Pro-life task force presents proposals

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

A special task force initiated by University President Fr. John Jenkins last fall presented its preliminary recommendations last week on how best to "deepen the pro-life culture" and "strengthen the Notre Dame community's witness to Catholic teaching on life." The initial recommendations given to Jenkins are described in a press release from last Thursday.

Jenkins said in the press release the task force, made up of faculty, administrators and one student, was charged with making recommendations on how the University could increase its commitment to "a culture of life," working with both campus constituencies and its "pro-life culture" and "strengthen community's witness to Catholic teaching on life.”

The Observer Editorial Board has been told the Observer policy. "The Mobile Party" authors submitted their comics for publication. The Observer does not feel the comic strip aligns with community standards in terms of content and taste.

Per Observer Viewpoint policies, comments, including cartoons, submitted to The Observer for publication are the property of The Observer unless otherwise discussed with the Editor-in-Chief. The Observer has been made aware of an outside blog, authored by the writers of "The Mobile Party" that republished copies of their cartoons as well as cartoons deemed inappropriate for print and correspondence between Observer staff and the writers. This blog is in clear violation of Observer policy.

The Observer staff has been told the blog has since been removed from the Internet. Writers of comic strips are typically paid for their submissions to The Observer. "The Mobile Party" authors will not be paid for the offensive submissions.

Observer discontinues ‘Mobile Party’ comic

University to celebrate Moreau’s beatification

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

In honor of the third anniversary of the beatification of Blessed Fr. Basil Moreau, the founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, the University of Notre Dame will celebrate with a series on events titled "Holy Cross: Faith in our Future". The celebrations, which will take place this week, will include commemorative Masses, lectures and discussions on the Holy Cross religious order and the vital role Moreau’s mission continues to play today.

Fr. Moreau is important because he was instrumental in the direction of the Holy Cross order,” the rector of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart Fr. Peter Rocca said. “This University would never have been established without him.”

Moreau founded the Congregation of the Holy Cross in the 19th century in Le Mans, France. Shortly after the formation, Moreau sent Fr. Edward Sorin to Indiana to establish the University of Notre Dame.

Rocca said education was one of Moreau’s greatest passions and one of the purposes of celebrating his Feast Day on Jan. 20 is to make the Notre Dame community aware of how this mission is being continued today.

Community commemorates MLK Day

By NIKKI TAYLOR
News Writer

Today’s holiday honoring the civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. will be celebrated both at Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s with events including a documentary film, a commemorative march and a theatrical performance.

Stephanie Bridges, assistant director of Multicultural Services at the College, said celebrating King’s work is important because it helps highlight the core values of Saint Mary’s.

"It is especially important for the Saint Mary’s College community to celebrate this holiday because of the college’s core values of Learning, Community, Faith/Spirituality and Justice,” Bridges said. "The life of Dr. King exemplifies all of these things, and what he was able to teach us regarding the importance of fighting for equal justice for all through non violence was phenomenal.”

At the College, the office of Multicultural Services and Student Programs along with the Sisters of Nefertiti are hosting their annual Commencement visit.

Stinson-Remick opens for classes

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

The highly anticipated Stinson-Remick Hall of Engineering opened this January, in time for students returning to campus this semester, to attend classes in the new state-of-the-art facility.

The 142,000-square-foot building houses offices for professors, classrooms and other facilities geared toward the engineering population on campus.

While most of its usage thus far has been by graduate engineering students and freshmen, many undergraduates are eagerly anticipating their turn to utilize its amenities.

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The dorm bubble

As all Notre Dame students know, dorm life at the University is unique. At least, no college that I have ever visited has a housing setup like ours. The single sex system of 16 men's dorms and 14 women's dorms is sometimes criticized for fostering what people like to call "strained gender relations," but more often, it seems, Notre Dame's housing system is praised for creating a close-knit community that keeps students on campus for three or four years.

For the past two and a half years, my dorm, Breen Phillips Hall, has been a nice little shell, and I never felt the need to expand far beyond my close Breen Phillips friends. But then something happened that changed everything.

Upon returning from studying abroad during the fall semester, most of my friends could not get back into Breen Phillips because of space issues. Instead they were forced to live far away in Badin Hall. After a semester before we all move off-campus next year.

While some people are lucky enough to have many friends all over campus, I have never had to walk even a flight of stairs to see my friends. The thought of having to trek across campus in the winter to see my friends was not pleasant at first. But shockingly, after a week of living in a different building than half of my friends, I found that I actually like the change.

This week, my friends and I did something we have never done before except in rare circumstances: spent time in another female dorm. Typically, I would venture outside of one's own residence hall in rare circumstances: spent time in another female dorm. Perhaps my friends and I won't see each other, we have the opportunity to experience the culture of a different dorm — something that has been solidified with years of living on campus.

At Notre Dame, it is easy to get comfortable in the routine of dorm life and never venture outside of one's own residence hall. People talk about Notre Dame being a bubble, but the residence halls can sometimes create an even smaller bubble.

What I thought would be an inconvenience was actually a pleasant surprise. Perhaps my friends and I won't see each other on the days when the chill is below zero, but when we do see each other, we have the opportunity to experience the culture of a different dorm — something that has been interesting so far.

While dorm life at Notre Dame is unique and creates community, it sometimes makes it difficult to make friends outside of that community. By pure coincidence, the Office of Residence Life and Housing has indirectly forced me to break out of my comfort zone and reminded me how important it is to do that every once in a while.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com

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CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: Who is going to win the Super Bowl?

Brian Wysokci — Junior, Fisher
John Waschowitz — Sophomore, Stanford
Charles Keenan — Freshman, Keenan
Greg Morrow — Freshman, Keenan
Rachel Tran — Sophomore, Parkey

"J-E-T-S!"
"The biggest winners will be the CBS execs."
"Da Saints."
"Vikings. Maybe Brett Favre will finally retire if they win."
"To be honest, I have no idea who's in it. I stopped paying attention after the Packers lost."

OFFBEAT

Mass. man arrested three times in three days

ANDOVER, Mass. — A Boston man has been arrested three times in three days in neighboring Massachusetts towns. Huy Quoc Le faces a number of charges after his string of arrests began Monday in Andover. Police said the 25-year-old was arrested on motor vehicle violations. He was charged with driving after suspension, attaching improper plates, forgery of Registry documents and driving an unregistered and uninsured vehicle.

On Wednesday, Le was arrested on charges accusing him of stealing nearly $10,000 from the business account of an Andover nail salon.

Hours later, police in nearby Lawrence arrested him on allegations he broke into the home of a former girlfriend after officers found him inside.

It was unclear if he had hired an attorney.

Drunk man dressed like cowboy threatens dog

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Iowa City police say a drunken man dressed like a cowboy broke into a house and threatened to kill the resident’s dog. Police said 24-year-old Derrick Thomas Alger of Iowa City was arrested early Thursday morning on charges of trespass, intoxification and carrying a dangerous weapon.

Officers said Alger reportedly threatened a cab driver with a handgun shortly after midnight. They say Alger, who was dressed in shorts, boots and a cowboy hat, fled the scene, but entered the rear door of a private residence, where he demanded to know who the residents were and threatened their barking dog.

IN BRIEF

Mass will be held for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti today at 5:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

“How is Your Heart? Toward a Profound Education,” a Bishop’s Fr. Basil Moreau lecture, will be held today at 7:30 p.m. in the Andrews Auditorium in Geddes Hall as part of Holy Cross Week.

The “Expanding the Boundaries: Selected Drawings from the Yvonne and Gabriel P. Weisberg Collection” exhibit will be held at the Sainte Museum of Art Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

Notre Dame President Fr. John Jenkins and Dean of First Year Studies Rev. Hugh Page Jr. will offer prayers in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. today at 4 p.m. in the Rotunda of the Main Building. The Voices of Faith Gospel Choir will provide sacred music and a reception will follow the service.

Adam Abate, researcher in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Harvard University, will present a seminar on complex systems and emulation microfluidics Tuesday in room 133 of DeBartolo Hall at 3:30 p.m.

The Creative Writing Department will sponsor a poetry reading by English professor Henry Weinfield Wednesday at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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

Kelly helps students improve their relationships with teachers

By SAM STRYKER
News Writer

With graduate school looming on the horizon, many seniors face the task of finding the right professor to write their letters of recommendation.

To help students struggling with this process, psychology professor Dr. Anita Kelly has been authoring an online blog entitled “The Clever Student,” which gives Notre Dame undergraduates advice on how to interact with their professors.

Kelly, who has been at Notre Dame since 1994 and writing the blog since Nov. 19, said she has always been passionate about giving advice to students about their relationships with their professors.

“I’ve always been interested in students and them getting really well-written letters to grad schools,” she said. “I’ve always been doing this but the media is there now.”

Kelly said the format of the blog is especially effective in reaching out to students in order to give them some views into the world of the professor’s mind.

“It’s occurred to me that I could communicate more efficiently and reach more students on the blog,” Kelly said.

She said her blog draws on her experiences both as a professor and a psychotherapist.

Kelly said it is increasingly important that students understand how professors perceive them because of what she observes as a changing classroom experience.

“I perceive a gap is widening between students and professors. Students see themselves as consumers of the classroom experience,” she said. “I care that students get socialized about interactions with professors.”

The blog highlights the importance of everyday class participation and behavior to a professor’s perception of students, and how that will impact future student-professor relations, such as with the request of a graduate school recommendation.

Kelly said she is not afraid to be frank with readers about these issues, as she believes this will ultimately help students.

“My goal is not saying you have to agree with me. My goal is simply to inform students on how professors are thinking,” she said.

Kelly said certain student behaviors such as leaving to go to the bathroom during class and sitting in the back row are negative in the eyes of professors, which can eventually impact the quality of the student-professor relationship.

“Professors don’t think you’re cool for sitting in the back. They think you’re a slacker,” Kelly said. “People will peg you as having a certain personality based on a couple of salient behaviors.”

One of the most important features of “The Clever Student” blog is it allows student feedback and interaction. Kelly will frequently end a blog entry with a question posed to readers, and she finds student feedback has been very important in the growth and definition of the blog.

“I learn from the students what is on their minds as they post questions and comments,” she said. “It keeps me understanding where the students are coming from.”

Kelly uses the student interaction aspect of the blog for the purpose of sharing upsetting and confusing experiences they have had with their professors, and allowing them to receive advice on these matters from both Kelly and other students.

She plans to continue to tackle student-professor relations on her blog, with some outside input.

“In the future I am going to have guest experts hosting conversations they are qualified to comment on,” she said.

Kelly said though a large part of the blog for her is informing students about their relationship with their professors, “The Clever Student” has also helped enrich her career.

“I consider it a privilege to be a professor at Notre Dame,” she said. “I think the blog is one way to do my job even better.”

Contact Sam Stryker at stryker@nd.edu

MLK continued from page 1

The commemorative march in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. The march will begin at 5 p.m. in the Student Center lounge with the viewing of the Academy Award-nominated film, “The Witness: From the Balcony of Room 306,” which sheds light on the events leading up to King’s assassination.

“It is always good to acknowledge and recognize the work of others who have gone before you to make life better for others,” Bridges said.

The film outlines the sanitation workers strike that led King to come to Memphis, Tenn, in order to lend his support to the cause.

The documentary also offers eyewitness accounts from his assassination, Sarah Durica, an assistant in Multicultural Services of Saint Mary’s, said in an e-mail to the student body.

Following the film there will be a candlelit march around campus ending in Stapleton Lounge to commemorate Dr. King and his work.

The memorial continues on Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in the Moreau Little Theater with a theatrical presentation by the Grimes Theatre Group entitled “The Meeting,” which portrays what might have happened had Malcolm X and Dr. King had a clandestine meeting before their assassinations.

Notre Dame will also hold a series of celebrations over the course of the day, beginning with a prayer service at 4 p.m. in the Rotunda of the Main Building with a reception following the service.

The Office of Multicultural Services will offer prayers.

The Office of Multicultural Services (MSPS) held a workshop this weekend on “Crossroads Anti-Racism Organizing and Training” to provide strategies for eliminating institutionalized racism.

MSPS is also hosting a lecture titled “Between Barack and a Hard Place: Racism and White Denial in the Age of Obama,” Jan. 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library.

Contact Nikki Taylor at nitaylor01@stmarys.edu
Building continued from page 1

"It'll be really awesome to have classes in Stinson-Remick and it will do a lot for the graduate program and the prestige of the Institute for Church Life. It's going to be different." Haake said. "Ave Crux Spes Unica" and it's going to be even better.

According to Notre Dame's $22 million, 118,000 square foot semiconductor processing and device fabrication clean room.

Stinson-Remick is also the home of Notre Dame's new Energy Center, which is an 11,800 square foot semiconductor processing and device fabrication clean room.

Fr. Moreau had for his order is very significant virtue.

In addition, Stinson-Remick is also the home of Notre Dame's new Energy Center, which is an 11,800 square foot semiconductor processor processing and device fabrication clean room.

Fr. Moreau's mission was simply to characterize Holy Cross because that is a direct result of Fr. Moreau's striving for the Congregation of the Holy Cross.

"A lot of things seem a bit unfinished here — there's no name on the outside anywhere, and when you walk inside it's clear that there's wires hanging out of the ceiling," Woodruff said. "I can see it definitely being more completed in a few months or so."

Contact Liz O’Donnell at acodonne1@nd.edu

Moreau continued from page 1

"Our motto translates as 'Hail to the Cross, our only hope' and it shows how the cross is essential to the life of any Christian," Rocca said. "Fr. Moreau tried to show us that through the Cross we’ve saved but that we are invited to carry other people’s Crosses."

Haake says he believes that "Ave Crux Spes Unica" is a very simple principle that gives innumerable advantages.

"Fr. Moreau formed his order based on his vision of the Holy Family," Haake said. "It is a direct result of Fr. Moreau’s vision for the Congregation of Holy Cross."

"Part of our mission as educators at this school is to provide an education that doesn’t just touch mind but that touches the heart as well," Rocca said. "Education at most schools doesn’t touch on the faith aspects, but Holy Cross is about bringing out this education mission of Fr. Moreau so Notre Dame is going to be different."

"It's always been difficult to characterize Holy Cross because Fr. Moreau's mission was simply to meet the needs of the community," he said. "The desire to meet needs wherever they are was what drove Fr. Moreau to order the first place."

In contrast, the tasks force has been at work, engaging various of these constituencies in conversation and studying ways in which the University can articulate its commitment and further this commitment,” Jenkins said in the press release.

Task force co-chair Margaret Brana, professor of law and associate dean at the Law School, told The Observer in December the group would work until the end of the school year. The other co-chair is John Cavallini, professor of theology and director of the Institute for Church Life.

"It's a testament to our students living out Fr. Moreau's mission."

The task force also co-hosted, with the Notre Dame Law School, a panel discussion Dec. 3 on conscience clauses and Catholic teaching.

The recommendations listed in the press release suggest the University:

- Adopt a policy statement on its support for Church teaching on the sanctity of human life. Also per the task force’s recommendation, Jenkins will participate in the March for Life on Jan. 22 alongside students from the University.

- Transform the students on that level.

- Promote undergraduate research opportunities that appear to be pro-life activities.

- Make a public “witness for life” through the University president’s participation in the March for Life or a similar event.

- Support the work of students engaged in pro-life activities and support educational efforts like conferences or courses.

- Encourage alumni to participate in pro-life activities.

According to the press release, the task force will present an updated and revised list of recommendations to Jenkins at the end of the school year.

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu

Has availability for:

Notre Dame Junior Parent's Weekend February 19th and 20th

For information e-mail tstewartcorwin@innatsaintmarys.com or call 1-800-947-8627.

Write for News
Email Madeline at obsnews@nd.edu

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Snacks

JANUARY 22, 2010
2:30 - 4:30 P.M.
JORDAN HALL OF SCIENCE

Everyone is welcome to attend

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@nd.edu
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Mexican police find human head
CULIACAN, Mexico — A severed human head that appeared to have been cut from the body of a flower have been found in front of the tomb of a deceased drug lord Arturo Beltran Leyva in northern Mexico.

Prosecutors in Sinaloa state say the man's headless body was found in a plastic bag atop the glass-topped alcove containing the remains of Beltran Leyva's elaborate, multistory crypt.

Police found it after receiving a telephone tip from a member of the Beltran Leyva criminal gang on a Dec. 16, shootout with Mexican marines.

France proposes ban of full veils
PARIS — The head of President Nicolas Sarkozy's party said Sunday he wants a law to ensure that Muslim women who wear face-covering veils do not acquire French nationality.

Xavier Bertrand, head of the conservative UMP party, said the full veil “is simply a prison for women who wear it” and “will make no one believe” a woman wearing it wants to integrate.

France is moving closer to banning such veils, even though only a tiny minority of Muslim women wear them. A top UMP lawmaker last week filed legislation to ban the garb, and a parliamentary committee studying the issue for the past six months is to turn in its report on whether a law is needed by the end of the month.

Critics of Bertrand's 2008 crackdown on illegal immigrants question whether the governor exaggerated the scope of the problem locally.

Search halted for boat victims
WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Coast Guard has suspended its search for more potential victims of the crash of a small boat packed with suspected illegal immigrants off the San Diego coast.

One person died when the 30-foot boat overturned before dawn Saturday in the surf at Torrey Pines State Park.

Coast Guard Petty Officer Henry Dunphy says boats and helicopters spent 32 hours searching 144 square miles for other survivors.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection says 16 people, all Mexican citizens, have been accounted for. It's unclear how many people were aboard the boat before the crash.

LOCAL NEWS

Crash shows need for stricter laws
MIAHI, Haiti — Advocates for stricter laws against people who drink and drive say an Indiana police officer's recent car crash shows the need for more severe penalties for the driving under the influence of alcohol.

An estimated 20,000 gallons of crude remain in Prince William Sound, even though cleanup operations have been operating for more than 11 million-gallon spill has freed 1,000 cubic feet of oil from the oil beach where the Alaska oil spill cleaned up.

Beaches trapping oil from 1989 spill
ANCHORAGE — An engineering professor has figured out why oil remains trapped along miles of gravel beaches more than 20 years after the Exxon Valdez tanker disaster in Prince William Sound.

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Violence hinders aid efforts
WASHINGTON, D.C. — Some incidents of violence in Haiti have prevented aid workers trying to help earthquake victims, a top U.S. government official said Sunday.

Providing humanitarian aid requires a safe and secure environment, said Lt. Gen. Ken Keen of the U.S. Southern Command. While streets have been largely calm, he said, violence has been increasing.

“We are going to have to address the situation of security,” Keen said. “We've had incidents of violence that impede our ability to support the government of Haiti and answer the challenges that this country faces.”

Keen said about 1,000 U.S. troops are in Haiti and that 3,000 more are working from ships. More than 12,000 U.S. forces are expected to be in the region by Monday.

Fear of looters and robbers has been one of the factors slowing the delivery of aid. After Tuesday's earthquake, maintaining law and order fell to the 9,000 U.N. peacekeepers and international police already in Haiti even though those forces also sustained heavy losses in the disaster.

Keen said U.S. forces are working with the peacekeepers and that local police are beginning to assist in providing security.

On Sunday, the White House said President Barack Obama had issued an order allowing selected members of the military's reserves to be called to support operations in Haiti.

Signed Saturday, the executive order permits the Defense Department and Homeland Security Department to tap reserve medical personnel and a Coast Guard unit that will help provide port security.

The White House said the authority will be used on a limited basis. No numbers of personnel or names of units were provided.

Rescue efforts and getting food, water and medical supplies to earthquake victims were the focus of efforts Sunday, U.S. officials said. An estimated 100,000 or more people may have died in the magnitude-7.0 quake.

As of Sunday, the State Department said the total number of confirmed U.S. deaths was 16, including one embassy worker.

Rajiv Shah, who leads the U.S. Agency for International Development, said U.S. relief workers are also trying to rescue people from under the damaged and destroyed buildings.

One priority was to go in with urban search and rescue teams,” said Shah, who visited Haiti on Saturday with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. “They work around the clock to try and save lives.

“On next priority, which started in parallel, was getting those commodities down there and making sure we have the food, water, shelter and basic needs met for the people of Haiti,” Shah said.

International search and rescue teams are looking for earthquake survivors around the clock as officials running the rescue effort get closer to shifting to a recovery operation.

There have been 62 live rescues, Tim Callaghan of the U.S. Agency for International Development's foreign disaster assistance office said Sunday. American search and rescue teams had performed 29 of those rescues.

“We are still in rescue mode,” Callaghan said in a conference call with reporters. He said the decision to move to recovery will be made by the Haitian government.

“Obviously we’re getting closer to that painful decision of moving from searching for people to recovery,” Callaghan said.

Keen and Shah spoke on ABC’s “This Week,” NBC’s “Meet the Press” and “Fox News Sunday.”
MARCH FOR LIFE

Send-Off Mass

Tuesday, January 19th
9:00 p.m.

Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Presider
Bishop John M. D’Arcy, Homilist

Join students, faculty, and administrators, at this celebration of the Eucharist to pray for respect for the dignity of life, an end to abortion, and the success and safe travel of Notre Dame’s participants in the March for Life in Washington, D.C., on January 22nd.
Big tobacco meets U.S. secretly

Attorneys meet with Solicitor General to avoid trip to Supreme Court

WASHINGTON - Tobacco industry lawyers met secretly with Solicitor General Elena Kagan in an effort to avoid going to the government's last-ditch attempt to extract billions from companies that illegally concealed the dangers of cigarette smoking.

Four cigarette makers that control nearly 90 percent of U.S. retail cigarette sales have until Feb. 19 to persuade the government not to go to the Supreme Court and ask the justices to step into a landmark 10-year racketeering lawsuit.

In 2006, a judge ruled that the industry concealed the dangers of smoking for decades. Despite that finding, lower courts have said the government is not entitled to collect $280 billion in past profits or $14 billion for a national campaign to curb smoking.

As part of any effort to convince the government that it should skip its trip to the Supreme Court, the tobacco companies may have to drop plans to ask the justices to overturn the ruling that the industry engaged in racketeering.

On behalf of the industry, Washington lawyers Michael Carvin and Miguel Estrada made their pitch against seeking Supreme Court review in a mid-December meeting at the Justice Department with Kagan, according to two Washington attorneys outside the government who are familiar with the meeting.

In the meeting, Carvin and Estrada left the impression they might be willing to end plans to seek a Supreme Court appeal of its own, if the Justice Department would do the same, said the Washington attorneys, who spoke on condition of anonymity so as to not reveal the meeting's participants.

The department, the industry or both could request that the Supreme Court take the case, while at the same time asking that the case be delayed while the two sides try to work out a deal.

If the companies also agreed not to seek an appeal, they would be accepting the findings of U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler that they engaged in a scheme to defraud the public by falsely denying the adverse health effects of smoking, concealing evidence nicotine is addictive and lying about their manipulation of nicotine in cigarettes to create addiction. Last May, a federal appeals court upheld the findings. The companies then pledged to appeal to the Supreme Court.

Kessler ordered the companies to make corrective statements about the adverse health effects of smoking, the addictiveness of smoking and nicotine, the companies' manipulation of cigarette design and composition to ensure optimum nicotine delivery and the adverse health effects of secondhand smoke. These statements must appear on company Web sites, cigarette packages and advertisements.

"The trial court's findings are devastating to the tobacco industry," said Matthew L. Myers, president of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, one of the public health groups allowed by Kessler to join the case in 2005 on the side of the Justice Department. "We have urged the department to go to the Supreme Court to significantly strengthen the remedies, particularly with regard to funding smoking cessation and public education."

Fisher raises $115M for plug-in cars

NEW YORK — Fisker Automotive, a high-tech startup company, said Friday it raised $115.3 million to develop high-end hybrid cars, bringing it closer to accessing a government loan it was seeking last year.

Fisher spokesman Russell Datz said the money brings the company closer to being able to sell the $77 million line of funding from the U.S. Department of Energy, though he declined to say how much money the company has raised so far or what the goal is.

The government required the company to raise capital from investors in order to use the funding. The DOE loan comes from a $25 billion fund established by Congress in 2007 to help automakers develop fuel-efficiency vehicles.

Privately held Fisher, which is headed by Danish automobile designer Henrik Fisker and headquartered in Irvine, Calif., was founded in 2007 and is among the newest entrants in the U.S. auto industry. The company plans to begin selling its sole product, the $87,900 Karma plug-in hybrid, later this year and has plans to sell a lower-cost hybrid family sedan starting in 2012.

In October, the company announced it was buying a shuttered General Motors Co. factory in Wilmington, Del., and will use the facility to build the cheaper vehicle. Earlier this week, Fisher said it struck a deal with battery-maker A123 Systems Inc. to supply lithium-ion batteries for the Karma.

Fisker is among a handful of auto companies that have been approved to receive Energy Department loans for researching fuel-efficient vehicles. Ford Motor Co., Nissan Motor Co. and Tesla Motors have also received approval. Like Fisher, Tesla is hoping to break into the U.S. auto industry by selling high-end fuel-efficient cars, such as its such as its $109,000 Roadster electric sports car.

San Carlos, Calif.-based Tesla is also working on a cheaper electric sedan, the Model S, which it expects to go on sale in 2012 at a cost of $57,400.

Mainstream automakers have also touted plans to roll out more hybrids and electric cars.
HONOLULU — When Hawaii legislators reconvene on Wednesday, all eyes will be focused on legislation that would allow same-sex couples to form civil unions in the state.

The measure would grant gay couples the rights and benefits the state provides to married couples and is among a handful of similar proposals that could pop up in several other U.S. states.

At the same time, a federal judge in San Francisco is considering the constitutionality of California’s same-sex marriage ban. “This bill has already been voted on, so there isn’t as much convincing to do anymore,” said Alan Spector of Equality Hawaii, a leading supporter of the bill. “I think (legislators) get the substance of the bill and the need for the bill.”

Last year, the proposal easily won preliminary passage in the Legislature, but stalled in May after opponents lobbied and held a state Capitol rally attended by several thousand protesters.

Opponents, noting that this is an election year, cast doubt on claims that passage is at hand. Critics, including the Catholic Diocese of Honolulu and scores of evangelical Protestant churches, hope another rally, this one planned for Sunday, will be large enough to convince wavering lawmakers to kill the measure.

“It’s up to the people who oppose civil unions to remind the legislators that they work for the people,” said Garret Hashimoto, chairman of the Hawaii Christian Coalition.

“There’s no ifs, ands or buts that the majority of the people in Hawaii oppose civil unions and gay marriage.” No independent polls or surveys have been conducted on the issue, so it’s difficult to measure public sentiment. The last time voters directly weighed in on a related issue was in 1998 when 70 percent approved a constitutional amendment allowing the Legislature to reserve marriage for opposite sex couples.

In Hawaii, the measure would expand the state’s existing reciprocal beneficiaries law by granting to unmarried same- and opposite-gender couples all of the rights and benefits the state provides to married couples. It is similar to broad civil union or domestic partnership laws in California, the District of Columbia, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and New Jersey.

Supporters voice guarded confidence that the bill, pending in the Senate since May, still enjoys majority support in both chambers.

But House Speaker Calvin Say, a Democrat, suggested the bill could stall in the House if the Senate vote turns out to be slim. “If the bill limps over,” he said, “you know we don’t have the two-thirds, so why go through the exercise if the governor is going to veto?”

Foes say the House, whose members face re-election every two years, will be a prime focus of their lobbying. The number of no votes among House members has “changed tremendously, in our favor,” said former state Rep. Dennis Arakaki, head of the Hawaii Family Forum and Hawaii Catholic Conference.

“They are especially sensitive because they’re all up for election.”

Honolulu Catholic Bishop Larry Silva in a letter last week urged some 220,000 parishioners to lobby lawmakers. He called civil unions “simply a euphemism” for gay marriage and claimed it is justifiable to discriminate against gay couples who want to marry.

Spector contended Silva was “trying to impose his Catholic faith ... upon all of Hawaii’s residents.”

Hawaii Board of Education member Kim Coco Iwamoto testifies in favor of same-sex civil unions in front of the Senate Judiciary and Government Operation Committee in a Feb. 24, 2009 file photo.

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Hawaii legislature to vote on civil unions measure

Associated Press
**Pope says ‘great respect’ exists between Catholics and Jews**

Benedict XVI’s visit to Rome’s main synagogue divides Jewish groups over pope’s praise of WWII pontiff

The recession has reached the executive suites of the nation’s public universities and colleges, putting a stop to a string of large annual pay raises for school presidents.

A survey released Monday by the Chronicle of Higher Education showed compensations for public school presidents have fallen over the previous year, a trend that has been seen at other levels of education. 

The median compensation package for public school top executives in 2008-2009 was $436,111, compared to $546,900 in 2007-2008.

Students and families have had to tighten their belts, so bit they’ll appreciate seeing some restraint among college presidents, said Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, a critic of executive pay at colleges and universities.

“Holding off on raises is in sync with the reality for faculty and students who are being underpaid given that their salaries are the lowest they’ve ever been,” said Jeffrey Selingo, editor of the Chronicle of Higher Education.

State tax support for higher education has been much more severe than the cuts in public schools, putting a stop to a string of large annual pay raises for school presidents.

Several prominent Jews have said they will boycott the visit. In his weekly noon appearance on radio and television in St. Peter’s Square, Benedict predicted that his visit would be “a further step on the path of harmony and friendship” between Catholics and Jews.

He recalled the 1986 visit to the same synagogue by his predecessor, John Paul II, who was widely credited with dramatically improving relations with Jews.

Benedict, who lived under Nazi occupation until 1945, said he was not saying he was amniliated, affectionately referred to as the “heroic” pope because of his commitment in faith during that time of breaking visit.

Public safety officers on Saturday enforced strict security around the synagogue along the boulevard lining the Tiber. Officers guided dogs trained to alert Jews as “our elder brothers” that they have at times been tense over the Vatican’s sainthood efforts for Pius, who was pontiff from 1939 to 1958. Those tensions flared again after Benedict last month issued a decree hailing the “heroic virtues” of Pius, an important step before beatification, which is the final formal stage before possible sainthood.

Benedict has visited synagogues in Cologne, Germany, and in New York during papal pilgrimages since he became pontiff in 2005.

**One in ten public university executives see pay decrease**

Recesssion blamed as cause for cut in many school presidents’ pay as tax support declines across the country

**Associated Press**

ROME — Pope Benedict XVI on Sunday acknowledged problems between Catholic and Jews, but insisted there was a “great respect” between the two religions, hours before a controversial visit to a Rome synagogue.

The visit has divided Jewish groups because of Benedict’s praise and push toward sainthood of Pius XII, who some critics contend didn’t do enough to save Jews during the Holocaust.

The Vatican defends Pius, maintaining he used behind-the-scenes diplomacy in a bid to save Jewish lives.

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Letter to the Editor: The Observer Editorial Board has accepted the resignation of Assistant Managing Editor Kara King. We greatly respect King’s courage in writing a letter to our community and apologize to her for any harm caused.

To the Observer community,

I am writing to apologize for my actions, which led to the inexcusable publication of a “Mobile Party” comic strip on Jan. 13. This strip was offensive and inappropriate beyond measure, and printing it perpetuated a message of intolerance, discrimination and hate. A miscommunication between another editor and myself led to the comic running without me first reading and approving the material. Regardless, no excuse can justify the comic being considered for publication, and the duty to correct this significant error falls on me as the editor of The Observer.

I am solely responsible for providing a forum for this message of hate. I was the final editor to review the paper that night, and am accountable for all of its content. I regret nothing more than the oversight that led to it and apologize for disrespecting the paper with its printing. This was one of the most regrettable mistakes of which The Observer is aware, and I, in any way, and I cannot begin to quantify the humiliation I have felt.

To those whom my actions have offended, I’m sorry. I failed as both an editor and an employee of The Observer, and I failed in my duties to protect the University need to fight against stereotypes, and I can hope that some good will come from this. More than ever, we as a community by allowing this strip to be published. It is not guaranteed that authors of columns, Letters to the Editor, quotes, comic strips, cartoons and poems will be notified before their work is printed in The Observer.

Only those individuals authorized to speak as representatives for a group or organization within the same academic community by allowing this strip to be published. It is not guaranteed that authors of columns, Letters to the Editor, quotes, comic strips, cartoons and poems will be notified before their work is printed in The Observer.

The Observer reserves the right to disable comments on The Observer’s Viewpoint section. Comments that appear in the Viewpoint section may be approved by The Observer, and may contain the name and title of the author(s) or the commentary is (are) the individual(s), and the commentary is in effect, co-signed by the organization.

Commentaries that appear in the Viewpoint section may not have been published previously in other newspapers, magazines or publications. In exceptions, the author of the previously printed material must give legal, written consent. Work from organizations of which The Observer is a member, quotation of poems or commentaries, “Quote of the Day” and syndicated columns are excluded from this procedure.

Letters to the Editor are not required. All commentaries that appear in the Viewpoint section are Letters to the Editor. Regular columnists and those of The Observer staff are also eligible to have their commentaries appear in the Viewpoint section as Letters to the Editor. The status of such individuals is determined by the Viewpoint Editor.

The Observer reserves the right to remove comments on The Observer’s Viewpoint section. The editors reserve the right to refuse to run any cartoon or comic strip that the editors deem offensive, discriminatory, hateful or in any way considered by the editors to contradict the values of The Observer, the University of Notre Dame or Saint Mary’s College.

Any questions or concerns regarding The Observer’s Viewpoint section should be directed to the Viewpoint Editor.
As officers of the Gay and Lesbian Alumni/ae of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s College (GALAS) (GALASC) for the past two years, we have encountered people on campus who disagree with us on many issues. We have found, however, that students who disapprove of us generally do not understand or respect the significant role that we play on campus. There is a lack of respect evidenced by the publication of a cartoon in The Observer, which we believe is hurtful to the students of the Notre Dame community.

This is not a question of free speech. If the editors weren't concerned with community standards, they wouldn't have rejected the first version of the cartoon. No, the decision to publish it demonstrates a serious lack of judgment and lack of commitment to the Catholic belief in human dignity and stance against violence. We know that the cartoon does not reflect the feeling of a majority of the people on our Notre Dame campus; and we have been heartened by many of the responses appearing in The Observer. But this message will hurt the University unless it is clear that Notre Dame does not tolerate violence against any member of its community. The author and editors seem to have missed the point of a Catholic education if they cannot see that GALASC students, faculty, staff and alumni are indeed members of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s family and should be treated as such.

We make every attempt to share with people outside of campus the positive steps being made to improve the lives of the LGBT community at Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s. We, too, rely upon The Spirit of Inclusion as a charter document that guides and inspires us. The publication of this cartoon is a prime example of why Notre Dame is listed in The Princeton Review’s list of the most unwelcoming campuses for gay and lesbian students. The noise being generated by this will drown out any good news about the work being done by the students, faculty and Core Council. That’s not good news if you care about our University’s reputation.

The administration needs to take the lead in responding to holding panel discussions with The Observer, the faculty and the student body, as well as the Core Council for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Students (and for a number of years previously as the Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs), have provided emotional, social, spiritual and educational support for LGBT students as well as outreach to the University at large to extend efforts to create a welcoming community for all. In addition to advising the Vice President for Student Life and the Office of the Student Body on GLBT student experience at Notre Dame, we have hosted numerous educational programs including Community, NETWORK, Solidarity Sunday and Stand Against Hate Week. We are grateful for the persons who have publically identified themselves as allies in these efforts, and we are encouraged by the number of students, faculty, staff and alumni who have recently contacted us to demonstrate continuing support for our work. We are especially heartened by Fr. Jenkins’ statement on Friday in which he denounced any expression of hate toward any persons or groups, or the making of inappropriate references to the GLBT community in stating that the free flow of ideas can only occur if we respect each other.

Toni O’Brien
alumnus
Class of 1986
Michael Augusta
alumnus
Class of 1986
Steven Safit
alumnus
Class of 2005
Liam Dacey
alumnus
Class of 2004

Call to action

Opening up my acceptance letter to Notre Dame was one of the proudest moments of my life. I always had the hope to come here. But the violent, hateful comic approved by the staff of The Observer and printed in the Jan. 13 edition represents the complete opposite of what I thought this University stood for. I’m now ashamed to be a student here. I can’t begin to fathom how hard it is for members of the LGBT community to live at Notre Dame.

Make no mistake, this incident of blatant and violent hatred towards the LGBT community is no freak accident. It is not just the fault of the person who drew the cartoon. No, the decision to publish it demonstrates a serious lack of judgment and lack of commitment to the Catholic belief in human dignity and stance against violence. We know that the cartoon does not reflect the feeling of a majority of the people on our Notre Dame campus; and we have been heartened by many of the responses appearing in The Observer. But this message will hurt the University unless it is clear that Notre Dame does not tolerate violence against any member of its community. The author and editors seem to have missed the point of a Catholic education if they cannot see that GALASC students, faculty, staff and alumni are indeed members of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s family and should be treated as such.

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Recent cartoon offensive

To Whom It May Concern:

In a recent publication of The Observer, I saw a cartoon from “The Mobile Party” that was incredibly offensive (Jan. 13). I graduated from Notre Dame in 1997 and while I can’t deny the campus conservatism at that time, I never felt ostracized or denigrated for being a gay man. The publication of this cartoon makes me think that morality and compassion at Notre Dame are regressing and that’s a shame, especially for those students that might be struggling with this issue on campus like I did 13 years ago.

Michael Carney
alumnus
Class of 1997
Jan. 15
OK Go Shows Maturity, Versatility with "The Blue Colour of the Sky"

By ANDY SEROFF

Scene Writer

OK Go credits YouTube for much of their recent success, with their intricate, one-take music videos for "A Million Ways" and the ever-popular "Here It Goes Again." (The Treadmill Dance) receiving tens of millions of views. Their latest effort, "Of the Blue Colour of the Sky," certainly wanders from the band's arena-rock, nerd-pop style of their previous albums but they don't forfeit the charm of their music videos. The CD was produced by Dave Fridmann, most famous for his work with the Flaming Lips, and his influence is certainly present.

The first single, "WTF?" is a stylistic bridge between OK Go's old identity and the new, mellowed personas of the band. The airy track contrasts characteristic OK Go features like stop-time, false note background vocals and miscellaneous percussion against a scratchy bass, funk guitar lines and sparse guitar solos, all over a 5/4 time. The result is a track that tries to offer the best of both worlds and satisfies in neither but without a satisfying exposé, imagery adds a psychedelic nature to their personality. The band also appears much more relaxed, strolling on stage, even playing with beach balls on set, as opposed to their positions in their previous dance videos. Just as the listener gets oriented in the album's new direction, it is brought to a close with classic arena rock mode with "This Too Shall Pass." In true OK Go fashion, the sound is huge with massive depths surrounding the vocals and the similarly pitched piano and lead vocals. The song dances between intensities, alternating between heavy head banging and drum and downbeats. The fourth track is certainly pot of cake. It opens with the verse, and the chorus is just as powerful, important, and the band's timbre and vigor compliment the style of the piece so much that this alternate version might be superior to the CD take.

The middle tracks of the album return to the sound founded in "WTF?" with more sound-droning and vocal reverberation than catchy and clean guitar licks and drums. The main theme of track, "Needing/Getting" is the culmination of these instrumental motives, featuring masterful guitar and drum work. The song exemplifies the result of the synchronization of Fridmann's influence with OK Go's sound, especially the background sampling of "It's A Disaster," off of their best full album, "Oh No" (at 4:22 for the audiophile Easter-egg hunters). The last tracks deserving mention are "Before the Earth was Round" and "Last Leaf," which I place together because of their differences rather than their similarities. The two songs, appearing in the ninth and 10th positions, display the versatility of the band's dynamic, a heavily syncopated and synthesized track, anthropomorphizing the sky as an entity confused about itself, followed by a simple, but equal- 55y beautiful acoustic love song using the Earth and the seasons as metaphor. The result is a band with the band's old identity, experimentation and the recording of this latest release I was hoping for another album like "Oh No," filled with arena-rock riffles and memorable lyrics, and at first I was disappointed. Listening to the music video for this track is certainly worth a view, which features the same songs reworked for accordion/xylophone, a children's chorus and the Notre Dame Marching Band, outfitted in generic marching band outfits and ghillie suits. The video is charming and, of course, in one take, but more importantly, the band's timbre and vigor compliment the style of the piece so much that this alternate version might be superior to the CD take.

The music video for "WTF?" re-imagines its role as a stylistical and transitional track by maintaining the style of the song and the take shot of the band members dancing, but the use of stop-time, false note background vocals and miscellaneous percussion against a scratchy bass, funk guitar lines and sparse guitar solos, all over a 5/4 time. The result is a track that tries to offer the best of both worlds and satisfies in neither but without a satisfying exposé, imagery adds a psychedelic nature to their personality. The band also appears much more relaxed, strolling on stage, even playing with beach balls on set, as opposed to their positions in their previous dance videos. Just as the listener gets oriented in the album's new direction, it is brought to a close with classic arena rock mode with "This Too Shall Pass." In true OK Go fashion, the sound is huge with massive depths surrounding the vocals and the similarly pitched piano and lead vocals. The song dances between intensities, alternating between heavy head banging and drum and downbeats. The fourth track is certainly pot of cake. It opens with the verse, and the chorus is just as powerful, important, and the band's timbre and vigor compliment the style of the piece so much that this alternate version might be superior to the CD take.

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One of the five biopics to crack this list, “The Aviator” is set during the most conflict-filled decade of the 20th century. It is just that, a biopic — one that plays by the rules, but goes one step further by adding a biography to a second film. The result is Visconti’s “The Aviator,” which is more than most biopics. It is just that, a biopic. 

Lead actress Catalina Sandino Moreno is mesmerizing as a poor young woman caught in a web of murder as a drug mule sent to New York City with a suitcase full of heroin inside her stomach. Caught within the frames here are the immediate loss and utter fear felt by someone who not only lacks a human connection and no way of understanding what is going on in her surrounding, but who has not been trained for it. Her feeling is dully felt by the audience, which makes this an eye-opening film full of blunting energy and new life.

Pixar struck gold with this hilariously, wildly imaginative and altogether unforgettable little film about monsters who job is to scare sleeping children in order to keep them from growing up. It is all about the energy of the company, Monster Inc., and with the film “Monsters Inc.,” it’s all about the energy of the company. It plays like a still image that brings the backdrops of the film to life. After all, the more powerful it is, the more powerful it is.

47. Almost Famous (2000)
Tasked with the dream job of interviewing a new hot rock band during their cross-country tour, a high schooler (Patrick Fugit) discovers the true essence of rock music and even himself along the way. The real showstopper here is Kate Hudson, the band’s groupie, who steals the show as a free-loving, wide-eyed, free-spirited woman of the moment.

46. The Hurt Locker (2009)
Director Kathryn Bigelow’s muscle-flexing, full-throttle portrayal of a small group of bomb-disarming soldiers in Iraq, “The Hurt Locker” stands as a king among men in the small but growing group of Iraq War films. What’s different here is that the movie is neither action-driven nor overly story driven, and it avoids what has thus far been a pitfall in trying to pass itself off as a psychological analysis of soldiers in the heat of the current war. Instead, “The Hurt Locker” is a beautiful montage of a bare bones portrayal of human nature when the line between life and death is so thin and monotonous and a classic tension-ridden portrayal of the heat of combat.

In the wake of the tragic Columbine school shootings, director Gus Van Sant creates an affecting, stunningly shot and somehow blissfully paced account of a school day long that takes the lives of dozens of unsuspecting students. It plays like a still-image collage against the backdrop of a clear sky, which makes it bearable, yet all the more powerful nonetheless.

44. Little Miss Sunshine (2006)
2006’s little engine that could is just that, a cute and cuddly animal. Yet it has a way of making you cry. And then laugh. And then again. And then stand up and cheer, wide-eyed with an ear-to-ear grin across the face. Made with sly-eyed humor and injected with a sense of enjoyment shared for the audience, “Little Miss Sunshine” is a true-crowd pleaser.

43. Letter From Iwo Jima (2006)
Director Clint Eastwood packs a visceral punch in the form of a beautifully stark, fierce with a delicate lyricism, “Letter From Iwo Jima” is a true crowd pleaser.

42. Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001)
The first film in the trilogy was a massive disappointment, but made the success of the next two films possible. Perhaps the most faithful adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien’s epic, it marks the Beginning of the Ring and injects the world with an American feel, a world that truly marks the Beginning of the Ring. The first film in the trilogy was a massive disappointment, but made the success of the next two films possible. Perhaps the most faithful adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien’s epic, it marks the Beginning of the Ring and injects the world with an American feel, a world that truly marks the Beginning of the Ring. The first film in the trilogy was a massive disappointment, but made the success of the next two films possible. Perhaps the most faithful adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien’s epic, it marks the Beginning of the Ring and injects the world with an American feel, a world that truly marks the Beginning of the Ring. The first film in the trilogy was a massive disappointment, but made the success of the next two films possible. Perhaps the most faithful adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien’s epic, it marks the Beginning of the Ring and injects the world with an American feel, a world that truly marks the Beginning of the Ring.

41. Donnie Darko (2001)
I cannot for the life of me explain why I’m drawn to this film, but there’s just something about it, some inexplicable quality that grabs and never lets go. A “cult classic” if there ever was one, “Donnie Darko” is like a roller coaster ride of confusion, Smurf sexuality, and most central of all, it’s just drawn in the theory better or for worse.

40. 21 Grams (2003)
Director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu’s tale of guilt and addiction is heard throughout the film. It is a thrilling, soaring film that elevates the mystery of the mind and body. "21 Grams" is a true-crowd pleaser.

Tasked with the dream job of interviewing a new hot rock band during their cross-country tour, a high schooler (Patrick Fugit) discovers the true essence of rock music and even himself along the way. The real showstopper here is Kate Hudson, the band’s groupie, who steals the show as a free-loving, wide-eyed, free-spirited woman of the moment.

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34. The Da Vinci Code (2006)
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MLB

St. Louis welcomes back McGwire with ovation

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Mark McGwire received a standing ovation from Cardinals fans Sunday in his first public appearance in St. Louis since admitting he used steroids.

His scheduled news conference the day before, was much more contentious.

The second session was shifted to an overcrowded downtown hotel ballroom after the first last minute, and McGwire evaded questions about the criticism he’s received from ex-players. He repeatedly emphasized that he was ready to talk about the game instead of performance-enhancing drugs.

“I hope you all can accept this,” McGwire said. “Let’s all move on from this. Baseball is great right now, baseball is better.”

Dressed in jeans, a sweater and running shoes, the 46-year-old McGwire walked on stage to “Welcome to the Jungle” by Guns ’N Roses, the hard-rock song played before he hit his at-bats with the Cardinals.

The team’s new hitting coach was cheered by fans who secured seats as much as 14 hours earlier.

“I’ve learned a lot,” McGwire told fans. “Especially to kids that steroids are bad. I made a huge mistake in my life and it’s something I want you guys to learn from. Don’t ever go down that road.’’

Jessica and Sarah Schaaf were in the front row of a downtown hotel ballroom jammed with perhaps 1,000 fans, and wore T-shirts made for the occasion that said “Welcome back Big Mac Land,” with a photograph of McGwire.

“He did wrong,” Jessica Schaaf said. “But we still love him.”

In a brief appearance on stage, McGwire said he was happy about his chance to put on a major league uniform again.

The former home run king headed over to Busch Stadium, just blocks away, for an afternoon hitting session with Colby Rasmus and Ryan Ludwick, and pledged to immerse himself in his new job.

“I like it, I’ll be the first one in the cage and I’ll be the last one to leave,” McGwire said. “I’m there for them, I’m there to pass on my knowledge.”

McGwire, hired in October, added he had a “huge Rolodex of knowledge” to pass to Cardinals hitters.

He was supposed to be at a podium minute later, but when his news conference was moved into a narrow hallway it left reporters jostling for space and shouting questions. The session lasted more than six minutes before questions were cut off and McGwire was escorted out by security and disappeared through a narrow hallway.

A team official called the last-minute switch an “executive decision.”

“I’m not a great situation to be in, but he’s dealing with it like a man.”

Matt Holliday Cardinals outfielder

McGwire said he’s been “dead honest” in interviews since the admission. But he wasn’t interested in rebutting criticism from former Oakland teammates Jose Canseco, who said McGwire is still lying by denying he used steroids, and Dave Stewart, who injected himself with steroids in the clubhouse bathroom stalls.

“I’m not going down that road with Jose,” McGwire said. “I’ll take the high road with the Jose stuff.”

Former Cardinals slugger Jack Clark, who recalled McGwire a “phony” in a St. Louis Post-Dispatch story last week, was booted in an appearance on the same stage not long before McGwire’s appearance.

“I heard he said something, I don’t know what he said,” McGwire said. “Hey, listen, they have their opinions. I was being honest.”

McGwire denied again that Tony La Russa, his manager virtually all of his career, had any knowledge of his steroids use during the day he went public.

“I kept this to myself,” McGwire said. “You know what? I spoke from my heart. I hope you all can accept this. Let’s all move on from this.”

Los Angeles Dodgers centerfielder Matt Kemp was cheered by fans. With an 11-0 loss to Los Angeles this past Monday, was invited back to St. Louis as a hitting coach.

Kemp batted .297 with 26 home runs and 101 RBIs last season. He stole 54 bases and won his first Gold Glove in center field while improving on almost all of his offensive statistics from 2008, his first full big league campaign.

“We’ve been talking for a while, and both sides agreed to a deal and we got it done. So both sides are happy,” Kemp told The Associated Press of his time in Los Angeles. “It’s not a great situation to be in, but he’s dealing with it like a man.”

Cardinals manager Tony La Russa, left, gives former slugger Mark McGwire, right, a hug following a Cardinals victory in Sept. 1997. McGwire was invited back to St. Louis as a hitting coach.

Outfielder Kemp signs 2-year, $10.95M deal with Dodgers

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LOS ANGELES — Matt Kemp and the Los Angeles Dodgers agreed to a $10.95 million, two-year contract, avoiding salary arbitration.

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Bears defensive end Adams dies at 26

GREENWOOD, S.C. — Gaines Adams, an All-American defensive end at Clemson whose career never blossomed in the NFL with Chicago and Tampa Bay, died Sunday after going into cardiac arrest. He was 26.

He died at Self Regional Hospital after going into cardiac arrest about an hour before at his family’s home in Greenwood, said Marcia Kelley-Clark, chief deputy coroner for Greenwood County.

An autopsy showed an enlarged heart, a condition that can often lead to a heart attack, Kelley-Clark added. She said relatives were unaware of any medical condition.

Toxicology tests are being run by the State Law Enforcement Division, though drug use is not suspected. The results probably will not be available for at least two months, Kelley-Clark said.

Adams, 6-foot-5 and 258 pounds, spent three seasons in the NFL, two with the Buccaneers and part of this season with the Bears. He was a true team player and a positive influence to everyone he met,” Buccaneers coach Raheem Morris said.

Adams was selected fourth overall in the 2007 draft by Tampa Bay. He had not been able to live up to expectations that he would revive the Buccaneers’ once-feared pass rush, and had just 17 tackles and one sack in 15 games — 10 with Chicago — this season. He was traded to the Bears in October for a second-round pick in the 2010 draft.

“Gaines was a quiet, humble kid and is far too young to be gone,” Buccaneers cornerback Ronde Barber said.

“Strandby” (NSW) has been reported in the media.

IN BRIEF

Former Bears DT offers consideration retirement

NORMAN, Okla. — Former Chicago Bears defensive tackle Dusty Dvoracek has been arrested on charges of public intoxication, assault and battery and interference with official process.

Norman police reports indicate the 26-year-old Dvoracek was arrested around 1 a.m. Saturday at Seven47, a restaurant near the University of Oklahoma.

Dvoracek appeared in 13 games in four seasons with the Bears after being drafted in the fourth round in 2006. He was placed on the waived/injured list in August because of a torn ACL in his right knee.

While at Oklahoma, he was temporarily dismissed from the Sooners after an altercation at a bar in Norman. He was reinstated after anger-management and alcohol-related counseling.

Associated Press

Ravens safety Ed Reed considers retirement

INDIANAPOLIS — Baltimore Ravens safety Ed Reed is considering retirement after an injury-filled season.

The 31-year-old Reed missed four December games because of a variety of injuries, including problems with his neck, hip and groin.

“I’ve been thinking about it, and it kind of hit me on the sidelines,” he said Saturday after a 20-3 playoff loss to the Colts. “It’s going to be a long offseason. It hurts. I am just thinking about it.

“I’m 50-50. I am going to re-evaluate things and see how it goes in the next couple of days.”

The six-time Pro Bowler was the 2004 Defensive Player of the Year. He had one interception of Peyton Manning on Saturday night, but fumbled on his runback, handing the ball back to the Colts. He also had an interception and long return erased by a pass interference penalty on teammate Corey Ivy.

Ex-MLB All-Star Jose Offerman punches ump

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — Former major league All-Star Jose Offerman threw a punch at an umpire during an argument in a Dominican winter league game Saturday night, the second time in 2 1/2 years that he’s attacked someone on a baseball field.

Offerman, manager of the Licey Tigres, appeared to hit first base umpire Daniel Rayburn in the face or neck with his fist during an argument in a baseball field.

“Whatever he says goes.”

Bears defensive tackle Gaines Adams died at the age of 26 Sunday. Adams was drafted fourth overall by the Buccaneers out of Clemson before being traded to the Bears. Adams will be remembered for being a great teammate and a superior athlete.

“Monday Night Football” analyst Jon Gruden drafted Adams in 2007 while coaching the Buccaneers. He called him a “great teammate” with a “terrific future.”

Morris said at the start of training camp that Adams would be considered a “bust” if he didn’t reach double digits in sacks. Adams fell short of the benchmark, although he welcomed the challenge.

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A Call for Aid

The worst earthquake in over 200 years has caused death and devastation in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, adding to the misery of so many people who live in severe poverty.

All collections at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart this weekend and last will be forwarded in their entirety to provide assistance to the victims of this latest natural disaster.

Campus Ministry will continue to accept and forward donations all this week at 319 Coleman–Morse Center.

The Haiti Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross, which is composed of 75 Haitian priests and 22 professed seminarians, works with the poor through schools, parishes and social service ministries.
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Kurt Warner's pass had just been intercepted, and the Arizona quarterback charged over to help the defense as he would have if he had a chance, he was flat-tering. It was quite an omen for a man already considering retirement.

"Every time you take a hit like that, you think you make twice as big a play playing this game," Warner said with a laugh. "But something like that, or even this game, will not be how I determine my decision on my own.

A week after one of his finest performances of the season, Warner was no longer a factor for the second time in the past month. The Associated Press from scrimmage Saturday.

When Arizona's Tim Hightower was out for a touchdown on the first play from scrimmage Saturday night, the Cardinals appeared to be picking up right where they left off. That they did — but only on defense.

After giving up 35 points to Green Bay in the second half, Arizona allowed 35 in the first half against the Saints, a pace Warner and the offense couldn't match.

Two other key injuries might have done in the Cardinals' hopes of defending as NFC champs before.

Warner went out in the first quarter with a sprained left ankle. Antrel Rolle left with a head injury.

Arizona was also playing without wide receiver Anquan Boldin, who has been nursing a knee injury since the regular- season finale.

Warner has played in three Super Bowls, winning one with the St. Louis Rams if he does decide to retire, his career end would in the same building that the hand one of his toughest defeats, a 2012 loss to New England in the 2002 Super Bowl.

This game wasn't nearly that close. After taking a 7-0 lead, Arizona gained only 41 yards the rest of the first quarter in falling behind 21-17. It was 28-14 when Warner went out.

Warner finished 17 of 28. His longest pass of the game was his 35-yard touchdown pass to Jereme Urban. Urban fumbled at the end of the play and the Saints recovered. New Orleans drove for a touchdown that tied the game. They were threatening to go back out to retie.

"I'd like to think that we were going to get that down and put some points on the board and kind of get it going back and forth," Warner said. "That's what good teams do. They create turnovers, they capitalize on them."

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Warner's counterpart was nearly flawless. Brett Favre was 22 for 24 for 247 yards and three touchdowns before he was intercepted at the game out of reach even for the Cardinals' powerful offense. The Saints 14-7 win in Arizona now turns to Warner, who says his family will have a plenty of Notre Dame students:

"It goes back and forth, what they want me to do. They'll be a part of that process, and we will let them know as soon as I know." Last weekend, Warner threw for 379 yards and five touchdowns in leading the 22-yard winning time over Green Bay. When Arizona's Tim Hightower was out for a touchdown on the first play from scrimmage Saturday night, the Cardinals appeared to be picking up right where they left off.

"Every time you take a hit like that, you think you make twice as big a play playing this game," Warner said with a laugh. "But something like that, or even this game, will not be how I determine my decision on my own.

A week after one of his finest performances of the season, Warner was no longer a factor for the second time in the past month. The Associated Press from scrimmage Saturday was emotional before the game. His son — it's been wonderful," Favre said.

"Probably the most fatigued I got today was celebrating," Favre said. After a 35-yard heave to Rice midway through the first quarter during a turnover game against one of his childhood favorites. Warner never threw a glaring interception, and the Arizona Cardinals were searching for that many touchdowns.

"It's like the elevator going up, and the Vikings added a field goal.

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Just like that, the Cowboys were behind for the first time since their loss to San Diego on Dec. 13. The Vikings then gave their defense a badly needed break, moving 80 yards in 10 plays, and taking a 14-3 lead when Favre slipped past Marcus Spears and found Rice open for a 16-yard touchdown pass.

Favre, then 38, was intercepted, and the Arizona Cardinals were searching for that many touchdowns.

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Irish drop two straight at home over weekend

By ANDREW OWENS
Sports Writer

Notre Dame dropped two meets at home this weekend, to Michigan State and No. 16 Louisville, respectively.

Despite winning six events, the Irish 4-4, 1-1 Big East dropped Friday's match against Michigan State 179-121.

"Michigan State did an outstanding job preparing for this meet," Irish coach Tim Welsh told und.com. "They were miles faster than they were last week against Purdue. All the credit goes to them to have done the extensive preparation to be ready tonight." Bill Bass, Wesley Mullins, Michael Sullivan and John Lyle all won individual events. Lyle finished first in both the 200-yard individual medley and the 50-yard freestyle.

The sixth Irish win came in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Joshua Nosal, Thomas Van Volkenburg, Andrew Hoffman, and Bass all competed in the event for Notre Dame.

"On our part, we were a little disappointed in how we dropped a lot of points," Welsh said. "But I thought our kids showed a lot of spirit and heart. We're excited to be ready tonight." Bass won a pair of events (200-yard and 100-yard freestyle) for the second consecutive day for the Irish. Also victorious for Notre Dame was Wesley Villafior, Nathan Geary and Petar Petrovic.

"It's a giant step from where we were last night against Michigan State, and I'm sure our men rethought," Welsh said. "Congratulations to Louisville on their win."

The Irish will now prepare for the Shamrock Invitational, which will be held on Jan. 29 and 30.

Contact Andrew Owens at owens2@nd.edu

Celtics’ Allen wants change

Associated Press

Unwanted by their teams, Allen Iverson and Tracy McGrady are still looking for a home.

The All-Star Guard from Memphis Grizzlies quickly parted ways with Iverson. The Houston Rockets are trying to trade McGrady.

"Maybe the players can swap stories of their rocky roads while covering each other at the All-Star game," Bloch曼 said. "Despite having little to no impact this season, both went into the final hours of voting in position to start, thanks to loyal fans who still consider them stars even though their stats say otherwise."

And with fans showing signs of getting it all wrong, Boston Celtics guard Ray Allen thinks it’s time to limit their influence.

"It's a giant step from where we were last night against Michigan State, and I'm sure our men rethought," Welsh said. "Congratulations to Louisville on their win."

"All the credit goes to them to have done the extensive preparation to be ready tonight."

Tim Welsh
Irish head coach

"What we did today is what we do to every meet," Welsh told und.com. "Not in terms of wins or losses, but we raced with spirit, heart and commitment. We were much faster than last week. This was our fastest non-championship meet of the year."

Lytle won a pair of events (200-yard and 100-yard freestyle) for the second consecutive day for the Irish. Also victorious for Notre Dame was Wesley Villafior, Nathan Geary and Petar Petrovic.

"It's a giant step from where we were last night against Michigan State, and I'm sure our men rethought," Welsh said. "Congratulations to Louisville on their win."

The Irish will now prepare for the Shamrock Invitational, which will be held on Jan. 29 and 30.

Contact Andrew Owens at owens2@nd.edu

This book helps us see how richly God blesses work done in his name.

Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.
President Emeritus, University of Notre Dame

Praying from the Heart of Holy Cross Spirituality

A 30-Day Retreat with Basil Moreau
José Gualda, C.S.C.

In this meditation on the spirituality of Blessed Basil Moreau, readers encounter a month’s worth of morning and evening reflections with the themes of Holy Cross spirituality—trust in God’s providence, faith, persistence in prayer, charity, and hope in the cross.

MacEoin’s gentle and respectful style brings Moreau to life in a way few of his biographers have.

Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.
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Basil Moreau
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Rev. Hugh Cleary, C.S.C.
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Foreword by Mario Lachapelle, C.S.C.

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Lincecum, 128 others file for pay arbitration

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Two-time NL Cy Young award winner Tim Lincecum highlighted the list of 128 players who filed for salary arbitration Friday, with many likely to gain enormous raises in the unusual process.

Lincecum has been one of baseball's best bargains, earning $405,000 from the San Francisco Giants in 2008 and $500,000 last season, when he became the NL's first repeat Cy Young winner since Randy Johnson from 1999-02.

The deadline for players to file for arbitration was Friday. Lincecum is eligible for the first time and figures to earn $10 million or more this year after going 33-12 over the past two seasons.

Other notable players eligible for the first time include Tampa Bay pitcher David Price, Texas outfielder Josh Hamilton, Chicago White Sox outfielder Carlos Quentin and Tampa Bay outfielder B.J. Upton.

Also due for big raises are Seattle starter Felix Hernandez, White Sox closer Bobby Jenks, Boston closer Jonathan Papelbon and Philadelphia outfielder Shane Victorino.

The Mariners hope to strike a long-term deal with Hernandez, 19-5 with a 2.49 ERA last year, when he finished second in AL Cy Young voting.

With more than 200 players eligible for arbitration when the season ended, clubs may let many of them become free agents and already agreed to contracts with others. Among those who filed Friday, at least half are likely to settle before players and teams swap proposed salaries on Tuesday.

For those who don't settle, hearings will be scheduled for players and teams swap proposed salaries on Tuesday.

While the 111 players in arbitration last year earned a record average of $1.5 million, 56 players made more than $3.07 million, according to a study by The Associated Press. Those 56, representing 46 percent of major league service are eligible, along with the top 17 percent by service time of players under contract for the 2010 season.

In addition, two free-agent pitchers accepted arbitration offers to return to former clubs. Minnesota's Carl Pavano and Colorado's Rafael Betancourt.

The Twinkies also played for $1.3 million.

New York Mets pitcher John Maine became the first of the 128 in arbitration to settle, agreeing to a $3.6 million, one-year contract that includes the chance to make $225,000 in performance bonuses based on starts. Houston infielder Jeff Keppinger agreed to a $1.15 million, one-year contract, and Los Angeles Dodgers center fielder Matt Kemp then finalized a $10.95 million, two-year deal.

Eight players agreed to one-year contracts Friday instead of filing, including Arizona outfielder Conor Jackson ($3.1 million), and Miguel Montero ($2 million), and a pair of Texas pitchers: Brandon McCarthy ($1.3 million) and Dustin Nippert ($665,000).

San Diego closer Heath Bell ($4 million), Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Chad Billingsley ($3.85 million), San Francisco reliever Brandon Medders ($820,000), and Houston's Brettanner Sampsom ($815,000) also agreed to contracts.

Among free-agent first base, the New York Yankees, have none of the 111 players in arbitration, though both clubs already agreed to contracts with others. Among free agents, first baseman Adam LaRoche and Seattle first baseman John Olerud had already agreed to one-year deals.

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**Palmieri continued from page 24**

from fellow freshman Kyle Palmieri and senior defense-
man Andrew May. Palmieri scored the game in the later period with another goal, his fourth of the season.

“(Larson) happened to be in the right place after a bad change,” said May. “He stuck with the puck and made a great look at the net and let a good chance go.”

Seniors Ryan Thang and Dan Kinsel sealed the game for Notre Dame in the final peri-
od. Thang scored twice and Kinsel notched one goal.

Our seniors played extremely well on the week-
end; they played with a lot of passion,” Jackson said. “Those guys really looked like enough was enough.”

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**Opener continued from page 24**

34 Big East qualifying marks and one NCAA qualifying mark, including the team's first claimed first place in half of the 32 events. Additionally, prior to Irish coming away with a good idea of what to expect versus Notre Dame in the Notre Dame Invitational.

Some standout performers for the Irish proved their dom-
inance once again. Freshman sprinter Nevada Sorenson fin-
ished first in the women's 60-
-meter hurdles with a time of 7.72, and senior Jon Smith finished first with a time of 8.77.

In the men's pole vault, the brother of senior Kevin Plumberg and Schiaper finished first and second, respectively, for the second consecutive meet. Kevin, a sophomore, set an NCAA provisional and a Big East qualifying mark with a vault of 5.20 meters. Matt, a senior, additionally had a vault of 4.15 meters, showing, finishing close behind with a Big East qualifi-

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**NCAA Men's Basketball**

**No. 4 Tennessee gets past Vandy**

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee coach Pat Summitt has had it with Lady Volunteers waiting until the last minute to seal their wins.

After squeaking by Florida on Saturday at the Loftus Sports Center in Orlando, Florida on Wednesday, the fourth-ranked Lady Vols needed a few late shots and defensive stops to get by Vanderbilt 64-57 on Sunday night.

"Don't get me wrong, I'm pleased we found a way to win," Summitt said. "I thought we played as well as we could, hopefully we can have a good idea of what to expect versus Notre Dame in the Notre Dame Invitational this Friday and Saturday at the Louisiusa Center.

The Irish will take on Michigan State and Louisville in the triangular Notre Dame Invitational this Friday and Saturday at the Louisiusa Center.

Contact Matt Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

Please recycle The Observer.
Morrow said he was worried about whether he would get drafted after hearing his teammates’ names. However, he said he was relieved to find out where he will play. “I’m ready to go out to California and play soccer,” he said. “It’s a huge soccer state and I’m pretty excited about that. I know the fans are going to be great.”

Morrow and Thomas agreed that it would be nice to play on a team together. “That was a great feeling,” Thomas said. “We’re both really good friends, we’re teammates, we were roommates last year. Hopefully we’ll be playing together for a long time.”

Clark said he thinks the players will do well no matter where they land. “I think at the end of the day they’re all strong enough personalities that they’ll all handle their situations well,” he said. “They’re really good people.”

On the women’s side, forward Michele Weissenhofer became the seventh Notre Dame player drafted in the past two years. Weissenhofer was selected in the fourth round by the Chicago Red Stars with the 33rd overall pick.

“Tspeak volumes about the quality that [Notre Dame is] putting out,” Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. “And where we are and what people think of the kind of players we are producing here.”

Weissenhofer, a Naperville, Ill. native, said she was excited to play for a team so close to home. The Red Stars play in Bridgeview, Ill., a mere half-hour east of Naperville.

“I was really hoping to go to Chicago,” she said. “I know how blessed and fortunate I am to be able to play at my hometown with my friends and family all being there to support me.”

Weissenhofer amassed 30 goals and 27 assists in her time at Notre Dame, which was hampered by injuries throughout, including two pulled hamstrings during her senior year. Weissenhofer was named Soccer America national freshman of the year in 2006 with 18 goals and 17 assists in her first season.

Waldrum said it is neither the injuries nor the outstanding freshman season he will remember most about Weissenhofer’s career at Notre Dame. The one thing I think I’ll remember her career for is she was very good for us every year in the NCAA Tournament,” he said. “She always seemed to catch fire at the right time of year.”

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu and Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

Former Irish defender Justin Morrow dribbles during the Big East Quarterfinals. Morrow was drafted by the San Jose Earthquakes.

Former Irish defender Michele Weissenhofer plays in the semifinals of the College Cup. Weissenhofer was drafted by the Red Stars.

Forever Irish defender Justin Morrow dribbles during the Big East Quarterfinals. Morrow was drafted by the San Jose Earthquakes.

Former Irish defender Michele Weissenhofer was drafted by the Red Stars.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu and Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

Monday, January 18, 2010
The Observer  •  SPORTS
Saint Mary’s squeaked out another win Saturday against MIAA opponent Olivet to stay in the running with the conference’s finest.

The Belles (9-5, 4-2 MIAA) staved off the Comets 23-4 in the game. Much of the first half was back and forth between the two teams.

Neither team could attain a solid lead and at the end of the first half it was tied. It wasn’t until the Comets (4-12, 3-4) scored nine straight points to close out the first half that either team was able to establish a comfortable lead. However, heading into halftime, the Belles faced a 31-22 deficit.

Saint Mary’s took advantage of the Olivet defense in the second half by going on two major scoring runs. The first scoring run quickly put the Belles on the scoreboard and at the end of the game, as well as grabbing 13 rebounds. Maya Moore came in right behind grabbing 13 rebounds. Maya and 23 in the game, as well as ing 17 points in the first half the tone for the Huskies, scoring better. We were back on our ltle better defense, we rebounded 27 in the second half.

The Comets continued to fight for a long period of time. It wasn’t until the Comets (4-12, 3-4) scored nine straight points to close out the first half that either team was able to establish a comfortable lead. However, heading into halftime, the Belles faced a 31-22 deficit.

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For more information on the Belles, please contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu.
Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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[Image of crossword puzzle]
ND SOCCER

Three men, one woman selected in professional draft

By DOUGLAS FARMER and LAURA MYERS
Sports Writers

Three Notre Dame men were selected in the Major League Soccer SuperDraft Thursday and one Irish woman was selected in the Women’s Professional Soccer draft on Friday. Both drafts were held in Philadelphia.

Forward Bright Dike was drafted in the first round by the Columbus Crew with the 12th overall selection. Midfielder Michael Thomas and left back Justin Morrow were both chosen in the second round by the San Jose Earthquakes. Thomas was the 19th overall pick and Morrow the 28th overall pick.

“It’s everybody’s dream to play in the MLS when you’re younger, and now it’s a reality,” Thomas, a two-time captain for the Irish, said. This was just the second draft in the program’s history in which three men were selected. It also happened in 2003.

“I thought there was a good chance they’d get selected,” men’s coach Bobby Clark said. “But to get three is pretty impressive. I’m happy for them and the program.”

Dike, the 2009 Big East Offensive Player of the Year, led the Irish in goals (11) and points (26) as a fifth-year senior in the 2009 season. In his college career, he was a two-time first-team all-Big East selection and a two-time all-region selection. In his career he scored 27 goals and had 12 assists.

Thomas, who started 81 of 83 career matches with the Irish, led the team in assists in 2009 with six and also scored six goals. He was also a two-time all-region selection and earned first-team all-Big East honors in 2008. He was a second-team all-conference selection.

Morrow, also a team captain in 2009, notched two goals and one assist in his first year as a defender after playing midfield earlier in his career. He was a first-team all-Big East honors. He played in 89 games throughout his career, starting 64 of them.

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

A Higher Standard

No. 1 UConn hands Irish first loss of season

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

No. 1 Connecticut has made a habit of making top-10 teams look overmatched.

On Saturday night, No. 3 Notre Dame was just its latest victim.

The Irish (15-1, 2-1 Big East) fell to the Huskies (17-0, 5-0) in a 70-46 decision Saturday at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs, Conn. The game marked Notre Dame’s first loss of the 2009-2010 season as well as Connecticut’s 56th straight victory.

The Huskies have played 10 games against top-10 opponents during its win streak and has won those games by an average of almost 27 points. This season, the team’s average margin of victory is 38 points.

“We were expecting them to look overmatched,” Irish coach Jeff Walz said. “But to get three is pretty impressive. I’m happy for them and the program.”

Dike, the 2009 Big East Offensive Player of the Year, led the Irish in goals (11) and points (26) as a fifth-year senior in the 2009 season. In his college career, he was a two-time first-team all-Big East selection and a two-time all-region selection. In his career he scored 27 goals and had 12 assists.

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ND TRACK & FIELD

Marks set at Indoor ND opener

By MATT ROBISON
Sports Writer

The Irish went into Friday’s Notre Dame Indoor Opener at the Loftus Sports Center looking to find out what type of shape the athletes were in and how the past semester’s conditioning and training had benefitted them.

Irish coach Joe Piane said that the approach was simply to “find out where [the team is] at in terms of conditioning.”

From the results, it appears the effort was not put forth in vain.

The meet allowed the Irish to see where different athletes are and how well prepared they will be for upcoming Big East meets. Against DePaul, Loyola and the women’s squad from North Dakota State, the Irish set 20 marks.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Squad falls at last second

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

When the Irish returned to South Bend following their 60-58 loss to Cincinnati Saturday, Mike Brey tore up the stat sheet in front of them.

“I said, ‘We made a run at it,’” the Irish coach said. “Yeah, there’s some things we could have done better. I don’t want anyone dwelling on things that they didn’t do.

They can’t afford to, because No. 5 Syracuse comes to town tonight. Brey said he thinks the Orange (17-1, 4-1 Big East) are the best team in the country.

HOCKEY

Comebacks mark win, tie with No. 6 Spartans

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Twice this weekend Notre Dame faced multiple goal deficits against No. 6 Michigan State. Instead of essentially throwing the towel in on the season, the Irish fought back in both games to win 5-2 Friday at home and tie the Spartans 4-4 Saturday on the road.

“I give our kids credit both nights,” Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. “We could have put our heads down and given up playing for our selves, but we came out and played hard. … To come out with four points against a top-10 team is pretty good.”

The four points moved Notre Dame (10-10-6, 6-7-5-2 CCHA) from a three-way tie for seventh place to a two-way tie for sixth in the CCHA standings. The Irish sit only five points out of fourth place in the conference.

Even though Notre Dame managed 19 shots on goal in the first period Friday, Michigan State led 2-0 after only four minutes had passed in the second period. Three minutes later an Irish shot finally found the back of the net when freshman Nick Larson scored off of an assist.