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University makes diversity a priority

Notre Dame makes small strides in hiring women, faculty of color, but more progress is required

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

The University has made small strides in hiring and retaining women and faculty of color in recent years, but two committee reports issued at the behest of University President Fr. John Jenkins, C.S.C., indicate Notre Dame is falling behind other universities in maintaining a diverse faculty.

"This is the first year that we've really done any kind of service project," Slawin said. "We thought that doing something with the women's shelter was very appropriate for our club just because our club is about serving women the skills they need to enter the business world."

"We want to make service part of our club because our club is all about helping girls gain the skills they need to have successful careers," Slawin said.

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

The Undergraduate Women in Business Club is conducting a toiletry drive for the first time and the collected goods will be donated to the South Bend Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), vice president Elizabeth Slawin said.

"Several members will also be participating in an Alumnae Alumnae Relations. They will be electing two new alumnae, as well as two current student members.

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

The Saint Mary's Alumnae Board will be choosing four new members during their annual spring meeting Thursday as four member positions will be filled, Karla O'Leary, director of Alumnae Relations said.

"At this meeting the Board will also be interviewing and selecting one member each from the classes of 2010 and 2011 to serve on the Board. The student member is a newly created position with the senior having full voting privileges and the junior being mentored by the senior to assume the student member position her senior year," O'Leary said.

The Board visits the College twice a year to conduct business.

"As a group they meet on campus each fall and spring. Many also return to campus to assist with events sponsored by the Alumnae Association and to participate in reunion." While visiting, the Board will have committee meetings, attend general sessions, hear presentations from College administrators, and meet with student groups, O'Leary said.

"Several members will also be participating in the Alumnae Panel that is part of the Diverse Student Leadership Conference." see ALUMNAE/page 6

SMC to elect members to Alumnae Board

Group sponsors toiletry drive

Undergraduate Women in Business Club gives goods to YWCA

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

The annual Bookstore Basketball tournament is more than a popular activity for students; it also works to help the less fortunate.

Established in 1995, the Jum 'ball Basketball Program is run through the Notre Dame Club of Jamaica that raises money to help the youth of Kingston, Jamaica.

"What makes Jum'ball unique is the ability to impact children's lives and providing a better community through one person at a time," said Chad Sutcliffe, the director of the Jum'ball program and a 1995 Notre Dame graduate.

Sutcliffe was one of the initiators of the influential program that organizes basketball clinics for the kids living in Kingston. It is an effort to combat the disadvantageous youth from the drugs and violence that is extensive in their neighborhoods.

"With the high poverty rate, we felt that by running a free clinic during..." see BOOKSTORE/page 4

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

Bookstore Basketball to benefit Jamaican youth

Students and faculty participate in last year's Bookstore Basketball tournament.
INSIDE COLUMN

NCAA

bracket tips

I first remember filling out an NCAA tournament bracket in fifth grade. English class. I hadn't stopped filling my soul with optimism since. There is a better feeling than finishing the bracket you are sure is the one, that will predict 63 games correctly?

I haven't stopped watching Bucknell or Davidson break my heart since. Is there a worse feeling than watching your Elite Eight dark horse fall in the first round, bracket busted?

With two midterm exams and a paper this week, I swore, brackets this year. Then Sunday night came and I was at the LaFortune computer cluster printing out 10 copies.

So for the bracket novices out there, from Kansas or Connecticut, Canada or Columbia, here are some tips:

Alabama State will not beat Louisville; Morehead State eliminated them tonight.

Morehead State will not beat Louisville; Wake Forest will.

Notre Dame will not win the NCAA tournament; the Irish are in the NIT tournament.

A twelve-seed will beat a five-seed, it is likely that two, if not three, will.

If a team beat Notre Dame, that does not justify them as exceptional; good teams in the tournament did so.

Making picks based on mascots is not only allowed, but often effective.

Virginia Commonwealth University, but it really doesn't matter, just pick UCLA, which stands for UCLA.

When forced to pick between Boston College and USC, a Notre Dame football fan picks the bullet. A Notre Dame basketball fan doesn't care, so trust the Trojans.

Notre Dame basketball fan doesn't care, so don't waste ink advancing the nine months away.

Kicking stallions is.

The Final Four. Last year was a Lumberjacks.

I don't waste ink advancing the nine months away.

State was even eligible for the tournament; the Irish are in the NIT tournament; the Final Four, but three ACC teams barely qualifies.

the Fighting Irish.

"Cheering on the Fighting Irish.

"The tight pants.

"Getting home to see my first Sex at Fenway Park."

"Baseball means spring.

"Sitting in the sunshine."

"Cheering on the Fighting Irish."

The Oblates of Blues play during the Michael Signer Graduate Research Scholarship Fund benefit Monday March 16th at Legends.

OFFBEAT

Officer finds crack inside sack of dog food

AUBURN, Mass. — Finding a bag of dog food in a car carrying a dog is not unusual. But a sharp-eyed Massachusetts state trooper knew something was awry when he noticed a plastic bag inside the sack of food in the back seat of a car he pulled over on the ramp from the Massachusetts Turnpike to Interstate 290 in Auburn on Monday night.

Police said there were about 20 grams of crack cocaine in the plastic bag. Two brothers were charged with drug trafficking. One man was also charged with possession of a dangerous weapon, a double-sided knife. They are scheduled to be arraigned Tuesday. State police said arrangements have been made to care for the dog.

71-year-old man fends off robber with ice scraper

A 71-year-old man armed only with an ice scraper, frustrated a 20-year-old would-be robber, armed only with an double-sided knife. They broke out between the 20-year-old pulled out a knife and demanded money.

Police Sgt. Pete Ragone said the man used his ice scraper to fend off the attacker — who then ran to his girlfriend's home to get away.

That's when a fight broke out between the 20-year-old and his girlfriend.

The would-be attacker surrendered to police and faces charges of attempted first-degree robbery and aggravated assault-domestic violence.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error in the March 17 edition of The Observer, it was said that the sailing for the St. Mary's Student Government Association transition began March 17 and will continue through March 23. The voting does not begin until March 25. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT BASEBALL?

Nathan Furtado

"Getting home to see my first Sex at Fenway Park."

Sarah Weber

"Baseball means spring."

Rachel Hamilton

"Sitting in the sunshine."

Julie Wamsler

"Cheering on the Fighting Irish."

Tiz Shadley

"The tight pants."

Douglass Farmer

Sports Writer

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Douglass Farmer at dfarmer@nd.edu

IN BRIEF

Finance professor Carl Ackerman will lead a Senior Transition Seminar on personal finance today at 6 p.m. The seminar will be held at Legends.

Brittiny Maler and the Notre Dame Hand Bell Choir will perform tonight at Washington Hall in a concert to support Disability Awareness Month. The concert will begin at 7 p.m. and is open to faculty, staff, and students. Parking and shuttle service will be available at Stepan Center.

Efren Rivera Ramos, professor of law at the University of Puerto Rico, will deliver a lecture titled "Territory, Citizenship, and Rights: The Challenges of Overcoming American Colonialism in Puerto Rico" Thursday at 4 p.m. The lecture will be given in 200 McKenna Hall and is open to the public. It is part of the Institute for Latino Studies' lecture series titled "Caribbean Flights: From the First Colonial Cities in America to Metropolis U.S.A."

A lecture entitled "The USA and the EU: Two Modern Forms of Empire?" will take place in the C-103 Hesburgh Center for International Studies at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday. Lunch will be available after the lecture.

Gaelic Storm will be performing a concert at 2 p.m. on Saturday in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Purchase tickets online, visit or call the ticket office at 574-631-2800.

TO SUBMIT INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS SECTION OF THE OBSERVER, E-MAIL detailed information about an event to observec@nd.edu.

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY

HIGH 60

LOW 35

TOMORROW

HIGH 45

LOW 33

THURSDAY

HIGH 45

LOW 25

FRIDAY

HIGH 50

LOW 30

SATURDAY

HIGH 57

LOW 35

SUNDAY

HIGH 63

LOW 45

New challenges arise for minorities in 2010 census

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Associated Press

What seems like a simple question — How many Hispanics are living in the United States? — has become surprisingly complex as the 2010 census approaches. Hispanics and other minority groups have historically been undercounted in the once-a-decade survey. Advocacy groups are now launching their traditional efforts to ensure an accurate count, but new factors have created new problems for the painting of America's official portrait.

Activists and government officials say fears over immigration enforcement and government snooping are making people more reluctant to share their information. The economic meltdown and Bush administration budget cuts have slowed immigration and advocates say the numbers living in the country are higher than ever before. Some of those immigrants may not know what a census is, or may come from countries where such information is used against rather than for the people.

"This country is just much more complex now, on many different levels," said Terry Ao, director of census and voting programs for the Asian American Justice Center.

The 2000 census counted 35,305,818 Hispanics in the United States. Hispanic groups estimate that several million more were missed. In 2007, the most recent year available, the Hispanic population had grown to an estimated 44,852,816.

The Constitution mandates that every ten years, each person living in the country — regardless of citizenship or immigration status — must be counted. The census results are used to draw congressional districts and allocate hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding for schools, roads and other services. The data also trickles down to state and local governments for determining everything from the size of hospitals to the placement of bus stops.

On a more emotional level, the census is the measure of what we are. That can touch nerves left raw by the simmering immigration debate. Anti-immigration groups don't object to an accurate count, which may provide fuel for their arguments. But they are opposed to the past practice of suspending immigration raids while the census is being conducted. And they have major objections to counting non-citizens when drawing congressional districts.

Steven Camarota, director of research at the Center for Immigration Studies, called the practice "an assault on the 'one man, one vote' idea."

"It transfers political power to the citizens who live in districts with high numbers of illegal aliens," he said. "If you live in Southern California, your vote counts a great deal more than if you live in Michigan or somewhere with lower immigration."

Ensuring that the maximum number of minorities are counted "seems to be a much bigger issue for the ethnic interest groups and advocacy groups," said Terry Ao. "Building their interests and political power seems to be an accurate count for the Federation for American Immigration Reform. Those interest groups point out that everyone suffers if undercounting leads to less funding for schools, roads or hospitals.

"If you go back to your district, regardless of how many people there are citizens or voters, when you're counting one million and need to count two, this is a huge impact on whether you can deliver services for your voters," said Efrain Escobedo, senior director of civic engagement for the National Association of Latino Elected Officials.

Numbers certainly do mean power, so the census has long been subject to political maneuvering. Earlier this year, for example, a brief dispute arose after President Barack Obama nominated Representative Sen. Judd Gregg of New Hampshire to head the Commerce Department, which oversees the census. Minority groups protested that Gregg and other Republicans had voted to cut census funding because counting additional minorities or urging counting by lottery would lead to more GOP votes or districts.

The White House responded by saying it would take a group of government in supervising the census — which prompted a Republican outcry over possible Democratic manipulation of the redistricting process. The Census Bureau has long been subject to political maneuvering within the government, as its head, U.S. Census Bureau Director Robert Groves, is a political appointee.

"We're prepared to mount our own national campaign to count ourselves," Escobedo said. "We are going to motivate every ounce of people power that we have ... to let people know it's so critical for your child's education, and for your services in the community."

The Census Bureau seems receptive to these efforts. For the first time, it will mail bilingual forms to 13 million homes this year. It has a more accurate database of addresses and demographic information thanks to the annual American Community Survey, which began in 2001. It is soliciting employees who can speak languages other than English.

Stephen Buckner, a Census Bureau spokesman, said it will be working with minority groups to "harness indigenous."

"When somebody knocks on your door and you answer it, you're almost going to see a reflection of yourself," he said.

What is your Story?

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the summer we could have a positive impact," Sutcliffe said. "We are trying to teach the children life skills through the sport of basketball.

Using the money that is raised through Bookstore Basketball and from donations, Jumpball organizes a week of free basketball clinics for the inner-city youth. In addition to providing basketball training, it also awards the children based on their ability, attitude and sportsmanship, and provides them with a T-shirt and a free lunch.

"There are a number of kids that end up coming to Jumpball simply because it is a free event and lunch is provided," Sutcliffe said. "These are some of the kids we hope to influence the most as they do not normally have this kind of opportunity."

Sutcliffe said that before Jumpball came to Kingston in 1995, there were little activities for the children of the city to participate in.

"There was a tremendous interest in basketball from children around the city. With this, the poverty level and the lack of activities for children, we really felt like we were filling a need," he said.

Looking at the level of participation, it appears Jumpball has filled this need since the program's inception in 1995.

"Jumpball has grown gradually from 75 participants to over 600 today," Sutcliffe said. "We believe we have had a huge impact on many of the children. They are offered a free opportunity to be part of a highly enjoyable event where they are exposed to a high quality of coaching and teaching."

Sutcliffe says that the program also focuses on the Jamaican coaches that participate. Members of Jumpball have determined ways in which the program can help these adults as well.

"We provide training for the coaches specifically in terms of running and operating a Jumpball clinic but also as part of a nationally recognized training program which can assist them in obtaining jobs as teachers or coaches," he said. "Finally, this coming year we are offering two scholarships to our volunteer coaches to assist them financially in attending a secondary school."

Involving members of the Kingston community has made the youth participators able to see the impact of Jumpball as a whole.

"The kids are able to see not only the U.S. volunteers but also the Jamaican coaches giving back to the community," Sutcliffe said. "In many cases the volunteers are former campers that have grown up through Jumpball. There is a high level of enthusiasm that is contagious."

To date, Jumpball has raised around $20,000 for the Kingston community.

Sutcliffe says that none of it would have been possible without the continuous support from the University and the proceeds from the Bookstore Basketball tournament.

"In recent years due to the help of Bookstore we have been able to expand the program. Some of this growth is directly attributable to Bookstore's donations. Without a doubt, Bookstore Basketball has had a tremendous impact on the number of boys and girls that Jumpball attracts each year."

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@hcc-nd.edu

Fraser said due to Obama's decision, "there will be public debate and public scrutiny, and hopefully we as a society will come to an understanding about what we can or cannot allow."

He said although he personally would prefer to find alternatives to human embryonic stem cell research, he thinks that lifting the ban was the appropriate approach because it does not limit scientific investigation or force one point of view.

"I value the contributions of science to humankind too much to want any one person or group telling scientists what they can or cannot explore," Fraser said.

Snead disagrees with the argument that no avenues of research should be closed off.

"I don't find that compelling. Obviously there are and should be ethical limits to science," Snead said.

"What we owe to human embryos is a moral question, not a scientific question." Snead does not support Obama's decision to lift the ban on federal funding for stem cell research.

"I think it's regrettable that tax payers being compelled to support this kind of research, especially in light of all the alternative sources of stem cells that don't require the destruction of embryos," Snead said.

Notre Dame currently does not participate in stem cell research, Fraser said.

However, Notre Dame does participate in adult stem cell research, which takes stem cells from tissue that does not require the extraction of a human embryo, like from umbilical cord blood, fat cells or bone marrow, Snead said.

"If [Obama] decides to disproportionately fund embryonic stem cell research to the exclusion of other forms of stem cell research, our researchers may see a drop in funding," Snead said.

Both Snead and Fraser are in favor of exploring alternative methods to embryonic stem cell research.

"I think we should seize this opportunity to be truly reflective of our convictions and initiate a research program expansion in stem cell research so that we not only espouse non-embryonic stem cell research from an ideological perspective, but we also participate in, if not pioneer, the development of real scientific advancements that provide alternatives," Fraser said.

"Talk is cheap. We need action at the scientific forefront of this research, and we need it at this University."

Malcolm Fraser Jr., professor of biological sciences

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

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Irish pride celebrated across the nation

People take a break from their economic worries to celebrate St. Patrick's Day

Associated Press

NEW YORK — St. Patrick’s Day revelers took a break from worries about the global economy to watch a shamrock-themed festivity, dyeing city fountains green, taking icy plunges and crowding sidewalks along parade routes to see and be seen.

Organizers predicted 250,000 participants at Tuesday’s parade at least as many spectators — would line New York’s Fifth Avenue for the city’s 248th annual march.

Bobby Lopez, a nurse from Buffalo, stood in the dozens deep Manhattan crowd wearing a temporary shamrock tattoo, green leather necklace, an Irish flag in her cleavage and — she said — green underwear.

She was part of a group of women who have attended for 20 years, "except for pregnancies," said Pam Dempsey.

"We were here before we met our husbands and we’re here until we’re dead," said their friend, Larry Hoffman.

One of the women held up a sign thanking soldiers.

Another sign read: "Is it cold under those kilts?"

Earlier in the day at his Manhattan restaurant, Chef Thomas Stauton served up an over-the-top Irish breakfast — sausages, bacon, black and white pudding, home fries, fried tomatoes, and baked beans.

Even with all the revelry, the Irish farmer said his thoughts drifted to his nephews back home — an unemployed bank teller and electrician who helped purchase Ireland’s jobless rate just 10 percent.

"The economy’s in shreds in Ireland," he said. "They’ve been laid off as we speak."

Ken Dempsey, a worker of Enniskillen, Northern Ireland, were on vacation in New York and reflected on the economy as they watched the marchers pass by on Fifth Avenue.

Ken Ferguson, a truck driver, said his work week had been cut to four days.

But on Tuesday they were soaking in the St. Patrick’s Day spectacle.

"It’s bigger and better than in Ireland," Ken Ferguson said of the parade.

In Los Angeles, a Roman Catholic priest celebrated St. Patrick’s Day by giving away some green.

Father Maurice Chase went to Skid Row with a wallet packed with $20 bills to give to some of the city’s neediest residents. More than 300 people lined up for cash.

Cities and towns around the nation honored Ireland with their own signature celebrations.

In Portland, Maine, 75 people greeted the day with an icy plunge in the Atlantic Ocean, charging into the 37-degree water and celebrating with a Guinness afterward.

Before dawn in Indianapolis, dye was poured into the city’s downtown canal, triggering a fountain of green water before the city’s parade. Fountains at the White House in Washington also ran green for the day.

And in Savannah, Ga., masses of revelers clad head-to-toe in green crammed sidewalks and oak-shaded squares for the best parade view.

A sad note rang through the New York festivities when a member of a New Jersey police band suffered a fatal heart attack.

Steve Dunne, a 59-year-old tenor drummer in the Police Pipes and Drums of Bergen County, collapsed near 75th Street and was pronounced dead at St. Luke’s Hospital shortly after 12:30 p.m.

Dunne, a state court officer, was a founding member of the band in 1992.

Despite all, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg summed up the spirit of the day: "I can’t think of any better time for a parade, when so many people are depressed and some people are disappointed and some people are depressed," he said. "People need a pick-me-up, people need to know that we can get through this together."

SRI LANKA

Deaths blamed on lack of medical supply

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — A lack of medical supplies has led to the need less than half of the patients in parts of northern Sri Lanka ravaged by civil war, the region’s health officials said.

The international Red Cross said conditions in the region were so "deteriorating by the day," and the U.N. Children’s Fund said thousands of children were at risk because of "a critical lack of food, water and medicines."

In a letter to the Health Ministry, officials from two northern Sri Lankan regions said 5 percent of the needed drugs and dressings were received in the last quarter of 2008 and the first part of this year.

The letter, sent Tuesday by The Associated Press, was signed by the health officials of Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu. Kilinochchi was the headquarters of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam until it was overrun by government troops in early January.

The last remaining remnants of the rebels are fighting in Mullaitivu to hold on to a shrinking swath of land — estimated at 13.5 square miles (35 square kilometers) — on the north-east coast.

The letter said more than 500 patients died since January after arriving at hospitals and that thousands of others may have died outside of hospitals.

"Most of the hospital deaths could have been prevented if basic infrastructure and essential medicines were made available," it said.

On Tuesday, a further 23 patients died out of 108 wounded civilians taken to a makeshift hospital in the northeast, said Kandasmey Tharmakulasingham, a hospital administrative officer.

Human Rights Minister Mahinda Samarasinghe said any letter coming out of the rebel territory is "suspicious and subject to verification." He declined further response until he could consult senior health officials.

The U.N. says 150,000 to 180,000 civilians, displaced from Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu, are trapped in the war zone.
Diversity

faculty of color in the fall of 2006, 23 percent of Notre Dame faculty members were female, compared to a total of 28 percent at public universities that are members of the Association of American Universities (AAU), according to the committee’s report.

The report said that for every 100 female faculty members at AAU private schools, 62.8 percent were female, a ratio that has dropped 10 percent since 1990. But at the recruiting level, for every 100 assistant professors at AAU private schools, Notre Dame hires 105. “In recruiting women, we do better than other schools,” Ohmer said. “But we can’t keep them.”

In order to understand why women are leaving, Ohmer said the committee conducted exit interviews, which recorded reasons female faculty members left the University over the years.

“Spousal hiring and child-care were issues that came up,” she said.

The report proposed several suggestions to improve hiring opportunities for faculty of color and to implement a spousal hiring program, which would establish a “support for academic hires” when both spouses work in the field of academia.

The report also suggested creating a dual career assistance program, which would increase the number of senior women faculty members.

While the Committee on Women and Students had found that the University recruited female faculty members in high numbers, but not retain them, Ohmer said the Committee on Cultural Diversity concluded Notre Dame is not recruiting high numbers of members of faculty of color, nor is it retaining the members it does hire.

“When it comes to faculty of color, we don’t do enough at the recruiting point, let alone keep people,” she said. “We need to get them here so in that sense, it’s more attrition.”

The report released by the Committee on Faculty Diversity and Retention — a subcommittee of the Committee on Cultural Diversity — said that in the fall of 2007, 82 percent of Notre Dame faculty were white, 13 percent non-resident aliens and 5 percent non-resident aliens.

According to the report, Notre Dame ranks lower than many AAU private universities. The University of Chicago led AAU schools in 2007 with 19 percent percent faculty of color, compared to Notre Dame’s 13 percent.

Ohmer, who was also involved in an exit report on faculty of color, said location is a large part of the issue.

“University of Chicago is very international, very cosmopolitan,” she said. “We are working on that. We are becoming more global, but it’s not the same.”

Ohmer said she is pleased with the progress the University is making in creating a diverse faculty and she said she hopes the efforts will help Notre Dame emerge as a more globally aware and enriched university.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Women

continued from page 1

but the impact the drive will have on the connection the club can build with the YWCA.

“Even though this might end up being kind of a full start, it could help our club build a relationship with them,” Slawn said.

The club will also be hosting a bake sale in conjunction with the toiletry drive at the end of the week, said senior Dana Gates, a member of the Undergraduate Women’s Union.

“We thought cookies would get people’s attention and promote what we are doing a little better,” Gates said in an e-mail.

Slawn said members of the club will bring the collected items to the YWCA next week.

“Ultimately it is about empowering women,” said Senior Meredith McLeod.

Contact Sarah McLeod at smcLeod@nd.edu

Chinua Achebe to give lecture series

Special to the Observer

Nigerian novelist and poet Chinua Achebe, winner of the 2007 Mars Booker International Prize, will deliver the third inaugural Brother John Vellho Lecture Series in Theology and Culture at the University of Notre Dame on April 25 and 26 (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday).

Widely regarded as the father of modern African literature, Achebe is best known for his 1958 novel “Things Fall Apart,” which has been listed as one of the most important books of the 20th century.

“The Ibo’s and their Perception of God, Human Beings and Creation” is the central theme of the lecture series. The March 21 lecture will focus on “God.” The March 23 presentation will focus on “Creation.” Each lecture will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium in Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business.

Achebe’s works, which include four additional novels and numerous collections of short stories and poetry, have sparked international dialogue around the effects of colonization on African culture and the way in which Western writers have depicted African and other people of Africa over time.

Achebe currently is the Charles P. Stevenson Professor of Languages and Literature at Bard College in New York.

Many other top universities already have programs like those proposed by the committee, Ohmer said.

Ohmer said she is delighted by Fr. Jenkins’ response to both committees’ reports. She said the University has already committed to increasing funding for the Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC), and in starting August, faculty members in the Office of the Provost will be assigned to work to increase faculty diversity.

“In the committee, we feel we are getting real results,” she said.

In the letter circulated to faculty, Fr. Jenkins said creating, maintaining and increasing a diverse faculty is essential to the Catholic character of the University.

The letter stated the University will implement several of the committees’ suggestions immediately, such as a Dual Career Assistance program for spouses of faculty members and a new postdoctoral training program to attract top young academics from groups, especially women and faculty of color.

Ohmer said she is pleased with the progress the University is making in creating a diverse and she said she hopes the efforts will help Notre Dame emerge as a more globally aware and enriched university.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

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Women

continued from page 1

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WASHINGTON — Housing construction posted a surprising lift in January, bolstered by strength in all parts of the country except the West.

While the surge in construction was far greater than the continued decline economists had expected, experts attributed it as a temporary gain given all the uncertainty in the housing industry still faces.

The Commerce Department reported Tuesday that construction of new homes and apartments jumped 22.2 percent in February compared with January, pushing total activity to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.505 million units, the fastest pace in over two years.

Meanwhile, the Labor Department said wholesale prices edged up a slight 0.1 percent in February as a big drop in food prices was more than offset by a second monthly increase in energy prices.

After the news, investors reaped Wall Street’s rally snapping up financial stocks as the housing builder stocks among others.

Caterpillar, the world’s largest maker of mining and construction equipment, has seen its sales wither as the sluggish world economy and the credit crisis weaken demand for its products, used to build everything from houses to highways. The company had expanded dramatically in recent years, helped by a building boom in developing countries.

In response to the worsening conditions, Caterpillar in January announced job cuts that will affect 2,400 workers globally.

In a new house under construction in Iowa, the Department of Commerce reported that housing construction increased by 22 percent in February.

For many Americans who could use a bailout just to balance their checkbooks and make it through the month, the thought of their tax dollars going to million-dollar bonuses for AIG executives is enough to make them furious.

"It's like trying to comprehend how screwing up gets you rewards," said George Padilla, a teacher in El Paso, Texas. "We've seen that if they don't put in the effort and get passing grades, I will not pass them." He added: "I use the old 'In the real world... line to point out that you wouldn't survive if you didn't do well in your job. Well, I guess the real world proved me wrong."

Workers, business owners and taxpayers interviewed across the country fumed over the $165 million payout, with some questioning whether the government should even be in the business of bailing out Wall Street — an attitude that could even be in the business of bailing out the economic downturn.

The intensity of the populist fury for AIG — teetering on the brink of collapse because it insured many of the toxic mortgage-backed securities at the vortex of the financial crisis — has mostly been an unknown quantity to the general public, in part because its business is so complex.

But paying bonuses to people responsible for nearly bringing the country, and the economy, to its knees may be even more incomprehensible to nearly anyone who runs a business or tries to balance a household budget.

**WHOLESALE PRICES MISE**

**A new house is under construction in Iowa. The Department of Commerce reported that housing construction increased by 22 percent in February.**

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**MARKET RECAP**

**STOCKS**

| Dow Jones | 7,395.70 | +178.73 |
| Up/Down | Same | Down | Composite Volume: |
| | 207,777,989 | 889,267,768 |

**AMEX**

- 4,128.72 | +15.61 |

**NASDAQ**

- 1,462.11 | +58.09 |

**NYSE**

- 9,068.14 | +193.23 |

**S&P 500**

- 778.12 | +24.23 |

**NIKKEI (Tokyo)**

- 9,749.13 | 0.00 |

**FTSE 100 (London)**

- 3,857.10 | -6.89 |

**Treasuries**

- 10-YEAR NOTE | -0.19 | -3.02 |
- 13-WEEK BILL | -0.27 | +0.05 | 2.23 |
- 30-YEAR BOND | +0.10 | +0.03 | 3.90 |
- 5-YEAR NOTE | +0.14 | -0.06 | 3.97 |

**Commodities**

- LIGHT CRUDE (B/Ball) | +1.10 | +47.35 |
- GOLD ($/Oz.) | -10.10 | -102.00 |
- WHEAT (cents/lb.) | +3.00 | +86.50 |

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- YEN | 98.8200 |
- EURO | 1.3034 |
- CANADIAN DOLLAR | 1.2993 |
- BRITISH POUND | 1.4068 |

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**IN BRIEF**

2,400 Caterpillar employees laid off

**PITTSBURGH** — Caterpillar Inc. on Tuesday announced plans to lay off more than 2,400 employees at five plants in Illinois, Indiana and Georgia as its heavy equipment maker continues to cut costs amid the global economic downturn.

Caterpillar, the world's largest maker of mining and construction equipment, has seen its sales wither as the sluggish world economy and the credit crisis weaken demand for its products, used to build everything from houses to highways. The company had expanded dramatically in recent years, helped by a building boom in developing countries.

In response to the worsening conditions, Caterpillar in January announced job cuts that will affect 2,400 workers globally.

In the latest cuts, the Peoria, Ill.-based company said 2,365 support and management workers had been notified of layoffs expected to last at least six months — including 245 announced previously — and 89 workers will be let go permanently.

**Government aids small businesses**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Internal Revenue Service issued guidelines Tuesday that allow a $10,000 charitable deduction for some Bernard Madoff victims who were left for investment earnings that turned out to be nonexistent.

IRS Commissioner Douglas Shulman told reporters that Madoff's victims who lived, for instance, "I will not pass them." He added: "I use the old 'In the real world... line to point out that you wouldn't survive if you didn't do well in your job. Well, I guess the real world proved me wrong."

Workers, business owners and taxpayers interviewed across the country fumed over the $165 million payout, with some questioning whether the government should even be in the business of bailing out Wall Street — an attitude that could dangerously undermine further efforts by the Obama administration to prop up the economy.

"WASN'T Obama supposed to fix this?" said Maria Panza-Villa, a mother of two in Hillboro, Ore. She said she has lost three jobs since November as one employer after another folded.

The intensity of the populist fury became plain when a member of the Senate, Iowa Republican Charles Grassley, actually suggested AIG executives should follow the Japanese warrior example and resign or commit suicide.

While many ordinary Americans said Grassley's comments were out of line, others weren't so sure.

AIG executives are "not going to turn around would be a three-month sustained increase in single-family permits."

"We got several months past the over the past three years where permits increased only to drop the following month," Newport said.

The 0.1 percent increase in wholesale inflation was much lower than the 0.8 percent surge in January and smaller than the 0.4 percent increase economists had expected. Compared with a year ago, wholesale prices are actually down 1.3 percent.

Core inflation, which excludes energy and food, edged up 0.2 percent in February, only slightly higher than the 0.1 percent gain economists had expected. Core prices had risen 0.4 percent in January.

The world economy remains soft and is getting weaker, making it difficult for companies to raise prices, said Nigel Gault, chief U.S. economist at HIS Global Insight.

"Inflation is clearly very soft," Gault said. "The risks, if we look over the rest of the year, are more toward deflation than inflation, but deflation certainly is not here yet."

Companies are continuing to slash costs.

Caterpillar Inc. on Tuesday announced plans to lay off more than 2,400 employees at five plants in Illinois, Indiana and Georgia as the heavy equipment maker continues to cut costs amid the global economic downturn.

**Taxpayers unhappy about AIG bonuses**

Associated Press

For many Americans who could use a bailout just to balance their checkbooks and make it through the month, the thought of their tax dollars going to million-dollar bonuses for AIG executives is enough to make them furious.

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AIG executives are "not going to
Bush refuses to criticize Obama, ‘deserves my silence’
Former president plans to write book, wants “people to understand what it was like to sit in the Oval Office”

Associated Press

CALGARY, Alberta — Former President George W. Bush said on Tuesday that he won’t criticize Barack Obama because the new U.S. president “deserves my silence,” and said he plans to write a book about the 12 toughest decisions he made in office.

Bush declined to critique the Obama administration in his first speech since leaving office in January, but former President Dick Cheney has said that Obama’s decisions threatened America’s safety.

“I’m not going to spend my time criticizing him. There are plenty of critics in the arena,” Bush said. “He deserves my silence.”

Bush said he wants Obama to succeed and said it’s important that he has that support. Talk-show host Rush Limbaugh has said he hopes Obama would fail.

“Love my country a lot more than I love politics,” Bush said. "I think it is essential that he be helped to office.

The invitation-only event titled a “Conversation with George W. Bush” attracted close to 2,000 guests who paid $3,100 per table. Bush received two standing ovations from a predominantly business crowd. About 200 protesters outside the event.

Bush is unpopular in Canada, which sent 11 Americans touring northern Texas earlier in the day. “We feel very nearby city of Monterrey, said for the U.S. consulate in the Canadian Press.

Bush said the retirement of the U.S. consulate in the Mexican city of Monterrey is a testament to the U.S. consular ability to protect Americans. “We have sent our consulate in Mexico City with the authority to do that,” Bush said.

“I’m going to put people in my place, so when the history of this administration is written at least there’s an authoritative voice saying exactly what happened,” Bush said.

“I want people to understand what it was like to sit in the Oval Office and have them come in and say we have captured Khalid Sheik Mohammed, the mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks, the alleged killer of a gay guy named Danny Pearl because he was simply Jewish, and we think we have information on further attacks on the United States,” Bush said.

Bush didn’t specify what the 12 hardest decisions were but said Iraq is better off without Saddam Hussein in power.

Bush was also full of jokes during his appearance. He joked that he would do more speeches to pay for his new house in Dallas.

“I actually paid for a house last fall. I think I’m the only American to have bought a house in the fall of 2008,” he joked.

He also said his mother is doing well. Barbara Bush was released from a Houston hospital Friday, nine days after undergoing heart surgery. “Clearly he can’t live without her,” Bush said of his father and former President George H.W. Bush.

Bush seemed to enjoy himself even though the event started a half hour later than expected because of tight security. “I’ll sit here all day,” Bush said during a question-and-answer session. “I’m flattered people even want to hear me in the first place.”

Mexico

11 dead in Mexico tour bus accident

Associated Press

SALTILLO — A drunken driver lost control of his tractor-trailer and slammed into a bus carrying Canadians and Americans touring northern Mexico, killing 11, officials said Tuesday.

Seven Americans, three Canadians and the Mexican bus driver were killed, said Jose Angel Herrera, a federal bus driver were killed, said Jose Angel Herrera, a federal public security official.

They included two Texas middle school teachers on a spring break, a retiree from California and three other times who spent their winters in Texas’ Rio Grande Valley.

Todd Halverson, a spokesman for the U.S. consulate in the nearby city of Monterrey, said nine Americans were injured and that most were in stable condition.

Herrera said the tractor-trailer driver lost control, swerved onto the shoulder to his left, then overcorrected to the right and crashed into the bus coming from the opposite direction on Monday. State civil defense officials said 16 people were injured, many seriously.

Photos showed much of the bus turned off.

I can’t believe anybody got out alive,” said Beverly Kinnammon after speaking by phone with her sister, Barbara Jewell Dalke, of Mission, Texas, one of the survivors.

“She said it was really bad,” Kinnammon said by telephone after speaking with her sister earlier in the day. “We feel very lucky that Barbara seems to be OK.”

Herrera said the truck driver, who was among those hurt, had been intoxicated and would be charged with involuntary homicide.

Two of those killed were middle-school reading teachers at Cummings Middle School in Brownsville, Texas. Ana Maria Bujanos of Brownsville and Rebecca Pemelton of Harlingen.

“Tomorrow would have been our 33rd wedding anniversary, that’s why I’m taking it so hard,” said Bunnan’s husband, Chris. Bujanos, 56, had taken similar trips for years, her husband said.

The Canadian Press news agency identified the Canadians who died as Robert Lucas, 56, of Quebec, Carolyn Kowalewski, 68, of Caledonia, and Marilyn Jackson, 67, of Vancouver.

Lucas was a man who worked all his life and was finally, slowly going into retirement and he was really excited about taking this trip,” said Jan-Luc Morin, who worked with Lucas for 14 years. Lucas’s wife, Line Carrier, 55, was among the four injured Canadians.

The couple had been touring the southern United States in a recreational vehicle. They left it at a campground in McAllen and boarded the bus for a whirlwind trip in northeastern Mexico, their son Christian Poulin said.

“They raised their family, worked hard and were thinking about themselves — and it was time to do that,” Poulin said.

The bus was on its way to a planned stop at a museum near the border, which the driver said was a tinha.”

For more information, please contact:

Erika Doss, Chair
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574.631.2706 or doss.2@nd.edu

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"Imaging America" is made possible in part by generous support from the Institute for Scholarships in the Liberal Arts, College of Arts and Letters, University of Notre Dame Sponsors by the Notre Dame Department of American Studies
Former 1970s radical
released from prison

Associated Press

CHOWCHILLA, Calif. — A former 1970s radical associated with the group that kidnapped newspaper heiress Patty Hearst finished her California prison sentence Tuesday, ending a legal drama that harried back to a violent era of social unrest.

Sara Jane Olson, 62, was freed from the Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla shortly after midnight and was allowed to serve her year-long parole in Minnesota, the state she adopted during her 24 years as a fugitive.

Olson served seven years — half her sentence — after pleading guilty to helping place pipe bombs under Los Angeles Police Department patrol cars and participating in the deadly 1975 robbery of a bank in a Sacramento suburb.

The crimes took place while she was a member of the Symbionese Liberation Army, a relatively short-lived but violent group that sought to overthrow the government while engaging in killings, robberies and gun battles with police. Then she was Kathleen Soliah; she changed her name after fleeing to Minnesota.

Among the group's victims was 42-year-old Myrna Opsahl, a mother of four who was gunned down during the bank robbery.

"I'm just glad that the former SLA members were finally held accountable for the murder of my mom," Jon Opsahl, who in 1998 moved to Southern California, said Tuesday after hearing of Olson's release.

"It does finish out this chapter, and I hope it's the last chapter," he said. "I'm glad she's leaving the state."

Olson was released by mistake a year ago after California corrections officials miscalculated her parole date; she was re-arrested after spending five days with her family. Authorities now say she has served the proper seven-year sentence; she had been sentenced to 14 years but got time off for good behavior and prison work.

"She was definitely relieved that it all went smoothly," said David Nickerson, one of Olson's attorneys.

He said Olson and her husband, David "Fred" Peterson, were trying to make travel arrangements to return to their home in St. Paul, Minn., and their three daughters. A bouquet of flowers was left at the couple's home Tuesday morning, but no one was there to receive it.

Not everyone in Minnesota will be happy to see Olson return.

Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty and police-protective leagues in Los Angeles and St. Paul wrote Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, urging him to have Olson serve her parole in the state where she committed her crimes.

Some Minnesota lawmakers also called for Olson to remain in California.

"I think today is a slap in the face of California law enforcement and (other) law enforcement," Los Angeles Police Protective League President Paul Weber said in an interview. Schwarzenegger said he deferred the decision to the corrections department.

Department spokeswoman Terry Thornton said parole decisions are intended to give former prisoners the best chance of reintegrating into society and avoiding re-arrest.

"Being with their family increases the chances that they will succeed on parole," she said.

More than 1,000 California parolees are being supervised in other states. They typically have a week to report to the state in which they will serve their parole.

Several hours after her release from the prison, which sits among orchards and vineyards about 150 miles southeast of San Francisco, Olson and her husband returned to a Madera County parole office to finish paperwork.

Neither her lawyers nor corrections officials would say where they went afterward, other than to say they were making arrangements to leave the state.

Olson's mother and younger sister declined to speak to reporters when they returned Tuesday afternoon to the family home in Palmdale, a working-class suburb in the high desert north of Los Angeles.

In a brief telephone conversation, the younger woman identified herself only as Martha. She said she had not spoken to her older sister since her release from prison but had heard through friends that Olson was doing fine and looking forward to going home. When asked how her mother, Elsie Soliah, was doing, the younger sister said, "You can just glad everything is over."

The Symbionese Liberation Army was a band of mostly white, middle-class young people. In addition to the 1974 Hearst kidnapping, it claimed responsibility for assassinating Oakland Schools Superintendent Marcus Foster and was involved in a shootout with Los Angeles police officers that killed five SLA members.

In a sign of those turbulent times, the group adopted a seven-headed snake as its symbol and the slogan, "Death to the fascist insect that preys upon the life of the people."

"We were young and foolish. We felt we were committing an idealized, ideological action to obtain government-insured money and that we were not stealing from ordinary people," Olson wrote in an apology before her sentencing for the bank robbery. "In the end, we stole someone's life."

In Minnesota, Olson developed an identity that was worlds apart from her California past. She volunteered in social causes and acted in community theater while raising the couple's daughters. The Olson home was a frequent site of dinner parties.

Her past resurfaced in 1999, when she was arrested on charges of helping a bank robber while driving a minivan after she was Profiled on the television show "America's Most Wanted." All former, SLA members but one have been released from prison.

Emily Montague-Harris was pardoned in February 2007 after serving half her eight-year sentence. She says she accidentally fired the shotgun that killed Myrna Opsahl.
We would like to applaud Christie Intervento's "A nation of cowards," March 3) for her willingness to confront issues of race that face this country. However, we feel that this particular line of dialogue may serve to undermine our collective efforts and stunt an honest and thorough conversation on race. Firstly, one need not be the literal author of a particular piece of legislation to be a figurative one. Even if we grant Pesavento's point, we would seem that we cannot demand accountability or moral responsibility from a President based on a particular bill passed through Congress. Is this the kind of slope we want to travel on? Secondly, we do agree that it is unlikely that the New York Post cartoonist set out with an intent to create a racist cartoon. However, we cannot logically infer that a particular cartoon is not racist from a belief that intentions that caused this particular cartoon were decidedly non-racist. Simply put, it is possible for a cartoon to be racially offensive without its author intending racism, and since many black people believed it was racist, it was. Al Sharpton and other critics were objecting to the actual content of the cartoon being racist, not its author. As a matter of course, this allows a media outlet must be more sensitive to publishing potentially offensive material in a way that some of them may not be in everyday discourse. Consiously reflecting on, considering, and publishing a responsibly offensive (whether non-affected persons regard it as offensive is irrelevant) cartoon for mass consumption is an entirely different exercise than a person saying something off-the-cuff that could potentially be construed as offensive.

Thirdly, while our nation's efforts at recognizing the accomplishments of the black community and legislating of equal rights laws must be noted, we must also recognize that the de jure ending of segregation does nothing to alter the de facto segregation that still exists institutionally. Most of the pressing problems that America faces today (unemployment, failing schools, poverty, health care, crime, etc.) disproportionately affect the black community. These circumstances are direct effects of that ugly era where "we" look Africans into slavery, "we" denied them citizenship and basic human rights and "we" continued to employ blatantly segregationist measures well into the 20th century. Attorney General Holder, in calling us a nation of cowards, was merely implicating us to come to terms with our past. Real dialogue cannot begin until we can dig through the attic of our nation's history and reflect on certain actions and attitudes brought us to where we are today, and how we can move forward. Superficial dialogue, as we believe Pesavento's piece reflected, is not enough. Simply constructing arguments along the lines of "But my best friend/President is black!" under-mines the entire dialogue on race. Lastly, we wish to make two inter-related points. Firstly, naming black people have historically been victims in this nation. This does not mean black people should continue to be victims, but to ignore acts (however seemingly innocuous) that may serve to perpetuate the racial divide is irresponsible of the black community and, furthermore, of our nation's citizens. If one is not black, it is inherently difficult to extrapolate why or why not a black person should feel victimized in a particular situation. Some blacks feel victimized in some situations, some don't. Some tend to feel victimized more often than others. In any case, this judgment should be reserved solely for members of the black community. We're all for the part that trying to contribute to the dialogue on race, not fuel the fire.

On a different side of the same coin, it is inherently difficult for a non-racial minority who has not had to cope with the lingering effects of racism (of the institutional), not the individual sort to empathize with those who have felt historically victimized just because of the color of their skin. But their experiences are a reality. Though race is, by most accounts, a socially constructed concept, it is still real as far as we recognize it and have historically recognized it as a crucial factor in how we interact and have interacted with our fellow countrymen. Pesavento calls us to see each other as fellow humans, but we must not forget that race plays a significant part in our socio-cultural identities. We will always have a history of strained race relations, no matter how far they run into the distant past. The sentiment, however, that race does not sufficiently define us as humans is crucial, and our most important task is to balance these two notions in our construction of a truly diverse society.

We would like to thank Pesavento for opening up an opportunity for dialogue, and we sincerely hope that the dialogue does not die a tragic death at the end of the week.

This letter is written on behalf of the executive board of the Black Student Association. Its contributors include: Aarons Quartes, Megan Black, Danielle Keller, Chrisandra Donner, Courtney Hughes, Khal Thomas and Marques Com. They can be contacted at BSDmnd.edu

We re-express in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

“Now... My Bonus” by Prudence

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Ninety percent of the politicians give the other ten percent a bad reputation." — Henry Kissinger

U.S. diplomat and scholar

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The opportunity for brotherhood presents itself every time you meet a fellow brother." — Jane Wyman

U.S. Actress
The blacker the berry the bigger the fool

For the first 15 years of my life, I wanted to be an Schwesiger wherever the wasteland, losing hope after generation upon generation of mobile phones failed to plug me into the so-called "Information Superhighway." Sure, I found phones that could make crystal clear calls and could make crystal clear calls and find pay phones in order to get in touch with someone when I wasn't home. Nonetheless, every text message I tapped out in '97 caused a feeling of hollowness to grow with every character of text missing from my cell phone, but I couldn't quite put my finger on it. Little did I know that "it" was a little, white trackball.

When the BlackBerry arrived in 2002, I soon realized that it representated the final link between the human and the digital world. Michelangelo and his contemporaries could never have imagined that the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel would be painted by Michelangelo were alive and painting today. Adam's outstretched hand on the chest in order to get a BlackBerry was a nine-year-old bearing twins — her body could be hit with 100 paintballs on my bare chest in order to get a BlackBerry. Shoot me a BBM sometimes and maybe we'll discuss it. Until then, enjoy the SMS world. Lower.

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T.

Brad Blomstrom
The Daft Punk

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Rape vs. abortion: culture war

Recently, an abortion was performed in Brazil. Brazil's one of those places where that's only legal in cases of rape (she had been), incest (it was her stepfather) and to preserve the health of the mother (she was a nine-year-old bearing twins — her body couldn't take that). This is one of the many, many reasons you do not have sex with children). The mother of the child and the doctors who performed it were all summarily excommunicated, and their excommunication has been upheld by Pope Benedict.

Even worse, the rapist/pedophile who did this to her has been deliberately not excommunicated, because, while child molestation may be "heinous," abortion is, of course, a great deal worse. The blacker the berry, the bigger the fool.

This is not morality, nor is it ethics. When the Catholic Church explicitly values unborn, undeveloped fetuses over a nine-year-old girl who has already experienced rape and trauma at the hands of her stepfather, and now gets to grow up knowing that this same event led her mother to be excommunicated from their religion, something is wrong. The pain and suffering of living, breathing people — of children — is secondary to their "moral grandstanding."

Similarly, in the March 2 issue of the Irish Rover, staff writer Mary Kate Daly argues that some raped women have not "robustly defend[ed] their own dignity" (by, you know, not being all slutty). While she isn't "blaming" victims for their rape (she only declaring that victims "share responsibility," which, if you're a writer for the Irish Rover, apparently means something completely different), she is saying that our current focus is "completely wrong" in that rape victim is to be blamed and that raped women stop wearing sexy clothes. Maybe this isn't morality — maybe this is simply a culture war. If it is, then I guess I know what side I'm on.

James Spitalere
senior
staff writer
March 17

James Spitalere
senior
staff writer
March 17

The Observer
Wednesday, March 18, 2009

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Observer
A history of the ‘Watchmen’

By NICK ANDERSON
Scene Writer

Twenty-four years ago, Alan Moore introduced a different world: Nixon was in the White House; Vietnam victories and masked heroes patrolled the streets; pursuing law and justice. Until they were outlawed, that is. It is against this dark backdrop that Moore is able to tell one of the best tales of the last century, while stripping away any of the shining brilliance remaining on our super heroes. Moore’s epic 12-chapter graphic novel changed the way people look at both the medium and the subject of super hero comics. Gone was the American dream, replaced with stark humanity. The novel is fantastic but human, gritty but realistic, preachy but not condescending. These characteristics play into its brilliance.

When confronted with such a stunning piece of literature, Hollywood has no choice but to turn it into a full-length movie. As early as 1987, two years after the initial publication, a film was in the works from Fox. Not only were several big names attached to the film, it even had the blessing of its creator.

Recognizing his ability to win filmgoers, Warner Brother’s gave Snyder near complete creative control of the film. With fans cheering his every move, Snyder changed the PG-13 script to a full-Bodied film with heavy violence, sex and profanity of the novel.

As stills, posters and trailers reached the public, excitement grew. It’s all a base fan and spilled into the general consciousness. It seemed the film might live up to expectations and maintain public appeal, but a lawsuit from Fox threatened garnering buzz. But while not given much notice when it was filed, a judge had ruled that Fox still had the rights to the film. After weeks of questions, the studios settled out of court and prepared to finally release “Watchmen.”

After surviving over 20 years in development, one question remained: Would the film properly strip the comic of its creators’ vision.

Snyder captures the spirit of ‘Watchmen’

By MAJJA GUSTIN
Scene Writer

“Watchmen” is based on a revolutionary 90s comic book many have never heard of, but “Watchmen” also stand as a superhuman man from Krypton or a noble-hearted Vietnam veteran. The subjects are all-too-human costumed superheroes, often tailored to fit the used-to-be-human who has lost all humanity.

After the death of one of these costumed vigilantes, The Comedian (Jeffrey Dean Morgan), fellow hero Rorschach (Jackie Earl Haley) begins to suspect a plot against his comrades. What he uncovers is actually a scheme much greater than even the audience can imagine.

Many have called “Watchmen” unifiable. Its plot is thick with detail, its characters as diverse as a piece of classic literature, it requires amazing special effects and it has a loyal fan base with high expectations. Director Zack Snyder is clearly a fan of the comic book and he struggles to keep his film as close to the original material as possible. Some necessary changes were made, including a major twist in the ending, but the film stays mostly true to the comic. Snyder even keeps the original setting of Cold-War-era America when many thought he would choose a modern context involving terrorism and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The special effects are truly spectacular. Each scene is vivid and intense. Snyder never shies away from the graphic violence of the comic. “Watchmen” isn’t just violent, it is gruesome and gory. The film is not for the queasy or the faint of heart. The violence is necessary. Unlike traditional comics, “Watchmen” strives to be brutally realistic. The costumed heroes don’t disarm their opponents and turn them in to the police. They kill them with bloody brutality. The violence, while gruesome, is necessary to the integrity of the film.

Snyder also succeeds in beautifully transitioning his film between the present story and important flashbacks. Many of the nuances of the plot are told through flashbacks, and they are necessary for character development. Snyder makes the scenes flow naturally, adding to the beauty of “Watchmen.”

Watchmen

Director: Zack Snyder
Starring: Billy Crudup, Jackie Earl Haley, Malin Akerman, Patrick Wilson

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

Contact Nick Anderson at nander5@nd.edu
Watchmen fails to meet source material

By SYMOUTH RYZNER
Scene Writer

Originally released in 1986, the "Watchmen" comic was almost instantaneous greeted with unanimous praise. Covering topics from warmongering to the desirability of human scientists, it quickly gained popularity and ultimately achieved a spot on The Times 100 greatest novels. The film is a justification of the novel's relevance, yet it fails as an influence within current media.

For a movie that attempts to Xerox its source material, "Watchmen" introduces flaws that detract from its quality instead of creating and establishing the uneasiness of a terrorist-like attack on one of America's heroes, the film chooses to mimic Nixon and commercialism from the 80s. Despite consistent copying of the time period and characters from the comic for the film, "Watchmen" chooses to pursue topics that were insignificant to the viewers and destructive to the building tension. Important dialogues and soliloquies present in the comic were often rushed or avoided, most likely due to the character's subject matter that would not appeal to general audiences.

An overlong scene detracts from the film by breaking momentum only to satisfy the director's apparent longing for R-rated material. The film often loses sight of its goal, its philosophy and its attempt to appeal to the masses.

Despite the lack of blockbuster actors, all the characters are well received. Jackie Earle Haley takes on the role of Rorschach with perfect execution, providing both an image and a voice for a character that has fascinated fans for years. He plays the part as though he has lived the character and steals every scene in which he partakes. Billy Crudup as Dr. Manhattan is also memorable as he provides a foil to the mortal heroes.

For the most part, "Watchmen" manages to surround itself with a high quality soundtrack to provide a sort of back-story into the very different world of Watchmen, starting with Rob Dylan's "The Times They Are A-Changin'." Other tracks such as "All Along The Watchtower" by Hendrix, and "99 Luftballons" by Nena help solidify the film's meaning through musical and imagery-oriented allusions. Other tracks by Tyler Bates contribute and create a feel for the film. Unfortunately, these high quality moments are intermittent and often tracks, seemingly provided by the director, distract from the overall soundtrack.

The film has moments of brilliance, but succumbs to mediocrity with extreme frequency and this becomes frustrating for the audience. It entangles the viewers with strong characters but fails to deliver a strong conclusion. The development of the heroes seems wasted on the ending, which fails to dignify any characters other than Dr. Manhattan and Rorschach.

A common failure of many adaptations, "Watchmen" fails to establish itself as a film of significance by relying too heavily on the source material. It never quite becomes its own work, riding on the coattails of its predecessor. Through the film it builds characters but never quite establishes a soul of its own. The film endlessly relies on the graphic novel for guidance, sacrificing its own identity. As pleasant as it is to witness a glossary of the beloved novel, "Watchmen" never comes to life on its own.

Contact Szymon Ryzner at sryzner@nd.edu

At best, 'Watchmen' reminds audience of comic

By JACK THORNTON
Scene Writer

"Watchmen" is the only graphic novel included in Time Magazine's list of the 100 greatest novels of all time. Unfortunately, the film version of "Watchmen" will probably never be on anyone's list of the greatest movies.

On the surface, Alan Moore's novel is about masked vigilantes trying to solve a murder and prevent a possible nuclear war, a very common plot for any superhero movie or comic. What separates it from the rest of the pack are the complex characters and the depth that Moore goes to get inside their heads. The characters' philosophy and psychology propose questions to the reader that are not found in any other superhero story. If there were masked vigilantes in the real world, why assume that they would be squeaky-clean citizens like Superman or Spiderman? What is it that would actually motivate a person to dress up in a costume and fight crime? If a person did don a costume and fight crime, what would this do to his or her psyche? Would society react positively or negatively to costumed heroes working outside the law?

The answers to these questions unfold in the gritty, intense and depressing world of "Watchmen." Almost all the heroes have major psychological problems, and their opinions of humanity are so negative that they, allows themselves to operate almost completely free of conscience. The paranoid, crazy Rorschach tortures random people to get information from them and inflicts punishment on the criminals he captures without any regard to their legal rights. The brutal Comedian tries to rape one woman, and murders a former lover. The god-like Dr. Manhattan almost completely loses touch with humanity and feels little motivation to help prevent nuclear holocaust. The development and revelation of the vigilantes' characters through flashbacks are both gripping and repulsive, making "Watchmen" a thought-provoking book.

Sadly, the movie almost completely fails to go past the surface of the "Watchmen" story. Occasional glimpses of the novel's themes come through, but on the whole it is merely another entertaining superhero movie, albeit a very dark, harsh and violent one. Although almost every frame in the movie directly corresponds to a panel from the book, the movie fails to capture the intricate philosophical intentions. Director Zack Snyder uses deep philosophical moments from the book as mere excuses to throw in some stomach turning violence. Snyder is very good at filming action sequences, but his lack of ability to convey the god-like Dr. Manhattan's philosophical reflections, "Watchmen" never comes to life on its own.

Contact Jack Thornton at jthornl@nd.edu

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Contact Jack Thornton at jthornl@nd.edu
NBA

James scores Cavaliers' last five points to seal victory

Spurs victorious over Timberwolves without Duncan; Horford, Smith lead Hawks to win over Kings

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James dropped a long 3-pointer with 47.4 seconds left and added two free throws with 8.7 seconds remaining as the Cleveland Cavaliers improved to 30-1 at home with a 97-93 win over the Orlando Magic on Tuesday night.

With Cleveland trailing 93-92 in a game soaked in playoff intensity, James, wearing green and white Kawasaki blue color scheme and coldly knocked down his 3. Magic center Dwight Howard was called for a third foul on Orlando's next trip, giving the ball back to Cleveland.

James was then fouled while shooting and made his two free throws as the record- Settings and other teams with chants of “MVP.”

Rashard Lewis missed a 3-pointer with 2.5 seconds left for the Magic, who came in with the best record in the NBA’s East.

Howard had 15 points, 15 rebounds and six blocks for the Magic. But Orlando’s big man attempted just eight shots, none in the fourth quarter as the Magic chose to attack from outside.

James added 2 rebounds and 8 assists. Mo Williams added 21 points for Cleveland, who held the Magic to 18 points in the fourth quarter.

Howard had 13 points, 15 rebounds and six blocks for the Magic. But Orlando’s big man attempted just eight shots, none in the final quarter as the Magic chose to attack from outside.

Orlando took its lead first when Courtney Lee drove for a layup with 1:59 left in the first half, giving Cleveland its next possession, Delonte West missed a 3-pointer, but2. The Magic's forward Anderson Varejao got the rebound, giving the Cavs their second home loss.

Cavaliers' forward LeBron James scores the Magic’s Courtney Lee in Cleveland’s 97-93 victory Tuesday. James scored 43 points in the victory.

The high-scoring Cleveland Cavaliers proved to be too much for the Orlando Magic, who came in with the best record in the NBA’s East.

Oklahoma City to one lottery-first round pick.

Duncan wanted to play, but for the Spurs, who now await a second-round matchup with the Timberwolves. They did so behind Duncan, who entered his 20th season with the Spurs.

Duncan carried a three-point lead into the fourth period and had a chance to open a four-point lead late in the quarter. But Rafer Alston missed a jumper and Williams made Orlando pay by drilling a 3-pointer from the right wing. 1:59 left to put the Cavaliers up 92-91.

The Magic’s forward Anderson Varejao got the rebound, giving the Cavs their second home loss.

Before the game, James was asked about Orlando’s chances in the postseason. Although the Magic aren’t mentioned as often as the Cavaliers and Celtics, James knows better than to overlook them.

“Don’t make us look past any team in the playoffs,” James said. “It doesn’t matter if they’re the eighth seed or the No. 1. You’ve got to win 16 games to win it all.”

The Magic chose to attack from outside.

Spurs 93, Timberwolves 86

Tony Parker scored 24 points to once again carry San Antonio against Minnesota, and the Spurs pulled away with a 13-2 run in the first half.

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One night after losing at Boston, the Magic carried a three-point lead into the fourth period and had a chance to open a four-point lead late in the quarter. But Rafer Alston missed a jumper and Williams made Orlando pay by drilling a 3-pointer from the right wing.

Instead, he got up and made his free throws.

The Atlanta Hawks weren’t going to let anything keep them down, either.

Horford had 23 points and 12 rebounds, and Josh Smith finished with 21 points and 10 rebounds in the Atlanta’s sixth straight victory, over the Sacramento Kings on Tuesday night.

“We didn’t want to lose to a team like Sacramento,” Smith said. “No offense to them, but after beating New Orleans and Utah, teams that are on top of the Western Conference, we didn’t want to let ourselves down by losing this game. We’re just trying to separate ourselves from the pack, and we’re doing a pretty good job of it.”

The Hawks are 40-26 overall, their highest win total since 1997-98. They moved three games ahead of fifth-place Miami in the Eastern Conference.

Kevin Martin scored 31 for Sacramento, which fell to 0-27 against teams from the East and extended its losing streak to four. The Kings have dropped four straight and 13 of 14 away from California, where they are 4-30 this season.
**NCAA Men's Baseball**

**USA TODAY/ESPN Top 25**

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<tr>
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**USA ESPN.com/USA**

**NCAA Football College Top 25**

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**NCAA Men's Lacrosse**

**Nike/Inside Lacrosse Poll**

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— Compiled From The Observer's Wire Services

**NBA**

**Houston Rockets forward Carl Landry**

Around the Dial

**NBA**

**Rockets forward Landry shot in leg**

Houston Rockets forward Carl Landry, above, was shot in the leg early Tuesday morning. The former Purdue star is expected to miss one to three weeks with minor injuries stemming from the incident.

Houston police said Landry was driving his sport utility vehicle southbound on a city street, when a northbound car swerved into his path and collided with his vehicle. Landry and the driver of the other vehicle made U-turns and the vehicles collided again and Landry's SUV hit a utility pole.

Smith said Landry got out of his SUV to inspect the damage, and was shot by one of the two occupants of the car. The suspects then fled the scene, while Landry ran to get help, police said.

Smith originally said the incident occurred about 4 a.m., but said later that was the time authorities were notified. Smith did not know if Landry was the person who called police.

Landry had a female passenger in his SUV, and she was not injured, police said.

**Location and Details**

Carl Landry, a 6-foot-9 center who averaged 9.3 points and five rebounds in his second NBA season, had 12 points and six rebounds in Monday's 96-84 win that kept Houston in third place in the Western Conference standings.

Houston coach Rick Adelman said he had not talked to Landry since the shooting, but several players had checked in with their teammate.

"He just sounded happy, blessed," said point guard Aaron Brooks. "It was a situation that pretty much anybody could've been in. He's just blessed to be OK, blessed that he's alive and that he'll be back and he'll be Carl again."

**Landry's Recovery**

"We're just happy Carl is OK," Morey said. "By what we can understand, he was very lucky — obviously unlucky to have this situation happen to him, but very lucky that he came out without anything major."

The 6-foot-9 Landry has become a valuable player on the bench for the Rockets, averaging 9.3 points and five rebounds in his second NBA season. He had 12 points and six rebounds in Monday's 96-84 win that kept Houston in third place in the Western Conference standings.

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**In Brief**

Obama chooses Steelers owner as U.S. ambassador

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Tuesday selected Pittsburgh Steelers owner Dan Rooney to be U.S. ambassador to Ireland, turning to a lifelong Republican who provided the Democratic critical campaign support during the White House race.

The 76-year-old Rooney endorsed Obama over Hillary Rodham Clinton during Pennsylvania's contentious Democratic primary; Clinton won the contest last April. Rooney later campaigned for him in Steelers country in western Pennsylvania, and Obama went on to win the state last November.

The grandson of an Irish immigrant, Rooney in the 1970s helped found the American Ireland Fund, an organization that has raised millions for advocacy of peace and education in Ireland. His legacy is reflected in a Steelers-themed bar in a disused linen mill in one of the roughest parts of northwest Belfast.

Clements lawyers question defamation suit rejection

HOUSTON — Lawyers for Roger Clemens asked a federal judge to reconsider his decision dismissing most of a defamation suit the pitcher filed against his former personal trainer over allegations of performance-enhancing drug use.

U.S. District Judge Keith P. Ellison dropped most of Clemens’ lawsuit against Brian McNamee on Feb. 12, saying statements McNamee made to baseball investigator George Mitchell were protected.

McNamee told federal agents, Mitchell and a House of Representatives committee that he injected Clemens more than a dozen times with steroids and human growth hormone from 1998-2001.

In a filing Monday, Clemens lawyers asked Ellison to examine whether he was wrong in holding McNamee’s statements to Mitchell.

Mid-majors upset over major conference bias

INDIANAPOLIS — College basketball’s big boys still rule Selection Sunday.

And there’s nothing the non-power conference schools seem to be able to do about it.

The six BCS conferences took 30 of 34 at-large bids in Sunday’s NCAA tournament draw, their highest total this decade.

Davidson, last year’s tourney darlings with Stephen Curry, is out. St. Mary’s, San Diego State and Niagara, all with RPIs in the top 50, are out. Creighton, the regular-season co-champion in the Missouri Valley Conference, is out, too.

But the committee did take Arizona from the Pac-10, with an RPI of 62, and three Big Ten teams — Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota — that were hardly locks to make the 65-team field.

To the smaller-name schools, it’s a message they don’t want to hear.
NBA

Nowitzki scores 30 in Mavericks’ win over Pistons

Miller, Curry lead Bulls over Celtics despite 37 from Pierce; Rivers criticises referee after being ejected

Associated Press

DALLAS — For three quarters, the Dallas Mavericks showed that historically they had the tools to handle an injury-depleted team. Then, they nearly blew it. Although Richard Jefferson and Tim Duncan missed and the Mavs led the Detroit Pistons from start to finish Tuesday night, the Pistons got pretty close before Dallas pulled out a 103-101 victory.

"Hey, stuff happens in this league," said Nowitzki, who scored 36 points. "We’ll take the wins as we can get them."

Richard Jefferson was a late scratch for Detroit because of an aggravated groin problem. With Rasheed Wallace (left) and Allen Iverson (back) also out, the Pistons were without a combined average of 48.5 points per game, and were out of whack from the start.

Dallas made its first six shots, while Detroit missed six of its first seven. The Pistons never even tied the game while falling behind by a half after one quarter and 13 before halftime.

Down 14 going into the fourth quarter, Dallas survived because it was still able to outscore its short-handed team. Erick Dampier for a thunderous dunk. With Bill Hammy getting on a roll, and the Pistons scooping up rebound after rebound and converting them efficiently, they wound up scoring on their first nine possessions of the quarter and were within 90-85.

Dampier put Dallas back up by 10 with 2:19 left, but Detroit never went away. In the final 18 seconds, Dallas made 1-of-9 shots within 98-95, 100-97 and 101-99. They scored again as time expired to make the final score 103-101.

"It’s all predicated on how I feel tomorrow," he said. "In those situations where we don’t have the length in there, we’re going to have to do it with grit. Simple as that."

Jason Terry continued to be Nowitzki’s scoring wingman, putting up 18. Dampier tied high effort with 16 points and 13 rebounds.

The Mavs won their eighth straight at home, although this was their lone game in Dallas during a 17-day, seven-game stretch. They were coming off a 2-2 trip West and are headed East for games in Atlanta and Indiana.

Josh Howard won’t be part of the trip. This was the sixth straight game the swingman has missed because of a problem with his left ankle, and Carlisle isn’t expecting him back before late next week. Howard is getting a cortisone shot and will need arthroscopic surgery at some point, although possibly not until the offseason.

Bulls 127, Celtics 121

The latest loss was an painful and frustrating as any for the Boston Celtics, so it was no shocker when head coach Doc Rivers vented afterward.

But he didn’t aim his anger at his players. His target was a referee.

John Salmons tied a career high 38 points, and the Chicago Bulls rallied for another surprising victory, beating the Celtics on Tuesday night despite 37 points from Paul Pierce.

Rivers, meanwhile, was irate after he got whistled for his second technical foul with 29.8 seconds left. That led to an automatic ejection and a rant against Bill Kennedy.

Rivers claimed he was goaded into arguing with Kennedy, so it was no shock when he asked the official, "Where do you want the ball?" And I said, ‘Ask them,’ talking about our players.

That’s my right to say that, and I walked away. He stood there and stared me down and said, ‘Give me the ball’ and I turned around and said, ‘What?’ That’s when I got thrown out of the game.”
Theodore blanks Capitals in win

Drury scores final goal in shootout to give Rangers the victory over Canadians

**Associated Press**

**SUNBIS, Fla. — Jose Theodore shut out Florida through two periods, and then his Washington Capitals teammates took care of the Panthers all by themselves in the third. Theodore made 19 saves Tuesday night, in earning his second shutout of the season, and lifted the Capitals to a win over the slumping Panthers, who still have yet to manage a shot in the third period.

"No shots in the third period," Theodore said, "that's a first for me."

Brooks Laich and Viktor Kozlov scored for Washington, which earned its fourth win in five games. Mike Green added an empty-net goal with 1:27 left, and John Erskine had two assists.

"I thought the defense as a whole played as good as I've seen them play all year," Washington coach Bruce Boudreau said. "To hold them to zero shots in the third period and win their building, that game that they had to win was quite a testament."

Florida dropped a fourth straight game for the first time since late December. The Panthers hadn't lost two consecutive home games since January.

"Tonight was the first night I've been really disappointed with how we've played," Florida coach Pete DeBoer said. "There's been very few nights this year where I've questioned our effort level. They haven't always been pretty and we haven't always won but usually we've brought a good desperation level, and the effort's always been there. Tonight, it was questionable."

Washington remained in third place in the Eastern Conference behind New Jersey, which beat Chicago 3-2. The Capitals had an opportunity to move into second place on Monday, but lost 5-1 to the Atlanta Thrashers in Washington's mostlopsided defeat since a 6-2 loss to Florida on March 1.

Tomas Vokoun stopped 22 shots for Florida, which is in the midst of a five-game home stand.

Vokoun had lost two previous starts against Washington this season and is 1-6 in his last seven games against the Capitals.

"They played their third game in four nights. We didn't take advantage of that," Vokoun said. "It's tough. We need to get our power play going and get some kind of spark and it's crucial this time of year."

The Panthers went 8-5 in February but the team, coming off a 4-3 shootout loss to Tampa Bay on Saturday, has been struggling, of late. Florida, which has not been to the playoffs since 2000, entered Tuesday's game in ninth place in the East. The Panthers are one point behind eighth-place Carolina.

"If you can't look at the standings and create that despiration now, I don't know how you create it," DeBoer said. "We know where we're sitting and the fight we're in. That should be self-manufactured this time of year. You're not going to create that if they can't create it themselves."

Kozlov's goal made it 2-0 at 2:30 of the third period, beating Vokoun with a wrist shot from the top of the left circle. The Capitals took a 1-0 lead with Laich's short-handed goal at 5:46 in the second period. A wrist shot from a sharp angle found the back of the net for his 18th goal.

"I threw the puck at the net," Laich said. "I watched the goalie and he was a little inside the crease, maybe he played the angle a little bit too much. It's a lucky goal, but you throw the puck at the net, you never know what happens."

Alex Ovechkin, held without a point for the first time in 11 games of the season, scored off Green on Green's goal, but it was the first time in a month that he has had back-to-back games without netting a goal.

**Rangers 4, Canadiens 3**

MONTREAL — Chris Drury put the New York Rangers ahead for good with their final shot, and the Montreal Canadiens ultimately ran out of comebacks.

Drury scored the deciding goal in the shootout to give New York a win over Montreal on Tuesday night.

Markus Naslund and Nikol Antropov beat Carey Price on the Rangers' first two attempts before Drury scored to seal the win for New York, which blew three-one goal leads in regulation.

Henrik Lundqvist, who made his 60th start of the season, stopped Andrei Kostitsyn on the Canadiens' first attempt after making 26 traditional saves. He was beaten by Alexei Kovalev and Andrei Markov as the Canadians drew even twice in the shootout by converting each of their next two attempts.

Lundqvist was very disappointed to let in two out of three, but they're pretty skilled. You have to give them that," Lundqvist said. "When I came in here I thanked Drury right away. It was a big goal. We didn't have to come back for another round, and that's a huge point for us."

New York moved one point ahead of Montreal into sole possession of sixth place in a tightly contested Eastern Conference playoff race.

"We found a way," Rangers coach John Tortorella said. "Both teams I thought played hard and it could have gone either way, but we found a way to win.

Antropov, Nikolai Zhdev and Ryan Callahan all scored to stake the Rangers to leads.

"We just played 65 minutes of playoff hockey," Antropov said. "It was up and down, it was a great feeling. The fans were the same as we played when I was in Toronto because these are both Original Six teams, so it's always a rivalry and a nice atmosphere."
**United States stays alive with 9th-inning win**

America overcomes a two-run deficit in the 9th to defeat Puerto Rico in the second round of the World Baseball Classic

**U.S.**

Mike Piazza lifted the Americans to victory with a three-run home run in the ninth against J.C. Romero (1-1).

The team rallied after Morehead had stranded seven runners in scoring position in the first eight innings.

The WBC has something similar to do, as Tuesday's modest crowd of 13,126 was smaller than the tournament's version of the Yankees and Red Sox.

**NHL**

Brodeur passes Roy on all-time win list

Long-time New Jersey goalie earns record-breaking win in victory over Blackhawks

**Newark, NJ — Hobbled and humbled, Martin Brodeur on Wednesday became the Devils' career record-setter on the night for NHL commissioner Gary Bettman added. "The National "Thank you, Marty" as the American overcomes a two-run deficit in the 9th to defeat Puerto Rico in the second round of the World Baseball Classic. "We're taking this very seriously," Wright said. "This isn't an easy win. We'll carry that win with us into the next game against a strong team like Puerto Rico."
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NHL
Detroit rallies in final minutes to beat Philly
Penguins' Malkin reaches 100 points in win

Detroit — The Detroit Red Wings' patience and hard work paid off. Johan Franzen and Henrik Zetterberg scored 1:52 apart in the third period to wipe out a one-goal deficit and rally Detroit to a 3-2 win over the Philadelphia Flyers on Tuesday night.

Pavel Datsyuk had a goal and an assist, and Franzen also had an assist for Detroit, which hadn't lost to Philadelphia at home since Nov. 4, 1998 (14-0-2). Chris Osgood made 24 saves.

"In the end, we found a way," Zetterberg said. "We made their defense tired because we stayed in their end a long time. Eventually with patience and shooting the puck, the puck went in." Scott Hartnell had a goal and an assist, and Jeffrey Lupul also scored for Philadelphia. Marty Turco stopped 45 shots.

"We've got some work to do to catch up with them," Flyers coach John Stevens said. "We made a mistake and Lupul went in there on a screen and made a great move." The Red Wings are the defending Stanley Cup champions and have the most points in the NHL this season. Philadelphia is tied for second in the Atlantic Division.

Franzen made it 2-2 at 9:47 of the third period with his 29th goal. It was set up by Datsyuk, who got to a puck along the left wing boards and avoided defenseman Ryan Parent at the same time. Datsyuk then sent a cross-ice pass to Franzen, who put a shot over the sprawling Turco.

"It was Pav all over the ice," Osgood said. "Making great plays, backchecking, stealing pucks." Zetterberg broke the tie with 8:41 left when he scored from the left circle, his 29th goal.

"This game's fair. If you do things right and do them right longer, you tend to win more often," Detroit coach Mike Babcock said. "We made a mistake take a couple times and they scored on their chances, but I thought it was fair. The team that stuck with it the longest got a win tonight." Philadelphia held a 2-1 lead after two periods.

Lupul's 21st goal gave the Flyers a 2-0 lead 4:25 into the second period. He beat Osgood from the right circle with a shot off the ricochet.

Datsyuk put the Red Wings on the board with 2:33 left in the second with his 28th goal, beating Turco high on the short side with a wrist shot from the outside edge of the left circle.

"It was just a great shot," Turco said. "I didn't give him much, I didn't think I gave him much. It was just a great shot." Turco named Malkin the NHL's 2008-09 player of the year.

Philadelphia led 1-0 after the first period despite being outshot 19-8.

Hartnell opened the scoring with 3:26 left when he took a long pass from Braydon Coburn for a partial breakaway and, while holding off Marian Hossa, beat Osgood. It was Hartnell's 26th goal. The Flyers had trailed after the first period in their previous 11 games.

Pittsburgh 6, Atlanta 2
Evgeni Malkin was held scoreless in three of his previous five games, and he missed practice Monday because he was ill.

It seemed the Penguins' star was losing his grip on the NHL scoring title. One stellar performance was all Malkin needed to regain control.

The Russian All-Star tied a career-high with five points to surpass 100 for the second consecutive season and the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Atlanta Thrashers Tuesday night.

He played great tonight, and it's fun to see that," captain Sidney Crosby said. "When he's playing well, everything he touches, he makes something happen. That's a great feeling and that's a good sign for us when he's playing well.

Malkin had two goals and three assists to give him 102 points this season. He extended his lead in the scoring race over Crosby to 10 points.

"I'm happy because we won," Malkin said. "We played great, the team played great. I did not feel great on the day off, but I was better today."

Sergei Gonchar had a goal and three assists and Kris Letang and Crosby had two assists each for Pittsburgh in a game matching the two hottest teams in the Eastern Conference.

Atlanta entered with a franchise-record six-game winning streak, and the Penguins improved to 11-1-3 under interim coach Dan Bylsma.

Bryan Little and Eric Boulton scored for Atlanta, which was playing without star winger Ilya Kovalchuk for the third straight game due to an unspecified upper body injury.

The Thrashers were miffed that rookie Zach Bogosian was knocked out of the game on a hit by Matt Cooke. Cooke was given a two-minute penalty for tripping on the play, but Atlanta wanted at least a major for kneeing.

"It was definitely knee-on-knee," Thrashers coach John Anderson said. "The referee said if (Bogosian) was injured, (Cooke) would have gotten five minutes. He was injured—he just didn't lay on the ice."

That second-period incident stewed and likely led to a melee with 4:16 to play in which 44 penalty minutes were assessed and Boris Valabik sustained an unspecified injury in a fight with Eric Godard.

"To me (Bogosian) is an 18-year-old future superstar, and if people are going to protect superstars in this league then that was a knee in my book and in anyone's book," Valabik said. "I think you can't hurt anybody with a trip, and that (hit) you could hurt somebody with."

Chris Kunitz, Jordan Staal and Mark Eaton also scored for the Penguins, who are on a 3-0-2 run and are 9-1-1 in their past 11 at home.
Jazz end three-game losing streak with win

76ers triumph with Iguodala’s 3 at buzzer

The Observer ◆ SPORTS

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

NBA

SALT LAKE CITY — Deron Williams admitted that the Utah Jazz put an underwhelming end to a three-game losing streak.

The Jazz played well enough to beat the Washington Wizards 103-88 on Tuesday night, but knew they got away with mistakes that the Wizards could not cost them against better teams.

"I don't think it was our best effort, but we did what we had to do," said Williams, who had 12 points and eight assists.

After winning 12 straight, the Jazz had lost the final three games of a five-game road trip and couldn’t afford to slip up against the hapless Wizards, who have the second-worst record in the NBA.

"It was just important for us to get this one—just for our confidence," Williams said. "We had three tough losses on the road and we were struggling. Ronnie Brewer scored 13 despite playing only the second and fourth quarters as punishment for oversleeping and missing Tuesday morning’s shootaround. Kyle Korver added 15 points on his 28th birthday as Utah players scored in double figures.

Nick Young and Jean Dixon had 14 points each to lead Washington.

Antawn Jamison added 13 points and 10 rebounds and Andray Blatche pulled down 13 boards for the Wizards, who hung with the Jazz for the first half but couldn’t keep up in the third quarter.

"I thought in the first half our defense was actually pretty solid. In the second half they wore us down and that ends up being the story of the game," Washington coach Ed Tapscott said. "I think we came back against this team a lesson learned."

Mehmet Okur scored 13 points and grabbed six rebounds as the Jazz put Paul Millsap scored 10 points each for Utah, which finished 14-23 under coach Tyrone Corbin's history against the Jazz, who won their 12th straight home game.

"I didn't think we played par- ticularly well tonight," Korver said. "We finally got some stops and we were able to get out and run a little bit."

The losing streak knocked Utah to No. 7 in the Western Conference playoff race and out of the Northwest Division lead. With 14 regular-season games remaining, the Jazz can put themselves anywhere from No. 2 in the West to out of the play-offs completely.

"That’s one of the things you always have to be concerned about is are the playoffs impor- tant enough for you to go after it?" Utah coach Jerry Sloan said. "We can talk about it all we want, but sometimes our effort doesn’t look like that."

Utah was playing at home for the first time since March 6 and was sluggish through the first half while taking a 46-36 lead. Utah had a little more life in the third quarter as Williams sparked the offense and the Jazz went 12-2 for-21 from the floor.

"It wasn’t the prettiest game. It was a little ugly," Boozer said. "For us, we’ll take a win after a three-game slide."

Utah used a 7-0 run to pull away early, then really got going after a brief confrontation between Williams and Dixon in front of the Utah bench.

Dixon caught Williams up high with a foul during a drive toward the basket with 8:07 left in the period. Williams had a few words for Dixon as he was pulled away by teammates, including Boozer, who charged in and cleared out some room for his star point guard.

Williams made both free throws to give Utah a 71-51 lead, then a few minutes later bounced a backward pass between his legs to Okur, who drove for a layup to put Utah up 62-43. The pans was pretty, but Williams tipped it on his next assist when he threw an alley- oop before he was even at the midcourt line for a reverse dunk by C.J. Miles that put the Jazz up 64-43 with 5:31 left.

"Just looked up and was kind of surprised to see him come back," Williams said, sneaking a job in at his teammate’s “That means he wasn’t rebounding.”

Philadelphia 94, Los Angeles 93

Andre Iguodala scored 25 points, including a buzzer-beating 3-pointer, and the Philadelphia 76ers overcame a 14-point fourth-quarter deficit to stun the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

The Sixers were trailing 75-67 when interim coach Tony DiLeo put little-used forward Donyell Marshall into the game for the first time, hoping he could the same spark he did in Sunday’s 85-77 win over Miami when he scored 10 fourth-quarter points—his first since Feb. 17.

The 14-year veteran drained a 3-pointer 19 seconds later, igniting a 20-2 blitz that turned Philadelphia’s 12-point deficit into an 86-80 lead with 5:24 to play. Marshall capped the rally with another 3-pointer, then hit his third 3 of the game to put the Sixers back in front 91-89 with 2:22 left.

Paul Gasol hit two free throws for the Lakers with 1:39 to go, and Kobe Bryant—who scored 11 points during a foul-plagued 32 minutes—hit a 3-pointer with 93-91 lead after missing his previous five shots.

Then Andre Miller inbounded to Iguodala, who was covered loosely by Trevor Ariza before connecting from the top of the key.

The Lakers were ahead 59-58 when Bryant tried to set a screen for Ariza and was called for an offensive foul with 6:32 left in the third quarter. That was Bryant’s fourth of the game, and the reigning MVP didn’t report back in until the start of the fourth period.

In the meantime, the Lakers outscored Philadelphia 10-0 over the final 3:03 of the quarter to pull ahead 73-62, and Jordan Farmar’s 3-pointer gave Los Angeles its biggest lead, 76- 62, 16 seconds into the final period.

Fame & Fortune

RILEY PRIZE
in ART HISTORY & CRITICISM

Current Notre Dame undergraduate and graduate students are invited to submit essays on any topic in the history of art or art criticism for consideration in the competition. CASH PRIZES.

Rules governing the competition are available in the Art Department Office, 306 Riley Hall.

Due in the Art Department Office by 5:00 pm, Monday, March 23.

Please recycle. The Observer.
Rockets
continued from page 24
played since the March 10-11 Buzz Classic because their planned five-game series in Virginia over the weekend was canceled due to rain and snow.

On March 10, Toledo won its first game of the season, a 7-4 decision over Georgetown.

Gumpf said she does not consider a team’s record when preparing the team. "Let me tell you, anyone can beat you," she said. "We try to practice for every single team we play exactly the same. We just need to focus on what we do right, not what our opponent does right or wrong."

Senior pitcher Brittany Bargar (6-5) and sophomore pitcher Jody Valdivia (2-5) will each start a game for the Irish. Bargar holds a 1.47 ERA in 76 innings pitched, and Valdivia has a 4.12 ERA in 31-1 innings pitched.

Sophomore Sadie Pitzenberger leads the Irish offensively with a .322 batting average. Juniors Heather Johnzon and Christine Lux share the team lead with 10 runs batted in.

Lux, the team’s first baseman, also leads the team on the defensive side. She has 92 put-outs and has yet to commit an error.

Gumpf said she would not be making any big changes to her lineup or field.

"I think every time we’re out there we’re making little adjustments to get a little bit better," she said.

Rockets pitcher Brooke Gatos was named Mid-American Conference player of the week on March 11. At the Buzz Classic, she batted .357 and had a 3.00 ERA with six strikeouts on the mound.

This will be Notre Dame’s last game before it begins Big East play Sunday against St. John’s.

The first game of the doubleheader will begin today at 3:30 p.m. and the second will follow at 5:30 p.m.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

Sherry singled, and Tate laid down a sacrifice bunt to move him to second. After right fielder David Mills Dighton grounded into a fielder’s choice, Tate was out at second and third with one out. McConnell then beat out a throw to get an infield single, and Barnes scored the winning run on the play.

Freshman Will Hudgins (1-0) got the win for Notre Dame. Hudgins pitched 2 1-3 innings of no-hit ball after replacing freshman starter Dustin Itsap, who gave up four runs on six hits in 5 2-3 innings. Junior Steven Mazur got the save, striking out two in the top of the ninth.

"The win was the key today," Schrage said. "They scored four runs and he just shut them down.

Junior reliever Scott Brothers Jr. took the loss for the Cardinals.

The Irish are now won four straight and seven of their last eight after a successful spring break trip to Texas.

"We’re starting to settle in and get some consistency," Greg Sherry, Irish third baseman

Luck continued from page 24
the game."

Senior shortstop Jeremy Barnes’ single jump-started an eighth inning that would allow the Irish to take the lead for good.

Junior second baseman Ryan Intlekofer singled, but an error allowed both him and Barnes to advance, giving the Irish runners on second and third with one out. McConnell then beat out a throw to get an infield single, and Barnes scored the winning run on the play.

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NCAA Tournament
Obama releases NCAA bracket

Associated Press

NEW YORK — President Barack Obama is picking Louisville, North Carolina, Memphis and Pittsburgh for the Final Four in the NCAA men’s basketball tournament.

The First Hoops Fan indulged in one of the week’s most popular pastimes, filling out his NCAA bracket Tuesday for ESPN. The network, which is hosting Obama’s bracket online Wednesday, is also showing Andy Katz’s report on “Sportscenter” at noon EDT, where the president and his brother-in-law, Craig Katz, will discuss the picks.

"The president stuck primarily with No. 1 seeds. The sole exception was Memphis, seeded No. 2 behind Connecticut in the West regional. "It was an educated bracket," Katz said. "He knew what he was doing. It wasn’t some random kind of pick. He’s not a political favorites or anything like that." A private campaign promoter for Obama said Tuesday that the president was not involved in the hoops scoop.

Katz interviewed Obama during the presidential campaign last October for a story about the president’s brother-in-law, Oregon State head basketball coach Craig Gottlieb. After the interview, Obama invited Katz to pick a pickup basketball game in an Election Day in Chicago, and he did.

Katz extracted a promise from Obama that if elected, the new president would reveal his NCAA picks before the ESPN when the pairings were announced in March. "They stayed true to their word and didn’t hesitate to get the picks in early," Katz said.

Even with a lot on his mind, Obama seemed up on the latest news, such as which teams had won conference tournaments and what players were injured, he said.

Even if they had even good natured arguing, Katz is picking Wake Forest and Cincinnati to advance to the regional tournament. Katz’s pick of the Final Four along with North Carolina, Wisconsin and Memphis. The two men also disagreed on the eventual national champion.
Find out more about your favorite ND and SMC teams at www.observersportsblog.wordpress.com
MEN'S BASKETBALL

One down, four to go

Irish beat Birmingham in first round of NIT

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Just because it was St. Patrick's Day Tuesday doesn't mean the good Irish karma on campus would make things easy for Notre Dame. After all, Notre Dame was founded by a French priest and has a French name, and it was Alabama-Birmingham (UAB) who came dressed for the occasion in its road-green uniforms.

Nevertheless, No. 2-seed Notre Dame (19-14) was able to gut out a 70-64 win over the No. 7-seed Blazers (22-12) in the opening round of the National Invitational Tournament in front of an official crowd of 2,039 at the Joyce Center.

Senior guard Kyle McAlarney dribbles around a UAB defender during Notre Dame's 70-64 win over the Blazers Tuesday. The Irish advanced to the second round of the NIT Tournament.

ND SOFTBALL

Squad set to kick off home play

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The weather got better at just the right time for the Irish.

Notre Dame (8-10) will host a doubleheader against Toledo (1-10) today at Melissa Cook Stadium.

The games mark the home opener for the team, which spent the first part of the season playing in warmer locales.

Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said being at home should help her team.

"I think our advantage is that it's our first home game and that we're a good ball club," she said. "We're prepped to play."

The Rockets have not

see UAB/page 22

BASEBALL

Irish slip by Cards in opener

Freshman pitcher Hudgins records first career victory

By BILL BRINK

A close game came down to an infield single, but the ball rolled Notre Dame's way.

Sophomore catcher Cameron McConnell's dribbler gave Notre Dame a 5-4 win over Ball State Tuesday at Eck Stadium.

"We played on St. Patrick's Day and the luck of the Irish came through," Irish coach Dave Schrage said. "We couldn't get a sacrifice bunt down so we got a swinging bunt down and it ended up winning the game."

see LUCK/page 21

SMC SOFTBALL

Freshman tosses no-hitter in Belles sweep

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Freshman Angela Gillis became an instant star when she threw a no-hitter to help the Belles sweep a doubleheader against Goshen Tuesday at Saint Mary's.

The Belles shut out Goshen in both contests, winning the first game 4-0 and the second 11-0.

"Gillis was fantastic," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "She hit all of her spots and stayed very composed out there on the mound. Ashley Fusaro also called a great game for us behind the plate, and our defense made some great plays behind her."

Gillis (6-0) struck out seven of the 18 batters she faced in the game.

The Belles' bats were behind Gillis throughout the game, and the team jumped out to an early 5-0 lead after the first inning.

"Chemistry is definitely a strength for our team at this point," Sullivan said. "We don't know which portion of our team is going to step up for us on a day-to-day basis, which makes us tough to scout. Today it was our bats, but other days our pitching has really stepped up and helped us win some close games."

Junior Ashley Peterson and senior Cathy Kuzma added to the lead for the Belles with home runs in the second and third innings, respectively.

Freshman Kristen Nelson also drove in a run in the third inning of the game to give the Belles an 8-0 lead.

In the first game, freshman Monica Palicki threw a three-hit shutout to earn her fifth win.

see SHUTOUT/page 21

see ROCKETS/page 21

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Laxers beat Rutgers in first Big East game of season

By MEGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

No. 11 Notre Dame celebrated St. Patrick's Day with an 18-9 victory over Rutgers to start Big East play. The Irish (7-1, 1-0) increased their winning streak to six games.

Leading Notre Dame were senior attack Jillian Byers and senior attack Gina Sciosia. Byers owns the Irish points record with 259, including 34 this season after scoring four goals on seven shots. Sciosia brought her point total to 38 with two goals and six assists.

Following Byers and Sciosia were sophomores Ameyler Stewart and Kaitlin Keena. Stewart scored three goals on her three shots while Keena netted two of her five shots on goal and made an assist.

for the Irish were sophomores Kaelene Abt, Shaylyn Blaney and Jackie Dooherty and senior Beth Koloups. Freshmen Megan Sullivan and Maggie Tamasitis both came off the bench to make their first appearances in a game, Sullivan scoring twice and Tamasitis once.

In goal, senior goalie Erin Goodman played 47 minutes and made seven saves. She was relieved with 12:23 left to play by junior Amy Winik, who closed out the game.

Leading the Rutgers scoring were senior midfield Michelle Poole with three goals and junior midfield Mary Gray with two.

The game was the 10th meeting of the two teams and the seventh win in the series for the Irish, including going 4-1 at home against the Scarlet Knights. This is the second consecutive win in the series for the Irish, after defeating the Scarlet Knights 20-9 at Rutgers last season.

Next up for the Irish is a third consecutive home game. They will take on California (4-3) in a nonconference game Sunday at 1:00 p.m. at the Loftus Sports Center.

Contact Meghan Veselik at mvessel01@stmarys.edu

see SMC/page 21

see SMC/page 21

LEFT FIELDER GOLDEN TATE runs after hitting a triple in the third inning of Notre Dame's 5-4 win over Ball State.