Millions crowd the Capitol to witness historic inauguration

By JENN METZ
News Writer

WASHINGTON — The millions of those who poured in from across the country, braved the cold and waited in hours of disorganized lines to witness history, rejoiced in celebration shortly after noon on Tuesday as Barack H. Obama was sworn in as the 44th president of the United States.

His inaugural address, delivered before a crowd perhaps unlike any seen before gathering on the National Mall, once again enumerated the challenges to come but also assured his fellow Americans that "an America that is 'ready to lead once more.'"

Those in attendance, forming an indistinguishable sea of waving American flags, listened almost in reverence to the words of the first black president of the United States, who expressed his humility at being able to go down in the history books as the 44th man to take the oath of office.

"I stand here today humbled by the task before us," he said, "grateful for the trust you have bestowed, mindful of the sacrifices borne by our ancestors."

Obama, just after taking the oath of office on the same Bible Abraham Lincoln used in his 1861 inauguration, spoke for almost 20 minutes, assuring his fellow Americans that "This moment to remember for all time to come." "It was so inspiring," Source said. "It was not just the fact that he's black, but the fact that so much of the world has been inspired by his election."

Senior Emma Whitten took in the inauguration from the lounge area of LaFortune Student Center, where many students chose to watch the inauguration.

"It was really cool watching it with a ton of people," Whitten said. "Everybody cheered at all the right moments and I cried a little bit."

Even from the television screens in LaFortune, Whitten was impressed with the amount of people that gathered to be at the actual inauguration.

"It was kind of incredible when they showed the shots of everybody out in the Mall," Whitten said.

Senior. Caitlin Conway watched the inauguration from her off-campus house. She enjoyed Aretha Franklin's performance.

"I'm from Detroit, so I loved the Aretha song — one of Michigan's natural resources (as voted by the Michigan legislature)."

Students watch ground-breaking event at locations around campus

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

Tuesday's historic inauguration of President Barack Obama was an inspirational moment to remember for many students, a moment they'll remember for the rest of their lives.

"It was important that I saw history being made," sophomore Sean Gibbons said. "Just how historic it was, not just the fact that he's black, but the fact that so much of the world has gathered to be at the actual inauguration."

"It was kind of incredible when they showed the shots of everybody out in the Mall," Whitten said.

Senior. Caitlin Conway watched the inauguration from her off-campus house. She enjoyed Aretha Franklin's performance.

"I'm from Detroit, so I loved the Aretha song — one of Michigan's natural resources (as voted by the Michigan legislature)."
I love challenges in football. Referees getting calls wrong isn’t ‘part of the game’ like in baseball, where balls and strikes or calls-off are subject to umpires’ discretion. But I’m sick of the commentary surrounding challenge calls, both from the commentators and other people in the room.

There’s nothing worse than hearing Mike Tirico babble on about a man many feet you need in bounds for a catch while you watch Antonio Cromartie drag his feet on the sideline for the sixth time. It’s the same principle with John Madden and the on-screen pen. I see that it’s third-and-seven. Don’t circle the graphic on the screen that displays down and distance.

The commentators treat challenges like a magic eye — if you look at it enough times, eventually it will get clearer and clearer. How else can you explain seeing the replay over and over? Once you’ve seen all the different views once or twice, what can we glean from repeated viewings?

The worst doesn’t come until you’re watching a game with nine other people. You get nine versions of the NFL rule book as you’re watching the replays. I also feel like I’m watching in another loop of readily apparent information. QBs cannot re-enter the game? Four. At this point, most people watching while you watch Andre Johnson drag his feet you need in bounds for a catch while you watch Antonio Cromartie drag his feet on the sideline for the sixth time. It’s the same principle with John Madden and the on-screen pen. I see that it’s third-and-seven. Don’t circle the graphic on the screen that displays down and distance.

Enough. Stop treating me like I’m four. At this point, most people watching football have seen enough challenges — and the subsequent analyses that go with them — to understand how they work. So here’s what I propose: show all the angles of the replay, then have a football trivia game. If Donovan McNabb doesn’t know the overtime rules, how much do you think the average fan knows about obscure rules of the game?

For example, an argument about challenges, since that’s the topic of the column. If a coach wins all of his challenges, how many does he get? Three. Enough. Stop treating me like I’m four.

There will be a panel discussion entitled “Porcupica: Living in a Pornified Culture.” It will be held in Room 100, Hesburgh Center Auditorium on Thursday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. with a reception to follow in the Great Hall. This event is sponsored by Gender Relations Center (GRC), Gender Studies, Ethics & Culture, Philosophy Dept, Phys Ed Wellness, Campus Ministry, and NDND.

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

The Observer reserves the right to edit or reject any submission. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
COR
Group examines dorm relations
Project would encourage same-sex friendships outside of dorms

By LIZ O'DONNELL
News Writer

Same-sex dorm events were the topic of discussion at the Council Representatives (COR) first meeting of the semester. Drawing from a campaign promise made by student body president Bob Reish, COR discussed ways to increase communication and friendship among students of the same gender.

"If you're not from the same dorm, contact is often awkward or forced," said Reish. "The aim of the project was to ask participants to participate and coordinate activities with same-sex dorms."

One area of discussion was the idea of waiving points toward granting away points toward giving away points toward the Hall of the Year Award for money funding would be most likely come from the Student Government budget or be asked for during allocations for this specific purpose.

"The most important way of publicizing this issue will be by president Rob F. Reish, "That's definitely something we want to do," Reish said.

Various COR members discussed their participation in some of the same-sex events already on campus.

Highlighted among these events was the Dillon-Alumni Big Red Dawg dance, the Keenan-Stanford Masses, and the groupings together of same-sex dorms during Frosh-O activities.

COR members stressed they were not trying to force contact between same-sex dorms, but encouraging it.

"Seeing people outside of class, just seeing them in a different setting gives you the ability to see them in a new light," said Reish.

Ideas for potential events included 5-K runs, inter-dorm masses, and dances.

The focus for these events would be more on the planning process than on the outcome, that way students would be able to work together with other students and get to know them more personally.

Reish said that if the program were to be funded, it would only be for a short period of time, possibly no longer than two years.

In other COR news:

♦ Reish said the off-campus printing discount booklets have arrived and were approved. They should be available soon for purchase.

♦ COR has a new appeal form that will be implemented. A few changes were made to the old form including a new event history portion.

♦ Reish also took the time at the end of the meeting to preview new topics that will be up for discussion during this semester's COR meetings. These included evaluating the ticket lottery process for home games, increasing student activity fees to include a spring concert, a new student orientation for students transferring in during the spring semester, and an update on the Peer Advocacy Program.

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Vatican officials discuss immigration challenges

By ROBERT SINGER
News Writer

Speaking about the plight of migrant workers, war refugees, and religious pilgrims, Archbishop Agostino Marchetto, a Vatican official, said that immigration has become "an event that affects the structure of our society and comprises a problem that is a social, cultural, political, and not least, pastoral reality."

Marchetto, who gave a lecture entitled "Immigration: Global Perspective" Tuesday, discussed the Church's role in helping migrants adapt to their new surroundings. An aspect of pastoral care, this effort seeks to create a "culture of welcoming" for people displaced by economic hardship and civil war.

Refugees fleeing countries torn by civil war face many challenges, Marchetto said.

"Civil war migration is a phenomenon that brings a lot of suffering," he said. "You do not know the customs, the language. You are emerging in a world that is not your own, but you must find work."

Marchetto said the bishop of the region that has an index of migrants is responsible for their pastoral care to ensure that their language, culture, and popular devotion are respected while they adapt to new surroundings.

"It is important that there is a dialogue between the church of origin and the church of arrival, so that the integration of the migrants is going on smoothly," Marchetto said.

As people migrate, they often leave family members behind. The church must work to alleviate the hardship when a family's caretaker or provider is separated, Marchetto said. "One of the biggest problems of the migrants is the question of the family. In many cases, there is rupture. More or less, 50 percent of the migrants are women."

Sometimes, especially in countries suffering from civil war, tension develops when family members are forced to fight on separate sides. Marchetto said that the Church is working to peacefully reunite families — most notably in Uganda, where children have been kidnapped and trained to kill their parents.

"In Africa, the Catholic Church is playing a role to reconcile children back to their families," Marchetto said.

Marchetto also touched on the poverty in the developing world that is causing many to migrate to more affluent countries. He called for a world in which "goods are more equally distributed" and voiced optimism that President Obama could help the economies of impoverished nations.

"This phenomenon also raises the ethical issue of the search for a new economic order," he said. "This was raised by the new president today, and I hope that it is something that is really in his conscience."

As the global economic downturn affected millions of citizens of wealthy nations to find employment, Marchetto said and immigrants "is rising and will pose challenges in the future."

"If there are less jobs, the local people have to fight to have the jobs, and they find in their way other people who are not from their country, it is easy for them to have animosity," he said. "So, this is really a point of difficulty in the future."

"Marchetto expressed optimism about the possibility of an integrated world in which people of different cultures interact peacefully."

"Sometimes there is a fear to be surrounded by migrants, but I think it is a splendid opportunity to meet people and to see that we have the same suffering and the same hope, and that we are one family," he said.

Contact Robert Singer at rsinger@nd.edu
Holy Cross fathers share stories of priesthood

By MADELINE BUCKLEY

University president Father John Jenkins said that as an undergraduate at Notre Dame, if someone had told him he would become president of the University, he would have had them committed.

"I couldn't imagine anything less likely," he said. "Life takes funny turns, and I'm a shared his experiences as a priest in the Congregation of Holy Cross as part of the celebration of the Feast of Blessed Basil Moreau. The Tuesday in White Memorial Hall in a talk entitled "Men in Blue: The History of the Cross Stories," Jenkin's father attended Notre Dame as a lay student, and did not enter into the Congregation of Holy Cross until after graduation.

"What led me to take priesthood seriously was not so much a sense of the role of being a priest, although that is important, it was a sense that whatever I did in my life should be meaningful," he said. "I think that desire has been fulfilled in tremendous ways." Jenkins said his vocation has been "satisfying work" from his first job as a parish priest to teaching at Notre Dame.

"I loved teaching. I feel that the vocation of a teacher is close to that of a priest," he said. "You engage [students] at a deep level, and it is just a great privilege to teach people and to raise questions in their lives."

"As a priest, Jenkins said he had been privileged to preside over weddings, work with people who have dedicated their lives to service and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He said many people think Confession is a challenge in the priesthood, but at those times people are not at their worst, but at their best. "The Sacrament of Confession is particularly powerful," he said. "You really see the working of God's grace in people's lives, and to be a witness to that is a privilege." However, priesthood does have its challenges, Jenkins said. If a lay person loses his or her temper, they are considered a jerk, he said. But if a priest loses his temper, he said, "I don't think one like me doesn't ask about serving God as a priest, who will?"

"I realized that I had some choices to make," he said. "I knew the loved and loved the Church, and I thought that once one like me doesn't ask about serving God as a priest, who will?" Jenkins also said he loved Holy Cross from the moment he met the Holy Cross priests at Notre Dame.

"We give one another a home," he said.

"I was doing a up amid growing political implications that the Church plays in the modern world. Given the time period in which the document was written, there are many social and political implications that he takes into account when addressing this goal. "Gaudium Et Spes is reflective of that period of the early 1960s," Nigorski said. "Here in America, we had the Civil Rights Movement, the beginnings of Vietnam, and the threat of nuclear war. In other parts of the world extensive decolonization struggles were taking place." Jesuit Father John Jenkins, president of the University of Notre Dame, said the "vision and goal of the Church, a and I thought doesn't think about priesthood in a way, she said. The trip is sponsored by the Right to Life Center for Social Concerns.

"To stand for God's will, to protect, consistent with Roe v. Wade, a woman's freedom to choose to bear a child or terminate a pregnancy is going on march in order to show the nation that he disagrees with abortion, it is just a kind of one of those things that the more voices we hear the better," he said.

"I can have my voice be heard and show the nation that there are people that support life and want to end abortion," he said.

Strock finds her pro-life stance primarily based in her Catholic faith.

"I've grown up in a Catholic family. I have pro-life siblings and I've just been raised in the same way," said Strock. "Children are great..." Strock attended the March for Life last year and is growing to Washington D.C. to participate in the March for Life left last year. "I've grown up in a Catholic family, I have pro-life siblings and I've just been raised in the same way," she said.
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Russia restarts gas flow to Europe**

MOSCOW — Russia’s Gazprom gas monopoly says it has restarted gas shipments through Ukrainian pipelines to Europe, halting them nearly two weeks ago amid a pricing dispute.

Gazprom spokesman Boris Sapozhnikov says EU-led monitors will track the flow of the gas being pumped into Ukraine. He says the gas was restarted around 1030 Moscow time (0730 GMT) Tuesday.

Officials say it could take 36 hours for gas to reach consumers in Europe.

Russia halted gas shipments to Europe on Jan. 7 as it urged talks amid a pricing dispute.

**Supplies were restarted after Russia and Ukrainian officials signed a deal Monday that doubled the price for supplies to Ukraine.**

**China appeals to U.S. for cooperation**

BEIJING — China made a rare appeal for cooperation from the U.S. on the issue of Taiwan, the island it claims as part of its territory.

"China appeals to U.S. for cooperation to Taiwan as one of the "obstacles" the United States faces in improving relations with China," the foreign ministry said in a statement.

The ministry said it hoped the U.S. would "stop interference" in cross-strait ties.

**NATIONAL NEWS**

**Blagojevich misses second deadline**

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich missed his second deadline for filing formal answers to an impeachment charge and killing the Senate proceeding.

As a result of his inaction, the Senate will presume that the governor pleads "not guilty." The Senate will then appoint judges to hear the case.

Blagojevich had until 4 p.m. to file a request to dismiss the impeachment proceedings against him.

The charges stem from a federal investigation into allegations that Blagojevich tried to sell the Senate seat of Barack Obama.

**Boats scour river for plane engine**

NEW YORK — Authorities using sonar in the search for the missing engine from US Airways Flight 1549 said Tuesday they had detected something about the size of the engine in the frigid, murky Hudson River.

The search for the missing engine continued Tuesday, with divers and crews using sonar and underwater cameras to search for the object.

**Boats will resume their search Wednesday.**

**GAZA STRIP**

**Hamas claims victory in Gaza**

Despite celebratory rallies, terrorist group offers no plans to rebuild devastated Gaza

Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Hamas leaders claimed a major victory Tuesday, saying their militants took control of the besieged Palestinian stronghold.

"Israel has been defeated," Hamas Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh told thousands of supporters Tuesday, saying it suffered "a strategic military onslaught" that caused massive death toll suffered by Gazans.

Despite its fiery words, however, Hamas offered no plans for rebuilding Gaza, which suffered some $2 billion in damage during the three weeks of fighting. Gaza’s borders with Israel and Egypt are largely sealed, and daily life has been difficult.

Israel has also claimed victory, but neither side was the clear winner.

The fighting killed some 1,300 people, the majority civilians, and destroyed homes and infrastructure. No one knows how many civilians were killed.

"Israel emerged from the war with relatively few casualties — 13 dead, including 10 soldiers — but halted fire before reaching its objectives. No internationally backed truce deal is yet in place to prevent Hamas rocket fire and Israeli army offensives from smothering Gaza." had been the bulk of its forces from Gaza by Tuesday evening, the government said.

In the Gaza Strip, civilians are struggling to return to a normal life.

Hamas had held more than a dozen victory rallies across Gaza, choosing bombed-out buildings as backdrops to underscore its message of defiance and its claim to have salvaged a battle against a vast.

"We are more powerful than ever," Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh said at a rally Tuesday. "We will not give up until we achieve our objectives. No one can defeat us."

A Palestinian boy holds the hand of his father as they arrive to inspect their destroyed house in the southern part of Gaza City Tuesday.

Associated Press

"Life is completely out of control," he said, shaking his head.

"The Islamic Resistance Movement" declared victory in its war with Israel.

A huge banner proclaiming "This is our war," was raised in Gaza on Sunday.

"The war is not over yet," Hamas spokesman Ahmad Yousef told reporters Tuesday.

A Nakba day memorial rally, marking the anniversary of Israel’s 1948 War of Independence, was held in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

"The Nakba day rally is more powerful," Yousef said. "Israel is more powerful enemy."

"We are more powerful than ever," Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh said at a rally Tuesday. "We will not give up until we achieve our objectives. No one can defeat us."

"We are more powerful enemy," Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh said at a rally Tuesday. "We will not give up until we achieve our objectives. No one can defeat us."

A Palestinian boy holds the hand of his father as they arrive to inspect their destroyed house in the southern part of Gaza City Tuesday.
Kennedy well after seizure
Senator hospitalized after collapse at post-inauguration luncheon

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, ill with a brain tumor, was hospitalized Tuesday after he fainted at a post-election luncheon for President Barack Obama.

"After testing, we believe the incident was brought on by a combination of his age, his treatment for his tumor and some dehydration," said Dr. Edward Asai, chairman of neurosurgery at Washington Hospital Center, who said in a statement released by the senator's office that he would remain overnight for observation, and will be released in the morning.

The statement said the 76-year-old senator was talking with family and friends when he fainted.

The statement did not disclose the tests that were performed on Kennedy, who had been released from the hospital last Tuesday after his collapse was witnessed by several senators seated with him at lunch.

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., told reporters that Kennedy's wife, Vicki, grabbed the senator as he hit the floor.

"I don't think it's a great-grandmother who is suffering a seizure," said Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn., who told CNN he was also seated with the senator.

"I knew it would happen, but I didn't think it'd be this morning." Kerry said.

Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va., told reporters that Kennedy is "in good health and spirits a few days after he was ill but is feeling well." He added: "I think we should pray that he's going to make a full recovery." According to CNN, Kennedy spoke to his son Patrick "with a laugh and a smile" Tuesday evening.

Kennedy's son Patrick said in a statement that his father "is being treated at a hospital in Washington, D.C., and is expected to be released once he is stable and has recovered his strength." The Associated Press reported that the senator was discharged on Tuesday evening.

During his final legislative session before cancer treatment, Kennedy fought for health care reform — a bill that did not pass — and a health care plan that would have included a public option. He also spoke on the Senate floor in support of a resolution condemning the Israeli government's military action in Gaza.

Kennedy was a key advocate for the Affordable Care Act and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which helped improve access to health care for millions of Americans.

He was a member of the Democratic Party and was known for his moderation and dedication to public service.

Kennedy was born on May 29, 1932, in Brookline, Mass., and was the brother of former President John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy. He served in the U.S. Senate for 47 years and was the longest-serving senator in American history.

Kennedy's death comes as the country mourns the loss of a beloved leader and friend to many. He leaves behind a legacy of service, compassion, and dedication to the principles of justice and equality.
BRIEF

Madoff investors get low return
New York — A missing hedge fund manager who owed investors $50 million redemption on Jan. 15, 2009, to investors who believed in his guaranteed returns of 20 percent every year. The collapse in bank stocks was swift: State Street Corp. plunged 59 percent, Citigroup Inc. fell 50 percent and Bank of America Corp. fell 29 percent. The Standard & Poor's 500, which had been up as much as 24 percent, was now up only 7 percent from its November low.

Madoff has become one of the most vilified people in America since news broke Dec. 11 that a giant Ponzi scheme, paying returns to investors out of the principal received from others. He's estimated to have duped investors out of as much as $50 billion. Experts agree that the first of any recovery payments might be years in the future.

USPS struggles with mail boarders Detroit — Some of those who are supposed to endure snow, rain and gloom of night to deliver the mail have resorted to hiding tons of it in garages, a self-storage unit and the dark of their basements. Carriers from North Dakota to North Carolina have been hauled in for board mail. Though the U.S. Postal Service says the offense is a misdemeanor, a sheriff's report released Tuesday states, "but that he will do it where she found a suicide note, the FBI: Broker planned disappearance

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The dawn of the Obama presidency could not shake the Wall Street market from its dejection over the rapidly deteriorating state of the banking industry. Financial stocks, many of them falling by double digit percentages, led a huge drop when Wall Street opened Tuesday that left the major indexes down more than 4 percent and the Dow Jones industrials down 332 points. Traders on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange paused to watch the inauguration ceremony and Obama's remarks, the transition of power didn't erase investors' intensifying concern about struggling banks and their impact on the overall economy.

The market's angst, which began with multibillion-dollar losses reported last week by Bank of America Corp., Citigroup Inc. intensified after the Royal Bank of Scotland's forecast that its losses for 2008 could top $41 billion. The collapse in bank stocks was swift: State Street Corp. plunged 59 percent, Citigroup Inc. fell 20 percent and Bank of America Corp. last 29 percent.

The reason we're having a panic drop in the stock market from its dejection over the overall economy, according to a sheriff's report released Tuesday.

FBI: Broker planned disappearance

Fears about banking would be the biggest loss ever for a British corporation left investors fearful that government's would have to nationalize banks to keep them from collapsing. The British government injected more money into the struggling bank Monday and announced another round of bailouts for the country's banks.

State Street and Regions Financial Corp., a bank with branches primarily in the Southeast, both reported big earnings drops Tuesday. Acknowledging the global economy's woes, Obama suggested Wall Street would see greater oversight.

"Without a watchful eye, the market can spin out of control," he said in his address outside the Capitol. Obama warned the economic recovery would be difficult and that the nation must choose "hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord," to overcome the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.

Investors are expecting Washington will be a central part of the economic recovery. But the first hours of the new administration did little to ease their concerns.

"At this stage, markets in general and bank investors specifically are really looking to government as the way out," said Jack Ahlin, chief investment officer at Harris Private Bank. "Certainly, of just about all of inaugurations that I can recall today's event probably has the not only the symbolic importance but really tangible importance to the stock market."

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 332.13, or 4.01 percent, to 7,949.09, its lowest close since Nov. 20, 2008, when the blue chips ended 7,552.29 — their lowest point in more than five years. It was also the blue chips' biggest drop since Dec. 1.

WASHINGTON — The FBI said Tuesday that a man who disappeared last week while allegedly preparing to kill himself, according to a sheriff's report released Tuesday. The FBI: Broker planned disappearance

Associated Press

Washington — The FBI said Tuesday that a man who disappeared last week while allegedly preparing to kill himself, according to a sheriff's report released Tuesday. The 76-year-old financier disappeared prepared to kill himself, according to the sheriff's report states, "that he will do it at his own volition."

"He doesn't want to be found," Lesaltato said. Also on Tuesday, pepper spray manufacturer Mace Security International claimed Nadel owed it $2.2 million. The company said in a release they'd been informed the deposits could not be located, and that documents Nadel had provided were not authentic.

"We have already filed a report with our management, and we intend to take all possible legal action against the Victory Fund," Mace CEO Dennis Raefield said, referring to one of Nadel's hedge funds.

The Florida financier's car was found late Wednesday as a Kareem Clark, Lesaltato said they believe Nadel left on his own volition.

"He doesn't want to be found," Lesaltato said. Also on Tuesday, pepper spray manufacturer Mace Security International claimed Nadel owed it $2.2 million. The company said in a release they'd been informed the deposits could not be located, and that documents Nadel had provided were not authentic.

"We have already filed a report with our management, and we intend to take all possible legal action against the Victory Fund," Mace CEO Dennis Raefield said, referring to one of Nadel's hedge funds.
Speech
continued from page 1
the problems that face our nation will eventually be overcome. "Today I say to you that the challenges we face are real, they are serious and they are many," he said. "They will not be in the vanguard of the short span of time. But know this America: They will be met." Among these challenges: A faltering economy, that is "badly weakened, a consequence of greed and irresponsibility on the part of some but also our collective failure to make hard choices and prepare the nation for a new age," he said.

Michelle Obama held the Bible for her husband, a "man whose father less than sixty years ago might not have been served at a local restaurant," as he said in his speech. His words were not only addressed to the American people, but "all of our allies and governments" who watched the ceremony on television all over the world. "from the grand era in the history of the world, "from the grandest capitals to the smallest village where (Obama's) father was born."

Marking Tuesday as a new dawn for America, Conway called all citizens to work toward a better tomorrow.

"We must pick ourselves up, discarding all that is no longer the beginning of the work of remaking America," he said.
The response from the crowd at several moments during Obama's speech was electric, but clinging some cheering loudly and others still weeping.

Obama, who arrived at the Capitol Tuesday morning with President George W. Bush, repudiated some of the policies of his predecessor, calling for change where change is needed.

"The question we ask today is whether our government is too big or too small, but whether it works, whether it helps families find jobs at a decent wage, care they can afford, a retirement that is dignified," he said.

"Where the answer is yes, we intend to move forward. Where the answer is no, programs will end.

The new president called upon the nation to "remember these timeless words: With hope and virtue, let us brave the current and endure what stands in our path, let it be said by our children's children that when we were tested, we let this journey end, that we did not turn back nor did we falter," he said. "And with eyes upon the horizon and God's grace at hand, let us continue that great gift of freedom and deliver it safely to future generations."

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

Campus
continued from page 1
Conway said.

Obama noted that the inauguration was particularly exciting for the current generation of college students.

"Our generation, it's the first inauguration of a new president that we can remember really well," Conway said. "It's inspiring to see someone who I know is going to be making change we need."

She said she is confident Obama can handle the challenges of the presidency.

"I thought (Obama) did a good job of integrating the issue of the economy and things that are most pressing with things that are pushed to the wayside, like healthcare, education and environmen- tal sustainabil- ity," Conway said.

"He gave me hope he's going to try to solve a lot of problems instead of h andling things for the short term," Senior Lorna Bath said

Travel
continued from page 1
George W. Bush became the forty-third president and did not become America's first black president.

On the Mall and along the parade route, Notre Dame students, professors and alumni witnessed the historic event. Approximately 50 members of the Notre Dame student body participate in the inauguration.

Juniors Chris Lukens, Matt Howard and Cate McGivney, all members of the College Democrats of Notre Dame arrived in Washington Tuesday morning on separate buses.

At the close of his address, the new president called upon the nation to "remember these timeless words: With hope and virtue, let us brave the current and endure what stands in our path, let it be said by our children's children that when we were tested, we let this journey end, that we did not turn back nor did we falter," he said. "And with eyes upon the horizon and God's grace at hand, let us continue that great gift of freedom and deliver it safely to future generations."

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"Our generation, it's the first inauguration of a new president that we can remember really well. It's inspiring to see someone who I know is going to be making change we need."

Cailltin Conway senior son The Observer, 1 January, 2009
Over one million people crowded the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Tuesday morning for President Obama's inauguration, most traveling from long distances from around the country. Obama delivered his inaugural address shortly after noon on Tuesday to a captive audience. Those in attendance braved cold weather, long lines and chaotic crowds to catch a glimpse of the country's 44th president.
As I work through my last semester, I reflect on the many things I have learned in my tenure here. The only topic on which I have reached any sort of crucial thought is, I now realize, friendship. And so I grace you with my seemingly disjointed yet eventually fitting tract on the nature and application of friendship (on 900 words).

Who can be considered friends? Is there a distinction between a friend and an acquaintance? How can this distinction be practically realized? I will begin my discussion with the creation of a scenario to which I will return throughout. Fred, Gary and Chris are three people who went to the same high school. They are all seniors in college now. Fred and Chris attend Blank U; Gary attends Blank State. They have been in close contact since the summer before their sophomore year of high school and still keep in touch regularly.

Fred, Gary and Chris are not inherent friends. Working under the given scenario they are merely people who have spent ample time together over the past seven (plus) years. But you might think that the sheer amount of time spent together would make them friends. The facile in this argument can be found in the following: I have known my uncle my whole life (more than seven years) and remain in close contact with him due to the fact that he lives within 10 miles of my parents. Yet I would not call or define my uncle as a friend because he is my family, my blood. So though time seems a compelling factor, there must be a condition underlying this span of time which will determine for us whether Fred, Gary and Chris are in fact friends.

Let us then assume that Fred, Gary and Chris share several interests which we will define as: taste in music, seemingly endless list of related factors could be given further illustrating the interactions of Fred, Gary and Chris. Their parents’ homes are in close proximity, they played sports together, they registered for similar classes, they spent time with the same group of people, etc. Over and over, these items can be tested to show that nothing on this level would make Fred, Gary and Chris friends.

Nothing can be rationally discerned or logically argued can bestow upon these three people the honor of friendship.

So what does? As I have come to understand it, a friend is someone upon whom you grant your trust, your respect and your potential for vulnerability. Without trust, similar likes and dislikes or a copious amount of time spent in the same circle will never allow two people to build an interdependency and symbiotic understanding. Without respect any of the above factors are rendered meaninglessness. Without becoming vulnerable in the presence of the other person, or persons, an individual will never be able to build a level of trust or respect necessary for the friendship to commence.

True friendship is difficult to explain. Even with my "conclusive thought" I still do not know how I can explain to you why Fred, Gary and Chris are friends. But they are. And sometimes that’s enough.

Andrew Miller
The Roads Scholar

"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence."

Robert Frost
U.S. poet

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

Wednesday, January 21, 2009

"If you would win a man to your cause, first convince him that you are his sincere friend."

Abraham Lincoln
former U.S. president
I'm easily distracted. I have to have my background noise while studying, and during classes there are plenty of things that can steal my attention away from the professor — Ghett, Digg and Perez Hilton, to name a few.

The majority of my distractions happen in common — they originate from a lovely little thing we call "the Internet," which is accessible on a portable device called the laptop. For all the great developments in communication and technology that the Web has allowed, it is a brick wall standing in between a pile of research and a student's term paper. Even worse, open web browsers are tempting eye-candy for those of us who go the old-fashioned route during class there are plenty of things to keep us from paying attention. Bright, shiny monitors in front of a college student during lecture are evil option is to shut down wireless access to a computer, which is definitely not a solution.

So to cut distractions and get the most out of our tuition dollars, one drastic and evil option is to shut down wireless access to a computer, which is definitely not a solution.

But last spring, the University of Chicago Law School took this step to cut out non-class related computer use. As Dwan Saul Lester, a student in the school's students and faculty, "we know that class time is not for shopping and e-mailing."

Still, what it has become in many lecture halls around campus. You can find a wide array of non-academic content popping up on every computer around. Perhaps, then, this problem shouldn't be blamed on wireless internet access or the presence of laptops, but on students themselves. If students don't care to pay attention to class, then it's their loss.

In the name of the New Year, let's all make a resolution to cut our internet activity while a professor is talking. If not in the name of our GPA, then for the sake of our classmates whose notes may suffer because they're distracted by the porn two rows in front of you.

Whatever the case, the overabundance of web surfing during class detracts from the overall atmosphere. We go to the class for the material—not to read over our peers' shoulders as they catch up on the latest celebrity gossip.

This column first appeared in the Jan. 20 edition of Daily Pennsylvania, the daily paper of the University of Pennsylvania.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
A "Lost" recap: For those who have lost track of "Lost"

By ALEXANDRA KILPATRICK
Scene & Heard

Although undying love or hatred for a cultural phenomenon is easy to understand, indifference is somewhat harder to pin down. This Wednesday, while so many of my friends are anxiously awaiting the premiere of the penultimate season of ABC's hit serial "Lost," I will probably be doing homework or roaming around cable looking for "Dirty Jobs." I have been judged and met with bewildered stares on this subject dozens of times. "You don't watch "Lost"?! But it's the best show ever." The way I see it, a large segment of the American populace has drunk the Kool-Aid once more, and I'm just riding things out with water.

Bring the pop culture maverick that I am, I have always been aware of "Lost." I have a vague idea of who Kate, Jack, and Sawyer are, and I know that their shenanigans involve an island, a hatch, and one of the hobbits from "The Lord of the Rings," but it has never quite struck me quite so much. There always seemed to be a lot going on: things blowing up, people pulling guns on each other, and I think there was even an abominable snowman one time. Maybe I just hit it on a bad day on the one hundred dozen occasions I caught it.

Anyway, that begs the question: Is there something wrong with me? I like to think that I am an independent person with a billion mitts. Maybe it's just how I'm wired. I don't watch "American Idol" (either that's more of a Ryan Seacrest thing though) or "The Office." Perhaps I'm not meant to watch anything that is in the Top 20 in the Nielsen's. I like my old standards, my tried and true hits. Was I the only one excited when Spike TV started airing "Married...with Children" again? Or do you mind that TBS will air about twelve hours of "Family Guy" in a row? There is no accounting for taste, I suppose, but most of what the major networks have churned out over the past few years seems interchangeable to me.

Lost? No, I'm right here.

Contact Alexandra Kilpatrick at alexandra.c.kilpatrick@nd.edu

Wednesday, January 21, 2009
Along with many other fans I will sit down tonight in front of the television and watch "Lost" with ardently attention in hopes of gaining answers to the plethora of questions presented over the seasons. I have to know whether the Oceanic 6 return to the island and why. I have to know if and how Locke died. And I have to make sure Sawyer's (Josh Holloway) shirtless body is okay back on the island.

I love the show because of the tangled yet prearranged design of the "Lost" universe. The show is about more than the passengers of Oceanic Flight 815 crashing on a mysterious island. Yes, the nature of this show is a supernatural one, but it is predominantly about relationships. Each episode centers on one or two people, making the show a complex character study.

And because of the show's big cast, there is a character everyone can identify with or root for.

The man in my corner is the heroic yet tortured Dr. Jack Shepherd (Matthew Fox). Early on he accepted the responsibility of everyone else's lives, including siphoning his own blood out of his body in an effort to save a dying Boone's life. Regardless of who you root for, "Lost" fascinates the audience because every episode gives a glimpse of a particular character's life, usually off the island. And just last week I was forced to learn about the characters through flashbacks, the third season finale tricked me into thinking that Jack and Kate (Evangeline Lilly) belong together. I pray that Jin (Daniel Dae Kim) is somehow also so that he can be reunited with Sun (Yunjin Kim). The characters even have connections to each other that they don't know about such as the fact that Claire (Emilie de Ravin) is Jack's sister. It is impressive and intriguing how every story is interlaced somehow.

"Lost" is series of unanswered questions, but although a single episode might tell me nothing, I am still excited by it. "Lost" is genuinely unpredictable but I have faith that all will be revealed in the end.

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

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferraro@nd.edu
**NHL**

Ducks quack over refs in loss to Rangers

Bell scores third of Senators’ three power-play goals with 1:22 remaining to give Ottawa win over Washington

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Henrik Lundqvist thought the New York Rangers’ winning goal was anything but a thing of beauty. The Anaheim Ducks were not really sure it should even count.

Despite the varying opinions, Scott Gomez’s chip shot from the left side of the net found its way past Jonas Hiller, snapping a tie-lifting the “It didn’t look good,” Lundqvist said of his team’s power play, “we somehow clicked twice. We really backed off on the power play, but two goals went in. It felt like they were not really sharp, but that’s what happens sometimes.”

Nikolai Zherdev passed the puck onto Markus Naslund’s stick in the crease and deftly slid it to Gomez at the right post for a jam shot that got past Hiller for the winner with 7:21 remaining.

“They made a play in the crease area and Naslund backed into Gomez, and then the puck over to the other side with both feet in the crease,” Ducks coach Randy Carlyle said. “It was almost behind the net area and it tapped it in.”

Now who scored a power-play goal in the first period, badly needed on for Hiller, but the goalie put more blame on himself for letting Gomez’s shot slide through.

“He was outside the crease, I think,” Hiller said. “I should still be able to stop it.”

The Rangers, playing their first home game following a 3-1-1 trip, hopped back over the New Jersey Devils into first place in the Atlantic Division. New York is now off for a week for the NHL All-Star break.

“It’s a good little run of points here. It’s such a tight division, it’s such a tight race. Every night is a big game,” Rangers captain Chris Drury said. “It’s going to be a big test for us when we get back.”

Gomez also had an assist, Fredrik Sorensson added a short-handed goal in the second period, and Lundqvist made 32 saves for his 24th win. The Rangers bounced back from a lackluster 3-0 loss at Pittsburgh on Sunday that wrapped up the trip.

New York (28-16-4) scored 12 goals in its final six games before the break, but earned nine points in that stretch.

“We’re just kind of playing to our strengths,” Drury said. “I know, we’re not a high-scoring team, but that’s OK. We’ll win games with defense and goaltending. We’ll win 2-1 or 3-2 with an empty net. A win is a win.”

Seniors to Caps, 2

OTTAWA — Brendan Bell scored Ottawa’s third power-play goal of the game with 1:22 remaining to lift the Senators to a win over the Washington Capitals on Tuesday night.

Bell put a shot from the right side past Jose Theodore 18:38 into the third with three goals remaining in a penalty to Washington’s Alexander Semin.

Dany Heatley scored a pair of power-play goals in the first to stake the Senators to a 2-0 lead.

Brian Elliott started his fifth in a row for the Ottawa, which has seven points in four games (3-0-1, including a 5-4 shootout loss in Montreal on Saturday. Sergei Fedorov scored a pair of goals in the second to help the Capitals erase a two-goal deficit and tie it at 2 in 1:07 through the first. He scored in the minors, but has come on recently with six goals in seven games — including a hat trick.

Three 1-2 road wins in overtime over the New York Islanders. The Capitals had won 16 of their previous 21. The Caps also won 2-0 in their previous 11 starts, made 31 saves in his fifth straight start.

Ottawa’s Peter Regin began his NHL debut. A 22-year-old chosen in the third round of the 2004 draft. Regin was called up from Binghamton of the AHL earlier in the day and became the fifth Danish-born player in league history, centering a line with Mike Fisher and Nick Foligno.

Fedorov scored his fifth goal of the season 37 seconds into the second, moments after a lengthy video review determined that an earlier shot by Fedorov had not entered the net.

The Russian veteran left no doubt on his next shot as he one-timed past the Senators to OT and drove a slap shot from the slot between Elliott’s pads to draw Washington within 2-1.

Steveck tied it at 2 with his sixth goal at 5:16. Recently moved to the Senators’ second power-play unit, Healey opened the scoring with his 20th goal in 2008.

The two-time 50-goal scorer made it a two-goal lead at 15:54 with his second goal of the period, his team-lead-21st.
Philadelphia first baseman Ryan Howard has asked for $18 million in salary arbitration, the third-highest figure submitted since the process began in 1974. Philadelphia offered him $14 million, a raise of $4 million.

Players seek big bucks in arbitration

Associated Press

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Ryan Howard proposed a salary as prodigious as one of his home runs.

The Philadelphia Phillies first baseman asked for $18 million in arbitration Tuesday, the third-highest figure submitted since the process began in 1974. Howard had a major league-leading 48 home runs and 146 RBIs last year, helping the Phillies win their first World Series title since 1980. Before the season, he was awarded $10 million in arbitration rather than Philadelphia’s $7 million offer.

Howard was the Houston pitcher Roger Clemens set the record for highest request in arbitration at $22 million in 2005. Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter is second at $18.5 million in 2001.

Philadelphia offered $14 million to the 2006 NL MVP, who is not eligible for free agency until after the 2011 season. Howard had a contract last year for $670,000. He had 34 home runs and 102 RBIs as Milwaukee reached the playoffs for the first time since 1992, down from 50 homers and 119 RBIs in 2007. Colorado third baseman Garrett Atkins was third at $9.5 million.

Howard proposed a salary figure submitted since the Feb. 1  game against Arizona, including the Rockies’ offer of $7 million.

McNamabb has a tentative agreement with the player asking for $7 million. The Rockies offered a raise from $4.44 million to $6.65 million after he had 21 home runs and 99 RBIs.

Forty-two players reached one-year agreements Tuesday just before the exchange.

Three-fourths of the deals were worth less than $7 million. They included contracts for Houston catcher Humberto Quintero ($5.6 million), Oakland catcher Kurt Suzuki ($3.8 million) and Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Eric Gagne ($4 million).

Philadelphia fans were lighting up McNabb’s lawn on fire.

Two Arizona Cardinals fans hung “Go Cards,” “Go Kurt,” and “1 heart AZ” in McNabb’s yard with diesel fuel, but McNabb stopped laughing when the administration is looking into it,” said Chris Theisen, a Kansas spokesman.

But McNabb still expects the wide receiver to play.

"We’ve definitely not going to count him out," Tomlin said Tuesday. "We’re going to save a seat on the bus for him.

Ward, the Steelers’ career receiving leader, sprained a medial collateral ligament while making a catch in the first quarter of the AFC championship game against Baltimore on Sunday night. If the Steelers played this week, he may not have been ready.

Tuesday was the players’ scheduled day off, yet Tomlin observed Ward doing extensive rehabilitation work in the team’s practice complex. The Steelers leave Monday for Tampa and the Feb. 1 game against Arizona, but only after they go through a regular week of practice.

In Brief

Steelers’ Ward may be out for Super Bowl

PITTSBURGH, Penn. — Hines Ward needs extensive work to rehabilitate his sprained right knee for the Super Bowl, but Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin still expects the wide receiver to play.

“We’re definitely not going to count him out,” Tomlin said Tuesday. "We’re going to save a seat on the bus for him.

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Jayhawks’ Bill Self faces recruiting snafu

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Kansas officials are checking to see if basketball coach Bill Self’s brief encounter with a top recruit might constitute an NCAA infraction.

Self agrees he said hello to John Wall, a 6-foot-4 guard who had just played in a high school tournament in Springfield, Mo. It happened during an evaluation period last week when college coaches are not allowed contact with prospects other than to exchange greetings.

“We are aware of the report, and the administration is looking into it,” said Chris Theisen, a Kansas spokesman.

Wall is rated the No. 1 overall recruit in the class of 2009 by Rivals.com. Kansas is one of a few schools being considered by Wall outside Wall’s locker room after a game Thursday night.

“Basically, it’s accurate,” Self said after beating Texas A&M 73-53 Monday night.

Cardinals fans set McNabb’s lawn on fire

CHANDLER, Ariz. — Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb recently had to play defense at his offense’s season home in Chandler.

Two Arizona Cardinals fans hung their team’s flag in a tree and burned “Go Cards,” “Go Kurt,” and “1 heart AZ” in McNabb’s yard with diesel fuel, "Go Cards," “Go Kurt,” and “1 heart AZ” in McNabb’s yard with diesel fuel, "Go Cards," “Go Kurt,” and “1 heart AZ” in McNabb’s yard with diesel fuel, "Go Cards," “Go Kurt,” and “1 heart AZ” in McNabb’s yard with diesel fuel.

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**NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Wake Forest yawns at top ranking**

Associated Press

Wake Forest was riding the buzz home after beating Clemson when a walk-on broke the news: Pittsburgh lost, clearing the way for the Demon Deacons to jump to No. 1.

The last remaining unbeaten team in Division I then greeted that update with a collective yawn.

"You really can’t enjoy it much because your goal is to be No. 1 at the end of the year," guard Jeff Teague said. "You can be No. 1 today, but the Demon Deacons can’t afford to us — (the Panthers) don’t have a reason to think (only) about next match.

"You really can’t enjoy it much because your goal is to be No. 1 at the end of the year," guard Jeff Teague said. "You can be No. 1 today, but the Demon Deacons can’t afford to think (only) about next match."
Associated Press

Images of Fitzgerald a nightmare for Steelers

Preparing for Super Bowl, Pittsburgh players, coaches remember Arizona wide receiver’s play at University of Pittsburgh

It also set up an improbable matchup between the Cardinals, an old franchise that could hardly be less successful, and the Steelers, an old franchise that could barely be more successful.

"Larry Fitzgerald is, quite simply, the best receiver in the game down the field in my one situation," Tomlin said. "If we're going to be successful in Tampa, we need to do three things: number one, we need to play well at the line of scrimmage defensively, secondly, we need to get off the ball quickly (favorably), coming up with the football. The (video) tape tells us that he's just a nightmare for us." So did their own eyes.

Although the Steelers and University of Pittsburgh never practice together on the four-field complex they share on the city's South Side, more than a few Steelers employees were tempted to sneak a few peeks at Fitzgerald when he played for Pitt in 2003 and 2004.

"Why wouldn't they?" In his two college seasons about being recruited by former Pitt coach Walt Harris, a passing game Fitzgerald caught for 2,677 yards and 34 touchdowns, with at least one more on both a record 18 consecutive games.

The Steelers also influenced the Arizona pick.

Not long after the Cardinals drafted Fitzgerald No. 2 overall in 2001, when the Steelers drafted Ben Roethlisberger eight picks later, Fitzgerald said his goal wasn't just to be the receiver who made the occasional highlight-film catch. Instead, he wanted to be as steady and reliable as the Steelers' Hines Ward.

Now, Fitzgerald probably needs to be better than Ward if the Cardinals are to win their first NFL championship since 1947—three cities and 61-plus years ago. Carrying the then-Chicago Cardinals beat the Eagles to win that 47-title, a week earlier the Philadelphia beat the Steelers in a rare playoff game on the Eastern Conference play-off.

Former NFL receiver Cris Collinsworth agrees with Tomlin that Fitzgerald's ability to make plays when the ball is in the air is unmatched.

"I don't know what Larry Fitzgerald's vertical leap is, but he looks like Michael Jordan playing out there to me," Collinsworth said Tuesday. "If he makes the catch, the score is up in the air and Larry Fitzgerald comes down with it." Tomlin isn't about to tip his hand about the Steelers' coverage plans for Fitzgerald, but no doubt cornerback Ike Taylor and safety Ryan Clark are keys to it. Taylor isn't as well known as the shadowy players on Pittsburgh's defense—Troy Polamalu, Defensive Player of the Year James Harrison and linebacker James Hanson—but he allowed only two touchdowns in coverage all season and is a Pro Bowl alternate.

"If Fitzgerald runs into All-Pro safety Polamalu, it might be when he goes over the middle rather than deep, as Polamalu often plays as much like a linebacker as he does a defensive back.

Associated Press

NCAA Men's Basketball

Cinderella George Mason preparing for dance again

Jim Larranaga
George Mason coach

"A lot of us still have that chip on our shoulder. Like, 'Hey, this wasn't just a one-time thing.'"

Darryl Monroe
George Mason senior

another team's senior.

George Mason's Colonial Athletic Conference season, which ended with a 78-70 victory over Boston College in the NCAA's FIRST ROUND game in Philadelphia Saturday, March 15, 2008.

The Patriots, who have not been in a conference title game since 1978, are likely to be a dark horse in the NCAA tournament.

"There's a lot of pressure on our shoulders. We're playing for the conference championship this year," George Mason's senior forward Darryl Monroe said.

George Mason's coach, Jim Larranaga, said, "We're going to have to have a big game in the league." The Patriots lost to Virginia Commonwealth in the conference tournament.

"The high-major schools will always get the most attention because they have multiple teams ranked," Larranaga said. "We hope we're going to have a big game in the league."

"We're going to have to have a big game in the league."

Larranaga said his team was prepared for this game.

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"The high-major schools will always get the most attention because they have multiple teams ranked," Larranaga said. "We hope we're going to have a big game in the league."
Miami — New Miami Dolphins majority owner Stephen Ross won't mess with success: He says Bill Parcells will remain in charge of the football operation.

Ross, a New York real estate billionaire, completed his purchase of 95 percent of the franchise for $1 billion Tuesday, with Wayne Huizenga retaining a 5 percent interest.

Ross then addressed speculation he and Parcells might not be hitting it off. The sale triggered a clause in Parcells' contract allowing him to leave and still receive the $9-12 million remaining on the four-year contract he signed a year ago.

"Parcells is in charge," Ross said in a conference call. "He's staying, and I think we're very fortunate to have someone like Bill Parcells, who I think people have come to recognize as probably the best football mind in America."

Thanks to Parcells, Ross takes over with the franchise's fortunes on the upswing. When the first phase of his purchase was completed last February, the Dolphins were coming off a 1-15 season, worst in team history. Under the new Parcells regime, they improved to 11-6 this season and made the playoffs for the first time since 2000.

Parcells broke his silence Tuesday on the subject of his status. Scouting players practicing for the Senior Bowl in Mobile, Ala., he spoke briefly with several reporters and was asked if he planned to remain as the Dolphins' vice president of football operations.

"What does it look like I'm doing?" he said. "What do your eyes tell you?"

When asked why he wouldn't commit outright to staying, Parcells said experience taught him never to rule anything out. He said if something happened to change his mind, he'd "hate to be called a liar."

But Parcells said he likes Ross and is not seeking a new contract.

"It's not about money," Parcells said. "I've got more than I can spend."

Ross said he's 100 percent certain Parcells will stay for another season.

"I feel very, very comfortable with him, and I think he feels comfortable with me," Ross said. "I think we've developed a good rapport.... Bill Parcells thinks like a businessman. You don't solve all your problems with money, you solve them with brains."

General manager Jeff Ireland said the sale won't affect the way he, Parcells and coach Tony Sparano go about things.

"It doesn't really change what I do, it doesn't change what Tony does, it doesn't change what Bill does," Ireland said in Mobile. "We've got to win games."

In February 2009, Ross bought 50 percent of the franchise, Dolphin Stadium and surrounding land from Huizenga for $550 million, with an agreement to later become managing general partner.

Ross closed on the purchase of an additional 45 percent Tuesday. That part of the agreement received pre-approval from the NFL in October.

Huizenga, 71, became sole owner of the Dolphins in 1994. A year ago he said it was time for someone else to assume control.

Ross plans to meet Friday with Parcells, Ireland and Sparano, and said he foresees no changes on the football side. He said he found the atmosphere at the Dolphins "immense, everything from firstName to the coach to the players."

"When I read the paper, the thing that drives me — creating and being part of a winning organization," Ross said. "There is nothing more important than that."

Ross said Bryan Wiedmeier will remain as team president, and negotiations regarding a position on the business side are ongoing with Arlen Kantarian, former U.S. Tennis Association CEO. Ross said he's talking to potential minority partners, but none has agreed to invest yet.

Huizenga bought 15 percent of the Dolphins and 50 percent of the stadium from team founder Joe Robbie's family in 1990. Total cost of those purchases was $168 million.

The Dolphins never finished the Super Bowl under Huizenga's ownership.

"The sale represents a bitter-sweet moment for me, but the timing is right to complete it," he said in a statement. "I know under Steve's leadership the Dolphins are in outstanding hands. We are still a 5 percent partner in the franchise and the stadium. The Huizenga family and organization will do everything we can to support Steve and the team for the benefit of all of South Florida."

Ross, 68, made his billions as a lawyer and developer and is chairman of Related Companies, an international real estate development company. He has homes in New York and Palm Beach, and he ranked 78th in 2008 on Forbes' list of richest Americans with a net worth of $4.5 billion.

Ross attended Miami Beach High School and the University of Florida, then earned degrees from Michigan and Wayne State law school. He began his career in Detroit as a tax attorney, and the Michigan business school bears his name.

Once a minority partner with the New York Islanders, Ross was part of a group in 1990 that tried to bring baseball to Miami before Huizenga became founding owner of the Florida Marlins. He also made an unsuccessful bid for the New York Jets in 1999.

"When I read the paper, the first section I go to is the sports section," Ross said. "Since I wasn't going to be a player, it was a dream to become an owner."

Last year Forbes Magazine valued the Dolphins at $1 billion, with a revenue stream of about $232 million.
**NHL**

Things keep getting worse for Islanders

Hampered by persistent swelling and soreness in left knee, goalie DiPietro decides to shut it down for the season

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Rick DiPietro's season ended before the New York Islanders were even in their second game. DiPietro said he really got a chance to get it going.

Lingering persistent swelling and soreness in his left knee, which required surgery twice in four months kept DiPietro out for all but five of the team's 46 games this season and led to Tuesday's decision to shut him down.

"Everyone's consensus is that Rick should rest the knee, allow the postoperative swelling to subside in a relatively short timeframe to resolve, and get him ready for next season," said Dr. Elie Hershman, an associate team orthopedist, who participated in the second operation.

"At this time, we're not advancing to any further surgery but we're certainly following this knee to make sure that the inflammation and swelling does resolve on a more consistent basis so he is able to return fully," Hershman added.

DiPietro added he is in the third season of a landmark contract, having agreed to a $67.5 million, 15-year deal in the summer of 2006. Islanders general manager Garth Snow said DiPietro wasn't able to play through the discomfort of the knee.

"We've taken all the correct measures and teh right steps throughout this process," he said. "Obviously, when you have a pole of Rick's caliber, it's disappointing when you don't have him in the lineup.

"We got more than one set of eyes to look at him and we just wanted to take our time and make an informed decision." The 27-year-old DiPietro made a few early season appearances following surgery that was believed to be on his right knee, but was clarified to be the left on Tuesday by Hershman. He then was shelved again after a second tear of the lateral meniscus was revealed by an MRI and ruled out with a second arthroscopic procedure in October.

"We're incredibly cautious, actually, and I thought that at each time we had Rick trying to play it was the right time," he said. "If anything, at this juncture we responded to the recommendation that Rick was progressing, I wouldn't second guess myself at all.

Several doctors, including famed surgeon Dr. James Andrews, examined DiPietro or studied the MRI and determined rest was the best recommendation now.

"There was a lack of improvement from the time of the initial knee surgery in June, DiPietro backed up Joey MacDonald for the final four games of the season but didn't see any action.

"At this time, we will enter this weekend's All-Star break with the fewest wins and points in the entire NHL, but Hershman said DiPietro's season would be over even if the team was in first place in contention.

"We've taken all the correct measures and teh right steps throughout this process."

Garth Snow

Islanders general manager

injury is not believed, at least not yet. As the Islanders took him in the 2000 draft, DiPietro has posted a mark of 117-112-8-24 with a 2.79 goals against average and a .902 save percentage.

After becoming the first goalie chosen No. 1 overall when the Islanders took him in the 2000 draft, DiPietro has posted a mark of 117-112-8-24 with a 2.79 goals against average and a .902 save percentage.

He is expected to resume skating sometime during the summer.

"The most important thing is that at this point we give the knee some time to rest, free from on-ice activity, and see what the knee does," Hershman said. "When we do"

**PORTLAND, Ore. — Greg Oden didn't just want to start stepping up his game, he wanted to step on it.**

For a more confident and aggressive, he was the one to have a snap out of a funk that had long plagued his rookie season so far. He hadn't played after the game then smiled and joked with reporters gathered around his locker.

"It feels good," he said. "I couldn't live with myself if I'm out there I play good, and when I'm not it's one of those times it showed." He was the top pick in the 2007 NBA draft. His rookie year was delayed when he had microfracture surgery on his knee, a blow to Portland fans who saw him as the future of the franchise.

Despite his absence on the court last season, the former Indiana Mr. Basketball from Lawrence North still had a big profile. The Blazers became known for his toothy grin on the bench, an affable presence in a tough doghouse of a blog.

This season, however, the happy-go-lucky Oden vanished. He injured his foot in the Blazers' opener and missed six games. When he did come back, his play was disjointed, and at times he seemed sullen.

Smiles and jokes were rare.

In those games Oden was going through typical first-year growing pains, there was tremendous pressure from fans and the media. Even rapturous praise from Portland coach Nate McMillan about Oden a bust in a commentary for The Oregonian.

The Trail Blazers, for their part, stood steadfast in their belief to let Oden progress at his own pace.

But over the weekend the team's worst nightmares became reality. Oden has struggled with fouls, as well as maintaining his energy level.

"It's hard because the season's so long and you're going to have ups and downs, especially with a rookie," Portland center Greg Oden said.

Regrets' absence helped Oden, and the Blazers were forced to go with a smaller lineup when Ian Mahinmi got foul trouble. It was Oden's team-high 12 double-doubles.

It was averaging 10.4 boards a game.

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Big East
continued from page 24
Cardinals was an 85-82 upset at the hands of Nevada-Reno on Nov. 29. The Cardinals still have the burst of their conference schedule left, including trips to UConn, Notre Dame, Marquette and a rematch at the Bearcats all still to come.

UConn (18-0, 4-0)
The best team in the country isn't the best in the conference standings, but only as a result of scheduling. The Huskies have played fewer conference games than Louisville, in part because they played in one of the biggest out-of-conference matchups of the season: a 1-vs-2 game last Monday at North Carolina. Connecticut crushed the Tar Heels 88-58, snapping a 31-game home win streak for North Carolina and proving they are the best team in the country beyond a shadow of the doubt. UConn also has arguably the best player in college basketball, sophomore forward Maya Moore, who averages 29.2 points per game on 53.4 percent shooting.

Notre Dame (15-2, 4-1)
The Irish remain alone in third place in the league after Cincinnati's loss Wednesday night, but could be worse off if not for clutch play against St. John's this weekend. Notre Dame has won both close games and had blowouts in the conference season, but still have to travel to Pittsburgh and Storrs. Notre Dame has a chance to make a statement in the league in the coming week with a matchup with No. 21 Rutgers at the Joyce Center.

Pittsburgh (13-4, 3-2)
The Panthers jumped up to the fourth spot in the conference after the Cincinnati loss, despite the loss of all Big East center Marcedes Walker, who graduated last May. Guard Stevonte Zelous has picked up the scoring for Pitt so far this season, averaging 24.1 points and 5.4 rebounds per game. The Panthers showed how good they could be in their last game out, when they crushed Seton Hall 76-60 in the road. (Just for the record, the Irish only beat the Pirates 66-60 on that same court.)

Georgetown (12-5, 2-2)
The Hoyas have seen-sawed in their conference season so far this season, alternating wins with big losses. Georgetown has struggled against the two top tier teams it has played (Notre Dame and Louisville) and will likely fall quickly in the standings in the next few weeks: They play Marquette, Pitt and UConn in three straight games. Those three are all at home, and with how the Hoyas have played so far, they will be lucky to go 1-2 in those games.

Cincinnati (13-5, 3-2)
Cincinnati has only two losses so far, but has avoided playing most of the big dogs in the league. The Bearcats have beaten up on Seton Hall, West Virginia and Villanova in their wins, but lost to Louisville and last year's surprise of the season, Syracuse. Cincy avoids the top teams in the league, but has a three-game road trip later this season where those big dogs could help put the Bearcats over the top and get them the second bye

The Observer • SPORTS
Wednesday, January 21, 2009

South Florida and Seton Hall have matching 2-4 conference records, and have gotten them in very similar fashions, beating only other teams to the bottom half of the bracket. With every team making the Big East tournament this season, there is less pressure on these teams to step up their games in February in order to make a post season appearance, but seeding still helps as both will try to turn things around quickly.

St. John's, Providence and West Virginia are the current league cellar dwellers, but that is not to say they are all bad teams. St. John's played the Irish close until the final whistle, refusing to play dead, and the Mountaineers are, if at all possible, a good 0-5 team in the Big East. Four of their losses are against the top half of the league and the final one was a two-point squeaker at Villanova. Top-to-bottom, the Big East is a solid league, where even the worst team in the league (WVU) boasts a winning record (11-7).

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitpsx@pol.edu

Campus Ministry invites students returning to campus from study abroad to a special Welcome Back Mass

Thursday, January 22, 2009
5:15 p.m.

Basilica of the Sacred Heart

A dinner will follow in the Hammes Lounge of the Coleman Morse Center.
**NHL**

**Oilers win in final minute**

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta — Ales Hemsky put on a show and helped the Edmonton Oilers head into the All-Star break on a high note.

Hemsky scored his second goal with 34.9 seconds left to play, giving the Edmonton Oilers a 4-3 win over the Columbus Blue Jackets on Tuesday night. Hemsky also had two assists, and Lubomir Visnovsky and Denis Grebeshkov also scored for the Oilers (24-19-3) who have won five of their last six to move back into a playoff position in the Western Conference.

"That was unreal," haven't seen anything like that in a while," said Oilers head coach Craig MacTavish of Hemsky's performance Tuesday. "Two goals and two assists. We've seen that Tuesday. "Two goals and two assists, and Jason Williams scored over the Oilers a 4-3 win and helped the Edmonton's scored for the Oilers.

"When you have four points or something like that you are always asked if it is the best game in your career," Hemsky said. "For me every game we win is what I feel good about. I just want to go out there and do my part."

Ales Hemsky

Oilers wing

"For me every game we win is what I feel good about. I just want to go out there and do my part."

Grebovshkov and he put everything he had into a shot that beat Steve Mason to tie the game 3-3. Hemsky got the job done almost single-handedly at the end to give Edmonton the win as he came in on the right hand side and beat Mason up high.

"When you have four points or something like that you are always asked if it is the best game in your career," Hemsky said. "For me every game we win is what I feel good about. I just want to go out there and do my part."

**MC SPORTS**

**Saint Mary's travels to face winless Hornets**

By ALEX WEST

Spree West

Saint Mary's (8-7) looks to bounce back from its first MIAA loss of the year when it plays at Kalamazoo (0-13) today.

The Bells will use to look at their height advantage in the transition game on offense against the Hornets, who rank last in the MIAA in scoring defense.

"We need to do a better job on defending the drive and shutting down Kalamazoo's inside game," Henley said. "Our focus continues to be on defense, regardless of our record."

The Bells lost 77-72 to Albion last Wednesday, dropping their conference record to 5-2, Kalamazoo's latest lost came against Albion last Saturday by a score of 84-78.

Although the Hornets' still remain winless, Henley said she doesn't believe her team will overlook them.

"In this league, you can't overlook anyone. Records and standings never truly indicate the strength of a team," she said. She also said the Hornets' defense could test the Bells. "They play a lot of different defenses, so we need to be able to recognize what they are doing and execute our defense," Henley said.

Bells leading scorer Krist Newsum is coming off of an 18-point effort against Albion. She averages almost 15 points and more than nine rebounds per game. Henley will have to do a relatively strong job of keeping her away from the paint in this season to lead the Bells in both categories.

Contact Alex West at awest@hcc-nd.edu

**NHL**

**Marleau's overtime goal gives Sharks win**

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Joe Thornton set up Devin Setoguchi's tying goal in regulation and Patrick Marleau's overtime winner, and the San Jose Sharks celebrated Claude Lemieux's return to the NHL after a 5-year-absence with a dramatic 2-1 victory over the Vancouver Canucks on Tuesday night.

Lemieux played a regular shift on the fourth line in his first NHL game since 2003 for the Sharks, who gave one of their most meaningless efforts of the season until the last minute of regulation. Evgeni Nabokov made 13 saves for San Jose, which will enter the All-Star break with at least a share of the overall league lead.

Roberto Luongo stopped 27 shots for the Canucks, who lost their sixth straight after surrendering Setoguchi's tying goal with 39.1 seconds left. With Nabokov pulled for an extra attacker, Thornton threaded a pass from behind the goal to Setoguchi, who found a slight opening.

After Daniel Sedin committed a hooking penalty midway through overtime, Thornton made a cross-ice pass to Marleau near the San Jose captain's 25th goal. Marleau is expected to be added to the West All-Star team joining Thornton, defensemen Dan Boyle and coach Todd McLellan in Montreal. A violent scrum erupted as the Sharks celebrated Claude Lemieux's return to the NHL after a dramatic 2-1 victory over the Vancouver Canucks on Tuesday night.
NBA
Jazz extend home win streak

Amateur Press
SALT LAKE CITY — When the game got tight, Mehmet Okur took over for the Utah Jazz.

After their Minnesota Timberwolves cut a big lead to one, Okur hit consecutive 3-pointers to keep the Jazz in the game and secure their seventh straight home win.

Deron Williams twice drove to the basket with a steady flow of 61 points, but a 19-point lead with 1:19 left in the game fell to 1:19 and 3 assist.

But when the Jazz got back to their game, they found a way to win.

The Jazz never led by double-digits, but they were able to hold off the Timberwolves for their third straight win.

"I wanted to step up tonight," Williams said. "I didn't want to be a part of this game, so I'm glad I was able to do that."
Wednesday, January 21, 2009

The Observer  ♦  TODAY

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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Horoscope

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Rob Bourdon, 30; Gary Barlow, 38; Stacey Q. Out; 43; Bill Gates, 45

Happy Birthday! Don't overreact, storm or drown your sorrows when you should be looking in assuming your situation and making the necessary reforms, improvements or decisive changes to suit your needs. You are the one responsible for the outcome of your actions so you must take your medicine. travelers will be interested. A short trip will lead to information and suggestions. 4 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You cannot go wrong if you organize or plan something that will enhance your chance of getting ahead. Share a lively idea with people you know. They will be interested. A short trip will lead to information and suggestions. 4 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It's best to keep a stiff upper lip and ride out any storm you endure. You will come up with a brilliant idea that will be well received. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Look on the bright side. Once you have positive thought flowing freely, you can manipulate whatever situation you face with friends or colleagues. You will do well and achieve all your goals. 5 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A deal, settlement or legal matter can be wrapped up. You will be interested. A short trip will lead to information and suggestions. 4 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't expect the ones you love to be as accommodating as you would like. You will be interested. A short trip will lead to information and suggestions. 4 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have to push to do the things you enjoy if you want others to come to your party or plan. Get organized. 2 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll be far too emotional to deal with professional matters. You may want to handle everyone else in doing before you make a decision that may be difficult to reverse. Don't take unnecessary chances. 3 stars

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Be a hero and do for others. Tie opportunity to learn something about yourself and the people you hang out with will help you make an important decision that will influence your future. Don't get wrapped up in the moment if someone is trying to get you into a risky financial deal. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Open up and be receptive to a cause. You may be surprised at the connections you make. A deal that required some changes in order to move forward can be closed if you are willing to compromise. 4 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't try to figure out to whom you are accommodating or your friends and colleagues. Addicted personalities may make your day a little dull but it will be a learning experience that will help you out in the future. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): A borderline look at your situation and how it's affecting others will give you a better idea of what will help and what won't. You cannot assume anything when it comes to how people will react. Secret information may leak. 5 stars

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22): This isn't the time to communicate your negative conclusions. For things to prosper you need to be ready at any moment. The ones who do not. Listen, assess and organize. 2 stars

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Birthday Baby: You are open, interesting and intelligent. You are quick to adjust, pursue and grow and about all of your skills as you acquire. Your comments on the preceding zodiac will be posted on Enguian's site for the next three days.


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ND Women’s Basketball

Conference complications

Big East has five of its teams in the top 25

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Senior Women’s Basketball Analyst

The Big East is out to prove that it is the best conference in the NCAA, and it is doing it in force. Every team but Providence (7-11) is above .500 so far this season, and the conference boasts five teams ranked in the Associated Press top 25 — including top-ranked Connecticut. No Big East game is a given, especially on the road, and each win is even more important this season as the top four seeds get a bye in the Big East tournament.

Louisville (19-1, 6-0)
By virtue of having played more games than Connecticut, the Cardinals are currently on top of the table in the Big East, having just beaten Cincinnati 66-50 Tuesday night. The lone blemish on the No. 7 team is a loss to Kentucky in overtime in December.

Saxer eyes NCAAs, All-America status during senior season

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

This year I have my eye set on the NCAA Championships and placing so I can be All-American,” Saxer said. “I know that I have the ability to achieve this if I really put my mind to it.”

She won’t be alone on this journey. New pole-vaulting coach Jim Garnham will be at her side willing and able to assist her along the way.

“When I met with Mary this fall after taking this job, I asked her if she had accomplished everything that she wanted to accomplish athletically,” Garnham said. “Her answer was no. She said she wanted to be an All-American and that’s our goal.”

That’s hardly a stretch for the American,” Saxer said. “I know that I have the ability to achieve this if I really put my mind to it.”

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A three-time all-Big East selection, participant in last year’s NCAA Mideast regional meet and holder of a number of school and meet records, senior pole-vaulter Mary Saxer has certainly enjoyed an illustrious career at Notre Dame. But she’s far from done.

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Saxer prefers, however, to

see SAXER/page 22

Three grads taken in draft

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

Former Irish midfielder Taylor Clagett chases the ball during a game in 2007. The Los Angeles Riptide took Clagett in the first round.