual incentive auction:

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- Famous Dave’s BBQ
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- Heavenly Ham
- Illusions Salon & Day Spa
- KFC
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Write sports. Contact Chris at spoe@nd.edu

**OLYMPICS**

Tightened security in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO — Security was tightened on the Golden Gate Bridge and elsewhere around the city Tuesday as officials prepared for massive protests of China’s crackdown in Tibet during the Olympic torch’s only North American stop on its journey to Beijing.

The Olympic flame was whisked to a secret location shortly after its pre-dawn arrival Tuesday following widespread and chaotic demonstrations during the torch relay in London and Paris. Activists are protesting China’s human rights record, its grip on Tibet and support for Sudan despite years of bloodshed in Darfur.

The flame is scheduled to be paraded through the city on a six-mile route that hugs San Francisco Bay. Abruptly, one runner who planned to carry the flame dropped out because of safety concerns, officials said.

It began its 85,000-mile journey from Ancient Olympia in Greece to Beijing on March 24, and was the focus of protests from the very start.

Hours after it arrived in San Francisco, protesters marched to the Chinese Consulate, calling on China to cease its heavy-handedness toward Tibet and support for Sudan.

Meanwhile, a few miles away in Chinatown, leaders of China’s expatriate community held a news conference calling for a peaceful relay, and said they were proud China has had the Olympics. We should be proud of this,” she said.

China has had the Olympics. We didn’t support it. We should be proud of this,” she said.

Pro-Tibet activists and other human rights groups said they’d encouraged their supporters to protest peacefully and not disrupt the relay or the torch runners.

"This is not about us battling the torchbearers,” Lai said. "It’s about our fight for a Free Tibet, told the crowd outside the consulate. "This is about the Chinese government using the torch for political purposes. And we’re going to use it right back.”

San Francisco was chosen to host the relay in part because of its large Asian population.

David Lee, executive director of the Chinese American Voters Education Committee and a professor of political science at San Francisco State University, said while many Chinese agree with critics of China, on the whole, Chinese-Americans feel a tremendous sense of pride that the Beijing Olympics chose San Francisco as the only relay site in North America.

At a news conference Tuesday, business owners asked for calm.

"We are begging for five hours of peace,” said Sam Ng, president of the Chinese Six Companies, a prominent benevolent association.

Some residents also expressed dismay at the protests.

Ling Li, 29, who immigrated from China’s Guangdong Province eight years ago, said she was disappointed that this pivotal moment in her country’s history was being marred by demonstrations. She believes that Tibet is a rightful part of China and it’s quest for independence should not be part of the Olympics.

"If I support the Olympics, of course I don’t support the protests. This is the first time China has had the Olympics. We should be proud of this,” she said.

Pro-Tibet activists and other human rights groups said they’d encouraged their supporters to protest peacefully and not disrupt the relay or the torch runners.

"We can be effective without disruption,” said Allyn Brooks-LaSure, a spokesman for Save Darfur. "Disrupting tomorrow’s ceremonies couldn’t possibly embarrass Beijing any more than their disastrous Darfur policy already has.”
NBA

Thomas to conclude ‘08 season with Knicks

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Isiah Thomas will finish the season as the Knicks’ coach, but needs a good explanation for why things went so horribly wrong for any chance to last beyond that.

New president Donnie Walsh said Wednesday he plans to meet soon with Thomas, and he wants to know why a team he thought could be good instead will finish as perhaps the worst in franchise history.

Walsh insists he hasn’t decided on Thomas’ future with the team, but the Knicks’ 22-56 record entering their game against Charlotte clearly works against the coach.

“You can say I have an open mind as far as any conversation I’m going to have,” Walsh said. “I still don’t think we’ve played well, there’s a lot of things I want to talk about. So it’s not totally open. It’s not like I’m going in saying, ‘Well, this has been going in saying, ‘Well, this has been a lot of things I want to talk about.’

Walsh said he had a conversation with the regular season ends next week. But no matter what he decides, he expects Thomas to be on the bench for the remaining games.

“Yeah, I would say that we’re going to go through the season because there’s only four games left,” Walsh said. “I’m going to use this period to try to take a look at the whole situation so I’m in a position to make whatever decision is going to be made — if there are any.

Walsh was hired last Wednesday to replace Thomas as team president, and put off any decision about Thomas’ remaining job until after they could meet in person. The Knicks were on a road trip at the time and didn’t return until the weekend.

Walsh left town by then to clean out his desk in Indiana, where he recently announced he was leaving the Pacers after 24 years in their front office. Walsh didn’t return to New York until Tuesday, and said he still hasn’t even seen Thomas.

That will change soon. Walsh attended the game against the Bobcats, and the Knicks also are home for games Friday and Monday before closing the season at Indiana on April 16.

Walsh wants details about specific things that happened this season, such as the Thomas-Stephon Marbury feud that sent the season spiraling out of control after only five games. Marbury left the team in Phoenix after Thomas threatened to remove him from the starting lineup, and the Knicks lost their next six games.

Thomas also had disagreements on the bench during games with Quentin Richardson and Zach Randolph, and he’ll need to decide how honest he wants to be with Walsh about whether he was at fault. He also yanked center Eddy Curry from the starting lineup, and Curry lost his confidence and took a major step back with his play this season.

“I would say that, again, this has been an extremely challenging year and it’s been a unique year that’s presented unique and different problems, and you know our record is not good,” Thomas said. “It’s not good. We’ve had a poor performance out on the floor.

That’s not a permanent situation. The situation we’re in now is not going to continue.

Speaking before Walsh, Thomas continued to act as if he was part of the future — as he always does — and again talked about winning championships in New York. He worked three years under Walsh in Indiana as the Pacers’ coach and both say they have a good relationship, so perhaps he has reason to believe he has a chance to stick.

Thomas assembled this entire team that will miss the playoffs for the fourth straight year. While he stresses that the Knicks were “pretty far down” when he arrived as president in 2003 but are “positioned pretty properly” now, Walsh needs to know why that hasn’t shown on the court.

Department of Irish Language & Literature

Fall 2008 Course Offerings

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www.mentalhealthscreening.org/screening/loginpage.asp

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Thursday, April 10, 2008

The Observer • SPORTS

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NHL

Defending champion Ducks open playoffs

Dallas holds head-to-head advantage 5 to 3

Ducks forward Travis Moen, right, and Phoenix forward Shane Doan fight for the puck in Anaheim's 3-2 win Sunday.

ANCHORAGE — Forget about the Stars being defending Stanley Cup champions. Anaheim coach Randy Carlyle has — or at least that's his story as Anaheim prepares to open its Cup defense.

"I can't remember last year," Carlyle said Wednesday. "Every year your team is different. The reference to last year is old news. We're trying to create an identity for ourselves now.

"We've got a playoff series against a very difficult opponent, an opponent that has given us a lot of trouble over the course of the season."

The Ducks, trying to become the first team to repeat as NHL champions since Detroit in 1997-98, begin the playoffs against the Dallas Stars on Thursday night in Anaheim.

The Stars won five of eight against Anaheim during the regular season and got a shootout point in one of the losses. They outscored the Ducks 24-15.

"They've got a good offense and they can score some big goals," Anaheim goalie Jean-Sebastien Giguere said. "They're going to be dangerous on the power play, so we've got to take too many penalties and not give them too many chances on the power play."

After a slow start this season, the Ducks took on the look of a champion again after Scott Niedermayer and Teemu Selanne decided not to retire and rejoined the team. Anaheim went 32-12-4 after Niedermayer came back in December, and were 20-5-1 following Selanne's return on Feb. 5.

Two of the wins came in their final two games against Dallas.

"They're a different team with Niedermayer and Selanne back," said the Stars' Brenden Morrow, asked about Dallas taking the regular-season series. "But if that helps guys feel more relaxed, sure."

Dallas goalie Marty Turco, noting that the Stars are very familiar with Anaheim, said their confidence is high.

"We know the type of team they are and how they're going to play. We've seen them when we've played against them and seen them numerous times on TV against other teams," Turco said. "There won't be any surprises."

While the Ducks were surging down the stretch of the regular season, the Stars were struggling. Dallas went 4-8-2 in the last 14 games to finish fifth in the Western Conference, five points back of the fourth-place Ducks.

"We need to keep our special teams rolling, stay disciplined, play to our strengths and not crack in the third period, something we struggled with late in the season," said Morrow, who had a career-best 32 goals and 74 points this season.

Giguere, who won the Conn Smythe Trophy as the 2003 postseason MVP and was outstanding in the playoffs again last year, said the series against Dallas could be a close one.

"We know it's going to be a good matchup, there are going to be some tight games, some heavy checking and possibly some fights and stuff like that," he said. "It should be an entertaining series for the fans — and for us."

The Stars likely will be without one of their key players, at least for the start of the playoffs. Defenseman Sergei Zubov, who had surgery for a sports hernia injury, has been outstanding for Dallas on the breakout. The Ducks also will be missing one of their top players, Corey Perry, although he's expected to be available later in the series. Perry, the team's second-leading scorer, has been sidelined by a lacerated leg tendon.

Carlyle smiled and made a couple of predictions, saying, "You know there's going to be things that are going to happen in a playoff series. You know there's going to be new intensity, and there's going to be panic; there always is."
The Observer • SPORTS

Thursday, April 10, 2008

LeBron dominates Nets

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — So much for LeBron James' aching back. After missing two days of practice because of back spasms, James scored 33 points as the Cleveland Cavaliers overcame a 14-point deficit to defeat the New Jersey Nets, 104-83, Wednesday night.

James' back problems have been headline news all over town this week. He didn't practice Monday and Tuesday to rest the back and a decision whether he would play against the Nets wasn't made until Wednesday morning. While the NBA's leading scorer moved stiffly at times during his 35 minutes on the floor, the results were vintage James. He was 11-of-21 from the field, made 10-of-13 from the line, grabbed seven rebounds and had eight assists.

In James' mind, there was no doubt he was going to play and play well. "I'm going to do what I have to do to help us win," he said. "I didn't feel 100 percent, but I felt I could do everything in my arsenal that needs to be done for us to win."

Teammate Wally Szczerbiak, who scored 14 points, was succinct in his analysis of James. "He's unbelievable," Szczerbiak said.

The win came at an opportune time for the Cavaliers, who had lost six of eight coming in — including two straight at home. Cleveland maintained it two-game lead over Washington for the fourth seed in the Eastern Conference.

"We needed this win," James said. For much of the game it looked like Cleveland's troubles would continue. The Nets led 67-53 in the third period before the Cavaliers went on a 23-7 run, which saw James score eight points. Cleveland led 76-74 lead going into the fourth quarter.

James said, "It makes us look like Cleveland's troubles would continue. The Nets led 67-53 in the third period before the Cavaliers went on a 23-7 run, which saw James score eight points. Cleveland led 76-74 lead going into the fourth quarter."

It was a triple-threat negative, James said. "We needed this win," James said. "We needed this win." James said. "It makes us look like Cleveland's troubles would continue. The Nets led 67-53 in the third period before the Cavaliers went on a 23-7 run, which saw James score eight points. Cleveland led 76-74 lead going into the fourth quarter."

With James getting a rest, the Cavaliers scored the next nine points. Sasha Pavlovic had a jumper, Joe Smith scored two baskets, and Szczerbiak added a 3-pointer to go ahead, 85-77.

The turn of events didn't make Nets coach Lawrence Frank very happy. "We couldn't buy a field goal and we couldn't get a stop," he said. "That was a 35-point swing."

"It's tough when you're not hitting shots, not making layups and calls we felt we should have gotten, we weren't getting," said Carter. "It was a triple-threat negative." Zydrunas Ilgasauskas 13 for the Cavaliers, Daniel Gibson and Delonte West scored 12 apiece.

Carter scored 19 points and Richard Jefferson added 15 to lead New Jersey, which should have gotten, we weren't getting," said Carter. "It was a triple-threat negative." Zydrunas Ilgasauskas 13 for the Cavaliers, Daniel Gibson and Delonte West scored 12 apiece.

Carter scored 19 points and Richard Jefferson added 15 to lead New Jersey, which won the first three meetings this season against Cleveland.

NBA

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Wildcats defeat Irish to end winning streak

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Writer

The No. 8 Irish (9-4, 2-1 Big East) found out the hard way why the top-ranked Northwestern Wildcats are three-time defending National Champions and are now riding a 33-game winning streak.

The host Wildcats (12-0) scored the game’s first 15 goals in a dominant 16-2 effort to end Notre Dame’s winning streak at four games. Senior attack Heather Ferguson and freshman midfielder Jackie Doherty scored the only two Irish goals, as Northwestern successfully shut down Notre Dame’s high-powered offensive attack.

Junior Jillian Byers, who owned a program-best offensive attack.

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame dominated Eastern Michigan in a doubleheader, winning 10-1 and 5-1 yesterday and earning their seventh and eight consecutive wins.

Sophomore first baseman Christine Lux led the Irish to victory in the first game, setting a school record for RBIs in a single game with seven. Lux started her big day off early, capping off an Irish rally a double in the first inning that drove in two runs and gave Notre Dame a 4-0 lead.

In the bottom of the second, Lux ripped a two-out single to plate two more runs and extend the lead to 7-0. Finally, Lux ended her big day with a three-run homer to right center to put the Irish up 10-1. Notre Dame junior Brittany Bargar pitched four innings of three-hit ball, giving up only one run and striking out six.

With the win, Bargar improved her record to 18-6 on the year. Junior Christine Farrell pitched the fifth inning for the Irish.

Notre Dame relied on solid pitching in the second game. Freshman Jody Valdivia pitched seven innings, gave up only one run, and struck out a season-high 14 batters. Eastern Michigan made the Irish work for the win this time, though. The Eagles got an RBI single in the third inning to tie the game at one.

Katie Laing had already drove Eastern Michigan up 1-0. Sophomore first baseman Christine Lux swung at a pitch during Notre Dame’s 2-1 win over Toledo on April 2.

The Irish are set to host Rutgers on April 12 in the newly constructed Melissa Cook Stadium. The game begins at noon.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu
just get lunch or go to an Irish field line to score two.

the Irish. He reached base to a lot of times I intentionally do when we're playing, there are

here we go. We'll shoot for reach uncharted.

"Our starters went out there and took care of business."

Dave Schrage
Irish coach

well.

After Manchester cut the deficit, Notre Dame added a run in both the sixth and eighth innings on run-scoring sacrifice flies from junior first baseman Casey Martin.

Schrage got the win for the Irish and senior righty Justin Ging r i c h closed out the victory in his Notre Dame debut. The senior pitcher gave up just one hit and struck out two in one inning of work.

"I said, 'Okay, here we go. We'll shoot for it'" said Schrage. "I've never practiced getting hit... But when you're playing, it's a lot of times intentionally do get hit by a pitch."

And the senior said all the bruises he has accumulated have not persuaded him to back off the plate any time soon.

"I'm shooting for 100," he said.

Lilley cracked the record books amidst a two-out rally that broke the game open for the Irish. The reach base led him to put men on first and second for Ryan Intlerdekker.

The sophomore second baseman then laced a triple down the right field line to score both runners. Sophomore centerfielder A.J. Pollock followed with a triple of his own to stake the Irish to a 5-1 lead.

Irish freshman starting pitcher Ryan Schraper surrendered a run in the first inning to give Manchester a 1-0 edge.

But Schraper and freshman righty Ryan Lilley held the Spartans scoreless for the next four innings as the Notre Dame offense was at a 5-1 lead by the end of the fifth stanza.

“Our starters went out there and took care of business,” Irish coach Dave Schrage said.

Pollock went 3-for-3 with a single, double and triple before being pulled in the fifth inning for sophomore Bill Woodman.

Lilley went 2-for-2 with a single and triple but was also taken out in the fifth.

Manchester chipped into the Irish lead with seven total runs in the sixth, seventh, and eighth innings but enough damage had already been done when Notre Dame entered the ninth inning with a 10-1 comfort margin.

"I'll give Manchester credit," Schraper said. "They had some hits... so I'll give Manchester credit for hitting the ball well."

No. 122 Climbau earned another point for the Irish. Schraper said, "He executed his pitches really well. He's been working really hard and he got rewarded today."

Contact Fran Tolani at fotolan@nd.edu

wildcats continued from page 24

The sophomore pair of Cosmina Cioran and Colleen Rielleier delivered under pressure with the double on the line. Their 5-5 win over junior Krizzle Mazolousa and freshman Joseph Shuto put a 17-1 for the dual season.

Gnazal bounced back from a doubles loss to put two on the board by beating Krizik in two matches 6-3, 6-2.

No. 122 Climbau earned another point for the Irish. Playing in the No. 3 slot, Climbau ousted No. 25 Murray 6-3, 6-2. Climbau's record stands at 9-5 playing in the No. 3 spot - Climbau's victory was the last of the evening for the Irish as the top-ranked team in the country began firing on all cylinders.

No. 42 Lui evened the match at two with a win over Rielley. The loss ended Rielley's personal three-match winning streak.

Junior Katie Potts put up a valiant effort from the No. 6 spot but could not grind out the win. Sophomore Suzie Mazolousa's one-set loss to the No. 6 seed Brezchik on Friday put a bit of a dent in the doubles on the board.

No. 41 Jeffliff faced a tough opponent of the year in Northwestern's No. 3 Mosolova. After dropping the first set, Jeffliff rallied in the second, but ultimately Mosolova came away on top, winning the match 6-1, 7-5.

Buck was amidst her battle to come back and win the match in the hands of her No. 1 and No. 2 singles players - Buck and Jeffliff. No. 41 Jeffliff faced her toughest opponent of the year in Northwestern's No. 3 Mosolova.

 Continued from page 24

This sandwich was invented by Jimmy John's brother, Jeff. It's huge. The only reason you're not hungry after eating all of it is because of our ginormous slices of meat and cheese. (Try it on our 7 grain whole wheat bread. This veggie sandwich is world-class)

As a special offer, we'll give you an extra tablespoon of our famous zesty hot pepper sauce on your order. (Hot peppers by request)

My club sandwiches have twice the meat and cheese, try it on our fresh baked 7 grain bread or my famous honey whole wheat bread.

 Zealand club sandwiches have twice the meat and cheese, try it on our fresh baked 7 grain bread or my famous honey whole wheat bread.

We're not French either. My subs just taste way better!

OK, so my subs really aren't gourmet and they aren't really cut at 8" in 2 minutes, but they are a lot better than the rest. So let me tell you to stick with gourmet. I've been making these subs for 12 years and I don't think either of us know what it means. We're just sticks."

Giant Club Sandwiches

My club sandwiches have twice the meat and cheese.

#7 GOURMET SMOKED HAM CLUB
8" foot of premium smoked ham, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, & real mayo!

#8 BILLY CLUB
8" of smoked turkey breast, shaved, turkey, lettuce, tomatoes, provolone cheese, onion, mustard, lettuce, & tomatoes, & mayo!

#9 ITALIAN NIGHT CLUB
Real genoa salami, Italian capicola, smoked ham, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, & real mayo!

#10 HUNTER'S CLUB
8" foot of premium smoked ham, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo!

#11 COUNTRY CLUB
Fresh baked turkey breast, bacon, tomato, shredded provolone cheese, onion, mustard, lettuce, & tomatoes, & mayo!

#12 BEACH CLUB
8" foot of premium smoked ham, provolone, lettuce, tomato, & mayo!

#13 GOURMET VEGGIE CLUB
Bacon, provolone, avocado spread, sliced cucumbers, shredded provolone, lettuce, tomatoes, & mayo!

#14 BOOLegger Club
Bacon, turkey breast, lettuce, & tomatoes, & mayo.

#15 CLUB TUNA
Bacon, fresh baked turkey, shredded provolone, lettuce, tomatoes, & mayo.

#16 CLUB LULU
Bacon, turkey breast, lettuce, tomatoes, & mayo.

*You have'ta  order hot peppers, just ask!*

The Jimmy John's description at the top in black text. The bottom text has some clip-art that is not fully visible. The upper section is a list of sandwiches with the name of each sandwich in bold text, followed by the description of the sandwich in regular text. The description includes the ingredients, the price, and any special offers or promotions. The sandwiches are organized by category, such as Classic, Gourmet, Veggie, and Hunter's Club. The prices range from $4.99 to $7.99. The menu also includes a note about the size of the sandwiches, which are 8 inches long, and the option to customize the sandwich by adding or removing ingredients. The menu also includes a note about the availability of delivery and the option to order online. The overall style of the menu is a combination of black and white text and clip-art, with a focus on promoting the unique and high-quality subs offered by Jimmy John's.
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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30 Unchanged or disentangle
27 Belief in a life of impossible to
25 Some Grammy 52 It's definite
24 Stadium sound 51 Accord
18 Deuce follower 48 W illie Mays and
9 Place for an condemnation
8 Welcome to your home
7 L. , B. or J.
69 Sporty car roof
63 Like kids at a
62 Minimal ties
61 Friend of
59 O. , P. or Q.
58 Spys
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56 L. , B. or J.
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For answers, call 1-800-269-5555, $1.49 a minute; or, with a
credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

JUMBLED:

Unscramble these four Jumbles, then write each answer in
to form that answers words.

GUVEA
DYPET
VARMEL

Answer: A

Yesterday's: DUNCE OZONE FREEZE BLUSH

Who's the top trainer, he was — "LIONIZED"

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2008

THIS PROJECT HE'S SUCH A

DISSOVER: BY EUGENIA LIST

Celebrity Born on This Day: Kirstie Knight Pallin, 29; Austin Peck, 57; Cynthia Nixon, 42; Dennis Quaid, 54

Happy Birthday: It will be the well-planned ideas that make the most difference
in your life this year. Instead, throw yourself into something that will help you advance
physically, personally, professionally and financially and feel the saturation
of accomplishment. Your numbers are: 4, 11, 12, 22, 31, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Separate your emotions from work or school projec
to's or you may fall short of your goals. A little creative accounting will help you financially
when you need a little extra cash. 4 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Clean out whatever help you can get. You can offer
time and energy to someone who needs your hands-on assistance but don't give away
yourself in the process. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): You will hook up with interesting people who will
influence your life. Love is looking positive and the action you take today could very
well lead to a better relationship with someone important to you. 3 stars

CANCER (June 22-July 22): Too much talk will lead to trouble. Someone will try to
hook you into divulging information that may hurt you later on. Listen and
gather all the information you can to keep the upper hand. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can dance your way to victory today with your
charm, fun-loving attitude and every move performed for the audience. Learn from past
mistakes and you will succeed. 4 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't be too trusting with your possessions. Some
one is likely to take advantage of you, playing on your sensitivity to a situation
that you are trying to resolve. If someone is asking for a handout, refuse. 2 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Mix fun with a little serious discussion about your
future plans and you will grab the attention of someone who can help you. Love is
a big draw today, so remember to work on your relationship. 5 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make whatever adjustments are required at home in
order to get more accomplished. A home office will help you make extra cash or
gain more control of your life. You will really benefit from your skills. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Give yourself a chance to catch up at home.
Today is the perfect time to finish personal business. You have to make the altera-
tion necessary to save money and your emotional well-being. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Things won't run smoothly today so you may as
well kick back and take a break. You owe it to yourself to enjoy the company of
your friends or to take a mini vacation. Love issues may arise. 5 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A new project is the way to deal with others. Learn from past
mistakes and you will succeed. 4 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Be careful not to show your emotions if you
want to come out on top. Accepting someone's offer to help will end up costing you
something you really, mySELF. 3 stars

Horoscope: To subscribe to The Observer, mail this form to The Observer, P.O. Box 779, Notre
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Allen was taken 43rd overall.

Notre Dame coach Mike Brey had won a lot of awards — but only one that commemorates one of his best friends. Brey received the first annual Skip Prosser Man of the Year Award at the Final Four this weekend in San Antonio. "It's flattering given what Skip stood for in our profession," Brey said. "He was one of the good guys and a true teacher. He's the kind of gentleman you'd want your son to play for." Prosser, who coached at Wake Forest, died on July 26, 2006, soon after returning from Operation Hardwood in Kuwait, a program in which Brey also participated.

But the two knew each other well before their trip to the Middle East. Brey said they had a lot in common. "We both got our start as high school coaches," Brey said. "That's why we were kind of joined at the hip. "That was an experience we had in our past that really helped us and we used to talk about that often."

Brey also had connections to Notre Dame. He got his break in coaching at a camp hosted by former Irish coach Digger Phelps in 1986. It was there that Prosser met Xavier coach Pete Gillen, who hired him as an assistant.

"He had never been out to a Notre Dame football game," Brey said. "It was sad when I thought about that after the fact."

Brey said that the award is an important way of remembering Prosser. "More young guys in our profession should use Skip Prosser as an example, a guy that was in coaching and teaching for the right reasons," Brey said. "That was very ground-breaking."

So grounded, in fact, that the award named after him didn't even come at the first annual Skip Prosser award.

By CHRIS KHOREY
Senior Staff Writer

Notre Dame guard Charel Allen was taken 43rd overall in Wednesday's 2008 WNBA Draft by the Sacramento Monarchs. Allen said she was still unsure of whether she would be drafted going into the weekend in San Antonio. "My coaches gave me confidence that I would get drafted," she said in a phone interview Wednesday. "But I was still nervous watching it," she said in a phone interview Wednesday.

She attended the draft workout in Tampa during the Final Four earlier this week to show off her skills. The Monarchs used their first round pick on Maryland A&M guard A'Quonesia Franklin (38th overall) in the second round. Allen was the seventh Irish player drafted in the last eight years, the most recent of which was in 2006 when guard Megan Duffy went to Minnesota in the third round.

Allen was taken with the last overall pick in the draft but that was a compensatory selection for Sacramento after their third round selection last season was voided for selecting an ineligible player — Meg Bulger from West Virginia. Allen said she was nervous as the draft wore on but relieved when she finally heard her name called.

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Jeff Jackson leads the Irish into a mile-high Frozen Four showdown with Michigan.
No. 5 Notre Dame Fighting Irish

**Road to Denver**
West Regional, beating New Hampshire 7-3 and Michigan State 3-1

**Top Scorers**
F Erik Cendis (15 goals, 23 assists)
F Ben Ryan (10 goals, 16 assists)
F Chad Kolarik (28 goals, 26 assists)
G Ben Ryan (10 goals, 16 assists)
F Kevit^B
F Benn Ferriero (17 goals, 24 assists)
B Taylor Chomey (3 goals, 21 assists)
D Mark Eaton, now a defenseman
D Mark Eaton, now a defenseman
D Mark Eaton, now a defenseman
D Mark Eaton, now a defenseman

**Between the Posts**
G John Muse (2.26 goals-against, .920 save pct., 22-14-4 record, 2 shutouts)
G J.P. Lamoureux (1.62 goals-against, .935 save pct., 17-13-3 record, 2 shutouts)

**Tourney Card**
Apparances: 3
Frozen Four Trips: 1
National Championships: 9

**By the Numbers**
Goals per game: 3.95
Power play percentage: 196
Penalty kill percentage: 299
One-goal game record: 9-4
Overtime record: 2-1
When scoring first: 29-4
When leading after 2nd period: 26-3
When trailing after 2nd period: 26-3

**Best Win**
Nov. 2 - at then-No. 1 Miami
**Jeff Jackson says...**
"This is our fourth year as the coach for the Irish, and we showed that we're a very strong transitional team — transition to defense and transition to offense. That made the difference for us in scoring some key goals."
Been there, done that

Jeff Jackson's 1992 Lake Superior team had similar path to championship as 2008 Irish

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Thursday, April 10, 2008

The Observer

Irish coach Jeff Jackson hugs senior Brock Sheahan at the Notre Dame hockey awards banquet Sunday night. Sheahan is one of five seniors that will leave the team after this year.

This may be Notre Dame's first trip to the Frozen Four in the program's history, but forgive the team if it acts like it's been there before. Irish head coach Jeff Jackson knows a thing or two about winning on college hockey's biggest stage.

Jackson already has three national championship rings from his time at Lake Superior State University, too, as head coach in 1992 and 1994. The 1993 Laker squad came within one game of giving him a three-peat, falling to Maine in the title game. In total, the Michigan state school has a 41-10 overall postseason record.

A familiar feeling

While he said every team he's coached is different, Jackson saw similarity between this year's Notre Dame team and his 1992 championship team at USU. He said the biggest parallel between the two squads is the fact that both teams were expected to win a championship the year before.

In 1991, Jackson's Lakers went 28 games without a loss, and won 26 over that stretch, becoming the first in the first-round of the NCAA Tournament. Last year, Notre Dame went 35-3-5, by far the best season in school history, and was ranked No. 1 in the country heading into the NCAA's. However, the Irish fell in the second-round of the Tournament to eventual champion Michigan State.

After graduating eight seniors from the 1991 team, and losing future NHL All-Star Doug Weight early in the year, Jackson's 1992 Lake Superior team finished the season with a mediocrer 5-5-2 stretch in its last 12 games. But it got hot at the right time, won the CCHA tournament, and steamrolled through the NCAA tournament, scoring an average of six goals per game during the championship run.

Notre Dame's second-half struggle this season has been a bit more pronounced — the Irish went 6-8-4 over their last 18 games. The Irish turned it on for the CCHA tournament, tough, and came within 3.4 seconds of beating Miami (Ohio) and advancing to the CCHA championship against Michigan. So far in the NCAA Tournament, the Irish showed a similar late-season scoring prowess to the 1992 USU team, as Notre Dame has averaged five goals per game in its two Tournament wins over New Hampshire and Michigan State.

"It's a very, very similar situation," Gilbert said. "The Frozen Four that year was Wisconsin, Michigan, Michigan State, and Lake Superior. You've got 2,800 students at Lake Superior, you're looking at three of the biggest, not only hockey schools, but biggest student bodies.

"It's Notre Dame versus North Dakota, Boston College, and Michigan; teams that have won multiple national championships and been to the Frozen Four a gazillion times, and here's us, making our first appearance.

The road to South Bend

After Jackson resigned from Lake Superior in 1996 to coach the U.S. National Junior team, he took his recipe for tournament success with him. In 1997, the Michigan native back NCAA coaches to the silver medal at the World Junior Championships — its best finish ever at the time. But being Jackson, he only viewed the success as a chance for him to become a better coach.

"It was an opportunity that I just couldn't pass up from a learning perspective, to coach the highest-level players in the highest-level events internationally, and to try to help American hockey. There was a little bit of patriotism involved in that, too," Jackson said.

"You have to have guys that are focused and disciplined and all the things that we preach all the time," Jackson said. "They get magnified in the playoffs. If they elevate their game in the playoffs, then we stand a better chance of doing well.

"So far, Jackson has led the Irish to their first CCHA Championship, their first NCAA Tournament appearances and their first Frozen Four. All that's left is to win a national title in the NCAA's Big Dance. The players, Jackson said, will have to step up to help him achieve that goal this weekend.

"I think it will help," senior captain Mark Van Gulder said. "I mean a lot of people say we're an inexperienced team, it's our first time or whatever. I think having coach Jackson, who's been there before, I think that'll definitely make for a team that's going to be a little bit of a handful.

Jackson has already talked to his players about the off-ice distractions they will face upon arriving in Denver. He told the team to get things such as tickets and hotel rooms out of the way before they leave.

"There's no question, getting to the Frozen Four will help us. That one day we win a national championship, whether it be this year or future years, it's going to help us in the future," Jackson said.

With his fantastic NCAA Tournament pedigree, Jackson hopes to be the right man to oversee that growth, and, possibly this weekend, an NCAA title.

Contact Sam Werner at
swerner@nd.edu
Jeff Jackson
Third season at Notre Dame
career record: 253-93-36
at Notre Dame: 21-41-11
against Michigan: 15-18-1

Head Coach

Jeff Jackson

No. Pos. Ht. Wt. YR
30 Andrew Margolin G 5-10 165 FR
26 Nick Petrecki D 6-3 215 FR
25 Matt Price F 5-9 180 SO
22 Dan Bertram F 5-11 190 SR
29 Alex Kremer G 6-0 175 SO
27 Andrew Orpik F 6-3 215
18 Kyle Kucharski F 6-3 200 JR
19 Brock Bradford F 5-9 175 JR
17 Brian Gibbons F 5-8 160 FR
15 Joe Whitney F 5-6 165 FR
14 Matt Greene F 5-8 180 SR
13 Pat Gannon F 5-6 165 SR
12 Ben Smith F 5-11 200 SO
1 1 Joe Adams F 5-10 177 SR
33 Garrett Regan LW 5-11 198 JR
30 Brad Phillips G 6-2 171 FR
25 Christian Hanson
22 Calle Ridderwall F 5-11 172 FR
20 Luke Lucyk D 6-0 203 JR
23 Mark Van Guilder
14 Brock Sheahan D 6-0 191 SR
16 Dan Kissel
12 Stewart Carlin D 5-11 203 SO
1 1 Erik Condra RW 6-0 202 JR
10 Justin White
19 Ben Ryan F 5-11 190 FR
1 John Muse G 5-11 175 FR
4 Mike Brennan D 6-0 209 SR
2 Anthony Aiello D 6-1 195 JR
6 Tim Kunes D 6-0 185 JR
9 Nathan Gerbe F 5-5 165 JR
7 Carl Sneep D 6-3 205 SO
1 Jordan Pearce G 6-1 205 JR
4 Dan VeNard D 6-0 198 SR
2 Kyle Lawson D 5-11 207 SO
5 Teddy Ruth D 6-0 201 FR
24 Fredrik Olofsson D 6-3 178 FR
28 Cole Caufield C 5-11 173 FR
27 TyGuentzel G 6-0 176 FR
26 Cole Caufield C 5-11 173 FR
11 Max Ortolano G 5-11 167 SO
13 Garrett Regan J 6-3 198 JR

Record: 26-15-4
USCHO/CSTV: 7

Irish

Jeff Jackson knows how to win in the NCAA Tournament. His teams have always been firing on all cylinders when the calendar turns to March and that has brought him national championships. It's a pedigree that's hard to beat.

Red Berenson is no stranger to a national title either. The Michigan coach won one in 1998 and his teams are a constant presence in the NCAA Tournament. His team will be more than prepared for the Irish on both ends of the ice.

Jackson won two national championships in six seasons at Lake Superior State. That's a little over three years, which puts him on pace for one again in his third season on the Irish bench. Unfortunately, it's not that simple, but he can do it.

Pearce and Sauer played similar schedules and posted identical numbers, but achieved different results. Sauer got wins, and Pearce saw his share of losses last season, the result of his play. On goaltending merits alone, these two are almost a draw.

If the Irish offense isn't enough, the Wolverines defense will hold back the Wolverines just enough to play — and upset — BC for the title.

The Wolverines defense has been overshadowed all year by their explosive offense, but don't be deceived. Michigan can play defense too, allowing 2.0 goals per game. Mark Mitera will be a physical presence in front of the crease, frustrating the Irish.

There is no doubt that the Wolverines can score a lot of goals. They are led by Hobey Baker finalist Kevin Porter, who notched 33 goals and added 29 assists, making him the nation's most dangerous offensive threat. Containing the Wolverines is the ultimate challenge.

Michigan's offense can put you down three goals faster than you can say Rich Rodriguez. But that doesn't matter. The Irish have rebounded their scoring touch and at least one forward is channeling his inner Crosby (thoughts? Dan Knief). Notre Dame will score on a flustered Billy Sauer, who will look like his old, potent self. The Irish defense will hold back the Wolverines just enough to play — and upset — BC for the title.

It's fair to say that Michigan's offense is greater than Notre Dame's defense, but that doesn't mean that the Irish can't defeat the D's. Against a young and talented team, the Irish win this matchup. Just not against Porter and the Wolverines.

On paper, Irish are as settled as their opponents, but look back, in the time.
Michigan Wolverines

Record: 33-5-4
USCHO/CSTV: 1
USA Today: 1

Red Berenson
24th season at Michigan
career record: 644-297-68
at Michigan: 644-297-68
against Notre Dame: 43-9-3

head coach

Michigan Wolverines

NOTRE DAME

MICHIGAN

Roster

North Dakota Fighting Sioux

Roster

USA Today: 2

Dave Hakstol
Fourth season at North Dakota
career record: 105-55-15
at North Dakota: 105-55-15
NCAA Tournament: 9-3

Dave Hakstol head coach

Scott VandenBerg G 6-0 192 JR

Scott VandenBerg G 6-0 192 JR

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Irish forget regional, get to work against Michigan

By KYLE CASSILY
Senior Sports Writer

Irish captain Mark Van Guilder carries the puck up ice during Notre Dame’s 2-1 victory in the second round of the CCHA playoffs. (Wu Yu/The Observer)

The Observer  IRISH INSIDER
Thursday, April 10, 2008

Blue-line pairings master objectives, descriptive side

By MATT GAMBER
Assistant Sports Editor

Irish defensemen Ian Cole takes a shot during Notre Dame’s 2-1 CCHA playoff win over Ferris State. Cole has registered four goals so far in the postseason.

Irish get to work against Michigan

At the end of one practice early last week, Irish coach Jeff Jackson ordered his players to skate to the goal line, shouting any euphoria still left over from that weekend’s West Regional championship. Jackson, who wanted to condition his players to handle the high altitude and low oxygen of the Frozen Four in Denver, skated across the length of the rink until some looked ready to take a lunch break.

Freshman Ben Ryan barely made it across the line on his last back-and-forth, pushed to keep going by his teammates’ yells.

“It’s been good to let us come back to earth a little bit,” Irish captain Mark Van Guilder said about the two-week layover between the NCAA tournament regional and Frozen Four. “We were feeling pretty good about ourselves after that weekend. But you kind of realize after a few days that, hey, we still have work to do. That and some real tough practices early this week got that out of the system.”

As Van Guilder noted, the Irish (33-5-4) during the regular season, stymied by a winning teams’ struggles with the puck ... and hard-hitting enforcers who are almost always charged with stopping an opponent’s top lines — which they will try to do tonight against an explosive Michigan offense, led by forwards Kevin Porter (33 goals) and Chad Kolarik (28 goals) as well into his role as the “quarterback,” coach Jeff Jackson said, and ColeSharpshooter.

“(Kyle) makes good decisions with the puck ... and he’s as good defensively as anybody,” Jackson said. “It’s just a matter of putting the puck in the net when you have the opportunity. That’s why we’ve put him in that role, to be much more active shooting on the power play recently.”

And it’s paid off late, as four of Cole’s eight goals have come in the CCHA and NCAA tournaments. He scored twice in a 6-3 win over Ferris State in game two of the CCHA quarterfinals, before netting one goal in a 2-1 win over the Bulldogs in game three and adding another on the power play in the 7-3 win over New Hampshire to open the NCAs.

“I’ve just been finding the seams and guys have been giving me good opportunities,” Cole said. “I’ve been taking those shots and I’ve just been hitting them.”

Lawson has transitioned well into his role as the “quarterback,” coach Jeff Jackson said, and ColeSharpshooter.

“All I’m looking for is to feed the puck to Lawson said. “He’s got that abdominal shot, and I’d rather pass than shoot anything.”

While Ruth scored a big insurance goal late in the West Regional final against Michigan State and Sheahan tallied an assist in the win over UNH, the offensive production they do provide is just icing on the cake.

“We pride ourselves on being strong physically and doing a good job against the other teams’ top lines,” Sheahan said. “There’s certainly chemistry that we have on the ice, and he’s one of those forwards who has chemistry with the puck.”

VeNard (five goals, seven assists) and Blachford (12 goals, seven assists) mix it up, as Jackson has seen major defensive intensity and Blachford’s ability to distribute the puck.

“I try to get into the rush as much as I can and kind of be the second wave of attack,” said VeNard, who had scored just two career goals in three injury-plagued seasons coming into his senior campaign.

“Brett’s a guy who makes a good first pass. We just try to hold our heads above the water and try to stop the third and fourth lines when we’re out there.”

Regardless of who’s patrolling the defensive (and, depending on who it is, the offensive) zone for the Irish, the chemistry and strong chemistry with the puck ... I love the guy’s grittiness, I like his character, and I think he’s got a ton of upside defensively,”

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“We’ve got a nice balance of guys that are solid defensively, and we’ve got guys with offensive instincts, but they all know how to play defense. With the development of the young guys ... and the leadership of the two seniors, we’re definitely solid.”

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Contact Matt Camber at mgamber@nd.edu

Blue-line pairings master objectives, descriptive side

With a 1.95 goals-against average and ranks sixth nationally, junior goalie Jordan Pearce has earned elite status among college hockey netminders. He’s also been credited with much of Notre Dame’s success this season, especially considering its troubles scoring goals during the season’s second half.

But within the locker room, the team knows the Irish go as the defensemen go.

“We try to play as defensively and offensively as we can,” Pearce said. “It helps out when our guys cover their areas as well as they have and keep guys from getting free and keeping shots out on the perimeter. I might have to make a big save or two a game, but other than that, they make my job pretty routine.”

The Irish have three pairs of defensemen that log plenty of ice time — sophomore Kyle Lawson and freshman Ian Cole, senior Brock Sheahan and freshman Ted Ruth, and senior Dan Varland and sophomore Brett Blachford.

Each pairing has its own defined style and strategy, making all three units valuable to the Irish.

Lawson (five goals, 20 assists and Cole (10 goals, 10 assists) combine to form the most offensively prolific tandem, with Lawson serving as the “quarterback,” coach Jeff Jackson said, and Cole the sharpshooter.

“(Kyle) makes good decisions with the puck ... and he’s as good defensively as anybody,” Jackson said. “It’s just a matter of putting the puck in the net when you have the opportunity. That’s why we’ve put him in that role, to be much more active shooting on the power play recently.”

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Contact Matt Camber at mgamber@nd.edu
Junior right wing Erik Condra handles the puck during Notre Dame's 3-1 loss to Ohio State on Feb. 22.

After Irish junior right wing Erik Condra was helped off the ice by teammates after being injured in a March 16 playoff win over Ferris State, one question surged through the minds of nearly every onlooker — how will the Irish deal with the loss of their leading scorer?

That inquiry was answered remarkably in Colorado Springs, where the Irish pulled off two upsets to advance to this weekend's Frozen Four.

But the less-pondered question remains — how is Condra himself coping with the pain of not only a knee injury, but also the pain of watching his teammates vie for a national title without him on the ice?

The Injury

The game against the Bulldogs was a physical one, with both teams fighting for a chance to extend their seasons by advancing to the CCHA semifinals in Detroit the next weekend.

Midway through the first period, Condra was checked hard at center ice, where he appeared to get tangled with a teammate before crashing hard to the sheet. He lay on the ice for several seconds before play was stopped, at which time he was helped off the ice and into the locker room.

“Then you start gaining some perspective about all the areas where you’re going to miss him — and it’s not just from an offensive perspective. He’s one of our top guys on the power play, and we rely on him a lot in penalty-killing and with [the other team’s] goalie pulled,” Jackson said.

And it wouldn’t long for one of those “other” areas to come into play.

With the Irish desperately clinging to a 1-0 lead late in their CCHA semifinal matchup with then-No. 3 Miami (Ohio), the RedHawks pulled their goalie to create a six-on-five advantage and attempt to score the game-tying goal — and they did just that.

Miami won a crucial face-off in the Notre Dame defensive zone, and an odd-scoring feature Mitch Ganzak sent the game to overtime by beating Irish goalie Jordan Pearce with 3.4 seconds to play in regulation.

“The funny thing is that’s actually the position that Erik Condra would have been in if he were still out there,” said Jackson after the loss. “We practiced it last week with a new goalie to create a six-on-five, but we didn’t practice it last week with a new player. It’s hindsight, but it’s one of the areas that you just lose track of the fact that he’s the guy that would have been on the ice in that situation. Everybody talks about his leadership and his ability to coach on the bench, and that’s one that even we as coaches didn’t anticipate the importance of.”

Picking it up

Obviously the Irish have lived to see another day, earning an NCAA Tournament berth despite losing both their games in Detroit. But Miami’s late goal was a play that could have changed the game — and still could, despite Erik getting hurt last Sunday, we didn’t practice it last week with a new player. It’s hindsight, but it’s one of the areas that you just lose track of the fact that he’s the guy that would have been on the ice in that situation. Everybody talks about his leadership and his ability to coach on the bench, and that’s one that even we as coaches didn’t anticipate the importance of.”

“You can’t replace [Condra], but you help out and pick it up a little bit.”

Mark Van Guilder Irish captain

Kevin Deeth (Condra’s former linemates) and defenceman Kyle Lawson, Ian Cole and Todd Russell.

“Erik’s the best player on our team, so when he went down, we knew that all of us guys around him were going to have to step up,” Hanso said. “I’ve just been trying to do my part, get in [near the net] a little more and take a few more chances offensively.”

The efforts of the perhaps once-underrated Irish players have certainly not gone unnoticed.

“They’ve definitely picked it up for me,” Condra said. “You’re good to see them battling and doing all the little things at the right time. We’re paying attention to detail that we didn’t pay attention to before.”

“Erik has been the guy to create a six-on-five, and now that we’ve seen it, we’re going to hold them to that great level of play.”

The new biggest fan

For Condra, watching the team he led just a few weeks ago advance to the first Frozen Four in school history is bittersweet.

“It’s tough not being there just because I’ve battled with these guys all year, they’ve gone through the adversity,” Condra said. “But I love seeing these guys succeed — they’re like my brothers. I want them to do well, and that’s all I hope for.”

Condra has made it a habit to sit in the locker rooms with his teammates before games to retreat from the stands with the other members of the Irish team who don’t dress — a routine he does “for my own sake,” he said.

“The thing that’s tougher for me is to watch him see what’s happening right now,” he said. “I don’t think anybody’s more passionate about playing the game than Erik, and I know that inside it’s just killing him to see that happen. “I want to make sure he stays involved. He’s a huge component of our team and he still is, from a leadership and soundness standpoint. It’s important for me and the guys around him to make sure he gets the chance to enjoy this, even though he won’t be able to fully enjoy it because he’s not on the ice.”

Though Jackson knows the team will miss its star tonight against Michigan, and that Condra himself is certainly unhappy with being injured, the Irish coach knows the experience could help Condra in the future.

“He hasn’t missed a game until now, and this is an opportunity for him to see things from a different perspective,” Jackson said. “It’s almost from his perspective.”

“I’ll be training hard this off-season because I’ve seen where this program can be,” Condra said, who plans to be back for Notre Dame’s first game next fall. “I want to make sure I get a chance to be out there on that ice with them.”

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu
The long road to Denver

It hasn't been easy, but the Irish have made it to the Frozen Four anyway. After a fast start that saw Notre Dame climb into the top eight of the national rankings, the Irish went cold — really cold. But Notre Dame couldn't have come together at a more perfect time, coming to life in Colorado Springs by pulling consecutive upsets over North Hampshire and CCHA-rival Michigan State. If the Irish hope to advance to Saturday's national championship game, they'll have to overcome the CCHA (and perhaps the country's) best team in No. 1 Michigan. The Irish gave up a late goal to lose the teams' first meeting 3-2 on Jan. 18, before getting blown out 5-1 the next night at the Palace in Auburn Hills. But as Notre Dame showed in Colorado Springs two weekends ago, anything can happen come Tournament time.