ND female reports rape on campus

Incident is third assault, second rape at University in past month according to NDSP

By BILL BRINK News Editor

A Notre Dame student reported a sexual assault to the Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP) on April 12, the third sexual assault reported on campus in the past month. According to an e-mail sent to the Notre Dame student body, the student said an acquaintance committed the assault on April 12. The NDSP police blotter classified the offense as "rape" and said it occurred between 8 and 11:15 p.m. on April 12.

The alleged assault occurred in a residence hall, and the victim was not physically injured, NDSP Assistant Director Dave Chapman said. "The case is still under investigation," he said.

This alleged assault is the second reported rape and the third sexual assault case this semester. A student reported being sexually assaulted by an acquaintance in a residence hall on March 23, and a student reported being assaulted, but not raped, between Pasquerilla West and Siegfried Halls on March 30.

Under the Clery Act, which requires disclosure of campus security information, Chapman said, NDSP is required by law to publish information about reported crimes. In 2004, there were two "forcible sex offenses" on campus reported to NDSP, according to Chapman and NDSP's Safety Information Bulletin, which is posted on a bulletin board in the math department's hallway. Pictures and mem­ories of Professor Miller are posted on a bulletin board in the math department's hallway.

Local students travel to see pope

Group of 13 makes trip to New York for Youth Rally and papal mass at Yankee Stadium

By TESS CIVANTOS News Writer

NEW YORK— A group of 13 students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's trekked to New York this weekend to attend the Youth Rally with Pope Benedict XVI on Sunday at the Papal Mass on Sunday at Yankee Stadium.

The students left the Inn at Dunwoodie, N.Y., on Saturday morning, joining a crowd of over 25,000 people. While waiting, the students heard brief performances by Grace and Father Stan, the rapping priest.

"It was amazing how people were just relaxing and enjoying the bright sunny day until the pope got there, and as soon as he arrived everyone was just drawn into his presence," senior Brittanii Russell said.

When the pope arrived, he drove through the crowds in a bulletproof "pope-mobile" mounted on the back of a pick-up truck. "Only in the USA would the pope-mobile be on a pick-up truck," senior Bridget Higgins said.

The entire crowd treated the pope to a rendition of "Happy Birthday" in German, using a pronunciation guide in the program, as the Holy Father listened from the stage.

"I wish to acknowledge your singing to me 'Happy Birthday,'" the pope said.

Contact Bill Brink at bbrink@nd.edu

The pope speaks to a crowd at the St. Joseph's Seminary in New York during his American tour.

College remembers Miller

Math professor taught at SMC for 40 years, chaired department for 10

By LIZ HARTER Saint Mary's Editor

The Saint Mary's community is paying tribute to former chair of the department of mathematics and professor Donald E. Miller who died Sunday, April 13, in his home after a six-month battle with cancer.

Miller, 67, taught mathematics at the College since 1967 and chaired the department since 1997. He was assistant coach of the Belles softball team, a position he took over in the 2000-2001 year. He also chaired the department for 10 years.

Miller reported a sexual assault to the Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP) on April 12, the third sexual assault reported on campus in the past month. According to an e-mail sent to the Notre Dame student body, the student said an acquaintance committed the assault on April 12. The NDSP police blotter classified the offense as "rape" and said it occurred between 8 and 11:15 p.m. on April 12.

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Freshman registers voters

Rhodenbaugh signs up out-of-state students

By MADELINE BUCKLEY News Writer

Spurred by one of the most competitive primary elections in recent history, freshman Chris Rhodenbaugh has been helping out-of-state Notre Dame students register to vote in the May 6 Indiana primary.

"Before [this election] youth votes were not taken as seriously, but this year, students are making a difference by voting and actively participating in campaigns," Rhodenbaugh said. "I wanted to get students involved. Apathetic campaigns are really frustrating."

About two weeks before April 7, when registration ended, Rhodenbaugh organized a group of volunteers to encourage students who didn't vote in their own state's primary election to instead cast their vote in the Indiana primary. Rhodenbaugh said the group is non-partisan, and unaffiliated with other campus political groups.

"We just wanted to give students a chance to be politically active on campus," he said. "It is rare that Indiana plays a role in primary politics, and students wanted to be a part of it."

Rhodenbaugh said many students usually choose to vote in their home states. However, many missed the deadline, and registering did not allow students to still cast their vote and

Political science faculty debates Electoral College

By BRIAN MCKENZIE News Writer

Five political science faculty members weighed the pros and cons of the Electoral College and discussed how the current system is practical but not democratic at the LaFortune Student Center Monday.

Professor Peri Arnold criticized the Electoral College, saying that it encourage Democrats and Republicans to simply ignore some states.

"What it also does is suppress the vote by excluding Republicans in Oregon and New York and Democrats in Idaho and Utah," she said. Professor Joshua Kaplan said the current electoral system shifts power toward the South, encouraging candidates to concentrate more conservative platforms.

"It bothers me the most is that the Electoral College has given the South influence disproportionate to its numbers," he said. "The Electoral College has been the vehicle through which the South has exerted its influence."

However, Kaplan said finding a replacement for the College would not be simple, and there was no guarantee that it would fix the current system's problems.

"Procedures aren't neutral," Kaplan said.
On being a Cubs fan

Trust me: you don’t understand how it feels.

I don’t want to hear a thing from those first fan fans that endured 90-plus years without winning a Series before the floodgates opened with two in the last few years.

Not a peep from the Buffalo Bills supporters that saw Jim Kelly lead them to four straight Super Bowl appearances before watching the likes of Scott Norwood kick it all away wide right.

And not a word from any corner of any NBA team that hasn’t even won an archie — it is the post-Jordan NBA.

After all, which means it’s not even worth discussing.

Honestly, I don’t care who you are, where you’re from, or what your team looks like.

I’m a Cubs fan. Die-hard. Bleed Cubby blue. All that junk.

And for all the overpaid players I’ve worshiped, the overpriced tickets I’ve bought, and the over-worn apparel I’ve worn, I haven’t seen a single World Series berth.

But Rossiter asked him to give "Go, Cubs Go" before a playoff game.

Because there’s nothing as nostalgic as sitting in the stands for a vintage Cubbie comeback (or more likely, collapse).

Because there’s nothing more exciting than watching the autumn leaves fall but the ivy on Wrigley’s walls remain intact for significant baseball well past the dog days of summer.

Because there’s nothing more heart-warming than watching your wheelchair-bound grandmother cheer on her team the way you do yours.

And most importantly, it’s because I know that every 100 years, like checkwork, things click into place for the Cubs.

This year’s the year.

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

CORRECTIONS

In the April 21, 2008 article "Cubs diapere in crucial defeat," all quotes attributed to Mike Poyear should have been attributed to Ben Linskey. The Observer regrets this error.

IN BRIEF

The Frank Cahill Lecture in Business Ethics entitled "Social Entrepreneurship and Ethics in Banking" will be held today at 4:30 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

The Notre Dame baseball team will play Chicago State tonight at 6:05 p.m. at Eck Stadium.

The Student Union Board will show "Back to the Future" tonight on North Quad at 9 p.m. Free burgers and brats will be served.

Women’s Lacrosse: Big East Semifinals will be held Friday at 7:45 p.m. against Georgetown in the Notre Dame Football Stadium.

The band "The Starting Line" will perform Friday in Legends at 10 p.m. as part of the Student Union Board’s Art/Festive festivities.

The Notre Dame Battle of the Bands will be at Legends Saturday at 8 p.m.

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

OFFBEAT

Cop battles 12-foot python to save pet store owner

ELGIN, Ill. — A pet store owner is calling a police sergeant a hero for saving her from the coils of a 12-foot Burmese python doing its best to turn her into a meal.

Teresa Rosier had reached into a cage Thursday to show the huge snake to a customer when it bit her right hand and curled around her left arm to throw her to the floor.

A friend who happened to be at the store kept the snake off her neck and body while police were called. And when Sgt. Ryan Nelson rushed into the store, he was ready to kill the snake with his knife.

But Rosier asked him to spare the expensive python, so Nelson put on gloves and tried to get the python’s mouth to free Rosier’s hand.

New church holds service in bar to reach people

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — After two rounds and another beer, there was on tap and a mechanical bull inspired the sermon as a new church held its inaugural service in a western Iowa bar.

The Country Rock Church drew about 100 people to Sunday night’s meeting at the Pub Lounge in Sidney, 35 miles north of Dayton.

The barroom church is an offshoot of Sydney United First Methodist Church, whose head pastor says he’s been looking for creative ways to reach people in unconventional places.

The church’s Web site for its new branch advertise "Top regional bands, pizza, wings, rowdy fun & a short message."

The Rev. Chris Heckaman says people really seemed to enjoy themselves so he expects the Country Rock Church will meet weekly.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

TODAY TONIGHT WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

LOCAL WEATHER

HIGH 80 LOW 68 HIGH 70 LOW 45

HIGH 70 LOW 48 HIGH 65 LOW 60

LONDON 73 / 50 Boston 55 / 45 Chicago 72 / 44 Denver 75 / 47 Houston 81 / 51 Los Angeles 65 / 51 Minneapolis 71 / 41 New York 64 / 49 Philadelphia 77 / 54 Phoenix 64 / 62 Seattle 48 / 34 St. Louis 74 / 51 Tampa 62 / 69 Washington 64 / 62

Atlanta 73 / 50

Boston 55 / 45

Chicago 72 / 44

Denver 75 / 47

Houston 81 / 51

Los Angeles 65 / 51

Minneapolis 71 / 41

New York 64 / 49

Philadelphia 77 / 54

Phoenix 64 / 62

Seattle 48 / 34

St. Louis 74 / 51

Tampa 62 / 69

Washington 64 / 62
Institute launches online poetry journal

Latinas Letras has only literary publication in United States dedicated to Latino poets

Special to the Observer

Letras Latinas, the literary program of the University of Notre Dame’s Institute for Latino Studies (ILS), recently launched its online publication Latino Poetry Review (LPR), the only literary journal in the United States dedicated to Latino poetry. Designed to spur inquiry and dialogue in Latino poetry and poetics (an often-overlooked area of literary studies), the LPR will be published twice a year at http://www.latinopoetryreview.com/.

“Certainly we want to draw critical attention to Latino poetry,” said founding editor and Letras Latinas director Francisco Aragon. “But Notre Dame also has one of the strongest poetics programs around, and I’d like LPR to eventually play a pedagogical role in this program by providing a venue for graduate students in the English department.”

“In a time when there is very little reviewing of poetry, Latino Poetry Review performs a great service, bringing the work of established and emerging poets to a larger, and now more informed, reading audience,” said Notre Dame poetry scholar Stephen Fredman, professor of English.

In its first week, LPR attracted significant attention in the online poetry community. Poet and critic Ron Silliman, who runs Silliman’s Blog, one of the most well-known and visited poetry Weblogs, linked several LPR pieces to his March 31 blog and concluded that day’s post by writing “A big tip of the hat to Latino Poetry Review.”

Letras Latinas seeks to enhance the visibility, appreciation and study of Latino literature, both on and off the Notre Dame campus, with a focus on projects that identify and support emerging Latino writers.

Founded in 1999, the ILS fosters understanding of the U.S. Latino experience by advancing research, expanding knowledge and strengthening community. It supports interdisciplinary initiatives in Latino studies as a key component of the University’s academic mission.

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Rep. forced to leave House podium

Colorado legislator called Mexican immigrants ‘illiterate peasants’

Associated Press

DENVER – A Colorado legislator known for kicking a photographer and later refusing to leave the podium of the state House of Representatives on Monday because he called Mexican workers "illiterate peasants." State Rep. Douglas Bruce, who has a history of provoking controversy, made the comment during debate on a bill that would allow the state to help immigrant workers get temporary federal visas. The measure is intended to ease a shortage of farm workers in the state.

"I would like to have the opportunity to put the microphone why I don’t think we need 5,000 more illiterate peasants in Colorado," Bruce said.

His outburst drew an audible gasp from the House. Bruce later defended his remarks.

"I believe these types of comments do not contribute to the discussion on immigration between Mexico and the United States nor in the search of solutions regarding this topic," Aranal said in a statement.

Bruce became the first Colorado lawmaker censured by the House after he kicked a newspaper photographer for taking his picture during a prayer.

Republicans later removed him from the powerful State, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee because he refused to co-sponsor a resolution honoring military veterans. Bruce said he believed resolutions were a waste of time because they have no legal effect.

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This Sunday, April 27, the following candidates will complete their initiation into the Catholic Church by receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 11:45 a.m. Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Please keep them in your prayers and join us in congratulating them.

University of Notre Dame

Jacqueline Margaret Aruna
Ellen Margaret Becker
Chantelle Alicia Bryant
Douglas Patrick Cannon
Erin Aoelia Connor
Andrew Deters
Mary Elizabeth Edwards
Ericka Francis Erickson
Marie Forney
Nathaniel Giovanni Grams
Nicolas Jude Guzman
Christopher Francis Hynes
Matthew Anthony Lynch
Michelle Margaret Maloney
John Christopher Maltese
Sean Cosmas McGary
Robert McKee
Elizabeth Beatrice Mitchell
Emily Nicole O’Malley
Heejeong Veronica Son
William Thomas Staruk
Courtney Flora Sullivan
Andrea Vergara Bernal
Kristen Rose Zepeda
Javi Frantziisko Xabierko Zubizarreta

RCIA

University of Notre Dame

James Anthony Buffi
Stewart Patrick Carlin
Christian Patrick Minella
Sarah Cecilia Skillen

Holy Cross College

Kevin Cecilia McGuigan-Jones
Pope continued from page 1

"Thank you for this moving gesture. I give you all an 'A plus' for your personal demonstration." The pope spoke of his own youth under the "sinister regime" of Nazism and encouraged young people to seek "the truth about what is good" and to be "good stars" for others by walking in the way of Christ.

"What matters most is that you develop your personal relationship with God," he said. "Take one." The Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students in attendance reacted favorably to the pope's speech.

"I really liked that the Holy Father didn't say what we are the future of the Church. He said that we are the Church. That's an encouraging message to hear," Higgins said.

The next morning, the students traveled to Yankee Stadium to hear the pope say mass. Over 60,000 people attended the ceremony.

"I really showed the strength and unity of the Church to see so many people united like that," Russell said.

"Not only that, but it was incredible to hear Mass from the Vicar of Christ, the direct successor to St. Peter. I love being Catholic." Following the Mass, the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students boarded their bus and traveled back to Indiana.

"It was the best weekend ever," Higgins said.

Contact Tess Civantos at tcivantos@nd.edu

Election continued from page 1

have a voice in the electoral process.

"The race is heating up and getting a lot of attention, and students want their voices heard," Rihdenbaugh said.

According to Indiana law, if a resident lives in the state for more than 30 days prior to the election, they are eligible to register to vote in Indiana, even if they have a permanent address in another state, as long as the resident has not voted in their home state's primary already.

After voting in the Indiana primary, the students have the option of switching their registration back to their home state in order to participate in future elections there, Rihdenbaugh said.

The volunteers visited as many dorms as possible in addition to having a booth in both dining halls to distribute registration forms, Rihdenbaugh said. Although no official records were kept, Rihdenbaugh strongly estimated that they aided the registration of over 100 students.

"We had a really good group of volunteers to do the work," he said.

Rihdenbaugh said he hoped helping students register to vote would inspire them to become more actively engaged in politics, especially the upcoming presidential election. Given the close Democratic race, Indiana has the rare chance to be competitive in the primaries, and this election in particular sees a more active student interest than in past years, he said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Miller continued from page 1

served as the faculty advisor for the team, helping them to keep up with their majors, grades and other scholastic matters.

Shortly after the news was released to the College, Resident Advisors (RA) sent e-mails to their residents to inform them. "If you would please pray for his soul as well as pray family and loved ones, I'm sure they would appreciate it," LeMans R.A. Christina Werner said in an e-mail.

A Facebook group, "Donald E. Miller Memorial (and fan club!)," was also created to honor him.

Over 200 Saint Mary's students, alumni and friends of Miller's family joined the group, leaving notes of sympathy and memories of Miller on the group wall.

"As a teacher, he was always doing something crazy," sophomore Theresa Earle said. "He called tests celebrations and he made sure that everyone talked in every class. He often said that a day in which you did not contribute to class was a day wasted.

"Don was the consummate teacher. His students would all say that he challenged them and led them to levels they never thought possible." Mary Connolly professor

"Don was the consummate teacher. His students would all say that he challenged them and led them to levels they never thought possible. Students were always his first priority, whether working with them in class, in the office, on the softball field or in developing new or enhanced programs of study. His enduring legacy will be the students whose lives he changed." She said many students and alumni attended Miller's funeral, which was held Thursday at Little Flower Catholic Church.

"His record of service to the College is extensive, but his real legacy will be the students whose lives he changed," Connolly said. "The number of students who found his course tough as nails and ended up loving him is astounding.

"As a teacher he was always doing something crazy." Theresa Earle sophomore

Contact Liz Harter at charker01@stmarys.edu

BCAC 'GREEN' WEEK

"21" Auction

7pm

LaFortune Ballroom

April 22nd

Come bid at the night at a movies with your favorite guys on campus.

All proceeds are going to a charity for underprivileged children.

Furnished Studio Apartments
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Two Bedroom One Bath Apartments
Two Bedroom One and a Half Bath Apartments with Fenced in Patio

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Flax, a French government minister, told the press Monday to tamp down tensions with Beijing and calm anti-French sentiment that has swelled in China since protesters disrupted the Olympic torch relay in Paris.

President Nicolas Sarkozy has dispatched his top diplomatic adviser to China, where a French retail giant has become a boycott target, and he sent a letter to a top Chinese athlete who struggled against a Paris protester trying to wrench the Olympic torch from her.

In his letter to Flax, Sarkozy noted the "bitterness" felt in China over the recent anti-Tibetan protest, but dismissed the torch attackers by protesting during the April 7 Paris torch stopover "as not reflecting the feelings of my countrymen and women.""}

Leftist continues with Paraguay

ASUNCION, Paraguay — The victory of the "bushido of the poor" in Paraguay's presidential election expresses a wave of leftist leadership across Latin America and further isolates the few remaining conservative governments.

Once Fernando Lugo's government is inaugurated on Aug. 15, the only right-leaning governments in Latin America will be in Colombia, El Salvador, and Mexico — and arguably Peru, where a left-leaning populist party has gradually gained to the right.

"The triumph of comrade Fernando Lugo is yet another stone in the foundation of this new Latin America that is just, sovereign, independent — and why not, socialist," President Rafael Correa gushed during a visit from Argentina's new leftist President Cristina Fernandez.

Elderly woman convicted of murder

NEW YORK — Children should be screened for heart problems with an electrocardiogram before getting drugs like Ritalin to treat hyperactivity and attention-deficit disorders, the American Heart Association recommended Monday.

Stimulant drugs can increase blood pressure and heart rate. For most children, that isn't a problem. But in those with heart conditions, it could make them more vulnerable to sudden cardiac arrest — an era of heat that causes the heart to stop pumping blood through the body — and other heart problems.

EKG screening helpful before Ritalin treatment

Elderly woman convicted of murder

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — A jury has convicted an elderly woman of two more counts in a scheme to kill homeless men to collect insurance payments.

Jury convicts 75-year-old Olga Rubalcaba of two counts of murder in the 1999 death of 73-year-old Paul Vados. She also was convicted of conspiracy to murder him for financial gain.

Prosecutors said the two women collected $2.8 million before their scheme was uncovered. Authorities estimated they had killed 20 homeless people when a 50-year-old Kenneth McVay was run over in murders staged to look like hit-and-run accidents.

LOCAL NEWS

Obama and Clinton to return to Indiana

EVANSTON, Ill. — Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton expect to waste little time before bringing their campaigns back to Indiana.

Obama will travel Tuesday to Evansville, which has been a target for both candidates' efforts to capture the swing state. He is expected to appear in Fort Wayne on Thursday.

The rally will draw national attention as it will be the first to feature the two candidates determined from that day's Pennsylvania primary.

Clinton plans to start a new Indiana campaign "in the next few days as both candidates start a two-week dash to the state's primary on May 6. Clinton will appear in Indianapolis on Wednesday. She is scheduled to visit East Chicago, South Bend and Fort Wayne on Friday and Saturday. Details were not immediately announced.

NATIONAL NEWS

EKG screening helpful before Ritalin treatment

Elderly woman convicted of murder

THE GULF WAR

Israel, Hamas seeds conflicting messages

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter delivers a speech Monday during a meeting held by the Israeli Council of Foreign Relations in Jerusalem.

Carter said Islamic group is willing to be peaceful but its actions speak otherwise

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Former President Carter said Monday that the Islamic group Hamas was willing to accept the Jewish state as a "neighbor next door," but the militants did not match their upbeat words with concrete steps to halt violence.

Hamas, which advocates Israel's destruction, instead recycled previous offers, including a 10-year truce if Israel takes the unilateral step of withdrawing from the West Bank and Jerusalem first.

Hamas has repeatedly confirmed to observers with its conflicting messages. Actions on the ground — seven rockets were fired on Israel from Gaza Monday, including one that wounded a 4-year-old boy — contradicted the Islamic militant group's positive words about coexistence and a truce.

And a leader of the Hamas military wing, which carried out a truck suicide bombing on the Gaza border Saturday, said his group would step up attacks against Israel in coming days.

The salvo of rockets came despite a last-minute telephone call from Carter, urging a one-month halt to attacks on Israel, to put some international goodwill and defuse tensions.

"I did the best I could," Carter said of his conversation with Hamas supreme leader, Khaled Meshaal, pressing him to declare a one-month truce. "They turned me down, and I think they're not in a position.

Carter, who delivered a speech in Jerusalem Monday emphasizing his belief the two sides can negotiate, told reporters he was told Hamas leaders told him during seven hours of talks in Damascus over the weekend that they are willing to live side by side with Israel.

Hours later, however, Meshaal sent mixed messages. He stressed that while the militants would accept a state in the 1967 borders, meaning alongside Israel, the group would not outright recognize the Jewish state.

The Bush administration and Israel, which shun Hamas as a terrorist group, have criticized the Carter mission as misguided. In Washington, a State Department official said Monday that it does not appear Hamas has changed positions.

In Jerusalem, Carter defended his trip, saying "peace in the region will be possible only if Israel and the U.S. start talking to Hamas and Syria, which supports several militant groups. He also called on the Bush administration to push harder to renew Israeli-Syrian peace talks.

"The present strategy of excluding Hamas and excluding Syria is just not working," said Carter, who brokered a historic 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

Analysts said Hamas apparently decided to send Carter off largely empty-handed, despite the possibility he might have paved an opening to a hostile West, because it prefers doing business with leaders in the region who can deliver concrete achievements. Egypt has been shuttling between Israel and Hamas for nearly two years trying to stop a cease-fire, a prisoner swap and an opening of Gaza's border crossings.

"The situation here is not an accident," Carter said. "We have lost a lot of opportunity to move forward.

Over the weekend, Carter met twice with Hamas' five-member political bureau, headed by Meshaal. Carter said he won a written pledge from Hamas to accept any peace deal with Israel, even if Hamas disagrees with some of the terms, as long as it's approved in a Palestinian referendum.

Carter said Hamas leaders told him they're also ready to accept the Jewish state's right to "live as a neighbor next door in peace" one day.

Since its founding 21 years ago, Hamas has carried out scores of suicide attacks in Israel and has fired hundreds of rockets from Gaza at Israeli border towns.

ARMY, MARINES

Army, Marines felony recruits on the rise

WASHINGTON — Under pressure to meet combat needs, the Army and Marine Corps brought in significantly more men with felony convictions last year than in 2006, including some with vehicular homicide and sex crime convictions.

Data released by a congressional committee show the number of soldiers admitted to the Army with felony records jumped from 249 in 2006 to 241 in 2007, while the number of Marines with felonies rose from 238 to 319.

Those numbers represent a fraction of the more than 180,000 recruits brought in by the active-duty Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines during the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2007. But they highlight a trend that has raised concerns within the military and on Capitol Hill.

The bulk of the crimes involved burglaries, other thefts, and drug offenses, but nine involved sex crimes and six involved manslaughter or vehicular homicide convictions. Several dozen Army and Marine recruits had also been aggrieved assault or robbery convictions, including incidents involving weapons.

With the Army and Marine Corps having been struggling to increase their numbers as part of a broader effort to meet the combat needs of military fighting wars on two fronts. As a result, the number of recruits needing waivers for crimes or other bad conduct has grown in recent years, as well as those needing medical or aptitude waivers.

House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Henry Waxman, who released the data, noted that there may be valid reasons for granting the waivers and giving individuals a second chance.

But he added, "Concerns have been raised that the significant increase in the recruitment of persons with criminal records is a result of the strain put on the military by the Iraq war and may be undermining military readiness."

The services use a waiver process to let in recruits with felony convictions, and many of the crimes were committed when the service members were juveniles.

Army, Marines felony recruits on the rise

Army, Marines felony recruits on the rise
Debate
continued from page 1

he said. "The Electoral College has built-in biases and any potential replacement will have biases." Arnold said the elimination of the Electoral College would lead to disenfranchised electors.

"In this messy political system, there's no other way to produce a real winner," he said. "Instead of just Florida in the 2000 election, we would have been fighting in half the states if there was no Electoral College." Professor Louis Ayala made the dire prediction that if the Electoral College was eliminated, the cost of campaigning would drastically increase.

The cost of campaigning would increase significantly," he said. "Eliminating the College would hurt candidates to campaign in previously uncontested states."

Senior analyst for Notre Dame Institutional Research John Mueller said there are problems with the Electoral College, the American public's apathy is one of the greatest obstacles to reform.

"It's something we've lived with for 200 years," he said. "There isn't a political will to eliminate it."

Mueller said one major problem with the Electoral College was that it "creates a sense of false mandate or radical policy change." He cited the example of President Clinton, who failed to win an outright majority in either of his elections, and President Bush, who failed to win even a plurality in 2000, both claiming they had received mandates.

However, instead of abolishing the College, Mueller said it could be reformed to reflect the popular vote. He said some states like Nebraska and Maine already award some electoral votes to the runner-up based on the outcomes of individual congressional districts.

Doctoral candidate in political science Patrick Kaplan said even if the Electoral College might have unintend-

associated Press

US, France draft resolution to battle pirates
U.N. document is response to series of attacks off Somalian coast, Spanish boat hijacking

Pirates in the lawless Gulf of Aden off Somalia fired on a Japanese oil tanker Monday, unleashing hundreds of gallons of fuel into the sea, a day after a Spanish tuna boat was hijacked using rocket-propelled grenades. Earlier this month, a French luxury yacht was hijacked. The tanker attack helped send crude oil prices to a new record, spiking above $117 a barrel Monday before falling back slightly.

The piracy is an important issue, and within that framework we're focusing in particular on the threat of piracy off the coast of Somalia," U.S. Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad told The Associated Press.

In Sunday's attack in the Gulf of Aden, pirates approached the Spanish Playa de Bakio and opened fire with rocket-propelled grenades, striking it but causing no serious damage, said an official in Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero's office.

Spain sent a frigate to the site of the hijacking about 200 miles off the coast of Somalia. Twenty-six crew were aboard the 250-foot vessel when the pirates forced their way on the ship.

The Spanish prime minister's office said efforts were under way to secure the sailors' release, and that aid was being sought from NATO, the African Union, France and Britain. Spain does not have an embassy in Somalia, which has not had an effective government since 1991.

The hijackers are demanding money but have not specified how much, Rosa Maria Alvarez, the daughter of the ship's skipper, Amadeo Alvarez Gomez, told Spanish National Radio. The government declined to comment on her remarks.

Last week, French judges filed preliminary charges against six Somali pirates accused of holding 30 hostages aboard a French luxury yacht for a week in the Gulf of Aden. A French military helicopter captured them after the April 11 release of the crew's yacht. The ship's owners reportedly paid a ransom.

According to a report from the International Maritime Bureau, piracy is on the rise, with sea-

fighters suffering 49 attacks between January and March, up 20 percent from the period last year.

Pirates boarded 36 vessels and hijacked one, the report said. Seven crew members were taken hostage, six were kidnapped, three were killed and one went missing. Most of the attackers were heavily armed with guns or knives, the report said.

Nigeria ranked as the No. 1 trouble spot, India and the Gulf of Aden tied for second, with each reporting five incidents. Nearly two dozen piracy inci-
dents were recorded off the coast of Somalia since January 2007, according to Andrew Mwangura of the Kenya-based Seafarers Assistance Program.

NOTRE DAME CENTER FOR ETHICS AND RELIGIOUS VALUES IN BUSINESS
&
INSTITUTE FOR ETHICAL BUSINESS WORLDWIDE
HONOR & PRESENT
RONALD GRZYWINSKI
Chairman and Co-Founder

MARY HoughtON
President and Co-Founder
ShoreBank Corporation
with the
Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C. Award for Business Ethics

"Social Entrepreneurship and Ethics in Banking"

Tuesday, April 22, 2008
Jordan Auditorium,
Mendoza College of Business
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 22, 2008

BUSINESS

**MARKET Recap**

**Stocks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dow Jones</th>
<th>12,825.02</th>
<th>-24.34</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up</td>
<td>Same</td>
<td>Down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,469</td>
<td>1,870</td>
<td>3,442,844,284</td>
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- **AMEX** | 2,367.08 | -0.83 |
- **NASDAQ** | 2,408.04 | +5.07 |
- **NYSE** | 9,312.29 | +0.80 |
- **S&P 500** | 1,388.17 | -2.16 |
- **NIKE** (Tokyo) | 15,895.91 | -10.64 |
- **FTSE 100 (London)** | 6,053.00 | -3.50 |

**Companies**

- **AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT** is misunderstood.

**BUSH defends free trade in North America**

NEW ORLEANS — President Bush and Mexican President Felipe Calderon strongly defended free trade across North America on Monday, fending off anti-trade remarks that Democrats running for president said that when he and Calderon were growing up, the border was poor, but today it's prospering.

"It's killing us," said dim Beams, a New York cab driver who estimated he now makes $150 to $150 less per month than when in the fall because of cooler gas. "And it was so quick. Every day you see the price go up 50 cents more.

"You and I are going to pay more," said Bob Costello, chief economist of American Trucking Associations. "Exactly how much ... I can't tell you, but it's got to show up.

"Gasoline and diesel prices are expected to keep rising as they trace the path of crude. Oil prices are charging ahead along with the surge in commodities that are existing speculative buying as world markets hedge against a weakening dollar.

Light, sweet crude for May delivery rose to a record $117.76 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange before settling at $117.48, up 702 points from Friday's close.

Gasoil jumped more than a nickel over the weekend and is up 23 percent from a year ago. Drivers in New Jersey are paying the least, while drivers in California pay the most, $3.60 a gallon for regular.

The Energy Department predicted earlier this month that monthly average gasoline prices will peak at more than $3.60 per gallon in June and could even reach $4.

"It's uncharted territory," said Tom Kloza of the Oil Price Information Service, Val, N.J. "I don't think we've done, but I have to believe we're in the eighth or ninth inning" of price increases.

The higher prices are already prompting some drivers to cut back. In New York, Elvis Baghrik and Anthony Winkelner said they are driving less and taking the subway more.

"I'm spending my gas money on MetroCards," Winkelner said in the waiting room of a vehicle inspection station in Manhattan. Baghrik, a delivery truck driver, said he is looking to trade in his Lexus LS 400 for a smaller car.

In downtown Chicago, Sharon Cooper spent $52 to fill up three-quarters of the tank in her Toyota Highlander SUV. She said she tries not to let the prices get to her, although she too is changing her habits and buying a bike to commute to work.

Energy Data department shows Americans used about 1 percent less gas in the four weeks ended April 3 than they did a year earlier.

That change, while not drastic, is significant, Mariano Gurfinkel, project manager at the Center for Economic Analysis at the University of Texas at Austin, who expects per-capita demand to drop further this summer unless gas prices fall.

**Midwest crop prices drop after rainfall**

NEW YORK — Corn and soybean prices plunged Monday as investors set aside their supply worries and bet that dry weather in the U.S. corn belt will allow growers to speed up planting.

Other commodities are also expected to keep rising as they trace the path of crude. Oil prices are charging ahead along with the surge in commodities that are existing speculative buying as world markets hedge against a weakening dollar.

**BREV-**

NEW YORK — Rising gasoline prices tightened the squeeze on drivers Monday, jumping for the first time closing above $117 a barrel — after an attack on a Japanese oil tanker in the Middle East rattled investors.

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**Cause of heparin reactions unknown**

WASHINGTON — China and the United States traded charges Monday about a contaminant in the blood thinner heparin caused severe allergic reactions linked to as many as 81 deaths.

Federal health officials said new tests indicated a solid link. China said the contaminant could not be the "root cause" of the problem.

Chinese officials suggested at an embassy news conference that the problem with the contaminant "could have occurred in the United States.

They plan to visit a Baxter International plant in Cherry Hill, N.J., to get a better picture of how the finished product is manufactured.

Rahdenian is derived from pig intestines, often processed by small, lesser-known compound derived from animal cartilage that so closely mimics heparin that routine purity tests can't detect it.

"We have data in the test tube as well as animal data that shows this contaminant can trigger events that would lead to these type of reactions," said Janet Woodcock, director of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. "That doesn't tell us the whole story. But it establishes a link."

Chinese officials claimed that adverse events were reported in patients who got heparin even when the blood thinner did not contain the contaminant — over-sulfated chondroitin. But FDA officials said that premise is incorrect.

The Chinese said they hope to get some samples from Baxter for their own investigation.

"When you see it, then you believe it," said Jin Shunhour, the deputy director general for the National Institute for Pharmaceutical and Biological Products in China.
Authorities attempt to match parents, kids

Judge ordered DNA tests to determine familial relations in West Texas polygamist compound

Associated Press

SAN ANGELO, Texas — Using cotton swabs and cam­era­era, law enforcemen­gen­gen began tak­ing DNA samples Monday from hun­dreds of children and in­th­hers — wear­ing long, pioneer­st­yled dresses — in hopes of sort­ing out the tan­gled family re­lations in­with­in the West Texas polygamist sect.

A judge ordered last week that the genetic mate­rial be taken to help de­term­ine which chil­dren belong to which par­ents.

Authorities need to figure out before they begin custody hearings to de­term­ine which children may have been ab­sorbed and need to be perma­nently re­moved from the sect compound in Eldorado, and which ones can be safely re­tumed to the fold.

State social workers have com­plained that over the past few weeks, sect members have of­fered different names and ages. Also, the children refer to all of their fathers’ wives as their “mothers,” and all men in the community as “uncle,”

The testing went on behind closed doors at the crowded coliseum where the children seized in the raid earlier this month on the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints compound are stay­ing.

The collecting of DNA is likely to take 10 tech­ni­cians most of the week, and it will be a month or more before the results are available, said Janiece Holle, a spokeswoman for the Texas attorney gener­al’s office.

Rod Parker, an FLDS attor­ney, acknowledged that family names within the sect can be confusing, but said: “No one is trying to deceive anyone, it’s not sinister,” Instead, he said that because many of the sect’s marriages are not legal, adults and their children may legally have one name but use another within the commu­nity.

The April 3 night­time raid on the 1,700-acre compound prob­ably fright­ened the chil­dren, said Ken Briggs, who has studied the sect exten­sively. “If some­body had taken the time to app­roach them in a way that was respectful, they probably would have got­ten the in­formation they need­ed,” Briggs said.

The children will be placed in group homes or other quar­ters until individual custody he­ar­ings can be com­pleted by early June. Officials said they will try to keep siblings to­gether when possible, though some poly­gamists may have dozens of sib­lings.

The testing will in­volve 437 children and pos­si­bly hun­dreds of adults. State author­i­ties re­vised their count of the children from 416 as they developed better in­s and dis­cov­ered that not all the female members who claimed to be adults were over 18.

The testing will be more far com­pli­cated than that of the

United Kingdom

Shakira praises British PM Brown

Associated Press

LONDON — George Clooney, Angelina Jolie, Shakira. Not a red carpet lineup, but a roll call of celeb­rites the­son­some­times die­ty British Prime Min­­is­ter Gordon Brown has re­cruited to inject glam­our into his ap­peals to help the de­velop­ing world.

Brown joined a tele­phone confer­ence Mon­day with Shakira, a prais­ing the Colombian pop sensation for tak­ing an inspi­ra­tional role in work to pro­vide a basic edu­cation for every child in the world.

The Gram­my­win­ning singer, famed for her hit “Hips Don’t Lie,” is sup­port­ing a week of events to high­light the cause of edu­ca­tion ad­vocacy group the Global Cam­paign for Education.

She said the group is press­ing world leaders to pro­vide funding for primary edu­ca­tion for 72 million young chil­dren who now miss out on schooling as a result of pover­ty.

The group also aims to gen­erate sup­port for some 226 million older children who miss out on classes because of a lack of access to schools, or because of truancy.

Brown is the world’s “No. 1 champion of education,” said the group’s chair­man, Gene Sper­ling, an ex-White House economic ad­viser to former President Clinton.

F A I R N E S S
D E C E N C Y

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FREE Incoming Calls on select plans. We think
you’ll find this to be fair and decent. And that’s
a combination that works for everyone.

U.S. Cellular is wireless where you matter most*

*U.S. Cellular is a nationwide wireless service provider.
Leader calls for support from Arab states
PM urges neighboring nations to forgive Iraqi debts, open embassies

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's prime minister appealed Monday for support from his Arab neighbors, urging them to open embassies and forgive Iraqi debts as his government tries to crack down on Shiite militias in a crucial power vacuum.

But the government plea came as militia leaders warned more violence could erupt in coming days.

Followers of Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, leader of the biggest militia, said they would widen the battles with the government — even asking for blood donations to aid fighters injured during weeks of urban clashes.

With tension rising, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki flew to Kuwait for a meeting Tuesday of Iraq's neighbors to discuss ways they can help Iraq's Shiite-led government as it confronts both Shiite militias and Sunni extremists including al-Qaeda in Iraq.

Al-Maliki said he will be looking for tangible support, including opening embassies and forgiving Iraqi debts as his government tries to crack down on Shiite militias in a crucial power vacuum.

The United States, too, has pressed Arab governments to respond to security improvements and political advances in Iraq with increased economic and political support. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who visited Baghdad on Sunday, is scheduled to meet with Arab leaders in Kuwait that support the political process and are opening embassies here. We need the others to open embassies and forgive Iraq's supporters for blood they have spilled during weeks of violence.

But U.S. military groups are供应ing Iraq's neighbors, urging them to open embassies and forgive Iraq's supporters for blood they have spilled during weeks of violence.

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Dear Graduating Business Majors,

It has been a long four years for all of you. Graduation approaches, and I know this light at the end of the tunnel means a relief from ages of toil and struggles. It’s not easy to wake up at dawn, skip two classes, visit the LaVetaenee cluster and grab six shakes around one computer to work on a group PowerPoint presentation, then still get out of there in time to visit Nona. I applaud you for your hard work and congratulate you on surviving.

But this letter is not a laudatory panegyric praising your prestigious efforts.

No, I write you today, minions of Mendoza, with a need far more pressing and urgent. The impending graduation may signify to you but a stepping-stone on the way to a promising future — a destiny of upward mobility, 401(k)s, and a professional profile shining brighter than a newly polished class ring. Yet for some of your less fortunate classmates, next month’s celebration of Notre Dame’s 163rd Commencement exercises signals not the start of success, but the dawn of destitution.

I speak on behalf of the great mass of the tired, the poor, the huddled masses, next month’s celebration of Notre Dame’s 163rd Commencement exercises signals not the start of success, but the dawn of destitution.

We have freeganism and rusty bikes and buying used clothes.

We have Largesse.

For some of you, there are no chairs being kept warm at Goldman Sachs or Berkshire — a destiny of upward mobility, grapes like Roman senators, we face the impendinggraduation. We have the dawn of destitution. You can lift that student out of the fetal position, frightened to death of the future. You can take that student out of despriency and show him the happy side of American capitalism. Don’t wait another minute — give today.

James Dechant

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James Dechant is willing to accept any donations, whether out of pity, malice, spite, or generosity. He maintains a "blog" at www.creedthouth.org and can be contacted at creedthouth@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Thank you for 'Finish on the Fifty'

On behalf of Hannah and Friends, we would like to thank the students of Notre Dame, St. Mary’s, and Holy Cross for making the inaugural ‘Finish on the Fifty’ charity run on Saturday a resounding success. We were thrilled and elated to see such a strong turnout despite the rain and early morning start on a weekend filled with campus festivities. We were inspired by the enthusiastic outpouring of hundreds of students who helped raise awareness and compassion for children and adults with special needs.

We extend our appreciation to Alumni Hall for sponsoring the race, along with the committee chaired by Clint Bergstrom with fellow members Eric Harvan, Kyle Nicoderm, Patrick Schenkel, Mike Streit, and Maribeth Tingling for their leadership and countless hours spent organizing the event. Additionally, we would like to thank Circle K and ROTC from Notre Dame and St. Mary’s for providing volunteers and resources for the run. Special thanks to Cappy Gagnon and fellow student trained Medical Student. We were inspired by the enthusiasm of the hundreds of students who helped raise awareness and compassion for children and adults with special needs.

We were inspired by the enthusiastic outpouring of hundreds of students who helped raise awareness and compassion for children and adults with special needs. The University of Notre Dame is committed to the development and execution of sound energy and environmental policies. The Energy and Environmental Issues Committee has been a driving force behind many of these green initiatives. We find ourselves blessed to be part of a community that continually supports the mission of Hannah and Friends.

Maura Weis
Charlie Weis
Founder, Hannah and Friends
Sharon Bai Green
Executive Director, Hannah and Friends

April 21

Parietals not an issue

Mr. Meehan, I do not find humor in your sarcastic article about extending the hours of parietals. As an upstanding member of the Notre Dame community, I will tell you right now that the only times I have sex are during the week, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 12:00 AM. I find it appalling and frankly, frustrating that you would even consider restricting my hours of coming and going with others. Parietals simply do not affect me because, like you actually pointed out in your essay reflectively and quite accurately, if I might add, "students either ignore parietals, or they merely work around them, committing the sin earlier in the evening instead.

Now, you have simply put me in a tough position, as a Catholic citizen who drinks too much, has premarital sex with countless women, supports gay rights, abortion and social interaction with the opposite sex, I cannot possibly attend this school any longer. You can expect my letter requesting the release of my transcripts no later than the middle of the month. petitions is underway, and I hope that you understand that America promotes freedom and general autonomy. Stop listening to your mother and make decisions for yourself. And by the way, when you do get there, wrap it up.

Sincerely,
Progressive Society

Robby Schoder
April 20

Celebrating Earth Day

A summary of university efforts

Dear Members of the Notre Dame Community,

The University of Notre Dame is committed to incorporating energy conservation and environmental stewardship in its institutional goals. The Energy and Environmental Issues Committee has been a driving force behind many of these green initiatives at Notre Dame.

Undoubtedly, the biggest environmental news of this year is the creation of the Office of Sustainability. The office was established first of the year and its director, James Mazerick, is scheduled to start in July. The office will be responsible for coordinating energy and government practices, bringing valuable experience in developing and executing sound sustainability strategies to the University.

The Office of Sustainability will build institutional learning capacities to support continuous improvement in building design and operations, landscaping, procurement, energy, and water conservation, waste disposal, recycling and service provision. The University has generously provided the office with a $2 million green loan fund to provide capital for environmental improvements in both campus buildings and opera ions, illustrating a long-term commitment to sustainability efforts. Sustained collaboration between many groups within the Notre Dame community has demonstrated the University’s dedication to energy and environmental issues. It is our hope that this interest will gather momentum in the wake of the upcoming Presidential Forum on Sustainable Energy.

Throughout the year, we have sponsored initiatives such as Game Day Recycling the Green Summit and Be Green Week to spread awareness and inspire change. Institutional changes are most effective when coupled with personal conservation measures. We encourage all members of the Notre Dame community to examine current practices and consider the importance of simple actions such as turning off the lights, powering down computers, and recycling bottles, cans, and paper.

Happy Earth Day!

Loudes Long
Colleen Kelly
Energy & Environmental Issues Committee
April 20

Dirtied of these annoying gray boxes? Be a columnist.

E-mail Kara at kking56@nd.edu

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

THE OBSERVER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What’s up with all you so-called serious politicians and politically active “educated” people who think the environment is not worth your time? You think that you’re too cool for school, but I have a newsflash for you, Walter Cronkite... you aren’t. Seriously though, the environment is a pressing political issue with real consequences, (got money for gas?) So why is it routinely swept under the carpet while several flavor-of-the-week political issues are debated incessantly? Oh right, jokes! We are talking about the survival of our planet! Not a game, our planet! Honestly... if you like going outside, breathing air, using your paycheck for things other than gas, not living underwater, or the color green... you should probably try to wake up.

Daniel Calk Gallins
April 20

Not a joke

What’s up with all you so-called serious politicians and politically active “educated” people who think the environment is not worth your time? You think that you’re too cool for school, but I have a newsflash for you, Walter Cronkite... you aren’t. Seriously though, the environment is a pressing political issue with real consequences, (got money for gas?) So why is it routinely swept under the carpet while several flavor-of-the-week political issues are debated incessantly? Oh right, jokes! We are talking about the survival of our planet! Not a game, our planet! Honestly... if you like going outside, breathing air, using your paycheck for things other than gas, not living underwater, or the color green... you should probably try to wake up.

Daniel Calk Gallins
April 20

Tired of these annoying gray boxes? Be a columnist.

E-mail Kara at kking56@nd.edu
Somewhere outside Albany, Chad Stokes is frustrated. Stokes, 32, is the outspoken and shaggy-haired lead singer and guitarist for State Radio, an independent roots-rock band with reggae influences based in Boston. Stokes is best-known for his many years as one of the vocalists and guitarists for college-rock band Dispatch, who still enjoy a grateful Dead-like cult following. Stokes spoke with The Observer last week about State Radio’s music, his sometimes controversial political views and the break-up of Dispatch.

When Stokes spoke with The Observer, State Radio (a trio also featuring bassist Chuck Fay and drummer Mike Najarian) had just finished a short community-service tour supporting Tom Morello and the band Rage Against The Machine.

"We just got off a short run with Tom Morello in California," said Stokes via phone from New York. "None of the artists were getting paid. It was about community service. Besides playing, we went to a homeless shelter and washed some dishes with Tom and friends.

In early April, Zimbabwe held national elections, although the country’s current president, Robert Mugabe, widely-considered to be a ruthless dictator, reportedly has influenced his re-election through threats and terror.

"Right now, with the elections, it’s a crucial time," said Stokes, passionately. "It’s a country of empty bellies.

Stokes is worried about the future of Zimbabwe and what Mugabe may do to his people.

"If Mugabe stays in, through some of his strong-arm tactics and intimidation, I don’t know what that country will do. It’s at a very critical point in its history. I have some friends over there who I’m worried about.”

Although Dispatch’s tenure ended officially in 2002, its members have reunited for philanthropic causes. In July 2007, Stokes and former band-mates Pete Francis and Brad Corrigan hosted an epic, sold-out three-night stand at Madison Square Garden in New York to benefit the plight in Zimbabwe and raise awareness about the plethora of political and economic problems there.

"It was cool to play with those kids," reflected Stokes about playing with a Zimbabwe youth choir during the Madison Square Garden shows. "We were pretty psyched. I was just glad when it was over and we hadn’t [messed] up royally," said Stokes, laughing.

State Radio is much more overtly political than Dispatch — and plays an intense live show. If you haven’t heard their music, think Michael Franti meets John Butler Trio. State Radio released their first EP in 2002 but gained a higher profile after their first full-length studio album “Us Against the Crown” was released in 2006. In September 2007, State Radio released their second studio album, “Year of the Crow.”

"In State Radio, we’re all along the same lines," Stokes said. "We feel unfettered and like that we can let it roll, no matter what.

With Dispatch, Stokes said he was often frustrated with his band’s disinterest in playing politically-tinged songs.

"In Dispatch, we’re all along the same lines," Stokes said. "We live in such a wild time in this country," Stokes said. "We have so much to be upset about. Upset about the war, the cutting of funding of different groups — not just veterans but for people with disabilities, housing shortages, this ‘Every Child Left Behind’ type thing.

Regarding the war in Iraq, which shades many State Radio songs, Stokes said he has “always been against it.”

"Saddam Hussein was a bad man, but so is Kim Jong-il," Stokes said. "There are bad places out there, for sure, but a lot of this is channelling our anger from 9/11 to Iraq. It seems really silly to me.

"I knew certain things. (Francis and Corrigan) wouldn’t be pleased with my lyrics. That was hard. It was hard to focus on political stuff when there was an audience for politically-minded music — where we could make some change and contribute to the peace movement. That was a little bit lost with Dispatch.”

Dispatch disbanded in 2002, before the United States invaded Iraq a year later. Before break-uping-the-band, Stokes recalled that Dispatch’s (at the time) last concert was called “State Radio’s War,” Stokes said.

"If Dispatch was a working band when the invasion occurred, we would have had a serious conversation about what we should do, such as partnering with Iraq Veterans Against the War,” Stokes said.

Stokes said in our interview that politics played a “small part” in Dispatch’s break-up. “Personabilities were diverging,” Stokes said. "It wasn’t totally political. Most of it was that we had stopped relating with each other. It was getting to be too tricky to write and play new songs together. For years, we kept playing old songs (that had been recorded years ago).”

The disconnect between the members of Dispatch from 1999 to 2002 was ultimately insurmountable said Stokes. “I think we all were writing new songs, but somehow they didn’t fit in,” Stokes said. “No one was bringing them to the table. No one would complain. I don’t think anyone wanted new songs.”

In a scene in director Helmut Schleppig’s 2005 film “The Last Dispatch,” which documents Dispatch’s (at the time) last concert in 2004, Stokes is seen tersely talking politics with Dispatch drummer and vocalist Brad Corrigan. I mentioned the scene to Stokes and asked him about his relationship with Corrigan and their politics.

“Brad said to me, tell me why you don’t like George Bush,” remembered Stokes. "I said (Bush) was out of touch, in with big business, making wrong decisions for the people. Since then, Brad has been more open-minded to that. Pete has always just been pretty separate from politics.”

When he started State Radio, Stokes says it was like “unpacking a bottle of new stuff” in that he was able to develop his own message. He admitted of how controversial their message could be to some listeners.

State Radio’s current live set mixes tracks from both of their studio albums and the band’s various EP and live releases. “It’s good for us to break it up,” said Stokes of his band’s philosophy on their live shows. “We play a lot of the new tunes, with two or three of the older ones. People have been really receptive and shouting back at us. It’s been cool.”

For their most-recent studio album “Year of the Crow,” State Radio was aiming for a more live sounding record to capture the energy of their on-stage heroes. They enlisted producer Trhead Blake, well-known for his work with artists such as Phish, Pearl Jam and Peter Gabriel, to turn the knobs. They recorded “Year of the Crow” in Blake’s studio outside London.

The lyrics on “Year of the Crow” are unforgiving and yearning, railing against perceived injustices on tracks such as “Guantanamo,” “T.I.A.” and “Suffer.”

"We live in such a wild time in this country," Stokes said. "We have so much to be upset about. Upset about the war, the cutting of funding of different groups — not just veterans but for people with disabilities, housing shortages, this ‘Every Child Left Behind’ type thing.

Regardless of the war in Iraq, which shades many State Radio songs, Stokes said he has “always been against it.”

"Saddam Hussein was a bad man, but so is Kim Jong-il,” Stokes said. "There are bad places out there, for sure, but a lot of this is channelling our anger from 9/11 to Iraq. It seems really silly to me.

Even though Stokes is politically active, he declined making a
Stokes said it was the arguments over lyrics during the recording for Dispatch's fourth, and last, studio album that caused increasing friction within the band.

"People would say this is too racy, too risky," Stokes said. "People would come to the table and say here's a song. Then someone else would say 'I'm not comfortable with that.' Then, someone would say 'what the [heck] are you talking about?'" Stokes said. "Artists are sensitive people. When they come to the table with a song that can be damaging it makes you less excited. Then you become a legacy acting on old tunes."

"[Dispatch] was three different guys," Stokes said. "I was political, Brad was spiritual and coming into his religion. Pete was more of the romantic and the poet. Pete wanted to push the envelope in terms of lyrics. I wanted to be edgier politically. Brad was honed in with his faith. It was a democracy, with people putting everything out there."

"I think the United States is in a tough place and it's our responsibility, and legacy of our forefathers, to speak out about what we think is wrong," Stokes said. "Like the bumper sticker says, dissent is patriotic. We should let our voices be heard."

As Stokes has become more politically active over the years, he said he still understands why some fans are not interested in his message.

"I don't blame people who aren't involved," Stokes said. "But, I think it's great when they are. When people come up to us after shows and tell us they've been affected by our music, or started a Save Darfur Club, an Elias Fund, ... it's rewarding for us."

With State Radio, Stokes is confident that "we're in it for life."

Even after the tense Dispatch break-up, Stokes said he wanted to continue to make music.

"I thought I'd give it one more try, to see if the same problems had to exist," Stokes said. "You put eight years into a band, you can finally afford a bus, you feel like all of your work has come to fruition," said Stokes on Dispatch.

"The reality of starting State Radio from scratch was a major change for Stokes. "A year later, I'm back in a van, playing to forty people, if that," Stokes said. "It's pretty humbling trying to start again. We hit the road hard; we built it organically. It's been tough. I felt like I've done this before, he we are again - driving at 4:00 a.m., loading the van."

Now, State Radio is normally playing to 500 fans or more. "Once you get in the 500 range, it feels pretty big," Stokes said. "The weirdness is playing Madison Square Garden or the Hatch Shell in Boston with Dispatch when we didn't have any real new songs, playing the same tunes we'd been playing for years in the basement of a dorm. That's the weird thing that's hard to process."

State Radio is looking to record their third studio album after the 2008 presidential election is over, probably in January 2009. Besides this summer's tour and planning future studio albums, Stokes said the band plans to release a "four or five song EP, spin-off type thing, more acoustic, like 2004's 'Simmer Kane' EP."

What will the next State Radio album sound like?

"Some of the tunes we're working on now are epic, more rock based," Stokes said. "It'd like to get more experimental, add more riffs. I'm not sure where it's going. Sometimes, we visualize our next record as rock-based, a 'big world' sound with (John) Bonham-sounding drums ... more of an airy, big sound."

Will Dispatch ever reunite?

"There might be a show or two in a few years," Stokes said. "I don't think we'll be a working band. I don't know. Not at the moment. Breaking up was the best thing for our friendships."

The views expressed in Scene & Heard are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of The Observer. Contact Bob Costa at rcosta10nd.edu
Rugby puts up tough fight against OSU

Irish cycling qualifies for Collegiate Road Nationals; crew splits races at Northwestern

Special to The Observer

Rugby

Rugby stepped up in class this weekend as the club host­ed a nationally-ranked power march against a first-time finish that is the proverbial recipe for disaster but the Irish hung tough but out of the game before falling 36-22 to the Buckeyes. Ohio State came out strong, dominating the first twenty minutes to the tune of a 2-10 lead.

But once the Irish settled down and moved play into the Buckeyes end of the field, the momentum swung to the home standing squad.

Dave Grewe was the first to crack the scoreboard for the Irish, kicking a drop goal quick drive off a lineout from Ohio State’s five-meter line resulting in a penalty. Chris Harrington then intercepted a pass deep in Notre Dame territory and returned it 70 meters for the score. The Irish were near the Ohio State goal line once again when the half ended.

The second half was evenly played, Ohio State managed a score off a scrum and also kicked a drop goal but Harrington scored once more, for the Irish. The Irish will next travel to another traditional Midwest power, Bowling Green, this Saturday. Notre Dame’s B-side defeated 12-3 over Ohio State’s B-side Andy Mulllen and Karan Anahaj each scored tries, and Sean Mitchell added two points on a conversion.

Cycling

Notre Dame’s cycling team traveled to Shesoboygan and Madison Wisconsin for the conference championship, due in the conference championship road race, team time trial and criterium. The second consecutive year, the Irish qualified for the Collegiate Road Nationals, to be held next month in Fort Collins Colorado.

Irish rider Mike Lavery was crowned Division II Conference Champion, with Tim Campbell finishing a close second. This is the second consecutive year that the Irish have boasted the conference champion. Notre Dame finished the season as the Division II teams.

John Dally was the first Irish rider Saturday in the men’s D road race, placing seventh overall. John McDonough and Kirk Post represented the Irish in the men’s B race.

Meghan Johnson and Jenn Perricone rode in the women’s A race, which start­ed out at a slow clip. Perricone stayed with the second group of women and finished seventh in her group and 11th overall Johnson out-sprinted her teammates to finish 10th.

On Sunday, the Irish raced a team time trial and a criterium around the capital build­ing in Madison. Lavery, Dally, cribb, and Post rode well in the men’s A team time trial to finish seventh overall.

Men’s rowing

The Notre Dame Men’s Crew raced Northwestern and Wheaton College on the nar­row rowing course this past weekend. The Saturdays highlights mainly on Northwestern, while the Sunday boats took on Wheaton.

The second day started off with the men’s varsity 8-plus between Notre Dame and Northwestern, when the Irish gained a lead early and held on to win the race and the Alumni Cup, a trophy given to the winner of the race each year.

The Irish novice crew also jumped out to an early lead on the Northwestern boat in their race. Coming into the race, the Irish novice boat had made a strong effort to pull, but the Irish proved too much, winning the race.

A compilation boat of novice and varsity rowers led on the Wheaton top varsity 8- plus on a two month break to keep the Irish rowing strong.

Notre Dame also raced two 4-plus boats against Wheaton. The first crew went out strong but couldn’t hold the dominant Wheaton boat and crossed the finish line second overall. The other boat dominated in a wire-to-wire win.

Ultimate

The men’s and women’s clubs traveled to Naperville, Ill., to compete in Collegiate Sections, the first round of the UPA College Series. Fourteen teams competed in the tournament, and only eight qualified for Regionals. Notre Dame came in as the No. 3 seed in the talented region of teams looking to improve upon its seed for Regionals. Only six of twenty-three men’s teams qualified.

Notre Dame’s women opened up Saturday with four pool games. The first game was against Knox College, who they took care of quickly 15-0. The second game proved to be the hardest. The Irish faced off against a strong Indiana team. Notre Dame was able to overcome a deficit in the second half and scored an 11-10 victory thanks in part to the strong offensive play of senior Shields Duss. The Irish then put away DePaul and the University of Illinois-Chicago by identical scores of 9-5.

On Sunday, the Irish pre­vailed 10-8 over Loyola University Chicago and defeated Northwestern 10-5.

With these victories, Notre Dame finished first in their pool and earned the right to play the top team in the national championship game against Northwestern, a team with a very similar roster. Notre Dame hit the ground running early in the game. Sophomore Erin Maxwell and Jenna Adsit immediately scored goals off the wingsides of the disc, and junior Jean Whitney helped the hand­icapped team hold on and run dom­inantly down field. The game was close, with the teams trading leads twice. Notre Dame pulled it out in the end, winning the game 11-9 and taking the Central Plains Sectional title.

Next, Notre Dame heads into its Regionals matchup next weekend in Detroit, Mich., as the top seed from Section II. The top two Regional teams will advance to the National Championship tournament.

The No. 2-seeded men’s squad aged trio of Ralph Eurell, Thomas Zuchnek and Saturday against Western Illinois, and rolled to an easy 11-5 victory with solid play from sophomore Bill Carson. The Irish then routed Knox College 11-1. The next game of pool play was against Illinois State and strong cutting from Andrew Schroeder led the team to an 11-5 victory. The final game of pool play contest was against a strong Chicago team. Notre Dame played their best game of the day and controlled the game from begin­ning to end.

The undefeated finish in pool play put Notre Dame into the semifinals on Saturday against an upset North Park team. North Park came out playing hard and Notre Dame could not respond early. After falling behind, the team tried to claw their way back but was unable to recover in a 15-11 loss. In a back and forth battle throughout the game, the Buckeyes nipped 9-8 against Northwestern, Notre Dame played their best game of the day and convincingly by a tally of 15-7. This victory led to a rematch with North Park for the second­place game. North Park had just dealt a hard-fought loss to Illinois in the finals and was not ready for the energy that Notre Dame brought to the beginning of the game. Notre Dame was able to put the game out of reach at the half by a score of 8-0 and route to a 15-1 win.

Notre Dame qualified for the Great Lakes Regionals next weekend in Detroit, Mich., and Mike Flarack will lead the team as it competes for a spot at the UPA College National Championships in Boulder, Colo., on May 16-18.
Suns guard Manu Ginobili has been named to the NBA’s all-rookie team, becoming the first Spurs player to win the award. Ginobili, 22, averaged 9.5 points and 4.5 assists per game and led all rookies in three-point shooting (43.5 percent) for the first-place Spurs. Ginobili, who played in all 82 games and started 52, was named to the All-Rookie Second Team by the NBA coaches and the Associated Press.

Ginobili’s selection is a testament to his dedication and hard work. He entered the NBA as an undrafted player from Argentina and quickly established himself as a perimeter threat with his scoring ability and ability to get into the paint. His selection as All-Rookie Team is the third major honor of his NBA career, joining his selection to the NBA All-Rookie Second Team last season and his Rookie of the Year nomination in 2006.

As the Spurs head into the playoffs, Ginobili will look to build upon his already impressive season. He has been a key part of the Spurs’ success this year, helping lead the team to a league-best 67-15 record and a first-place finish in the Western Conference. With the NBA Playoffs set to begin, Ginobili will be looking to make his mark on the biggest stage of the season and help the Spurs bring home their fifth NBA championship.
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ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish sit atop Big East leaderboard

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

After a torrid start, No. 25 Notre Dame holds a nine-stroke lead over the rest of the field heading into the final day of competition at the Big East championship tournament at the Elks Run Golf Club in Batavia, Ohio.

The Irish (597) shot the two lowest rounds of the tournament, carding a 296 and 301, to stake out a comfortable lead over second-place No. 28 Louisville (606). Notre Dame sophomore Annie Broughby recorded back-to-back 74s to head into the final round tied for first.

Three other Irish golfers played their way into the top-10. Before play Sunday, Notre Dame head coach Susan Holt expressed confidence in her team.

"Our goal all year has been winning the Big East championship," Holt said. "That's what we expect to do, and we deserve to have that happen."

Susan Holt
Irish coach

"Our goal all year has been winning the Big East championship. That's what we expect to do, and we deserve to have that happen." - Susan Holt, Irish coach

During the two rounds, the Irish squad turned in solid performance, with no golfer ending Monday lower than 16th overall. Behind leader Broughby, junior captain Lisa Maunu added a 76 to her first-round best 73 to finish the five-over par day tied for fourth overall, a single stroke behind the leaders. Also tied for fourth overall, freshman standout So-Hyun Park fired a 75 on top of her first round 74 to finish five-over par.

"It was a rough couple of games and we knew it just wasn't going our way," Price said. "I know we have to turn it around eventually, and tonight it did." - Carey Price, Montreal Canadiens' goalie

The Canadiens took control of the game in the second, out-shooting the Bruins 17-6 while building a three-goal lead on a superb goal by Mark Streit midway through the period and Kostitsyn's second goal of the series. Kostitsyn punctuated the win with his second of the game, a power-play goal with 2:02 remaining in the third. Sergei Kostitsyn scored with 7.3 seconds remaining. Top-seeded Montreal will face the Carolina Hurricanes on the return pass. The high-scoring Russian fed Tomas Plekanec as Carbonneau's brother, Andrei, and center Fous Porekance as Carbonneau spread out the Canadiens' offense.

"We were trying to give some space to them, to be able to move around and control the puck," Kovalov said.

Komiarek got credit for his first career playoff goal as his point shot struck Bruins center Petteri Nokelainen's stick, causing a deflection that left Thomas no chance to recover and stop. Streit made it a 2-0 lead 10:45 into the second as he slipped past Bruins captain Zdeno Chara to set up a sensational passing play. Kovalov passed the puck back to Komiarek in the Canadiens' zone and waited on the right boards at center ice for the return pass.

Montreal coach Guy Carbonneau moved Kovalov to a line with Saku Koivu and Chris Higgins.

"We move around okay, Sergei Kostitsyn to play on another line alongside his brother, Andrei, and center Fous Porekance as Carbonneau spread out the Canadiens' offense." - Carey Price, Montreal Canadiens' goalie
Rookie Galarraga, Tigers take down Blue Jays

Armando Galarraga has sparked Detroit to two victories since being called up; Ortiz leads Red Sox over Rangers

Associated Press

TORONTO — An unlikely rookie is leading the Detroit Tigers to wins.

Armando Galarraga won his second straight start, Edgar Renteria scored twice and the Tigers beat the Toronto Blue Jays 5-1 Monday. Galarraga allowed only three singles in 5 2-3 innings, and second baseman Aaron Hill said, "He was good today, I think they just couldn't hit him." Toronto finished 0-for-8 with runners in scoring position.

Renteria led off the sixth with a two-run single, Brandon Inge added a sacrifice fly and two batters later, Galarraga lined a two-run single, his first home run of the season and second of this series. The Tigers gave Galarraga all the support he needed with a four-run second off Shaun Marcum (12-11), who remained winless at home.

Renteria scored twice for the Tigers in wins.

Tiger pitcher Armando Galarraga delivers a pitch during Detroit's 5-1 victory over Toronto.

The Tigers gave Galarraga all the support he needed with a four-run second off Shaun Marcum (12-11) Ryan Raburn hit a two-run single, Brandon Inge followed with a sacrifice fly and Rodriguez capped the burst with an RBI single.

"We got some big hits today and took advantage of our opportunities," Leyland said. "That's what we've got to do."

Boston had 13 hits. It was its second straight game with 13 or more hits.

"They got a big gopher and a couple of big hits," Rodriguez said. "They were ready to go and we just couldn't stop the runs." The Blue Jays had 13 hits. Renteria said, "I thought they were not going to score too many runs."

Renteria humored and the Blue Jays 5-1 Monday.

Galarraga 12-0) has won nine of 10 overall. "That's the key for us," lead-off man Jacoby Ellsbury said. "Getting on base and allowing our great hitters in our lineup to get up to bat. As long as we get our runners on, we know we're going to come up some runs." Boston scored at least five runs for the ninth straight game. The Red Sox have won nine of 10 overall.

"When the bases were loaded, I was going to try and not make a mistake," he said. "It's a situation where you have to be aggressive in that moment." His control wasn't as good today, but he dodged a couple of batters," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said.

"That doesn't help them," Boston manager Terry Francona said. "We got up in their bullpen and they got into situations where they had to leave [pitchers] out there, but we took advantage of it."

Boston rallied late to win its previous two games but didn't need a comeback this time as it scored five runs in a wild fourth inning and three in the fifth, all off Dustin Nippert (1-2).

"Rovin' Jake," who was ejected for arguing a third strike in the second inning Sunday, is batting .338 and got the day off. Lefty hitter Casey, with a .349 average, faced against lefty Jason Gabbard.

Gabbard pitched a perfect fifth inning then hurt his back when he slipped pitching to Kevin Youkilis, leading off the second. He walked three batters but allowed no runs in the inning. But after throwing his warmups before the third, he left with a stiff back.

"That doesn't help them," Boston manager Terry Francona said. "We got into their bullpen and they got into situations where they had to leave [pitchers] out there, but we took advantage of it."

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Rookie Galarraga has sparked Detroit to two victories since being called up; Ortiz leads Red Sox over Rangers

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BOSTON MARATHON

Cheruiyot wins third consecutive Marathon

Kenya's Robert Cheruiyot cruises to a 27-second victory; Ethiopia's Dire Tune takes women's race by historic margin

Associated Press

BOSTON — Robert Cheruiyot is well-versed in the Boston Marathon course, with four victories in five trips from Hopkinton to the Back Bay. After seven visits, he said, “You need company.”

He chewed his watch as he ran three straight from 1997-99. She checked his watch as he ran 27 seconds ahead of Tune. He was fighting until the end,“It was fighting until the end,” Biktimirova said. “And in the end I just didn’t have enough speed.”

Although he repeatedly checked his watch as he ran alone for the last miles, Cheruiyot did not challenge the course record of 2:07:14 he set two years ago, when Rita Jeptoo beat Jelena Prokopcuka by 10 seconds. Jeptoo finished third this year, 69 second behind Tune.

Cheruiyot’s third straight victory gave Kenya its 15th men’s title in 21 years; Kenyans also finished sixth through ninth. But Cheruiyot’s countrymen struggled more than usual overall, with just the one man in the top five — the fewest since 1992 — and one woman in the top 10.

Cheruiyot couldn’t say whether the performance was related to the postelection violence back home, in which some of his country’s top runners have been killed and threatened, Cheruiyot missed two months of training because of the unrest before his coach moved their camp to Namibia.

“My training has been going well despite the problems in Kenya,” he said. “When something happens, you have to forget and train.”

Bouaramdane finished 1:18 back and fellow Moroccan Khalid El Boumali came in third, another 1:31 back. Nicholas Arciniaga, of Rochester Hills, Mich., was 10th to give the Americans a top-10 finish for the fourth straight year.

Cheruiyot pulled away from a pack of four at the base of the Newton Hills, running the 19th mile in 2:50:58. “They are harder, they do come at a difficult time in the race.”

Among those in the event’s second-largest field: cyclist Lance Armstrong and astronaut Sunita Williams, who ran a simulated Boston Marathon last year while in orbit on the International Space Station. Armstrong won the Tour de France seven times on the strength of his work in the mountains. When he started preparing for Boston, his third marathon, some race veterans told him the hills weren’t as difficult as their reputation made them out to be.

“They were wrong,” said Armstrong, who finished 496th in 2:50:58. “They are harder, and they do come at a difficult time in the race.”

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Hudson shines, Braves win

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Tim Hudson pitched six scoreless innings before leaving with a right forearm soreness, leading the Atlanta Braves past the Washington Nationals 7-0 on Monday night for Atlanta’s sixth straight win.

The Braves have allowed only six runs during their winning streak, which pushed their skid above .500 for the first time this season at 10-9.

Washington kept shutting the door on more runs and is open to finishing career with L.A.

Kobe Bryant

LOS ANGELES — Kobe Bryant made clear Monday what’s been, at the very least, a bit ambiguous for nearly a year: He wants to stay with the Los Angeles Lakers and is open to finishing his career with them.

"Absolutely," Bryant said the day after the Lakers beat the Denver Nuggets 128-114 in their playoff series opener. "I’ve always wanted to be here. I just felt like I was in a position where I didn’t really have a choice. They wanted to go in an opposite direction. My legs aren’t as young as they used to be. Just let me know.

"I love the weather, I love the city. I’d drop-dead important. I love the LA (freeway). I love my guys," Bryant acknowledged.

He said he wouldn’t have imagined things would have turned out this way late last May, when he publicly declared the Lakers’ front office a mess and demanded a trade, feeling he had been misled when he signed a seven-year, $136.4 million contract in July 2004.

"I’ve been sitting on this for four years now," he said. "When three or four years of not getting anything, to see it today, it looks pretty different. It’s been a hell of a ride.

Bryant and Lakers owner Jerry Buss met in Barcelona a few weeks later when Buss said he would "certainly listen to trade offers."

The situation was tense at best when the season began, and stories circulated throughout November concerning potential trade possibilities. The speculation stopped. Bryant stayed and the Lakers flourished, going 37-25 to earn the No. 1 seed in the Western Conference.

The 29-year-old Bryant, a leading candidate to win his first MVP award, has stated on several occasions that his 12th NBA season has been the most enjoyable and is open to staying for the next.

"No, I just don’t talk about it," Bryant said. "I’ve got all year long. I can talk to this team. They’ll want to go right now. I’m all for them. That’s all I’ve said the whole time. We have a job to do here, it’s on us to focus on what we’re doing and not get distracted from that.

"I think it’s very special for me," Bryant said of the team surrounding him now. "In my first year, I don’t think I ever talked about anything."
Irish to play two at Purdue

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's 29-15, 9-5 Big Ten lead looks to rebound from two crucial Big East losses over the weekend against South Florida when it travels to West Lafayette for an NCAA third-round elimination contest against Purdue (30-16, 6-6 Big Ten). The Irish are looking to solidify their position for postseason play. "It was a good way to start the Big East championship," Notre Dame coach Deanna Gamp said. "It's time for us to get some consistency in playing good softball." The Boilermakers are tied for fourth place in the Big Ten but have struggled recently—going 3-6 over their last nine games. Purdue has dropped games against Ohio State, Valparaiso, Ball State, St. Mary's and Northern Illinois that game.

Before being swept by the Boil, the Irish were one of the hottest teams in the conference, sparking a 13-3 record in their 16 games between Wednesday's loss. Notre Dame is led by the pitching of junior Brittey Burgar, who has a 25-9 record this year and striking out 118 batters. Burgar and senior catcher Sarah Smith will be fared with the task of shutting down a Purdue offense that features juniors Steve Joyce and Brittney Bargar, who has a 22-13-3 record in their 16 games this season.

Notre Dame coach Deanna Gamp said: "But when we did, I got range jumper on his first attempt to build on the rest of the Mean Girls Andersen's touches were limited on the Saltines' first possession. "We were playing Carl Anderson's to touches were semifinals victory. The strategy was to control the ball, Andersen's touches were limited on the Saltines' first few possessions. Sophomore Mean Girls to build an early 3-1 lead. "In the first inning," senior center fielder Sarah Smith said, "it was a goal for us to keep it each game as it comes. We have a pair of non-conference games before our big series against St. John's. I just don't want us taking this game lightly because they're really capable of coming in and taking this game from us." The first pitch between the Irish and Chicago State will be scheduled for 6:05 p.m. at Frank Eck Stadium.

"It's a goal for us to keep moving up," he said. "We're talking about moving up as we come. We have a pair of non-conference games before our big series against St. John's. I just don't want us taking this game lightly because they're really capable of coming in and taking this game from us." The first pitch between the Irish and Chicago State will be scheduled for 6:05 p.m. at Frank Eck Stadium.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Irish junior infielder Linda Kohan awaits a pitch during Notre Dame's doubleheader sweep of Eastern Michigan on Apr. 9.

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Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Kessler continued from page 24

also adding six points of her own. "Having a really big presence in the post really helped us win this game," Kessler said. "We passed very well and were able to make a lot of easy lay-ups and shots." Picking up the Sportsmanship award for Supreme Court was sophomore Aletta Christiansen, who knocked down three jump shots, including two in the waning moments. Anthony Travel made sure it was clear they were horneoming longtime friend McAdams, who works in the Main Building for the Office of Information Technology. McAdams was seriously injured in a car accident in West Virginia three months before attending a Notre Dame women's basketball game. "Patrick has always been our biggest fan," forward and assistant women's basketball coach Andy Petthoff said. "The whole point of this run was to raise money for Patricia and basic-fan. "Fans were able to pledge for the points that Anthony Travel scored, and Petthoff did. It took him to raise almost $33,000 for McAdams. Petthoff was dominant for Anthony Travel, controlling the boards on both ends of the court and adding a team-high eight assists, including the game-winning free-throw. "Everyone was really great," Petthoff said. "We came out and played very well, and we were able to raise money for a worthy cause." Ranking

continued from page 24

that make the difference.

Mills and her teammates will attempt to build on their recent success when they take on Chicago State today. Freshman right-hander Brian Dupra will take the mound against the Cougars and look to improve on his 1-2 record. Dupra's ERA stands at 6.83 as he has given up 22 earned runs over his seven appearances this season. Dupra's recent success on improved recent on improved recent success. For Schrage, Chicago State is not a team to be taken lightly, especially since the Irish are Notre Dame's first opponent since the team cracked the ranking.

"Well, the game scares me a little bit," Schrage said. "They

pothoff made a beautiful behind-the-back pass in the first half to sophomore Maja Hansen to give Travel Anthony 8-4 lead.

Supreme Court relied on the deep ball all game and when those attempts stopped falling, Travel was able to turn the lead over to 11-6 at half-time.

The second half began with more motion than Supreme Court continuing to drive to the hoop and Supreme Court relying on deep jumpers. Supreme Court junior Erin Newsome and Megan Conolly turned it in the second period, combining for 11 points and eight-half points. But that was not enough as Anthony Travel continued to make a run, converting more than 60 percent of their shots to close out this half.

Frustration started to set in for Supreme Court at the score of 14-8, when Supreme Court sophomore Meredith Perks grabbed the job of Defensive Player of the Year and Advance Sarah Liebesheb. Things quickly cooled down, however, thanks to quick calls from the officials.

Anthony Travel stalled at 16-9, the second highest margin of the game, as Supreme Court might stage a comeback, but those hopes were dashed by one of Kessler's strong free-throws.

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Champs continued from page 24

semifinals victory. The strategy was to control the ball, Andersen's touches were limited on the Saltines' first few possessions. Sophomore Mean Girls to build an early 3-1 lead. "In the first inning," senior center fielder Sarah Smith said, "it was a goal for us to keep it each game as it comes. We have a pair of non-conference games before our big series against St. John's. I just don't want us taking this game lightly because they're really capable of coming in and taking this game from us." The first pitch between the Irish and Chicago State will be scheduled for 6:05 p.m. at Frank Eck Stadium.

"It's a goal for us to keep moving up," he said. "We're talking about moving up as we come. We have a pair of non-conference games before our big series against St. John's. I just don't want us taking this game lightly because they're really capable of coming in and taking this game from us." The first pitch between the Irish and Chicago State will be scheduled for 6:05 p.m. at Frank Eck Stadium.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Kessler continued from page 24

also adding six points of her own. "Having a really big presence in the post really helped us win this game," Kessler said. "We passed very well and were able to make a lot of easy lay-ups and shots." Picking up the Sportsmanship award for Supreme Court was sophomore Aletta Christiansen, who knocked down three jump shots, including two in the waning moments. Anthony Travel made sure it was clear they were horneoming longtime friend McAdams, who works in the Main Building for the Office of Information Technology. McAdams was seriously injured in a car accident in West Virginia three months before attending a Notre Dame women's basketball game. "Patrick has always been our biggest fan," forward and assistant women's basketball coach Andy Petthoff said. "The whole point of this run was to raise money for Patricia and basic-fan. "Fans were able to pledge for the points that Anthony Travel scored, and Petthoff did. It took him to raise almost $33,000 for McAdams. Petthoff was dominant for Anthony Travel, controlling the boards on both ends of the court and adding a team-high eight assists, including the game-winning free-throw. "Everyone was really great," Petthoff said. "We came out and played very well, and we were able to raise money for a worthy cause."
**The Observer ● TODAY**

**Black Dog**

Happy Birthday! On this day in 1877, the first hot-air balloon flight... (More)

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**Jumble**

Unscramble these four Jumbles. One letter to each word to form four ordinary words.

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**Crossword**

Across
1 Where is the knot?  (10)
2 Elegance  (12)
3 Bite-size appetizer  (14)
4 Forum greetings  (20)
11 Gift of the Magi  (23)
12 Come after  (23)
16 Shakespeare’s Sir B. (23)
17 Captain Queeg’s creator  (23)
22 Follows orders  (23)
24 Beelzebub worshipper  (23)
25 Stuffed mouse  (23)
26 Dozen living  (23)
31 Interjection  (23)
32...  (64)

Down
1 Busy  (9)
2 Dark  (9)
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**Horoscope**

EUGENIA LAST

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Let your thoughts for the future play themselves out quietly, then turn your attention to a pressing need that has been waiting for you to look into. Seek some ideas with greater care and work on them so they produce the results you desire.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There is probably something going on behind your back that you are trying to avoid or wish would just go away. Your energy can be better directed now if you just get down to what you need to do today. 

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can’t rise up above reality and take a minute to breathe. With the energy coming at you from all sides, you need to be better organized than you are to get the work done. 

**AQUARIUS** (JAN. 20-Feb. 18): Don’t be afraid of a battle. Get the facts and be sure before taking action, and avoid an unnecessary argument. Take up your work quietly and work through it. 

**PIXiER** (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Get ready for a good time. You can mix and mingle with some people today. A little shopping will make you feel good, and if you look long and give you added confidence. Put your money into something you really believe in. 

**Birthday Baby** You are sensitive, caring, a little possessive, serious and determined. You are practical and with good common sense. You are passionate, loving and a great friend and companion. 

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**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

**Black Dog**

**Lollerskates**

**Crossword**

**Crossword**

**Horoscope**

**Jumble**

**Jumble**

**Crossword**

**Crossword**

**Jumble**

**Horoscope**

**Crossword**

**Horoscope**

**Crossword**

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**SPORTS**

**BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL**

**Closing the book**

Saltines take men's championship behind steady play of Andersen

*By MATT GAMBER*

American Sports Editor

Call it cliché, but it's the truth — Carl Andersen did just about everything for the Saltines last night.

The junior guard was named the tournament MVP after scoring a game-best nine points, grabbing several offensive rebounds, taking two charges and stifling a few tricks and steals to lead the Saltines to a 21-14 rout of Mean Girls.

"We came so close my freshman year and these other guys' sophomore year," Andersen said of a championship game defeat two years ago. "It's just good to end on a winning note."

Mean Girls opened the game in a box-and-one defense with senior guard Justin Gillette given the undesirable assignment of slowing Andersen, who also scored 10 points in the second quarter. The junior guard was named tournament MVP after scoring a game-best nine points, grabbing several offensive rebounds, taking two charges and stifling a few tricks and steals to lead the Saltines to a 21-14 rout of Mean Girls.

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**MEN'S LACROSSE**

Laxers travel to face Air Force in Colorado Springs

*By ELLYN MICHALAK*

Sports Writer

Coming off a 14-7 win over Lehigh, the Irish traveled to Colorado to take on Air Force in their penultimate conference game.

The match-up was originally scheduled for earlier this season, but inclement weather in the Chicago area prevented the game from taking place.

The Irish currently boast an overall record of 9-2 (2-1) and are looking to move on to the final two GWLL contests of the season.

The Irish are led by junior attack Ryan Hoff, whose four goals in the Lehigh game moved his team-leading tally to 30. Senior attack Alex Corrigan said. "Not only did he win it, but he scored a goal and allowed us to score four goals after that. It was make-it-take it at that time and he allowed us to advance the score and separate from Lehigh."

The Irish hope to carry their success into the final two GWLL contests of the season against Air Force and Ohio State.

Tomorrow's contest against the Falcons begins at 4 p.m.

Contact Elynn Michalak at emichalak@nd.edu

**BASEBALL**

Irish garner top-25 recognition for first time

*By LORINZO REYES*

Sports Writer

For the first time this season, No. 24 Notre Dame knows that the season is aware of its recent success. The club is off to its best start to a season in 11 years after beating Lehigh, 14-7, on Monday, thanks in part to an 11-game winning streak and victories in 12 of its last 13.

After struggling to open the season, the Irish (25-10-1, 12-3 Big East) have hit their stride and taken 20 of their last 22 contests on route to their first top-25 ranking.

For Notre Dame coach Dave Schrage, it's been a season-long goal for his squad — but now, he says the team cannot afford to slip up and lose focus.

"It's a goal that we've been shooting for all season," Schrage said. "We talked about it last week when we were ranked 29th. We've been playing well recently, but now it puts a target on our backs. When teams come in and face us, they're going to want to knock out a top-25 team, so we have to match their emotions."

Part of the recent success is due to sophomore pitcher/designated hitter David Mills, who was named Big East player of the week Monday, marking the third straight time a Notre Dame player has taken the award.

Mills hit .385 over this past weekend's conference series against West Virginia with seven RBIs and the first two home runs of his career.

Schrage said Mills has been an integral cog in his club's recent success.

"He's been a real key to our burst streak," Schrage said. "He's enabled the rest of our lineup to fall into place from the No. 2 hole. He's just done an outstanding job of getting on base. He's also a team player. He has 13 sacrifice bunts, and just does the little things..."