Economists search for best solution as $838 billion package passes in U.S. Senate

**By ROBERT SINGER**

The ruptured 2007 housing bubble that has thrown the economy into a tailspin and curbed job prospects in many industries has caused college legislators to call for an economic stimulus package. Economists across the country including those at Notre Dame continue to discuss the best way to find an answer to the problem.

"The subprime mortgage crisis created an enormous sum of bad assets and dried up capital, leading to a situation so severe that many economists support a stimulus bill along the lines of the $838 billion package passed Tuesday by the U.S. Senate," according to Economics Professor James Sullivan, one of the major reasons why legislators are calling for an economic stimulus is a massive increase in government spending — is that widespread uncertainty has caused a decrease in overall demand. Lacking confidence about their job security, people are less willing to make purchases or investments.

"People expect the economy not to recover soon and that has a self-fueling prophecy to it," he said. "If you don't think the stock market will increase, you won't invest in the stock market."

While the economy probably won't suffer indefinitely without a stimulus, a bill could significantly shorten the downturn, according to Economies Professor Nelson Mark.

"In the long run, it's not necessary, but who knows if the long run is going to be 10 years or 20 years," he said. "So I think the question is if the government is capable of lessening the severity of the recession and if what it can do offsets the long-term costs of doing so, then it should do it."

If people are unwilling to spend money, then the government can do it for them by cutting taxes, sending money to states, making investments or hiring workers for public works.

"The government can jumpstart things and encourage businesses to invest to get out of this sentiment of pessimism," Sullivan said.

Mark considered the possible effects of a stimulus bill.

"In the short run, the stimulus can only make things better, it can only increase GDP (Gross Domestic Product)," he said. "But if the government is capable of lessening the severity of the recession, then it's worth it."

Despite the dismal state of and bleak outlook for the national economy, University President Fr. John Jenkins wrote to faculty and staff Tuesday to again emphasize that Notre Dame, while "not immune to economic pressures," is well-positioned to continue progress "toward our goal of becoming a preeminent research university."

The e-mail, dated Feb. 10, is the second such message Jenkins has sent regarding the economy and its potential effect on the University. The first e-mail was sent Dec. 1, 2008.

Jenkins said the University has been more fortunate than other colleges and institutions.

"Unlike some of our peers, at this point Notre Dame does not face the need to freeze salaries or hiring, halt construction or reduce our work force," he said.

"While our endowment and other revenue streams have experienced losses, we continue to be positioned, at this juncture, to pursue opportunities toward our goal of becoming a preeminent research university," Jenkins wrote.

Still, Jenkins said that the University may need to consider other revenue streams in the future to maintain its standing in the national economy. University President Fr. John Jenkins wrote to faculty and staff Tuesday to again emphasize that Notre Dame, while "not immune to economic pressures," is well-positioned to continue progress "toward our goal of becoming a preeminent research university."

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ND professors analyze stimulus

By AARON STEINER

Notre Dame management professor and former chair of the management department Robert P. Vecchio died Monday. He was 58.

Vecchio sustained serious injuries after falling from the rooftop of his home Saturday. He was treated at St. Mary's Hospital in South Bend.

Vecchio, a well-known professor, had been a member of the Mendoza College of Business faculty since 1976.

"Bob had an early and formative role in the college," Carolyn Woo, dean of the Mendoza College of Business, said in a press release.

"He provided the foundation for the management department to attain the reputation it enjoys today," she said. "Our hearts and our prayers are with the family to which he was so devoted."

Other representatives from the Mendoza College of Business were not available for comment Tuesday evening.

According to a report Sunday by the South Bend Tribune, Vecchio fell from a height of at least 10 feet Sunday morning at his Granger home.

Vecchio was last reported to be in critical condition Sunday night at Memorial Hospital, according to...
A-Roid had timely leak

On Monday afternoon, baseball’s golden boy Alex Rodriguez admitted to using performance-enhancing drugs early in his career. Bad news for A-Roid.

Don’t get me wrong, Alex Rodriguez cheats (just ask his wife), whites, and plays ball like a girl. That has been public knowledge since he limp-wrist-swept Bronson Arroyo during a losing effort in the 2004 ALCs. But, in A-Roid’s defense, he may be the only man in America who handled this week’s debacle the right way.

Learning from the mistakes of meat-header Roger Clemens, Rodriguez quickly told the world he was guilty. The problems with the rest of the sports world’s reaction started only seconds after he came clean. ESPN’s Peter Gammons, the most influential man this side of the Pope, started the problem.

After A-Roid explained the pressure of playing in the demanding market of baseball, has no one noticed that this man himself so poorly in the past 10 years it got away with it. Not necessarily those of The Observer. Column are those of the author and 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 you have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

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

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy@observer.com

CORRECTIONS

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IN BRIEF

Valentine’s Day Candy Heart-grams will be sold in LaFortune today and tomorrow. The hearts cost $1 per package and will be delivered on Friday.

Fair Trade Coffeehouse in the CoMo Lounge, Thursday from 8 p.m.-10 p.m. Learn about the Fair Trade movement and enjoy coffee, baked goods, and live entertainment from popular campus acts sponsored by the Department of Sociology. Proceeds help fund SOK 233/34’s cross-cultural trip to Guatemala.

The Glass Club is having a sale of some of their products—stained glass, stained glass and fused glass, in the Sorin Room of LaFortune. It will take place Thursday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The Freshman Class Council is hosting Lovefest on Friday at 9 p.m. There will take place in Casey Auditorium in the Hesburgh Library and will include free candy from the South Bend Chocolate Factory and marching performers from the Freshman class. Tickets are $5 and will benefit the American Heart Association.

The annual Edith Stein Project will take place throughout the day this Friday. The conference will address women’s issues which will include speakers, a Mass, meals. Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame students are invited free of charge, but must register at https://marketplace.nd.edu/cce/index.cfm.

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

Proposed building, which will cost about $30 million, to be located on north end of campus

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Members of the Council of Representatives (COR) discussed the future of the LaFortune Student Center and plans for the new Student Activities Center in their meeting Tuesday evening.

Ryan Willerton, the Facilities Director for Student Activities, was on hand to discuss plans for LaFortune, and to discuss the current concept for the newly constructed Student Activities Center.

Willerton said there are four primary facilities available for student activities: the Stepan Center, the Creek House, a local retreat facility located off campus; LaFortune; and outdoor grounds available for sporting events.

He said that there are strategic plans to ensure these places operate as efficiently as possible.

The budget allotted to renovations in the building comes from six different projects. Willerton said.

A portion of the budget is allotted to building maintenance, he said.

The majority of the funding comes from six different projects, which include the end of the summer linen mailing, and the “Irish Express” bookstore outlets around campus during football weekends. Funding also comes from the on-campus cake service, exam kits and money generated from the video arcade.

When the funding is available, Willerton said that they consider the suggestion boxes that are located in LaFortune for ideas to better the building. He also said that they regularly collect feedback from student managers, as well as members of student government.

From there, if it is decided that there is enough money available to make large scale changes to LaFortune, Willerton said that they will approach student government and ask them to create a panel to represent the student voice.

One specific area Willerton addressed was the renovations that are projected to take place in the video arcade located in the basement of the building.

"Since the video arcade is located in the part of the center that is the old building, water comes into the arcade when it rains, often seeping into the basement," Willerton said. "We want to upgrade the leaks, install carpets, and do it right from the start."

Willerton also said that they are hoping to move forward with the project starting in 2010.

Student body president Bob Reish asked Willerton about future plans for cooperation with LaFortune, comparing to student centers on other campuses, sighting that LaFortune is relatively small given the size of the campus’s population.

Willerton said LaFortune has a different focus than student centers on other college campuses.

"The mission of the student center is to be similar to a village well where people go to find the news of the day, meet up with their friends or grab a bite to eat," said Willerton.

"We could always have more room, and it would be nice to expand, but we would never give up the central location that it has."

In addition to this, Willerton said the new Student Activities Center will be built to serve the purpose of complementing LaFortune, rather than detracting from it.

It is projected that the cost of the center will be approximately $30 million. They are currently waiting for a benefactor to fund the project before it can begin.

The new Student Activities Center will be a multipurpose facility that will host lectures, concerts and dances. It will also have a large ballroom area where Residence Hall dances will take place. It will not be a hangout area the way that LaFortune is, but function rather like the Stepan Center does now, he said.

Along with these events, the Center will also have a meeting room that Willerton said will help lower the demand for meeting time at LaFortune.

The Center is planned to be constructed 100 years east of the Stepan Center on the North side of campus. Once the Center is in place, the Stepan Center will be removed.

When COR members expressed concern at the location of the Center, Willerton explained that while the building will go up on the perimeter of campus, it is still a part of it.

"While you may not walk by this building everyday, it is still a part of campus," Willerton said. "The location provides easier access to off-campus students."

While the location for the project has been selected, there are only tentative floor plans available. Current plans call for the Center to be a one-floor building.

Contact Liz O'Donnell at eodonnell@nd.edu

Two tickets to run for SMC top offices

Observer Staff Report

Saint Mary's Board of Governance elections commissioner Francesca Johnson announced there are two tickets running for student body president and vice president — Mallory Price and Katie Lewis, and Jenny Hoffman and Meg Griffin.

Price, the presidential candidate is a junior social work major from Tinley Park, Ill., who lives in Regina Hall. Her running mate, Lewis, is a junior social work major and resident advisor in LeMans Hall. She is from Homer Glen, Ill.

Presidential candidate Hoffman is a junior communications studies major who lives in Holy Cross Hall. She is from Indianapolis and currently serves as the student government secretary.

Griffin, a sophomore intended political science and math major, is from Bristol, Ind. She is the sophomore class president.

There will be a “Meet the Candidates” event today at 6 p.m. in the West Wing of the Noble Family Dining Hall.

Voting will take place Monday, Feb. 16 from midnight to 11:59 p.m. on PRISM.
The argument is that those stimulus is to put money to people who would spend it, because they could spend it on the same speed or magnitude. "We will listen to whatever students bring to us," said. "We want an image people were familiar with," Christiansa said.

This is the fourth week the booth has been in place and it seems to be attracting attention, Christiansa said. She also said the counselors and nurses will continue to make themselves available in the atrium on Thursdays as long as students keep showing an interest. "We wanted to get our faces out there and develop a friendly rapport with students," Christiansa said.

"We will listen to whatever students bring to us." Gisele Christiansa

Women's Health Center

Counselor

Stimulus

continued from page 1

Product)," he said. "There are two questions about it, though. Mark questioned whether a recovery would endure and whether the increase in public debt would hold onto it, so there's a little bit of risk there. Ideally you'd like the consumers to spend it, because they could make decisions on what they want to spend their income through productivity investment choices."

"If the government spends it right away, then they spend it right away," he said. "Consumers might choose to hold onto it, so there's a little bit of risk there. Ideally you'd like the consumers to spend it, because they could make decisions on what they want to spend their income through productivity investment choices."

Economics Professor Mark Sullivan focused on aspects of the bill that call for more direct government spending. "I think the best parts of the bill are the parts that directly put people to work," he said. "Infrastructure spending, investing in green technology, those parts of the bill that keep people from losing their jobs and keep people receiving needed public services."

Mark also mentions an overlooked way to spur economic activity. "Something they haven't talked about is maybe businesses will do," he said. "You direct that at small businesses and have them invest in capital." Raising people's permanent income through productivity gains — rather than just spending money now to prolong future debt — should be central to the plan, according to Mark.

"If I think that this is a good opportunity for a lot of the investment projects that the stimulus plan has," he said. "So you can use this as an excuse to do those kinds of projects. Upgrading the infrastructure will enhance productivity."

Whether the nation's response to the crisis represents a shift in the way the government manages the economy is an open question. "I fear that people will use the recession as an excuse to blame markets," Sullivan said. "And I don't think this provides evidence that markets don't work. It provides evidence that markets don't always work perfectly."

This idea that markets unencumbered will always give the best result is putting a little too much faith in the markets," Sullivan added.

Contact Robert Singer

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Vacchio continued from page 1

to the Tribune report. According to the press release, Vacchio taught popular courses and published highly regarded articles on a variety of issues in organizational behavior and corporate management, especially emphasizing leadership, motivation, workplace exercise and employee exit.

Vacchio taught the courses "Management Competencies" and "Leadership and Motivation" in the fall semester, according to records available online.

He was the author of several books, and was also the editor of the Journal of Management (from 1995 to 2000).

Vacchio received a B.S. from DePaul University in 1972 and a Master's and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in 1972 and 1976, respectively.

Arrangements are pending, according to the press release.

Contact Aaron Steiner at steiner@nd.edu

SMC creates walk-in booth to discuss interpersonal issues

Women's Health and Counseling Centers provide convenient place for conversation with counselors, nurses on Thursdays

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY

New翁er

Saint Mary's Women's Health and Counseling Centers are teaming up to provide students with an informal way of talking about their issues.

The booth is set up in the Student Center atrium from 12 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Thursdays for students to come and talk about whatever they have on their minds.

"We will listen to whatever students bring to us," said. "We are here to talk about interpersonal issues," Christiansa said.

Kris Pendley, clinical director of Counseling Centers on campus, explained that the booth came from Charles Schulz's character of Lucy and her "Peanuts" strip, "This idea that markets don't always work perfectly," Sullivan added.

Sullivan pointed to a reduction in payroll taxes as an effective way to implement the stimulus, since it reduces the amount of government spending and boosts demand by the same speed or magnitude.

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Counseling Centers on campus.

In it, it would be worth the increase in public debt. "Will it have a lasting effect," he asked. "Will it shock us out of a recession and onto a greater path?"

Mark said the added debt the U.S. is taking on to finance the stimuli is what's going mean for the future structure of taxes? What's having all that debt out there going to do to interest rates?"

Ideally, the goal is how best to implement the stimulus, since out of forms of government spending, boost demand by the same speed or magnitude. "This idea that markets unencumbered will always give the best result is putting a little too much faith in the markets," Sullivan added. "We need to dramatically change our approach to the economy."

Sullivan said the recession has primarily hurt low-skilled workers. Students don't have to be worried," he said. "They will land on their feet regardless. It just means that it will take them longer to find the right job."

Contact Robert Singer

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**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**High death toll in Australian wildfires**

HUNDREDS of civilians are believed trapped in hundreds of wildfires across southeastern Australia has forced authorities to re-examine survival strategy against the flames. The government accuses the Tamil Tiger rebels of holding civilians hostage in the war zone to undermine international support for the military’s offensive. The rebels deny the accusation.

**Australia has forced authorities to re-examine**

**Financial crisis hits Wall Street, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner**

The leader of one of the biggest groups, the Jewish Agency for Israel, has won a clear victory in Israel’s parliamentary election. With 67 percent of the votes counted, the National Camp, led by the Likud party, has won a clear advantage over the Blue and White party led by Benny Gantz. The National Camp, led by the Likud, has won a clear advantage over the Blue and White party led by Benny Gantz.

**Israel’s second female prime minister formed a ruling coalition thanks to strong showing by other right-wing parties.**

With God’s help, I will lead the next government, said Netanyahou in his victory speech. The National Camp, led by the Likud, has won a clear advantage over the Blue and White party led by Benny Gantz.

**Parliamentary election too close to call**

**NEW YORK – Investors are frustrated with the**

**Major stock indexes drop by more than 4 percent on Tuesday as investors unload stock**

**Bank of America specialists work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Tuesday.**

The government is trying to find a comprehensive way to save it. They can’t afford to just throw money at it. That’s why they tried to do it and that clearly didn’t work. Stocks extended their slide after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke didn’t elaborate on the plan in testimony at a House Financial Services Committee hearing. Bernanke said the programs designed to revive the credit markets are showing promise and that any fix to the financial crisis since the 1930s would take time to work.
history that we can educate on an equal level," Kane said. "Jenkins wrote that includes budget. of 5.7 percent over the current force," he said. "With this technology and these computers, even in the most remote part of Africa, a kid can be connected to the Internet," Kane said. "It's the great equalizer.

The way that the children charge the laptop is almost as innovative as the gadget itself. "The computers can either be charged with a crank that the children can connect to the computer, or with a solarpanel," Kane said. "Cranking or spinning in 20 minutes gets all the kids around the power game that you lose sight of something was missing."

"You get so caught up in the jungle and other harsh environments. "There's tons of ways to get involved, whether it's lighting, funding or doing anything," DiPiero said. "The show will reflect the backbone of everything; education is the only way to break the vicious cycle." "The Producers" is viewed as controversial, DiPiero said he had to discuss aspects of it, but in the end, he decided that it was appropriate to put on stage, despite the producers, "he said. "The Producers is a little edge in certain ways."

The main song is "Springtime for Hitler." The group decided the e-mail approach in the show, and brought the offensive nature of some of the material, DiPiero said. People will realize the mood that the show is presented in, he said. "The show does not take itself seriously," DiPiero said.

According to PEMCo's Web site, the group was started in 1997 by a Pasquerilla East resident because Notre Dame had not performed a musical campus for over 10 years. Now, the group is the largest, student-run musical theater company on campus.

In the past, PEMCo has always had a spring musical, and a fall revue, which can contain a compilation of song and dance numbers. According to DiPiero, this year, the group added a fall show, "Edges" which was also approved. PEMCo is a University-sponsored group and has students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's from all over the country and majors.

"We're always looking for the students to help us," DiPiero said. "There's tons of ways to get involved, whether it's lighting, funding or doing anything," DiPiero said. The show will reflect the backbone of everything; education is the only way to break the vicious cycle.

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@hcc-nd.edu

Contact Aaron Steiner at astein3r@nd.edu

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Bill DiPiero director "The Producers"

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In Brief

Salazar rejects Bush drilling plan

WASHINGTON — Interior Secretary Ken Salazar has rejected a Bush administration plan to open vast waters off the Pacific and Atlantic coasts to oil and gas drilling, promising "a new way forward" in offshore energy development promised by President Obama.

Salazar at a news conference Tuesday criticized "the midnight timetable" for new oil and gas development on the nation's Outer Continental Shelf proposed by the Bush administration four days before President Barack Obama took office.

The secretary said the previous administration's plan didn't take into consideration the views of states and coastal communities, nor a need to better understand what energy resources are at stake, especially off the Atlantic coast where oil and gas estimates are more than three decades old.

TV stations to end analog as planned

NEW YORK — More than a quarter of major U.S. TV stations intend to shut down their analog broadcasts on Feb. 17, sticking to the original date despite the wish of the Obama administration that it wait until June.

Congress last week gave TV stations until June 12 to shut down analog broadcasts, hoping to give viewers more time to prepare. Money has run out for the federal fund that subsidizes converter boxes, and there's a wait list for the coupons.

The delay will send TV stations scrambling to figure out when to shut down analog, hoping to give viewers more time to prepare. Money has run out for the federal fund that subsidizes converter boxes, and there's a wait list for the coupons.

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Nowruz, the Persian New Year, will come to Iran on March 20, marking the end of winter and the beginning of spring. The holiday is celebrated by millions of Persians around the world, with traditional customs and practices.

GM to cut 10,000 more salaried jobs

NEW YORK — General Motors Corp. is planning to slash another 10,000 salaried jobs this year, saying the cuts are unavoidable with a government-structured deadline looming and industrialwide sales in one of the worst downturns in history.

The Detroit-based automaker said Tuesday that it has already reduced its total number of white-collar workers by 14 percent, from 62,000 in 2007 to 34,400, or 12 percent, of GM's 295,000 salaried U.S. jobs will be eliminated.

Most of the cuts announced today come from the remaining salaried employees will have their wages cut.

In a plan to Congress submitted late last year, GM said it would have to reduce both salaried and hourly positions so that the company could become viable long-term. The company plans to reduce its total U.S. work force from 96,537 people in 2008 to between 65,000 and 75,000 in 2012, but did not specify how many of the surviving jobs will be salaried or hourly.

GM Chief Executive Rick Wagoner, who was meeting with congressional leaders in Washington about global warming legislation, said Tuesday that the announcement is "indicative of the kind of things we need to do to get this viability plan in shape and respond to these tough market conditions."

GM has dramatically downsized both its salaried and hourly workforce in recent years as the U.S. auto market has shrunk from an annual sales rate of around 16 million vehicles to 13.2 million last year. Since 2000, GM's salaried work force has shrunk by 33 percent from its 2000 high of 44,000 people. At the same time, the number of hourly workers has plunged by more than half - to about 65,700 people at the end of last year from 133,000 in 2000.

Most of the cuts announced Tuesday are expected to take place by May 1. GM said the cuts will vary by global region depending on staffing levels and market conditions.

The company's statement said there would be no buyout or early retirement packages as GM had offered in the past, but laid-off employees will get severance pay, benefit contributions and other assistance.
Now that TCEs are online, our semester is depressingly devoid of wasted time in the classroom. Leave your spirits sink and you resign yourself to the fate of taking notes, take hope instead — Teach for America’s season has finally arrived. Freshmen: I know you have no idea what I’m talking about right now but be patient — the enthusiastic speeches and emails from Notre Dame’s enthusiastic Teachers-for-America-to-be will come in a few short years. Let us all be thankful for the student presentations that cut out five minutes of teaching time and saw us from the disdain of the professor when we walk in mid-lecture holding a latte from Starbucks. Just like the gorgeous weather that arrived this past weekend and is destined to head south faster than the men’s basketball team, we should appreciate TFA Season while we can.

Happily, this morning I was able to enjoy coffee and a few more lines in the newspaper thanks to a wonderful student presentation. For anyone who was also late to class and wants to help fix our nation’s education system, there is a list of reasons to Teach for America that I’ve cobble together over the years:

Teach for a Low Acceptance Rate: Did you know that only half of children growing up in poverty will graduate from high school, and that those who do will read at an eighth grade level? A sobering fact, especially when you consider that, as Notre Dame students, we are part of the mere 56 percent of high school graduates who are able to attend college.

With regard to Teach for America’s mission, however, the most important statistic is 14.8 percent. That’s the percentage of applicants that enrolled in the program in 2008. Never mind that the program regularly rejects qualified applicants that would help alleviate the inherent inequities in our education system; TFA prides itself on its aura of exclusivity. Its recruiters will push anyone and everyone who can find to apply, even if they foresee an obvious rejection. Take my case, for example.

Last year I received an e-mail from a TFA recruiter asking me to get coffee and learn about the program. A nice gesture, but at that point I was intent on selling my soul to a corporate overlord upon graduation. I politely declined. His response? “Great! Let’s meet up next week. When are you free?” I again declined, only to receive another invitation to coffee. At this point I felt like Peter from Office Space during his meeting with “The Bobs.” The TFA recruiter’s desire for me to apply only increased as he became more aware that I was the exact wrong person for the job. A curious tactic, but one that undoubtedly helps produce that impressive 14.8 percent. For a better idea of TFA’s priorities, here are a few more statistics:

$6,389. That was the cost to recruit, interview, and hire each of the 2,892 TFA enrollees in 2007. That’s a lot of coffee.

5,689. That’s the total the program siphoned from those who enroll in the 2,892 TFA enrollees in 2007, a figure 11 percent less than the cost to recruit them. Five weeks is all the teacher training you need, evidently.

Teach for a Backup Plan to Employment or Grad School: With regard to Teach for America’s mission, however, the most important statistic is 14.8 percent. That’s the...
fatal errors, I finally got it through my yet, given to Uncle Homer. I credited to Valentine's Day. Voice's resident astrologer. But while was no stranger to newspaper writing lesson. One of journalistic outrage. Although I never was on the staff of the high school paper, at that point I was no stranger to newspaper writing in general. In fact, I fondly remembered my stint as the Middle School Voice's Sports Editor. While Madame Cassandra's Mystic Predictions did display a uniqueness that the "real" horsecopes lacked (who knew that chocolate cupcakes lay in our future?), they just weren't all that, well, real. No, I made my first foray into appar­ently real journalism when I teamed up with my friend Lucy, who was on the paper's staff and did write for real, to expose the evils of PDA.

of course, we were not writing purely by guess and by gosh. True, Valentine's Day was coming along, and I knew one batch of PDA was coming up. My book was ravaged with public displays of affection, and true, the unsound kissy- face things that people call PDA was still going on. Luckily, I had a plan. I knew that chocolate cupcakes lay in our future. I thought of my friend Lucy, who was a real journalist, and I knew that she would be interested in this story. I asked her if she wanted to help me write it, and she agreed. So we started working on the story together. We interviewed people and put together a plan for how we would expose the evils of PDA.

Last night, the results of the election for student body president and vice president came in. Although we were not able to garner enough votes to win the election or run off with another ticket, we felt that we had made a difference. We won the hearts of the voters, and we left a lasting impression on the student body. We have learned that in order to win elections, we need to focus on the issues and present a clear vision for the future. We are grateful for the support of those who voted for us, and we look forward to serving the student body in the future.

There's really no downside to warm weather. My body temperature rises a few degrees, life-sustaining nutrients break down, and snow melts, leaving a verdant green in place of mind-numbing white. The girls of Notre Dame and St. Mary's finally take off those damn sweatpants... the list goes on forever.

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When somebody says "musical" for most people the image called to mind is that of a corney, family-friendly production a la "42nd Street, The Film starring Disney's High School Musical." Well, if these are typical musicals, then Mel Brooks' "The Producers" is the anti-musical of which the Pasquarella East Musical Company (PEMCo.) will perform this hilarious show Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights at 7:30 in Washington Hall.

Based on the 1968 Mel Brooks movie, "The Producers" is about a money-grabbing, but washed-up Broadway producer and a mousy accountant who come up with a get-rich-quick scheme. They plan on raising two million dollars from investors and then putting on the biggest flop in Broadway history so that they get to keep all of the invested money. To do this, they try to find the worst musical ever written and hire the worst actors for the parts. The musical they decide to put on is called "Springtime for Hitler," which speaks for itself.

"The Producers" is a bawdy, satirical, and devilishly disrespectful, "The Producers" jokes fun at everything from old women, to accountants, to Eastern Europeans. Anybody with a twisted sense of humor will appreciate the sight of Nazi stormtroopers dancing around the stage like a bunch of fairies. It even makes fun of the theatre community itself, one of most innovative and humorous aspects of the show is the way it satirizes its own genre. The show also contains more cross-dressing than the Keenan Revue, and certain scenes strongly resemble New York's Gay Pride parade.

If you have never been to one of PEMCo.'s main stage productions before, I will assure you that they are the closest you can get to a real Broadway production without paying a week's salary for a ticket. "The Producers" is no exception. Different dance numbers feature grandmas with walkers, girls in dazzling gold sequins, prison inmates, and of course, Nazis. The sets are artfully designed. The costumes? Well, just remember what I said about the Gay Pride parade.

PEMCo. has got it again with "The Producers"

By JOSEF KUHN
Scene Writer

What's surer to succeed on Broadway than a complete flop of a show? That's the idea that made Mel Brooks' "The Producers" so popular in 1968 when the film first hit screens. From there, the show went on to become an actual Broadway hit in 2001 and made another appearance on the big screen in 2005. The hilarious story of the conning producers whose plan for a horrible show turns them into millionaires has kept audiences laughing, and will continue to do so in this weekend's PEMCo. show.

"The Producers" was Mel Brooks' first work as writer and director, starring a long line of funniest comedies. The actor Zero Mostel as Max Bialystock and Gene Wilder as Leo Bloom. Wilder would go on to star in several more Brooks films, such as "Blazing Saddles," and "Young Frankenstein." The film won an Academy Award for Best Writing, Story and Screenplay: Written Directly for the Screen and Gene Wilder was nominated for an Academy Award as Best Actor in a Supporting Role.

In 2001, "The Producers" debuted on Broadway as a musical. The film was adapted for the stage by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan. Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick made the roles of Max Bialystock and Leo Bloom famous. The show stayed from its original material in a few ways, giving the characters of Ulla and Roger DeBris larger roles and eliminating the character of Lorenzo St. Dubois (LSD), who portrays Hitler in the original film version. The ending is also happier than the original film version. At the 2001 Tony Awards, the production won 12 Awards and had an additional three nominations. The show went on national tours and became immensely popular internationally.

In 2005, the decision was made to take the musical to the silver screen again. The new film adaptation took heavily from the Broadway show, recasting Lane and Broderick in their roles as Bialystock and Bloom. The director of the original stage show, Susan Stroman, also directed this film version. Reception of the new version of the film was mixed. Many critics said that it retained too many of its stage characteristics. The acting and delivery of the lines seemed to have been barely toned down at all, making the transfer to film difficult.

Since the debut of the musical, "The Producers" seems to have been made for the stage. PEMCo.'s performance is likely to continue in the same vein, and is sure to delight audiences this weekend.

Anybody with a twisted sense of humor will appreciate the sight of Nazi stormtroopers dancing around the stage like a bunch of fairies. It even makes fun of the theatre community itself, one of most innovative and humorous aspects of the show is the way it satirizes its own genre. The show also contains more cross-dressing than the Keenan Revue, and certain scenes strongly resemble New York's Gay Pride parade.

Contact Josef Kuhn at jkuhn16@nd.edu

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By KAITLYN CONWAY
Scene Writer

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Contact Kaitlyn Conway at kconway2@nd.edu
Bialystock and Bloom: From the perspective of the actors

By PATRICK GRIFFIN
Scene Writer

This weekend, the comedic musical dynasty that is "The Producers" hit the University of Notre Dame. Notre Dame's own PEMCo. has the exclusive rights to the musical, and is one of the first amateur clubs to put on the show since the rights were released. The two famous lead roles will be portrayed by Notre Dame students Joe Augustinsky (Max Bialystock) and Michael Eardley (Leo Bloom). Scene had the chance to sit down with both actors and ask them about their experiences.

J: When I first got the role, I found it difficult identifying with the character (Max Bialystock), because we are different on many levels. If I had to describe him in one word, it would probably be "slowball," in every sense of the word. His main goal is making money, and he'll do anything to do so. I think deep down he's a good guy and wants to be liked by everyone. By the end, I feel that Max is surprised that he finds a good friend in Leo. I like to think that I would relate better to the end product. By the end of the show, he really finds out who he is.

M: Leo is a hysteric. He starts off as a mundane accountant who is tired of life and work. He has a secret passion to be a Broadway producer and to become famous. Unfortunately, he feels he is stuck in the rut of daily life. When he finds the opportunity to make a million dollars in Max's plan, he jumps on it and decides to break all roles that he grew up with. It's really a coming of age for Leo. He's still quirky but more mature; he's grown up with. It's really a coming of age. I hope the audience can join me in sharing it with campus.

S: How do you identify with the character that you portray in "The Producers"?

J: I have also seen both movies. Both movies are great. They're the same story but each has a different style. I think one of the biggest challenges of the show is that people go with expectations of what it's supposed to look like. It's hard coming into a role originated by Zero Mostel. Nathan Lane was more quirky, I watched both, but I stopped listening to the soundtrack. Instead, I worked on making the role my own, and I think I was successful just as Michael was successful in his role.

M: Originally Gene Wilder played Leo. He was the quirky Willy Wonka type. Matthew Broderick really portrays the dweeby accountant side of Leo both vocally and in his movement. I tried to bring my own quirkiness. I think it's more exciting for the audience to find something they aren't expecting.

S: Why will Notre Dame students enjoy PEMCo.'s rendition of "The Producers"?

M: It's definitely a politically incorrect show on many levels, and that is appealing to college students. There are plenty of dirty jokes. There's also good music. When you're watching, you can't believe what's going on. College students will really appreciate that. I also think that people are impressed seeing their peers and the quality they're able to bring especially with an entirely student run group. It's exciting considering all the expectations and I'm excited to share it with campus.

J: The great thing about it is that it's not a stereotypical musical. I've been advertising that it won't be what people expect. For those who like musicals, there are great dance numbers and songs. For those don't like musicals it's written by Mel Brooks and it would be hard for a person not to find something by Mel Brooks that they like. There are all types of humor: slapstick, dirty jokes, puns; everyone can find something to laugh at and enjoy. I'm just amazed by the amount of time and dedication put in by the cast. It's the energy that everyone brings; there's not a weak link in show in my mind. Everyone brings something to watch. There's a huge scope to find something to like in the musical. People won't be expecting it. People should be excited. I would like to thank the cast and production staff for all work they've put in. It's been a pleasure and an honor to work with them for about four months.

M: I second that.

Contact Patrick Griffin at pgriffe3@nd.edu
Cleveland forward LeBron James reacts to a foul call during the Cavaliers 97-95 loss to the Pacers Tuesday. James had 47 points in the game.

The Atlanta Hawks had something to prove after an embarrassing home loss. They had no trouble making their point against hapless Washington.

Joe Johnson scored 22 points and dished out seven assists in 26 minutes. Bibby, who didn't play against L.A. because of a sprained ankle, scored 12 points and doled out six assists in 26 minutes.

"He makes the defense play us honest," Johnson said. "He's savvy at that position always helps," Washington coach Ed Tapscott said. "We have youth and inexperience on our side."

''We were coming off a rare victory, Sunday's 119-117 triumph over the Indiana Pacers, but they didn't come close to matching it in a row."

"We played — well, I don't want to call it basketball," Washington's Antawn Jamison said. "We didn't play smart. Not talking, not communicating on the defensive end, not playing basketball the way it needs to be played."

The Hawks led 77-61 after three quarters and Woodson was able to rest his starters down the stretch. Smith and Al Horford sat on the bench before the start of the final period, chuckling as they glanced up at a Valentine's Day skit on the video board. Atlanta will go into the All-Star break with 30 wins for the first time since the 1996-97 season, when it was 31-15. The Hawks (10-21) have one more game, at Detroit on Wednesday night, before the league's best players head to Las Vegas over the weekend.

"Caron Butler scored 22 points, but the last-place Wizards were outmanned, as they are on most nights without Gilbert Arenas, Brendan Haywood and Etan Thomas. Washington turned it over 18 times, leading to 20 Atlanta points. The Hawks didn't shoot especially well, mixing in several airballs among their 46 percent performance from the field, but they turned it over only seven times and outrebounded the Wizards 49-42.

The Wizards spent most of the game settling for jump shots, which didn't exactly work out. They made just under 45 percent from the field — not nearly good enough considering they put up 24 fewer shots than the Hawks.

"If you miss shots and they’re all jump shots, eventually you should drive the ball," Jamison said. "We just don’t know how to be patient."

Zaza Pachulia grabbed 12 rebounds, including three with one especially persistent sequence under the boards. He missed his first three attempts before finally tapping it in while the Wizards stood around helplessly.

Eleven players scored for the Hawks. The only active player to miss out on the fun was Antwain West, who got an attempt under the basket with the clock winding down but watched it rim out.
USCHO/CBS College Sports
Men's Hockey Rankings

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USILA Preseason Men's Lacrosse Coaches' Poll

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MLB

Tejada charged in steroid case

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — All-Star shortstop Miguel Tejada has been charged with lying to Congress about an ex-teammate's use of steroids, the latest baseball player to get caught up in a web of cheating and juicing that has stained the sport.

Tejada is expected to plead guilty in court Wednesday. The charges against him were outlined in documents filed Tuesday in federal court in Washington.

The team mate is not identified in court documents, but he is referred to as having played with Tejada on the Oakland Athletics. Tejada won the 2002 American League Most Valuable Player award while playing for the Athletics and is a five-time All-Star. He now plays for the Houston Astros.

The documents indicate that a plea agreement has been reached with Tejada. The court papers were filed a day after superstar Alex Rodriguez acknowledged past use of performance-enhancing drugs. The New York Yankees third baseman does not face charges.

The FBI also is investigating whether Roger Clemens, a seven-time Cy Young winner, lied to Congress last year when he denied using steroids or human growth hormone. Clemens and Rodriguez top a list of big name, drug-tainted stars, including Barry Bonds, Mark McGwire and Jose Canseco, whose actions cast doubt on the on-field accomplishments.

Tejada faces as much as a year in jail if convicted on the misdemeanor charge of making misrepresentations to Congress. Under federal guidelines, he would probably receive a lighter sentence.

The charge came in a legal document called a "criminal information," which only can be filed with the defendant's consent and typically signals a plea deal.

A hearing is scheduled for 11 a.m. EST Wednesday in Washington, and Tejada and his lawyer plan to hold a news conference later in the day in Houston.

Messages left for his attorney, Mark Tuohey, were not immediately returned.

In the documents filed Tuesday, Tejada is charged with lying to investigators for the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in 2003. Congressional staffs did not place Tejada under oath when they questioned him, but they advised him "of the importance of providing truthful answers," according to the court papers.

IN BRIEF

Jones officially released by Cowboys after suspensions

IRVING, Texas — Troubled cornerstone Adam "Pacman" Jones was released Monday by the Dallas Cowboys, making him a free agent.

The Cowboys said last month they planned to release Jones, and Monday was the first day teams could make waiver requests.

Jones was suspended for six games by the NFL after an alcohol-related scuffle in October with a team-provided bodyguard at a Dallas hotel.

The cornerstone came to Dallas after being suspended for the entire 2007 season following multiple off-field incidents while with the Tennessee Titans. The Cowboys acquired him in a trade during the draft in April, and commissioner Roger Goodell cleared him to play at the end of the preseason.

American motocross rider

Lusk dies of head injury

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica — Jeremy Lusk, an American freestyle motocross rider, died of head injuries Tuesday after crashing while trying to land a backflip in competition. He was 24.

Jorge Ramirez, chief of the intensive care unit at Calderon Hospital where Lusk was taken, said the motocross racer suffered severe brain damage and a possible spinal cord injury.

Lusk won a gold medal at the 2008 X Games. He was injured Saturday night when he failed to complete a full rotation while attempting a Hart Attack backflip and slammed headfirst into the dirt. Lusk crashed in almost identical fashion in the freestyle semifinals at the 2007 X Games but was not hurt.

Guard Williams to replace Bosh in NBA All-Star game

INDIANAPOLIS — Mo Williams is finally an All-Star.

Twice snubbed, the Cleveland Cavaliers point guard was added to the roster Tuesday by NBA commissioner David Stern as a replacement for injured Orlando guard Jameer Nelson on the roster.
PARIS — Loaned to AC Milan to revitalize his football career, David Beckham is perhaps too busy to write a “Dear John” letter to his American fans, to explain that he wants out of the Los Angeles Galaxy and that they may have lost him to Italy for good.

If Beckham could put pen to paper, here’s what he might say:

Dear the United States of America,

Dear LA Galaxy,

Breaching up is never easy, especially when the wedding cost millions and there’s no pre-split. But, please, you have to let me go.

Truth is, I’ve found another love. She’s Italian. With her, I feel young again. She’s given me a new lease on my football-playing life. Even Victoria — “Posh Spice” does not do her justice — is calling me “Goldenballs” again. I’ve rediscovered my magic touch.

Her name is AC Milan. They call her players the “Rossoneri” and I’ve been tickled pink ever since I pulled on her shirt. Like my times with Manchester United and Real Madrid, I’m back where I belong. Playing for one of the biggest football clubs in the world.

Yes, I know I said my move to Italy on loan would be a short-term thing, that this was just a trial separation and that I’d be back in March. I didn’t know then that being with AC Milan would be so much fun. (And the boutiques in Milan...Wow!)

Perhaps you missed my goal against Genoa. Was it shown on TV there? Or did that other type of football — the American kind played with rugby balls and all that padding — bug the ‘in-laws’ again? That bugs me.

Anyhow, the goal was a gem, and my Bologna goal, that was a kid. But I cannot bear the thought of saying goodbye to the face, fame and supposedly faddish celebrity A-list friends in the small sea. At Milan, I’m a big fish in a small sea. At Milan, I’m a big fish in an ocean, playing against other megastars at a club where players seem to go on and on like Duracell batteries. Teammate Paolo Maldini turns 41 this year! Longevity. It’s important to me. So is playing with the best.

I don’t know if you read my recent interview with Italian paper Corriere della Sera, but I hope and think you’ll get the message. Sometimes, you’ve got to be a little cruel to be kind.

“The Americans are doing everything they can to improve the level and reputation of their game. It’s a young league and I think it needs another 10 years to become successful,” I said. “I have to admit that, having played in Europe, sometimes it was frustrating playing in certain games. But every now and then, moving from one state to another... I also enjoyed myself.”

Fact is, money isn’t everything. I’m thinking of myself and my country here, too. Perhaps it’s age, perhaps it’s vanity, perhaps it’s the passion for football I’ve carried since I was a kid. But I can’t change the thought of saying goodbye to England’s white, three- lioned shirt.

I’ve played 167 times for England. Just one more game to equal the great Bobby Moore’s record for an outfield player. Serving my country is something I know that you, my American friends, can understand. The World Cup is just around the corner. I’m already the only England player to have scored in three separate World Cups (1998, 2002 and 2006). I’d love to give it another crack in South Africa and silence those idiots who say I’m just a clotheshorsing, self-centered, gold-d省份ded footballer I am.

But for that, I’ve got to impress England coach Fabio Capello. Cricky, it’s a hard nut to crack. I don’t think he watches MLS. He suggested that I go to Milan. At least in Italy, I know he keeps an eye on me. It’s kind of hard not to when I’m playing as well. I won him over before when he and I were both at Real Madrid, proving he was wrong to drop me from the squad. With Milan, I know I can do so again. Capello has included me in the England team that will play Spain in a friendly this week, so my Italian job does seem to be paying off.

My side is now talking to your side. I hope the lawyers can work out an amicable split. Of course, I will come back on March 9 and fulfill my MLS obligations if you insist. But we both know that our hearts now lie elsewhere.

Yes, Victoria might miss Hollywood and pals Tom and Katie Cruise. It’s true, she seemed to fit right in there. But Milan is hardly stunning it. This isn’t about fame or fortune, for once. It’s just about football.

Respectfully, David.
Weary Donovan, US ready to face Mexico

United States and Mexico renew rivalry opening final round of World Cup qualifying for South Africa 2010

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Landon Donovan is caught between two continents.

As the U.S. meets Mexico tonight to open the final round of regional World Cup qualifying, Donovan is waiting to hear whether Major League Soccer's Los Angeles Galaxy will let him stay with Bayern Munich beyond the scheduled end of his loan on March 8.

"Let's talk about Mexico today," Landon Donovan, US midfielder

Donovan said twice on Tuesday night when asked pointed questions about his future.

Donovan arrived in Columbus on Monday night after entering in the 72nd minute of Bayern's 3-1 win over Borussia Dortmund on Sunday evening. No fan of travel, he said his time with Bayern had prepared him for the showdown with Mexico, the first of 10 matches for the U.S. team in the final round.

"I've always been ready for this game. I'm excited for it," he said. "In the future I'll always be excited for it no matter where I am. So it doesn't really change anything, except that I traveled a little further to get here."

Six teams from North America, Central America and the Caribbean are competing for three spots in the 2010 World Cup, and the fourth-place team advances to a playoff against the No. 5 team from South America.

Most regulars came in for the match. The exception was Donovan, right back Steve Cherundolo, sidelined the past month by a hip injury.

Donovan isn't the only Galaxy player in Europe these days — David Beckham is on loan to AC Milan through May to strengthen his chances of playing in England's World Cup qualifiers. Beckham wants to stay with Milan, and Donovan previously said that he would like to remain in Europe after his loan is scheduled to end.

Since the Bundesliga resumed, he has been a second-half sub in both Bayern's matches, replacing Bastian Schweinsteiger and Luca Toni. The Galaxy could extend Donovan's loan through the end of Bayern's season in May, rather than negotiate a permanent transfer. Playing for Bayern likely would strengthen his play.

Bayern likely would strengthen his play.

U.S. midfielder Landon Donovan answers questions at a press conference Tuesday. Donovan and

Donovan is n't the only

Beckham wants to stay with Bayern, who were teammates of his when he was younger.

As always, he remained confident of the American side's chances. He said the series with Mexico has changed dramatically from when he first played on U.S. teams against the Tricolores.

The evolution of the rivalry, and Mexico's improving fortunes, have been on Donovan's mind over the years as he went from Spain to the U.S. midfields.

"It's just fun," he said. "Anybody in any job, when there's a more exciting opportunity or atmosphere, or whatever, you're going to be more excited and more prepared for it. That's the way this is."

Weary Donovan, US ready to face Mexico

"Regardless of where I am, where I was or where I will be, this game's always the same," he said.

Donovan and

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Donovan and
NCAA BASKETBALL

Mizzou program turns the corner

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Hundreds stormed the court, a spontaneity that is all too rare in Missouri's coming out party.

Nearly three years to the day the Tigers resigned and the program reached its low mark, the Tigers took down four-time Southern conference champions Louisville on Sunday.

"It's been a long time coming," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "We did a pitiful, pitiful job handling any type of pressure."
Johnson scores shootout’s only goal as Kings edge Islanders; Lehtonen stops 40 shots in Thrashers victory

**Associated Press**

BOSTON — Joe Thornton scored on a penalty shot with 9.1 seconds left, giving the Bruins a 2-1 victory over the Los Angeles Kings in a shootout. The goal stood up after a video replay and the ruling on the ice was upheld.

Thornton said, "When you look at the replay, just the second time in the last eight goals."

"If there was any doubt it was a goal. The referees didn’t see it. Julien was told that Nokelainen was hit by the puck."

"He’s a very fast player, and I don’t think it’s good looking right now," Bruins coach Claude Julien said.

The Bruins were 0-for-4 on the power play, including 46 seconds of man advantage in the second period, had 26-6-2 when leading after two. But Patrick Marleau, Milan Michalek and Joe Thornton scored in a 6:16 span of the third period.

"We played fast, we played big," Thornton said. "They came out on top, but it was our night and we didn’t show it."

"Their last two tallies, Blake let a play-pay shot go from the right point that appeared to hit Blake Wheeler and Wideman before sneaking past Thomas. The goal was too close to be given, Marleau said.

Thornton said, "They came out really strong and we didn’t have it."

"Maybe we’re a little bit more it would have been maybe one of the best we’ve probably one of the best we’ve ever played."

"Anyone who has been to a building like this and they’re too good of a team and they took advantage of it.

"The Bruins didn’t register a shot in the period until Sean Bergenheim went one on Quick with 7:16 left.

"It’s pretty rewarding to come back from a deficit like this and get a game like that in the third period," San Jose coach Todd McLellan said.

Milan Lucic. The West-leading Bruins, on top of the NHL standings with 85 points, carried a 2-1 lead into the third.

"I didn’t have it marked on our calendar."

"The Bruins, who went 0-for-4 on the power play, including a 46-second man advantage in the second period, had 26-6-2 when leading after two."

"I’m not interested," Tochtet said. "Maybe it’s the coaching staff’s fault. I don’t know. We’re pretty disappointed in some guys."

"Ryane Clowe had three assists, scored in a 6:16 span of the third period," Thornton added. "They’re a good team.

"You had lost winers, Petteri Nokelainen and Chuck Kobasew to injuries, shortening their options," Stuart said. "It was just desperation. It was probably one of the best we’ve probably one of the best we’ve ever played.

"It was the first time in 10 games the Bruins didn’t earn a point but the loss was Boston’s second straight, both at home.

"We were excited for this," Bruins center Marc Savard said of the only meeting with the Sharks. "After Christmas we all had it marked on our calendar. We wanted to be ready for this.

"For two periods, they were playing a 40-minute game, that’s the bottom line," Savard said. "We didn’t play the last 20 and they’re too good of a team to not play (40 minutes) of hockey and they took advantage of it.

"Lehtonen made a lunging glove save along the goal-line on Stamkos, taken first overall in last year’s draft, felt he had his whole puck," Stamkos said.

"I never thought about that."
Cardinals
continued from page 20

"That's not to say we're going to disregard the rest of their team, because I think that was the mistake we made at Pitt," she said.

When facing superior athleticism, McGraw said, you have to play smarter.

"We have to play better position, we have to be very disciplined," she said. "We've got to work on our close-outs and our approach to the perimeter."

For Notre Dame's offense to succeed, McGraw said, the freshmen have to match their level of contribution from earlier this season. She said she wants to do a better job of resting the starters and getting more production off the bench.

"Our bench was outscoring teams pretty regularly up through our first maybe 15 games or so, and lately it's been the other way around," she said.

The team as a whole is healthy, but McGraw said freshman guard Natalie Novosel has played through painful tendinitis in her knee. Rest will heal McGraw said, but that's not something the team will have anytime soon, so the coaches try to get her rest when they can.

The Irish made four free throws in the final 23 seconds of the DePaul game to secure their lead, two from senior guard Lindsay Schrader, one from junior guard Melissa Lechlitner and one from sophomore Becca Bruszewski. McGraw said the team shot 32 free throws and made 25 of them. The Irish fouled four of their opponents and hit huge free throws for us all year long," she said. "No matter what their percentages during the rest of the game."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Senior guard Lindsay Schrader wrestles for a loose ball during Notre Dame's 62-59 victory over DePaul Sunday.

Big East
continued from page 20

slew of other squads will compete for spots in the top-eight. Here's a look at how the race looks — starting at the bottom, of course, because that's where Notre Dame finds itself now.

"A s we look ahead to how the race is going to go, we should see a lot of improvement. We're not as bad as we thought we were," McGraw said.

The team lost two seniors, Christine Lux and sophomores Katie Fleury and Brianna Kohan, who mainly plays third base, is an offensive force and has hit .295 last season.

"A s we look at the position, we have to be very realistic, McGraw said, you that was the mistake we made at Pittsburgh," she said.

Kohan, who mainly plays third base, is an offensive force and has hit .295 last season.

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Wednesday, February 11, 2009

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41 Bamboozle
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55 Don't picture
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32 Metal winner for bravery
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WILL SHORTZ

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70 What the
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THE DOME PIECE

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Michael Mikuska

Henri Arnold Mike ARGIRIO

JUMBLES: THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

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MAJEST

As:

Yesterdays Jumble: PRINT - KNIFE - GRATE - AGHAST

Answer: What the couple went through buying the right house—THEIR SAVINGS

THE OBSERVER

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

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Laura Don, 42; George Stephanopoulos, 48; Greg Sestero, 24; Robert Flack, 76

Happy Birthday! Someone from your past may be the perfect gift for you can find a way to reconnect. Aromatherapy should be your teacher and her lesson will ring back before your ears. A suspenseful artist will help you to unfold your unique love; your man can not stand watching you. Your numbers are 12, 16, 24, 27, 32, 34, 42.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): It is not so easy to get someone to back you into a corner. A change in your work can be expected but don't worry—if whatever you lose, you will gain back. Through the process, you may face some major challenges. 1 star. TAUROS (Apr. 20-May 20): A change in your daily routine can be a blessing. You can get in a situation if you overthink it in some way, but you aren't afraid of helping an organization you know little about. Expectation is apparent. 5 stars.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun. 20): Don't let your current influence change your dreams. Do whatever you feel is for you and think twice before you speak. Uncommon support a partnership being offered may result in a significant change in your life. 3 stars.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Make some new relationships in your life, and you will discover your new interests. Change means quite a lot for you and your emotional stability. 4 stars.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can talk this way up the ladder and into a good position by sharing your dreams. Don't let yourself a partner that would be offered may result in a significant change in your life. 3 stars.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get out and enjoy the companies of others. You need some down time to sort through all your options. An attraction is in sight that will lead to larger and better personal and professional things. 5 stars.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Be careful not to give someone a chance to back you into a corner. You need some down time to sort through all your options. An attraction is in sight that will lead to larger and better personal and professional things. 5 stars.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You are up for change and it is going to be a lot of support with your friends. Your previous attempt to refine your life. Emotional deception is apparent. 3 stars.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Not everyone will be on the same page as you. Follow through on your own, and in the end, everyone will jump on board to help. You can have a close relationship with someone who can help you get ahead. 5 stars.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can see a status and you don't feel anyone can pass your questions on. An old lover may do more harm than good if you know little about. Deception is apparent. 5 stars.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You have as many secrets as possible to do everything you can to avoid. The most satisfying thing you can do is to work on your push back into your life. Emotional deception is apparent. 5 stars.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You can be cautious about what you see and what you know little about. Deception is apparent. 4 stars.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can get a lot done if you put your mind to it. Some­thing else is going to start on you, but you aren't afraid of helping an organization you know little about. Expectation is apparent. 5 stars.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): It is not so easy to get someone to back you into a corner. A change in your work can be expected but don't worry—if whatever you lose, you will gain back. Through the process, you may face some major challenges. 1 star.


**MEN'S BASKETBALL ANALYSIS**

**View from the bottom**

Team sits in 12th in the rugged Big East

Notre Dame basically has a giant fork sticking out of its back, but at least the rest of the Big East race is shaking out to be a good one. Marquette’s consecutive losses to South Florida and Villanova make the Golden Eagles’ Feb. 25 matchup with Connecticut Associate even more critical. Louisville, meanwhile, has just one loss, putting the Cardinals in a virtual tie for first place with the Huskies. (More good news for Notre Dame: it gets to play Louisville this Thursday.) As Marquette and Villanova battle it out for the final all-important top-four Big East tournament seeds, a victory will help the Irish return five all-Big East players. The monogram winners, including they look to record their 21st consecutive winning season in 2009.

**ND SOFTBALL**

**Experience an advantage**

Irish return five all-Big East players, 14 monogram-winners

By LAURA MYERS

Sports Writer

The Irish will have a wealth of experience on their side as they look to record their 21st consecutive winning season in 2009. Notre Dame returns 14 monogram winners, including five all-Big East players. The squad only lost two seniors from the team that went 38-22-1 a year ago. Leading the team is senior pitcher Brittany Bargar, who earned all-Big East honors as well as all-National Fastpitch Coaches Association Midwest Region honors in 2008. Bargar ended the season with a 1.47 ERA in 291.1 innings pitched.

**ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

Louisville comes to town, looking to rebound from bad loss

By BILL BRINK

Sports Editor

It doesn’t bode well for the No. 5 team in the country to allow the worst team in the Big East to come back from a half-time deficit, score 24 points in the second half and snap a 19-game win streak. Such was Louisville’s fate Saturday against West Virginia. But Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said the loss may anger the team into better play. “Probably the pessimist in me would say the team coming off the loss is going to be mad,” McGraw said. “They’re probably had a hard week of practice to fix what they felt they did wrong in the last game.” The now No. 10 Cardinals (21-3, 8-2 Big East) face the No. 22 Irish at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center. Notre Dame (17-5, 6-4) defeated No. 25 DePaul 62-59 Sunday afternoon at home. McGraw said she was most proud of the defense in the game — the Irish held DePaul scoreless from 3-point range in the second half. “When you look at Big East stats, that’s the biggest difference between us and our opponents,” she said. “We’re not shooting well from the 3-point line; they were shooting very well.”

**ND WOMEN’S GOLF**

Notre Dame in 13th; last round Wednesday

By NATHANIEL LEE

Sports Writer

No. 25 Notre Dame moved into 13th place in the 16-team Northrop Grumman Tournament in Palos Verde, Calif., where 10 top-25 teams and rough weather conditions have made life difficult for the Irish. Sophomore So-Hyun Park led Notre Dame in Tuesday’s second round, shooting a 5-over-par 76 to climb to 17th on the individual leader board. Park shot a 9-over in Monday’s opening round. She is now a 14-over 136 for the tournament. Notre Dame gained one spot in the team standings, improving on Monday’s 46-over 330 with a 37-over 323 Tuesday. Freshman Becca Huffer shot a 7-over 78 and now sits in 39th place individually. Junior Annie Brophy shot a 12-over 82 for Notre Dame’s third-best score. Senior captain Lisa Maunu and sophomore Katie Conway each shot 14-over 86s to round out the Irish scorers.

Heading into Wednesday’s final round, the Irish are 15 strokes out of the top-10. Michigan State, ranked No. 20 nationally, held that No. 10 spot after two rounds. No. 3 Arizona State posted the best team score for the second straight day with a 1-over 294. No. 2 USC and No. 1 UCLA rounded out the top-three, 13 and 20 shots back of the Sun Devils, respectively, at the Palos Verde Golf Club.

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**SMC BASKETBALL**

Belles set to take on Adrian

By ROBERT GRAHAM

Sports Writer

With a school-record 11 MIAA wins already under its belt, Saint Mary’s will try to make it three straight as it hosts Adrian tonight at 7:30 p.m. The Belles (13-8, 11-2) have been dominant of late and grabbed Alma 66-35 Saturday. The Belles had not given up less than 40 points in a game since 2002. Saint Mary’s took it to the Scots in the second half, outscoring them 36-19 in the final 20 minutes.

Junior forward Anna Kammrath and senior forward Erin Newson had solid outings once again in that contest, leading all scorers with 12 and 10 points, respectively.

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