Schmidt, Weber elected Pres., V.P.

With 51.9 percent of vote, ticket narrowly defeats Burdick-Sanchez in run-off election

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

Junior Grant Schmidt and sophomore Cynthia Weber won the election for student body president and vice president with 51.9 percent of the vote in one of the closest elections in recent years, according to Judicial Council president George Chamberlain.

Schmidt and Weber defeated juniors Laura Burdick and Derek Sanchez, who received 48.1 percent of the vote.

Slightly less than half the undergraduate student body, or 5,942 students, voted Thursday, Chamberlain said. The Schmidt-Gardner ticket received 1,886 votes while the Burdick-Sanchez ticket grabbed 1,746 votes.

Chamberlain said the 310 votes to abstain were excluded from the denominator used to derive the percentage, but if the abstaining votes had been included, neither candidate would have received the necessary 50 percent to win the election.

"This is the closest run-off election I have seen in my time here," Chamberlain said.

Schmidt said he is happy with the high voter turnout for Anthony Travel.

Other popular destinations are Riviera Maya, which is south of Cancun, and Punta Cana, in the Dominican Republic.

Veterans honored at halftime

Basketball fans give "Wounded Warriors' standing ovation

By FRAN TOLAN
News Writer

At halftime of the Notre Dame men’s basketball game against Louisville Thursday, the team honored four United States soldiers that were injured in combat in Afghanistan.

The four "Wounded Warriors" — Lance Corporal Anthony Villarreal, Staff Sergeant Leroy Petry, Staff Sergeant Dillon Behr and Staff Sergeant Freddie De Los Santos — were greeted at midcourt by a standing ova-

Irish Gardens peddling flowers

Student-run business promotes wares in anticipation of Valentine’s Day celebrations

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

With Valentine’s Day on Saturday, student-run business Irish Gardens is using the occasion to advertise its name on campus as well as accommodate the hundreds of students who have placed orders for bouquets.

"We are hoping to promote our name around campus," student manager Mary Kathleen Julien said. "We want the campus community to be aware that we are around campus."

Irish Gardens is a student-run business on campus. Julien and three other student managers, Mary McGaugill, Sara Stader and Michelle Maloney, oversee the business. They are currently in the middle of their Valentine’s Day campaign, which Maloney said is one of their busiest times of the year.

"It is definitely busy around Valentine’s Day every year, it is absolutely packed," she said. "This is our first themed campaign, and we are hoping to promote the store as much as possible."

To promote the event, see FLOWERS/page 6

Spring break on despite recession

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

This spring break, the economy has had an effect on travel and prices, according to Anthony Travel's Leisure Manager Kayleen Carr. But it's an effect that benefits the traveler.

"Prices are cheaper," Carr said.

"Similar packages are cheaper this year than last year," she said.

"People are paying $500 for hotel and airfare this year, what last year they would have gotten them just airfare," she said.

Carr said companies are also advertising plenty of last-minute deals to bring in more customers.

"There isn’t a noticeable change in the spring break vacation trends," Carr said.

"Vacation destination trends are slightly different. Crusies and cruise packages were the popular item last year. Carr said, while this year land packages, including airfare, hotel rooms, and in some cases, food and drinks, are the most popular choice.

"Compared to last year, students are getting a better deal because the packages are all-inclusive," Carr said.

The average cost of these all-inclusive packages is $590, she said.

Prices for flights are also down because of lower fuel costs, Carr said.

"People are paying $500 for hotel and airfare this year, what last year would have gotten them just airfare," she said.

Carr said companies are also advertising plenty of last-minute deals to bring in more customers.

"We’ve had more spring break business than last year," Carr said.

This year’s most popular Spring Break destination for students is Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, Carr said. Other popular destinations are Riviera Maya, which is south of Cancun, and Punta Cana, in the Dominican Republic.

Irish Gardens is a student-run business on campus. Julien and three other student managers, Mary McGaugill, Sara Stader and Michelle Maloney, oversee the business. They are currently in the middle of their Valentine’s Day campaign, which Maloney said is one of their busiest times of the year.

"It is definitely busy around Valentine’s Day every year, it is absolutely packed," she said. "This is our first themed campaign, and we are hoping to promote the store as much as possible."

To promote the event, see FLOWERS/page 6

Irish Gardens peddling flowers

Student-run business promotes wares in anticipation of Valentine’s Day celebrations

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

With Valentine’s Day on Saturday, student-run business Irish Gardens is using the occasion to advertise its name on campus as well as accommodate the hundreds of students who have placed orders for bouquets.

"We are hoping to promote our name around campus," student manager Mary Kathleen Julien said. "We want the campus community to be aware that we are around campus."

Irish Gardens is a student-run business on campus. Julien and three other student managers, Mary McGaugill, Sara Stader and Michelle Maloney, oversee the business. They are currently in the middle of their Valentine’s Day campaign, which Maloney said is one of their busiest times of the year.

"It is definitely busy around Valentine’s Day every year, it is absolutely packed," she said. "This is our first themed campaign, and we are hoping to promote the store as much as possible."

To promote the event, see FLOWERS/page 6

Irish Gardens peddling flowers

Student-run business promotes wares in anticipation of Valentine’s Day celebrations

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

With Valentine’s Day on Saturday, student-run business Irish Gardens is using the occasion to advertise its name on campus as well as accommodate the hundreds of students who have placed orders for bouquets.

"We are hoping to promote our name around campus," student manager Mary Kathleen Julien said. "We want the campus community to be aware that we are around campus."

Irish Gardens is a student-run business on campus. Julien and three other student managers, Mary McGaugill, Sara Stader and Michelle Maloney, oversee the business. They are currently in the middle of their Valentine’s Day campaign, which Maloney said is one of their busiest times of the year.

"It is definitely busy around Valentine’s Day every year, it is absolutely packed," she said. "This is our first themed campaign, and we are hoping to promote the store as much as possible."

To promote the event, see FLOWERS/page 6

Irish Gardens peddling flowers

Student-run business promotes wares in anticipation of Valentine’s Day celebrations

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

With Valentine’s Day on Saturday, student-run business Irish Gardens is using the occasion to advertise its name on campus as well as accommodate the hundreds of students who have placed orders for bouquets.

"We are hoping to promote our name around campus," student manager Mary Kathleen Julien said. "We want the campus community to be aware that we are around campus."

Irish Gardens is a student-run business on campus. Julien and three other student managers, Mary McGaugill, Sara Stader and Michelle Maloney, oversee the business. They are currently in the middle of their Valentine’s Day campaign, which Maloney said is one of their busiest times of the year.

"It is definitely busy around Valentine’s Day every year, it is absolutely packed," she said. "This is our first themed campaign, and we are hoping to promote the store as much as possible."

To promote the event, see FLOWERS/page 6

Irish Gardens peddling flowers

Student-run business promotes wares in anticipation of Valentine’s Day celebrations

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

With Valentine’s Day on Saturday, student-run business Irish Gardens is using the occasion to advertise its name on campus as well as accommodate the hundreds of students who have placed orders for bouquets.

"We are hoping to promote our name around campus," student manager Mary Kathleen Julien said. "We want the campus community to be aware that we are around campus."

Irish Gardens is a student-run business on campus. Julien and three other student managers, Mary McGaugill, Sara Stader and Michelle Maloney, oversee the business. They are currently in the middle of their Valentine’s Day campaign, which Maloney said is one of their busiest times of the year.

"It is definitely busy around Valentine’s Day every year, it is absolutely packed," she said. "This is our first themed campaign, and we are hoping to promote the store as much as possible."

To promote the event, see FLOWERS/page 6

Irish Gardens peddling flowers

Student-run business promotes wares in anticipation of Valentine’s Day celebrations

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

With Valentine’s Day on Saturday, student-run business Irish Gardens is using the occasion to advertise its name on campus as well as accommodate the hundreds of students who have placed orders for bouquets.

"We are hoping to promote our name around campus," student manager Mary Kathleen Julien said. "We want the campus community to be aware that we are around campus."

Irish Gardens is a student-run business on campus. Julien and three other student managers, Mary McGaugill, Sara Stader and Michelle Maloney, oversee the business. They are currently in the middle of their Valentine’s Day campaign, which Maloney said is one of their busiest times of the year.

"It is definitely busy around Valentine’s Day every year, it is absolutely packed," she said. "This is our first themed campaign, and we are hoping to promote the store as much as possible."

To promote the event, see FLOWERS/page 6

Irish Gardens peddling flowers

Student-run business promotes wares in anticipation of Valentine’s Day celebrations

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

With Valentine’s Day on Saturday, student-run business Irish Gardens is using the occasion to advertise its name on campus as well as accommodate the hundreds of students who have placed orders for bouquets.

"We are hoping to promote our name around campus," student manager Mary Kathleen Julien said. "We want the campus community to be aware that we are around campus."

Irish Gardens is a student-run business on campus. Julien and three other student managers, Mary McGaugill, Sara Stader and Michelle Maloney, oversee the business. They are currently in the middle of their Valentine’s Day campaign, which Maloney said is one of their busiest times of the year.

"It is definitely busy around Valentine’s Day every year, it is absolutely packed," she said. "This is our first themed campaign, and we are hoping to promote the store as much as possible."

To promote the event, see FLOWERS/page 6
**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Valentine's Day don'ts**

With Valentine's Day fast approaching, many Notre Dame students may need help figuring out what to buy for that special someone. Unfortunately, I can't help you. This was made abundantly clear to me when an anonymous male friend asked me what he should give his girlfriend, and then shot all of my suggestions down. Apparently, I'm too stupid to know what girls want for Valentine's Day. I thought, in fact, a girl who wants stuff for Valentine's Day.

However, I'm pretty sure that I'm qualified to tell you what NOT to buy. I've been subjected to many awful gifts. Below, I've compiled a handy list of presents that you should avoid at all costs.

For him:
- A decorative box. Boys don't store their belongings in decorative boxes. Unless the box is decorated with beef jerky or pictures of attractive sports figures.
- Any kind of weird food. For example, low-fat chocolate.
- Whatever he is supposed to do with it? Collect and trade them amongst his friends?

For her:
- Any exercise video or a bathroom scale. Even if your girlfriend has put on weight, I don't think Valentine's Day is the best time to remind her of it.
- Jewelery followed by the phrase "If you don't like it, my mom said she wanted it." Unfortunately, this is yet another true statement about my life.
- Anything targeted toward elementary-school children. I once jokingly said I wanted a "Barbie: Fairytopia" DVD during a trip to the mall. I got it two weeks later for my birthday. Last time I checked, I'm not five.

For anyone:
- A hit-and-run grassstone. Yes, such an item actually exists. This doesn't say, "I love you." It says, "One day I may kill you in your sleep."

**FOR THE RECORD**

- A girl who wants stuff for Valentine's Day, watching a trip to the mall. I got it two weeks later for my birthday. Last time I checked, I'm not five.

**IN BRIEF**

Ten Years Hence Lecture Series will present a lecture entitled, "Sustainability: Past, Present and Future from a Corporate View." Friday in the Jordan Auditorium in the Mendoza College of Business. The lecture will take place between 10:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.

The annual Edith Stein Project will take place throughout the day today. 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/ce/index.cfm.

The Paraguay East Musical Company (PEMCo.) will show the musical "The Producers" tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are available at the LaFortune box office, $6 for students and $8 general admission.

**OFFBEAT**

**Woman loses record-breaking fingernails in crash**

SALT LAKE CITY — A Utah woman listed in the Guinness Book of World Records for her long fingernails has lost them in a car crash. Lee Redmond of Salt Lake City sustained serious but non-life-threatening injuries in the accident Tuesday.

Redmond's nails, which hadn't been cut since 1979, were broken in the crash. According to the Guinness Web site, her nails measured a total of more than 28 feet long in 2008, with the longest nail on her right thumb at 2 feet, 11 inches.

Salt Lake County Sheriff's Lt. Don Hudson says Redmond was ejected from an SUV in the crash and taken to the hospital in serious condition.

Redmond has been featured on TV in episodes of "Guinness Book of World Records" and "Ripley's Believe it or Not."

**Woman charged for selling neighbors' dogs**

COLUMBIA, Pa. — A 27-year-old central Pennsylvania woman is in the doghouse after allegedly selling her neighbors' West Highland terriers on Craiglist for $150.

Brandy Anderson of Columbia says she found the tagless purebred dogs last week and didn't know the owner. She maintains that she kept the two dogs for a few days, then sold them so they'd have a good home.

Police charged her with theft of lost property. She says she didn't take reasonable measures to find the owner.

The owner told the Lancaster Intelligence Journal that she and her family like to rent the same block as Anderson.

**OFFBEAT**

FANS SMILE FOR THE CAMERA as they cheer at the Notre Dame men's basketball game Thursday. The team beat Louisville 90-57, ending a seven game losing streak.
Sophomores to host parents over weekend

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

Sophomore Parents' Weekend, a time for parents to participate in activities with their daughters, kicks off at Saint Mary's College this weekend with their daughters, because it allows my parents to see her parents outside of breaks.

Sophomore Rachel Flaherty said she is looking forward to spending time with her family. "I am very excited for Sophomore Parent's Weekend because it allows my parents to come to Saint Mary's College and see the places that I spend my time at away from home," Flaherty said.

For Katie Brown, the weekend will be an opportunity for her to see her parents outside of breaks. "My mom hasn't been on campus since move in at the beginning of the year, so I am excited for her to see everything again," Brown said.

The weekend contains many different events planned to help students bond with their parents while at school. On Friday, there will be a dinner on Saturday. A silent auction. Parents and students are invited to take part in bingo, a special Mass and a dinner on Saturday. Meg Griffin, the president of the class of 2011, overview the planning of this event. "Sophomore Parents' weekend is the first in a series of weekends designed to allow girls to show off their campus and college experience to their parents," Griffin said. "This is a great opportunity for parents to see where their daughters live and work, and who they interact with on a daily basis."

About 350 students and parents will be attending the weekend. "The purpose of this weekend is to create a bonding experience with parents and daughters and celebrate their daughter's education," Griffin said.

"I wanted my parents to come to this weekend so that they could spend time with me at my home away from home, and also so we could have fun doing things we wouldn't normally get to do," Flaherty said.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@ saintmarys.edu

Campus celebrates Darwin

Scientist's 200th birthday observed with party, poetry slam event

By TESS CIVANTOS
News Writer

Charles Darwin has been dead for 127 years, but over 50 Notre Dame students and faculty members celebrated his 200th birthday with a party and poetry slam event Thursday night.

Professor Hope Hollocher of the biology department organized the event, which was sponsored by both the biology department and Notre Dame's Environmental Research Center.

"The biology department hadn't organized anything fun for the 'Darwin at Notre Dame' series, and his birthday was still open, so we planned this," Hollocher said.

The audience drank tea and munched on scones while 23 students and Hollocher's seven-year-old daughter performed the poems they had written.

Hollocher helped judge the poetry competition, along with English professor John Wilkinson, biology graduate student Matthew Barresi and Giri Holonyak, a biology student.

The event brought students and faculty from different disciplines together. "This event is a confluence of science and the arts, a chance to see how these two things meshes," Hollocher said. "There's this idea of different departments getting together. It's really cross-disciplinary."

The judges graded the poems on form, performance, content and humor. Audience cheers determined the winner of an audience appreciation category.

The overall winners were Kyle Borca and Angela Salvo, whose poem honored all the scientists before Darwin whose efforts helped his discoveries. Mentioning Mendel's Pea, Leuvenhok's microscope, and many others, their poem concluded, "The past we must remember, but the future lies with you."

The poems included limericks, haikus and sonnets, and addressed topics ranging from the Great Tennessee Monkey trial to Darwin's famous trip on the H.M.S. Beagle.

"A disclaimer, this poem is a little risque," Pham said before reading.

"I'm a science student, but I also read poetry," said Renee Allen, who Podlaski said offers unique perspectives on the issues.

The conference concludes Saturday evening with a formal banquet.

"We have several students on the panel and some of them share very personal stories," she said. "It is eye-opening and yet also very inspiring."

The conference concludes Saturday evening with a formal banquet.

Podlaski hopes that students will experience new points of view by attending the conference. "People may or may not agree with all of the positions presented, but this is an academic confer­ence," she said. "These discussions and opinions are not only encouraged but absolutely necessary for fruitful dialogue and for the conference to fulfill its mission."

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

Edith Stein Project to discuss love, relationships, dignity

Fourth annual conference aims to empower men, women to 'evaluate honestly their own lives and relationships'

By LAURA MCCRYSTAL
News Writer

The fourth annual Edith Stein Project will focus on issues relating to love through a variety of events, including 25 speakers and two panel discussions. "Our purpose is to engage men and women in discussion on their inherent worth and dignity in a manner that is relevant to everyday day life, with an emphasis on the dignity of women," said senior Caitlin Podlaski, the chair of the conference.

Podlaski said she hopes that because the event is sponsored by the biology department, everyone will attend the conference on Friday and Saturday.

The conference presents views of human dignity based on optimism and the teachings of the Catholic Church, she said. "We hope that this conference empowers men and women to evaluate honestly their own lives and relationships," she said.

Podlaski has attended each of the four Edith Stein Projects, which is designed to allow girls to show off their campus and college experience to their parents.

Church, she said. "Our purpose is to engage men and women to 'evaluate honestly their own lives and relationships'."

Our purpose is to engage men and women in discussion on their inherent worth and dignity in a manner that is relevant to everyday day life, with an emphasis on the dignity of women," said senior Caitlin Podlaski, the chair of the conference.

Podlaski said she hopes that because the event is sponsored by the biology department, everyone will attend the conference on Friday and Saturday.

The conference presents views of human dignity based on optimism and the teachings of the Catholic Church, she said. "We hope that this conference empowers men and women to evaluate honestly their own lives and relationships," she said.

Podlaski has attended each of the four Edith Stein Projects, which is designed to allow girls to show off their campus and college experience to their parents.

According to the conference Web site, Friday afternoon's panel will concern examination of the hook-up culture and healthy relationships. "We have several students on the panel and some of them share very personal stories," she said. "It is eye-opening and yet also very inspiring."

The conference concludes Saturday evening with a formal banquet.

Podlaski hopes that students will experience new points of view by attending the conference. "People may or may not agree with all of the positions presented, but this is an academic confer­ence," she said. "These discussions and opinions are not only encouraged but absolutely necessary for fruitful dialogue and for the conference to fulfill its mission."

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

ACE

UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIPS

Get your application at http://ace.interm.googlepages.com/home

Monday, March 23
Application deadline

Monday, April 20
Decision notification

Monday, April 27
Commitment deadline

This opportunity is available to those interested in becoming ACE teachers after graduation and eager to work for ACE during their senior years.

These paid internships will offer challenging work in close collaboration with the ACE faculty and staff in a variety of areas such as service opportunities for undergraduates and outreach efforts to Catholic schools locally and nationally.

We seek rising seniors who wish to serve as ACE teachers after graduation and commit to do so as the first step of their internships. Application for these internships will thus include early application to join ACE.
Halftime
continued from page 1
tion from the sellout crowd
during intermission of the
home team's win.
"It was a lot to take in, emotionally. I held
it in but it is a weird experience," Lance
Corporal Anthony Villarreal
U.S. Army
"It was a lot to take in, emotionally. I held
it in but it is a weird experience."
Lance Corporal Anthony Villarreal
U.S. Army
Burdick said the halftime presentation
was part of "Come Night," at the Joyce
Center, an event Notre Dame
coach Mike Brey ran last year.
"Every fan in attendance
received a camo
outfit T-shirt upon entering
the game," Burdick said.
In May 2007, Brey traveled
to Kuwait as part of
"Operation Hardwood," a
day-long basketball tourna-
ment in which he coached a
team of service members.
After returning to the United
States, Brey said the trip was
one of the top five experi-
ences of his life.
"I think it's great that as a
student, you are exposed to
these people and their
dependents," Schmidt said.
Burdick emphasized that
the event only lasted by 149
votes.
"That's awfully close," she
said.
Schmidt said he and Weber
both were on their way to read-
ly lead the student body
starting April 1.
"We're pumped," Schmidt said.
"We are continuously trying to
better Notre Dame."
Contact Madeleine Buckley at
mbuckley@nd.edu

Will It Be Spring Break or... a Spring "Breakdown"?
Get some extra cash to make your Spring Break extra special.

As a student of Saint Mary's College, Holy Cross College, or the
University of Notre Dame, you are not only eligible for
membership, but you qualify for a Visa® Credit Card with a $1,500 line-of-credit and a low
7.9% APR on all balance transfers.

Current cardholders may even qualify for an increased line-of-credit, or a card upgrade.

Call or stop by your local Notre Dame Federal Credit Union branch for full membership information. Annual Percentage Rate (APR). Rate of 7.9% APR
said only on balance transfers from another financial institution's credit card. Payments will apply to balances at 7.9% APR. Visa® Credit Card payment rate report the standard reporting rate. Card issuance subject to prior review. Importation of the University.

LAFAYETTE SQUARE
3-5 Bedroom Townhomes
$350 per month per person including free Internet
Now leasing for 2009 – 2010 school year
(574)234-2436
Kramer Properties
www.kramerhouses.com

NOMA
is a truly unique dining and drinking experience
featuring a creative blend of culinary delights with a delicate touch of
Asian flavors in an exciting yet intimate setting. Also come and enjoy
our stylish and contemporary fusion marlin bar.

C M K O N A
119 North Michigan Street
Downtown South Bend
574-234-2436

10% off your next visit on the purchase of $15 or more

Show this ad and receive $15 off the total price of 2 entrees, Monday through
Thursday from 5PM until 7PM

*One per visit. * one per visit. Discount not valid during special events.
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Islamic group agrees to truce

CAIRO — The deputy leader of Hamas said Thursday night that the Islamic militant group agreed to an 18-month truce with Israel for the Gaza Strip, the official Egyptian news agency reported.

Moussa Abu Marzouk told MENA that Egypt's government has been mediating between Hamas and Israel, would announce the truce in two days after consulting with other Palestinian factions.

Earlier in the day, Egyptian and Hamas officials reported progress in truce talks, which included Hamas strongman from Gaza, Mahmoud Zahar, and Egypt's top mediator, intelligence chief Omar Suleiman.

Pakistan admits to links with attacks

ISLAMABAD — Pakistan acknowledged Thursday that Lashkar-e-Toiba, a group tied to Al Qaeda, has trained and armed insurgents in neighboring Afghanistan and at times attacked U.S. military and civilian targets. The admission, which comes after several weeks of U.S. demanding an explanation, was provided by a senior defense ministry official. The official said the Israeli government had no complaint against Pakistan.

S. Lebanon moves to disband militant group

BEIRUT — Lebanon's interior minister said Thursday that the Islamic militant group Hezbollah would be dissolved in a bid to defuse tensions across the border with Israel, which have escalated in recent days.

The announcement of the truce in two days after consulting between Hamas and Israel, was to announce the truce in two days after consulting between Hamas and Israel, which have escalated in recent days.

**NATIONAL NEWS**

Inspection costs five their lives

DALLAS — Five officials fired failed to identify serious safety concerns, including a lack of smoke detectors and proper exits, when they inspected an east Texas homeless shelter where five men later died in a fire, according to records obtained by The Associated Press.

“Looks OK” was the only thing written on one report prepared after an April 2005 inspection, one of the documents provided by the city of Paris in response to the AP's request under Texas public records law.

None of the five inspections conducted in the 10 years before the Jan. 5 fire was by a state-certified fire inspector, and all failed to notice that the facility lacked the basic safety requirements.

Peanut plant orders recall

The Associated Press.

The Associated Press.

Mississippi Auditor Steve Patterson and two disbarred attorneys, Joey Langston and Timothy Balducchi, have pleaded guilty to trying to influence his rulings, the indictment says. Others allegedly involved in the scheme are former Mississippi Auditor Steve Patterson and two disbarred attorneys, Joey Langston and Timothy Balducchi.

DeLaughter also has pleaded guilty to trying to influence Scruggs on Scruggs' behalf Balducchi and Patterson pleaded guilty to conspiring to bribe a different judge and have been cooperating in the investigation.

Former trial lawyer Richard Scruggs, center, is escorted out of the U.S. District Courthouse in Aberdeen, Miss., by U.S. Deputy Marshals Scotty Peters, left, and Neal Cruse, right.

**CONGO**

Rebels send victims as a warning

BANGALI, Congo — Rebels from the Lord's Resistance Army sent torture victims — including a man whose back was sliced with a machete — to warn the people of this Congolese town they would be next.

The town's three policemen fled and told everyone to bring whatever weapons they had: pre-World War II rifles, homemade shotguns, lances, swords, machetes, hunting knives, bows with shafts of poisoned arrows, andeven the women armed with kitchen knives and log-sized wooden pestles used to pound yams in four.

Since then, the residents of Bangadi have successfully driven off two attacks by the Ugandan rebels, who have killed at least 900 people in this remote northeastern corner of Congo over the past seven weeks.

News of Bangalí's success — and the lack of military protection — have spurred hundreds of villages to form self-defense groups, according to Andy Benoit, a spokeswoman for Medecins Sans Frontieres.

The ragtag groups are filling a security vacuum as Congo tries to recover from back-to-back civil wars that devastated the Central African nation over nearly a decade.

Aid workers and humanitarian activists are watching the phenomenon with trepidation. In a part of Congo with dozens of militias and rebels, they fear these self-defense groups could transform into a menacing force.

Bangalí's army, cobbled together from various rebel groups and the defeated troops of ousted dictator Mobutu Sese Seko, has never been cohesive and has suffered repeated defeats at the hands of the rebels.
Flowers

continued from page 1

The managers have put posters up around campus and have placed paper tents on the tables in both dining halls on campus. They also used the electronic signs in LaFortune. Irish Gardens has set up a table on the main floor of LaFortune where students can place orders. If the students have specific questions, they are redirected downstairs to the actual store.

"The surge in business that we see during Valentine's Day is a great opportunity for us to let everyone on campus know that we are around throughout the school year, not just for the holidays," Julien said.

There are a variety of options offered by the store, including special bouquets that were created by the student managers.

Julien's bouquet is called the "MK Bouquet." It contains stock, which is different types of flowers, snapdragons, roses, alstroemeria and gerberas.

"I wanted to create a bouquet that was beautiful and reasonable," Julien said.

"This combination of flowers makes that possible," Moe said. Moe also created a bouquet for Valentine's Day called the "Alegory Mytical Michelle." This bouquet is simple, but elegant containing three stock flowers and three roses.

Moe and Julien agreed that their most popular flower has been the red rose. They said that they have also been selling large numbers of daisies.

Irish Gardens also has a number of add-ins to accompany the bouquets.

"We have both latex and Mylar balloons, stuffed animals, and jewelry," Julien said. "This year we have also added an assortment of candy bars that buyers can choose from.

The student managers said they have seen a steady flow of traffic all week, but expect the biggest rush to come on Saturday.

"We will probably be open all night Friday making pre-orders so that on Saturday we can solely focus on completing the orders that come in that day," Julien said.

Contact Liz O'Donnell at lodonnell@nd.edu

Donation

continued from page 1

"preferred charity" for most donors.

But he was cautious about predicting whether the situation would improve or not.

"We're fairly early into this downturn," he said. "No one knows how much worse it will get and how much longer it will go on.

A new survey by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education forecasted a 1.7 percent decrease in fundraising this year, the second worst in the past 10 years.

Nanni said it's too early to make comparisons to downturns like those experienced in the 1980s or after Sept. 11, but "all indications lead him to believe that the current recession will be far worse than either of those."

Nanni said he sees a "combination" of a decline in donors and amounts of individual donations.

Some donors have lost "anywhere between 30 to 50 percent of their net worth," Nanni said.

"And what is perhaps most difficult...is the uncertainty as to when this economy is going to come back," he said, which has affected giving.

The University is currently in the middle of the fourth year of its largest capital campaign in its history, the Spirit of Notre Dame campaign.

The University has raised $1.46 billion to date, which is about 97 percent of the goal, with over two years remaining.

Of the $1.46 billion raised, about 70 percent has already been received in cash, he said.

"That's a very high pledge payment rate for any campaign nationally," Nanni said, "so that looks like less vulnerable than other schools."

Nanni said that timing of the campaign was particularly advantageous.

"As you see the economy diped in 2002, 2003, so our starting point was particularly gratifying," he said. Now, nearly all funds have been raised with enough time for the University to exceed the goal, Nanni said.

"We have been very blessed, timing wise," he said. "A number of universities announced campaigns this summer and we said, adding that it would be a "very difficult" time to hold such a campaign.

During the recession, Nanni said that fundraising is a "focus on the basic fundamentals."

"This is a time when Notre Dame really focuses on cultivating relationships among prospective donors," he said.

The University can emphasize the impact that donations have.

"There's a lot of ways to give to Notre Dame where at the same time people can feel they're impacting the society and it's needed," he said.

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu

Break

continued from page 1

Notre Dame senior Katie Begerow will be one of the many students traveling this Spring Break.

"I am going to Utah, and staying with my boyfriend's family," Begerow said.

For many students, Spring Break destination choice.

"It was between a cruise over Spring Break or a trip to Europe this summer, and we wanted to go to Europe more," she said.

Lower fuel prices also affect travel plans, with different types of options available, including trips to Europe, Mexico, and Aruba.

Another benefit to her trip is staying with the family.

"Iss very relaxing," she said. "This removes the added costs of a hotel.

"I only had to pay for the plane ticket, which is nice," she said.

Begerow doesn't see that big of a difference in Spring Break travel compared to other times.

"Friends who normally go places are going places, and friends who normally go home are going home," she said.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray@nd.edu

Kareen elected to National Academy of Engineering

Election to society signifies high honor for Kareem, director of ND HazMat Modeling Lab

Special to The Observer

Abbas Kareem, Robert Moran Professor of Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences at Notre Dame, has been elected a member of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE).

Election to NAE is among the highest professional distinctions accorded to an engineer. Academy membership honors those who have made outstanding contributions to engineering research, practice or education.

Kareem's colleagues noted his contributions to engineering literature, the pioneering of new and developing fields of technology, making major advancements in technology, leadership of both research and development, and creating innovative approaches to engineering education.

Kareen, who is also director of Notre Dame's HazMat Modeling Laboratory, was cited for contributions to "analytical modeling and design to account for wind effects on tall buildings, long-span bridges, and other structures."

Kareem specializes in probabilistic structural dynamics, fluid-structure interactions, structural safety, and the mitigation of natural hazards. To better understand and predict the impact of natural disasters on the constructed environment, Kareem uses computer models and laboratory and full-scale experiments to study the dynamic effects of environmental loads under winds, waves and earthquakes on structures and to develop mitigative strategies to enhance the performance and safety of structures.

Kareem is the lead U.S. collaborator for a project titled "New Frontier of Education and Research in Wind Engineering" at Tokyo Polytechnic University's Global Center for Excellence. The center, founded by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, was established to build a sustainable urban environment that is resilient to extreme wind events and is also less vulnerable to both regional and local environments.

A member of the Notre Dame faculty since 1990, Kareem has served in the administration, management and organization of numerous professional societies including the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), as well as committees of the National Research Council, NAE and the American Association for Wind Engineering. He also has served as a consultant to several major oil, insurance and consulting engineering companies and the United Nations.

The research findings of Kareem and his students and postdoctoral fellows are having a major influence in the area of structural engineering, including monitoring of hurricane winds and their load effects, development of innovative structural systems for offshore drilling and production; monitoring dynamics of coastal construction, design and offshore structures, tall buildings, bridges and industrial structures; risk modeling; and development of cyber-based collaborative research for education and education in wind effects.

The Kellogg Institute for International Studies presents the 1st Annual Celebration of Brazilian Studies

Featuring: Dico, Brade and Costumes Contest!

Door Prizes!

8pm TONIGHT at South Dining Hall

Samba Lessons FREE and Open to the Public!

FREE and Open to the Public!

SAMBA

Featuring: Dico, Brade and Costumes Contest!

Contact the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at kellogg@nd.edu or phone 574-631-2451.
Friday, February 13, 2009

Congress works overtime on stimulus
Controversy over school-modernization money forces delay in final votes

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Reluctant to call it quits, key lawmakers bargained into overtime Thursday on the $790 billion economic stimulus legislation before reaching final agreement more than 24 hours after first unveiling a deal.

Lingering controversy over school-modernization money and a scaled-back tax break for businesses forced a delay in votes on the legislation.

But by nightfall, with Democratic leaders eager for final passage by the weekend to avert looming issues that were reported settled, House leaders announced a vote for Friday, with the Senate to follow later in the day or over the weekend.

Republicans, lined up to vote against the bill, pined on the floor for an earlier finish. "This is not the right smart approach," said Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader. "The taxpayers of today and tomorrow will be left to clean up the mess."

President Barack Obama delivered what has become a daily call for congressional action, this time from the industrial heartland. With approval of the bill, he said in Peoria, Ill., companies "may be able to start growing again. Rather than laying off workers, they may be able to create them again."

He spoke at Caterpillar Inc., the heavy machinery giant that has announced 22,000 layoffs. The president has said in recent days that the company has promised to rehire some of those once the stimulus bill passes, but Chief Executive Jim Owens said Thursday that probably would not occur for more layoffs before that can occur.

At the Capitol and in an atmosphere of uncertainty at times, lawmakers were coming to light that had not been included in the original bills that passed the House or Senate — or that differed markedly from earlier versions, or that appeared to brush up against claims of the bill's supporters that no pet projects known as "earmarks" were included.

One last-minute addition was a $3.2 billion tax break for General Motors Corp. that would allow the ailing auto giant to use current losses to claim refunds for taxes paid when times were good. GM got a $13.4 billion federal bailout last year — and in expected to receive more in 2009 — and argued that without the provision, its government-financed turnaround plan could force the company to pay higher taxes.

The legislation does not mention GM specifically, but the company has been lobbying hard for the provision for months, with help from Michigan's representatives in Congress. "We wanted to make sure that the restructuring wasn't counteracted," said Rep. Sander M. Levin, D-Mich., a supporter of the provision.

It was not immediately clear why the provision had not been included in the bill that cleared the House several weeks ago.

Negotiators sweetened another tax break at the last minute, doubling to $1.6 billion a provision that would benefit businesses that buy their own debt at a discount. It was a major priority of business groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which argued it would help firms and banks clear debt from their balance sheets and begin to hire workers and lend money to customers.

The legislation announced its support of the bill, despite the heavy opposition from its customary Republican allies in Congress.

Obama pitches plan to Caterpillar

WASHINGTON — Saying "I made a mistake," Republican Sen. Judd Gregg of New Hampshire abruptly withdrew as commerce secretary nominee on Thursday and left the field for a long-shot bid to win the Obama presidency. Gregg was confirmed despite revisions in his tax return that he had not paid some of his taxes on time.

"The unexpected withdrawal came just three weeks into Obama's presidency and on the heels of several other Cabinet troubles. The new president is in the midst of expediting political capital in Washington — and around the country — for his economic package and is seeking to move forward with an ambitious agenda in the midst of an economic recession while the country continues to face threats abroad."

Now Obama also finds himself needing to fill two vacancies — at Commerce and at the Health and Human Services Department. Former Sen. Democratic leader Tom Daschle withdrew his nomination for that post amid a tax controversy. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner was confirmed despite revelations that he had not paid some of his taxes on time.

Third Cabinet nominee withdraws

WASHINGTON — Saying "I made a mistake," Republican Sen. Judd Gregg of New Hampshire abruptly withdrew as commerce secretary nominee on Thursday and left the field for a long-shot bid to win the Obama presidency. Gregg was confirmed despite revisions in his tax return that he had not paid some of his taxes on time.
It happens to us all — you walk to the refrigerator, open the door, turn around, realize you forgot what you were looking for, and then, unable to remember why you went to the kitchen in the first place.

You may call it a brain cramp, but in psychological terms, it's a 'failure of active maintenance' — a situation where your brain's essential working memory capacity measure that we talk about a lot could be a key to decoding Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, or ADHD, according to Brad Gibson, a Notre Dame associate professor of psychology whose research looks at the link between memory and the disorder in adolescents.

In recent years Gibson and colleagues have focused their studies on what's called "working memory" — the kind that allows us to remember things like phone numbers or a story someone has told us — and found a direct correlation between ADHD and a weakness in that function. The researchers started working on therapies to enhance working memory.

"We're the first ones who think that people who thought we were unique in ADHD," Gibson explains. "The teacher tells kids to do something and they can't maintain the instructions that they've given and then they end up not being able to execute the instructions and they get distracted. A lot of what's the externalized behavior, the distraction, was thought to arise from a problem with working memory."

But now the team is starting to reconsider that theory and instead look at the "retrieval component" of memory — that "Why did I go to the refrigerator?" or "What was I trying to say?" function that is familiar to so many of us.

"Retrieval component has been relatively ignored in the research," Gibson says, "it's only recently that it's becoming clear that this is something that isn't included in working memory capacity measure that we talk about a lot."

Working with middle school students from downtown, and nearby Penn-Harris-Madison school district, the researchers have been able to demonstrably strengthen the retrieval function, actually making participants by administering an intervention that consists of a series of memory games played on a computer.

"We have this working memory intervention that is doing something," Gibson explains. "They have better scores after it than before it, but we haven't really understood why it was working and we thought it was improving active maintenance.

With a new focus on the retrieval component, Gibson and his colleagues are starting to consider some new theories.

"What we're finding is that kids with ADHD tend to retrieve more irrelevant information; so they're coming up with things, but they're not really relevant; they're not the items from the list," he says. "Right now the challenge is to come up with measures that can give us an accurate assessment of these weaknesses.

A new study is starting this semester, and Gibson hopes that this fresh approach will open some promising doors.

"This is an advance in the way that we're thinking and it has implications for treatment because it still could be that the intervention that we're using actually improves the retrieval component, which would be directly addressing the weakness," he says. "It allows us to potentially fine-tune the intervention by having a better idea of what the problem is in the first place."

The stories of Obama and Lincoln have become intertwined by history, geography, and symbolism. Their paths are viewed as not just as a parallel, but the country's as well — a lineage from the man who freed the slaves to the first black president in U.S. history.

"The president and Lincoln understood that self-reliance was at the core of American life. But Obama said individual liberty is "served, not negated, by a recognition of the common good."

"Such knee-jerk disdain for government — this constant rejection of any common endeavor — cannot rebuild our levees or our roads or our bridges," Obama said. His list of collaborative examples went on: better schools, modern healthcare, an economy built on clean energy.

"Only a nation can do these things," Obama said. "Only by coming together, all of us, can we harness the energy of that sense of shared sacrifice and responsibility..."

In gift-giving, this is the year that must be done in this country. This is the very definition of being American."

Earlier Thursday, back in Washington, Obama celebrated Lincoln's resolution of a ceremony in the state of Rutland of the U.S. Capitol. And he spent Wednesday evening at a performance at the newly renovated Ford's Theatre, where Lincoln was assassinated in 1865.

Like Lincoln, Obama is a skinny lawyer who rose from obscurity and served two terms as a state senator before being named to national office at a time of burgeoning crisis.
Associated Press

MANAS, Kyrgyzstan — Aircraft took off throughout the day and workers built a new fire station near the temporary base Thursday despite Kyrgyzstan’s plans to shut down the U.S. air base crucial to the war in Afghanistan.

The Manas air base works around the clock as the main air transportation hub for combat troops entering and leaving Afghanistan, acting as a transit point for hundreds of troops and 500 tons of cargo moving in and out of the region each month. It is also a key link for medical evacuations from Afghanistan, which has seen rising violence and allied casualties.

Within a few minutes Thursday morning, a KC-135 Stratotanker headed for Afghanistan loaded with 300 tons of fuel and 500 tons of cargo moving through the base.

Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev shocked Washington last week by announcing the closure of the Manas air base. Losing access to the facility could test President Barack Obama’s plan to withdraw of U.S. forces to fight surging Taliban in and around the region as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

Associated Press

WINDS cause destruction across country

Friday, February 13, 2009

Wild winds with gusts topping 65 mph blew from the west across the country, resulting in electrical outages and road and bridge damage. Winds caused destruction across Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky.

The high winds, attributed to the powerful cyclone, were felt across several states, including Virginia. Winds were recorded at 65 mph at the National Weather Service in Manassas, Virginia. Winds were also reported in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky.

“Such winds, with an outstretched hand,” said New York Rabbi Arthur Schneier, a Holocaust survivor, after the audience in the slaughtered area.

Wild winds also damaged buildings and homes in many areas, including West Virginia and Virginia. Networks such as NBC and ABC were reporting wind damage and road closures.

Associated Press

Protests by Jews, the pope’s own bishops in Germany and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, the Vatican’s lead in the war in Afghanistan.

But the decision on the base, which was put off until March, remains in the spotlight as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

About 75 percent of U.S. supplies to Afghanistan travel through Pakistan but increasing militant attacks on depots and trucks threaten the route. That has raised doubts about the security of the Manas base.

But a final decision on the base, which has been put off until March, remains in the spotlight as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

About 75 percent of U.S. supplies to Afghanistan travel through Pakistan but increasing militant attacks on depots and trucks threaten the route. That has raised doubts about the security of the Manas base.

But a final decision on the base, which has been put off until March, remains in the spotlight as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

About 75 percent of U.S. supplies to Afghanistan travel through Pakistan but increasing militant attacks on depots and trucks threaten the route. That has raised doubts about the security of the Manas base.

But a final decision on the base, which has been put off until March, remains in the spotlight as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

About 75 percent of U.S. supplies to Afghanistan travel through Pakistan but increasing militant attacks on depots and trucks threaten the route. That has raised doubts about the security of the Manas base.

But a final decision on the base, which has been put off until March, remains in the spotlight as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

About 75 percent of U.S. supplies to Afghanistan travel through Pakistan but increasing militant attacks on depots and trucks threaten the route. That has raised doubts about the security of the Manas base.

But a final decision on the base, which has been put off until March, remains in the spotlight as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

About 75 percent of U.S. supplies to Afghanistan travel through Pakistan but increasing militant attacks on depots and trucks threaten the route. That has raised doubts about the security of the Manas base.

But a final decision on the base, which has been put off until March, remains in the spotlight as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

About 75 percent of U.S. supplies to Afghanistan travel through Pakistan but increasing militant attacks on depots and trucks threaten the route. That has raised doubts about the security of the Manas base.

But a final decision on the base, which has been put off until March, remains in the spotlight as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

About 75 percent of U.S. supplies to Afghanistan travel through Pakistan but increasing militant attacks on depots and trucks threaten the route. That has raised doubts about the security of the Manas base.

But a final decision on the base, which has been put off until March, remains in the spotlight as the main combatant in the war in Afghanistan.

About 75 percent of U.S. supplies to Afghanistan travel through Pakistan but increasing militant attacks on depots and trucks threaten the route. That has raised doubts about the security of the Manas base.
Student government wish list

Saint Mary’s student body president and vice president elections are taking place at the College on Monday. For the second year in a row, the race is uncontestable as two of the announced candidates, juniors Mallory Price and Kaiz Lewis, dropped out of the race early Thursday morning.

Barring a majority of Saint Mary’s students voting for the abstain ticket, junior Penny Hoffman and sophomore Meg Griffin will become the next president and vice president, respectively. We hope and are confident that the women will not allow their uncontested ticket to result in complacency, but the following are some important issues in the upcoming term.

- Transparency — One of the biggest problems Saint Mary’s students have had with student government in the past few years is that the students don’t know what is going on. This became an issue when eight students took a large stipend from student funds two years ago. The stipend, essentially, is payment for serving in student government. This year’s Board of Governance (BOG) Executive Board tried to do the same. This caused an uproar when students heard what BOG was trying to do. One of the reasons this stipend issued such a passionate response from the students is that they felt BOG was underhanded and deceptive in trying to pass the stipend. With a bit of prodding, this year’s BOG has done a better job letting students know what they are doing, especially with funds, a practice which next year’s leaders should continue. But they could take it one step further by keeping lines of communication open between students and BOG.

- Resolution week in a timely fashion — It took BOG four weeks to approve the Student Government Association budget this school year because of opposition to the Executive Board stipend issue. Resolution week is strongly about the student voice, which was established the budget as the Executive Board balked at removing the stipend and those opposed to the stipend refused to approve the budget. Without an approved budget, funds were frozen and clubs and organizations received their allotments late, forcing them to find outside funding if any of their activities occurred before they received it. Student government needs to find a way to shorten the time it takes to resolve issues such as this, so as to not punish students by withholding or forcing groups to cancel activities.

- Representing the students — While student body president and vice president are lofty titles, the key words of both of them is “student body.” The students fulfilling these jobs are voted into office by the students and should be serving these students. Opening lines of communication between what women at the College want to see and what Student Government does will help BOG better serve the student body.

They should pay attention to what students are saying to them and they should speak for the student body. When students on campus were concerned about slow campus security response involving a trespasser near one of the residence halls, BOG missed a perfect opportunity to act on behalf of the students. When something happens on campus that people are concerned about, BOG should be the first to step up and offer ways to resolve the issue by facilitating discussions between administrators and students.

- Respect — Respect is crucial to accomplishing anything as a student government, whether it be on the part of the students or those serving the students. Many members of this year’s BOG have side conversations or roll their eyes while other commissioners or students raise concerns. The level of respect towards each other, and in any interactions with students, needs to be increased.

Although these suggestions may seem simple, their implementation will help Hoffman and Griffin be critcal in improving the relationships between the Saint Mary’s student body, and the representatives they elect.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The evils of the admin

It is unfortunate that Mr. Griffin’s recent letter “Tradition never graduates,” Feb. 9, concerning the disappearance of some of the most beloved traditions at Notre Dame is no hyperbole, but the daunting reality that can and should, be traced back to the current administration.

The “iron fist” has done more than cancel events enjoyed by Alumni, visitors and students. It has put a damper on campus life during weekends. No, if this were all that the abdication of this Fun Fact would entail, we would probably reevaluate it while I am focusing my attention. These unforeseen consequences, however, have actually thwarted the educational development of Notre Dame students. The banning of social, athletic, sporting and other events reduces students’ opportunities for networking and enhancing interpersonal skills.

I recently spoke with a trusted professor about this issue, who, to my surprise, shared interesting tidbits about the students in his seminar. He referenced a recent study that concluded that the number of Notre Dame students who have performed well in field interviews has decreased significantly since the late 1990s. Clearly, we aren’t getting enough practice in the art of persuasion. Consequently, fine skills for which students deliberately strive are being left frozen and clubs and organizations received their allotments late, forcing them to find outside funding if any of their activities occurred before they received it. Student government needs to find a way to shorten the time it takes to resolve issues such as this, so as to not punish students by withholding or forcing groups to cancel activities.

- Representing the students — While student body president and vice president are lofty titles, the key words of both of them is “student body.” The students fulfilling these jobs are voted into office by the students and should be serving these students. Opening lines of communication between what women at the College want to see and what Student Government does will help BOG better serve the student body.

They should pay attention to what students are saying to them and they should speak for the student body. When students on campus were concerned about slow campus security response involving a trespasser near one of the residence halls, BOG missed a perfect opportunity to act on behalf of the students. When something happens on campus that people are concerned about, BOG should be the first to step up and offer ways to resolve the issue by facilitating discussions between administrators and students.

- Respect — Respect is crucial to accomplishing anything as a student government, whether it be on the part of the students or those serving the students. Many members of this year’s BOG have side conversations or roll their eyes while other commissioners or students raise concerns. The level of respect towards each other, and in any interactions with students, needs to be increased.

Although these suggestions may seem simple, their implementation will help Hoffman and Griffin be critcal in improving the relationships between the Saint Mary’s student body, and the representatives they elect.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The evils of the admin

It is unfortunate that Mr. Griffin’s recent letter “Tradition never graduates,” Feb. 9, concerning the disappearance of some of the most beloved traditions at Notre Dame is no hyperbole, but the daunting reality that can and should, be traced back to the current administration.

The “iron fist” has done more than cancel events enjoyed by Alumni, visitors and students. It has put a damper on campus life during weekends. No, if this were all that the abdication of this Fun Fact would entail, we would probably reevaluate it while I am focusing my attention. These unforeseen consequences, however, have actually thwarted the educational development of Notre Dame students. The banning of social, athletic, sporting and other events reduces students’ opportunities for networking and enhancing interpersonal skills.

I recently spoke with a trusted professor about this issue, who, to my surprise, shared interesting tidbits about the students in his seminar. He referenced a recent study that concluded that the number of Notre Dame students who have performed well in field interviews has decreased significantly since the late 1990s. Clearly, we aren’t getting enough practice in the art of persuasion. Consequently, fine skills for which students deliberately strive are being left frozen and clubs and organizations received their allotments late, forcing them to find outside funding if any of their activities occurred before they received it. Student government needs to find a way to shorten the time it takes to resolve issues such as this, so as to not punish students by withholding or forcing groups to cancel activities.

- Representing the students — While student body president and vice president are lofty titles, the key words of both of them is “student body.” The students fulfilling these jobs are voted into office by the students and should be serving these students. Opening lines of communication between what women at the College want to see and what Student Government does will help BOG better serve the student body.

They should pay attention to what students are saying to them and they should speak for the student body. When students on campus were concerned about slow campus security response involving a trespasser near one of the residence halls, BOG missed a perfect opportunity to act on behalf of the students. When something happens on campus that people are concerned about, BOG should be the first to step up and offer ways to resolve the issue by facilitating discussions between administrators and students.

- Respect — Respect is crucial to accomplishing anything as a student government, whether it be on the part of the students or those serving the students. Many members of this year’s BOG have side conversations or roll their eyes while other commissioners or students raise concerns. The level of respect towards each other, and in any interactions with students, needs to be increased.

Although these suggestions may seem simple, their implementation will help Hoffman and Griffin be critcal in improving the relationships between the Saint Mary’s student body, and the representatives they elect.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The evils of the admin

It is unfortunate that Mr. Griffin’s recent letter “Tradition never graduates,” Feb. 9, concerning the disappearance of some of the most beloved traditions at Notre Dame is no hyperbole, but the daunting reality that can and should, be traced back to the current administration.

The “iron fist” has done more than cancel events enjoyed by Alumni, visitors and students. It has put a damper on campus life during weekends. No, if this were all that the abdication of this Fun Fact would entail, we would probably reevaluate it while I am focusing my attention. These unforeseen consequences, however, have actually thwarted the educational development of Notre Dame students. The banning of social, athletic, sporting and other events reduces students’ opportunities for networking and enhancing interpersonal skills.

I recently spoke with a trusted professor about this issue, who, to my surprise, shared interesting tidbits about the students in his seminar. He referenced a recent study that concluded that the number of Notre Dame students who have performed well in field interviews has decreased significantly since the late 1990s. Clearly, we aren’t getting enough practice in the art of persuasion. Consequently, fine skills for which students deliberately strive are being left frozen and clubs and organizations received their allotments late, forcing them to find outside funding if any of their activities occurred before they received it. Student government needs to find a way to shorten the time it takes to resolve issues such as this, so as to not punish students by withholding or forcing groups to cancel activities.

- Representing the students — While student body president and vice president are lofty titles, the key words of both of them is “student body.” The students fulfilling these jobs are voted into office by the students and should be serving these students. Opening lines of communication between what women at the College want to see and what Student Government does will help BOG better serve the student body.

They should pay attention to what students are saying to them and they should speak for the student body. When students on campus were concerned about slow campus security response involving a trespasser near one of the residence halls, BOG missed a perfect opportunity to act on behalf of the students. When something happens on campus that people are concerned about, BOG should be the first to step up and offer ways to resolve the issue by facilitating discussions between administrators and students.

- Respect — Respect is crucial to accomplishing anything as a student government, whether it be on the part of the students or those serving the students. Many members of this year’s BOG have side conversations or roll their eyes while other commissioners or students raise concerns. The level of respect towards each other, and in any interactions with students, needs to be increased.

Although these suggestions may seem simple, their implementation will help Hoffman and Griffin be critcal in improving the relationships between the Saint Mary’s student body, and the representatives they elect.
Five dollar footlongs

As a frequent customer of the Subway restaurant located in the LaFortune Student Center, I have been extensively bombarded by the now infamous “five-dollar footlongs” deal along with the rest of you, the student body. Widely publicized by firemen, construction workers and various other hard working blue-collar Americans in Subway’s long-running TV ad series, the decks were even stacked in favor of promotion to acquire a permanent installation in the Subway arsenal. However, our Subway in LaFortune finds it unnecessary to offer such a deal, and rightfully so. The LaRunn Subway has been ranked as one of third nationally in sales and consistently tops the regional sales. While I know we all deserve to treat ourselves every right to run a highly profitable business, and I congratulate them on doing so, I am opposed to the exploitation of students and therefore propose a student body boycott of the LaFortune Subway.

After contacting Subway on the matter, a representative informed me that it would be a bad business decision if he were to implement the deal. Further questioning was made by me as to why such a thing may occur, and was given the reply of price of textbooks in the current day, but not the same as respecting women. You are allowed to stand on altars as priests, it makes the per­

Sidewalks not enough

In response to Steve DeLaurien’s Letter to the Editor regarding the unfortu­

Where are the gyros?

Dear Food Services:

These gyros are aptly named — what happened to all the gyros? They were my favorite item served in the dining hall and I’m sure they’re favorites of many other students. I ask because last semester, they were listed one day on the menu, but did not actually show up in the lines. Ever since, they have not appeared in the cafeterias to delight ever since, they have not appeared in the cafeterias to delight many hungry students. Is the situation something like the sliced apples? Is there a shortage? Have they been taken hostage by the flying spaghetti monster who is envying their juicy texture and cool tzatziki sauce taste? Please, Food Services, let my gyros go!

Daniel Quinn

Women in the priesthood

In response to Steve DeLaurien’s Letter to the Editor regarding the unfortu­

South Bend thinking about my lack of a Notre Dame relationship? It can’t be because I am looking in the wrong places or basing everything I know about relationships on episodes of “The O.C.” It is because I look really young! No, that didn’t hurt William Miller in “Almost Famous.” I think the reason I can’t find true love at Club Fever has to be because of single-sex dorms and the nonexistent Nationality Night. I mean, every problem at Notre Dame can be blamed on one of five things: 1) Football Losses, 2) Sweatpants, 3) Cold Weather, 4) Bill Kirk, and 5) Single-Sex Dorms. I can’t exactly blame Mr. Kirk on my lack of a girlfriend now.

On the bright side, I have some awesome bromances that would make Brody Jenner envious, a support group of girls with similar sounding names, and a bunch of couples I look to in inspiration. I just hope that one day I can turn to them all and say, “Sorry, guys, I gotta see about a girl.”

Until then, I’ll just dance... and start apologizing to all the couples I poked fun at above.

Bob Kessler is a senior majoring in political science and economics. You can reach him at rkessler@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
LIKE IT, LOVE IT, I WANT SOME MORE OF IT

STAFF WRITING TEAM

JESS SHAFER Assistant Scene Editor

Valentine's Day used to all its pink and red glory is supposed to embody romance. But cheesy love ballads can be treacherous icebergs for your heart that you will begin to doubt the misnomer that women are complicated.

Someone To Watch Over Me- Amy Winehouse

Despite her questionable style choices, Winehouse has an undeniable music talent, with a modern edge and jazzy, evocative style. Her cover of this classic longing-for-love song is sensitive and moving. This song is so effective on the female significant other that you know how to treat them right.

Bella Luna- Jason Mraz

This Canadian artist will make you feel like you're in the city of love. You don't have to understand French to appreciate the sheer romance of this tune. And who doesn't love Canada? This love song proves that it is a small world after all, giving Valentine's Day an international flair.

Of course you want ideas for the rest of the year, here are a couple ways to spruce up a less than perfect situation. But you can pull off dessert pretty quickly and they'll feel a bit more pampered. Below is a selection of some of the more secluded areas so that you can be with your special someone. Try the smaller tables in South or the room location. Now, you've already committed yourself to either Valentine's Day edition of the Dining Hall Dish.

MILCH FORDICE Assistant Scene Editor

What is my fiancé going to be doing for Valentine's Day? Going to an auto show. So since that isn't my cup of tea and I now have plenty of free time on my hands this weekend, I thought I'd put together a list for the reader to use on an extra special Valentine's Day edition of the Dining Hall Dish.

Now, a trip to the dining hall will never be the most romantic option. Above all, the best advice that can be given is not to even go there, but if you are stuck, short on funds, or just want ideas for the rest of the year, here are a couple ways to spruce up a less than perfect situation.

Brownie Sundae

This is nothing more than a twist on the classic. A warm brownie melting your cold ice cream? What could be better?

1. Pick up your favorite type of brownie, whether nut filled or M&M topped.
2. Heat the brownie in the microwave.
3. Top with your favorite ice cream - traditional vanilla and mint are good options.
4. Top with whipped cream, hot fudge, nuts (if you like them) and of course a cherry!

Ice Cream Cookie Surprise your date by taking the cookie to new heights.

1. Fill the two cookies with your ice cream mixture and take your dessert to new heights.
2. Surprize your date with flowers on the table (can't afford even a carnation? Google yourself some origami flower instructions and steal some paper from the printers). Pull out his or her chair. Get creative.

3. Finally, make your date dessert! If you're really proactive, you can try serving them an entire meal (search the archives of www.ndsmcobserver.com for past Dining Hall Dish recipes), but that could take a lot of running around, plus they would have to sit alone for awhile. But you can pull off dessert pretty quickly and they'll feel a bit more pampered. Below is a selection of some our best dessert recipes.

Brownie Sundae

1. Fill a bowl with a good scoop of your favorite ice cream.
2. Top with whipped cream, hot fudge, nuts (if you like them) and of course a cherry!

Ice Cream Cookie

Surprise your date by taking the cookie to new heights. Again, make sure you know what his or her favorite cookie is.

1. Pick two of your favorite cookies from the dessert bar.
2. Fill a bowl with a good scoop of your favorite ice cream.
3. Top with whipped cream, hot fudge, nuts (if you like them) and of course a cherry!

Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu.
Hate is a Strong word, but I really don't like your Valentine's Day.

SYZMON RZYNER
Scene Writer:
Romantic comedies, the prime genre of Valentine's Day. Some movies need to watch them, trapped in their own cleverness, their witty banter and picturesque love stories. The rest will be sitting alone, eating ice cream, huddled in Snuggles, crying themselves to sleep. Instead why not watch films that are relatively unwatchable in romantic settings? It could do wonders for helping to avoid thinking about the crippled self-worth that goes hand in hand with this holiday.

Passion of the Christ
With Lent quickly approaching, what better film to enjoy on Valentine's Day than Mel Gibson's vision of Jesus' last hours? With the dialogue solely in subtitles and numerous scenes filled with brutal beatings, it will be impossible to think of romantic abandonment while relishing Good Friday, one of the more incorrect names given to religious holidays.

Requiem for a Dream
A brilliant film on the topic of drug abuse and the consequences it brings. With a climax that is guaranteed to leave you shocked and ever-so-slightly disturbed, feeling lonely will be out of the question, as will doing anything else.

Terminator 2: Judgment Day
One of the more memorable action films from the 80's, Terminator 2 tells the touching love story of a boy and his robot. Fantastic action sequences, Arnold at his prime, and an evil, shape shifting, liquid metal adversary sent from the future to destroy John Connor. A John Connor who will be played by the recently critically acclaimed Christian Bale in the upcoming Terminator film. Also very important to note, no girlfriend would ever watch this film.

Silence of the Lambs
There is a subtle tension between Clarice and the insane Hannibal "The Cannibal" Lecter, but nothing to emulate. The easy dance of Ted Levine's serial-killer Buffalo Bill may spark a pang of longing, a real treat for those looking for romance.

An Inconvenient Truth
What better thing to enjoy during the day of St. Valentine, the patron of love and relationships, than a filmed lecture on the topic of climate change. Al Gore's strong baritone warns of the impending doom that will be caused by humankind's lack of respect for mother earth. It's an educational experience that helped to solidify the "green" movement's place in the mainstream and won Gore a Nobel prize due to his super-serious approach.

Pan's Labyrinth
Perhaps the worst of possible date nights? Pan's Labyrinth may spark a pang of longing, a real treat for those looking for romance.

An Unconvenient Truth
What better thing to enjoy during the day of St. Valentine, the patron of love and relationships, than a filmed lecture on the topic of climate change. Al Gore's strong baritone warns of the impending doom that will be caused by humankind's lack of respect for mother earth. It's an educational experience that helped to solidify the "green" movement's place in the mainstream and won Gore a Nobel prize due to his super-serious approach.

Pan's Labyrinth
Perhaps the worst of possible date movies, based on the experiences of certain Scene writers, should be watched, but not around anyone in whom there lies romantic interest. A visually stunning story of post-Spanish Civil War Spain, shows the experiences of a young girl and her family. Strange mythological creatures, and unnecessarily graphic torture and beatings will allow the viewer to realize there's worse things than loneliness.

Contact Szymon Rzynier at sryznyer@nd.edu.

STEPHANIE DEPREZ
Assistant Scene Editor

Valentine's Day is upon us, and with it dutifully comes Singles Awareness Day, a day dedicated to the broken-up, lonely or decidedly single. But this is no day for bemoaning singularity, because beneath the façade of solitude comes a never-ending stream of music to perfect the mood. For every love song there are about 15 anti-love songs. And on Valentine's Day, we singles celebrate them all.

Here are a few songs to make you get up and sing, celebrating the freedom of being out of a relationship. Whether you instigated the break up or were left speechless when it happened, there are millions of tunes ready to pick up where your significant other left off. At the top of this list is, of course, "Since U Been Gone" by Kelly Clarkson. Nothing really beats opening your windows and blasting it, singing along at the top of your lungs. Male or female, this song is the ultimate catharsis. "Thanks to you, now I get what I want!" By the way, for all of you fans of post-break-up pop-stars, who can resist Pink's hit "So What?" "So what? I'm still a rock star! I got my rock moves and I don't need you!"

Three Days Grace really captured the feeling of a falling relationship with "I Hate Everything About You." Linkin Park has the market cornered on angry anti-relationship riffs with songs like "In the End" and "Numb." The queen-bee of angry chick rock, Alanis Morissette, established the biting break up song with "You Oughta Know." "I'm here to remind you of the mess you left when you went away." Rounding this section out is the staple from Destiny's Child, "Survivor." "Now I got you out of my life, I'm so much better. You thought that I'd be weaker without you, but I'm stronger."

Then of course come the songs about thriving in the single light. The most recent hit here would have to be "Single Ladies (Put a Ring on It)" by Beyonce. Good Charlotte provides an anti-love song at the ready with "I Don't Wanna Be In Love." Another rock-out song is "It's My Life" by the Charlie-approved Bon Jovi. You can kick it old style with Fleetwood Mac's "Go Your Own Way.

The true oldies-but-goodies include "I Will Survive" by Gloria Gaynor and "Respect" by Aretha Franklin. Honorable mention must also go to Cher's "Strong Enough" and "Song For the Lonely." Nothing quite beats jumping around and singing along to "Owner of a Lonely Heart" by Yes. "Owner of a lonely heart, much better than an owner of a broken heart." No matter who you are or where you are, these songs contain the essence of what it means to be single and proud of it.

Valentine's Day doesn't have to be a day for looking around at all the love in the world you don't have, but a day to remember the inner strength that comes from forging your own path, and looking at the world fearlessly. Being single is as old as humanity, and as long as we've been around people have been singing about it. But there's really only one song that captures the true meaning of Valentine's Day: "Song for the Dumped" by Ben Folds.

Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeperez@nd.edu.
The Observer ♦ CLASSIFIEDS

Friday, February 13, 2009

NHL

Heat leads Senators to third straight win

Red Wings defeat Wild despite depleted lineup; Lightning hold on to early lead for win over Maple Leafs at home

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Nome Daily Voice, 2019 North Disney Hall. Deadline for next day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without inquiring. If you or someone you know is in danger, please contact the local police department or the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK.
### NCAA Men's Baseball

**USA Today Preseason Poll**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stanford (1)</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas A&amp;M (2)</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford (1)</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona State</td>
<td>533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSU (Florida)</td>
<td>587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida State</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ole Miss</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Tech</td>
<td>327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma State</td>
<td>321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL (Florida)</td>
<td>310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisville</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami (FL)</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma State</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSU (14)</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Irvine</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citadel</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepperdine</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notre Dame (1)</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon State</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornell</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notre Dame (4)</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami (FL)</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis State</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Irvine</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida State</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois State</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida State</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCLA</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepperdine</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Cal State Fullerton | 169 |}

### MLB

**Associated Press**

**TAMPA, Fla. — Unable to punish Alex Rodriguez for flunking a drug test that was supposed to be anonymous, Selig could only chastise him.**

"What Alex did was wrong and he will have to live with the damage he has done to his name and reputation," the commissioner said Thursday, three days after the Yankees star admitted using banned substances from 2001-2003 while playing for the Texas Rangers.

"While Alex deserves credit for publicly confronting the issue, there is no valid excuse for using such substances, and those who use them have shamed the game," Selig said. Rodriguez's admission followed a Sports Illustrated report that he was on a list of 104 players who tested posi­tive for steroids in 2003, when testing was intended only to determine the extent of steroid use in baseball.

The results were sealed by the government in 2004 and remain under seal. Because it was an anony­mous test and because Rodriguez's confession involved years before the drug agreement took effect, there is little Selig can do in terms of punishment.

Players and owners didn't agree to a joint drug program until August 2002, and testing with punishment didn't start until 2004.

"It is important to remem­ber that these recent revela­tions relate to pre-program activity," Selig said. "Under our current drug program, if you are caught using steroids and/or amphetamines, you will be punished. Since 2005, every player who has tested positive for steroids has been suspended for as much as 60 games."

Yankees manager Joe Girardi, speaking after his first staff meeting of spring training, said he wasn't sure whether he wanted Rodriguez to address the team. Position players are due to report Tuesday and start workouts the following day.

"If it's in his heart, yes, I would, but if it's not, that's OK too," he said.

Girardi said Rodriguez, baseball's highest-paid player, "has a chance to have a major platform" in speaking out against drugs. Rep. Elijah Cummings, a Maryland Democrat, wrote a letter to Rodriguez inviting him to dis­cuss steroids at an anti-drug event. Cummings said Baltimore's Brian Roberts spoke to the group last year.

Rodriguez's admission has overshadowed all the other big events of the offseason, the signings of CC Sabathia, A.J. Burnett and Mark Teixeira at a cost of $423.5 million, and former manager Joe Torre's new book.

### In Brief

**Agent Rosenhaus shopping WR Burress to NFL teams**

NEWKARK, N.J. — Plaxico Burress seemingly wants to leave the New York Giants.

Drew Rosenhaus, the agent for the troubled receiver, sent an e-mail to the NFL's teams earlier this week letting them know that Burress was one of his three clients who wants to be traded, an NFL executive told The Associated Press on Thursday.

The person requested anonymity because the e-mail was supposed to remain private.

The Star-Ledger of Newark was the first to have the story, reporting that Rosenhaus' initial e-mail to the teams said that Burress could be acquired through a trade.

However, the NFL executive who asked not to be identified because he had to deal with Rosenhaus, said the initial e-mail said that the agent had three "players desiring a trade."

League slaps Brown with $25k fine for outburst

CLEVELAND, Ohio — Mike Brown went to the All-Star game with less spending money.

Cleveland's coach was fined $25,000 by the NBA on Thursday for publicly crit­icizing refree Joey Crawford following the Cavaliers' last-second loss at Indiana earlier this week.

Although league disciplinarian Stu Jackson said in a release that Brown had been fined for comments made about "the officials," Brown's postgame stride was directed at Crawford, who whistled LeBron James for a foul on Pacer­es forward Danny Granger in the final second. Crawford left James made contact with Granger, who sank one free throw to give Indiana a 96-95 win.

Brown claimed Crawford made a pre­determined — or makeup — call against James, who had been involved in a simi­lar play moments earlier when Granger was whistled for a foul while trying to defend an alley-oop pass intended for James.

Tittans' Haynesworth given probation for speeding

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Titans All Pro defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth is being blamed for causing an accident that left a Tennessee man needing hip replacement and has a district attor­ney reviewing the Dec. 13 incident for a possible probation violation.

Haynesworth is due to become the NFL's highest-paid defensive player.

In December, he agreed to 30 days' probation to divert a ticket for driving 103 mph in a 70-mph zone in March only four days before being cited for careless driving on Interstate 65 south of Nashville. He allegedly was speeding in his 2008 black Ferrari and trying to pass Corey Edmundson of Nashville, who lost control and crashed into the concrete median.

Haynesworth was cited for careless driving and having an expired registra­tion in the incident, charges dismissed in Brentwood City Court on Thursday.

### NCAA Swimming

**USCHO.com/CBS Rankings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Notre Dame</td>
<td>808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Penn State</td>
<td>749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Ohio State</td>
<td>576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 California</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Princeton</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Pennsylvania Northwestern</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Harvard</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Stanford</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 St. Johns</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Duke</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Around the Dial

College Basketball
No. 13 Villanova at West Virginia 9:00 p.m., ESPN

NHL
Chicago at St. Louis 7:30 p.m., CSN
Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Jeff Gordon and Kyle Busch both celebrated in Victory Lane, far away from the real winners of the Daytona 500 qualifying races. Jeremy Mayfield choked back emotion. AJ Allmendinger hid his tears behind sunglasses. Scott Riggs felt as if he’d just won NASCAR’s biggest race.

Allmendinger, Mayfield, Riggs and Regan Smith earned spots in the season-opening race in Thursday’s Gatorade Duels. "It feels absolutely awesome. It’s like we just won the race," said Riggs, who finished eighth in the first qualifier.

Smith was a casualty of the last couple days “caused I’ve been in this position the last two years," Allmendinger said. "But I really felt like this year I deserved to be in the race."

Mayfield has felt the same way. His career by winning the first duel.

"Man, 23 days ago we didn’t even have a race team," Mayfield said after finishing ninth in the second qualifier. "It’s a very unbelievable feeling. To know where we were at then, how much hard work has been done in such a short amount of time is just unbelievable. To come here and do this, it’s like winning 10 races.

The 39-year-old journeyman is throwing everything into this effort. After racing just 23 times over the past two years, and failing to draw much interest when rides became available, starting his own team became the last option in continuing his career.

"If ever want to retire as a driver, I want to retire on my own, not be pushed to the wayside," Mayfield said. "That’s what kept me motivated to do this.

Riggs could relate after a fruitless offseason job search had him still scouring for work last month.

He was finally swayed by Tommy Baldwin, who was crew chief and competition director at Bill Davis Racing before the sponsor-strapped team folded in late December. Baldwin was putting together a startup race team, and lured Riggs to the driver seat.

"It came down to a point that I had to make a decision — am I going to sit at home and stay on the phone and call people and hope that something opens up to give me an opportunity to get in the car?" Riggs said “Or am I going to go down to Daytona and start the season off with somebody like Tommy?

What really made the decision for me was when I talked to Tommy and just heard the passion in his voice. Man, I am just elated.”

So was Gordon, who ended the longest winless drought of his career by winning the first duel.

The four-time Cup champion, coming off his first winless season since his 1993 rookie year, climbed from his car in Victory Lane and immediately reached for his father. Ella was just an infant during his last victory celebration, in October 2007.

"I’ve been fortunate enough to visit Victory Lane quite a few times, but not many times as a father," Gordon said. "There’s nothing more special than that.”

The non-points Gatorade Duels doesn’t officially count for anything in Gordon’s victory total, but gave him a second-row starting spot in Sunday’s race.
**ND Women’s Tennis**

**Irish look to win golden racket**

Women will compete in ITA Championship

By DOUG FARMER

This weekend Notre Dame will join 14 other teams in Madison at the ITA Indoor National Championships, all with hopes of winning the golden racket. The No. 14 Irish encounter the No. 5 Stanford Cardinal to start things off today.

The Irish have been in Madison since Wednesday so they could practice on the championship courts before the matches begin. While admittedly anxious upon arrival to the team hotel, a chance to hit around on the courts should calm the team’s nerves greatly, and with no time to spare.

Stanford and a bit of tennis history await the Irish on Friday. Stanford has won 15 national championships since 1982, including three straight from 2004 to 2006.

"Stanford has been down a little bit for the last few years," senior Kelcy Tefft said. "But they are always really, really good."

Stanford will be the first top-10 team Notre Dame faces this season, and thus, the team knows the match will be quite a change from the season so far — a season marked by dominance and rising in the rankings.

"It's going to be a really long match, really draining, but hopefully, we will take two or three of those first three double matches," Tefft said. "I think that would really help us out."

Worry not, this Irish team will not serve softly just because they are facing a formidable foe.

"I think we are a lot better than our No. 14 ranking," Tefft said. "So coming into this weekend I think our whole team wants to prove that."

And if the Irish do prove it on Friday, they will face the winner of the No. 11 North Carolina, No. 4 Baylor match. But this is the type of road every one of the 16 teams in Madison must take to play on Monday, the fourth and final day of the tournament. A good chunk of the Notre Dame team already knows this.

"Our sophomore year we got to the finals, so all of the junior seniors and juniors know what it is like to be there," Tefft pointed out. "That experience will help us a lot."

That experience, along with the No. 1 doubles pairing of Tefft and freshman Kristy Frilling, lead the Irish to Madison with high expectations and hopes.

"While younger, I think this is the most talented team I have played on so far," Tefft said. "We are very hopeful and optimistic. We just have to go out there and prove it."

On Friday, Notre Dame begins what could be a four-week trek to a national championship.

"We could definitely do it," Tefft said.

Contact Doug Farmer at dfarmerl@nd.edu

---

**SMC Basketball**

**Improved Belles face young Britons**

By ALEX WEST

On January 14 Saint Mary's (14-8) lost its first conference game of the year to Albion (11-10) 77-72. On Saturday, the Belles will look for revenge.

"They did a great job of getting to the free throw line against us last time," Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. "We just didn’t play well defensively for 46 minutes."

The Belles are riding the momentum of a three-game winning streak, and have won six of their last seven games since falling to Albion.

Senior Erin Newsom and freshmen Patsy Mahoney led the Belles with 22 points each in a 77-71 win over Adrian. Newsom also pulled down 11 rebounds to have her sixth double-double of the season thus far.

"Patsy and Erin both did a good job for us on the offensive end," Henley said. "Newsom and Mahoney both caught the ball and hit the open shots."

Allison on the other hand is trying to bounce back after a tough, two-week stretch. The Britons lost four in a row before a victory over winless Kalamazoo College Friday night. Since their last meeting with the Belles, the Britons are just 3-4.

Regardless of Albion's recent play, Henley is sure her team won't be overlooking the Britons.

"Albion is a good young team that has a lot of options on offense," she said. "We need to focus more on transition defense and contest their outside game."

The Belles have already clinched the No. 2 seed in the GLIAC tournament as well as achieving other school milestones. With three games left in the regular season, the Belles have already set the school record for conference victories with 12 and have tied the school record for total wins in a season (14).

St. Mary's will try to continue to add to these totals Saturday. The tip-off is slated for 3:00 in Kresge Gymnasium at Albion College.

Contact Alex West at awest@hcc-nd.edu

---

**NFL**

**Colts offense plans affected by economy**

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Colts president Bill Polian is working on his usual offseason-to-do list. He's negotiating with agents to keep players, preparing for the draft and dealing with NFL salary cap rules. But things are much tougher this year.

Polian said Thursday the economy and the NFL's revised cap rules have put the Colts in a financial pinch that is forcing the team to look at options, including a possible change of slate for training camp.

"Like everyone else in the country, expenses are an issue for us," Polian said. "So we're looking at everything we do, but it travel costs or training camp or whatever. One glaring area is training camp, so we have to make a decision about where to go and we have not made it."

The Colts have held camp in Terre Haute since 1999, but their contract with host Rose-Hulman has expired and they're now considering a return to Anderson, which was their preseason home from 1984-98 and is closer to Indianapolis.

Former coach Tony Dungy often enjoyed the time in Terre Haute, but new coach Jim Caldwell has not said so. Polian said no decision has been made.

Training camp isn't the only money issue for Indianapolis.

The Colts recently announced they were cutting 25 jobs in the front office, and now they're trying to re-sign three prominent free agents — Pro Bowl center Jeff Saturday, cornerback Kelvin Hayden and running back Dominic Rhodes.

Polian would like to re-sign all three, but he considers Hayden, who won the starting job two years ago, the top priority.

Polian would not say how much Hayden wants, but he said negotiations with agent Fletcher Smith are not going well. That could force Polian to use the franchise tag, something he will consider.

Smith did not answer his cell phone and it was not accepting messages on Thursday.

To clear some room under the cap, Polian has already agreed to convert Dallas Clark's roster bonus into a signing bonus, spreading the money out over more years. And he may do the same with Bob Sanders. Still, Hayden's deal may determine how much money is left to keep other players and could force the team to cut other veterans.

The cuts come with a hefty price tag.

Because this is the last year of the salary cap, there are new rules.

If players with expensive bonuses are among those cut, the Colts will have to take the full value of the remaining bonus money in the past, that money has been prorated over the life of a contract. So if a player received a $10 million bonus on a five-year deal, teams were charged $2 million per year. Now, if that player is cut with two years left on the contract, that team would take a $4 million cap hit in 2009.
FENCING

Four underclassmen go to Junior Olympics

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

Four fencers from Notre Dame will compete individually at the Junior Olympic Championships this weekend in Albuquerque, N.M. The event marks the second chance for fencers to pick up a US Fencing qualification in 2009, after January’s North American Cup. Irish fencers chalked up five top-5 finishes at the NAC in January, including three first place finishes. A win in the NAC gave those fencers an "A" ranking from the US Fencing Association. Fencers are ranked nationally anywhere from A through D and a solid performance this weekend will help fencers move up the ladder.

After graduating one of the strongest senior classes in the nation last year, the results earlier this season was encouraging for Irish coach Janusz Bednarski. "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]." A squad of freshman and sophomore epees will fence in individual competition in Albuquerque. Sophomore Jacob Osborn, freshman Kristoff Pinkowski, freshman Stephanie Myers, and freshman Nick Creek will all try for a solid qualification for the 2009 season. "I feel very positive for them all," assistant coach Marek Stepień said. "I know they will continue to remold the country why Notre Dame’s fencing program is truly world class. They have been training extremely hard and I’m certain that at the [NCAA National Championships] and on into next season you will see results that will be even stronger than [this weekend]."

The men’s epee bouts begin Friday evening, while the women’s epees’ schedule will be published on Saturday.

The Junior Olympic Championships are the last competition Irish fencers will face before the Midwest Fencing Competition Championships at the end of the month at the Joyce Center. The No. 1 men’s squad finished the season with a perfect 33-0 record, while the No. 2 women’s squad ended up 32-2. The team is in prime position for a run at a third national championship since 2003.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

WOMEN’S LACROSSE

Irish open with Duquesne

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame looks to start its season off with a win this Saturday as the team travels to Pittsburgh to take on the Duquesne Dukes. The Irish have had no problem with The Dukes in the past, winning both of their previous meetings 16-4. Notre Dame starts the year ranked No. 11 in both the IWLCA coaches’ preseason poll and the Inside Lacrosse poll. They finished last season at 12-2 (4-1) Big East, falling in the first round of the NCAA tournament to four-time defending champions Northwestern. Notre Dame has made the NCAA tournament four times in the last seven years.

Leading the Irish this season are senior coach Tracy Coney, entering her 13th season with the Irish, and the team’s new captains, seniors Shannon Burke and Jillian Byers. "They have the respect of their peers and the full confidence of the coaching staff to lead the team this season," Coney said in a press release earlier this week.

Burke has started at midfield/defense her last two seasons, contributing both offensively and defensively for the Irish in her third season. She had career highs in goals (9), assists (3), and points (11). On defense she led the team in turnovers (32) and was second on the team for ground balls (53) and draw controls (52).

Burke was also chosen as a selection on the second team IWLCA all-West/Midwest regional team, and a Big East defensive player of the week, finishing fourth in the conference with 1.26 cause turnovers per game last season. Burke was also recently chosen as a selection on the pre-season all-Big East team.

Byers has been a key force in the Notre Dame attack in each of her first three seasons. She wrapped up her junior season with a team-high 67 goals and 81 points.

NHL

Vokoun, Panthers rout Hurricanes

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Tomas Vokoun didn’t really need his quick-strike offense tonight. Florida teammates to score so many goals. As impressive as he was in net, one of the game’s top goalies was not about to let the Panthers put this one away.

Vokoun made 42 saves for his fourth shutout of the season. The leading-scoring duo of Stewart and Gregory Campbell scored 12 seconds apart in the second period and the Panthers routed the Carolina Hurricanes 5-0 on Thursday night.

Nathan Horton had a goal and an assist, and Michael Frolik and Richard Zednik each scored. The Panthers scored all four of the goals they scored in winning their first five games of the year.

"We were dead in the water if we [had] lost that game," Vokoun said. "There would be a different feeling in the dressing room. But that’s all I know.

That quick-strike offense helped the Panthers put this one away with a second-period flurry led by role players Stewart and Campbell.

Stewart had a step on defenceman Nicklas Wallin as he chased down a loose puck along the boards, and as Wallin tried to poke it away from him, he slipped a backhand past the goalie to make it 3-0 with 10:42 left.
**Irish take on tough Spartan team**

By KATE GRABAREK

Sport Writer

Notre Dame will try to bounce back from its first loss of the dual match season to No. 1 singles player Nick Rinks. In the fall season, Rinks ended up with just one loss, Alex Forger to defeat Stephen Havens and Tyler Davis at the doubles point. "Rinks is able to beat just about anybody in the country," Bayliss said. "We normally rely very heavily on our top two singles spots, but we can't count on those tomorrow. Rinks split sets with Stephen Baks two years ago, but Rinks 10-8 in the third set." Much like the Spartan lineup is dominated by a senior, the Irish's own Sheeva Parbhoo put his name in an elite group, easily handling dynamic inglist of Virginia in the third set. "Sheeva (Parbhoo) was a lot quicker than Inglott," assistant coach Ryan Sacchire said. "It doesn't work for you, he's out of his game plan." Parbhoo played relentless tennis, and stayed tough in every point. He played quality points, and made Inglott really grind the points out according to Sacchire.

Another bright spot for the Irish so far this season has been the play of freshman Stephen Havens. Havens earned another point for the Irish on Sunday winning his match in three sets. "Havens made a lot of extra balls," Sacchire said. "Both players were fairly close in ability level, and that was apparent in the last two sets." Sacchire also commented that Havens was conservative on defense, but dictated and finished points well.

The Spartans and Irish know each other well. Coach John O. Orlando has been coaching at Michigan State for 17 years, and previously coached Notre Dame for 19. Bayliss and the Irish have won 18 in a row over the Spartans. The head-to-head meetings between the two programs date back to 1979.

After the Irish face the Spartans Saturday, the Irish will face the Denver Pioneers back in South Bend on Feb. 21. The match begins at 4 p.m. for both matches.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabare10@stmarys.edu

---

**Irish assistant coach Ryan Sacchire**

---

**Notre Dame**

---

**Irish**
more than just a community of fans have waited to see for the past seven games — effective offense combined with shut-down defense no matter what.

"You're locking up on guys, and our guys did. You're not sitting in a zone," Brey said.

"We had a few years of really putting a lot into it when we started sparring," an official said. "But now we're back to the old days."

"It's a lot of fun."

"They had a tough first half but have really come back in the second half."

"This team was that we had for us, and we have to be prepared to play well at both ends of the rink."
Friday, February 13, 2009

**Bama**

continued from page 24

on Sunday.

Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said she hopes to come away with some wins in order to build momentum for the rest of the season.

"We want to become a better team each game we play," she said.

Senior pitcher Britney Bargar will lead the Irish rotation at the Bash. In 2008, Bargar won 30 games and earned all-conference and all-region honors. Bargar is one of 14 monogram winners returning for Notre Dame, who lost only two seniors from last year's squad.

"The approach of our veterans is solid," Gumpf said. "They are businesslike and understand what they need to do to win."

Gumpf said that although there are many returning players, the lineup will not look the same.

"We look much different," she said. "There are major changes if you look at our lineup at the end of the year last year."

These changes include the additions of junior infielder Heather Johnson and sophomore utility player Sadie Fitzrodeberger, both of whom were injured last season, as well as junior catcher Alexa Claus, who transferred from Tennessee and was forced to sit out last year.

The Irish have also added four freshmen to the mix. They will get a trial by fire this weekend. After Alabama things don't slow down. East Carolina hosted an invitational last weekend, winning three of four games. Sophomore pitcher Toni Paisley had two wins and a save for the Pirates, earning the honor of Conference USA Pitcher of the week.

The Irish have not been as successful so far. They fell in all four of their contests at the Cathedral City Kickoff in Palm Springs, Calif., last weekend.

The Bama Bash begins a series of warm-weather invitationals for the Irish, who will not play in South Bend until a two-game series against Toledo on March 18.

"We do enjoy the weather, but the reality of the early season tournaments is to win ball games and become the best team we can be," Gumpf said.

The Irish kick off the season today at 5 p.m.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

**Looyola**

continued from page 24

season, is led by the all-conference senior McDermott. He starred all 17 games last season and helped Notre Dame hold opponents to 7.04 goals per game.

On offense, the Irish will look to another all-conference selection, senior attack Ryan Hoff. The captain will be looking for his third straight 40-goal season after leading Notre Dame with 41 last year.

"I think our team's strength is that we don't have a huge weakness," Hoff said. "We are pretty solid throughout the ranks. Our offense brings a whole lot back from last year, and our midfield is very talented and hard-working."

The Irish offense returns three of the top four scorers from last year's team, which was also ranked No. 5 nationally with 12.09 goals per game.

"I think our team's strength is that we don't have a huge weakness."

Ryan Hoff
Irish senior

Junior Grant Krebs netted 26 goals, second on the team, and senior Duncan Swope tallied 22.

Joining McDermott as captains for 2009 are seniors Peter Christman, Scott Rodgers and Davey Malera.

Rodgers will be looking to fill the shoes of graduated All-American goalkeeper Joey Kemp. The Wantagh, N.Y. native has played in seven career games and carries a 5.73 goals-against average.

"I feel like this is going to be a great opponent for our first game," Rodgers said. "Loyola is a disciplined, fundamentally sound squad, but then again so are we. It's going to be a battle but we are prepared."

The Irish will face off against the Greyhounds Saturday at 1 p.m. The home opener for Notre Dame is Feb. 28 against Dartmouth.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

**LAFFAYETTE SQUARE**

3-5 Bedroom Townhomes
$350 per month per person including free Internet
Now leasing for 2009 – 2010 school year
(574)234-2436
Kramer Properties
www.kramerhouses.com

Irish senior Linda Kohan will need to have her bat ready to go against No. 1 Alabama this afternoon in the season opener.

**Contact: Michael J. Tomassello**

**Assistant Sports Editor**

**DAN JACOBS/The Observer**
THE NEW ALBUM
OK NOW
FEATURING THE SINGLE
BEATING MY HEART
IN STORES NOW
ON TOUR NOW
SAT, FEB 14
NO COVER 10PM.

The Observer ♦ SPORTS
Friday, February 13, 2009
Crossword

Across
1. Rivera of the original "Chicago," in brief
2. "Dragon" force, in brief
10. Org. for which a D.V.M. might work
14. Southwestern superheroes
15. Mythical king of the Hurts
16. Press
17. Unending pain
18. Ayatollah's land
19. N.Y. register
20. With 5-Across, help to hold this puzzle's secret
23. Grp. their conducts many lasts
24. Honeymoon suite lecture
27. Souvenir pain from a bad hip?
29. La Figaro article
30. Epigram

32. See 6-Down
33. "Come here..." or others, e.g.
35. Chewy candy
36. River to the Phone
41. To do after completing this puzzle, with four straight lines
44. Children's author Byron and others
46. Subject of Hark 
47. Japanese leader of the 1960s
49. "The Gift of the Magi" gift
51. Ampole shape widely
52. Promoted
56. Gwend of the original "Chicago"

Down
1. Hall a dance
2. Keep up to oneself
3. New issue on Wall St.
4. Color family
5. Sanctuary
6. Daggers, (early video game)
7. Central courts
8. Alternative it things go wrong
9. Bread for b ummies
10. Order to attack, with "on"
11. Made a killing, say
12. Individually owned department
13. Former U.N. chief Kofi
21. Multiple-choice option: strong or weak
22. Kind of approval
24. Actor Tom of "Law & Order"
26. Baby favor
31. Computer in a huddle
32. Wielding Schneider, informally
36. "Yes!"
37. Like some hands, n.p.
40. "Come here..." or others, II plane
42. Same ones
43. Cain of "Lois & Clark"
47. China company
50. St. Eddy
51. Jim-dandy
53. Down
54. "Come here..." or others, II plane
55. Balanced
57. Freshman
58. Be inclined
59. Post W.W. II
61. A bite from "Lois & Clark"
62. With 32-Across, a ball game
63. 50 degs., maybe
64. Gay (W.W.
66. Response to a joke in an I.M.
67. R ocker ___
68. R esponse to a joke in an I.M.
69. Cain of "Lois & Clark"
70. 71. Secy.
72. Dry
74. _ Gay (W.W.
75. ___ Gay (W.W.
77. ___ Gay (W.W.
78. ___ Gay (W.W.
79. ___ Gay (W.W.
80. ___ Gay (W.W.


The Observer

Sherry Crow, 4?

Michael Miskusa

David Cavadini

Henri Arnold Mike Agnir

---

Crossword

The Observer

Friday, February 13, 2009

Editor's Note

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

Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

-Make checks payable to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

■ Enclosed is $120 for one academic year
■ Enclosed is $65 for one semester

Name
Address
City
State
Zip

---

Crossword

Horoscope

EUGENIA LAST

---

The Observer

Friday, February 13, 2009

Page 23

The Observer

Friday, February 13, 2009

Page 23
**HOCKEY**

**Program takes major step with new free-standing rink**

Team excited as they prepare for No. Mich.

By MATT GAMBER

Notre Dame will begin construction next spring on a new, free-standing, on-campus ice arena that will likely be ready for the start of the 2011-2012 season, athletic director Jack Swarbrick announced Thursday in an official release.

"We're thrilled about the plans for a new ice arena on our campus, particularly based on the superb job Jeff Jackson and our hockey team have done to position our program as one of the best in the nation," Swarbrick said in the release.

No college program has won more games than Notre Dame since the start of the 2006-07 season, and finally Irish coach Jeff Jackson will receive his reward.

"It's something I've been searching for since the time I got here," Jackson said.

"Hockey has arrived at Notre Dame, and this is kind of like the final piece of the puzzle for us."

Plans for the new arena have yet to be finalized, and the expected capacity is 5,000 — nearly double the current Joyce Center rink's capacity of 2,713.

"I give Jack Swarbrick a lot of credit for having the vision to see that it was something that was probably necessary," Jackson said. "I wish he would've been here three years ago to push this idea because we might be so much further ahead. His vision is realistic — I think we can draw 5,000 fans a game."

Though a facility upgrade had long been discussed, it appeared the most likely scenario would be renovations to the hockey team's current home in the Joyce Center. Instead, Jackson, Swarbrick and the University's Board of Trustees, among others, decided to start with a completely new building. Removing the Joyce Center ice sheet will free up training space for other athletic and University events, the

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Streak snapped**

Irish end losing streak in impressive fashion

By CHRIS HINE

In the second half, Irish forward Luke Harangody went to the free throw line 12 times, making 10 of his 12 attempts as Notre Dame defeated No. 17 Loyola (Md. 79-65) in its much-needed, cathartic 90-57 win over No. 5 Louisville (18-5, 9-2 Big East) in its much-needed, cathartic 90-57 win over No. 5 Louisville Thursday night.

"It was a good pass," Harangody said. "It was that kind of game for Notre Dame (13-10, 3-7 Big East) in its much-needed, cathartic 90-57 win over No. 5 Louisville (18-5, 9-2 Big East). It was a night where Notre Dame could do no wrong after suffering through a seven-game losing streak where they

**MEN'S LACROSSE**

**Irish and Greyhounds open season in Atlanta**

By MICHAEL BRYAN

The No. 7 Irish will travel to Atlanta to open their season against No. 17 Loyola (Md.).

The Irish return five starters from a strong 14-3 campaign in 2008. The 14 wins tied a program record, and Notre Dame advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Tournament.

Senior captain Regis McDermott said the Irish have very high expectations for the season.

"Part of the culture and tradition we have been building is to expect a lot of ourselves every year, and this year is no different," McDermott said. "Our goal is to be playing Memorial Day weekend in Foxboro (for the NCAA Final Four)."

The Irish ended the regular season tied for first in the Great Western Lacrosse League (GWLL) with Denver and Ohio State, with each team sharing an identical 5-1 record. Notre Dame then defeated Quinnipiac and Ohio State in the inaugural GWLL tournament to win the conference championship.

The Irish will face a strong test at a neutral site against the Greyhounds, who have made the NCAA Tournament the past two seasons. Loyola finished 2008 with a 7-7 record after losing in the first round to top-seeded Duke.

"The Greyhounds will be without top attack Shane Koppens, who was granted an extra year of eligibility by the NCAA but must sit out the first two games as a result of the decision. Koppens led Loyola last season with 44 points, tallying 19 goals and 25 assists."

The Irish defense, which ranked No. 5 nationally last season, and finally Irish coach Jeff Jackson will receive his reward.

"It's something I've been searching for since the time I got here," Jackson said. "Hockey has arrived at Notre Dame, and this is kind of like the final piece of the puzzle for us."

**BENGAL BOUTS**

**Fights start Sunday night**

84 bouts slated for preliminary round

By CHRIS MASOU

Knute Rockne's legacy at Notre Dame lives on as the 79th annual Bengal Bouts Tournament kicks off this weekend. Sunday night will feature 84 bouts in two rings.

"There is something special about the Bengal Bouts that only the guys who do it can truly appreciate," senior president Mark Weber said. "The Bengal Bouts is a unique blend of sweat, sacrifice, and solidarity. It's a rite of passage."

A tradition first organized in 1920 by Coach Rockne, Bengal Bouts offers students a rare opportunity to box, while

**ND SOFTBALL**

**Top teams await ND in opener**

By LAURA MYERS

The Irish certainly aren't easing into the 2009 season. Notre Dame will travel to Tuscaloosa, Ala. today to take part in the Bama Bash.

In their first game, the Irish will face No. 1 Alabama.

The Tide (4-0) participated in the South Alabama Invitational Feb. 6-8. They swept their opponents on the bat of freshman Cassandra Kelly-Bocci, who hit .667 with six RBIs in her first four games in a college uniform.

The Irish will play Alabama again on Saturday, as well as East Carolina (3-1). They finish up against Wisconsin (0-1)