**SMC security addresses recent safety concerns**

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's director of security Dave Gariepy and assistant director of security Stan Klimczak addressed concerned Regina Hall residents about security issues and concerns in a meeting in the North Lounge of the hall Thursday evening.

"There was a lot of concern... about the man on the roof," Gariepy said. "There's a lot of basis for concern with the way security responded to that incident."

Gariepy, referring to the trespasser who escaped custody after making his way onto the roof of Regina Hall April 5, alluded to the seemingly slow response to the incident from Saint Mary's Security detailed in the article "Slow Security response raises questions" in the April 17 edition of The Observer.

Gariepy meets with students to discuss incident at Regina Hall

The front of Saint Mary's Regina Hall, where a trespasser was seen

From Old2Gold to benefit non-profit agencies

ND community to donate gently used dorm room belongings for citywide yard sale held near stadium

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

As the academic year draws to a close and students move out of their respective dorms and off-campus residences, they should not worry about the waste of throwing away their gently used belongings, or about to whom they ought to donate.

Starting this weekend, students can make donations to Old2Gold, a citywide yard sale that will occupy about 70,000 square feet of the stadium concourse on May 24, said Frank Parker, Manager Central Receiving.

All proceeds from the yard sale will benefit South Bend area non-profit agencies.

"Students take anything that they have — personal items that they either no longer want or just want to donate, to non-profit agencies to help the community, and they put it out for our staffs to pick up and take to the stadium," Parker said.

Students will be able to donate a wide variety of gently used belongings to the sale.

"You name anything that students could have in the residence halls, and I'd venture to say that there's at least one of them at the sale," he said.

Items such as stackable storage containers, clothes, shoes, bikes, computers, printers, toys and sporting goods are typically sold, he said.

Members from the community, Parker said, also come to shop at the From Old2Gold yard sale.

"We had somewhere in the neighborhood of 3,900 to 4,000 shoppers last year," Parker said. Last year's sale generated over $43,000, Parker said.

All residence halls will have designated area for wood from lofts. Trucks will also pick up items and near residence halls during the season until May 21, according to Parker.

"We obviously loved spooning around outside the building."

Students make longest spoon train

Group of 127 breaks world record on quad

By ELIZABETH KUHN
News Writer

A group of 127 Notre Dame students broke the record for the World’s Longest Spoon Train in the middle of South Quad Thursday afternoon.

Junior Charlie Mahoney originally proposed the idea to his friends as a joke, but the scheme slowly gained credence until finally he and fellow ski team member Joel Sharbrough decided to make the biggest spoon train ever.

"We obviously loved spooning in the first place, so we just thought why don’t we be the best spooners we can be? And it just spiraled into something..."

Students gathered on South Quad to form the World’s Largest Spoon Train Thursday afternoon.

Students report trespasser at on-campus apartments

By MANDI STIVONE
Assistant News Editor

While many Saint Mary’s students have voiced concerns about Saint Mary's security, some Opus Hall residents have recently come forward with positive feedback about it.

Opus, a seniors-only apartment complex, is located on-campus behind Madeleva Hall.

Seniors Haley Nickell and Molly Pfister were in their first floor quad's living room when their third roommate asked if either of them had seen a suspicious man walking around outside the building.

Pfister and Nickell both went into their separate bedrooms and saw the same man, they said.

"He continued to walk around and just

**THE OBSERVER**

*The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's*

**VOLUME 42 : ISSUE 128 FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2008**

**www.ndsmcobserver.com**

**Students compete in Battle of the Bands**

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

Notre Dame will conclude its weekend-long ATO/Total celebration Saturday at 8 p.m. with a competition between 10 student bands vying for musical superiority at the annual Battle of the Bands.

This year's Battle of the Bands features the largest number of contestants in competition history.

"Something that really surprised us about this year's competition was the number of entries we received for the Battle," said junior Clint Simkins, co-programmer of campus entertainment for the Student Union Board (SUB).

Sixteen bands submitted demo CDs to SUB, the largest number of applicants to date. A panel of SUB committee members and Legends representatives listened to each submission and narrowed the field to the 10 best acts, Simkins said.

"We planned on choosing six to eight bands, but all of the submissions were top quality, so it was hard to even narrow it down to ten," said sophomore Mallory Davidson, co-programmer of campus entertainment for SUB.

Davidson said SUB wanted to host a wide variety of music types for the Battle.

"Bands were chosen based on the quality of the songs they put on their submission CDs," Davidson said. "We really tried to make sure that a wide vari-

**These Students made the longest spoon train.**

**Students gathered on South Quad to form the World’s Largest Spoon Train Thursday afternoon.**

**THE OBSERVER**

*The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's*

**VOLUME 42 : ISSUE 128 FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2008**

**www.ndsmcobserver.com**

**THE OBSERVER**

*The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's*

**VOLUME 42 : ISSUE 128 FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2008**

**www.ndsmcobserver.com**
INSIDE COLUMN

You live, you learn

They say the college experience isn’t so much about what you learn in class, but what you discover about yourself along the way. I always thought that was just an excuse for Notre Dame slapping another few thousand onto tuition each year. But after this Viewpoint Editor semester I’m beginning to see some logic to that argument.

Some of the most important lessons aren’t necessarily those of The Observer.

“Little spoon because a little fork would hurt.”

“Big Spoon because everything’s bigger in Texas.”

“Junior because of Mike Ellerhorst and Margaret Knoedler.”

“Matt Walsey is always big spoon and Joel Sharbrough is always little with Chilato in the middle.”

“I won two times, that’d be an added bonus.”

Looking back, I can’t believe I’m almost halfway through my four years of college. Especially if, in criticizing finances, I were paying attention. I could have easily ducked or attempted to catch the football that so mercifully eluded me, but at least you can unite in humiliation with his recent aerial assault.

Finance has actually provided me with countless such lessons in paying attention. Perhaps it’s the obvious bribery in the form of free beverages. Bribery is seriously underrated as a means to an end.

So is free money randomly distributed to prove a point. I’m sure I remember what the point was, but I do remember money being thrown to the ground on my face.

I guess he’s kind of an evil genius in that regard. I mean, if I were paying attention, I could have easily ducked or attempted to catch the football that so cruelly interrupted my puzzling. Instead, I was left to deal with the Marshy Brandy-esque consequences.

Lesson learned. I now wait until after class to pick up my daily copy of The Observer. I never intend to do the crossword puzzle in class. To be fair, I can’t believe I’ve discovered this past semester.

Professors don’t appreciate it when you do the crossword puzzle in class. To be fair, I realized this before I came to Notre Dame, but the only previous victims from my lack of attention were my grades. Oh how the times have changed. A certain finance professor, whose name may or may not rhyme with Slackernot, took matters to a new level of pain and humiliation with his recent aerial assault on my face.

“Terror fraud because I was using my left hand,” he said. “It took me about 911.”

“You open the door and just ran into him. I had him pinned in the laundry room and just kept pummeling,” said Keta, a former wrestler in high school.

He said he grabbed the intruder by the belt and dragged him into the kitchen, where he put a knife at the man’s throat and tried to dial 911.

“Being visually impaired, I couldn’t get the buttons because I was using my left hand,” he said. “It took me about 911.”

Sophomore Matthew Callanan practices in a dress rehearsal of the Farley Hall Player’s production of “The Last Five Years” on Wednesday. The show runs tonight and Saturday night in Washington Hall at 7:30.

OFFBEAT

Legally blind man pummels home intruder

INDIANAPOLIS — A legally blind man beat up an intruder and held him at knifepoint until police arrived at the man’s eastside home, authorities said. Allan Keta, 49, told police he was at home Monday morning when his small dog began barking and he encountered the man.

“I opened the door and just ran into him. I had him pinned in the laundry room and just kept pummeling,” said Keta, a former wrestler in high school.

He said he grabbed the intruder by the belt and dragged him into the kitchen, where he put a knife at the man’s throat and tried to dial 911.

“Being visually impaired, I couldn’t get the buttons because I was using my left hand,” he said. “It took me about 911.”

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

The band “The Starting Line” will perform Friday at Legends at 10 p.m. as part of the Student Union Board’s Art/Expense Society.

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

La Alianza will sponsor the Latino Formal Saturday at 9 p.m. at the College Football Hall of Fame. Transportation is available from Main Circle at 9 p.m. running continuously until 2:20 a.m. Tickets are $10 for singles and $15 for couples.

Sorin College will sponsor its first theatrical performance “Humors” on Sunday at 8 p.m. at Washington Hall. Tickets are available at the door for $3.

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

The views expressed in the Inside Columns are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Kara King at sking@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of punishment at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4511 so we can correct our error.

PAGE 2

Friday, April 25, 2008

The Observer
Sorin College to sponsor Neil Simon’s “Rumors”

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

Sorin College will sponsor its first theatrical event this weekend with a performance of Neil Simon’s farce “Rumors.”

The show will be performed on Sunday and Tuesday nights at 8 in the LAB theater on the third floor of Washington Hall. Proceeds from the event will benefit Saint Jude’s Primary School in Jinja, Uganda.

Although this is Sorin’s first fundraising theatrical event of its kind, Maltese hopes such shows continue in the future and to produce once every year on a much larger scale for a longer run time.

“$5 is Sorin’s first fundraising theatrical event. John Maltese, co-director of the show. The set for the show is the largest ever to be used in the LAB theater, featuring five doors and a second story. The play is filled with hilarious slapstick comedy, misunderstandings, marital disputes, various injuries, a car accident and a surprise ending,” Maltese said.

The event is open to the Notre Dame community and tickets are available for $5 at the door.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Spoon continued from page 1

huge,” event coordinator Sharbrough said. As ski team spoon co-captain with Kerry McGuire, he planned and advanced the idea for the event.

“Sponsoring occurs when two people lay on their sides facing the same direction so that they fit snugly together. It’s not immoral at all,” Maltese said.

“Maltese, co-directed the show alongside Maltese. The set for the show is the largest ever to be used in the LAB theater, featuring five doors and a second story. The play is filled with hilarious slapstick comedy, misunderstandings, marital disputes, various injuries, a car accident and a surprise ending,” Maltese said.

The event is open to the Notre Dame community and tickets are available for $5 at the door.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

The event will hopefully be produced once every year on a much larger scale for a longer run time.”

John Maltese, co-director

Faculty & Staff Appreciation Event

April 28th and 29th

All Notre Dame Faculty and Staff will receive an additional 5% off all regular and sale priced merchandise at The Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore, Varsity Shops in the JAC, and at the Notre Dame Clearance Center on Ironwood.

Receive a tall Starbucks coffee from the Irish Ink Café with your faculty or staff ID at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore on 4/28 or 4/29. Limit one per person.

Please recycle
The Observer.

Faculty & Staff Appreciation Event

April 28th and 29th

All Notre Dame Faculty and Staff will receive an additional 5% off all regular and sale priced merchandise at The Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore, Varsity Shops in the JAC, and at the Notre Dame Clearance Center on Ironwood.

Receive a tall Starbucks coffee from the Irish Ink Café with your faculty or staff ID at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore on 4/28 or 4/29. Limit one per person.

* 5% discount is in addition to your everyday 20% discount. Faculty or Staff ID required. May not be combined with any other offer. Valid in-store only. Excludes “the shirt,” textbooks, gift cards, diploma frames, class rings, previous & online purchases, computer hardware & software, calculators, Steiner Memorabilia, Lladro, Waterford, & professional references. See store for further details.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the year and for making us your bookstore of choice.
The claims made by students to a large degree are absolutely accurate," he said. The e-mail inviting Regina residents to the meeting said there is an "ongoing investigation about the incident" and all residents were encouraged to attend the meeting "to find out what security had done" regarding the case and what steps have been taken to make sure that it does not happen again.

Gariepy added that security has investigated the incident further and found some discrepancies between the reports filed by the responding officer and the concerns voiced by the anonymous source quoted in the April 17 article.

"Our initial reports didn’t indicate [that security] had come a second time before they searched the roof," he said. "To us, reading the report, we read it as the roof had been checked on the first call.

Gariepy said the initial responding officer saw the man on the roof and made a decision about the situation.

"We were explanations that she made a bad judgment call," he said. "Another call came in that diverted her attention and because of what she had assumed she went to help the other call. By the time our officer went up on the roof [the suspect] had made his escape."

"There shouldn’t be roofing contractors up there after dark," Gariepy said.

"We explained to the officer who responded, it’s a relatively new officer with quite a bit of experience. She’s trained officers served as assistant security director at a different college." Gariepy said security is making changes in response to the situation so that such an occurrence does not happen again.

"That’s not the way we would respond to the situation and that’s not the way we want our officers responding to it," he said. "We want to make sure that security is responding adequately to your calls for help."

Kliczmak said the most important thing a student can do to help keep campus safe is to call security about suspicious activity.

"Don’t assume that someone else is going to make the call; don’t assume that it’s nothing," he said. "If we don’t know about it there’s no way that we’re even going to have a chance to catch anybody.

"Kliczmak said students should never hesitate to call security.

"If you do not get an adequate response the next morning call myself or Dave Gariepy," he said. "We do not cover anything up. We’ve made a mistake, we can do better."

"Kliczmak said security is encouraging students to give their name and number when they call because they want officers to be able to respond to the student after they have investigated the activity that is reported.

"We’re encouraging our guys to make contact with the person who made the complaint. You should be called back and explain what was found, that’s just good police work or security work," Gariepy said.

"The incident," Gariepy said, "will be used in a positive manner as a method of training for the Department of Security."

"When we make mistakes — even if it’s not our mistake — we want to learn from it and make sure they’re not repeated."

Dave Gariepy
Saint Mary’s director of security

"When we make mistakes — even if it’s not our mistake — we want to learn from it and make sure they’re not repeated."

Contact Liz Hurter at charity@stmarys.edu

Bands
continued from page 1

Chosen to battle it out, in order of their appearance Saturday, will be Sound City, The Substitutes, Red Beer, Thrash Level Midnight, Space Cowboy, The Super Soul Fighters, Robbie Hazen, M.O.B.B., Vote For Us and From Wall St. to Hollywood, Davidson said.

Each band will play a fifteen-minute set. Simkins said, and ballots cast by audience members will decide the winners.

Simkins said the top three places will be determined by balloting only, emphasizing the importance of students coming out to support their favorite bands on campus.

"SSL is hoping to provide students with some quality entertainment as they watch their fellow classmates duke it out for the fame and glory," Davidson said. "But we also aim to provide the bands with the opportunity to play a live show at Legends, which has been the host to many successful artists."

One competitor, senior Robbie Hazen, acknowledged the importance of getting to play at a venue like Legends.

"Battle of the Bands is a great opportunity to play in front of a large crowd on a big stage," Hazen said. "It also allows you the opportunity to collaborate with other musicians on campus."

Hazen competed in the Battle of the Bands the past several years and said he is looking forward to giving a unique performance this year.

Winners will be awarded at the end of the show with first place winning a $200 gift certificate to Guitar Center, a Mishawaka music store. Second and third place will win $100 and $50 gift certificates, respectively.

Perhaps more important to the musicians than the prize money are the bragging rights.

"All the bands are really talented but everyone wants to take first place," Hazen said.

Admission is free for all Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross College students.

Contact Gene Noone at cnoonnel@nd.edu

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS
Friday, April 25, 2008

Yard Sale
continued from page 1

and they come in throughout the month of May to sort all of the items, price them, get them set for display," Parker said. "And all the proceeds that we gain from the yard sale are divided up between the agencies that have volunteers working."

From Old2Gold is in its fourth year at Notre Dame, but was modeled on Penn State and the Centre County United Way’s Trash to Treasure, a similar project in which students donate items that are sold at a yard sale in Penn State’s football stadium, Parker said.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscoll@nd.edu

HOLY CROSS Vocations
Indiana Province

COMMUNITY SPIRITUALITY MINISTRY FORMATION CONTACT US

FEMALE CATHOLIC MEMBERS OF THE HOLY CROSS ORDER

ARE YOU CALLED?
Holy Cross Formation
Let us help with your discernment.

Have a Question?
Check this guide for the path ahead.

Contact Us
Get to know our Vocations Office Staff

Visit the NEW website for the Office of Vocations at vocation.nd.edu to learn more about the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Who knows...you may be called.

SOMETIMES
discernment isn’t so easy
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.N. announces anti-malaria initiative

UNITED NATIONS — Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will announce a global initiative on Friday aimed at ending death and diseases caused by malaria, a tropical scourge blamed for killing a million people a year.

In a video message for a World Malaria Day event at U.N. headquarters, Ban said the initiative will offer indoor spraying and bed nets treated with long-lasting insecticide "to all people at risk, especially women and children in Africa." He said the initiative was announced Thursday by The Associated Press.

It will also ensure that public health facilities have access to effective malaria treatment and diagnosis, that health workers are trained to deal with the disease, and that research into its eradication is encouraged, Ban said.

"The aim is to put a stop to malaria deaths by ensuring universal coverage by the end of 2010," he said.

Sarkozy asks E.U. for Olympic boycott

PARIS — French President Nicolas Sarkozy said Thursday he will push for a European Union-wide agreement on whether to boycott the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics.

Sarkozy has said he could boycott the ceremony in response to China's crackdown on demonstrators in Tibet last month, but he softened his tone since a rash of protests broke out last weekend in front of French-owned supermarkets throughout China.

If no progress is made before the Aug. 8 games, he said he would try to seek "a united position" among the EU's 27 member states. France will hold the rotating EU presidency at that time.

NATIONAL NEWS

Man sentenced in oil-for-food case

NEW YORK — An Iraqi-American businessman who admitted helping Saddam Hussein's government in the oil-in-food scandal was convicted and sentenced Wednesday by a judge who said he provided substantial assistance to the U.S. government after his arrest.


Vincent, a 67-year-old naturalized U.S. citizen who was born in Iraq, was sentenced for conspiracy, conspiracy to commit murder and perjury.

The government accused Vincent of helping Saddam Hussein's government with a scheme that allowed oil-for-food money to be laundered.

Census Bureau scales back test run

INDIANAPOLIS — An external audit of the Census Bureau has scaled back its dress rehearsal for the once-a-decade national head count, raising fears that the bureau won't be able to perform a census by 2010.

"It's like sending up a rocket for a moon landing, " warned former Census Bureau director Kenneth Dvorak, who oversaw the agency during the 2000 count.

LOCAL NEWS

Candidate proposes state audit plan

ATLANTA — A Georgia judge who kicked whites out of his courtroom while he assisted black defendants is proposing an audit plan that would "tear down" the "system of racial discrimination" in the state's justice system.

"We must find new and different approaches to organizing and delivering government services to lower the cost and increase efficiencies," said Schellinger, an Indianapolis architect who is competing for the Democratic nomination for governor in the May 6 primary.

Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels has no primary opponent.

Schellinger said Indiana needs a comprehensive review of government at all levels, with state and local officials working together to decide what improvements are needed.

Associated Press

Linda Schillinger, an Indiana candidate for governor, speaks in Indianapolis, Thursday, April 24, 2008.

Associated Press

Local accused of school attack plot

Authorities detain teen after finding more than 100 knives, illegal snakes at his home

Associated Press

Ryan Schallenberg, a student suspected of planning an attack on Chesterfield High School, appears before a judge Tuesday in Chesterfield, S.C.

Ryan Schallenberg, a student suspected of planning an attack on Chesterfield High School, appears before a judge Tuesday in Chesterfield, S.C.

Ryan Schallenberg, a student suspected of planning an attack on Chesterfield High School, appears before a judge Tuesday in Chesterfield, S.C.

Ryan Schallenberg, a student suspected of planning an attack on Chesterfield High School, appears before a judge Tuesday in Chesterfield, S.C.
The third roommate who had originally seen the man called security and reported the incident as the man continued walking around Opus, they said. "Security" said they'd be right over," Nickell said. While they were waiting for security to come, the man had walked all the way around the back of the building, Nickell said. "I went to the lobby to see where he was going and he got in a big sketchy truck and left," Nickell said.

That was when the third roommate, who called security back to inform them that the man had left, Security told them, however, they were going to come check things out anyway, she said. "They came over within five minutes and came into our apartment and had us show them where the man had been as well as had described him and his truck," she said.

The roommates were then reassured of their safety and given advice for ensuring that they were safe after security left, they said. "They encouraged us to close our blinds and make sure all of our windows were locked," Nickell said.

Pfister also said security officers arrived quickly and did a check of the entire outside of the building after leaving their apartment and had us they were safe on campus, again, he said.

"I know I feel safer knowing Security is around and hopefully this particular instance was nothing," Molly Pfister senior Saint Mary's.

"I saw them outside looking around our windows where we had seen the man," she said.

In addition to checking Opus Hall, security did a search of the campus for the man, Nickell said. "They told us they were going to circle Saint Mary's a few times to see if they saw anyone suspicious or the truck we had described," Nickell said.

According to the Saint Mary's Security report filed on April 16, the man was described as a "white male standing near a window and bushes at Opus Hall around 11:55 p.m. . . ." Director of Security Dave Gariepy said.

While the caller was still on the phone with security, a second student saw the man getting into a "maroon colored Chevy style pickup," and left via Douglass Flood, he said.

Two officers responded quickly but the vehicle had already left," Gariepy said.

"All officers were on duty that night were alerted and told to watch for the man or his pickup truck, but he was not seen on campus again, he said.

"I don't know whether this person was here for legitimate reasons or something other," he said.

A security alert was not issued to the campus because the situation was investigated and it was ascertained that there was not a continuing or imminent threat to campus, Gariepy said.

"I won't send an alert message and have everyone all stirred up about something we can't identify as a continuing or imminent threat," he said.

Both Opus Hall residents stated that they felt security did a good job in handling the situation, they said.

"I know I feel safer knowing security is around and hopefully this particular instance was nothing," Nickell said.

"I think it's important for people to know that this all happened before that article was run," she said.

Contact Mandi Stireo at stireo1@saintmarys.edu

EGYPT

Hamas deals 6-month cease-fire with Israel

Associated Press

CAIRO — The Palestinian group Hamas is proposing a six-month cease-fire with Israel, saying it will stop firing rockets out of Gaza if the Jewish state simultaneously lifts its blockade of the coastal strip, Egypt's state-run MENA news agency said Thursday night.

The report followed a day of closed meetings between Hamas leader Mahmoud Zahar and Egypt's intelligence chief, Omar Suleiman, who has been mediating between Israel and the Islamic militant group in hopes of halting their fighting.

Hamas has taken a much softer stance in recent months, but any deal appeared distant. While Egypt clearly is acting as a communications channel between the two sides, Israel insists it won't negotiate with Hamas, which it considers a terrorist group, as does the United States.

Hamas officials, who previously have called for Israel to lift its blockade before any truce, could not be reached by The Associated Press late Thursday to comment on the MENA report. There was no immediate reaction from Israel.

MENA's report came two days after senior members of Hamas said the group was willing to accept a truce limited to the Gaza Strip, dropping a long-standing demand that the West Bank be included in a halt to fighting with Israel.

Israeli officials responded to those comments by saying Israel would keep up military pressure on Hamas as long as the group threatened Israeli civilians, an allusion to near daily rocket salvos at towns in southern Israel and recent militant attacks on border posts.

The Hamas representatives said Tuesday that the group's position would be laid out Thursday during the meeting with Suleiman.

"We have affirmed the group's approval of a truce in Gaza Strip . . . that could be expanded to the West Bank and would be set at six months," Zahar was quoted by MENA as saying after the meeting.

"The truce should be accepted by both sides," said Zahar, noting a condition was that Israel "simultaneously lifts its blockade of Gaza and reopens" the border, including the Rafah crossing between Egypt and Gaza.
WASHINGTON — Sales of new homes plunged in March to the slowest pace in 16 1/2 years as a two-year housing downturn extended into the start of another spring sales season.

Sales of new homes dropped by 8.5 percent last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 377,000, the Commerce Department said Thursday. The median price of a home sold in March also hit a two-year low.

The government's plan to fix immigration laws that would require the Homeland Security Department to analyze more thoroughly the impact of a slumping U.S. economy that cut car and truck sales in its first quarter. Its shares rose almost 6 percent in morning trading.

The median price of a new home in March 2008 was $217,700, down 13.3 percent compared with March 2007, the biggest year-over-year price decline since 1970 when it averaged $26,300.

Ford also lowered its industrywide U.S. vehicle sales forecast for this fall year to a range of 15.3 million to 15.6 million. In January, it had expected full-year sales of 16 million.

Ford said it earned 5 cents per share in the January-March period. Dearborn-based Ford lost $295 million, or 9 cents per share, in the same period last year.

Even taking into account the tough economic environment, the company said it earned $1.50 per share in the quarter. The company's biggest profit since the third quarter of 2005, Liddell said a $45 million pretax loss in Ford's core North American automotive market. That was an improvement over a $613 million loss in the year-ago quarter driven by $1.2 billion in cost reductions that helped buffer a U.S. sales decline.

Company spokesman Mark Truby said Ford may offer additional buyouts and early retirement packages on a plant-by-plant basis to further reduce its blue-collar work force.

Ford reported first quarter revenue of $39.4 billion, down from $43 billion a year ago due to the sale of its Jaguar, Land Rover and Aston Martin units. Excluding the slice, revenue would have been up slightly, the company said.

Special items for the quarter totaled $416 million, including worker buyout and early retire­ment costs and the cost of reducing its dealer ranks. Ford said it made $237 million pretax in South America, up from $113 million a year ago. In Europe, it made $739 million, compared with $219 million in the first quarter of last year.

Volvo had a pretax loss of $151 million, compared with a profit of $94 million a year ago. It was the first quarter the company broke out earnings for the Volvo unit.

**Microsoft’s third-quarter profits drop**

For the quarter that ended March 31, Microsoft, the software giant, reported a 11 percent revenue decline and a 14 percent profit drop.
5 people killed in van crash
Tractor-trailer flips car carrying mentally disabled people to the zoo

Associated Press

EIGHTY-FOUR, Pa. — A tractor-trailer slammed into a van carrying mentally disabled people on a trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo, flipping it onto its side, crushing it against a building and killing five people.

Witnesses told investigators the van stopped at an intersection and then pulled right in front of the semi on a rural highway. Crews worked for several hours Thursday to remove all the bodies from the van. Seven people were injured.

The accident happened about 9:45 a.m. in Somerset Township, about 30 miles south of Pittsburgh, minutes after the van had left a group home in Bloodville.

"I just think it's one of those terrible, sad freak accidents," said Lynne Loresch, executive director of the Mental Health Association of Washington County, the group home operator. Loresch said the van was the second of two taking group home residents to the zoo. The first van arrived safely, but the group was told to return home, where they learned of the crash.

Three residents of the group home and two staff members were killed. The six other people in the van — all residents — were taken to hospitals. The tractor-trailer driver was treated at a hospital and released.

Authorities said they did not believe the tractor-trailer had been speeding. State transportation officials hauled it from the scene and planned to inspect it.

The tractor-trailer is owned by Stocker Trucking Co. in Gnadenhutten, Ohio, and was driven by Stephen Rouse, 44, of Uhrichsville, Ohio. A man who answered the phone at Stocker Trucking declined to comment.

Killed were the driver, Sheryl Maiolini, 53, of Charleroi; staff member Mary Watkins, 43, of Ellsworth; and residents John Maine, 61, Richard Paquet, 43, and Julie Hughes, 41.

Maiolini was a five-year employee with a "superb" driving record, Loresch said.

The injured residents included three men and three women, who range in age from 48 to 58 years old.

Two of them had returned to the group home by late afternoon, Loresch said. The others were expected to survive and had injuries that included head, neck and spinal injuries and broken bones, Loresch said.

Loresch said people in the van that crashed are from the facility's enhanced personal care home, whose residents aren't locked down around the clock.

Most of the home's residents have schizophrenia or bipolar disorders. Some are there voluntarily, while others had been at Mayview State Hospital and are making the transition toward more independent living, Loresch said.

Authorities had no immediate theories about why the van pulled into the path of the truck on state Route 136.

Jeff Brown of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Washington County maintenance office said state officials were aware of safety concerns at the intersection of the two-lane highway and Brownlee Road, from which the van pulled out. The department had studied the intersection and planned an upgrade, he said, though he wouldn't provide specifics.

"We will look at it again and see if we will move this project ahead of other projects," Breen said.

Before Thursday, there had been 15 crashes but no fatalities at the intersection over the past five years, said Rich Kirkpatrick, a PennDOT spokesman.
Welcom e to your new Manhattan lifestyle. With a great downtown location, these oversized apartments have living spaces that are easily shareable.

Rent here and avoid an upfront broker fee and a security deposit. We’ll even give you $1,000 off your first month’s rent to help you settle in. * Make moving to New York easy.

1 Bedrooms from * 2,800 (convertible to a 2 bedroom)
2 Bedrooms from * 3,600 (convertible to a 3 bedroom)
3 Bedrooms from * 5,350 (convertible to a 4 bedroom)

NO BROKER FEE APARTMENTS
888.201.5944
stuytown.com
Leasing Office: 332 First Ave. (at 19th St.), New York, NY 10009
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
Bring this ad in lieu of leasing. Offer expires August 1. J o security deposit required within approved credit

ORPHANAGES ACCUSED OF FRAUDULENT ADOPTIONS

Associated Press
HANOI — Vietnam has failed to police its adoption system, allowing corruption, fraud and baby-selling to flourish, the U.S. Embassy says in a new report obtained by The Associated Press.

The nine-page document describes brokers scouring villages for babies, hospitals selling infants whose mothers cannot pay their bills, and a grandmother giving away her grandchild — without telling the child’s mother.

"I’m shocked and deeply troubled by the worst of the worst cases," said Jonathan Aloisi, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi.

Vietnam’s top adoption official called the concerns "groundless." Bribery of orphanage officials may occur, but serious offenses such as baby-selling or kidnapping are not a problem, said Vu Duc Long, director of the Department of International Adoptions.

The dispute comes amid a boom in adoptions from Vietnam. Americans — including actress Angelina Jolie — adopted more than 1,200 Vietnamese children over the 18 months ending March 31. In 2007, adoptions surged more than 400 percent from a year earlier, with 828 Vietnamese children adopted by American families.

While China remains the most popular overseas country for adoptions, a growing number of Americans are looking to Vietnam, which has fewer restrictions. The wait for adoption approval has also gotten longer in China after authorities there tightened rules.

U.S. adoption agencies active in Vietnam said that despite some cases of wrongdoing, most adoptions in the country are ethical.

"Our experience has been a good one," said Susan Cox, vice president of public policy with Holt International Children’s Services, based in Eugene, Ore., which has operated in Vietnam since the 1970s. "We are concerned about any unethical practices, but I would not agree that these cases are indicative of adoptions in Vietnam."

Another adoption agency, Families Thru International Adoption, of Evansville, Ind., said that corruption exists everywhere and it is up to the adoption agencies to screen who they work with in Vietnam and other countries.

"There’s always somebody that is trying to do something under the table, and when there are children involved, the results are even more horrific," said program director Salome Larmarche. "As an agency, we have a responsibility to be very careful who we work with in a country and to only work with organizations that work in a morally responsible manner."

NOTRE DAME • SAINT MARY’S • HOLY CROSS
STUDENTS, STAFF and FACULTY

JOIN HILLARY CLINTON
SAT. APRIL 5 AT THE COVALESKI STADIUM IN SOUTH BEND
FOR A RALLY AT THE BALL PARK
501 W. SOUTH STREET

FREE SHUTTLES TO THE STADIUM WILL LEAVE ALONG THE SWEEP BUS ROUTE EVERY 15 MINUTES STARTING AT 11AM AND ENDING AT 5PM

EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC — NO TICKETS NECESSARY

DOORS OPEN AT NOON. EVENT BEGINS AT 2PM.

LIVE BANDS, KIDS’ GAMES, AND CONCESSION STANDS WILL BE OPEN

PAID FOR BY HILLARY CLINTON FOR PRESIDENT
Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to address the issue of campus expansion and the upgrades to student life that have occurred over the past year. Since my graduation, I have noticed an increase in the number of construction projects on campus, which has had both positive and negative impacts.

On the positive side, I have appreciated the efforts to enhance our living and learning environment. The new residence halls and academic buildings have provided more modern facilities and improved spaces for studying and socializing. The increased security measures have also made me feel safer on campus.

However, there are some concerns that I would like to bring to your attention. The constant noise and dust from construction projects have disrupted my daily routine and made it difficult to focus on my studies. Additionally, the reduced accessibility of certain areas during construction has caused inconvenience for both students and faculty.

I would also like to express my concern about the impact of these changes on the campus community. As a recent graduate, I am aware of the importance of maintaining a sense of community and familiarity in a university setting. The rapid transformation of the campus landscape has resulted in a loss of the unique character that Notre Dame is known for.

I understand that the university is trying to balance the need for modernization with the preservation of the campus's historical aspects. However, I believe that there should be a more conscious effort to maintain the campus's aesthetic and cultural heritage.

I hope that the administration will consider these points in future planning and decision-making. A campus that is both modern and welcoming is crucial for the continued success of our institution.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
It would be easy to lose sight of the good years of the past year in this year's graduating seniors by focusing on the wars overseas, rising gasoline prices, an unpopular president and the fact that they have known since throughout their teens a falling real market. Not this year. Not this class.

They are my “bros” since they will attend Notre Dame reunions during the same five-year intervals that I attended. So in May, they enter my world — one made personally pleasant or miserable individually by each of us.

The late humorist and syndicated columnist Art Buchwald, or world, was famed for telling seniors during a class year like May 24, 2008 that he was proud his generation was leaving them a perfect world. For decades his humor was uplifting to his readers. Ultimately, he wrote his last column which the newspaper held for more than a year after he died of kidney disease. “Each of you has, in your own way, contributed to my life for the better,” he wrote.

After Whalen’s death, even after his final words appeared in print, who helped ease the anxieties of others by explaining his choice to refuse to continue dialysis.

Seniors will learn how to face the world as the years pile on their shoulders. Typically operating in the real world beyond our ivy-covered walls.

Graduating seniors this year have suffered through one of the most humbling football seasons in modern history. That suffering certainly qualifies them to wear sandals at graduation as a symbol of their humility. Moreover, the hockey team barely fell short of a championship and others like the Irish team at the National Student Case Study Seminar, for example, also placed second in that academic and professional competition. Yet, many teams won big fast scores through thrilling moments. Having said that, I am waiting for someone...

Unfortunately sense of entitlement to carve out their own identities. I am very happy to welcome this senior class.

Finally, I will give you the last word, as I definitely agree with one of Bradley’s letter is a “diatribe” not unlike many of the other letters that are those of the author and not necessarily those of the columnists.

The views expressed in this column appear every other Friday. He can be reached at karajohnson@nd.edu.

Michelle Byrne
junior
Cavanaugh Hall
April 25

Confuse 
Recycle as last resort

I am very excited for Ms. Bradley about the many things the Notre Dame class of 2008 ("You know what really floats my boat?") April 24; this school has provided me with an array of opportunities as well. However, while I share the pride of attending this institution with Ms. Bradley and many other students here, I hope that I do not share the haughtiness and borderline arrogance that her letter seems to emanate.

Whalen is the type of forceful soul whose outlook of life comes from facing the horrors of death during his own military service during the Vietnam era. He is the earthy version of a guardian angel who smokes cigars. Whalen has scored high admissions offers when they failed to recognize the genius of a current Notre Dame student they likely would love to have on their world wide web accomplishments and fame are as popula...
Thirty-two homemade boats will race across Saint Mary’s Lake tomorrow, vying for the coveted honor of winning the 22nd annual Fisher Regatta.

Many boats will survive the waters and reach the other side, while inevitably some unlucky crafts will make the bottom of the lake their permanent home. The sailors and the spectators will make up the crowd for Fisher’s signature dorm event.

“Usually about ten to twelve hundred people show up,” Regatta co-commissioner Drew Clary said. “We serve tons of food that is generally gone in an hour,” he said.

Jay Farrarher organized Fisher Hall’s first regatta in 1987. A freshman at the time, Farrarher and some friends sought to create an event that united the men of Fisher Hall, while raising money for charity at the same time.

“We wanted to achieve [an event] on the level of Bookstore Basketball, Mortal and the Keenan Review,” Farrarher said in an e-mail. Twenty-two years later, Farrarher is happy to see that Regatta has grown into an event that hundreds of students attend each year. “I am very proud of the fact that the Regatta is still going strong,” he said.

Race day will find boats made of every conceivable material lined up on the shore, ready to take on their opponents. There will be anywhere from two to eight people per boat, with each boat entered into either a male or female bracket.

Clary’s freshman year, the Fishermen built a boat that was about 500-600 pounds. “It was a monster, but really cool, like a party barge,” he said.

However, the boat of a registered 22 men to carry it out to the lake, and by the time the boat was steadily cruising across the water, Fisher’s opponent had already crossed the finishing line. But Clary and his dormmates have learned from their mistakes, this year Fisher’s boat considerably smaller.

While some dorms like Fisher and Sorin try to learn from past mistakes, other dorms have a tried and true formula; namely, O’Neill.

“O’Neill has used same boat for several years. There are tallies on the side of the boat that show that the boat has won four or five times,” Clary said.

The fun and excitement encompassing the Regatta is the result of a major organizational feat. NDSP, the South Bend Fire Department, and South Bend’s Water Safety Unit are all involved in the event. Clary said. They partner in the event as a precaution, bringing in scuba gear and patrolling the water in motorboats. But the event is just as fun for them as it is for the students.

“They love it. Last year, one of the [firemen] brought his son, and he just road around in the motorboat with everyone,” Clary said.

Along with the safety precautions, the commissioners are also in charge of handling the money to be sent to the charity. Every year, the Regatta benefits the Andre House, a Holy Cross Organization service organization in the Phoenix area.

Every dorm donates $40 to enter their first boat. If they choose to enter additional boats, each one will cost $30, Clary said. The dorm will also sell tee shirts priced at $10 to raise money. The cost of putting on the event, namely the cost of food, is covered by dorms funds and sponsorships.

“We have a tight budget so we expanded our sponsorship this year,” Clary said, stating that Catering by Design will donate about half of the food, and that Papa Johns will be supplying gift certificates to the race’s winners.

The day of the race starts at 7 a.m. for the commissioners. They will make sure everything is in place before waking up the rest of the dorm at 11 a.m. to finish preparations. At noon the grill will be fired up. Finally, at 1:00 pm, the races will commence.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu
"The Last Five Years" chronicles five years in the life of Cathy Hiatt (Carolyn Rose Sullivan) and her husband (Matthew Callanan) both in forwards and reverse. It's a ride, which if experienced, surely won't be regretted. The play shows off the talent here at Notre Dame. We have two incredibly talented performers, singers and actors as well as a violin and piano player. But Nowalk said he feels the play does something else.

"I think that musical theater has a lot of connotations. A lot people think they have a good idea of what it means," he said. "This is a different possibility of what musical theater can be and I think it's a success."

The Farley Hall Players' show isn't terribly long, and that might be its strength. It dives into the lives Jamie and Cathy, taking the audience along for a ride amidst their love, fear and separation, before coming to a close. And it's a ride, which if experienced, surely won't be regretted.

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu
Athletics first baseman Mike Sweeney, left, and catcher Kurt Suzuki miss a fly ball hit into foul territory by Twins center fielder Carlos Gomez during Oakland's 11-2 victory on Thursday.

Athletics first baseman Mike Sweeney, left, and catcher Kurt Suzuki miss a fly ball hit into foul territory by Twins center fielder Carlos Gomez during Oakland's 11-2 victory on Thursday, after batting .056 (1-for-18) in 12 games for the Giants before they designated him for assignment on April 20.

"I'm excited about what we're doing over here," Sweeney said. "It's nice to get out there and get it going."
Larry Brown resigned as the executive vice president of the Philadelphia 76ers on Thursday in the hopes that he would be able to coach at least one more season at either the college or the professional level.

Brown resigned as Sixers vice president

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Larry Brown wants one more stop on his nomadic coaching career.

Brown resigned as Philadelphia’s executive vice president Thursday with the intent to pursue a coaching job at the NBA or college level. Brown has been a winner at almost every team he has coached since a bitter split with the Knicks and then-team president Isiah Thomas after one dismal season in New York in 2005-06.

“He has the taste of coaching back in his mouth,” said Brown’s agent, Joe Glass. “It would be refreshing to have a situation going that he could enjoy, rather than the last one, to say the least.”

Glass said Brown, who won an NBA title with Detroit and a college title with Kansas, would not rule out returning to either level.

Brown rejoined the Sixers last season as consultant and was hired in January 2007 as a fix more than three years after he quit his coaching job to take the same position in Detroit. The 67-year-old Brown resigned as coach of the 76ers in 2003 after six often-turbulent seasons in which he helped rebuild a struggling franchise.

The Hall of Fame coach had a contentious relationship with Allen Iverson, but the two worked together despite several disputes, and reached the NBA finals in 2001. They lost in five games to the Lakers.

“Larry was born to coach and this is something he and I talked about when I took the job here back in December, so it comes as no surprise to me,” 76ers president Ed Stefanski said.

In Brief

Goodell ready to punish the Patriots if necessary

NEW YORK — Roger Goodell is fully prepared to crack down again on the New England Patriots if his meeting with Matt Walsh uncovered a tape made of the St. Louis Rams’ final walkthrough practice before the 2002 Super Bowl.

“Taping a walkthrough is much different from what I punished them for,” the NFL commissioner said Thursday at a meeting of a group representing the Associated Press Sports Editors.

After more than two months of negotiations, lawyers for the league and Walsh, the former New England employee, finally reached an agreement Wednesday on terms that will allow him to talk Goodell. They include an agreement by the Patriots not to sue Walsh and to pay his legal expenses and his airfare to New York from Hawaii, where he is now a golf pro.

Ortiz-jersey sold for $175,000 at charity auction

BOSTON — The Red Sox’s coveted Under the new Yankee Stadium in a failed curse attempt sold Thursday for $175,100 in a charity auction.

The bid from Kevin Meehan, the owner of Inexplicable.com in Medion, Mass., was the highest of 282 for the battered No. 34 David Ortiz jersey.

“I actually thought it was going to sell for more money,” said Meehan, who bid only in the final moments of the weeklong eBay auction that ended at 12:30 p.m. “I have three young boys that I take to the games and they would have killed me if I didn’t buy the shirt.

The Yankees jackhammered the jersey out from under two feet of concrete earlier this month, then donated it to the Jimmy Fund, the Red Sox’s official charity that is affiliated with Boston’s Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Pledger guilty to betting on fixed NBA games

NEW YORK — A professional gambler pleaded guilty on Thursday to making bets based on inside tips from former NBA referee Tim Donaghy.

James Battista told a judge in federal court in Brooklyn he hatched a scheme in late 2006 with another old friend of Donaghy, Thomas Martino, to pay the referee thousands of dollars for the information while Battista was “engaged in the business of sports betting.”

Battista’s lawyer had notified the court last week that his client wanted to go to trial rather than plead guilty to charges of defrauding the NBA, as Martino did earlier this month. But he changed his mind after prosecutors offered a last-minute deal allowing him to instead plead guilty to a lesser charge of conspiring to make illegal bets, said the lawyer, Jack McMahon.

around the dial

NHL PLAYOFFS

Rangers @ Penguins

7 p.m., Versus

Stars at Sharks

10:00 p.m., Versus

A R O U N D  T H E  N A T I O N


page 15

MLB

American League, East Division

team record perc. RF RA

Boston 15-9 .625 128 119

Baltimore 12-10 .524 84 80

NY Yankees 12-10 .545 100 102

Tampa Bay 10-11 .476 103 93

Toronto 10-12 .476 82 92

American League, Central Division

team record perc. RF RA

Chicago WS 11-9 .550 107 91

Minnesota 10-12 .455 72 96

Kansas City 9-11 .455 84 62

Detroit 16-13 .523 119 128

Cleveland 9-12 .400 94 91

American League, West Division

team record perc. RF RA

Oakland 14-9 .600 109 92

LA Angels 14-9 .600 116 103

Seattle 11-11 .500 90 90

Texas 11-15 .438 92 142

National League, East Division

team record perc. RF RA

Florida 13-6 .692 101 104

NY Mets 13-6 .550 95 79

Philadelphia 12-11 .536 79 87

Atlanta 10-16 .375 106 91

Washington 9-16 .375 78 76

National League, Central Division

team record perc. RF RA

Chicago Cubs 15-7 .586 135 98

St. Louis 13-9 .545 91 97

Milwaukee 12-9 .545 95 93

Houston 11-12 .478 108 104

Milwaukee 10-13 .446 95 130

Cincinnati 11-14 .446 95 111

National League, West Division

team record perc. RF RA

Arizona 15-6 .714 128 79

Colorado 10-12 .455 87 113

LA Dodgers 9-12 .429 91 82

San Francisco 9-13 .429 70 116

San Diego 9-13 .429 74 106

Golfweek’s Men’s Golf Rankings

team record perc. RF RA

1 Arizona 111-11-11 10

2 Georgia 107-21-9 9

3 UCLA 110-17-9 9

4 UCLA 108-20-9 9

5 Oregon State 108-16-1 11

6 Charlotte 108-16-1 11

7 Stanford 106-26-9 9

8 Florida 107-41-9 9

9 Georgia Tech 106-34-9 9

10 Florida State 106-32-1 10

11 Tennessee 105-32-3 10

12 South Carolina 111-40-2 11

13 Georgia 110-30-4 11

14 Duke 94-36-3 10

15 UNLV 113-32-2 10

16 Texas A&M 106-54-2 10

17 Arizona 103-43-3 10

18 Cincinnati 92-44-1 10

19 UCF 95-45-3 10

20 Louisville 103-43-3 11

21 East Tennessee 72-62-2 9

22 Arizona State 76-52-2 9

23 Western State 68-48-5 10

24 Michigan State 67-34-2 10

25 Indiana 110-35-11 10
SMC TENNIS

Belles travel to Albion for first leg of MIAAs

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

After a hump start to its season, Saint Mary’s begins the first round of MIAA tournament play today as they take on Kalamazoo in Albion, Mich., at 8:30 a.m. “Based on how well we’ve been doing lately as a team, I know we are ready to do it all on the line this weekend,” sophomore co-captain Camille Gebert said. “If we want any hope of doing well, we are going to have to play confidently, as we have in the later part of our season. I have high expectations for our team in this tournament, as I’m sure we all do.”

The MIAA tournament runs today and Saturday at Albion and nearby Spring Arbor University. Teams will compete in the opening rounds today and Saturday with the tournament final being played on Sunday.

Saint Mary’s singles and doubles have both shown improvement over the course of the season. Coming into the season with only two returning sophomores and eight freshmen, the Belles had a rough start. Losing three of its first four conference matches, Saint Mary’s turned the season around and stopped up its conference record of 5-3, and momentum.

Heading into the tournament, the Belles are presently fourth in the MIAA with a conference record of 5-3, and 10-9 overall. Saint Mary’s has been showing a lot more consistency in recent matches, with recent successes, consistency, and momentum.

“Saint Mary’s has hight hopes for the conference tournament, especially after their recent successes, consistency, and momentum.”

Saint Mary’s will put their season on the line this weekend as they continue the MIAA conference tournament this weekend in Marshall, Mich.

The Belles currently sit in second place after the first round, just 18 strokes behind Olivet. Saint Mary’s has proven over the past couple of weeks that it can compete with the best teams in Division III, and hope to automatically qualify for the NCAA Tournament with a first place finish in the conference tournament.

Since the first round of the qualifier, the Belles have finished second at the Vassar Invitational and sixth at the Illinois-Wesleyan Spring Fling. At the Spring Fling, the team’s improvement was noticeable as Saint Mary’s finished only 7 strokes behind Olivet and shot the same score as the Comets on the final day. Leading the Belles’ spring effort was freshman Rachel O’Connor and senior captain Katie O’Brien.

In the Vassar Invitational, O’Connor finished second overall, one shot off the lead, in the individual standings. Reigning conference MVP Katie O’Brien, who has led the Belles all season, finished in 16th place. In the Illinois-Wesleyan tournament both women posted totals of 163 placing them in a tie for 17th overall.

If the Belles fail to pull ahead of Olivet this weekend, their NCAA Tournament hopes still won’t be extinguished. The top teams who do not receive the automatic bid from their conference tournaments will be thrown into a pool where a selection committee will decide which teams will join the automatic bids in the championship.

Based on their previous results, the Belles have a good chance of being selected if it were to come to the selection committee.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu

The UPS Store

“May Move Out” ’08 NOTRE DAME
MONDAY - THURSDAY AND SATURDAY 10am-5pm FRIDAY 8am-5pm

FLANNER CIRCLE: WELSH FAMILY HALL
Monday, May 5 – Saturday, May 10

LYONS BASKETBALL COURTS
Wednesday, May 7 – Saturday, May 10

$1.00 off Shipping PER BOX
FREE PICK UP
Pickup is free, but no discounts will be accepted with pickup.

PERMANENT LOCATION
Martin’s Plaza – S.R. 23
Hours: M-F 9am - 7pm, Sat. 9am - 6pm
574.277.6245

Stand Out in a Crowd!

At Notre Dame Federal Credit Union, we not only offer a variety of options to assist you with the financing of your educational goals, but we provide personal service every step of the way.

We’ll answer your questions about our many student loan options, help you decide which one is right for you, plus we’ll tell you about the various discounts we offer.

It’s not just your education, it’s your future.

Contact our Student Loan Coordinator today.

NOTRE DAME FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
800/652-6611 • www.ndfcu.org
studentloans@ndfcu.org

Advised by a peer, 1-1 per guest.
Expires June 10, 2008. Ironwood Location only.
574.277.6767

saloni nail care

1/2 PRICE
HAIRCUT, MANICURE, OR PEDICURE
WITH ANY COLOR

FREE
BROW WAX WITH HAIRCUT

Bring coupon with you. 1-1 per guest.
Expires June 10, 2008. Ironwood Location only.
Belles to take shot at regular season crown

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's plays its last regular season game before the conference tournament Saturday afternoon, taking on first-place Tri-State. The Belles (22-7 overall, 11-3 MIAA), currently third in the MIAA, have already reserved their spot in the upcoming conference tournament. But, with two wins on Saturday, it would be possible for Saint Mary's to become regular season champs.

The tournament, which begins May 1, is held at the home field of the regular season winner.

Taking two against Tri-State will not be an easy task, however. The Thunder (26-4, 10-2) have only lost two MIAA games, one against conference co-leader Alma and the other against fourth place Hope. They put together an 11-game winning streak earlier in the season extending from March 22 to April 5.

Belles coach Erin Sullivan said she wants the team to do well, especially because the doubleheader finishes the Belles' season at home.

"A good finish of our regular season would be a great motivator for the post-season," said Sullivan.

Saturday is also senior day for the Belles. Pitcher and third baseman McKenna Corrigan, the only senior on the team, will be honored for her commitment to the program.

Corrigan has been a powerful force for the Belles all season. On the mound, she is 11-0 with a 3.94 ERA in 82.2 innings pitched. At the plate, Corrigan holds a .330 batting average with 29 RBI and a conference-leading five home runs.

"(Corrigan) has been a fantastic leader for us all season and I am going to miss her love of the game, dedication and personality so much," Sullivan said.

Sullivan added that Senior Day is an extra motivation for the rest of the team.

"(Corrigan) deserves a good couple of games in her last time playing here," Sullivan said.

Sophomore Ashley Peterson may also have something to celebrate Saturday. The Belles' most productive offensive player has 51 hits on the season, two shy of the Belles' record. Peterson leads the MIAA in batting average (.510), slugging percentage (.790), on base percentage, and is tied for the conference lead in hits.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu
By SAM WERNER  
Sport Writer

The rain didn't quite hold off long enough, and the second game of Notre Dame's doubleheader with Loyola-Chicago was called after the seventh of the second game with the score tied at two apiece, ending it in a tie after the first tilt 4-3 in extra innings.

Despite the weather, the Irish were happy with the result.

"We played with a team we should have dominated," Gumpf said. "We made this day a lot harder than it should have been.

Notre Dame 4, Loyola-Chicago 3

The Irish overcame four errors, three by freshman shortstop Haley Ambrosch, to beat Loyola in eight innings in game one.

Notre Dame got on the board first against the Ramblers, scoring in the bottom of the first inning when senior left fielder Sarah Smith, who had doubled to left-center, scored on a Christine Lux single.

Loyola came back to tie the game at one in the fourth inning, and struck again in the fifth.

The Ramblers used two hits and two Irish errors to plate two more runs and take a 3-1 lead.

"It's always tough to give up runs," Gumpf said. "Whether they're earned or unearned, I've just got to keep doing what I've got to do to make this team win.

Notre Dame bounced back right back with two runs of their own in the bottom of the inning. Amy Sulava entered the game for Krista Crosson to pitch for the Ramblers, and struggled immediately. With Fleury on second and Smith on first, sophomore second baseman Katie Laing hit a long fly to center field. Schobar caught the ball, but promptly dropped it on the exchange, allowing Fleury to score and Smith to advance to third. Two batters later, Ellis beat out a weak dribbler down the third baseline, and Smith scored on the play.

Neither team could push across a run in the sixth or seventh inning, and the game advanced to extra innings.

Playing under international tie-breaker rules, each team started with a runner on second in the added frame.

After holding Loyola-Chicago scoreless, Kohan started at second for the Irish in the bottom of the inning, and moved over to third on a wild pitch. Ellis then hit a grounder to shortstop Haley Ambrosch, but Ambrosch fell while trying to make the throw to the plate, and Kohan slid home to give Notre Dame the win in extra innings.

Brianna Jorgensborg ripped a shot to the left-centerfield gap, just past the outstretched fielder's glove. Marrone came around to score easily on the play, but Jorgensborg was called out trying to stretch it to a triple on a close call at third.

Rain started falling in the bottom of the seventh inning and, with Fleury on first, the umpires spotted lightning and called the game, ending it in a 2-2 tie.

Bargar finished five and one-thirds innings pitched and gave up only three hits and no runs, while striking out four.

The Irish next take on Providence in a doubleheader at Melissa Cook Stadium on April 26.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

Hey Seniors:

Are you moving to MN after graduation?

The Notre Dame Alumni Club of MN invites you to Legends this Friday from 4:30-6pm for FREE food and FREE drinks! Come and network and get your name on the Club’s list. Door prizes will be given away too:

"The Shirt," MN Club Merch., O’Neill Brothers CDs, and MN gift certificates.

Feel free to come and go anytime between 4:30-6pm. We will be located on the left side of Legends (the restaurant portion) on the upper tier in the back.

Stop by!

RHYME & REASON

HIP HOP / SPOKEN WORD CONCERT
FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH
8:00 PM

RECKERS

FEAT. DETROIT PERFORMERS:

..DJ INCREDIBLE
..DAWN DEMPS

..LADY ADAM CRURIE
..VERSIZ

SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL STUDENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN and THE FORD FOUNDATION

"EXPANDING THE CROSSROADS OF LEARNING THROUGH INNOVATION AND DISCOVERY"
Runners go to Hillsdale for relays
Meet is last chance for Irish to qualify for Big East tournament

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

The final opportunity for Irish athletes to qualify for the Big East outdoor championships next weekend is the Hillsdale Relays, beginning today in Hillsdale, Mich.

Distance coach Tim Connelly is looking forward to this weekend's opportunity, but is satisfied with the number of runners that have already qualified for the Irish.

"We have several athletes whom I believe are capable of still qualifying for the Big East meet," he said. "But overall I would say we have met our goals so far this season.

"This is a really tough time of year for most students with finals approaching, and our athletes are no exception," Connelly said. "Sometimes just a weekend of not traveling pays big dividends. Many of our kids have traveled and competed a lot in recent weeks."

Looking ahead to the Big East meet next week, Connelly has a simple goal for his team: improve.

"We hope to improve on our indoor finish at the conference meet, with a top three finish our goal," Connelly said. "With such a young group, that would be a nice improvement."

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu

IRISH MEN'S LACROSSE

#8 Irish vs. Ohio State
Sunday @ Noon
Alumni Field
Early fans receive a T-Shirt

Everyone's RISH

NOTRE DAME STADIUM

SEMINIFALS
Friday, April 25
5:30PM - Rutgers vs. Syracuse
7:45PM - Notre Dame vs. Georgetown

FINALS
Sunday, April 27 @ Noon

FREE ADMISSION FOR ND, SC, HCC STUDENTS WITH ID

ADULTS - $4
YOUTH & SENIORS - $2
- CALL 574-631-7356 - CLICK ON WWW.UND.COM/TICKETS
- OR STOP BY THE ND STADIUM TICKET OFFICE ON GAME DAYS

rowing

Team heads off to Big East regatta

The Irish rowing team will travel to the Big East championships this weekend in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Notre Dame enters the competition after a strong performance in last week's Charles River Challenge. The team won four of five races on the weekend against Dartmouth and Boston University.

Notre Dame enters the conference championships as the favorite, with the team's varsity eight team ranked No. 6 in the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association/US Rowing poll.

The only other ranked team competing is No. 18 Louisville. The Irish will face off with seven other Big East opponents Sunday in Oak Ridge.

Write sports.

E-mail Chris at chine@nd.edu.

IRISH WOMEN'S LACROSSE

NOTRE DAME STADIUM

SEMINIFALS
Friday, April 25
5:30PM - Rutgers vs. Syracuse
7:45PM - Notre Dame vs. Georgetown

FINALS
Sunday, April 27 @ Noon

FREE ADMISSION FOR ND, SC, HCC STUDENTS WITH ID

ADULTS - $4
YOUTH & SENIORS - $2
- CALL 574-631-7356 - CLICK ON WWW.UND.COM/TICKETS
- OR STOP BY THE ND STADIUM TICKET OFFICE ON GAME DAYS

rowing

Team heads off to Big East regatta

The Irish rowing team will travel to the Big East championships this weekend in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Notre Dame enters the competition after a strong performance in last week's Charles River Challenge. The team won four of five races on the weekend against Dartmouth and Boston University.

Notre Dame enters the conference championships as the favorite, with the team's varsity eight team ranked No. 6 in the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association/US Rowing poll.

The only other ranked team competing is No. 18 Louisville. The Irish will face off with seven other Big East opponents Sunday in Oak Ridge.

Write sports.

E-mail Chris at chine@nd.edu.
NBA

Wizards rout Cavaliers, close series gap to 2-1

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — LeBron James was serenaded with chants of "over-rated" as he stood at the free throw line late in the third quarter, the latest humorous twist in an ongoing saga that had somehow snared — yes, believe it or not — one of his son's favorite rappers into a front-row seat near the basket.

James couldn't help but laugh. He was so distracted he missed the free throw. Didn't really matter.

By then, the Cleveland Cavaliers were trailing by 28 points, a stunning reversal from Game 2 to Game 3 in their first-round series against the Washington Wizards.

Maybe it was the new haircuts sported by four Wizards players. Maybe it was the presence of Soulja Boy. Maybe it was sight of Colin Powell in a "White Out" T-shirt. Or just the comfort of home. Or the implications of having Gilbert Arenas in the starting lineup, even though he limped out of the game in the first half.

Actually, there were plenty of reasons the Wizards routed their playoff nemesis, 108-72 in a Thursday night party at the Verizon Center. DeShawn Stevenson, who started the "over-rated" talk and invited Soulja Boy to the game, had a "can't-feel-my-face" 19 points.

Caron Butler (17 points) and Antawn Jamison (11) also found their games. James didn't have his. And, yes, those 15 first-half Cleveland turnovers had a lot to do with it too.

"It was a good old fashioned behind-kicking," Cleveland coach Mike Brown said.

The victory took the Wizards off the ropes by cutting Cleveland's lead to 2-1 in the first-round series. Washington will also host Game 4 on Sunday, when coach Eddie Jordan's players will have the confidence of knowing they aren't destined to be forever hexed by James and Co.

Cleveland had won eight straight playoff games against the Wizards, including a first-round sweep a year ago.

"I don't know about the rapper and haircuts," Jordan said. "But I think the fans and the way we played kind of came together."

One game after setting a franchise playoff record with a 30-point win in Game 2, the Cavaliers set another team postseason mark by losing by 36. The margin of victory also set a Wizards franchise playoff record.

The Wizards took control with a pair of 9-0 runs in the first half. They led 49-33 at halftime, and the Cavaliers never threatened to make a game of it in the second half.

But, oh, the subplots!

The crowd's big chant was a reference to Stevenson's claim that James was "over-rated" following a Wizards' victory over the Cavaliers last month. James said responding to that remark would be like Jay-Z responding to Soulja Boy — a hip-hop mogul answering a one-hit wonder.

Stevenson said he met his words after Games 1 and 2, but he had Soulja Boy dancing in the aisle Thursday night after going 5-of-7 on 3-pointers. After making his shots, Stevenson ran down the court waving his hand in front of his nose, the "can't-feel-my-face" gesture that Cleveland's Damon Jones mocked in Game 2.

"If I was disrespected as an artist, I would have come, too," Stevenson said. "I felt like Soulja Boy felt disrespected, and he came to support the Washington Wizards."

So will the rapper, whose music was played on the sound system during the game, be back for Game 4?

"We got to get him here," Stevenson said. "We won with him. Me and Gil are superstition, so we have to get him back."

What was James' response to all this? First, he said the Wizards' crowd wasn't nearly as intimidating as the Detroit fans in last year's playoffs.

And as for Soulja Boy?

"My son knows every last dance Soulja Boy does and every last song he ever made," James said. "So if my son was watching, he enjoyed it."

When it was suggested that Stevenson might be part of a budding

DelShawn-LeBron rivalry, James had a good laugh.

"There's no DelShawn-LeBron rivalry," he said, laughing again.

The Wizards tried to force James, who scored 32 and 30 points in Games 1 and 2, to shoot more from outside, and it worked. Boarded heavily every time he touched the ball, the Cavaliers All-Star couldn't get into a flow.
**Red Storm continued from page 24**

...to keep his pitches in the strike zone, not allowing many free passes and interchanging between his fastball, changeup and breaking ball. Maust will likely take the mound for the opener on Sunday.

Pelps will probably lead off the three-game set Friday, looking to improve on his 5-3 record against the Red Storm. He also takes his 3.38 ERA to the mound to go with his team-high 57 strikeouts this season.

The junior has only allowed one homerun all season, and is second in the squad with a .376 batting average, with his .397 batting average, A.J. Pollock leads the team this year — 15 more than the one homerun all season, and is third on the club with 30 RBIs, to go with his .351 average. Phelps will probably lead one homerun all season, and is second in the squad with a .376 batting average, with his .397 batting average, A.J. Pollock leads the team this year — 15 more than the one homerun all season, and is third on the club with 30 RBIs, to go with his .351 average. Phelps will probably lead...
Big East

continued from page 24

Byers (61 goals), Blaney (55 goals) and senior captain Caitlin McKinney (52 goals, 21 assists) will look to jump on Georgetown early again, while sophomore Gina Scioscia (15 goals, 29 assists) will serve as the offense's main distributer.

The Irish have won six of their last eight dating back to the home loss to Syracuse, and one of those losses came at No. 1 Northwestern on April 9. Ever since losing two of three over spring break in California, Coyne said her team has played much better and consistent lacrosse.

"We had our ups and downs on the California swing, but those games have really helped prepare us for this opportunity," she said. "If we don't know what it is we're about and we don't know what it takes to win, we're not going to do it. We've played enough games to where we know our team and we know our strengths."

But despite all this offensive firepower, Corrigan said the Irish — who haven't given up double-digit goals all season — will be stressing a more defensive strategy against the Buckeyes.

"This is a very good offensive team. They've got six different guys offensively who are doing a lot for them so I think the defensive end is where it'll start for us. We need to play a smart, disciplined game on both ends of the field without losing aggressiveness and I think that'll serve us well," he said.

Girrigan also noted that this would be the last home game for the senior class, a fact he says he'll certainly be thinking about come game time.

"We don't do a big senior day presentation on game day, but it's always a big game for our seniors, it being their last game at home. This has been a great senior class. They've been tremendous for us," he said. "We've got a guy at every spot who's not only played an important role for us but has been a leader. Even the guys who aren't playing take tremendous pride in our team they work hard and they're selfless in their contributions."

Buckeyes

continued from page 24

Notre Dame has outscored their opponents 15-3-82 this season, mainly due to the efforts of a few consistent offensive stars. Junior attacker Ryan Hoff leads the team with 23 assists.

Senior midfielder Michael Podgajny and sophomore offensive stars. Junior attack efforts of a few consistent offensive team. They've got six defensive players, many of which are doing a lot for them so I think it'll be a good measuring stick for us but has been a leader. Even the guys who aren't playing take tremendous pride in our team they work hard and they're selfless in their contributions."

Contact Griffin Dassatti at gddasst@nd.edu

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Contact Griffin Dassatti at gddasst@nd.edu

Contact Griffin Dassatti at gddasst@nd.edu

Contact Griffin Dassatti at gddasst@nd.edu

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

The Nanovic Institute for European Studies


Congratulations to Undergraduate students

John Hennessy (France) The R. Stephen and Ruth Barrett Family Grant for Best Proposal
Mary Ann Barge (United Kingdom, Russia) The Katie Murphy McMahon Grant for Russian and East-Central European Studies
Anna Jansons (Latvia) The Katie Murphy McMahon Grant for Russian and East-Central European Studies
Katherine Mohrig (Hungary) The Katie Murphy McMahon Grant for Russian and East-Central European Studies
George Mandarakas (Greece) Katherine Schilling (Netherlands)

Perry Shoemaker (Spain)

to Graduate students

Sara Bransen (France and England) Matthew Eggeemeier (Germany, Belgium)
Eleonora Buonocore (Italy) Jennifer Juscikiewicz (United Kingdom)
Chris Champman (England) Harry Karahalios (Italy)
William Dowdy (Hungary, Austria) Jason Miller (United Kingdom)
Czech Republic, Slovenia) Melinda Nielsen (United Kingdom, Italy)

and to Graduate Fellowship Winners

Martina Cucchiara (The Donnici and Frank Annese Fellowship in Graduate Studies)
Michael Driessen (The Paul G. Tobin Dissertation Fellowship)
Kathryn Gardner (The Paul G. Tobin Dissertation Fellowship)

For more information about Nanovic Institute grants and funding for students, visit http://nanovic.nd.edu.
Baseball

Weathering the storm

Irish try to stay atop Big East vs. St. John's

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Now that No. 24 Notre Dame has backed up its first week as a ranked team with a pair of non-conference wins, it's time for the squad to take its recent consistent play to the Big East.

But things aren't going to get any easier for the Irish.

In the path lies St. John's, which saw in league play, trailing the Irish by a game.

Notre Dame (27-10-1, 12-3) will host the Red Storm (29-9, 11-41) at Frank Eck Stadium for a three-game series that begins tonight at 6:05, and wraps up with a Sunday afternoon contest at 3.

Earlier in the week, freshman starting pair Brian Dupra and Ryan Sharpley pitched in solid back-to-back performances as the Irish won over Chicago State and IPFW respectively.

This weekend, the Irish turn to their league pitching rotation composed of junior David Phelps, senior Wade Korpi and sophomore Eric Maust to try to maintain their momentum and remain atop the conference standings.

MAust enters the weekend at No. 1 in the league with a 1.83 earned run average (ERA), just .20 points better than Sharpley's mark. The sophomore has been successful with the team -high in wins pitching in the conference standings.

“Randy Waldrum actually has faced off against a team from across the United States south of the border. In 2005 and 2006, the Irish notched wins at Alumni Field.

Notre Dame junior Jeremy Barnes connects with a pitch Tuesday in the Irish's 12-2 win over Chicago State. Barnes and the Irish have won 14 of their last 15 games.

The Irish, who are coming of the Big East title in Tallahassee, Fla., last week, the Irish will return to the Sunshine State looking for similar success against No. 13 Florida State.

"The win was great," head coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have won the title for the fourth time in the last five years.

For the second straight year, Bayliss obtained the Big East Coach of the Year title.

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

The No. 10 Irish will become the Big East's first women's volleyball team to compete in Notre Dame Stadium when they face No. 7 Georgetown in the semifinals of the Big East tournament at 7:45 tonight.

"It's a tremendous honor for us to have the opportunity to play in Notre Dame Stadium," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "It's amazing. I think the players definitely appreciate and understand what it means to have this opportunity to compete in the stadium."

Notre Dame (11-5, 4-1 Big East) enters the four-team conference tournament as the No. 2 seed. After losing their Big East opener to top-seeded Syracuse (13-2, 5-0 Big East), the Irish won their remaining four conference games.

By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame versus... Mexico?

This weekend, the Irish will take on the Mexican Under-20 national team today at 7 p.m. at Alumni Field.

This marks the fourth straight year Notre Dame has faced off against a team from across the United States south of the border.

"That just shows the enormity of our challenge," Clark said. "That just shows the enormity of our challenge."

Clark said Mexican team presents a stiffer challenge than most of his team's regular opponents.

"They are very, very good. Technically, I don't think we face anyone better than them," he said. "They take it more evenly distributed this year."

The Irish, who are coming of three wins in five days over Quinnipiac, Lehigh and Air Force, should be extremely tired after having to travel across three different time zones. But, according to Corrigan, his team is far from jet-lagged.

"It was a challenging weekend but we did what we needed to do and we got into the games and didn't allow ourselves to get worn down athletically.

In terms of managing everything it was interesting, but we got back, got a little time off and they're fresh and ready to go," he said.

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI
Sports Writer

In their final home game of the season, Notre Dame has one last shot at a No. 1 in next week's faceoff with the US Lacrosse Collegiate Lacrosse Tournament.

That shot comes Sunday at noon, when the No. 7 Irish (10-2, 3-1 GLWL) take on No. 13 Ohio State (9-2, 4-0 GLWL).

"We need to win this game," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "If we win this game, we'll be the No. 1 seed going into the GLWL tournament this weekend. If we lose this game we're going have to beat Ohio State and Denver.

The Irish, who are coming of three wins in five days over Quinnipiac, Lehigh and Air Force, should be extremely tired after having to travel across three different time zones. But, according to Corrigan, his team is far from jet-lagged.

"It was a challenging weekend but we did what we needed to do and we got into the games and didn't allow ourselves to get worn down athletically.

In terms of managing everything it was interesting, but we got back, got a little time off and they're fresh and ready to go," he said.

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

The No. 10 Irish will become the Big East's first women's volleyball team to compete in Notre Dame Stadium when they face No. 7 Georgetown in the semifinals of the Big East tournament at 7:45 tonight.

"It's a tremendous honor for us to have the opportunity to play in Notre Dame Stadium," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "It's amazing. I think the players definitely appreciate and understand what it means to have this opportunity to compete in the stadium."

Notre Dame (11-5, 4-1 Big East) enters the four-team conference tournament as the No. 2 seed. After losing their Big East opener to top-seeded Syracuse (13-2, 5-0 Big East), the Irish won their remaining four conference games.

By KATE GRABAREK
Associate Sports Editor

For the second straight year, the Irish will return to the Sunshine State looking for similar success against No. 13 Florida State.

"The win was great," head coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have won the title for the fourth time in the last five years.

For the second straight year, Bayliss obtained the Big East Coach of the Year title.

By KATE GRABAREK
Associate Sports Editor

The No. 10 Irish will become the Big East's first women's volleyball team to compete in Notre Dame Stadium when they face No. 7 Georgetown in the semifinals of the Big East tournament at 7:45 tonight.

"It's a tremendous honor for us to have the opportunity to play in Notre Dame Stadium," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "It's amazing. I think the players definitely appreciate and understand what it means to have this opportunity to compete in the stadium."

Notre Dame (11-5, 4-1 Big East) enters the four-team conference tournament as the No. 2 seed. After losing their Big East opener to top-seeded Syracuse (13-2, 5-0 Big East), the Irish won their remaining four conference games.

By KATE GRABAREK
Associate Sports Editor

For the second straight year, the Irish will return to the Sunshine State looking for similar success against No. 13 Florida State.

"The win was great," head coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have won the title for the fourth time in the last five years.

For the second straight year, Bayliss obtained the Big East Coach of the Year title.

By KATE GRABAREK
Associate Sports Editor

For the second straight year, the Irish will return to the Sunshine State looking for similar success against No. 13 Florida State.

"The win was great," head coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have won the title for the fourth time in the last five years.

For the second straight year, Bayliss obtained the Big East Coach of the Year title.

By KATE GRABAREK
Associate Sports Editor

For the second straight year, the Irish will return to the Sunshine State looking for similar success against No. 13 Florida State.

"The win was great," head coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have won the title for the fourth time in the last five years.

For the second straight year, Bayliss obtained the Big East Coach of the Year title.

By KATE GRABAREK
Associate Sports Editor

For the second straight year, the Irish will return to the Sunshine State looking for similar success against No. 13 Florida State.

"The win was great," head coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have won the title for the fourth time in the last five years.

For the second straight year, Bayliss obtained the Big East Coach of the Year title.

By KATE GRABAREK
Associate Sports Editor

For the second straight year, the Irish will return to the Sunshine State looking for similar success against No. 13 Florida State.

"The win was great," head coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have won the title for the fourth time in the last five years.

For the second straight year, Bayliss obtained the Big East Coach of the Year title.

By KATE GRABAREK
Associate Sports Editor

For the second straight year, the Irish will return to the Sunshine State looking for similar success against No. 13 Florida State.

"The win was great," head coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We have won the title for the fourth time in the last five years.

For the second straight year, Bayliss obtained the Big East Coach of the Year title.