Notre Dame Response holds prayer rally
Coalition organizes first of several planned events to protest selection of President Obama as May Commencement speaker

Admissions Office received second-highest number of applications in history for class of 2013

The average ACT score is 32.6, Mundy said.

News Writer

By ALICIA SMITH

News Writer

Approximately 400 people participated in a prayer rally Sunday to protest the University's decision to invite President Barack Obama to speak at the Commencement ceremony and award him with an honorary degree.

The purpose of the rally, which took place in front of the Main Building, was to kick off the Notre Dame student response and set the tone for a respectful, prayer-centered disagreement. Notre Dame Right to Life Club president Mary Daly said, "Since 1973, a plague has ravished our country," said senior Chris Lahadie, the chair of the newly-formed Notre Dame Response coalition, in a speech at the rally. "It's a plague that not only kills the body, but also souls. This plague is abortion."

Palm Sunday is the perfect day to begin our struggle," he said.

"This prayer assembly is our first work, our first action, with many more to come," Lahadie said. People from across the country attended the rally. Daly said. The rally consisted of several speeches and a rosary prayer. White flowers were also passed out to be placed at the Grotto.

"The flowers are meant to represent the innocent life of chil-

see RALLY/page 4

Registrar improves class search capability

By AMANDA GRAY

News Writer

Notre Dame's Office of the Registrar is implementing a new search engine for classes for the fall of 2009, assistant registrar Chris Temple said.

"Enhanced Class Search" is accessible to students by logging into the regular online Class Search using their netID and password," Temple said. "The enhanced functionality includes a

see CLASS/page 4

Notre Dame Response holds prayer rally
Coalition organizes first of several planned events to protest selection of President Obama as May Commencement speaker

University admits top academic class
Admissions Office received second-highest number of applications in history for class of 2013

By NORA KENNEY

News Writer

From a pool of 14,352 applicants, Notre Dame accepted its most academically competitive class yet, said Bob Mundy, the director of admissions operations.

The average SAT score of admitted students for the class of 2013 is 1434 — seven points higher than that of students from the class of 2012. The average ACT score is 32.6, Mundy said.

On average, admitted students were in the top four percent of their high school classes, he said.

Mundy said the applicant pool for the class of 2013 was the second largest in history — following the class of 2011, when about 14,500 applications were submitted. The number of applications increased 3

see 2013/page 6

Dance Marathon raises $91,538
Annual Saint Mary's event brings in money for Riley Hospital

By ALICIA SMITH

News Writer

After a night of standing up for a good cause, the Saint Mary's Dance Marathon committee announced they had raised over $90,000 during the academic year for Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

"Our total was $91,538.24, which was a $6,000 increase over last year," Dance Marathon president Sarah

see DANCE/page 6

Hundreds participate in CommUniversity Day

By MOLLY MADDEN

News Writer

Approximately 700 Notre Dame students and 500 members of the South Bend community took part in the first annual CommUniversity Day Saturday, said outgoing Student Senate Social Concerns Committee chair Michelle Byrne.

"We had a lot of students doing service with members of the community," Byrne said. "I think that was the biggest sign that the event was successful — the community members and Notre Dame students were there and working together."

CommUniversity Day, organized by Notre Dame's student government, was dedicated to bringing together members of the Notre Dame and South Bend communities to perform service together as a cohesive unit.

Projects began in the morning and some went on for the whole day, with Notre Dame students

see SERVICE/page 6
**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Headphone etiquette**

The girl at the table next to me last week was listening to "Hips Don't Lie" by Shakira. The guy across the room from me was listening to rock and roll with a lot of drums.

They both had their headphones on and were immersed in their headphones. I don't know what their music taste is because I peer over their shoulders. I don't just imagine what they are listening to, either. I know because I can hear it.

The first time I heard music through someone else's headphones was last year in the basement of the library. My friend and I thought it was hilarious to watch the girl sit in her booth and bounce her head to the beat. The humor faded, however, when we realized how hard it was to concentrate with a thumping bass in the background.

In the past few weeks, I have heard music through headphones in every silent room in which I attempt to study. I only wish with this was an exaggeration.

Even my own dorm room is not a safe haven. Last week I shared roommates' love for the Joshua Radin Pandora station, I hear her her headphones. I can get over the distraction of the music. Well, most of the time. I am currently having trouble focusing on this column because I can hear not just one, but two people's music blasting through their headphones.

I can also laugh it off most of the time. I've exchanged some giggles with complete strangers over other people's odd taste in music. The listeners are always oblivious though — there's no way to hear our laughter over their tunes.

I am most concerned for the personal health of these music lovers. Our generation is the first to use headphones from a young age. I don't think that I needed to do much medical research to figure out that we are going to go deaf if we continue blasting headphones at unnecessarily high volumes.

You think your grandparents are hard of hearing? I can't imagine how loudly our own grandchildren will have to shout at us.

I have a solution: just turn it down. Everyone — your ears and the people around you.

This solution is easier said than done. Many of the students I have interviewed say that they have been raised to love the Joshua Radin Pandora station, love for the Joshua Radin Pandora station, and find their headphones a necessity.

I am also fairly certain that we would be embarrassed if we did.

So here's a test. Adjust your music to the volume of your choice. Then pull the headphones out of your ears and press them lightly against something else. Can you still hear the music? If not, turn it down.

I guarantee that it is possible to enjoy music at a lower volume. I know this because, when I'm not desperately seeking a silent study space, I occasionally listen to my IPod. I make sure that no one else can hear it, though. I would be mortified if anyone knew that sometimes I listen to Taylor Swift's "Love Story" on repeat.

The views expressed in the Inside Columns are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Laura McCrystal at lmcryst@nd.edu

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**QUESTION OF THE DAY:** What Pokémon character would you be and why?

Gavin Do
freshman
Steigfeld

"Charizard, because he is the most dominant Pokemon of all time."

Ian Giles
freshman
Knot

"Kirby, because he's better than Pikachu at Super Smash Bros. on N64."

Kally Veenstra
freshman
Lyons

"Nintales, because I can breathe fire (I wish)."

Kirsten Adam
freshman
Welsh Family

"Eevee, because I don't know what I want to do with my life."

Phil Black
sophomore
Fisher

" Ditto, so I could be all of them."

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**LOCAL WEATHER**

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**IN BRIEF**

The Krae Institute for International Peace Studies is hosting a lecture titled "Taliban and the War on Terror in Pakistan" today at 4 p.m. in C104-105 Hesburgh Center. Visiting scholar Mona K. Sheikh, from the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara will talk about her experiences in Pakistan.

The Walsh Hall Tree Sit will take place Tuesday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on God Quad in front of Walsh Hall. The event will feature free food, music and fun. Donations will benefit the Arbor Day association.

A lecture titled "Modeling Human Cancer in the Mouse" will take place Tuesday at 5 p.m. in 101 Jordan Hall of Science. Dr. Mario Camperi, 2007 Nobel Laureate in Physiology and Medicine will speak about his innovative "knockout mice" technology.

The Krae Institute and the Notre Dame International Security Program will co-sponsor a lecture titled "Obama and Afghanistan: More Troops, What Else?" Tuesday at 4:15 p.m. in C103 Hesburgh Great. Thomas A. Schweich, who is an Ambassador-in-Residence and Visiting Professor at Washington University in St. Louis will deliver the lecture. He formerly served the Bush administration as ambassador for countermurder and justice reform in Afghanistan.

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

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**COFFEE**

French finds art framed with marijuana

DOUGLAS, Ariz. — It wasn't the beauty of the paintings that caught of the eye of Customs agents. It was their drug-sniffing dog turning up his nose at the art that stopped the show.

Federal officials in Arizona say a man was taken into custody after Customs and Border Protection officers found 90 pounds of marijuana hidden in the frames of six large paintings in his vehicle.

Officers selected the man's vehicle for a routine inspection Friday at the border crossing in Douglas, Ariz., and their dog detected the smell of the paintings.

A X-ray revealed the marijuana in the frames. Man drops, daves ring in Brooklyn Bridge proposal

An X-ray revealed the marijuana in the frames. Man drops, daves ring in Brooklyn Bridge proposal

A police van that patrols the bridge stopped traffic to let him retrieve it.

The couple's ring was slightly bent, but the diamonds were still in place.

A police van that patrols the bridge stopped traffic to let him retrieve it.

The couple's ring was slightly bent, but the diamonds were still in place.

The Coram resident and girlfriend Gina Pellicani plan to get married on April 24, 2010, the anniversary of the day they started dating four years ago.

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**Saint Mary’s Club Volleyball team won the Butler University Bulldog Challenge on Saturday. Team members pictured from left, Katie Meunier (ND), Erin Conway (ND), Lauren Jepson (ND), Kaitlyn Howard (ND), Emily Gregerson (SJC) and Stephanie Cripps (ND).**

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**OFFBEAT**

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have a complaint, please contact us at 631-4514 so we can correct our error.
Lecture addresses evolution, religion

Conference offers multidisciplinary approach to Darwin's theory

By LAURA MCCRYSTAL
News Writer

Darwinism and religion can be compatible despite the perceived conflict between them, Notre Dame philosophy professor Alvin Plantinga said in a lecture Friday.

Many Americans see theistic religion, which includes Christianity, Judaism and Islam, as incompatible with evolution, Plantinga said in his lecture, which was part of "Evolution of Age: Multidisciplinary Reflections on Darwin 150 Years Later," a conference held Friday and Saturday at Notre Dame.

"It has to do with the thought that God has created human beings in his image," he said.

People do not see how religion fits into evolution because they hear scientists argue that evolution is unplanned and therefore cannot be guided by God, Plantinga said.

Yet Plantinga said it is possible that God guides the random genetic mutations in Darwinism, which would make evolution compatible with religion.

"On the face of it, it appears as if God could cause that process," he said.

Opposing views of random mutations cause this superficial conflict between evolution and religion, Plantinga said.

The notion that evolution is unplanned depends on how scientists choose to define Darwin's concept of random mutations, Plantinga said. He said he disagrees with scientists who believe that random mutations require a complete lack of guidance.

"The point is that a mutation ... is random just if neither the organism nor its environment contains a mechanism or process or organ that causes adaptive mutations to occur," he said.

Plantinga said this clarified definition of random mutation would allow for God's guidance.

"It's perfectly compatible that these mutations can be random in this sense but also caused by God," he said. "I'm asking if it's because we're regularly told by the experts ... that the evolutionary process is unguided." Plantinga also said that naturalism, which is an extreme form of atheism, is not necessarily compatible with evolutionary theory.

While it seems contradictory, naturalism is less compatible with evolution than theistic religion, Plantinga said.

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmcyrst@nd.edu

Philosophy professor Alvin Plantinga speaks at Darwin lecture Friday, explaining the role of random mutations in evolutionary theory.

CEO to speak on Catholic health care

President of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center will speak about ministry in hospitals

Special to The Observer

Nancy R. Hellyer, president and chief executive officer of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRMC), will speak on "Catholic Ministry in Health Care" on Wednesday at the University of Notre Dame.

"It is not surprising that the experts ... that the evolutionary process is unguided," Plantinga said.

"As polls reveal, many Americans have great doubt about evolution," he said. "I think it's because we're regularly told by the experts ... that the evolutionary process is unguided." Plantinga also said that naturalism, which is an extreme form of atheism, is not necessarily compatible with evolutionary theory.

While it seems contradictory, naturalism is less compatible with evolution than theistic religion, Plantinga said.

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmcyrst@nd.edu

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Photo is rendering completion August 2009

NEW LEASING
Randall Terry, who was helping hand out flowers. Sarah Mervosh

Meklis said she attended the rally because "preserving the Catholic identity of this institution is important."

Stephanie Martin, a staff member at the University, said she attended the rally to support the students and join others in prayer.

"We don't pay the University, the university pays us," Martin said. "But we can... respectfully and just a Catholic issue, but "transcends cultural divides."

"This is like the rape of Catholic orthodoxy, sociology, and justice. This will affect the Catholic world for at least a generation," he said. "It's not just about the students, I'm sorry to say." National+recognized+attorney+Harold+Cassidy was the primary speaker at the rally. Daly said his speech was meant to show the issue at hand is more than Notre Dame and "affects the secular section of this university."

Cassidy said abortion is not just a Catholic issue, but "transcends any religion that also, "transcends religion itself."

"A truly Catholic belief is in the immaculate conception," Cassidy said. "Secular expressions of the sanctity of life... are everywhere. Many believe there is a consensus among Americans that abortion should be legal, but no such consensus exists, "he said.

"The majority of Americans think it was wrong in 1973, and still think today, that abortion should be illegal," Cassidy said. "If Roe vs. Wade did not stand in the way, [then] the majority believes this would be immediately evident."

Cassidy's also said many think being anti-abortion means being anti-women. But abortion is not good for women, he said.

Harold Cassidy

attorney

Class continued from page 1

three-section design correspondence to three new/upgradable sources of information: Enrollment History, Instructor, Course Descriptive and Student Feedback.

The Student Feedback plays a crucial role, said Ryan Brellenthin, the former Student Senate Affairs Committee and current student government Chief of Staff. "The student responses are shown for the next semester," Brellenthin said. "More and more data is compiled over time, giving more information." The information compiled comes from the Course Instructor Feedback Form, the electronic class review system that the University switched to in the fall of 2008, according to the CIF Web site. The information is then compiled into ratings for the course and teacher similar to the popular Web site NDToday.com but with a few key differences. Brellenthin said, "The only people that respond to NDToday.com are professors." The Enhanced Class Search is comprehensive and accurate.

Ryan Brellenthin

student government chief of staff

Class continued from page 1

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student government chief of staff

For Information email irishstudies@nd.edu or call 631-3555.

Which slogan should be on our T-Shirt? Irish Studies:

- We're magically delicious!
- Where the only thing green is everything.
- Where the Fighting Irish & loving Irish meet.
- Snake free for over 1,500 years.
- Don't hate us because of Colin Farrell.
- Day at irishstudies@nd.edu

The Observer is looking for students, preferably business majors, who are interested in working for the Advertising Department next year. Of interested, please email your resume to free@nd.edu or mordr@nd.edu.

Interviews will take place after Easter Break.

Business Major?

Interested in Marketing?

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Pope denounces migrant trafficking in Mexico

VATICAN CITY—Pope Benedict XVI demanded urgent action by the European Union and African nations on Sunday to stop the illegal movement of migrants, saying the global economic crisis was driving more people to make the perilous journey across the Mediterranean.

Benedict recalled the drowning last week of more than 200 Europe-bound migrants whose overcrowded boat capsized in the stormy waters off Libya.

"We cannot resign ourselves to such tragedies, which unfortunately have been repeating themselves for some time," Benedict said at the end of his Palm Sunday Mass.

"The scope of the problem requires urgent strategies coordinated by the European Union and African countries, as well as the adoption of adequate humanitarian measures, to prevent migrants from getting into unscrupulous traffickers," Benedict said.

EU, U.S. respond to missile launch

PRAGUE — The United States and the European Union say North Korea’s missile launch is a threat to neighbors and demands a response from world nations.

A statement from U.S. and EU leaders calls on North Korea to abandon all nuclear weapons and “cease threatening behavior.”

Calls on North Korea to abandon all nuclear weapons and “cease threatening behavior.”

EU leaders also said the missile launch “demands a response from the international community, including from the U.S. and Security Council, to demonstrate that its resolutions cannot be defied with impunity.”

Fargo schools reopen after flooding

ELKHART — Nine community organizations on Sunday said the school’s permanent flood preparedness plans appear to have paid off.

"It’s almost like the first day of school in many ways," said Morgan Fomess, principal of Oak Wheeler, Texas — Strong wind on Sunday hampered fire crews’ efforts to control several Texas wildfires that had destroyed eight homes and damaged more than 20 smaller structures.

The largest fire, an 11,000-acre blaze near the Texas-Oklahoma state line, was about 25 percent contained, but wind gusting to 35 mph made it difficult to maintain fire lines, Texas Forest Service spokesman Joe Allen said Sunday.

"Anytime you have the wind, it makes it harder to control the fire," Eastham said.

LOCAL NEWS

Elkhart organizations lose funding

ELKHART — Nine community organizations in Elkhart County that are losing that money are searching for ways to survive as the area struggles with the nation’s one-fifth of its workforce being jobless.

The United Way dropped groups such as the Elkhart Childhood Development Center and Mental Health America after its annual campaign raised 32 percent less than last year.

ISRAEL

 Netanyahu will make new agenda

Prime Minister says government will develop diplomatic policies on peace talks

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that his government would immediately get to work on Middle East peace, promising to present a diplomatic agenda in the coming weeks.

Speaking at the first meeting of his Cabinet, Netanyahu said he planned to appoint himself and 11 other ministers to the Security Cabinet, a select body that deals with the nation’s most pressing security and political issues.

"In the coming weeks, we shall complete our policy guidelines for progress on peace and security," he said.

Netanyahu has sent mixed signals about his diplomatic program in recent weeks. Elected on a platform highly critical of his predecessor, including from the U.S. Security Council, to demonstrate that its resolutions cannot be defied with impunity.”

Winds strengthen Texas wildfires

WHEELER, Texas — Strong wind on Sunday hampered fire crews’ efforts to control several Texas wildfires that had destroyed eight homes and damaged more than 20 smaller structures.

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Father five children dead in Wash.

GRAHAM — A father apparently shot to death five of his children, ages 7 to 16, at their mobile-home and then killed himself. Nearly 24 hours later, police said Saturday.

Ed Peden, a spokesman for the Pierce County Sheriff, called it a domestic violence situation and a murder-suicide.

"We believe they all died of gunshot wounds from a rifle," he said.

Police found the father’s body early Saturday in his still-running car near the Muckleshoot Casino in Auburn, about 20 miles south of Seattle. He had apparently killed himself with a rifle, although no note was left in the car, Auburn Police Sgt. Scott Neal said.

Later in the day, a relative stopped by the mobile home and called authorities after seeing a child lying motionless on a bed through a window. Pierce County deputies checked the mobile home, which is about 20 miles southeast of the casino, and found four of the children dead in their beds and the fifth in the bathroom.

Troyer said investigators believe the husband and the wife, who were not home, were not strangled.

The mother’s aunt, Penny Flansburg, was at a loss to explain the crime.

"They were pleasant together," Flansburg said. "We can’t even figure out why."
Service

continued from page 1

and community members holding Easter egg hunts for local children and cleaning up area parks. The day culminated with a picnic at the Robinson Community Learning Center.

Byrne said there was a lot of engagement from the Notre Dame community.

"There were so many organizations and clubs that had service projects that they had wanted to do and this day gave them the opportunity to engage in them," Byrne said.

Senior Francesca Pennino helped to organize and supervise a scavenger hunt for students from St. Adalbert, a South Bend grade school where she has been tutoring kids for more than three years.

"I was told about CommUniversity Day and was asked if I wanted to do something with the St. Adalbert kids," Pennino said. "I know a lot of the kids pretty well and I thought that this would be a great opportunity to expose them to college."

The 30 students from St. Adalbert participated in a scavenger hunt that broke them into groups led by Notre Dame students and took them all over campus.

"It was a great way for them to look at college and know that it isn't something that is for somebody else; college is for them too," Pennino said.

The St. Adalbert students had to do tasks that involved knowledge and also ones that were meant simply to be fun.

"Not only was it an opportunity for those kids to be exposed to education, but they also had a great time just being silly," Pennino said. "And really, as Notre Dame students how often do we have the opportunity to run around campus and do cartwheels with kids for a few hours?"

Senior Allie Minnis also participated in CommUniversity Day by helping to restore the mural that is on the side of the Robinson Center.

"The mural on the side of the center is made of wood panels and a lot of the panels were rotting," Minnis said. "Fifteen of us, including workers from the Robinson Center and kids who go there, took down some of the old panels and replaced them with new ones that we had painted."

Minnis said the greatest part of her day was being able to work with the children who benefit from her actions.

"The kids were so excited that they got to help improve something that was a part of their lives," she said. "And we were actually working with the kids instead of doing a service for them."

Working with the community, Minnis said. "I was told about CommUniversity Day and was asked if I wanted to do something with the St. Adalbert kids," Pennino said. "I know a lot of the kids pretty well and I thought that this would be a great opportunity to expose them to college."

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Working with the community, Minnis said.

Although the University also saw the largest minority applicant pool, and reported that 22 to 24 percent of the incoming class will be non-white.

However, he said the final figures for the class of 2013 numbers are difficult to predict until the deadline for students to accept their offer of admission has passed.

Mundy said the University also saw the largest minority applicant pool, and reported that 22 to 24 percent of the incoming class will be non-white.

"We didn't want this to be a service day," Byrne said. "We really wanted to be in a relationship with the community."

Byrne said the enthusiastic participation from Notre Dame students coupled with the passionate response from the community makes her hope that the event will continue next year.

"I feel like CommUniversity Day was a real milestone in the way that we relate to the community," she said. "There are plenty of things that need to be fixed, but I feel like the overall groundwork has been laid out for a successful event in the future."

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@nde.nd.edu

2013 continued from page 1

percent from last year, he said. He said this year marks the first year the University used the Common Application, which could explain the increase in applications.

Saint Mary's students Catherine Moore, left, Luzy Malby, center, and Bianca Leonardo participate in the Dance Marathon this weekend.

Voss said. "The fact that we managed to increase our total during a recession is amazing."

Participants were encouraged to stay on their feet for 12 hours in honor of children who are unable to do so.

"The marathon was amazing," Voss said. "I don't think I've ever seen so many committed dancers who were prepared to stay on their feet all night long. Students this year really understood why they were there — to stand for someone who couldn't."

The marathon was held Friday in Angela Athletic Facility at Saint Mary's College. It began at 8 p.m. and continued through the night, ending at 5 a.m. on Saturday. Participants donated $12 to register for the event.

"I think the event had about the same participation as last year," Voss said. "I think that this year's dancers were even more committed than in previous years."

Throughout the night, families with children at Riley Hospital shared stories about their experiences.

"Students seemed really excited to meet the families and join the big Dance Marathon family," Voss said. "My favorite moment was when Sheila Erz, a 13-year-old student, shared her story about battling osteosarcoma at Riley Hospital. I don't think there was a dry eye in the room."

To get involved with the club, email dmarathon@stmarys.edu or visit their Web site at www.smcmdc.org.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@stmarys.edu

The Observer is on Twitter. After you recycle this paper, follow us at twitter.com/ndsmcnews.
**GM is open to idea of bankruptcy**

New CEO Fritz Henderson says he will do what is necessary to save company

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**In Brief**

EU and U.S. discuss global economy

PRAGUE — The European Union says it has been pulling together as a bloc and joining forces with the United States to deal with the consequences of the global economic situation.

European Commission chief Jose Manuel Barroso says "we are working together" with Washington to find the best way out of the crisis.

Barroso says the 27-nation bloc has demonstrated "Europe's unity, and in a certain sense, global unity" as it scrambles to respond to the meltdown.

Barroso described the EU's ties with the United States as "by far the most important economic relationship in the world," with $2 billion per day spent trading in goods and services.

He spoke Sunday to reporters after President Barack Obama's summit with EU leaders in Prague.

Balлот to cost more than anticipated

WASHINGTON — Bailing out the financial sector will cost taxpayers $167 billion more than originally anticipated, according to a Congressional Budget Office estimate.

The original figure in January was $189 billion, but it is now $256 billion — $129 billion more for 2009 and $15 billion more than was expected last year, the CBO says in its March report updating the budget and economic outlook.

The CBO raised its projection because yields on default-risky assets have increased as investors became concerned about the bailout-financed institutions under the $700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program.

That means there will be an increase in the cost of the subsidy from the U.S. Treasury's purchase of preferred stock, asset guarantees and loans to automakers, the CBO said.

In addition, since the CBO issued its original cost estimate for the program, the Treasury announced additional deals with Chrysler Group and GM.

Those deals will be at rates higher than the averages in the CBO's original estimate. Also giving up the subsidy rates in the administration's $50 billion program to deal with home foreclosures.

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**Jobless will exhaust unemployment aid**

WASHINGTON — In the coming weeks and months, hundreds of thousands of jobless Americans will exhaust their unemployment benefits, just when it's never been harder to find a job.

Congress extended unemployment aid twice last year, allowing people to draw a total of up to 26 weeks of benefits. Now, as the recession drags on, a rolling wave of people who were laid off early in the year will run out.

Precise figures are hard to determine, but Wayne Vroman, an economist at the Urban Institute who estimates that up to 700,000 people could exhaust their extended benefits by the second half of this year.

Some will find new jobs, but prospects will be grim: Layoffs are projected to go on, and many economists expect the jobless rate, already at 8.5 percent, to hit 10 percent by year's end.

"It's going to be a monstrous problem," Vroman said.

U.S. employers shed 663,000 jobs in March, and the jobless rate now stands at its highest in a quarter-century. Since the recession began in December 2007, a net total of 5.1 million jobs have disappeared.

Those who know that their unemployment aid is about to run out are counting the days, taking on odd jobs, moving in with relatives and fretting about the future.

"My biggest fear is we'll lose the house," said Hernan Alvarez, 34, an Orlando, Fla., construction worker who lost his job in July and whose benefits will end in four weeks. "The only thing I can do is keep looking for work and hope tomorrow will be better than today."

That so many people have remained on jobless aid for more than a year underscores the depth and duration of the recession, which began in December 2007. If the downturn extends into May, it will be the longest recession since the Great Depression.

The jobs crisis is already so grim it's grown worse than most economists forecast — not to mention what lawmakers expected when they extended jobless benefits last year.

In March, nearly a quarter of the unemployed had been without work for six months or more, the highest proportion since the 1981-82 recession.

And the problem will probably get even worse. Employers typically remain reluctant to hire even months after a recession has officially ended. In the 1990-91 and 2001 recessions, the jobless rate peaked more than a year after the recovery began.
Schools make plans for stimulus money

Associated Press

MENDOTA HEIGHTS, Minn. — The candy machine at Henry Sibley High School when students roam the halls and automatically powers down when they’ve gone home. The basketball court still shines, but under the glow of fluorescent tubes that suck up a fraction of the juice the old lights used.

Thanks to such measures, energy costs across the school district in this Twin Cities suburb already are down by nearly a third. Officials say they’re squeezing out even more, but that will require investment in upgrades.

The federal economic stimulus dollars could be just what the need. Some of the billions of dollars trickling down from Washington will be used to make public buildings more energy efficient. School officials say long-term savings can spout from those one-time upgrades — the types of projects that get shoved aside when budgets are squeezed and tax levies fail.

“The money we spend on electric, water, gas and oil — those utilities costs would free up money for higher-priority initiatives. It’s things like class size reductions, lower utility costs would free up money for higher-priority initiatives,” said Jay Augen, superintendent of the school district.

Heavy metal’s hottest hitmen, whose menacing, mon­strous sound has banged heads around the globe for decades, were inducted into rock’s shrine on a rainy day night, capping a star-studded ceremony that felt much more like a concert than an awards show.

For the first time, the no­holds-barred show, back in Cleveland following a 12-year holdover in New York’s Waldorf-Astoria ballroom, was open to the public.

And nearly 5,000 fans par­tied in the balconies inside renovated Public Auditorium as 1,200 VIPs dined below at tables costing as much $50,000 each.

Many of the came to pay homage to Metallica, which earned top billing in an eclectic 2009 class that included rap pioneers Run­DMC, virtuoso guitarist Jeff Beck, soul singer Bobby Womack and rhythm and blues vocal group Little Anthony and the Imperials.

Metallica’s members have survived some of the dark themes — death, destruction and desolation — that threads through its music, and their induction was a chance to cele­brate their legacy as perhaps the hardest band to ever walk the earth. The event also served as a reunion as bassist Jason Newsted, who left the group in 2001, joined his for­mer bandmates by w rap­ping Ulrich in a bear hug.

The evening ended with a jam for the ages as Metallica, Beck, Jimmy Page, Aerosmith’s Joe Tyler and Flea brought the house down with a performance of the Yardbirds’ “Train Kept a Rollin.”

A guitar virtuoso, Beck, who was previously inducted in 1992 with the Yardbirds, was past his hit solo rock. Although best known for his rock accomplishments, Beck’s career has wandered a free­board of genres ranging from blues to jazz to electronics.

“Jeff’s style is totally unorthodox to the way anyone was taught,” said Lenny Zakopiev’s Jimmy Page, who presented his longtime friend. “He keeps getting better and better and better.”

Stage lights all white, was joined on stage by Page, a fel­low guitar god, who played bass during a searing rendi­tion of Zeppelin’s “Immigrant Song.”

With two turntables and a microphone, Run­DMC broke down the barriers between rock and rap. With sparse, stripped­down lyrics above pounding beats, the trio of Joseph “DJ Rimm” Simmons, Darryl “D.M.C.” McDaniels and Jason “Jam Master Jay” Mizell changed rap in the 1980s by taking the realities of the streets to the suburbs.

“They broke away from the pack by being the pack,” said rapper Eminem, looking like the band’s lost member by sporting the group’s trad­emark black fedoras and black leather jacket. “They were the baddest of the bad and the coolest of the cool. Run­DMC changed my life.”

“There’s three of them and if you grew up with hip hop like I did, they were the Beatles.”

Their remake and collabo­ration with Aerosmith on the rock ballad ”Walk This Way” changed modern music.

“We were young guys with a new music that people thought was a fad, but we knew the culture was a way of life and we just lived it,” said McDaniels. “The thing that made us went then didn’t just impact friends, it impacted a generation. So I guess that’s what rock and roll does.”

Metallica Run­DMC inducted into Hall of Fame

Cleveland — Metallica shoved the mesh pit into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

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What is “Buzz” Marketing?

Lessons on Word-of-Mouth Marketing by Emanuel Rosen

Author of National Bestseller “The Anatomy of Buzz Revisited”

Wednesday, April 8th

8:00pm (Food served at 5:45pm!)

Mendoza College of Business

Room 122
President's ally behind assassination

Associated Press

DUBAI — The assassination of a Chechen renegade — the first reported political killing in this glitzy city — was masterminded by a close ally of Chechnya's president, Dubai authorities said Sunday, calling on Russia to unite "the knot of this crime."

The allegation could have broad implications for President Ramzan Kadyrov, a broad implication for his term in office, given that many believe his ally, close to the Kremlin and its policy objectives, is the Islamic Emirates.

One of his bitter foes, Sulim Yamadayev, was gunned down March 28 outside a busy residential complex along Dubai's shoreline.

His killing was the latest assassination targeting Chechen renegades in and outside of Russia. Many observers have linked the killings to Kadyrov, who openly feud with Yamadayev and his family. Kadyrov has denied involvement.

Dubai Police Chief Lt. Gen. Dahi Khalafan Tamim said Chechen authorities have not cooperated and that "Russia is also responsible for untying the knot of this crime."

Four suspects were in Russia and two others, an Iranian and a Tajik, were in custody, Tamim told reporters. None has been charged.

One of the suspects at large was Adam Delimkhano, a Chechen member of Russia's lower house of parliament who is considered one of Kadyrov's close friends and allies of his inner circle. Tamim said he also has served as a vice prime minister of Chechnya.

A witness in custody told authorities that Delimkhano planned the slaying. Tamim said. A suspect also said Delimkhano's guards provided him with the gun used to kill Yamadayev, the police chief said.

"Our investigation found him (Delimkhano) to be the mastermind of the assassination of Sulim Yamadayev," Tamim said. The police chief said Dubai will seek Interpol's help in arresting Delimkhano and the three others.

Delimkhanov, 39, denied involvement, accused Dubai's police of incompetence and said Yamadayev had many enemies, according to a statement issued by his spokesman.

"I want to emphasize that I am a politician who for most of my life has battled terrorism and that even in this instance, I am ready to provide help to any justice systems, including that of Dubai," he said.

A suspect was not clear what Yamadayev was doing in Dubai, and the authorities said he arrived to the emirate four months ago on a Russian passport issued in the name of Suliman Madov.

Though it's highly unlikely that Russia would turn Delimkhano over to Dubai for prosecution, the allegations could further taint Kadyrov and the Kremlin's backing for him.

He took over the presidency in 2007 — the year after his father, the former leader, was assassinated in a bomb blast. Since then, Kadyrov has presided over a virtual end to the large-scale fighting that destroyed the Chechen capital, Grozny, and sent thousands of Chechen refugees into neighboring North Caucasian republics.

As he consolidated his power, Kadyrov and his paramilitary forces have been repeatedly accused of torture, rampant kidnapping of civilians and other human rights abuses.

Many of his critics and political rivals have been killed. Some have been gunned down on the streets of Moscow, including journalist Anna Politkovskaya in 2006.

Kadyrov has denied any involvement in the killings. The Kremlin also has ignored calls for international investigations into the human rights allegations. While president, Vladimir Putin awarded Kadyrov Russia's highest honorary medal.

Yamadayev was also a controversial figure at home. After a rebel leader battling Russia, he later switched sides and led a battalion of former rebels alongside the pro-Russian government.

Yamadayev had long-running tensions with Kadyrov, who exploded in April 2008. Kadyrov accused Yamadayev of involvement in abductions and murders, and an arrest warrant for him was issued.

Despite that, Yamadayev led his battalion to fight alongside Muslims during Russia's war with Georgia last year. He was discharged from the Russian army shortly after.

IRAQ

Leaders will protect Palestinian residents

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas won assurances Sunday that Iraqi leaders will protect Palestinians living in Iraq from the increasing number of attacks targeting civilians in the country.

For his part, Talibani said Iraq's U.S.-backed government affirmed its commitment to protecting the Palestinian state as well as Iraq's "capital. "I take this as a firm stand regarding this issue," Talibani said.

Abbas praised Iraq's progress toward stability after six years of war, saying the country was witnessing "great progress in all areas of life." He added that the country has started progressing and starting recovering. It has gotten out of the bottleneck, thanks be to God, Abbas said.

The visit comes as violence has declined in the country, but though Iraq's security forces continue to be hit by frequent skirmishes. Six gunmen in two cars blocked the vehicle of an Iraqi police general and opened fire. The blast killed 22 and wounded dozens, he said.

A little-known group believed linked to the Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack. Taliban threats two attacks per week in country

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — A suicide bombing at a crowded Shiite mosque south of Pakistan's capital killed 22 people Sunday, the latest evidence of how security in the U.S.-allied nation is crumbling well beyond the Afghan border region where al-Qaida and Taliban fighters thrive.

The violence came as a senior Pakistani Taliban commander said his group was behind a deadly suicide bombing Saturday night in Islamabad as part of two more attacks per week in the country if the U.S. doesn't stop missile strikes on Pakistani territory.

Sunday's suicide bomber set off his explosives at the entrance to a mosque in Chakwal city in Punjab province, some 50 miles (80 kilometers) south of Islamabad, said Nadeem Hassan Asif, a top security official in the city.

The blast killed 22 and wounded dozens, he said.

A little-known group believed linked to the Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack. Pakistan also has a history of sectarian violence, often involving Sunni extremists targeting minority Shiite Muslims.

TV footage showed pools of blood in front of the mosque. Torn clothes and shoes littered the ground, while at least one car and four motorcycles were damaged. A policeman with blood on his legs and a wounded man wearing a bloodstained shirt were shown on hospital beds crying in pain. A woman standing in the emergency ward of the hospital waved, "Oh my God! Oh my God!"

Farid Ali said he was leaving the mosque when he felt the blast on his back. The Community of Sant'Egidio invites you to a Prayer for the Martyrs

Monday, April 6, 2009 7:00 pm

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE - St. Joseph Chapel

Chapel is visible from main College entrance

Continuing a tradition started in Rome, and encouraged by John Paul II, this prayer remembers the Church has once again become a Church of martyrs.

For further information, contact Holy Cross Campus Ministry (514) 239-3931 or Community of Sant'Egidio at 274-315 0640

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Downsizing our food, our culture and ourselves

Downsizing in business terms usually carries negative connotations; it means losing jobs, losing space, losing revenue. Downsizing in houses means either your children moved out or you lost your job. It can be good — that you just don’t need the space — but it’s somehow still against our American bigger-is-better mentality.

Downsizing in general tends to get a bad rap. But downsizing is exactly what we need right now. Our country is huge; a massive coordination of interests, regions and ideas, but not everything about us needs to be as massive as our waistlines and our supermarkets.

A lot of movements picked up this idea long before the economic meltdown. One of the biggest actors in the downsizing movement has been the food industry. Small farms movements, Slow Food, organic, composting and opposition groups to industrial agriculture have all propelled the ideas of reestablishing connections with the food you eat and where it comes from, downsizing from the big agribusiness to a more manageable, more personal way of getting your food.

This movement started in America as a social novelty for those who could afford it, but it’s not usually “organic” or buying the nature brand that downsizes the process. Rather, the idea that you go directly to the source: farmers markets, farms, stores buying local crops, eating in season. You don’t need the gigantic apple that looks like all the others. There’s no individuality there, no idea of a tree or the dirt or the farmer. How could any of us imagine the farm that can produce such homogeneous giants? That’s not a fancy sticker or a class symbol. It’s knowing where your food comes from. It hasn’t been that long since we had more contact with the source of our food, which fosters (or feeds?) a direct appreciation for the food itself. According to a 2007 study by the USDA, 48 percent of farm product sales are made by the less than two percent of American farms that have yearly sales of $1 million or more.

Food from these farms has to be shipped to market, which is far away if the farm produces that much. That’s bad for the environment because of shipping, it’s bad for the food itself because it loses freshness in the transport and it’s bad for the price of the food down the line all the way to the individual consumer. But downsizing of these farms would mean more farms. Maybe that necessitates more farmers, but doesn’t mean more jobs? Farms in the proximity of cities and within suburbs mean open space and greenery. It means the occasional manure smell, but it also means corn mazes (maize mazes?) and fresh pumpkins and apples in the fall.

Downsizing of the economy itself means smaller businesses. It means less impersonality, less apathy towards work, less feeling lost in the crowd. It means more unstable businesses at first, but if we can localize those businesses it can ensure stability while also providing a much-needed sense of community that can get lost in the suburban labyrinths.

Downsizing our food begins the downsizing of our lives. It means less business, less rush, less pollution, less hectic, less time in the car, more time with your family. Maybe incorporating this downsizing in how we get our food can initiate its spread to all areas of our life. We keep falling and falling in this economy, but if we can get down to the basics, wouldn’t we have an easier time picking ourselves back up when the bottom gives out?

Jackie Miranda-Mullen is a junior German and History major who is currently studying in Innsbruck, Austria. She is a big fan of Tirolische apples. She can be contacted at jmirandomull@nd.edu

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

Bren Linkskey

The Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) will allow non-union workers to immediately unionize if over 50 percent of the workforce signs union authorization cards. These cards are signed in a private session so that an accurate count may be made. Currently, the National Labor Relations Board requires a vote by private ballot to be held as soon as the union can demonstrate that 30 percent of the employees have signed a card. Under EFCA, no such process would occur. The union would simply be recognized if 50 percent of the workers have signed cards of half the employees. Currently, less than eight percent of private sector workers belong to unions, a number that has been falling for decades.

In her March 31 letter ("Unions a necessity"), Sarah Lyons explains this in consequence. Employers hire anti-union consulting firms, hold captive-audience meetings and even fire employees to intimidate others. "But the National Labor Relations Board, which fields these complaints, rejects almost all of the allegations after inspection. For example, in 2005, the NLRB found evidence of illegal firings in only 2.7 percent of the organizing campaigns that it evaluated."

This bill will also impose a 120-day deadline for companies to sign a labor contract — after which government arbitrators would dictate labor contracts. An example of this can be seen in the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), thanks to the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. For years, most USPS contract negotiations have deadlocked and have gone to arbitration. (USPS), thanks to the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. For years, most USPS contract negotiations have deadlocked and have gone to arbitration. (USPS), thanks to the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. For years, most USPS contract negotiations have deadlocked and have gone to arbitration. (USPS), thanks to the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. For years, most USPS contract negotiations have deadlocked and have gone to arbitration. (USPS), thanks to the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. For years, most USPS contract negotiations have deadlocked and have gone to arbitration. (USPS), thanks to the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. 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By MAJIA GUSTIN  

Scene Writer

"Adventureland," written and directed by "Superbad" Greg Mottola, is the sort of coming-of-age, eccentric-boy-meets-cool-girl movie that people just seem to eat up these days. But don't let Mottola's "Superbad" credit mislead you — this definitely isn't "Superbad." Jesse Eisenberg plays the real, very real, very cool, Renaissance studies major that gets stuck working at a Pittsburgh amusement park over the summer in 1987. But Adventureland, the amusement park in question, turns out not to be so bad when he meets Em ("Twilight's" Kristen Stewart). She plays the prototypical "Teen-al and emotionally unavailable" girl that he just can't help but fall for. She's also sleeping with Adventureland's married bandwagoneer Connell (Ryan Reynolds). The movie has plenty of laughs, particularly from Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig, but it's more of a nostalgic tale about finding yourself than a screwball comedy. The jokes, when they happen, are pretty laugh-worthy. "Adventureland" is rooted in an 80s soundtrack (count how many times you hear Falco's "Rock Me Amadeus"), and has enough sly references to maybe make you wish you had grown up in the 80s. Maybe. But it is this seemingly authentic portrayal of growing up way back when that will appeal to the older generation not drawn in by Mottola's "Superbad." The characters, though, drive the story more than any 80s rock soundtrack ever could. They seem real, authentic and as current as ever. They prove that young adolescence wasn't really all that different 20 years ago.

Eisenberg plays James in the same awkward vein as Michael Cera, but seems more genuine. He is adorable but never seems infallible. Unlike so many protagonists of these types of movies, he makes the same mistakes that real people actually do, and those mistakes aren't just for plot; he is not the perfect girl away. Em, as said perfect girl, just doesn't seem to perfect herself. Stewart never seems like she's acting. Her ideology just makes her more sincere as a character. She gives Em a heart and the rare glimpses of vulnerability in her otherwise invulnerable character that the audience really needs to see. But James and Em's flings fit together poorly. Unfortunately, the audience knows it right before either of them does.

Robert Sean Leonard and Reid Scott may be the heart of "Adventureland," but the supporting cast fills the movie out into something more than just a corny romance. Hader and Wiig are perfect as the quirky park owners, and their comedic timing is always right. Martin Starr ("Knocked Up") is loo, another bumbling buff-work guy. The movie has plenty of laughs, but it's more of a nostalgic tale about finding yourself than a screwball comedy. It's this authenticity that keeps the film from being a cliché. "Adventureland" looks fondly back on a time, 22 years ago, that many loved, and hate and plenty just never got to see. It's reminiscent of "American Graffiti" and "Dazed and Confused." But while those opened up a new generation to their cultural predecessors, "Adventureland" seems less bent on showing the 80s and more interested in showing how the 80s weren't really all that long ago, even though they sort of were. These kids are the same as now, trying to grow up too fast and thinking they know everything about life. "Adventureland" is close to nostalgia at its best. Where it fails in being a supremely moving film, it has a whole lot of heart. Mottola brings a fresh and fine-tuned eye to his movie and proves that he shouldn't be pigeonholed as a go-to comedic guy.

Contact Majia Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

By CORNELIUS ROGERS  

Scene Writer

Are you one of the many people who loves "Little Miss Sunshine?" If so, then you may be wondering what "Sunshine Cleaning," which opened this weekend, has to do with it. The film's marketing campaign tried to attach itself as much as possible to "Little Miss Sunshine" (LMS), including a similar title with similar font and Alan Arkin reprising his role as the grandfather — although probably not in an Oscar-winning performance this time. The film's trailer made the film out to be a movie that, like LMS, would combine hilarity with serious drama. This is where the similarities between the two movies end. While LMS told a fairly upbeat and humorous story about a family's love for each other, "Sunshine Cleaning" tells a story about life's many messes, and the biggest one of all — death.

The film's central character is Rose Lorkowski (Amy Adams) a single mother working as a maid hoping to earn enough money to send her child to school and acquire a real estate license for herself. Rose also struggles with her affair with married man Mac (Steve Zahn). Rose's less successful sister Norah (Emily Blunt) moves from job to job, and both were left emotionally traumatized by their mother's death when they were children. The two agree to run a crime scene cleanup business to earn more money.

The job of removing the physical damage caused by death in other people's lives causes the two sisters to take a deeper look at the emotional damage left behind by their mother's death in their own lives. Rose realizes how pathetic her attempts to one-up her high school friends really are. Norah befriends Lynn (Mary Lynn Rajskub), the daughter of one of their crime scenes' victims.

Very little about the film marks it as outstanding. The film leaves several of its plot lines unresolved. Rose ends her affair with Mac, but does not find any successful romantic relationship, and Norah's relationship with Lynn (Mary Lynn Rajskub) collapses. Instead she gets on a road trip, an idea which pops into her head during the final minutes of the film.

The film's redeeming qualities come from the wealth of acting talent. Amy Adams delivers a convincing performance as the single mother dealing with both inner and outer turmoil. Her moments of vulnerability are sure to evoke empathy from the viewers. Blunt does an impressive job of balancing the inner and outer frustration of her character while getting the viewer to laugh with both her and at her. If the film will be nominated for any Academy Awards, it will surely be for her performance.

The film's director and writer, Christine Jeffs and Megan Holley respectively, do not have many films on their resumes, and it shows. While the film delivers a few awkward laughs in a seemingly minor scene. Its message is as murky and muddled as the many crime scenes Rose and Norah clean up.

Contact Cornelius Rogers at crogers1@nd.edu
Justin Townes Earle proves himself with "Midnight at the Movies"

By JAMES DUBRAY

Justin Townes Earle has been through, well, a heck of a lot more than you have. The first son of the rebel troubadour himself, Steve Earle, and the namesake of a country God, Earle was born with colossal expectations. Between his father’s escapades (seven marriages and a tough-to-kick drug habit) and his own penchant for getting high, Earle’s post-adolescent years weren’t a walk in the park either. Despite his somewhat recent problems, which included getting kicked out of his father’s backing band, Earle’s sophomore record seems to have borrowed things or two from fellow rebellious Southern son, Ryan Adams (“I’ve had a pretty hard life. Such as easy heart”).

Yet, Earle clearly hasn’t left his past completely behind. In light of his current sobriety, Earle appears ready to acknowledge his mistakes and move forward.

On the album’s best track, “Mama’s Eyes,” Earle reveals, “I went down the road as my old man” almost whispering beneath his brilliantly simple strumming. Yet, as the song continues, Earle gives a window into his recent optimism: “I’ve got my mama’s eyes! A long thin frame and a smile.”

“Midnight At The Movies” lasts barely 30 minutes. Yet, in this small stretch of time, Earle manages to provide a tour of raw blues and pre-rock country stylings, while promoting an album that is notable in its cohesion.

Earle’s second record could not be more different than fellow indie peer Animal Collective’s recent electro-pop explosion, yet it stands with “Merriweather Post Pavilion” as one of the few very good albums of 2009.

In the middle of “MATM,” Earle includes a half-minute finger picking demonstration as much to brag about his playing ability as to dictate a mood change. The instrumental separates the afore-mentioned “Mama’s Eyes” from the album’s only cover, the conscious enough “Can’t Hardly Wait.”

Townes Earle’s performance is a worthy take on one of Westerberg’s best songs. Initially it seems odd to hear a traditional country appropriator covering perhaps America’s greatest underground band. That’s until the realization hits that even though Earle’s album testifies to the heart of punk music better than any Fall Out Boy or All American Rejects record ever could.

Earle may be on the way to doing something his father has never done: proving himself wrong.

Contact James Dubray at jdubray@nd.edu

Midnight at the Movies
Justin Townes Earle

Label: Bloodshot
Recommended Tracks: “Mama’s Eyes,” “Can’t Hardly Wait,” “Black Eyed Suzie”

By ELLIE HALL

Sometimes the best way to enjoy food is to mix it all together. From ice cream to salads to smoothies, everything tastes better blended. Today’s dining hall recipes follow this same concept. Mix it up and enjoy!

Mixed-up Oatmeal
Oatmeal is a morning staple, regardless of the dining hall. This delicious and nutritious breakfast dish can be made so much more enjoyable if you take advantage of your surroundings.

Fill a bowl with oatmeal, but leave about an inch of room from the top. Go to the waffle station and add a ladleful of maple syrup. Add a layer of raisins from the fruit and salad bar. Make your way to the spice rack and add two to three shakes of cinnamon to the top of your oatmeal. Procure a glass of milk and add about three tablespoons of peanut butter. Mix it all together and enjoy your tasty breakfast!

Mexican Fiesta Bowl
A strange, yet delightful twist on KFC’s Famous Bowls. The combination of mashed potatoes and seasoned beef gives a Mexican kick to this new take on Shepherds Pie.

Get a large pasta bowl and add one large scoop of mashed potatoes. To the Mexican food line and add one scoop of seasoned beef, a small dollop of sour cream, and a sprinkling of cheese. Mix the different food together. Add a large spoonful of corn from the steamed vegetables section. Have your own dining hall recipe? We would love to feature it! E-mail chafe@nd.edu

Fix in the dining hall and avoid those late night cravings that send you cross-campus to Reems.

Find the form of fried potatoes that the dining hall is offering (the fried seasoned potato cubes are the best, but any fries work well too). Get one of the small bowls used for Jell-O and pudding and fill it with the Nacho cheese sauce from the Mexican food section. A little sour cream is good too.

Dip and enjoy!
Knicks knock Raptors out of playoff hunt

Brewer leads the way for dominant Jazz with 23 points as Utah sweeps season series with New Orleans

Associated Press

TORONTO — The New York Knicks and Toronto Raptors ensured there won't be playoff basketball in either city this year.

Wilson Chandler scored 17 points, David Lee added 16 points and 10 rebounds and the Knicks beat the Raptors 112-103 on Sunday night, eliminating Toronto from the playoffs.

It came one day after the Knicks saw their postseason hopes end with a 102-95 home loss to the Raptors.

"They were just as long a shot as we were," Knicks guard Chris Duhon said. "They needed a miracle, we needed a miracle and we just ended those miracles for each other.

New York's victory snapped a nine-game losing streak in Toronto. The Knicks had not won north of the border since March 5, 2004.

"We just came out to play; it wasn't revenge," Chandler said. Quentin Richardson scored 16 points, Jared Jeffries added 14 and Nate Robinson scored 13 for the Knicks, who snapped a four-game losing streak and won for the first time in six tries on the road.

Chris Bosh had 31 points and 14 rebounds for Toronto, whose four-game losing streak and NBA season-high six-game winning streak came to an end.

"All the things we were doing to keep the winning streak going, we did the opposite tonight," Raptors forward Shawn Marion said.

Andrea Bargnani scored 18 points, Anthony Parker had 15 and Marion 13.

Toronto had made the play-offs in each of the past two years, losing in the first round each time.

"Would I like to be there? Of course," Bosh said. "It's the best basketball in the world. This year we're going to have to watch. I just have to be a student of the game and see how I can get better by watching other teams.

The Knicks had lost 10 of 11 coming in and briefly looked to be in danger of throwing another one away. Leading by 16, New York missed seven straight shots to begin the fourth, allowing Toronto to cut it to 92-85 with a 9-0 run. Richardson ended the drought with a 3-pointer with 8:47 left and Robinson followed with a jumper, putting New York up by 12.

Toronto rallied again when Marion made a rare 3-pointer, then followed it with a steal and was fouled making a jumper, cutting it to 103-96. But Marion failed to connect the three-point shot and Al Harrington replied with New York's 13th 3-pointer.

"Guys hit key shots for us down the stretch, kind of keeping the distance and keeping the pressure on them," Duhon said. "That's something we've struggled with all year is finishing games. I know we only have a few games left but we want to do as good a job as we can fixing the areas we've struggled with throughout the year.

Toronto led 24-23 after the first quarter but fell behind in the second, shooting just 9-for-30. The Knicks made five of five 3-pointers in the second to take a 56-54 lead at the half.

"We gave them a lot of open looks early," Bosh said. "Once they got their confidence and they're a little bit tougher to stop.

Richardson scored 10 points in the third, including a pair of 3-pointers, as the Knicks took a 92-76 lead into the fourth.

Utah 108, New Orleans 94

Brenner Scored 23 points and Torino Jazz completed a convincing season sweep of the New Orleans Hornets with their victory Sunday night.

Devin Williams had 21 points and 11 assists for Utah, which led by 30 in the second quarter and snapped a three-game skid with its first road victory against a winning team in the Western Conference this season.

David West had 23 points and 12 rebounds for New Orleans, which could have clinched a playoff spot with a victory, but instead lost its second straight game.

Chris Paul had 19 points and 12 assists for the Hornets, who lost all three games against Utah this season by double-digit margins.

Utah, currently seventh in the Western Conference, used a well-rounded effort to pull within a half-game of New Orleans for the sixth spot. Andrei Kirilenko, starting because C.J. MILES was out with a dislocated left index finger, scored 16 points. Carlos Boozer had 10 points and 10 rebounds, and Mehmet Okur scored 18 points.

For a team that had yet to beat a Western Conference playoff contender on the road this season, Utah came out unrestrained with confidence, perhaps seeking redemption for an unlikely loss at home to struggling Minnesota on Friday night.

Utah outscored New Orleans 41-39 in the first quarter, marking the most points allowed by the Hornets in a quarter this season. Okur had 13 points during those first 12 minutes and Boozer had 12, each hitting an array of shots from inside and the perimeter.

Williams, meanwhile, had eight assists and seven points in the period.

The Jazz shot 76 percent (19-of-25) in the quarter. Utah also ignited its transition offense with good defense, forcing six early turnovers. Boozer twice strolled the ball from West. Williams tied up Paul near halfcourt.

Williams expressed his frustration by calling to officials, who called a technical foul on him.

When Kirilenko sank a 3-pointer to close out scoring in the quarter, the home fans were booing, and the Hornets didn't do much to change that in the second period. Matt Harrington free throws, followed by his short hook over Morris Peterson, capped an 8-0 run that put Utah ahead by 30 with 4:24 still remaining in the half.

Soon after, Paul was called for his third foul and came out. Unable to respond with any sustained runs of their own, the Hornets trailed 66-39 at halftime.

New Orleans made a bid to climb back into the game in the third quarter, outscoring Utah 37-21 during the period to pull to 87-76 heading into the fourth.

West had 10 points in the period, mostly on midrange jumpers. While Paul scored eight points and set up eight other scores, including an alley-oop to Rassual Butler, who finished with 21 points.

Peja Stojakovic, playing as a reserve in his second game since returning from an all-backing, added a pair of 3-pointers.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 204 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid.

The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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**PGA Tour**

Paul Casey of England watches his tee shot on the eleventh hole during the second round of the Houston Open on Friday. The 33-year-old Casey won his first PGA Tour victory after beating J.B. Holmes in sudden death.

**NCAA Softball**

USA Today/NFCA Top 25

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**IWLC Women’s Tennis ITA Division I Rankings**

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**NCAA Men’s Volleyball Division I-II Top 15**

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**around the dial**

**NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship**

Michigan State vs. North Carolina

9 p.m., CBS

**MLB**

Chicago Cubs at Houston

7:00 p.m., ESPN2

**In Brief**

**Jabo retires 16 straight in final warmup**

TAMPA, Fla. — New York Yankees right-hander Joba Chamberlain allowed two runs and two hits over 5 2/3 innings in his final spring training start on Sunday.

Chamberlain, pitching for Double-A Trenton in a camp game against Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre, retired 16 in a row — including five strikeouts — after allowing two hits and a walk to start the game.

The Yankees’ No. 2 starter faced additional batters after three outs were recorded — two in the third and three during the fifth — to reach his scheduled pitch count of 75.

"It took me just a little bit to get going," Chamberlain said. "I wanted to work on fastball command and my changeup, and I think I did a great job with those two. I think it was one of my most productive days so far. Consistency, it was good."
Michigan State itching for rematch with UNC

The Associated Press

DETROIT — Michigan State has been itching for this do-over since December.

Not only is the NCAA title at stake when the Spartans play North Carolina on Monday night, Michigan State will try to avenge that 35-point beatdown the Tar Heels laid on them four months ago. It was the most lopsided loss for Michigan State since 1996, Tom Izzo's first year as coach.

"We got embarrassed," Kalin Lucas said after the 98-63 loss in the ACC-Big Ten Challenge, also played at Ford Field.

Oh, how things have changed.

The Spartans (31-6) are an inspired bunch these days, playing for an unprecedented title and the pride of their downstate neighbor.

"The whole country is going through an extremely difficult time period right now. ... Perhaps it's even a little more difficult for those people here. I appreciate that and understand what they're grappling with," North Carolina coach Roy Williams said. "I'm happy for them. I will not be as happy for them on Monday night."

Few places have been hit harder by the economic crisis than Michigan, Detroit in particular, and folks are desperate for something to rally around, even if only for a few hours. The Spartans have been happy to oblige, knocking off not one, but two No. 1 seeds to get to the Final Four.

"We got em embarrassed," Kalin Lucas said after the Spartans were thoroughly outmatched in their first title game in 1979, will present a daunting challenge for the Spartans.

"Michigan State is playing the closest to home of any Final Four team since Kansas won the 1998 title in Kansas City, and Detroit is awash in green and white. A Final Four-record crowd of 72,456 turned out Saturday night, and about two-thirds of the fans were there for the Spartans."

"How's this for some karma?" Magic Johnson, Spartan-in-chief since leading Michigan State to its first title in 1979, will present the game ball before Monday's title game along with Larry Bird.

"We definitely know they've gotten better," Deon Thompson said. "They didn't have Suton last time, and he's a big-time player. I really think it's a different team from when we played them back here."

North Carolina, however, is just as daunting.

With Tyler Hansbrough, Ty Lawson and Wayne Ellington back from last year's Final Four team, the Tar Heels were the unanimous preseason No. 1 and a fifth national championship seemed a given. But they looked vulnerable after losing to Florida in the ACC tournament, especially with Ty Lawson missing that game and two others with a bum big toe.

So much for that.

They've won every tournament game by 12 points or more. They took a lead three minutes into the game Saturday night and never trailed again. They had four players in double figures, led by Lawson's 22 points and eight assists. Ellington chipped in with another 20, and Hansbrough had a double-double with 18 points and 11 boards.

They limited the Wildcats to 33 percent shooting, including just 5-of-37 from 3-point range.

"We are a confident team, but we will not be overconfident Monday night. That's just not going to happen," Williams said.

"We're coached in a place where we beat them easily or got killed and turned around and beat them the second time. My team knows that they'll have the battle of the state of Michigan."
WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Justin Siller's dismissal from Purdue opens the competition for starting quarterback that could stretch beyond spring practice into the fall between fifth-year senior Joey Elliott and redshirt freshman Caleb TerBush.

Siller, a sophomore who started three games last season, was kicked out of school through the 2009-10 year for an undisclosed violation of the university's academic policy.

Coach Danny Hope wouldn't elaborate on the violation, but he said it changes the Boilermakers' plans at that crucial position for next season.

"It changes because Justin is a heck of a player and figured into things and was competing to be a starter," Hope said. "We would've played next year whether he was a starter or not.

Siller led Purdue to a win over Michigan last season, and Elliott was effective before he was sidelined with a shoulder injury.

TerBush was introduced to Purdue at a football camp in the summer of 2007 and impressed the coaches with his intelligence, arm strength and athletic ability. In his final year of high school, he passed for 1,575 yards and 16 touchdowns and ran for 859 yards with 16 scores while leading Metamora Township to the Illinois 5A championship. He was redshirted last season at Purdue.

"Caleb has done a great job this spring," Hope said. "He's been very accurate with his passes. He's the best natural passer we have on our football team. He has a great upside. He'll be forced into more reps, which will be good for his development.

Whoever gets the job will replace four-year starter Curtis Painter.

Hope said he was made aware of Siller’s situation a couple of weeks ago but allowed Siller to continue to practice while going through a university appeal process.

"He received a three-semester suspension and that appeal was denied," Hope said. "We have to press on and focus on what we have to do.

The 6-foot-4 Siller played in six other games besides his three starts. The Detroit native completed 59 of 106 passes for 496 yards, three touchdowns and two interceptions. He also rushed 60 times for 167 yards and two touchdowns.

Hope called the dismissal from school "very disappointing.

"Our heart goes out to Justin and his family. He made one poor decision and received a severe penalty and one that terminates his immediate future at Purdue as a student and as an athlete," Hope said.

But Hope, who replaced the retired Joe Tiller at the end of last season, said he would welcome Siller back to the team if he fulfills all of his academic requirements. If not, he said Siller still has other options.

"He can transfer to a 1-A school and be immediately eligible as long as he makes up the hours that he'll lose this semester," he said. "He could go to a 1-A school and sit out for a year and establish residency. That's something he and his family have to sit down and discuss. I'm sure that will be way down the road because he has a lot of work to make up academically.

Want more sports?

Check out The Observer Sports blog, The Casual Observer, at observersportsblog.wordpress.com

**NCAA FOOTBALL**

**Purdue opens QB battle**

Associated Press

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Associated Press

SEATTLE — Mariners star Ichiro Suzuki is being treated for a bleeding ulcer and was placed on the 15-day disabled list Friday, sending Seattle into Opening Day minus one of baseball’s best players.

The Mariners said the ulcer is no longer bleeding. Doctors have restricted the 35-year-old outfielder’s activity but are optimistic he’ll be ready to play when he’s eligible to come off the DL on April 15.

Suzuki played for Japan in the World Baseball Classic. He complained of severe fatigue earlier this week and missed Seattle’s final three spring training games in Arizona, and was diagnosed with an ulcer and was placed on the DL on Monday.

"It was a very difficult decision to place Ichiro on the disabled list," especially since we know what a fierce competitor he is and how important it is to him to help the team," Mariners general manager Jack Zduriencik said. "However, we determined it was in both his best interest, and the best interest of the club, to place him on the DL at this time."

It’s the first time in his major league career Suzuki has been on the disabled list. He’s been remarkably healthy since arriving in Seattle in 2001, missing just 16 games in his eight-year career and only three games in the last five seasons.

The move was retroactive to March 31, meaning Suzuki won’t be eligible to come off the disabled list until the second week of the season when Seattle is at home.

Suzuki’s activity was severely limited in Monday's game against Minnesota.

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Chavez will take over the leadoff role, which was left open after teammate Franklin Gutierrez was placed on the DL with a shoulder injury.

Seattle manager Jack Wadeson said Friday night that Suzuki is being treated for a bleeding ulcer and was placed on the 15-day disabled list on Monday.

"We’d rather see him as healthy as possible," Wadeson said. "It’s unfortunate, but conversely, it is important for him to get healthy."" We’ll either see him as healthy as possible."

"Suzuki didn’t arrive at Mariners spring training until March 26, after leading Japan to a second consecutive WBC title. The high pressure of playing in the WBC, combined with the expectations from his home country made the championship hugely satisfying. Suzuki hit .273 for Japan in the WBC, playing in nine games, including his game-winning two-run single in the 16th inning of the championship game to give Japan a 5-3 win over Korea."

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**ROWING**

**Irish place third, fifth in San Diego**

By BRENDA CORSONES

Sports Writer

The first and second Irish varsity boats finished third and fifth, respectively, in the San Diego Crew Classic this weekend.

The first varsity eight, coxed by Stephanie Zelpen, finished with a time of 7:02.39 in the Women’s Collegiate Varsity Invitational Petite Final, behind Oregon State, who clocked a 7:11.92 in the final.

Otero’s boat finished an impressive second in their qualifying heat Saturday, clocking a 5:51.75, bested only by Washington (5:36.90).

Irish coach Martin Stone said he was proud of his second boat’s results.

“It’s the first time they’ve reached the grand final in the five years we’ve been coming to the (San Diego) Classic,” he said.

Stone did say, however, that his first varsity boat had room for improvement, and that the crew would train even harder during this week in preparation for next week’s regatta against Ohio State, Brown and Minnesota in Columbus, Ohio.

“I hope we’d run faster. But we have a chance to prove ourselves next weekend against Ohio State,” Stone said.

Contact Brenda Corsones at bcorsone@nd.edu

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**ND WOMEN’S TENNIS**

Notre Dame takes two of three

By DOUGLAS FARMER

Sports Writer

The Irish won two out of three matches over the weekend to stay undefeated in Big East play.

Friday, No. 3 Notre Dame (19-4, 3-0) topped DePaul 5-2 and Sunday it swept Marquette 7-0. In between the two Big East victories, Notre Dame dropped a closely contested match to top-ranked Northwestern 4-3 Saturday.

As is usually indicative of the team’s success, Notre Dame won the doubles point in both victorious matches this weekend, and lost it against Northwestern. In fact, against the Big East competition, Notre Dame swept all three doubles matches.

Against DePaul, however, the top Irish duo, the third-ranked combination of senior Keely Tefft and freshwoman Rosie O’Connor with an 8-4 victory.

Against DePaul, the Irish earned four singles victories, with juniors Kali Krisik and Cosmina Ciobanu and freshmen Shannon Mathews all victorious in their matches.

Against Northwestern, Krisik and Mathews maintained their perfect season ends, while No. 36 Frilling push herself up to No. 20 Rose.

“Next time we play [Northwestern] we really could beat them.”

Keely Tefft

Irish senior

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**NC A W O M E N’ S B A S K E T B A L L**

UConn cruises to title game

By BOBBY GRAHAM

Sports Writer

The Cardinals cruised to the NCAA title game against Florida 80-61, booking a return trip to the Carrier Dome in Syracuse.

“It wish we were playing any one but Louisville,” Auriemma said. “Anyone, I don’t care who. The last team you want to play is a team you beat the way we beat them the last time, and that’s them, especially the last time we played them.”

The Huskies have made almost everyone look silly this season, winning by nearly 31 points a game and not allowing a team to come within single digits.

With an imposing lineup that featured five starters over 6- feet, Stanford (32-3) was supposed to be an obstacle. The Cardinal were the last team to beat Connecticut, knocking them out of the Final Four last season.

That challenge didn’t last long — just like most of the other ranked teams UConn has faced this season.

After Jaysie Appel got off to a quick start, the Huskies swarmed the Stanford star on defense, sometimes sending four players at her. The Cardinal couldn’t stop Montgomery on the other end, who sliced through Stanford’s defense with 19 points.

“They went on a run where one time we totally lost Montgomery,” Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. “For UConn, it was really capitalized on any time someone was open.”

Appel finished with 26 points, but she had little help. Noeneakal Opiemme added 12 points and 12 rebounds and Kayte Pedersen added 10 points.

UConn beat Stanford 76-60 in the Final Four en route to its first undefeated season in 1995, and went unbeaten in 2002. The Huskies also entered the NCAA tournament undefeated in 1997, but fell to Tennessee in the regional final.

Besides Stanford, only the Lady Vols and Texas have run through a season unbeaten.

Contact Bobby Graham at rgraham@nd.edu

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**SMC GOLF**

SMC in second after first day of Trine tourney

By BOBBY GRAHAM

Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s was in second after the first round of play Saturday at the Trine Invitational.

The Belles shot a combined score of 339 on the day, with three strokes behind conference rival Olivet, who paced the field with a score of 336.

Leading Saint Mary’s was sophomore Mary Kate Boyce, who shot an 82 on the day. Close behind Boyce were sophomores Rosie O’Connor with an 83 and senior Meredith Fantom with an 84.

Sophomore Emily Gore and freshmen Natalie Matuszak rounded out the Belles scorecard with rounds of 90 and 92, respectively.

The Saint Mary’s athletic department Web site reported that the second day of play was cancelled Saturday. Play is set to resume today after a one-day delay.

Contact Bobby Graham at rgraham@nd.edu

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**BOX SCORE**

**Cov e r Stadi u m**

**A P R I L 7, 2009 4:30 p.m.**

**NOTRE DAME CR E W FIGHTING IRISH**

**V S**

**SOUTH BENG**

**SILVER HAWKS**

A portion of the proceeds benefit the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation’s Fight Against Niemann-Pick Type C.
Just think, the next time you find your name in *The Observer* it will be in an article, byline or letter to the editor. (And hopefully not the police blotter.)

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Dianna Bartone  Davidsonville, MD  Ryan Mc Lynn  Alpharetta, GA
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The Office of Undergraduate Admissions welcomes the **Reilly Weekend** students to campus.
out 15 Panthers on Saturday, matching a career high.

"Valdivial has really come into her own," Irish coach Deanna Gumpf said. "She has always been a very good pitcher. She has a lot of confidence right now. She is focused in on every single pitch and that's a big difference."

In Saturday's first game, Pittsburgh (15-18, 3-9) scored three runs in the second inning and two in the fourth off of senior pitcher Brittany Bargar (13-7), who took the loss despite only two of the runs being earned.

The Irish were unable to muster any significant offensive challenges in the game, scoring one in the third inning on a double by junior first baseman Christine Lux and another in the sixth when Lux scored on a wild pitch.

"It wasn't a bad weekend in that we did take three out of four," Gumpf said. "Every team that comes into Notre Dame is out to play their best game and beat us and that's what Pittsburgh did." Lack of offense wasn't a problem for the rest of the weekend.

"My whole goal every year is to have the best hitters hitting and the best hitters playing," Gumpf said. "They're making it tough on me because I have not only nine hitters doing well, I have 10 or 11. I like that they're competing with each other for playing time."

The Irish scored seven runs on eight hits in game two against Pittsburgh, departing from the home-run driven offense they have used for the past couple weeks.

Sophomore right fielder Erin Marrone and senior second baseman Linda Kohan each had two hits for the Irish in that game.

Marrone stood out again Sunday when she came to bat with the bases loaded in the fourth inning of the first game against Seton Hall and hit it over the fence for her first career grand slam.

"Marrone has put herself in the starting lineup with some really great at bats," Gumpf said.

Lux also homered in game one, a two-run shot that put the Irish up 5-0 after the first inning.

It was more of the same in the second game, as the Irish scored five times in the first inning and four times in both the second and third frames.

After the offensive explosion of the first game, Gumpf said the team was not expecting to do so well in the next.

"You hope they don't get comfortable, and they didn't," Gumpf said. "They came out and attacked Seton Hall again the second game. I was very impressed. I thought they did a great job."

Notre Dame now sits in third place in the Big East, behind Louisville and DePaul, who will come to South Bend on Wednesday for a doubleheader that will begin at 5 p.m.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

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**Scots continued from page 24**

big inning in the first game, the Belles came out ready to play in the back end of the doubleheader. In a display of fundamental softball, Saint Mary's scored three runs on three hits in the bottom of the third to take the early lead.

Senior Cathy Kurczak and freshman Lauren Enayati got the ball rolling by leading off the frame with a pair of back-to-back singles. MIAA player of the week Maureen Healy moved the runners into scoring position after executing a sacrifice bunt, and junior Ashley Peterson walked to load the bases.

Senior Ashley Fusaro, batting .492 coming into the weekend, drove Kurczak on a single to left field. Two batters later, freshman Hayley Bojorquez hit a two-out double to right-center field to bring home Peterson and Fusaro. Nevertheless, the Scots came back to steal a win from the Belles, scoring four runs over the last three frames to secure a 4-3 win and the sweep.

"I really hope we play them again," Sullivan said. "I know we'll win the next game. We know exactly what they're going to do."

Freshman Angela Gillis went the distance, striking out three along the way only to pick up her first loss of the season.

"[Gillis] is just one of the most composed pitchers I think I've ever seen."

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**Valdivia continued from page 24**

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Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

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**Hal Prince on Broadway**

A lecture and Q and A session with the legendary director and/or producer:

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Tony Award-Winning theatre director Harold Prince "belongs on the Mount Rushmore of living directors" with a record-setting 21 Tony Awards and over 50 musicals, plays and operas to his credit. Prince has shaped Broadway as has Prince, and perhaps no other person can bring to audiences a more engaging and informed account of American theatre.

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**Saint Mary's College Department of Communication Studies, Dance, and Theatre and the Margaret Hill Endowed Chair Visiting Artist Series presents**

**Please recycle The Observer.**
scissoria

continued from page 24

The victory over Cincinnati marked the 10th on the season for Notre Dame, which has now won at least that many for the fourth consecutive year, a first in the program's history.

The Irish then defeated Louisville on Sunday, led once again by the scoring from Byers. She contributed another five goals and two assists in the blowout victory.

"I thought we played well today against Louisville," Coyne said. "I think we recognize that the conference is competitive and I think the team came out and gave Louisville the respect that they deserve and played a great game."

Tracy Coyne
Irish coach

Notre Dame never looked back, scoring five unanswered goals near the beginning of the second half, and putting the game out of reach.

"[Byers] did something today that was very quintessential," Coyne said. "She had one really awesome goal, where she was one-on-one with the goalie and made a fake and just placed her shot. I was happy to see her do that."

The two victories were boosted by strong defensive performances, and Coyne was specific in pointing out senior Shannon Burke and junior Rachel Gerarrera.

[Burke] played great on Friday," Coyne said. "[Gerarrera] played awesome. She was the key on a mission [Sunday]."

Notre Dame returns to action Saturday when they will travel to Syracuse, N.Y. to take on the No. 8 Orange.

"We have three big games in a row, so I think that's going to be a key test for us," Coyne said. "We have things that we can look back on, experiences that we've had over the season that have prepared us for some of these tough stretches down the road."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@stmarys.edu

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Peter Christman later in the game out of reach.

Dan Gnazzo to narrow the Irish lead to 8-4. However, that would be as close as the Falcons would get, as goals from senior attackman Duncan Sweezy and senior midfielder Grant Krebs helped the Irish close the period and lead the game for the Irish.

With the win, Notre Dame remains one of two undefeated teams in Division I lacrosse, along with No. 1 Virginia. The Irish return to action when they travel to the University of Denver Saturday.

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu
FINISHING THE JOB

Johnson, Dupra pitch complete games en route to sweep of 'Cats

By MATT GAMBER, ALEX BARKER and MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writers

Notre Dame needed its bullpen to record just two outs over the weekend, as the Irish beat Villanova three times for their first Big East series sweep since last April, snapping Loyola's two-game win streak.

Notre Dame (19-10, 5-4 Big East) put complete game victories from sophomores Cole Johnson and Brian Dupra in the first two games, and junior Eric Maust threw 8 1/3 innings in the tail end of Saturday's doubleheader to extend his unbeaten start to 24 games.

Johnson (4-0, 2.40 ERA) struck the Wildcats (14-15, 1-0) with a complete game, and Maust (4-0, 1.00 ERA) allowed just two runs, one earned, in 9 2/3 innings. The Irish junior ace, who's now 2-0 in his college career, fanned five and did not walk a batter.

In Sunday's finale,ND wins two Big East wins

Irish run team-record unbeaten start to 9-0 vs. Falcons

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

No. 4 Notre Dame extended its unbeaten run to 9-0, a school record, Saturday thanks to a 10-4 win over Air Force. The win also extended Notre Dame's program-record home winning streak to 24 games.

The Irish took control of the game early and were able to set the tone for the contest with a strong defensive effort. "Defensively we played really well," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "We really limited their opportunities. From early in the game, we made it obvious that they were gonna have to work to create quality chances."

Much of Notre Dame's success on defense was a result of its ability to limit Air Force's transition game.

"We didn't let them get going in the transition game where they're really good and forced them into a half-field game," Corrigan said.

The first period was quiet offensively. Senior attack Ryan Hoffman scored off an assist from junior attack Neal Hicks with 3:51 left in the opening period to put the Irish up 1-0 at the end of the first quarter. Despite the slow start, the Irish offense came to life in the second quarter. Sophomore David Earl scored the first of his three goals on the day to give Notre Dame a 2-0 lead early in the period, and junior long-stick midfielder Mike Creighton followed with his first goal of the year to increase the Irish lead to three. Earl then scored back-to-back goals to seal his hat trick and give Notre Dame a 5-0 lead with 4:52 remaining in the first quarter.

On the whole, Corrigan said he liked what he saw out of the offense. "I was happy with our offensive performance," Corrigan said. "We maintained possession of the ball better and kept pressure on the defense."

Air Force got on the board with 54 seconds left in the first, but the Irish offense scored once more in the second quarter, taking a 7-1 lead at the half.

The second half saw Notre Dame extend its lead to 9 goals on the day to give Notre Dame a 9-1 win in the second game. The Irish finished with a 10-4 win over Air Force. The win extended Notre Dame's unbeaten run to 9-0.

SMC SOFTBALL

Saint Mary’s falls in two straight vs. Alma

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

The Scots’ seven-game winning streak came to an abrupt end this weekend as the team dropped a pair of games to Alma.

Saint Mary’s (18-4, 4-2 MIAA) and dropped to fourth in the MIAA rankings.

The Scots’ (16-6, 6-2 MIAA) bats were silenced for the better part of the opening match, as Belles freshman Monica Pallieki kept them guessing her first time through the lineup.

But Alma, who finished first in the MIAA regular season standings last year, wouldn’t be shut out for long. The Scots erupted for three runs in the bottom of the fourth and six in the bottom of the sixth to cruise to a 9-1 win in five innings.

"We came out real flat in the first four innings," Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. "We were just a little intimidated, weren’t really playing our game, so it kind of took us out of it right away."

Pallieki, who entered the game with an ERA of 1.16 and 20 strikeouts on the year, suffered the loss. Freshman Kristen Nelson was responsible for the Belles’ lone run, smashing her second big fly of the season over the center field wall in the top of the fifth.

Unable to prevent the Scots'