Joyce Center doors will open at 9 p.m, allowing students to camp out for basketball seats

ESPN to broadcast live at game

Joyce Center doors will open at 9 p.m, allowing students to camp out for basketball seats

By CHRIS HINE
News Writer

Some Notre Dame students got a special treat as they sat down to dinner Wednesday night in South Dining Hall — former Notre Dame basketball coach Digger Phelps visited their tables, encouraging them to show up for the ESPN College GameDay’s live broadcast from the Joyce Center Saturday from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and then to No. 19 Notre Dame’s basketball game against No. 3 Connecticut at 7 p.m.

“They couldn’t believe I was there,” Phelps said. “I stood up on a couple chairs and give a big loud speech and then I went around from table to table to say ‘Hey, get your dorm there. I want everybody there.’”

Phelps, who’s a co-host of the show, was passing out fliers featuring a picture of well-known ESPN reporter Erin Andrews that said “She’ll be there Saturday! Will you?”

Phelps even popped his head in one dorm where University President Fr. Jenkins was giving a talk. Phelps said Jenkins spotted him in the back of the room, and called on him to give his basketball spiel.

Law School addition complete

Renovations now underway on old Law School building

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Walking across Notre Dame’s campus, one will most likely run into unfinished buildings, closed off paths and hear the sounds of large trucks or bulldozers echoing across the quad.

Several major construction projects are taking place on campus, including a nearly $58 million project on the Law School addition, said Craig Tiller, Senior Project Manager at the University Architect Office.

The new Law School building, which now includes the Law School addition, which is now complete. The renovations cost nearly $58 million.

220 ND students attend protest

By TESS CIVANTOS
News Writer

WASHINGTON — The 220 Notre Dame students who attended the 36th annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. Thursday sensed new energy and purpose in the wake of the recent inauguration and were met with meaningful support, marchers said.

There was a lot more energy in how the politicians at the rally were speaking,” said junior Mary Daly, Notre Dame's Right to Life club president.

IN BRIEF

The Notre Dame Student Film Festival will take place today and Saturday at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at Browning Cinema in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The festival will show 20 student films. Tickets can be purchased at performingarts.nd.edu.

John Smith, president of the Acceleration Studies Foundation will give his lecture entitled “Foreseeing Development in a World of Accelerating Change: Thoughts from an Eco-Den Warrior” in the Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business as part of the Ten Years Hence Lecture Series. This event will be held on Friday from 10:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

Auto manufacturer Saturn will give a special discount to college students and recent college graduates in order to help students purchase a Saturn vehicle. All college students enrolled in a 2-year or 4-year degree program, a registered nursing degree program or graduate degree program are eligible. For further information, call Saturn of Michiana at 574-258-6333.

Tim Robins’ The Actor’s Gang will present “1984” Saturday at 2 p.m. at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The play is an adaptation of George Orwell’s classic novel.

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

INSIDE COLUMN

The inauguration was a challenge to my father’s new team, since immediately after Nov. 4 his office was flooded by thousands of ticket requests from constituents.

But the line outside of the Cannon building was dwarfed by the crowds I encountered to arrive the next morning.

It seemed that the entire city of Washington was packed with people in town to witness the inauguration of America’s first black president. My parents were invited to a breakfast in the Capitol and sat in comfortable seats during the swearing-in (my mother’s seat was so good, she bragged about sitting next to Beyoncé, Jay-Z.

My Aunt Linda and I were left to brave the crowds together.

The tickets were color-coded, and my aunt and I were lucky enough to have yellow tickets which would give us an excellent view of the event. But when we arrived at the yellow gate at 9 a.m., we soon realized the yellow section was not as exclusive as we had imagined. It took us 20 minutes just to walk to the back of the line, and we were afraid we wouldn’t get inside.

As the line progressed, we passed a number of vendors attempting to sell Obama merchandise. Before Tuesday, I had never realized how much useless stuff could be sold at ridiculous prices simply by putting a man’s face on it. Everything one could imagine, from Obama T-shirts and hats to buttons and calendars to Obama pretzels and condoms, was available.

We waited for two and a half hours and went through the airport-esque security check before we finally arrived at our seats. The view was much better than I could have imagined, and I was clearly able to see the former presidents paraded out onto the balcony before Obama and his family arrived.

The event itself was relatively short, and after an opening by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Rick Warren gave an uninspiring invocation that left some in the crowd next to me questioning his selection as a speaker.

The view expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

INQUIRY SENSATION

WASHINGTON — When I arrived at the Cannon House Office Building Monday morning to help my father, who was recently elected to represent New York’s 13th District, a long line of people waiting to receive tickets to Obama’s was already stretching down the street.

By mid-afternoon, the wait was three hours.

Luckily, I was able to use the ID card issued to Congressional family members to bypass the security check.

The inauguration presented a challenge to my father’s new team, since immediately after Nov. 4 his office was flooded by thousands of ticket requests from constituents.

But the line outside of the Cannon building was dwarfed by the crowds I encountered to arrive the next morning.

It seemed that the entire city of Washington was packed with people in town to witness the inauguration of America’s first black president. My parents were invited to a breakfast in the Capitol and sat in comfortable seats during the swearing-in (my mother’s seat was so good, she bragged about sitting next to Beyoncé, Jay-Z.

My Aunt Linda and I were left to brave the crowds together.

The tickets were color-coded, and my aunt and I were lucky enough to have yellow tickets which would give us an excellent view of the event. But when we arrived at the yellow gate at 9 a.m., we soon realized the yellow section was not as exclusive as we had imagined. It took us 20 minutes just to walk to the back of the line, and we were afraid we wouldn’t get inside.

As the line progressed, we passed a number of vendors attempting to sell Obama merchandise. Before Tuesday, I had never realized how much useless stuff could be sold at ridiculous prices simply by putting a man’s face on it. Everything one could imagine, from Obama T-shirts and hats to buttons and calendars to Obama pretzels and condoms, was available.

We waited for two and a half hours and went through the airport-esque security check before we finally arrived at our seats. The view was much better than I could have imagined, and I was clearly able to see the former presidents paraded out onto the balcony before Obama and his family arrived.

The event itself was relatively short, and after an opening by Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), Rick Warren gave an uninspiring invocation that left some in the crowd next to me questioning his selection as a speaker.

The view expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT TIME WILL YOU BE GETTING TO GAME DAY ON SATURDAY?

Jacylin Espinoza
Junior
Pasquella West
"Hello, Linda," he said. "Don’t forget, tomorrow is a seed day."

Jonathan Lee
Junior
Off campus
"I don’t sleep, I’m always ready."

Julie Kim
Junior
Pasquella East
"Twilight."

Kevin Dacey
Junior
Saint Edwards
"What’s game day?"

'TIL be shedding up the slopes of Crystal Mountain."

ICICLES form on campus trees after a cold spell hit South Bend last week when temperatures dipped below zero, causing students to bundle up.
The Observer is now accepting applications for the position of **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
**Position is for the 2009-2010 term.**

Applicants for Editor-in-Chief should demonstrate strong journalistic and management skills. Also, experience with aspects of newspaper production is essential, including skills in Microsoft Word, Quark XPress and Photoshop.

Applications should include a 15-page paper detailing the applicant’s qualifications and goals and should be submitted to Chris Hine before the end of next week in The Observer offices in the basement of South Dining Hall. Please direct questions about the applications to Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu.
Porn

continued from page 1

"It is difficult to stay up, but it's difficult," O'Connell said.

Bill Dosterich, a 1958 Notre Dame alumnus, is a big supporter of the pro-life movement and Notre Dame Right to Life, Daley said. He contributed to the fund to send members of the Notre Dame administration to Washington for the march, as well as to support Right to Life efforts on campus.

Sophomore Karo Leonor went on the march and returned on the bus later the night following. "I thought it was really encouraging to see the professors, especially those who brought their families," Leonor said.

Leonor said there was a sense of camaraderie among the marchers. "You could feel the common appreciation for Notre Dame as America's Catholic institution," Leonor said.

Contact Teas Civantos at tcivanto@nd.edu
Pay freeze enforced in White House

Employees earning over $100,000 a year suffer consequences of freeze

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What do Tropicana Casino and Resort, Acme Yahoo and the White House now have in common? They’re all freezing the pay of some of their workers. It’s part of a widespread move by employers facing the fallout — economic and political — from a brutal recession.

For companies, pay freezes are a low-cost solution for surviving hard times.

For President Barack Obama, who ordered a pay freeze for White House employees earning over $100,000 a year, the move on his first full day in office sent a message to a nervous country: We’re in this together.

"During this period of economic emergency," Obama said Wednesday, "families are tightening their belts, and so should Washington." The unemployment rate last month booted to a 15-year high of 7.2 percent. Last year, 2.6 million jobs vanished, the most since World War II. The jobless rate is expected to march upward and layoffs to pile up even with a multibillion-dollar stimulus package being crafted by Obama and Congress.

Most employees, though, are seeking an alternative to layoffs. They’re turning to pay freezes, pay reductions and other cost-cutting options, such as ending their contributions to 401k accounts.

"Of all the hurts, but nothing hurts more than losing a job," said Allen Sinai, chief economist at Decision Economics Inc. "It is a growing trend as companies try to cut costs. Going forward, we will see more of this," he added.

The Federal Reserve has taken notice. In a recent survey of economic conditions, it observed that in some parts of the country, companies were resorting to "pay freezes or reductions in compensation.

A wide range of employers have followed suit. In some cases, they’re imposing pay freezes or cuts to avoid immediate layoffs, though economists say such steps tend to lead to layoffs anyway. In other cases, employers are cutting or freezing pay and laying off workers.

"It’s a real tectonic shift," Terry Connelly, dean of Golden Gate University’s Ageno School of Business, said of pay freezes and cuts. Such steps, which once affected mainly union workers, are spreading to white-collar industries, he said.

The extraordinary pace of layoffs has shifted people’s internal calculations to the point where they are not only willing to take a pay cut to save their own job but also take a freeze to save their co-worker’s job," Connelly said.

Fresh unemployment data out Thursday underscored the grim reality facing workers. The number of newly laid off Americans seeking unemployment benefits last week jumped by 62,000 to 389,000, the Labor Department reported. The number of people continuing to draw benefits climbed to 4.6 million, and both figures were worse than economists expected.

Yahoo said Thursday that employees will forgo pay raises this year as the lumping Internet company struggles amid the recession.

Sunnyvale, Calif.-based Yahoo laid off 1,500 workers last month. A company spokesman said no other job cuts are planned, though management previously warned another purge could come, depending on how much longer the 15-month-old recession lasts.

Tropicana Casino and Resort of Atlantic City, N.J., said Wednesday it’s freezing pay for those making $50,000 and up and capping raises for lower-paid workers.

But the company said more than 100 employees could still lose their jobs.

Iraq

Gov’t budget plagues as oil prices rise

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq’s government will have dramatically less money to spend than anticipated this year because of plunging oil prices — a dire economic situation that’s already forced the country to slash rebuilding plans by 40 percent, The Associated Press has learned.

As the U.S. seeks a timetable for withdrawal, cutbacks on spending and jobs could trigger heightened violence. U.S. commanders have repeatedly warned that without speedy economic development and reconstruction, the sharp improvements in security since the U.S. troop surge of 2007 could be at risk in a country where about 39 percent of the work force is estimated to have no job or just part-time employment.

But rebuilding requires money, and with oil prices plummeting, the government has been forced to cut plans for spending — by one-third overall and 40 percent for rebuilding, Iraqi officials told the AP — and to consider even deeper reductions.

It’s an ironic turnaround from just months ago when U.S. lawmakers complained that Iraq was swimming in cash from high oil revenues and should do more to help itself, rather than spend U.S. taxpayer money to rebuild.

Iraq is almost entirely dependent on oil money. More than 90 percent of the government’s revenues come from oil sales. The government says it earned about $60 billion from oil sales in 2008 but hasn’t publicly said how much it expects to take in this year.

With oil prices, Iraq acutely how much it expects to take in.

Oil sales in 2008 but hasn’t said publicly how much it expects to take in this year.

Oil sales in 2008 but hasn’t said publicly how much it expects to take in this year.

Oil sales in 2008 but hasn’t said publicly how much it expects to take in this year.

Oil sales in 2008 but hasn’t said publicly how much it expects to take in this year.

Oil sales in 2008 but hasn’t said publicly how much it expects to take in this year.

Oil sales in 2008 but hasn’t said publicly how much it expects to take in this year.
On Saturday, Notre Dame will be putting its nation-best 42-game home winning streak on the line. Saturday will also mark the first time Gameday will come to Notre Dame for a basketball game. To mark the occasion, the University, in cooperation with the Leprechaun Legion has planned a camp out and other events beginning tonight.

At 7 a.m. tonight, Gate 3 of the Joyce Center will be open for students who wish to camp out for the night inside the Joyce Center. Liners can form at 6:45. Wristbands will be handed out at 9 p.m. for camp placement according to their wristbands. At 5 p.m. the students will enter the arena for the game.

"It’s huge for students to show up to the gameday events this weekend," Ceravolo said. "This is the first time ESPN Gameday has come to Notre Dame for a basketball event and we want to show the nation how supportive we are and that we aren't just a football school," Ceravolo said.

Phipps said he wants the student body to resemble the crowd that came to see Notre Dame's 1977 win over a then-undefeated San Francisco team. The crowd was so loud and affected so much that NBC, who was broadcasting the game, named the crowd the most valuable player.

"I've seen Gamedays all over for five years and this team has earned the right to have Gameday here and I just want to show the nation that this is Notre Dame," Phipps said.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

Beginning, concluding at 12 p.m. The arena will be cleared and students can return to Gate 11 at 2 p.m. for line placement according to their wristbands. At 5 p.m. the students will enter the arena for the game.

ESPN continued from page 1

Jim Lybouth, vice president for Business Operations, said there is still interior construction to be done on all of these projects, "while Ryan, Simon-Renick and Geddes Hall still have remaining exterior work to complete."

Lybouth expects Ryan Hall and Geddes Hall to be completed by Aug. 1 while Simon-Renick will be completed in December of this year.

Construction also started on the Joyce Center in September, with the foundations of the Purcell Pavilion, Lybouth said.

The Purcell Pavilion will be a "47,000 gross square foot addition to the south dome of the IACC," according to the University Architect Web site.

The Web site also says that the project will include a new major entry for the arena, a new varsity shop, new ticketing operations, new concessions and a new third floor club for hospitality.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

The arena will be cleared and students can return to Gate 11 at 2 p.m. for line placement according to their wristbands. At 5 p.m. the students will enter the arena for the game.

Law continued from page 1

ing, which includes an addition plus renovation to the old building, will be 152,000 square feet, Tiller said. The addition is complete, and everyone has been moved into that part of the building so renovation work can be done on the old part of the building, he said.

The gates around the archway through the Law School building have been removed; so students can pass from Main Circle to DeBartolo Quad.

Once all work is complete, the classrooms will be in the new part of the building, while the library, career services and admissions will reside in the renovated part, he said.

"The new building has 205 seat classrooms, 270 seat classrooms, five seminar rooms and a whole host of teaching spaces."

Craig Tiller
Senior Project Manager

"The new building has 205 seat classrooms, 270 seat classrooms, five seminar rooms and a whole host of teaching spaces."

The new building has 205 seat classrooms, 270 seat classrooms, five seminar rooms and a whole host of teaching spaces, Tiller said. Part of the reason the construction is being done is because the old Law School building was very "maze-like and had a lot of level changes."

"There were 17 different entrances into the library. You can imagine it was very problematic," he said. "Part of the renovation is to take out that confusion."

The nearly $58 million project was made possible through donations, and the new building, named Bionchi Hall, is expected to be finished in June of 2010, Tiller said.

Additional construction projects are taking place across campus, including a new engineering building, named Simon-Renick Hall, a new women's residence hall, Ryan Hall, and Geddes Hall, which will house the Institute for Church Life and Center for Social Concerns.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

The Art of the Diseego: Italian Paints and Drawings from the Georgia Museum of Art
O'Shaughnessy Galleries
Jan 11 - Mar 15

Milly and Fritz Koester Mestrovic Studio Gallery
Jan 25 - Mar 1
Microsoft feels the burn of recession

5,000 lose their jobs as the company makes the first mass layoff in its history

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Microsoft Corp. will make the first mass layoff in its history, cutting 5,000 jobs as demand for personal computers, the backbone of the global economy and even one of the world's richest companies, is gutted by the recession.

The company announced Thursday it will slash 1,100 positions, or 2 percent of its work force, and that it would report fourth-quarter earnings that fell short of Wall Street's expectations. Microsoft shares plunged more than 11 percent.

"We're certainly in the midst of a once-in-a-lifetime set of economic conditions," Chief Executive Steve Ballmer said during a conference call with analysts. "And people are spending less and storing away the money of their existing computers.

The biggest names in the technology sector have already shaved jobs to layoffs lately. General Motors, for example, is planning the largest layoff in its history.

"Google also reported earnings Thursday and said its quarterly net profit fell 68 percent, its first such drop ever. The results were worse than analysts had expected, however.

At Microsoft, the cuts appeared to reflect uncertainty about when times will get better. The company said it could not issue a forecast for earnings and profits for the rest of the year.

The software maker was already struggling with problems, among them its inability to sour a significant share of the lucrative Web search advertising market from leaders such as Google Inc. It is hoping to fix this by buying Yahoo Inc. and pouring money into its own technology, all the while relying on office programs such as Word and Excel, and on Windows to keep bringing home huge profits. Now, with the recession pinching soft-

wear earnings, Microsoft's problems seem even harder to fix.

Microsoft, which has $20.7 billion in cash on hand, said its business prospects were hurt by the deteriorating global economy and lower revenue from software for PCs. The holiday quarter of 2008 was the worst for the PC market since 2002, with computer shipments declining about a half of 1 percent, according to IDC, a technology research group.

Making matters worse, the one type of PC consumers have warmed to in tight times — the low-cost, low-power "netbook" — actually cut further into Microsoft's earnings. The tiny portable computers run on Windows XP, which is older and less profitable for Microsoft than Windows Vista.

The layoffs, starting with 1,400 on Thursday, will affect workers in research, development, marketing, sales, finance, legal and corporate affairs, human resources and information technology, and mostly in Redmond, Wash., where the company is based. The cuts are expected to touch virtually every division and include the computer programmers who write code for existing and future applications.

Employees reached by The Associated Press declined to comment on the news, saying it was company policy to speak to reporters.

Microsoft had never done layoffs on this scale before — it had only made relatively small staff cuts after acquiring companies or reor-

ganizing product groups. The software maker won't stop hiring entirely. During the conference call, Ballmer said the company will add new jobs in the next 18 months to support key areas, including Web search, so the total number of employees will drop by 2,000 to 3,000.

Recovery plan advanced in Congress

WASHINGTON — Amid grim new evidence of economic weakness, legislation at the heart of President Barack Obama's recovery plan advanced in Congress Thursday over the persistent opposition of Republicans seeking deeper tax cuts.

"We are very pleased with the progress," said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dave Camp of Michigan, the top Republican on the tax-writing committee.

On the key vote of the day, Democrats closed ranks to preserve a tax break for this year and 2010 that would mean $500 for many workers and $1,000 for millions of couples, including those whose earnings are so low that they pay no federal income tax.

Democrats also turned back a Republican attempt to fetter how the Senate, where they have a majority, would himself employ employer coverage, and to waive income taxes on unemployement benefits for two years.

They argued that the GOP propos-
als would favor upper-income indi-
viduals and couples who, they said, benefited disproportionately from tax cuts passed during the adminis-
tration of former President George W. Bush.

"We need to be dealing with peo-
ple at the bottom of the income scale," said Rep. Jim McDermott, D-
Washington. "They also noted that the legis-
lation would provide a $25-per-week increase in unemployment benefits.

But Camp cited a report by the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service that he said showed lower and middle-income workers already would have received most of the benefits from the proposal to elimi-
nate the tax on unemployment benef-

cations.

Employees reached by The Associated Press declined to comment on the news, saying it was company policy to speak to reporters.

Microsoft had never done layoffs on this scale before — it had only made relatively small staff cuts after acquiring companies or reor-

ganizing product groups. The software maker won't stop hiring entirely. During the conference call, Ballmer said the company will add new jobs in the next 18 months to support key areas, including Web search, so the total number of employees will drop by 2,000 to 3,000.

Recovery plan advanced in Congress

WASHINGTON — Amid grim new evidence of economic weakness, legislation at the heart of President Barack Obama's recovery plan advanced in Congress Thursday over the persistent opposition of Republicans seeking deeper tax cuts.

"We are very pleased with the progress," said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dave Camp of Michigan, the top Republican on the tax-writing committee.

On the key vote of the day, Democrats closed ranks to preserve a tax break for this year and 2010 that would mean $500 for many workers and $1,000 for millions of couples, including those whose earnings are so low that they pay no federal income tax.

Democrats also turned back a Republican attempt to fetter the Senate, where they have a majority, would himself employ employer coverage, and to waive income taxes on unemployment benefits for two years.

They argued that the GOP propos-
als would favor upper-income indi-
viduals and couples who, they said, benefited disproportionately from tax cuts passed during the adminis-
tration of former President George W. Bush.

"We need to be dealing with peo-
ple at the bottom of the income scale," said Rep. Jim McDermott, D-
Washington. "They also noted that the legis-
lation would provide a $25-per-week increase in unemployment benefits.

But Camp cited a report by the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service that he said showed lower and middle-income workers already would have received most of the benefits from the proposal to elimi-
nate the tax on unemployment benef-

cations.

Employees reached by The Associated Press declined to comment on the news, saying it was company policy to speak to reporters.

Microsoft had never done layoffs on this scale before — it had only made relatively small staff cuts after acquiring companies or reor-

ganizing product groups. The software maker won't stop hiring entirely. During the conference call, Ballmer said the company will add new jobs in the next 18 months to support key areas, including Web search, so the total number of employees will drop by 2,000 to 3,000.
Missing history

On Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2009, one of the biggest milestones in U.S. history was reached. For the first time ever, a black man will occupy the White House. Greeted with voluminous applause and worldwide vigor, Barack H. Obama became the 44th president of the United States. More than one billion people around the world tuned in to hear his inaugural address. Offices set up televisions and organized breaks to watch. High school classes gathered around the TV screen. But at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, students were forced to skip classes to watch this historic event. Or if they were lucky, their professors turned it on for them in class.

Why should students have to take an unexcused absence from class to experience the most celebrated event in recent history? Notre Dame and Saint Mary's were also in classes Monday, Martin Luther King Jr. Day — a national day of service. Other schools across the nation cancelled classes, leaving their students free to volunteer at grocery stores or soup kitchens. Meanwhile, Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students were in the classroom, unable to participate and give back to their community — which was an essential part of King's legacy. Notre Dame, like thousands of other schools across the country, should cancel classes for the day in honor of the memory and contribution of Dr. King.

Four years ago, when Father John Jenkins was inaugurated as University President, Notre Dame was given the day all. Does Fr. Jenkins outrank the president of the United States? Martin Luther King Jr.? Obviously, the answer is no, however, Barack Obama — the president of the United States — was not even given a few hours of attention by the University.

In anticipation of such a momentous week, the University should have prepared to usher in a new era. The simple action of watching the inaugural address (which, mind you, was less than 15 minutes long) as a community in the Joyce Center or other venues on campus would have avoided the penalty of skipping classes and would have allowed students and faculty alike to witness history. Watching the first black president take the White House ought to trump the extra 15 minutes of class time students would miss. As such, both Notre Dame and Saint Mary's need to put into perspective that forfeiting 15 minutes of class is well worth the tradeoff of witnessing history as it happens, instead of watching it on YouTube a few hours later.
President Barack Obama’s inauguration was so momentous that it even excited Washington residents as more than a usual event. However, it was the first visit to Notre Dame.

The nation has not yet seen what Notre Dame students are capable of. I know you are the best students in the nation and this Saturday is time to prove it. We are ridding a nation from a 0-16 game-busting streak, and it is time to show America why we are so tough at the Joyce Center. I talked to the University and with the help of some students and Coach Brey, we are going to open up the field house on Friday night at 9 pm. I want as many students as possible there ready to cheer on the Irish.

If you cannot camp out Friday night, be in the building during a Government Accountability Office investigation. GAO was appointed this appointee subsequently fired and immediately escorted from his office — ordering career civil service to remove reference to the web site. Even after initially confessed, the appointee continued to instruct aides to destroy all references of the mission while pursuing a project that he knew was contrary to existing law.

Joe Biden: First Goofball

After Joe and Jill Biden appeared on Oprah earlier this week, the former vice president said, "I don’t think it’s a great idea that we put our president into the Oval Office and then have our vice president run as an executive."

Biden was finished taking the oath of office on Tuesday. This is minor, however, and there appear to be more serious. Is it a coincidence that Joe Biden was also the former senator from Delaware? Is it a coincidence that Biden was finished taking the oath of office on Tuesday? This is minor, however, and there appear to be more serious. Is it a coincidence that Joe Biden was also the former senator from Delaware?

Leprechaun Legion

Coach Digger Phelps here, trying to give you a little perspective on the upcoming game this weekend between your Fighting Irish men’s basketball team and the third ranked Connecticut Huskies. ESPN College Basketball coaches have been around for years and this is the first visit to Notre Dame. The nation has yet not seen what Notre Dame students are capable of. I know you are the best students in the nation and this Saturday is time to prove it. We are ridding a nation from a 0-16 game-busting streak, and it is time to show America why we are so tough at the Joyce Center. I talked to the University and with the help of some students and Coach Brey, we are going to open up the field house on Friday night at 9 pm. I want as many students as possible there ready to cheer on the Irish.

If you cannot camp out Friday night, be in the building during a Government Accountability Office investigation. GAO was appointed this appointee subsequently fired and immediately escorted from his office — ordering career civil service to remove reference to the web site. Even after initially confessed, the appointee continued to instruct aides to destroy all references of the mission while pursuing a project that he knew was contrary to existing law.
There is little instant access to this album; Obi Best demands that you listen a few times to get into their songs. But it offers a unique sound and quirky lyrics that make it worth the investment.

“Capades” is the only song on the album that brings in voices distinct from Obi’s with a deep male chorus line throughout. It plays with fifth chords and seems to challenge you to love this way. Can it be true? Paper cranes and daiseys say I love you.

“Swedish Boy” is fun in it oddity as it croons, “It seems to me you live in a made up country where something would make up when you were high/it’s something the gods would make while they’re dreaming and something you would make up when you were five.” (If you find you like the song, Social Science Studios has opened a competition to design the music video for it.)

The lyric of “Within These Forrest Walls” makes it stand out, with, “In my garden/Don’t you worry/Can’t you see that I’m freer than you ever be/They say that I can leave to seek a life out there but the world is not for me/dress yourself/it’s the biggest fantasy.”

“Days of Decadence,” closes the album with a lighter, refreshing swing and, “I’ll just linger back instead/This is not my mind/see some gross kids out looking for me/With I wish I could rewind and find those dusty days we wait for us/Days of decadence are rangin through me.”

Some of the songs on the album are less successful. What’s “Not” sounds a bit whiney at times and “Bloom Like Flowers” fingers on for too long without offering much change.

There is little instant access to this album’s lyrics; Obi Best demand that you listen a few times to get into their songs. But it offers a unique sound and quirky lyrics that make it worth the investment. “Capades” will be released in stores February 24 but it is all ready available digitally on stores like iTunes.

By STEPHANIE DEPREZ
Scene Editor

This week Scene got a chance to sit down with Alex Lilly, the main brain behind Obi Best. Between had cell connections and last minute answer changes (what music would you want on a desert island?) Lilly revealed her complete down-to-earth interest in sound effects, quirky lyrics, and the joys of being just plain silly.

What is It like working with The Bird and the Bee?

I had been working on my thing before I came to LA, and the backing vocals kind of came out of the blue. I’d never done backing vocals for a band before, so I was pretty excited when it happened. Sort of a lucky accident that I was so excited to please with them.

Your music is very spacy and outside of the box. How do you create a song?

What do you write first, music or lyrics? How do you decide where to layer voice and instruments?

The music comes first. Usually what will happen is that I start writing a piece of music and then it reminds me of something that happened in my life or reminds me of a concept, maybe something that I’ve seen. The music does come first.

Sometimes the melody line that I have in my head interests me to a new key or to find another chord, but usually I tinker with something a lot until I find some things that feels right for the song and me. Sometimes if I’ve been in the same key for while and ask to want to write to stir a bridge I think oh, it would be cool to go to the parallel minor, so little music theory stuff will pop up just to kind of shake me up. Usually I just do it with my ear and it will send me into other keys and other territories. I experiment with different sounds until I have an idea of a mood that I want. I record a bunch of stuff and it becomes a process of elimination.

What is It like to have that kind of control over your music?

I’ve never had it any other way. I’ve always had to take control. Music has always been my idea. My grandma plays piano but I had to ask for piano lessons. I asked for a guitar, I asked for Pro Tools. I felt like I always asked for what I wanted or saved up money to buy me.

“It’s Because of People Like You” is always an angry one; no one left in your car. Did someone really do that?

They did indeed. It wasn’t “because of people like you” but it had that sentiment, “Learn to park and lock your car.” I had sort of a junky car, and it was not parked improperly, as I mention in “Days of Decadence.”

“It’s Because of People Like You” is a story of a garagged car. I had an island and could bring the complete island. I was not happy. It’s supposed to be pret- ty but I’m not sure if people have entered. If there’s any film students that want to do anything, they can come up with something pretty silly and have a good chance of winning. Let them know!

What do you think is the most unexpected musical influence that people will find when listen- ing to “Capades”?

I’d probably have to bring someone else’s music to the table. It’s very Romantic music to listen to. What would you say are your major musical influences?

I remember taking dance classes in fifth grade and this really cool modern dance instructor played Tom Tom Club’s “Genius of Love.” I was obsessed with it. At the same time my mom had The Doors in my Christmas stocking, so I was pretty into that. Grace Jones I love. Of course all the classic stuff, like the Rolling Stones, the Talking Heads, P国籍, but not like the drug. When I went to college I went through the classical phase and I would listen to Mussorgsky, Prokofiev, and Ravel. It’s very Intelligent music to listen to.

You know those Baby Genius CDs? It’s like that for a college kid. You get smarter when you listen to it.

If you were stranded on a desert island and could bring the complete works of one artist, who would you bring?

I’d probably have to bring someone eerie and dark. The Beatles? No. Miles Davis? I have to go with Pink Floyd and Pink Floyd they do a lot of different stuff.

(Five minutes later, the phone rings again.) Hello?

I have an answer! David Bowie.

Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@nd.edu
Point guard Tory Jackson is used to battling people who are bigger and stronger than he is. He did it growing up as the second-youngest in a family of fourteen children.
Irish need boost from home fans

Don’t underestimate a crowd’s ability to electric. To embolden. To inspire. To take a group of athletes and help them reach a higher place.

Digger Phelps doesn’t. How could he?

On January 19, 1974, Digger Phelps and his No. 2 Irish stood ready when UCLA strolled into South Bend with a videogame-esque 88-game win streak. They had been ranked No. 1 since 1971. With 3:30 left in the game, it was business as usual for UCLA who led 70-59, but then John Shumate scored four straight points. And then the noise turned up. And then came UCLA’s next four possessions: turnover, travel, missed shot, and an offensive foul.

The Bruins, renowned for their flawless execution, were so rattled that coach John Wooden had to change the sign stance, offering a subtle drop down the thunder like your life depends on it.

So come early. Be creative. And when the first Huskey sets foot on that court, shake down the game win streak. What started as the most highly anticipated Irish season in decades is suddenly teetering dangerously close to spiraling out of control. Losses at Louisville and Syracuse have given the Irish their first back-to-back Big East losses since 2007. Now, No. 2 Connecticut comes to town followed by No. 11 Marquette and then a game at No. 4 Pittsburgh. Two losses could turn into three defeats in a row, and Notre Dame’s No. 9 preseason ranking is a distant memory.

That can’t happen. Barely does a moment of need coincide so ideally with one of opportunity, but the Irish have been blessed by the scheduling gods in the form of a certain college basketball show led by our own Phelps.

Digger knows the effect Gameday has. He described the energy during the morning broadcast as a force that carries over to the moment when the prime-time lights come on. Maybe that’s why he’s campaigning dorm-to-dorm in an effort to pack the JACC with 11,000 fans for the 11 A.M. broadcast.

Even the administration seems to sense the opportunity to seize the moment. The doors to the JACC will be opened at 9:00 p.m. Friday for students who want to “campout” prior to Saturday’s festivities. Notre Dame’s also dropping their traditional anti-videogame garb over to the prime-time lights come on.

What can’t happen. What can’t happen. What can’t happen.

Right now, Notre Dame is No. 9 in the AP Poll, No. 11 in the Coaches Poll, and No. 12 in the ESPN/USA Today Poll. Their No. 6 preseason ranking is rapidly dropping. Their No. 4 preseason ranking is rapidly dropping. It is business as usual for UCLA who led 70-59, but then John Shumate scored four straight points. And then the noise turned up. And then came UCLA’s next four possessions: turnover, travel, missed shot, and an offensive foul.

The Bruins, renowned for their flawless execution, were so rattled that coach John Wooden had to change the sign stance, offering a subtle drop down the thunder like your life depends on it.

So come early. Be creative. And when the first Huskey sets foot on that court, shake down the game win streak. What started as the most highly anticipated Irish season in decades is suddenly teetering dangerously close to spiraling out of control. Losses at Louisville and Syracuse have given the Irish their first back-to-back Big East losses since 2007. Now, No. 2 Connecticut comes to town followed by No. 11 Marquette and then a game at No. 4 Pittsburgh. Two losses could turn into three defeats in a row, and Notre Dame’s No. 9 preseason ranking is a distant memory.

That can’t happen. Barely does a moment of need coincide so ideally with one of opportunity, but the Irish have been blessed by the scheduling gods in the form of a certain college basketball show led by our own Phelps.

Digger knows the effect Gameday has. He described the energy during the morning broadcast as a force that carries over to the moment when the prime-time lights come on. Maybe that’s why he’s campaigning dorm-to-dorm in an effort to pack the JACC with 11,000 fans for the 11 A.M. broadcast.

Even the administration seems to sense the opportunity to seize the moment. The doors to the JACC will be opened at 9:00 p.m. Friday for students who want to “campout” prior to Saturday’s festivities. Notre Dame’s also dropping their traditional anti-videogame garb over to the prime-time lights come on.

What can’t happen. What can’t happen. What can’t happen.

Right now, Notre Dame is No. 9 in the AP Poll, No. 11 in the Coaches Poll, and No. 12 in the ESPN/USA Today Poll. Their No. 6 preseason ranking is rapidly dropping. Their No. 4 preseason ranking is rapidly dropping.
Friday, January 23, 2009

The Observer  IRISH INSIDER

Tory's story

Tory Jackson's childhood was a good warm-up for the tall players he'd face in the Big East

By CHRIS HINE
Editor-in-Chief

Grooming up, Tory Jackson didn't possess a height advantage. As the 13th of 14 children growing up in Saginaw, Mich., Jackson constantly had to fight his bigger, older siblings for everything from toys, to the extra food on the dinner table, to who would do the chores around the house. It was rare when he came away victorious.

"It was probably one of the toughest challenges I faced so far, fighting for everything and me being so little," said Jackson, who's listed at 5-foot-11. "The older kids, they got everything. They beat me to it or they were just too big and I couldn't take it from them."

On the court, the results weren't different. For the first 13-plus years of his life, Jackson's frequent foe, his brother Cory, one year his senior, always had the upper hand. When Tory was in eighth grade, he finally bested his brother.

"We had a rivalry, it was like the Pistons and the Bulls and everyone really you can think of. Michigan, The State," Jackson said. "I feel like our rivalry was tougher than all of theirs because we had to do everything, like to fight for food, we had to fight each other growing up. It was always a competition.

That competition served Jackson well. To beat Cory and his older siblings, Jackson learned how to be a scraper. He fought for every loose ball, fought for every rebound and used his quickness to offset his sibling's height and strength, something he does to opponents every night in the Big East.

While beating any member of his family in a game of one-on-one is no longer a problem, those early defeats helped form him into one of the best guards in the Big East and continue to inspire him to get better.

"All the talent I have came from God and it came from my family beating me up all the time back in the day," Jackson said.

One man's suspension is another's opportunity

Once he got to Notre Dame, Jackson wasn't playing as much as he'd like. Kyle McAlarney was Notre Dame's starting point guard and the Irish also had seniors in Jackson Colbust in Colin Falls and Russell Carter. Jackson got his minutes coming off the bench, something he never did in his playing career.

"When I first got here, I was like, 'I want to play right away.' But that's not the case all the time," Jackson said. "This was the first time I was coming off the bench, I was playing through high school all through element, everyday. I always started, always played big minutes. Coming in, beginning of my freshman year, had to play behind K-Mar, and it was one of those learning things."

Then McAlarney was arrested for marijuana possession just before Big East play started in the 2006-07 season and subsequently suspended from the University for the rest of the semester. Jackson was now Notre Dame's starting point guard. Jackson was ready to take over, thanks in part to his childhood.

"It was one of those things, it kind of reminded me of my past," Jackson said. "When I was growing up, it was a tough challenge, but I was raised to take [a challenge] and if you put it to me, I didn't let it phase me."

Jackson got off to a rocky start in his new role. He had three points and five turnovers in his first start against St. John's.

"The first five minutes of the Stony Brook game, Falls and I kind of bigged each other because he had two turnovers and we were like, 'Ok, no, is this going to work?'" Brey said.

But those doubts about Jackson's ability to become the second guard as a starter when Notre Dame played Louisville

Jackson had 14 points, five rebounds and four assists in a 78-62 win over the Cardinals where he played fast as freshman year.

"To be thrown into that and handle it with the maturity that he did, that was really impressive," Brey said.

When Falls and Carter weren't getting the ball as much as they might have expected, Jackson took the blame and played positively.

"I respect them because they were a lot older and I expected them to handle them," Jackson said. "It was one of those things where I just got to stepping up so I took the blame for it because I felt like I was strong enough mentally and physically to take it."

Jackson helped lead Notre Dame to an 11-5 conference record.

The culmination of his season came against Georgetown in the semifinals of the Big East tournament. Jackson led the Irish to victory in evergreen Fall's final game as a starter.

"I feel like defensively I should say something to make me proud, but I'm never really proud of those things."

As a result, Jackson's touch has become noticeably softer this season. His arc has improved, and his shooting percentage has gone up.

"I feel like I was one of those years where it was a down year from me," Jackson said. "I expected a lot more, especially coming off that freshman year. I expected myself to be a lot better and I never really adjusted to teams' defenses."

"They finally knew about me. In high school I was playing different teams (Saginaw Buena Vista) It was one of those things where I was playing different teams and nobody had a scouting report, but in college everybody's scouting you, they got something on you and I never really adjusted and tried to fix my game.

And where would Jackson turn to fix his game? His family.

Evolving into a complete player

Jackson knew he had to develop his jump shot headed into his junior year, and his family was there to help inspire him to keep working at it. Some of Jackson's family members relocated to South Bend and worked with him over the summer. Naturally, the Jacksons couldn't help but turn their workouts into a competition.

"I was thankful for my brothers being around and at times we would be in the gym working out after hours or something like that, or just shooting around and they would start some kind of competition and the jump shooting would begin," Jackson said.

"So much competition, and it made you want to work and fix each other and see what was wrong with my jump shot."

As a result, Jackson's touch has become noticeably softer this season. His arc has improved, and his shooting percentage has gone up.

Jackson shot 43.3 percent from the field, up from 38.6 a year ago, and is 37.5 percent from 3-point range, up from 30.2 percent last season.

He's averaging 11.4 points per game, Notre Dame's third-leading scorer this season.

He's third in the league in assists, averaging just under six per game. And he's still averaging 4.6 rebounds per game.

This season, Notre Dame has struggled defensively on its way to a 3-3 record in the Big East, and Jackson is taking it upon himself to remedy that.

"I feel like defensively I should set a spark. Offensively not much should change, maybe shot selection. Defensively, I should set a spark. I think everybody else will feed off that."

But regardless of his statistics and regardless of winning or losing, there's always one phone call that Jackson gets from his mom, Sarah.

"I'll call my mom, (Sarah), because I know she'll say something good, something that'll really pick me up and even if I don't smile, I have to fight that sometimes," Jackson said. "I'll want to be so tough, but she'll say something to make me smile."
Notre Dame welcomes trash-talking Huskies

By FRAN TOLAN
Associated Sports Editor

There is a palpable buzz in the air for the No. 19 Irish. Who said Notre Dame is a "football school"?

No. 3 Connecticut is coming to town and brings with it ESPN's College Gameday, trash talk and many other factors that should motivate the Irish, who are looking to break a two-game losing streak.

Much of the student body plans to flood the Joyce Center Saturday morning to catch a glimpse of Rece Davis, Bobby Knight, Hubert Davis, Jay Bilas and — of course — Digger Phelps.

"With College Gameday being here, it's a great honor to be part of that," Irish co-captain Ryan Ayers said. "It'll be exciting and it is a big game ... We kind of relish these opportunities to show people what we can do, especially on a big national stage."

After a week off since they lost to Syracuse last Saturday, the Irish will square off against the Huskies at 7:30, and Irish coach Mike Brey said the LePrechaun Legion will be going wild.

"I think this crowd will be the best I've seen since I've been here and that's saying something," said Brey, who has guided the Irish for nine years. "I can feel it building. I can feel the crescendo. And I think we will feel an intensity and an energy in the building Saturday night that maybe has never been in this building. And I really believe that."

The Irish are currently riding a 45-game home winning streak and, with a win Saturday, would set a record for consecutive Big East home wins with 20.

"It's awesome. I'm very, very proud of the streak and I think it says how consistent the group has been to put us in position to actually break it," Brey said. "I'm very proud of the group."

Which brings us to Jeff Adrien. After a win over Seton Hall Sunday, the Connecticut forward uttered some trash talk about Notre Dame's Joyce Center dominance.

"It's going to feel good to break (Notre Dame's) home winning streak," Adrien told the Associated Press. "It's a tough place to play, but we can do it. We almost did it last year."

The Irish players had measured responses to Adrien's comments.

"We kind of just laugh at it, use it as motivation," said Ayers. "We're not going to say anything back to him obviously, we're just going to let our play do the talking."

Nonetheless, Adrien's quote was the second insult of Notre Dame by a Connecticut player. In November, Huskies center Hasheem Thabeet appeared on the cover of ESPN the Magazine and took a jab at Irish forward Luke Harangody. Alongside a picture of Thabeet ran this quote: "Nobody's better than me, only more experienced. I'll play harder."

"There's definitely going to be a lot of hype with this game especially with what Adrien said and what Thabeet's been saying, so that might add a little excitement for the game," Harangody said. "But personally, I'm going to take it as just another game.

Still, Harangody admitted he is excited to stand toe to toe with the 7-foot-3 Thabeet.

"It's always a fun matchup with him. It's such a challenge because he's such a great player," Harangody said. "So yeah, you do circle this one on the schedule."

Last season, Harangody scored just 14 points on 5-of-23 shooting during Notre Dame's 73-67 win over Connecticut on Jan. 5. But Harangody exploded for 32 points and 16 rebounds in a February rematch that, oddly enough, the Irish lost.

However, Harangody pointed out that Saturday's game will be about a lot more than the player Lake Harangody and he expects Ayers and senior forward Hills Island to bounce back after several rough games on the road.

Nonetheless, Adrien's quote was the second insult of Notre Dame by a Connecticut player. In November, Huskies center Hasheem Thabeet appeared on the cover of ESPN the Magazine and took a jab at Irish forward Luke Harangody. Alongside a picture of Thabeet ran this quote: "Nobody's better than me, only more experienced. I'll play harder."

"I think coming home is going to feel good to break (Notre Dame's) home winning streak," Adrien told the Associated Press. "It's a tough place to play, but we can do it. We almost did it last year."

The Irish players had measured responses to Adrien's comments.

"We kind of just laugh at it, use it as motivation," said Ayers. "We're not going to say anything back to him obviously, we're just going to let our play do the talking."

Nonetheless, Adrien's quote was the second insult of Notre Dame by a Connecticut player. In November, Huskies center Hasheem Thabeet appeared on the cover of ESPN the Magazine and took a jab at Irish forward Luke Harangody. Alongside a picture of Thabeet ran this quote: "Nobody's better than me, only more experienced. I'll play harder."

"I've missed our students because they haven't been at a home game since the (Boston University) game and they pulled us up through that one," Brey said. "Our players, more importantly, have missed having the student body there because that drives the energy in the building. They've certainly been rested up so they can let it rip Saturday."

Ayers added: "It's probably going to be one of the greatest games I've ever played in. We're playing against a great team, a top-five team, so it's just going to be awesome. The crowd's going to be buzzing."

"Yes, there is certainly considerable excitement about Saturday's matchup with the Huskies. So don't be surprised to see tailgates and rabid fans all over campus this weekend. It may be mid-January but there is football-sized hype surrounding this game."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

2008-2009 TERRENCE R. KEELEY VISITING VATICAN LECTURE SPONSORED BY THE NANOVIC INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

Catholicism and Secularism in Contemporary Europe

ARCHBISHOP ANGELO AMATO, S.D.B.
PREFECT OF THE CONGREGATION FOR THE CAUSES OF SAINTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2009
7:30 PM, HESBURGH CENTER AUDITORIUM

http://nanovic.nd.edu
Friday, January 23, 2009

By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Editor

Toniight, Fornight productions, an even put on by Student Activities Office, returns with its latest production, "Now Playing: Songs from the 2009 Broadway Season." The performance, a revue featuring well-known songs from contemporary Broadway shows, is free for students.

Kevin Chamberlain, a student at the Notre Dame Law School and graduate of the University, is one of the people behind Fornight Productions, an initiative of Student Activities that first came into being last year. According to Chamberlain, the project began as an effort to reach out to students whose academic or personal schedules kept them from getting involved with other, larger productions on campus.

"When I was an undergrad," Chamberlain told Scene in a recent interview, "any out-of-the-ordinary work, which was a big departure from high school, where I performed all year round, I was too busy to commit back then."

Chamberlain said that the philosophy of Fornight Productions is threefold. One, that their shows are always performance weekends, so students can easily attend; two, that the performances are always free for students; and three, that the same production schedule will take no more than two weeks. This approach then allows students who have an interested in theater but aren't necessarily free to join—larger academic or personal schedules kept them from getting involved in Fornight Productions.

Chamberlain promised that the revue's selections are both varied and fun, drawing from a wide range of Broadway shows that students should recognize.

"The current revue has songs from shows that are playing or have played on Broadway sometime this year. That includes some newer stuff, like "Hairspray," "Jersey Boys," the big blockbusters, and also older things, including revivals of 'South Pacific' and "West End Girls,"" Chamberlain said.

The revue format, Chamberlain noted, is well-suited to the range of talent and strengths of the students involved in the show.

"The revue format is that you can pick numbers that are well suited to the talent you have," Chamberlain said he hoped to draw a wide variety of students to the revue for a fun night of musical theater.

"This show has a little bit of something for everybody," he said. "Musical theater fans will love it, but people who aren't normally interested in that art will also find something entertaining. It's a short time commitment, and it's free. You don't have anything to lose."

"Now Playing" begins tonight at 9:00 p.m. in Washington Hall, and is free to students with a Notre Dame, Saint Mary's or Holy Cross ID.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

---

By ADRINA PRATT
Scene Writer

Thomas Aquinas once said, "Doubt is the beginning of wisdom." When it is brought to Sister Aloysius (Meryl Streep) attention that the new priest at her 1964 Catholic church and school in the Bronx might have made homosexual advances to the school's first African American student, doubt is not a word to be found in the severe no-nonsense woman's vocabulary.

Even though Fr. Flynn is very well liked as the parish priest whose homilies transcended religious matters by infusing inspiring doses of pragmatism, his charming personality and warm persona only irritate and displease Sister Aloysius more and the issue is not to be treated lightly on her part.

Tired of the changes Vatican II is attempting to make and the rambunctious students who are constantly trying to pull the wool over her eyes, Sister Aloysius's patience has frayed and no even will convince her that Fr. Flynn (Philip Seymour Hoffman) is innocent.

Sister James (Amy Adams), the naive and innocent young sister who brought the suspicions of the miscreant behavior to Sister Aloysius's attention when she showed up in the rectory, plays the gullible go-between, changing her opinion on the fly in guilty haste and whose side of the story she most recently hears.

Another twist to the plot comes when, in Sister Aloysius's attempt to uncover more evidence of Fr. Flynn's corruption of her youthful sister Mrs. Miller (Viola Davis) reveals to Sister Aloysius that Donald is "that way" and that she will allow any attention he receives from Fr. Flynn to continue.

This issue further complicates itself when Mrs. Miller begs Sister Aloysius not to make anything of it, both because Donald's father would most likely beat her son to death if he found out what was possibly taking place and also because African Americans did not have much of a chance to succeed academically during that time period and it would only be a few more months until Donald could graduate and they could put all of this behind them.

With a rosary in her hand and her black bonnet severely strained tight to her head, Sister Aloysius leaves behind Mrs. Miller's request and has one final confrontation with Fr. Flynn.

In this climactic scene Sister Aloysius snarls that she will accept nothing less than Fr. Flynn's dismissal from their parish.

A conversation between the two sisters who brought this case to light reveals the complexities of each of their characters and the soft core that lies beneath Sister Aloysius's tough exterior. A fantastic performance by Meryl Streep brings the many dimensions of her character full circle. The audience leaves wondering what aspect Sister Aloysius doubted — her accusation of Fr. Flynn, or even more consequent, a doubt of her very own judgment.

Though this film received many accolades and acclaim for its adaptation of the 2004 play to the screen, it was overly praised. The fact that it was about a controversial topic in particular that deals with homosexual Catholic priests — a media laver he brought it enormous attention. The performances were beautifully done and the words were beautifully spoken, but the storyline made for an overall unexciting plot, a key component to any movie that deserves true praise.

See this film if you are in the mood for something thought-provoking, but it is not worth skipping your homework to do because, as Sister Aloysius says, "Every easy choice today will have its consequence tomorrow."

Contact Adrina Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

---

By ANDREA ARCHERI
Observer Graphic

Photo courtesy of Kyle Chamberlin

Sister S. Anthony of Assisi plays "The Observer" in the School of Music Revue: "Now Playing."
NCAA Men's Basketball

Streaking Boilermakers shut down Minnesota with strong defensive effort; Butler rallies to win over Wisconsin-GB

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — So West Virginia is the ninth-best team in the Big East. So, that's going to be some tournament at Madison Square Garden in March.

DeSean Butler scored 27 points, a relentless defense forced 19 turnovers and the Mountaineers avoided hard landmines on the doorknob of the conference's eight ranked teams Thursday night with a 75-28 win over 12 Georgetown.

In a game in which nearly every basket was hard-earned — and steals were sometimes cancelled out by quick counter-steals — Butler stood out by going 11-for-18 from the field. The Mountaineers shot 38 percent in the second half, while the No. 1 scoring defense in the Big East limited the Hoyas to 33 percent shooting after the break.

Georgetown went 2-for-16 from 3-point range for the game and again had trouble on the boards, allowing 16 second-chance points on West Virginia's 14 offensive rebounds.

Darryl Bryant added 13 points, and Alex Ruoff had nine assists and 10 points, including an eye-popping driving dunk that gave the Mountaineers a 59-48 lead with 2 1/2 minutes to play. His play came shortly after a 12-3 run that put the lead in double digits for the first time.

West Virginia (14-4, 2-2) has won eight of 10, with the only two losses coming to ranked Big East foes Connecticut and Marquette.

Chris Wright scored 13 points. DaJuan Simmons had 12 and Greg Monroe added 11 for the Hoyas (12-5, 3-3).

The Mountaineers were supposed to sign the start of the softer part of a Georgetown schedule that so far has been the toughest in the conference. Five of the Hoyas' previous six opponents were Top 20 teams, but even an unranked школь is a handful in the Big East this season.

Getting an open shot was hard work from the start. The Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 9-2 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt.

The Hoyas shot relatively well from the start to their first nine and trailed 9-2 at midcourt.

Butler's three-point play and a steal and layup under the basket in transition midway through the second half that gave the Hoyas its 17 longest layup of the season, and Thursday night was no different. They missed eight of their first 18 shots and entered the second half behind 32-26.

Purdue's JaJuan Johnson beat Minnesota forward Ralph Sampson III for a rebound in the Boilermakers' 70-62 win in Minneapolis.

The shooting was brutal early, in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 13-8. Moore made 5 of 7 shots in the second half, but the Boilermakers missed five free throws and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

Moore scored 16 points for Green Bay (14-6, 6-2), but lost its second in a row. They missed 13 of their first 18 shots and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

Moore scored 16 points for Green Bay (14-6, 6-2), but lost its second in a row. They missed 13 of their first 18 shots and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

The Hoyas take pride in the defense, Purdue cruised.

Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 9-2 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt.

The Hoyas shot relatively well from the start to their first nine and trailed 9-2 at midcourt.

Butler's three-point play and a steal and layup under the basket in transition midway through the second half that gave the Hoyas its 17 longest layup of the season, and Thursday night was no different. They missed eight of their first 18 shots and entered the second half behind 32-26.

Purdue's JaJuan Johnson beat Minnesota forward Ralph Sampson III for a rebound in the Boilermakers' 70-62 win in Minneapolis.

The shooting was brutal early, in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 13-8. Moore made 5 of 7 shots in the second half, but the Boilermakers missed five free throws and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

Moore scored 16 points for Green Bay (14-6, 6-2), but lost its second in a row. They missed 13 of their first 18 shots and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

The Hoyas take pride in the defense, Purdue cruised.

Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 9-2 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt.

The Hoyas shot relatively well from the start to their first nine and trailed 9-2 at midcourt.

Butler's three-point play and a steal and layup under the basket in transition midway through the second half that gave the Hoyas its 17 longest layup of the season, and Thursday night was no different. They missed eight of their first 18 shots and entered the second half behind 32-26.

Purdue's JaJuan Johnson beat Minnesota forward Ralph Sampson III for a rebound in the Boilermakers' 70-62 win in Minneapolis.

The shooting was brutal early, in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 13-8. Moore made 5 of 7 shots in the second half, but the Boilermakers missed five free throws and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

Moore scored 16 points for Green Bay (14-6, 6-2), but lost its second in a row. They missed 13 of their first 18 shots and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

The Hoyas take pride in the defense, Purdue cruised.

Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 9-2 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt.

The Hoyas shot relatively well from the start to their first nine and trailed 9-2 at midcourt.

Butler's three-point play and a steal and layup under the basket in transition midway through the second half that gave the Hoyas its 17 longest layup of the season, and Thursday night was no different. They missed eight of their first 18 shots and entered the second half behind 32-26.

Purdue's JaJuan Johnson beat Minnesota forward Ralph Sampson III for a rebound in the Boilermakers' 70-62 win in Minneapolis.

The shooting was brutal early, in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 13-8. Moore made 5 of 7 shots in the second half, but the Boilermakers missed five free throws and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

Moore scored 16 points for Green Bay (14-6, 6-2), but lost its second in a row. They missed 13 of their first 18 shots and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

The Hoyas take pride in the defense, Purdue cruised.

Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 9-2 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt.

The Hoyas shot relatively well from the start to their first nine and trailed 9-2 at midcourt.

Butler's three-point play and a steal and layup under the basket in transition midway through the second half that gave the Hoyas its 17 longest layup of the season, and Thursday night was no different. They missed eight of their first 18 shots and entered the second half behind 32-26.

Purdue's JaJuan Johnson beat Minnesota forward Ralph Sampson III for a rebound in the Boilermakers' 70-62 win in Minneapolis.

The shooting was brutal early, in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 13-8. Moore made 5 of 7 shots in the second half, but the Boilermakers missed five free throws and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

Moore scored 16 points for Green Bay (14-6, 6-2), but lost its second in a row. They missed 13 of their first 18 shots and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

The Hoyas take pride in the defense, Purdue cruised.

Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 9-2 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt.

The Hoyas shot relatively well from the start to their first nine and trailed 9-2 at midcourt.

Butler's three-point play and a steal and layup under the basket in transition midway through the second half that gave the Hoyas its 17 longest layup of the season, and Thursday night was no different. They missed eight of their first 18 shots and entered the second half behind 32-26.

Purdue's JaJuan Johnson beat Minnesota forward Ralph Sampson III for a rebound in the Boilermakers' 70-62 win in Minneapolis.

The shooting was brutal early, in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 13-8. Moore made 5 of 7 shots in the second half, but the Boilermakers missed five free throws and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

Moore scored 16 points for Green Bay (14-6, 6-2), but lost its second in a row. They missed 13 of their first 18 shots and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

The Hoyas take pride in the defense, Purdue cruised.

Mountaineers missed eight of their first nine and trailed 9-2 before turning the tide with Butler's three-point play and a four-point play resulting from an intentional foul following a steal at midcourt.

The Hoyas shot relatively well from the start to their first nine and trailed 9-2 at midcourt.

Butler's three-point play and a steal and layup under the basket in transition midway through the second half that gave the Hoyas its 17 longest layup of the season, and Thursday night was no different. They missed eight of their first 18 shots and entered the second half behind 32-26.

Purdue's JaJuan Johnson beat Minnesota forward Ralph Sampson III for a rebound in the Boilermakers' 70-62 win in Minneapolis.

The shooting was brutal early, in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 13-8. Moore made 5 of 7 shots in the second half, but the Boilermakers missed five free throws and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

Moore scored 16 points for Green Bay (14-6, 6-2), but lost its second in a row. They missed 13 of their first 18 shots and committed 11 turnovers in the first 15 minutes to fall behind 25-17.

The Hoyas take pride in the defense, Purdue cruised.
**USCHO/CBS College Sports**

**Division I Men's Hockey Top 20**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>NOTRE DAME (3)</td>
<td>7-0</td>
<td>983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Boston U. (2)</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cornell (6)</td>
<td>6-1-1</td>
<td>877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>6-0</td>
<td>828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Northeastern</td>
<td>6-0</td>
<td>821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>6-0-1</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>5-1</td>
<td>673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>5-1-1</td>
<td>637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Princeton</td>
<td>5-1-0</td>
<td>562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Miami (OH)</td>
<td>5-0</td>
<td>537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>5-0-1</td>
<td>536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Princeton</td>
<td>5-0-1</td>
<td>535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Colorado Col.</td>
<td>5-0-1</td>
<td>527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Boston College</td>
<td>4-1</td>
<td>487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>4-0-2</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>4-0-0</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>4-0-0</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>4-0-0</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>4-0-0</td>
<td>484</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Indoor Track and Field Top 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>NOTRE DAME (3)</td>
<td>7-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Boston U. (2)</td>
<td>6-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cornell (6)</td>
<td>6-1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>6-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Northeastern</td>
<td>6-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>6-0-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>5-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>5-1-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Princeton</td>
<td>5-1-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Miami (OH)</td>
<td>5-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>5-0-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Princeton</td>
<td>5-0-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Colorado Col.</td>
<td>5-0-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Boston College</td>
<td>4-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>4-0-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>4-0-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>4-0-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>4-0-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Air Force</td>
<td>4-0-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**USTFCCCA Division I Men's Indoor Track and Field Top 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Arizona St.</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Florida St.</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>UAB</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Louisville</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>BYU</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Texas Tech</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>UNLV</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Boise St.</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Kansas St.</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Arizona St.</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Georgetown</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Boise St.</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>UCLA</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Bryant</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MIAA Women's Basketball Rankings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Marquette</td>
<td>5-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Louisville (Lex)</td>
<td>5-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>5-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pittsburgh</td>
<td>5-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Xavier</td>
<td>5-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>5-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>George Washington</td>
<td>4-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Georgetown</td>
<td>3-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Notre Dame</td>
<td>3-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Villanova</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cincinnati</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>UB</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NFL**

**Cardinals receiver Anquan Boldin, right, catches a pass in the NFC Championship game against Philadelphia on January 18. Boldin and the Cardinals will play the Pittsburgh Steelers in Super Bowl XLIII.**

**Receiver Boldin laughs off run-in**

Associated Press

TEMPE, Ariz. — Arizona wide receiver Anquan Boldin laughed off the negative reaction to his nationally televised run-in with offensive coordinator Todd Haley, calling it "bittersweet." Boldin's shouting match with the coach on the sideline came as Arizona drove for the winning touchdown in Sunday's 32-25 victory over Philadelphia in the NFC championship game.

Boldin didn't stay on the field in the postgame celebration, making a quick exit through the locker room. He said that he did congratulate his teammates and left quickly only to avoid questions about the Haley incident.

"I think, and Boldin acknowledged after Thursday's practice, his abrupt departure "made it worse."

"For me it's bittersweet," Boldin said of the criticism he's received. "I mean, I don't want to sit here and dwell on it because for me it's in the past, but that's something that goes on every week in the NFL whether people know it or not."

"Every week, somebody on the sideline gets into an argument, but it's in the heat of the moment, it's part of football and once it's over, it's dead on all sides."

Team leaders Adrian Wilson and Kurt Warner strongly defended Boldin.

"I think people are making a lot of nothing," Wilson said. "That stuff happens all the time. It is very dedicated to this team, very dedicated to the players. I think it's a non-issue."

Warner said it was "crazy" for people to define Boldin's personality by this one incident after "everything that guy's done all year and the character he's displayed all year long."

Boldin acknowledged it was a lesson in how things are magnified when a team reaches this point.

"The attention has grown," Boldin said. "Do you have to be careful? I guess so, but at the same time you can't alter who you are. You can only be you and let the rest take care of itself."

He added, "Guys in the locker room know what kind of guy I am and they know exactly what went on."

Boldin said he was upset that Haley had gone to a personnel group that didn't include him.

"I was mad because they took me out of the game," Boldin said. "I mean, I think any competitor would have had the same reaction. A game of that magnitude, how close the game was, potentially driving to score a touchdown, I wanted to be in there. That's just the type of guy I am."

**IN BRIEF**

**McGwire accused of steroid use by brother**

NEW YORK — Mark McGwire's youngest brother says in a book proposal that he injected the former baseball star with steroids, according to Deadspin.com.


"Mark is a man I think most would like to forgive because his reason wasn't nefarious — it was for survival," the proposal says, according to the Web site. "My bringing the truth to surface about Mark is out of love. I want Mark to live in truth to see the light, to come to repentance so he can live in freedom — which is the only way to live."

**Considering many years of playing through injury, I want to build the momentum to return to the game of my calling**, Mark McGwire told the San Francisco Chronicle in 2006.

**Former All-Star Mourning to retire due to leg injury**

MIAMI — Alonzo Mourning has decided to retire rather than mount another NBA comeback at age 38.

The seven-time All-Star center said Thursday he won't return from a degrading leg injury Dec. 19, 2007 — the fourth anniversary of his life-saving kidney transplant. He had been working out at the Miami Heat complex and said he's running and jumping again, but he feared another leg injury if he returned.

"My health is more important than anything," Mourning said at a news conference. "God willing I'll be able to live another 40 or 50 years, and I want to do it in a comfortable state. Right now I'm there."

Mourning, who turns 39 next month, played at Georgetown and was the second overall pick in the 1992 draft by the Charlotte Hornets. He also played for New Jersey but spent the majority of his career with the Heat, helping them reach the playoffs six consecutive years.
Men's Swimming

Irish host tough competition

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame men's swimming and diving team returns to action this weekend when it hosts the Shamrock Invitational for the fourth time at the Rolfs Aquatic Center. The meet will consist of three sessions that span a two-day period and it will be run in a championship style format. The Irish hope the championship style will prepare for the upcoming Big East conference championships.

"This is an important competition for us," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "It is our last major tune-up before the Big East conference championships." The Shamrock Invitational will begin with the first session at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, resume with the second session on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and conclude with the third session on Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. All events will take place at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

SMC Swimming

Belles travel to final away meet

By ERIC PRISTER
Sports Writer

The Belles will look to carry over momentum from their dominant performance over Albion College last weekend as they take on Hillsdale Saturday.

Saint Mary's won all but one event against Albion, and were led by season-best performances from senior Melissa Gerbeth in the 1000 and 200-yard freestyle events, and from freshman Audrey Dalrymple, who set personal records in the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke, the latter being a school record as well. Dalrymple has been a valuable addition to the team this season, leading the team in victories along with freshman Elle Cavallini and sophomore Maggie Williams.

Hillsdale comes into the meet with a 9-2 record in dual meets, and last faced the Belles at the TVY Invitational. Saint Mary's finished fourth in that meet, one place behind Hillsdale.

After Saturday's meet, the Belles have two home meets against Kalamazoo and Olivet before competing in the MIAA Championships February 19-21 at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

The Belles take to the pool at 1 p.m. at the John "Jack" McAvoy Natatorium in Hillsdale, Mich.

Contact Eric Prister at eprister@nd.edu
ND WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD
Irish hope for success at home

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

The Irish will line up against some of their toughest competition of the season this weekend when they host the Notre Dame Invitational at the Loftus Sports Center. It will be the third of five meets scheduled to be hosted by the Irish this season.

"The level of competition will be very good," associate head coach John Millar said. "We are running a strong team, with Wisconsin, Michigan State and Marquette. These schools have a number of outstanding individuals and solid overall teams.

Millar believes this meet will offer his team a great chance to gain experience under the conditions of an actual meet. "This meet will be an opportunity for the whole team to come together to compete in a scored team meet, which is one of the few that we compete in annually," he said. "It should be a very competitive meet in all events and I know our athletes are looking forward to it."

So far this season, the Irish have looked very strong. In last week's Notre Dame Open held at Lafayette, the Irish had 12 women qualify for the Big East Championships, including senior pole vault Mary Clark, who set a new Irish national record and set a Lafayette record.

At Friday's Invitational, Millar hopes his team will be able to maintain the momentum it has built up over the last few weeks. "Our goal is to win the meet," he said. "Individually, our team is looking to improve on their performances and hopefully establish some Big East and NCAA qualification performances."

Looking ahead past Friday, Millar is looking forward for the Irish as they move into the winter meets in their schedule.

So far, the indoor season has been a great start, "We have had some individual NCAA qualifiers, a number of athletes performing at a higher level than this last year, and we're hoping that our schedule to continue improving as the major meets of the year approach."

Friday's Invitational will kick off at 6:30 p.m., and weight throw events at 7:30 p.m., followed by the start of the running events at 8:30 p.m.

Contact: Alex Barker at abarker@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL
First-place Belles take on Thunder

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

For the second time in a little over a month, the Saint Mary's basketball team will take on MIAA rival Trinity University, with tip-off set for Saturday at 3 p.m. Inside Hartman, the Belles took down Trinity 70-62 on Jan. 1. "I think this can't be overlooked anymore," head coach Jen Henley said. "Records and standings aren't the only thing that truly indicate the strength of a team."

Trine is currently fifth in the conference standings with a 4-4 record, while Saint Mary's is tied for first with Hope for the conference lead, with both teams having one loss.

One of the biggest wins for the Belles this season came over No. 1 Hope. "I think they never gave up in the Hope game," Henley said. "We were down 10 points with 6:12 left to go. We did a nice job with the boards down the stretch and we were nice offensively down the stretch."

The Belles will need to continue playing at a high level if they hope to earn another win over Trine this time around.

Sophomore Erin Newsom has been a key player for Saint Mary's this season. After bagging the school record for most all-time rebounds earlier in the year, the junior is one of all conference teams as big rivals. Newsom said, "Some schools are seen as tougher teams to beat like Hope and Calvin, but we are going into every game with the attitude that we need to play our best in order to win, regardless of who we're up against."

The Thunder were a tough match for the Belles last time out when they tied the game at 41-41 less than three minutes into the second half. However, the Belles stepped up to the challenge and pulled ahead 65-61 lead with 8:52 left to play. They never pulled within six points of the Belles the rest of the game.

The Belles most recent win came over Kalamazoo, only a week after dropping their only conference game so far this season.

"I think we all see all of the conference teams as big rivals," Jen Henley, Belles coach, said.

NBA

Howard leads East All-Star team

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — He was the first player picked in the NBA Draft to win a dunk contest. He's now the first player to gain the respect and fear he's been building from fans.

Yes, the All-Star game is fast becoming Dwight Howard's personal showcase.

The Orlando Magic center — who leads the NBA in rebounds, blocked shots and double-doubles — got a record seven votes to lead this season's All-Star team, ahead of Thursday.

The Feb. 15 game in Phoenix will mark the third All-Star start for Howard, who will be starting for the second time and easily topped the previous record of 2,585,278 votes collected by Houston's Yao Ming four years ago.

"Wow, what a blessing," said Howard, Florida's 6-foot-11 center who is known for his exploits in last year's Slam Dunk contest.

"This is what I took it as, a blessing in disguise," Howard said. "I really didn't expect anything considering there are guys like Kobe, LeBron and Dwyane."

Howard entered Thursday averaging 20.2 points, 14 rebounds and 3.2 blocks for Orlando, which took the league's best overall record (31-8) into a home game against the reigning NBA champion Boston Celtics.

"The All-Star game will be a little more meaningful, as the Irish best, Michigan State, Wisconsin, and Marquette in the Loftus Center in the first scored meet for the teams this season.

The Irish hosted two indoor meets earlier in this season, but this is the first meet in which team scores will be kept.

"Now it's a scored meet, some kids will be doing multiple events," Irish coach Joe Plante said. "There's a premium on not just running well, jumping well, or throwing well, but also on placing well."

The list of athletes competing in multiple events is highlighted by junior Eric Quick, who will be long and triple jumping.

This meet will be a pressure-cooker with competition. Many athletes have their eyes on qualifying for the NCAA Indoor Championships, and the three visiting teams all present stiff challenges to the Fighting Irish.

"Marquette usually has some individuals who are pretty talented," Plante said. "Michigan State is probably the most improved team in the Big Ten, and Wisconsin is very good annually. In 2007 they did win the NCAA Indoor Championships as a team.

"The opponents notwithstanding, multiple Notre Dame competitors aim to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships. Senior distance runner Dan Clark will be attempting to do such in the mile. According to Plante, in most years a time of 4:01 would qualify Clark for the NCAA's, and a time of 4:00 would assure him an entry.

Clark has a legitimate shot on Friday," Plante said.

Contact: Douglas Farmer at dfarmer@nd.edu

MEN'S TRACK & FIELD
Three teams travel to invitational at Loftus

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

With the Big East Indoor Track & Field Championships less than a month away, tonight's Notre Dame Invitational will take on a little more meaning, as the Irish best, Michigan State, Wisconsin, and Marquette in the Loftus Center in the first scored meet for the teams this season.

The Irish hosted two indoor meets earlier in this season, but this is the first meet in which team scores will be kept.

"Now it's a scored meet, some kids will be doing multiple events," Irish coach Joe Plante said. "There's a premium on not just running well, jumping well, or throwing well, but also on placing well."

The list of athletes competing in multiple events is highlighted by junior Eric Quick, who will be long and triple jumping.

This meet will be a pressure-cooker with competition. Many athletes have their eyes on qualifying for the NCAA Indoor Championships, and the three visiting teams all present stiff challenges to the Fighting Irish.

"Marquette usually has some individuals who are pretty talented," Plante said. "Michigan State is probably the most improved team in the Big Ten, and Wisconsin is very good annually. In 2007 they did win the NCAA Indoor Championships as a team.

"The opponents notwithstanding, multiple Notre Dame competitors aim to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships. Senior distance runner Dan Clark will be attempting to do such in the mile. According to Plante, in most years a time of 4:01 would qualify Clark for the NCAA's, and a time of 4:00 would assure him an entry.

"That has a legitimate shot on Friday," Plante said.

Contact: Douglas Farmer at dfarmer@nd.edu

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2008
**Fencers**

continued froh page 20

Newcomers Meinhardt and Courtney Hurley have already made a splash in the world of fencing. Hurley, who went to the 2006 Cadet World Cup and won the Championship in Korea, while Meinhardt, along with Keiley Hurley, represented the U.S. last summer's 0-7 finish in Beijing will help in getting used to pressure situations.

**We never had such a good result like this year.**

Janusz Bednarski Irish coach

are a good defender who will give the highest level of professional fencing. Second, it shows that the fencers on the left stage in front of all the cameras. This will bring crying to a young team that can easily get nervous. Meinhardt was the youngest fencer to compete at the U.S. in Beijing. "Experience in the Olympic games shows two things," Bednarski said. "First, it shows that you

**OSU**

continued from page 20

end of the year." Ohio State is ranked fourth in the preseason Big Ten rankings, and the Buckeyes national ranking is their highest since 2001. Ohio State is led by junior Kristen Flower, a transfer from Georgia Tech, who is ranked 14th in the Midwest region in the preseason ITA rankings.

"It's going to be a very good first match for us," Louderback said. "I should be very competitive - we're a team a lot like us, with a lot of depth and good doubles." Frilling and Teff, who won 10-1 as a doubles team in the fall season, began the season ranked first nationally after advancing to the finals of the ITA National Indoor Championships in October. While Teff played the most matches and gained the highest ranking with Frilling, the senior also played several exhibition matches with junior Kali Kriski to

rank third nationally. In addition to the top doubles, the Irish have four players ranked in the top-65 in singles, and seven in the region top-20. Frilling is ranked 39th in the national preseason singles rankings, and Teff 45th. Roundout the group for Notre Dame is Junior Kali Kriski at 46th, and sophomore Kristen Rafal at 62nd.

Louderback praised the team's off-season training and impressed with their work ethic. "I think it has been the toughest conditioning we've ever had, and they responded," Louderback said. "I think it has helped with our speed, and we're covering the court a lot better as a result."

Northwestern led the pre-season rankings, followed by California and UCLA. Baylor and Stanford also were in the top-five.

Notre Dame opens at Ohio State on January 6 against Michigan. Contact Michael Bryan at mbyran@nd.edu

---

**MLB**

**Cubs find winning bidder**

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The billionaire Ricketts family has been selected by Tribune Co. as the winning bidder for the bankrupt Chicago Cubs.

The bid is worth about $900 million, said Dennis Culloton, a spokesman for Tom Ricketts. The sale would include Wrigley Field and a 25 percent interest in a regional sports network.

"My family and I are Cubs fans," Tom Ricketts, the family's point person in the Cubs purchase, said in a statement Thursday night. "We share the goal of Cubs fans everywhere to win a World Series and build the consistent championship tradition the fans deserve."

"We share the goal of Cubs fans everywhere to win a World Series and build the consistent championship tradition the fans deserve."

Tom Ricketts Potential Cubs owner

---

**NHL**

Penguins star Crosby to miss All-Star Game with injury

Associated Press

MONTREAL — Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby will miss the All-Star game because of a left knee injury.

Tampa Bay scoring leader Martin St. Louis was selected Crosby on Thursday at the Eastern Conference roster. The game is Sunday at the Bell Centre.

Crosby, second in the NHL scoring race with 60 points on 17 goals and 43 assists in 47 games, missed a game Friday night because of the knee injury, and was struck twice on the left arm by pucks during a 2-1 loss to Carolina on Tuesday night.

He played in the Penguins’ final two games before the break, was examined by doctors on Wednesday and Thursday. He put in full-out workouts of outfield position in the Eastern Conference, they don’t want to take a chance the injury might worsen if Crosby plays in a game that doesn’t count in the standings.

Crosby’s status for the Penguins’ Jan. 28 game against the Rangers in Pittsburgh won’t be determined until the team returns from practice Monday.

Crosby’s injury is believed to be a bruised knee, but NHL teams are not required to disclose the exact nature of injuries.

Croby received a record 1.7 million votes in fan balloting. A high ankle sprain kept him out of last year’s game.

St. Louis will be making his fifth straight All-Star game appearance. The NHL leader in points and goals since this season.
Nova

continued from page 20

think we can go into a game thinking about how to stop her. Kurz, former Irish forward Rob Kurz’ sister, averages 18 points and 7.8 rebounds per game.

Kurz also made 3-of-7 3-pointers she attempted against George Washington, which poses a challenge to Notre Dame’s 3-point defense. The Irish defense sometimes lost shooters on the perimeter and allowed them open shots against St. John’s. McGraw didn’t mention specifics, but she said the team has worked on keeping track of the shooters.

“We put a lot of emphasis on that,” she said. “We’re doing some different things, moving some people around, and trying some different looks, and I think it’s going to be pretty effective for us.”

Junior guards Tia Grant and Maria Getty will test the Irish perimeter defense. Grant makes 41.5 percent of her threes and Getty hits 33.8 percent. The Irish defense won’t have to worry about contain three-pointers as much because she’s not shooting 3-pointers as much.

“We’re doing some different things, moving some people around, and trying some different looks, and I think it’s going to be pretty effective for us.”

Muffet McGraw

Irish coach

Baysli said, "He really put a lot of pressure on Jensen Turner. Not many guys can match his ability free from the back of the court. On top of that he passed well, leaving Turner feeling like he had to hang back with Keeton. In the second set Sam loosened up a bit and was able to turn up the heat for an easier time."

After meeting William and Mary the Irish will take on No. 5 Virginia on Sunday. Virginia was ranked No. 1 for the majority of last year, and despite losing two seniors to graduation, Baysli said they’ve been able to just play their game. She takes what comes her way.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@saintmarys.edu

Bayliss said, “It clearly was not one of our best matches.”

Bobby Bayliss

Irish coach

UVA

continued from page 20

Bayliss said, "It clearly was not one of our best matches. We played there in November at their tournament, so our guys are familiar with their courts. Brett (Hegele) might have an edge at No. 1 singles, but he lost last year so I think he will be prepared. We certainly can’t look past them because of last year’s match.

Freshman Sam Keeton was able to pull out a key singles win in the loss to Pepperdine at No. 5 singles. The Kansas City native missed the entire fall season with a broken right wrist, which proved to be a blessing in disguise. “Sam played very close to the baseline,” noted he best another strong team this season.

Senior Dominic Inglot will prove to be a force for the Cavaliers again this season. Inglot was ranked as high as No. 3 in the nation last season.

"Sophomores Michael Shahab and Sanam Singh hit as clean a ball as you will see anywhere,” Bayliss said. "In Houston Barrick and you have a core nucleus that are hard to contend with."

The Irish will square off against William and Mary at 10 a.m. on Saturday, with the Virginia match beginning at noon on Sunday.

Contact Kate Grshaver at kgrshaver@saintmarys.edu

Where the girls are.

JUST ONE BLOCK EAST OF NOTRE DAME

Wonder where ND girls are living next year?

Brand new Irish Row Apartments and Irish Crossings Townhomes are leasing fast for both the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years.

Interestingly, future residents are 80% girls and 20% boys so far — that’s four girls to every one guy.

What brings the girls?

Maybe it’s the cool features that come with living at Irish Row or Irish Crossings, like:

• Furnished residences
  • Including a 42” flat panel HDTV in every living room
• Private, full bath in each bedroom
• Up to 4 bedrooms per unit
• FREE Internet & 200+ TV stations
• Laundry room with washer & dryer in each unit
• Fitness center and lounge, including tanning
• Brand new construction
• Community social events
• Close to groceries, restaurants, entertainment and campus

Come see what’s bringing in all the girls. But, better hurry before all the guys catch on.
BLACK DOG

QUANTUM WILL BE CHEAPER LATER THAN ONE YEAR FROM NOW.

MICHAEI MIKUSKA

WE MUST PUT AN END TO INHUMANE PRACTICES. PROTESTORS SHOULDN'T ENTER THE SHADY FIELD MANUAL!

PEANUTS

DAVID CAVADINI

"AND ACROSS THE QUAD YOU CAN SEE THE HESBURGH LIBRARY, DEDICATED TO OUR 75TH PRESIDENT, WHERE MANY A DORMER HAVE BEEN IMMORALIZED BY COMPLETING THE HESBURGH CHALLENGE AND AIRING IT BY THE SUN RISE."
FENCING

Irish open up dual-match season with two in New York

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

After outstanding individual showings at the North American Cup last week, the Irish squad opens its dual-match season with matches against St. John's and New York University this weekend. The competitions mark the beginning of a long campaign that Irish coach Janusz Bednarski hopes will end in the program's eighth national championship. Notre Dame finished second to Ohio State last year.

"We have a very strong team," Bednarski said. "Maybe not the strongest in the nation, but we can fight anybody. They are positioning themselves well for the national team, but we are ready to compete now with the best collegiate teams in the nation."

In this season's fourth and final portion of the North American Cup, five Irish fencers finished in the top-five of their category, three taking home medalist honors. Freshman Courtney Hurley took top honors in women's epee, while classmate Gerek Meinhardt earned first in men's foil. Sophomore Avery Zuck earned the final Notre Dame gold in men's sabre.

"We never had such a good result like this year," Bednarski said. "We won a lot of medals—that's a positive of this competition. I believe that it was one of the best starts in national tryouts for [Notre Dame]."

The Irish, who return 12 All-Americans, feature prodigious talent in both the women's and men's squad. All-Americans junior Kelley Hurley, Courtney's older sister, and sophomore Sarah Borrmann won NCAA Championships last year in epee and sabre, respectively.

"My Irish senior guard Lindsay Schrader goes up for a layup during Notre Dame's 70-67 win over St. John's Saturday. Schrader finished with 13 points."

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

"Cat napping"

Squad hopes to use extra rest to bounce back against 'Nova

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Notre Dame's close shave against St. John's on Jan. 17 presented the team with plenty of room for improvement in the press, on defense, rebounding, scoring in the paint. But taking some time to rest, coach Muffet McGraw said, benefited the team most.

"We took a couple days off," McGraw said. "I think that probably helped us more than anything."

The No. 13 Irish had a full week between the St. John's game and their next game, on the road at Villanova tomorrow. McGraw said after the St. John's game that she wanted to use the week to focus on fundamentals rather than game-specific skills.

"We've worked a lot on defense," she said. "We've worked on some different things just trying to get ready for the second part of the Big East season."

The Fighting Irish are 15-2 and 4-1 in conference play, with their only loss coming on the road to Marquette on Jan. 13. Villanova is 10-8, 2-2 in conference play, but the Wildcats have lost to both ranked teams they faced—No. 6 Baylor on Nov. 28 and No. 23 Rutgers on Jan. 14. Villanova displayed two different styles in its 67-60 loss to George Washington Wednesday. The Wildcats scored only 13 points in the first half and couldn't quite muster a comeback despite out-scoring GW 47-45 in the second half. Senior forward Laura Kurz led the team with 29 points; in fact, she's led the team in scoring in all but six games this season. How to stop her?

"I don't think you do," McGraw said. "They take advantage of the mismatches. She's able to drive the ball, shoot the ball, pass the ball, she's just a great player. I don't see NOVA/page 18

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Squad travels south for a pair of matches

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

After dropping their spring opener to Pepperdine last Friday, the No. 30 Irish will now head to Virginia to take on William and Mary and No. 10 Virginia. "I think our guys are handling the loss to Pepperdine as well as can be expected," Irish coach Bobby Baylis said. "We could not have played any harder and we certainly left everything out on the court. We are going to play a ton of matches just like this and dwelling on

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

ND opens season vs. OSU

Defending Big East champs led by top duo of Tefft, Frilling

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

The No. 17 Irish will begin their spring season this weekend, opening at No. 32 Ohio State. Notre Dame, led by the No. 1 ranked doubles team of senior Kelley Tefft and freshman Kristy Frilling, is looking to defend its Big East title and return to the NCAA Tournament.

"I would say this is the most talented team I've coached here," Irish coach Jay Louderback said. "We have a lot of firepower, some great doubles teams, and really want to set ourselves up to make a good run at the NCAA Championships this year."

Inside: check out the Observer's Basketball Insider which features Tory Jackson and previews Notre Dame's game against Connecticut

sees FENCERS/page 17

sees UVA/page 18

sees O SU/page 17

sees O SU/page 17

sees O SU/page 17