**Dorm holds event to raise money for Meals on Wheels, includes meals with members of Notre Dame community**

By KRISTIN DURBIN
News Writer

For the past 25 years, the annual Breen-Phillips meal auction has allowed students to see professors, athletes and other campus celebrities in a new light by auctioning off meals with these various Notre Dame personalities. This year’s event will continue that tradition.

Tonight’s “Meal or No Meal” auction will include live and silent auctions, and all proceeds from the event support Meals on Wheels, a charity that delivers meals to home-bound senior citizens. Students can bid on dinners with a variety of prominent members of the Notre Dame community, such as University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, Irish football coach Brian Kelly, Vice President for Student Affairs Fr. Mark Poorman, student body president Grant Schmidt and student body vice president Cynthia Weber.

In addition to the live auction, a silent auction will feature gift cards from several area restaurants, including Chipotle, Olive Garden and Hot Box Pizza. It will also include six gift baskets assembled by each section of Breen-Phillips. Each will have a unique theme, such as “Death by Chocolate” and “Luck of the Irish.”

In order to offer students a variety of meals to bid on, event coordinators Susan Garabedian and Adriana Taylor, both sophomores, contacted regular participants and prospective personalities via e-mail during winter break. They also asked other residents of Breen-Phillips for names of popular professors to provide a good sampling from each college.

**BP holds ‘Meal or no Meal’ auction**

see AUCTION/page 6

**LECTURE:** Conflict in Darfur ‘not being resolved’

By CAROLYNN SMITH
News Writer

Should we still be talking about Darfur?

According to professor Edith Miguda and Notre Dame alumna Liz Kurz, the answer is yes. They shared their experiences during a talk Wednesday at Saint Mary’s sponsored by Campus Ministry, speaking about why they felt there should still be discussion about Darfur and its people. This event was also meant to teach students about the conflicts in Darfur and Sudan.

Miguda, a native of Kenya, explained where Darfur is and how the conflict began in this area.

“Darfur is in the greater horn of Africa,” she said. “The greater horn has had much conflict.” Miguda said the conflict is not being resolved or helped by the government.

“The heart of the problem in Darfur is the challenge of non-Arab Darfurians to what they called decades of neglect, discrimination and marginalization by the Arab dominated government in Khartoum,” Miguda said.

**Lecture: conflict in Darfur ‘not being resolved’**

see DARFUR/page 6

**Bessette set to be canonized in October**

By CAITLIN KALSCHEUR
News Writer

Feb. 19 brought good news to the Congregation of Holy Cross and its affiliates as Pope Benedict XVI announced that Blessed Brother André Bessette will be canonized on Oct. 17.

On campus, members of both the Holy Cross and Notre Dame communities were excited by the announcement.

“For us in Holy Cross, we are so joyful that the church recognized the heroic virtues of a seemingly ordinary person,” Fr. Peter Rocca, rector of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, said. “To the untrained eye, he didn’t look like a superhero, but he was indeed a superhero in living the virtuous life.”

Bessette is the first member of the Holy Cross Order to receive the honor of sainthood.

“Brother André’s canonization is an extremely important moment in the history of the order because we have seen...**
INSIDE COLUMN

Friends on Facebook

I feel like my entire life I have heard my parents and grandparents talk about their lives “back in the day.” This “day,” when there were no computers, cell phones, iPods, or YouTube, seems like ancient history. They couldn’t creep on people on Facebook, search for their old best friends and the ones you call with good and bad news, find you in seconds? I’ve changed all my settings to stop this from happening, and still get the occasional random request. How they find me, I’m really not sure, but our parents never had to worry about finding each other or the friends of their friends in a clown wig, mask and bright wig as he walked down a street with two other people. The group fled when deputies tried to question them, but were later located. Argument over parking space leads to shoot-out PITTSBURGH An argument over a parking space prompted a shootout between a Pittsburgh man and police. Investigators said 41-year-old Errol Parker Sr. was in custody after firing shots at two officers responding to a 911 call in the city’s Hill District on Tuesday night. No injuries were reported. Police said a man reported that Parker punched him and brandished a gun after being asked to move his car from a parking spot the man had shoveled out. Authorities said that Parker fired at police after they arrived and ordered him out of the house. Parker surrendered after exchanging shots with the officers.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Megan Finneran at mfinneran@nd.edu

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE A FEW OF YOUR FAVORITE THINGS?

Chase Riddle
Elizabeth FLOOD
Ella LOZON
Leon ZHOU
Priscilla CHOI

sophomore
sophomore
sophomore
sophomore
sophomore

Keevan
Lewis
Howard
Stanford
Breen-Phillips

“Harry Potter and quarter dogs.”
“Sweats, Uggs and Fro-yo, like any good Notre Dame girl. Kidding.”
“Blue Moon ice cream, sunshine and boys.”
“Food, sleep, and the Question of the Day.”
“Shiny glass marbles, cute stickers from Asia and papers with a big red ‘A.’”

I have an idea for Question of the Day! E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com

The Observer regrets indulging as a professional publisher and editor for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-6543 so we can correct our error.

CORRECTIONS

The Summit on Global Citizenship “Fostering Global Citizenship in Higher Education” will be held at 11 a.m. today in the Geddes Hall Coffee House. A lecture titled “Military Use and Purpose of Nuclear Weapons” will begin at 2 p.m. today in 118 Newell Hall.

“Toward Mother Nature’s Approach to Energy: Electricity from Metabolism” will begin at 3:30 p.m. today. The seminar will be held in 126 Delortato Hall.

A seminar about education and democracy will be held with Dr. Larry Hickman at 3:30 p.m. today in Spes Unica 137 at Saint Mary’s College.

“Border Crossing Saints, Border Crossing Families: The Holy child of Atocha and the Mexican Experience in the 20th Century United States” will be held at 4:30 p.m. today in C103 Hesburgh Center.

A SISTAR presentation will be held at 3 p.m. today in Spes Unica 145 at Saint Mary’s College.

A Larry Hickman lecture will be held at 6:30 p.m. today in Vander Veen Theatre at Saint Mary’s College.

“Prospero’s Books” will be shown at 7 p.m. today in Browning Cinema in Debartolo Performing Arts Center.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to observer@nd.edu
Senators discussed and passed two resolutions at its meeting Wednesday. The votes concerned the annual academic forum and the dissolution of the Department of Economics and Policy Studies.

Junior Austin Holler, chairman of the Committee on Academic Affairs, proposed the resolutions.

In a brief presentation, Holler first briefed senators on the Notre Dame Forum — an annual campus event that had been held since 2005 until its cancellation this year. Administrators have said they plan to hold the Forum again next fall.

Past topics discussed at the forum include global health, immigration and energy and sustainability. “It was planned for the fall semester but the speaker had an issue and it was postponed,” Holler said. “For lack of better terms, it got put under the rug.”

In proposing the resolution, Holler said he would ask “the University take action to make sure that it (the Forum) is an annual event,” Holler said. The resolution passed unanimously.

“It adds to the overall intellectual engagement of students at Notre Dame,” Farley senator Elise Jordan said.

Duncan senator CJ Kelly agreed to the importance of the event. “There should be a lot of thought put into the topic,” Kelly said. “The purpose of it is to inspire discussion and debate.”

In addition to Senate expressing its support for the Notre Dame Forum, it also voted unanimously to pass Holler’s second resolution regarding the dissolution of the Department of Economics and Policy Studies.

Senior Jeff Lakusta, chairman of the Committee on University Affairs, said it was important to note that this resolution was not intended to offer the Student Senate’s view of the dissolution of the department. Rather, the resolution calls for the decision — set for Thursday — to be delayed, and for the student body to have a more active voice in the process.

Committee chairs and senators agreed there has not been enough information presented to students for a decision of this magnitude.

“We at least need to understand the reasoning behind such a big decision,” Lakusta said.

Contact Scott Englert at senglert@nd.edu

STUDENT SENATE

Student senate discusses resolution proposals

By SCOTT ENGLERT
News Writer

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Contact Scott Englert at senglert@nd.edu
The elevators in LaFortune are often a prime spot for student organizations to raise funds. "If I'm going into a building, I always try to look at the elevators," said Mike Kelly, a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences and the president of the group. "If there's money in the box, I'll take it."
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Gunmen kill 13 in Mexican town**

OAXACA, Mexico — Gunmen stormed a rural town in southern Mexico and killed 13 people, while the U.S. government warned Americans against traveling to cities in a northern border state where shootings have left slain 19 people over three days.

Bloodied assailants in several cars killed nine police officers at a checkpoint in San Vicente Camatole, a town in southern Oaxaca state, state deputy attorney general Netolin Chávez said Wednesday.

The gunmen then burst into the ranch of Alonso Maced, killing him and his three sons, one of whom was a minor, Chavez said. He said the killing investigation was ongoing Tuesday night was related to drugs, but he had no other details.

**Sudan releases 57 Darfur rebels**

Khartoum, Sudan — Sudan has released 57 Darfur rebels Wednesday on the condition that they report to a UN site in two days, 40 of them are Sudanese, 17 are foreigners,

**NATIONAL NEWS**

**Whale kills trainer in packed stadium**

SeaWorld spectators horrified as orca drags woman underwater during performance

**Local News**

**Ind. man arrested for killing parents**

WINCHESTER, Ind. — An eastern Indiana man has been charged with murdering his parents after his children over-dose on medication, according to a court document filed in the case.

Brian "Scott" Hartman, 33, was arrested Tuesday night on preliminary charges of murder and assisting a suicide, hours after police found the body of his father in the garage of the family’s rural home, said Randolph County Prosecutor David Daly. Hartman told investiga-

**Judge sentences 3 Google execs in video case**

MILAN — It seems that when it comes to letting the Web be the Web, it could be the United States against the world.

An Italian judge on Wednesday held three Google executives criminally responsible for an online video of an autistic teenager being bullied — a verdict that raised fears that the Internet giant, and others like it, may be forced to police their content in Italy, and even beyond.

The reaction to the verdict in the United States was swift and nearly unanimous in its condemnation of a dangerous precedent experts said threatens the principle of a free and open Internet.

However, Milan Prosecutor Alfredo Robledo reflected a European concern with privacy when he expressed satis-

**National News**

**Headhunters arrested for molestation**

A Los Angeles headhunter is accused of misleading state regulators about the question.

The executive director of a Los Angeles headhunter is accused of misleading state regulators about a 20-year extension of the question.

The investigation was started in September after a man now in his 40s came forward, after a five-month investigation by Long Beach police. Prosecutors asked that bail be set at five months, punishable by 280 years in prison.

Faulk was booked into custody in Long Beach. Prosecutors asked that bail be set at $3.5 million.

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This was my first time (facing a disciplinary conference), and I really didn’t know what I was up against,” Reuvers said. “I was thinking, ‘What in the world am I going to be removed from my dorm, kicked off campus, put on University probation for parietals violations — the vague wording in the handbook cites expulsion as a possibility’ of du Lac in the fall of 2007, Residence Life Bill Kirk said the Office of Residence Life hopes to get feedback on du Lac revisions from student government. Schmidt said student government will recommend revisions to du Lac, specifically regarding alcohol and disciplinary policy.

“Our job is just to help them better understand the culture and how to interact and what students act,” Schmidt said.

The second and final installment of this series will examine possible changes to the policies on du Lac. It will run in tomorrow’s Observer.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu and Sarah Merwosh at smerwosh@nd.edu
NEW YORK — Hummer, the off-road vehicle that once symbolized America’s love for hauling SUVs, faces a shutdown after its sale to a Chinese heavy equipment maker collapsed.

Sichuan Tengzhong Heavy Industrial Machines Co. said Wednesday it pulled out of the deal to buy the company from General Motors Co. Tengzhong failed to get clearance from Chinese regulators within the proposed timeframe for the sale, the Chinese manufacturer said.

GM said it will continue to honor existing Hummer warranties.

“We are disappointed that the deal with Tengzhong could not be completed,” said John Smith, GM vice president of corporate planning and alliances. “GM will now work closely with Hummer employees, dealers and suppliers to wind down the business in an orderly and responsible manner.”

GM has been trying to sell the loss-making brand for the last year and signed a deal with Tengzhong in October. However, resistance from Chinese regulators, who have been putting the brakes on investment in the fast-growing Chinese auto industry, created difficulties from the start.

As recently as Tuesday, private investors were trying to set up an offshore entity in a last-minute effort to complete the acquisition ahead of the 28 deadline. That plan, along with another options, was unsuccessful, according to a person close to the situation. The person declined to be identified in order to speak more freely.

“There’s no way forward with that,” this person said. “We’re out of this.”

GM spokesman Nick Richards said the automaker would still bear the financial costs of the deal.

“In the early phases of the wind-down, we’ll entertain offers and determine their viability, but that will have to happen in pretty short order,” he said.

Hummer, which traces its origins to the Humvee military vehicle built by AM General LLC in South Bend, Ind., acquired a devoted following among SUV lovers who were drawn to the off-road ready vehicles. But they drew scorn from environmentalists and sales never recovered after gasoline prices spiked above $4 a gallon in the summer of 2008.

Sales peaked at 71,524 in 2006. But in December 2009, only 325 Hummers were sold, down 85 percent from the previous year, according to Autodata Corp.

Sticker prices start at more than $42,500 and run to about $63,000, according to data posted at the Hummer.com Web site. The H3, the most fuel-efficient vehicle in Hummer’s lineup, averages about 16 mpg. The vehicles are built at GM’s factory in Shreveport, La.

Under the initial agreement to sell Hummer, Tengzhong would have received an 80 percent stake, while Hong Kong investor Suolang Duoji, who indirectly owns a 20 percent stake in Tengzhong, would have gotten 20 percent. The investors would also have owned Hummer’s nationwide dealer network.

Financial terms of the sale were not disclosed, although a person briefed on the deal at the time said the sale price was around $150 million. GM’s bankrupts filing last summer said that the brand could bring in $500 million or more.

Beijing had been cool to the acquisition. Tengzhong lacks a government permit to manufacture cars, and the Chinese government has been seeking to streamline and slow investment in the fast-growing auto industry rather than to attract newcomers.

In this file photo, Hummers are seen at a dealership in Tustin, Calif. GM said on Wednesday it will discontinue Hummer after its bid to sell the brand to a Chinese company failed.

Associated Press

Blockbuster outlines huge losses

 Associated Press

DALLAS — Blockbuster Inc. suffered a fourth-quarter loss of $435 million as its video rental stores struggled to attract customers who are increasingly getting their movies through the mail, vending machines and high-speed Internet connections.

The setback announced Wednesday reflected a dismal set of results, usually one of Blockbuster’s busiest times of the year.

The company, based in Dallas, boosted its ad spending in December in hopes of turning customers into its stores, but the investment didn’t pay off.

In a key measure of a retailer’s health, sales in Blockbuster stores open in the U.S. for the past year plunged by 16 percent in the fourth quarter.

Blockbuster’s woes contrasted with a sharp upturn in business for DVD-by-mail pioneer Netflix Inc., which added 1.16 million subscribers during the final three months of 2009 to generate a fourth-quarter profit of $31 million.

Most of Blockbuster’s fourth-quarter loss, which translated into $2.24 per share, stemmed from charges to account for the crumbling value of its franchise. Blockbuster lost $306 million, or $1.89 per share, at the same time in 2008.

Still, for the non-cash charges in the latest quarter, Blockbuster said it would have lost 24 cents per share. That figure was still higher than the 17 cents per share anticipated by analysts surveyed by Thomson Reuters.

Blockbuster’s fourth-quarter revenue plunged 18 percent to $1.08 billion — in line with analyst estimates.

The downturn has renewed concerns about whether Blockbuster will be able to bring in enough money to repay its debts, which totaled $964 million entering this year. Those worries have brusied Blockbuster’s already battered stock.

The shares fell 4 cents in Wednesday’s extended trading after dropping the regular session at 36 cents, down 2 cents. The company said it may seek shareholder approval for a reverse stock split to lift the value of its shares above $1 and preserve its listing on the New York Stock Exchange. It also is considering a recapitalization that could involve giving its lenders stock in exchange for reducing its debt.
Legends -of- Notre Dame

Thursday, 2/25 @ 10pm

Best of Acousticafé
Free appetizers & desserts
Delicious musical treats

FRIDAY @ MIDNIGHT: TIME MACHINE PARTY

Concept by Nick Brandt.

Dress in your favorite one.

Weekend -in- Preview

THE Tossers

FRIDAY @ MIDNIGHT: TIME MACHINE PARTY

10 Minute Sets, taking you through the decades.

Concept by Nick Brandt.

Dress in your favorite one.

BRAD WOLLACK of CHELSEA LATELY
JOHNNY SANCHEZ of MAD TV
LIVE at LEGENDS of NOTRE DAME

Saturday @ Midnight

TECHNO NIGHTCLUB
Men charged with manslaughter appeals for bail

Associated Press

PRESCOTT, Ariz. — The conditions of release for a motivational speaker charged with manslaughter have been set at $1.5 million, but exactly how won’t be revealed for a few weeks, a judge said Wednesday.

Attorneys for James Arthur Ray have persuaded the judge to lower his $5 million bond. Ray has been held in Yavapai county jail in Camp Verde, Ariz., since his arrest earlier this month.

Ray is facing three manslaughter counts for deaths at a sweat lodge ceremony he led near Sedona in October. If convicted, he faces up to 12½ years in prison.

Prosecutors asked that the bond be set at $1.5 million to ensure Ray’s continued appearances in court, along with the surrender of his passport and restrictions on travel. But defense attorneys argued that Ray should either be released on his own recognizance or bail be set at a couple hundred thousand dollars. They said he cannot afford even a $1 million bond, isn’t a flight risk and has no criminal history.

Earlier Wednesday, Ray’s attorneys called their first of two scheduled appearances on Ray’s behalf to testify in an effort to discredit James Ray International — to appear in court along with attorneys called their first of two scheduled appearances on Ray’s behalf to testify in an effort to discredit James Ray International — to appear in court along with attorneys calling themselves the “Shore Family” for Mr. Ray, that he should get the highest bond in Yavapai County history.

Prosecutors focused almost entirely on Ray’s finances during the hearing. Richard Echols, an accounting fraud examiner, testified for the prosecution to dispute claims that there’s no way Ray can pay to meet the public safety and has a criminal his- tor.

Ray’s attorneys voluntarily provided bank statements, por- tions of tax returns and other financial information to authorities, reviewed, but he said the documents painted an incomplete picture. In closing statements, Hughes argued that $1 million in bond that Ray set aside for legal fees, another $1 million that was unaccounted for, and his estimated net worth of $2.4 million certainly doesn’t mean

his properties are in foreclosure and that Ray essentially drained his bank accounts following the Oct. 8 sweat lodge ceremony in anticipation of high legal fees and a potential verdict.

“There would be no reason for him to behave that way,” he said.

Defending attorneys said Ray’s family had offered up properties they own as well as jewelry and other items to help bail Ray out of jail, but bail agent casting operations Ken Reeves testified that most of that couldn’t be included as part of a bond package. He estimated the value of a Beverly Hills mansion Ray recently put up for sale at only $250,000.

“What’s happening here is wrong. It’s just plain wrong,” Ray attorney Luis Li said in closing statements. “It’s like the state created special rules for Mr. Ray, that he should get the highest bond in Yavapai County history.

Ray is struggling to the extent his attorneys contend.

“Mr. Ray does have the financial means to post the $1.5 million bond,” Hughes said.

Ray appeared in court in a suit and appeared to listen intently to the arguments, even looking at representations for victims as they spoke following testimony. At one point, he winked at his girlfriend sitting in the row behind him and held his hand in a fist over his heart.

Prosecutors allege Ray reck- lessly crammed more than 50 participants of his five-day “Spiritual Warrior” event into a 415-square-foot sweat lodge, a small heated enclosure used in traditional American Indian ceremonies to cleanse the body.

Many participants have said Ray chided them for wanting to leave, even as people were vomiting, getting burned by hot rocks and feeling uncon- scientious on the ground. Ray’s attorneys have called the deaths a tragic accident and said he took all the neces- sary precautions and immedi- ately tended to the ill.

Three people — Kirby Brown, 38, of Westtown, N.Y., James Shore, 40, of Milwaukee, and Liz Neuman, 49, of Prior Lake, Minn. — eighteen others were hospital- ized.

An attorney for the Shore family said they took no posi- tion on the bail but believed Darrow would rule fairly, while Brown’s parents and a woman representing Neuman’s family opposed any reduction.

The Browns’ attorney, Robert Magnanini, asked Darrow to restrict Ray from holding semi- nars if he is released.

Olympics

continued from page 9

the newfound respect she has for the Games has brought out a competi- tive spirit.

“I get this rush when I watch them, that I want to get out there and do it again,” she said.

Hurley said despite the fact the Games occur every four years, for most athletes the year leading up to the Olympics is really crucial in qualifying, regardless of whether they participated in the last games.

“I still have to go through the same quali- fication process again,” she said. “The year before is the most important.”

Hurley said the hard miles that hard rounds can get away and that the skier is s l i d i n g American team- mates along for the ride, compet- ing against one another for Olympic rotor spots.

“Right now all the Americans are competing against each other,” she said. “We’re supposed to be cheering everyone on, but sometimes you have to sit back and let them fall flat on their face,” she said.

Hurley said outside of the athletic competition and net- work coverage, athletes are able to kick back and relax in private areas such as arcades. She said mealtimes were especially rewarding.

“The dining hall is really cool because there are all these countries in one dining hall. It is like having France eating at one table and Mexico eating at another,” she said.

Another special experience for Hurley with other Olympic athletes was their close proximity to internation- al sports stars in the same venues.

“Meeting some of the athletes and watch other athletes com- pete,” she said.

Although Hurley said she was not able to find the time to attend other sporting events, the opening cere- monies did included her a time to meet some of the biggest names in sports.

“I met most of the basketball team, including Blake Griffin, who were right behind us in the Opening Ceremony,” Hurley said. “Dwight Howard was pretend- ing to be a baggy guard.

For Hurley, watching the Vancouver opening ceremony the China fired memories of Beijing and inspired her for London’s 2012 Summer Games.

“I really enjoy watching the Olympics,” she said, “It’s getting me all pumped.”

Contact Sam Stryker at

sstryke1@nd.edu

New York faces a foot of snow

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — A powerful winter storm dumped a foot or more of snow on the Northeast on Wednesday, knocking out power to thousands and sending the region digging through another snowstorm.

although snow fell at the rate of up to 2 inches per hour, the snow continued to accumulate in New York, Massachusetts, Vermont and other states. New York faces a foot of snow.

It might not be until early next week that we get rid of the storm completely,” said meteorologist Rich Johnson of the National Weather Service’s Albany office.

A description of the coming storm as a “snowcane” by State College, Pa.-based Accuweather Inc. touched off criticism — one newspaper called it a “smackdown” — by the National Weather Service.

On Tuesday, 48 hours before the storm was to hit, Accuweather called it “hurri- cane-like,” a “monster,” and a “powerful storm of historical proportions” that would wreak havoc from Pennsylvania to Maine and by Wednesday was using the term “snowcane.”

Today prompted a stern response from National Weather Service meteorologist Craig Foreman.

“It’s almost including the pub- lic,” Foreman said.

The Weather Channel called the hurricane talk “bad mete- orology.”

Accuweather senior meteor- ologist and director of fore- casting operations Ken Horváth called the NWS criticism “unfounded” and said there is nothing wrong in using lan- guage that gets people’s attention when the situation calls for it.

The northern edge of Wednesday’s storm reached into the Massa- chusetts’ Berkshires, Vermont and New Hampshire, dumping more than a foot of snow in some areas and prompting flooding concerns in Maine.

The hardest hit area Wednesday was Albany, N.Y., where some outlying areas had about 2 feet of snow by afternoon. The snow was so thick and heavy that even pickup trucks got stuck trying to plow it out.

“We tried the snowblower and it didn’t work. It keeps clogging up,” said Pat McDonough as she shoveled her front porch in Voorheesville, a village just west of Albany.

While parts of the Northeast dealt with Wednesday’s snowfall, other cities were preparing for another blast of winter.

In New York City, Mayor Michael Bloomberg said the city was making sure building owners were aware of the pre- dicted high winds and were taking steps to tie down a concrete wall in a Manhattan high-rise.

“My hope is that the snow will stay to the north and we’ll just have rain — we need our another school day,” Bloomberg said. “We will cancel school only if really would be dangerous to get the kids into school and get them home.”
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Morality in economics?

I would like to thank Mr. Andre for his unfounded opinion that this Catholic University, based on Catholic values, has no “moral obligation to pay employees any more than a market price” or that this Catholic University is not responsible for the “welfare of the lower class.” This might just be me, but I thought that Catholicism was supposed to focus on morality and preferential treatment for the poor. This University’s mission statement states, “The University seeks to cultivate in its graduates a sense of responsibility only an appreciation for the great achievements of human beings, but also a disciplined sensibility to the poverty, injustice, and oppression that burden the lives of so many.” The aim is to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice.

Notre Dame is not just some university, it is a Catholic university. By paying $9 an hour to workers, we are contributing to the cycle of poverty that we should be trying to end. The University wants us to use our learning for justice; why are they not leading by example?

Justice in the opinion of the Church is allowing people at least a living wage so that they can live day-to-day without having to be severely in debt or wondering how they are going to pay for their children’s healthcare bills. If you don’t believe that these are real problems, talk to the workers! They will tell you about the frustration that comes when you have to choose which bill not to pay each week. Many of the workers here don’t make a living wage, forcing them to rely on government subsidies to survive.

As a Catholic institution, we should adhere to Catholic social teaching. Pope John Paul II echoed previous popes in “Laborem Exercens,” stating that “a just wage is the concrete means of verifying the justice of the whole socioeconomic system and, in any case, of checking that it is functioning justly.” Since we, as a Catholic institution, are not offering a just wage (living wage), according to Pope John Paul, we are not functioning justly. So, I’m sorry if I think John Paul II may have had a better moral compass than you, Mr. Andre, but as a Catholic, going to the most well-known Catholic university in the United States, I would hope that I could rest at ease knowing that at least Norte Dame’s economic values are just and would make John Paul II proud, but this is clearly not the case.

Kelsey Condon
junior
Foley Hall
Feb. 25

Good teaching, research coincide

I’m writing to respectfully disagree with Justin Delosa’s letter (“An argument against research,” Feb. 24) in which he criticized the University’s emphasis on research. I think that Delosa is just not being fair. First, research enables the faculty to stay current with developments in their field. I should think what my lectures will be like in 20 years if I don’t conduct research. Thus, I may not be the best or most creative professor or scholar, but I will be able to bring students the most recent knowledge.

Moreover, I think if you were to survey many of the students who are considered excellent teachers, you will probably find that they are excellent researchers as well.

The second benefit of research at Notre Dame is that it enables undergraduates to gain hands-on experience that will be beneficial to them after graduation in their careers or future graduate studies. Delosa overlooks the fact that the University’s drive to increase its research profile includes devoting substantial resources to undergraduate research. For science and engineering students in particular, this will be vital to their success. So, I encourage Delosa to rethink his position and consider these benefits of research that he has overlooked.

Rebecca McCumbers
graduate student
off campus
Feb. 25

THE OBSERVER

The Observer endorses Griffin - Skirtich ticket

After reviewing the two tickets running for Saint Mary’s student body president and vice president, The Observer Editorial Board endorses junior Meg Griffin and sophomore Emily Skirtich. Although juniors Rachael Chelsey and Laura Smith have strong ideas, Griffin and Skirtich’s experience cannot be ignored and it’s an extension of their qualifications that makes them the best candidates.

Griffin, as the current student body vice president, and Skirtich, as the Student Government Association (SGA) executive secretary, will make the transition in April much smoother since they already have an extensive knowledge of SGA. Their major platforms — creating more all-campus events and incorporating campus clubs with a new handbook and officer meetings — are initiatives that are plausible and will help to bridge the gap between student government and the students they represent.

While Chelsey and Smith also had innovative ideas to incorporate clubs on campus, these were much less concrete.

Griffin and Skirtich also have the advantage of being able to continue with initiatives begun by Jenny Hoffman, current student body president, and Griffin, including adding a Saint Mary’s heritage class to the curriculum. This would further their push for familiarizing students with the history of the college, something Hoffman and Griffin concentrated on this year.

That being said, there are some ideas Chelsey and Smith offer that Griffin and Skirtich can learn from. Their ideas about alumni networking on campus and having SGA members actually attend club meetings would help connect student not only to each other, but the outside community.

Griffin and Skirtich don’t focus on alumni relations or helping to bring donors to campus, and these are important issues that former administrations have neglected to address. If implemented, these ideas could improve the outlook for the next term.

In the end, the largest separation between the tickets is experience, which gives Griffin and Skirtich the advantage. Since time in office is short-lived for student officials, making the most of that time is crucial. Griffin and Skirtich will be able to get to work quickly and start on their initiatives with very little training — a valuable commodity in student government.

There are two strong tickets in this election, however, experience is too valuable to ignore and will allow the Griffin and Skirtich to pass their well-thought-out initiatives with greater ease.

Griffin and Skirtich show all signs of being competent and efficient if they are voted into office, and are valued leaders of the Saint Mary’s community.

The Observer\'s Viewpoint

BE GREEN. Recycle.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The young man knows the rules, but the old man knows the exceptions.”

Oliver Wendell Holmes
American writer
Even though there’s still traces of snow on the ground, the sun is nonetheless unmistakably sunny, and not in the least bit of a merely clear sky. No, Sunday’s sun was hot and overbearing; it bugled the inexorable coming of spring, and then summer, louder than any Panxutshawen Phil news broadcast. Needless to say, I am quite grumpy. When the sun becomes insistently bright and cheerful, I worry that the painstakingly con- structed fog of cares and concerns with which I protect myself from the reality of the outside world is in dan- ger of dissolving outright, like so much fog.

Any fan of the Cure or the Smiths knows instinctively that sunshine is their enemy, the great gloom-killer, the murderer of melancholy. Depression has never been out of fashion; but the darkness and mystery in which the depressive prefers to lurk, covering up their flaws and weaknesses with shadow and murk, cannot help but be dissolved by the oppressively healthy light of the sun. Indeed, no worry, no depression, no unhappiness can be sustained in the center of a green park on a warm spring day if the very setting is antithetical to it.

Naturally, as someone with tenden- cies towards gloom, I have to find var- ious methods of sustaining my unhap- piness through the oppressive sunlight which floods every corner for seven months of the year, and which throws every little bit of natural light into such sharp relief that one’s carefully tended worries and fears are in dan- ger of being totally visible. Total protection from the sunlight is practi- cally impossible during the summer, so that one is constantly at peace catching oneself enjoying life or expe- riencing an unreasonable happiness (and all happiness is at bottom totally unreasonable). Therefore, for the sake of the sun’s constant nagging reminder that life can be pleasant and enjoyable, I have compiled a list of some of my favorite strategies to pre- serve undisturbed the healthy and natural neurotism at the heart of any intelligent person’s worldview.

First and foremost, if the weather should hover in the sweet spot between seventy and eighty degrees, the sun should shine brightly without clouds in the sky, the birds chirp sweetly and the cicadas drunkenly buzz in the trees, go inside immedi- ately preferably to a room with a lot of windows, and stay there until the unfavorable conditions have ceased or the sun has fallen, which whenever comes first. Occupy yourself there with mus- ing upon the negative aspects of your life situation. Remind yourself of the insufficiencies others have given you, writing- ly or verbally. Meditate on the drawbacks and rejections you have experienced, your overwhelming failure in any sort of non-trivial human interaction, the hurts which you have come to identify with. All this will very likely help you to restore you to some degree of mental unbalance. If you can drink yourself into an incoherent and mad state in the fetal position on your floor, so much the better.

Beyond that, I’m asking each and all members of the Notre Dame community to do some very careful intro- prection before we let our fingers write another viewpoint. Are we seeing the world from the eyes of the people for or about whom we are speaking and writing? Or are we speaking as if we are the main characters in the development as outlined by CST, and so beautifully discussed in the XIII’s Rerum Novarum (1891).

Remuneration for work must be taken into account. Agreement between the parties is not sufficient to account the role and the productivity of each, the state of the business, and the common good (gaudium et spes, #67). Agreement between the parties is not sufficient to justify morally the amount to be received in wages.

In the past, the Catholic Church teaches on the issue and what the Catholic Church teaches on economic justice is needed in order to function. If they didn’t work, they would be in a world of hurt. No garbage collected, no one to clean our streets, no one to clean up the blood in the operating room after a surgery. The reality that people need to accept is that hourly waged workers are doing jobs that are needed in order to function. If they didn’t work, they would be in a world of hurt. No garbage collected, no one to clean our streets, no one to clean up the blood in the operating room after a surgery.

I’m not Catholic, but the above passage reminds me of the三十stones of modern Catholic Social Teaching since Pope Leo XIII’s Rerum Novarum (1891). Beyond that, I’m asking each and all members of the Notre Dame community to do some very careful intro- prection before we let our fingers write another viewpoint. Are we seeing the world from the eyes of the people for or about whom we are speaking and writing? Or are we speaking as if we are the main characters in our own movie and everyone else just has supporting roles?

Too often, we caricature one another in light of our own views and perspectives rather than giving the people we come in contact with the space and freedom to explore the fullness of their humanity with us. In doing so, we alienate and ostracize people who are different from us. We are not only losing our own humanity, but we are also losing our capacity to love and be loved. In fact, we are losing our capacity to love others and be loved by others. Our love is constricted by our own presuppositions, and we never ever want to live up to our Catholic identity, we have to do better.

Katie Washington
off campus
Feb. 25

"A just wage is the legitimate fruit of work. To refuse or withhold it can be a grave injustice. In determining fair pay, both the needs and the contributions of each person must be taken into account. Remuneration for work should guarantee humans the opportunity to provide a dignified livelihood for themselves and their family on the many needs for material, cultural and spiritual level, taking into account the role and the productivity of each, the state of the business, and the common good (gaudium et spes, #67). Agreement between the parties is not sufficient to justify morally the amount to be received in wages."

Brooks Smith
Laddle Gaga
Feb. 25
Bob Dylan once said 
Johnny Cash "was and is 
the North Star; you could 
guide your ship by him. 
The greatest of the 
greats — then and now."

His career is impossible 
to put into perspective. 
He stands among the musical elite, and with 
the exception of Elvis and The Beatles, there 
are none above him in terms of popular and critical success. He's one of the many great American stories: grew up poor, served in the army, hit rock bottom (on more than one occasion), found family and religion, and faded from the spotlight as he aged. Cash's career and legacy reached a pinnacle in 1994 when he changed course.

After being dropped by Columbia Records, Cash was washed up until label co-head Rick Rubin signed him to American Recordings, a rap and heavy metal label. The contract blossomed into six remarkable albums and a new audience for Cash. "American VI: Ain't No Grave," Cash's latest and perhaps final entry in his extensive discography, was released on Jan. 23, three days short of what would have been his 75th birthday, with the blessings of his friends and family.

It's been seven years and another album since Cash left this world. It comes as no surprise that much of his output in his last days would focus on his impending death. "Ain't No Grave" is a natural culmination of both his American Recordings and his impressive career. Gone is the anger, regret and sorrow that pervaded much of his work from the '90s (most notably on his cover of Trent Reznor's "Hurt"). Instead, a portrait of man's proper relationship with death is painted, not eager, but certainly not afraid. Cash only authored a single track on the album, "1 Corinthians 15:55." Taking his inspiration from the Pauline verse, "O Death, where is your victory? O Death, where is your victory?"

Cash tells of salvation with all the conviction of a preacher and twice the effectiveness.

The album art, a concept almost lost in the digital age, highlights his songwriting, piecing together several handwritten drafts in lieu of proper liner notes. The back cover presents Cash through a windowpane in the months before his death. Careful consideration was clearly taken in the look of the album and, while it continues in motifs familiar to Rubin's style, Cash's young countenance shines out from the cover, an unusual but poignant choice for such a somber album.

The material that Cash covers, perhaps the strongest point of American Recordings — other than Cash himself — is the most consistent of the series. Thankfully, gone are the cheesy choices such as "A Legend in My Time" from "A Hundred Highways" or "Danny Boy" off "The Man Comes Around." Sheryl Crow's "Redemption Day" matches beautifully with Cash's weathered vocals and stripped instruments. The final track on Cash's final album is a surprising choice, the iconic Hawaiian "Aloha Oe." It masterfully avoids the pitfalls that could have easily turned it into a novelty song and ends the musical career of a legend with the grace, beauty, elegance and joy evident in the words of the piece.

No artist will ever age as gracefully as Cash did. He never burst or faded out, became a caricature, stayed past his welcome or impeded his own legacy. In the final years of his life, he recorded hundreds of songs. From these, Rick Rubin was able to put together a proper final album for the "Man in Black." While it would be impossible to say "Ain't No Grave" is Cash's best album, it now ranks among the essentials in a string of masterpieces.

Contact Nick Anderson at 
nanders5@nd.edu
"Prospero's Books" @ 7 p.m., DPAC

"Prospero’s Books" is the first in a series of films by Welsh director Peter Greenaway that the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center plans to show this weekend. Based off of Shakespeare’s “The Tempest,” "Prospero’s Books" is a visual masterpiece that utilizes many innovative cinematic techniques to tell the story from a unique perspective. The film combines mime, dance, opera and animation as well as digital image manipulation. The film was shown out of competition at the 1991 Cannes Film Festival, meaning it did not compete for a main prize. Look for several other works by Peter Greenaway at DPAC throughout the weekend.

The Tossers @ 10 p.m., Legends

The Tossers, a six piece Celtic punk band from Chicago, will be performing at Legends this Friday night. They have been active since the early 90s, playing such bands as the Dropkick Murphys and Flogging Molly, but have only recently begun to gain notice from more mainstream audiences. They released their most recent album, “Fallen Angel,” in October 2008. Their sound has been described as bordering between “rage and raucousness,” blending traditional Irish sound and punk rock, so the show is certain to be a high-energy performance. As always, there is no cover for this show.

"The Road" @ 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., DeBartolo 105

Actor Viggo Mortensen’s latest project follows the journey of a father and son walking across the country in search of refuge from the extreme conditions produced by an apocalyptic event. They are walking south in hopes of escaping the extreme cold and desperation the cataclysm has left in its wake. The father often recalls his wife, who committed suicide before the horrific event, and finds that the boy is the only thing that keeps him going. A dark film, it is certain to make audiences consider the meaning and purpose of life. Tickets are $3 at the door.

"Natural Selection" @ 2:30 p.m., DPAC

This is the last day to catch "Natural Selection," the comedy by Eric Coble which explores just how crazy the world will be in the near future if humanity continues to be heavily reliant on technology. The production centers on Henry Carson, a curator at the Cultural Fiesta Theme Park, who searches the country in order to find new Native Americans to bring into the Pavilion. He is quickly faced with the difficulty of defining ‘native’ and in the process discovers the artificial nature of the world in which he lives. Tickets for this production are $15 for general admission, $12 for faculty, staff and seniors, and $10 for students.

By COURTNEY COX
Scene Writer

The guys from "The Buried Life" seem to be living the life. They have a hit show on MTV that enables them to do everything they’ve wanted in life and they get paid for it. It definitely seems like a good gig, but is it genuine? Are they really this care-free and cool?

I had the opportunity to talk with Dave and Johnnie and it turns out they’re even cooler than they appear. The project started four years ago in Victoria, British Columbia, from where the guys hail. Dave and Johnnie said they were sick of seeing their friends wasting their lives, and sick of doing what they were “supposed” to do. So they decided to use death as a motivating tool in their lives. It was supposed to compel them to do what they wanted most in life.

When the pair asked their parents what they thought about the project, they responded with knowing laughs. They said they did get the expected questions, like “How are you going to do this?”

"The Buried Life" Uncovered

However, all of their parents were generally supportive. Not one told them not to follow through with what they had started. While they were supportive, this support did not include monetary help. They raised the money for their project in their own community. But there were many times when money was an issue for them. It had to be kept going when they were so poor, but that’s where the group came in. If two people were feeling really down about what they were doing and just wanted to quit and get a real job, then the other two were right there motivating and reminding them why they started doing this in the first place.

They were offered a show in 2007, but elected not to take the pitch, as they were concerned about keeping their increased profile. But they are certainly aware of their increased profile. It seemed to make them uncomfortable when asked if they were interested in celebrities. Both Dave and Johnnie were reluctant to answer.

So how will this higher profile affect their project? If they do sign on for a second season it will be a little more difficult to find things they cannot do, which is almost the best part of the show. They still appear to be living such amazing lives that they don’t cross off all the items on their list.

Perhaps the reason that Dave and Johnnie seemed so cool is that they were aware of the impact their project had on people, yet chose not to take any credit. They said that they were “just humbled to be a part of it.” What they really wanted to do when they started this project was to get other people to ask themselves to ask what they were going to do before they die. Once you acknowledge what you want to do, the next question is, why aren’t you doing anything to get there? This is the cool part about the guys on this show — the fact that they inspire people, and not in a preachy way.

In addition to the questions I posed to Johnnie and Dave, they had one question for the people watching the show: Everyone has something that they want to be an individual, but what does our generation want to do as a group?

Only time will tell.

Contact Courtney Cox at ccox3@nd.edu
Jeter not interested in becoming a free agent

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Derek Jeter reiterated what every Yankee fan wanted to hear: He hopes to play in pinstripes forever.

He just doesn't want to spend time talking about his future in New York.

“I’ve said from Day One, this is the only organization I’ve ever wanted to play for, and that hasn’t changed,” Jeter said Wednesday before the team’s first full-squad practice at George M. Steinbrenner Field.

“I was a Yankees fan growing up. This is where I want to be. I’ve never envisioned myself being anywhere else and hopefully I don’t have to,” he said.

The 35-year-old Jeter is entering the final season of a $189 million, 10-year deal. The All-Star shortstop said he doesn’t have a set number of years in mind that he’d like to continue playing and steered around a question about whether he has a desire to be the Yankees’ highest-paid player.

“I don’t think this will be the final time he speaks about his contract,” Jeter hit .314 with 18 homers and 66 RBIs in 2009, leading New York to its first World Series championship in nine years. The Yankees have won three titles during his career.

“I’ve been honest with you. I never put limitations on how long I can play,” he said. “I want to play as long as I can, as long as I’m having fun, as long as I can be productive.”

Jeter says he prides himself on winning and putting a competitive team on the field. As long as he can help out, that’s as long as he wants to play.

Closier Mariano Rivera also is headed into the last season of his contract. The Yankees have a team policy of not negotiating new contracts until a player’s previous deal expires, but it sounds as though the club wants to do everything it can to hang on to both players.

“Let’s put it this way, I can’t say from the fans’ perspective whether or not they’re being ultra-competitive,” general manager Brian Cashman said.

“I don’t think there’s anything to sway off any of these guys,” Dodds said, adding that he has been “very productive,” Jeter said Wednesday.

He said this will be the final time he speaks about his contract.

That will be at the end of the season.

“Just the practical way we’ve had in place for some time now,” Cashman added. “I think these guys are pretty secure in their abilities, their knowledge of how we feel about them, the place they would be at the end of the year lines up for discussions for another day.”

Jeter said he doesn’t have a problem with the club’s stance, adding his status won’t become a distraction because he’s not going to speak publicly on the matter again until after the season ends.

“I think it’s unfair to be talking about myself when we’re trying to win. That’s what this is about,” he said.

“I know it’s maybe going to cause a lot of speculation. There may be a few stories out there, but it won’t be a distraction because I won’t be talking about it.”

Team co-chairman Hank Steinbrenner said earlier this month that the club will address Jeter’s contract “eventually,” adding that the 10-time All-Star’s “place in Yankee history is obvious, so I think you can pretty much assume that.”

Jeter, who has won three Gold Gloves and also has been a World Series and All-Star game MVP during his 14 seasons in New York, surpassed Lou Gehrig to become the Yankee’s career hits leader in 2009.

For manager Joe Girardi, it’s difficult to imagine Jeter or Rivera becoming free agents and winding up wearing another club’s colors.

“It’d be different, that’s for sure,” he said. “I think when you think about guys like Mo, Jeter, you always think of them as Yankees.”

Girardi said, “There’s certain guys, you expect to see them in one uniform.”

Jeter didn’t offer any indication of what he might be looking for in a new contract.

He also said he’s given no thought to how it might affect his legacy if he did not spend his entire career with the Yankees.

“I can’t think about what’s going to happen after this year. You don’t think about what legacy you have when you’re still playing. That’s something you consider when your career is over,” he said.

“My desire is to stay here. I haven’t thought about how much money (I) want because we don’t want to sit down to negotiate anything. That hasn’t crossed my mind. That’s not what I play for. I play in order to try to help this team win. That’s what I’ve always done. My feeling is everything else will take care of itself.”

New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter speaks to the media during spring training. Jeter has no interest in testing the free agent market when he becomes eligible following the 2010 season.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Brooke reported that Texas likes its place in the Big 12 Conference and has not talked with Big Ten about its expansion plans, athletic director DeLoss Dodds said Wednesday.

Dodds said Texas would be a natural target for any league because of the school’s strong academics, athletics and the power it draws a large television audience. But Texas and the Big 12 are good for each other, Dodds said, adding “It’s working, I like it.”

The Big Ten announced in December it would explore options for expansion to add a 12th school. The Big Ten also looked at expansion in 1993, 1998 and 2003. Penn State was the last team to join in 1996, and Notre Dame rejected an offer in 1999.

Earlier this month, speculation on possible targets focused on Texas, which has one of the wealthiest athletic programs in the country and is a major research university with a huge alumni base surrounded by some of the larger television markets in the nation.

“We’re always going to be talking about it,” Dodds said. “There have been no talks between the Texas and the Big Ten. He said the Big 12 has been a good fit for the Longhorns since the conference started in 1996 with the members of the old Big Eight and four members of the old Southwest Conference.

“I think it’s been a great conference for us and we’ve been good for the conference. Before the Big 12, we were struggling with recruiting and struggling with all kinds of things. The Big 12 has brought us stability, kept Texas kids in Texas,” he said. “All the sports have been good to us. We’ve built up some good rivalries. It’s been good for us.”

Even if another school were to leave the Big 12, Dodds said he believes the remaining members would try to keep the conference intact by finding a replacement instead of seeing a domino effect of schools bolting for other leagues.

MLB

PITCHING

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FOR PERSONAL

Harry Callahan: I know what you’re thinking. Did I see six shots or seven shots? Of course, I didn’t see all the truth, in all this excitement I kind of lost track myself. But being as this is a .44 Magnum, the most powerful handgun in the world, and would blow your hand clean off, you’ve gotta ask yourself one question: Do I feel lucky? Well, do ya, punk?

Maggie Fitzgerald: She’s tough. I can’t get inside, I can’t get close enough to hit her. Frankie Dunn: You know why that Maggie Fitzgerald is? Cause she’s a better fighter than you, that’s why. She’s younger, she’s stronger, and she’s more experienced. Now, what are you gonna do about it? Maggie Fitzgerald: Next round starts. Maggie knocks her out in two seconds.

http.csap.nd.edu

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 624 South Dining Hall. Deadlines for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.
**Vonn crashes and breaks right pinkie**

WHISTLER, British Columbia — Lindsey Vonn crashed and failed to finish the first run of the fog-shrouded Olympic giant slalom race Wednesday and broke her right pinkie. It was undecided if she would run her final event at the Vancouver Games later in the week.

Vonn lost control around a right turn in the middle section of the course, got twisted around, landed hard on her left hip and crashed backward into the safety netting.

“The course is breaking up at the bottom,” Vonn said, holding ice on her finger, adding that her back and shin were hurting, too. “I got a little bit too inside and lost my outside ski. My knee came up and hit my chin. I don’t know honestly how I hurt my hand.

“I’m just a little bit beat up right now,” added Vonn, who also fell in the slalom leg of the super-combined last week. “Things don’t seem to be going my way.”

After being checked course-side for a few minutes, Vonn got up and skied down to the finish.

“I was like a pretzel — so tangled up,” Vonn said. Dr. Jim Moeller, chief medical officer for the U.S. Olympic team, said Vonn had a non-displaced fracture of the proximal phalanx of the small finger — where the pinkie connects to the hand. He said Vonn, who won the downhill and was third in the super-G despite nursing a badly bruised right shin the entire Olympics, had not decided if she would race in Friday’s final women’s event, the slalom.

The second run of the giant slalom was postponed late Wednesday. Vonn was expected to return Thursday because fog made it impossible to see the course.

American Julia Mancuso was the next skier down the mountain after Vonn and had to pull up midway through her run because her teammate was still being tended to on the side of the course.

Mancuso, the defending champion in giant slalom, ended up 18th after starting 19th. She was visibly angry over the disruption.

While giant slalom is usually Vonn’s worst event, she had posted the fastest split times until her crash.

“I was hoping for something today,” Vonn said. “I was charging. I was skiing hard. I’m disappointed in myself now that I made that mistake. I can only keep smiling. I know I was skiing well.”

Vonn had a difficult start position, 17th, but was 0.35 second ahead of the pace by first-run leader Elisabeth Goergl of Austria at the third split, just before the crash.

**In Brief**

**For Red Sox, playoffs, not season’s focus**

FORT MYERS, Fla. — To Boston Red Sox owner John Henry, the team’s goal for the 2010 season is the same as always. That means making the playoffs, rather than focusing on winning the World Series.

“I’ve never thought that way,” Henry said Wednesday. “If we make the playoffs, we’re going to win at some point in the postseason. We’ve been fortunate to do that twice.”

“It’s tough to predict what’s going to happen in a short series. A good team can easily lose to an inferior team in a short series. So our goal really is to make the playoffs and try to win,” he said.

The Red Sox, champions in 2004 and 2007, were swept out of the first round of the playoffs last year by the Los Angeles Angels.

Boston hosts the major league opener on April 4 against the champion New York Yankees.

**White Sox not happy with Guilien’s Twitter activity**

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Ozzie Guilien’s already going to star in a reality series starting in July. Now the colorful manager of the Chicago White Sox has a Twitter account and his general manager Ken Williams is not happy about it.

Guilien, Williams and Sox owner Jerry Reinsdorf will shoot segments for the MLB Network reality show The Club this spring. That had already prompted concern about the talkative Guilien and his often salty language.

Now Guilien’s added another forum to express his many opinions on many topics.

Guilien said his tweets will be personal and not a way to tell fans what’s going on with the White Sox or to bring news. Still, it appears to be a dangerous device for a manager who’s gotten in plenty of trouble over the years with his comments.

**NFL declines to punish Oakland Raiders’ Cable**

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Oakland Raiders coach Tom Cable will not be punished by the NFL after an investigation into allegations of domestic violence against women and a fight with an assistant coach.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Wednesday that Cable’s role in the training camp altercation with assistant Randy Hanson warranted an evaluation under the league’s personal conduct policy.

Cable was accused of breaking Hanson’s jaw and teeth during a fight at the team’s training camp hotel in August. The Napa County district attorney declined to file criminal charges in the case because of inconsistencies in Hanson’s story. Because there were no criminal charges, the league did not punish Cable.
Olympics

U.S. gets past Swiss, will play in semifinals

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — The longer it went, the tighter the Americans got. They scored five times in the final two minutes of the game, the post, then the crossbar. A wrist shot early in the game by Phil Kessel that hit Swiss goalie Jonas Hiller smacked off the crossbar, a gift that the Americans couldn’t convert. But once that happened, the Americans went on to score nine times in the final 25 minutes of the game.

The Americans continued to press, the Swiss were forced to play on their heels. With 10 seconds left, Parise scored on a breakaway and sent the Swiss goalie, Hiller, the wrong way. The Americans were off to their first Olympic gold medal.

The American bench, including coach Les Murray, couldn’t contain their emotions. Murray walked off the bench and ran to the crowd. The bench leaped up and down and gave each other celebratory hugs.

For the Americans, the gold medal was the culmination of a trip that wasn’t easy. They lost their opening game, then proceeded to win their next five games, before falling to Canada in the semifinals. But they rebounded with a win against Switzerland and were on to the gold medal game.

The game started with Hiller making three saves on the first two American shots. But the Americans continued to press, and the Swiss couldn’t contain them. At 4:19, Brian Rafalski scored from a sharp angle, and at 13:19, Parise scored on a breakaway. The Americans continued to press, and at 14:19, Parise scored on a breakaway. The game was over.

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PEORIA, Ariz. — Cliff Lee took a step in the right direction Wednesday. The Seattle Mariners lefty completed his first bullpen session of spring training without any problems with his left foot, which needed surgery almost three weeks ago to remove a bone spur.

“It wasn’t as sharp as I would like, but it’s the first time I’ve been off the mound in a little while, so I guess that’s to be expected,” Lee said after 10 minutes of pitching and a conditioning run. “I feel good. The foot’s fine. The body feels good, so now I need to get in shape and get off the mound more and catch up with everyone else.”

Lee reported to Mariners camp a week ago with a bandage wrapped around his foot, even though he said he was ready to pitch. The Mariners took precautions, limiting Lee, a former AL Cy Young Award winner whom they traded for with Philadelphia in the off-season, to agility drills and fielding practice.

The 31-year-old Lee said he threw all of his pitches and wasn’t thinking about his foot. He was focused on locating fastballs, having only thrown off a mound once in the off-season before he needed surgery.

“I was pretty certain when I first got here, I could jump right in with everyone, but it was kind of a better safe than sorry approach at that point,” Lee said. He’ll toss another session in a couple of days with the hope that he’ll be ready for the rotation in spring training games. The other Seattle pitchers have been pitching from a mound since last week.

“Once I get going, I’ll catch up. It’s still way early,” Lee said. “There’s a lot of teams that haven’t even really started going full tilt yet, so looking at it that way, I guess I’m not that far behind.”

Meanwhile at Mariners camp Wednesday, infielder Jose Lopez returned to his normal position — second base — after taking ground balls at third in the team’s first full-squad workout Tuesday. The Mariners said they were only taking a look at Lopez at third, with Chone Figgins working at second base. Both Lopez and Figgins, a free agent signed from the Los Angeles Angels, worked at second base Wednesday.

Lopez, a 2006 AL All-Star, said he last played third base for the Mariners in 2007, for a few games.

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**Second Course**

8:15 – 8:45

Grant Schmidt and Cynthia Weber, Daniel Collins and DavidZimmer, Breen Phillips RA’s, Professor Candida Moss, Dean Crawford, ND Drumline, Professor Anre Ventor, Dayne Crist, Kapron Lewis-Moore, Darius Fleming

**Third Course**

9:00 – 9:30

The Undertones, Irish Guard, Chuck Lennon, Mike Brey, Dean Woo. Monk Malloy, Father Hesburgh, Father Poorman, Coach Kelly

**MLB**

Mariners’ Lee back on mound after surgery
West, Thompson enter collegiate hall

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY — Christian Laettner and Mark McGwire are among the eight members of the NCAA basketball Hall of Fame's 2010 class announced on Wednesday.

Triangle offense innovator Tex Winter, Alcorn State coach Dave Winter, former NBA executive vice president Tom Jernstedt and former Big Eight and Big Ten commissioner Dave Whitney also will be inducted on Nov. 21 in Kansas City.

“An amazing class,” said Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, chair of the National Basketball Hall of Fame's 2010 class announcement.

West and Thompson are the marquee names.

They’ll be recognized as founding members of the collegiate ball after being inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. Previous inductees of the collegiate hall include Larry Bird, who was a two-time All-American as a senior. Charles Barkley the year before and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in 2007.

Before he became the figure of the NCAA logo, West was a three-time All-American at West Virginia, where he led the Mountaineers to three straight NCAA tournament berths, including a trip to the 1959 title game. He averaged 29.3 points and 16.5 rebounds as a senior and went on to co-captain the 1960 U.S. Olympic gold medal team before 14 All-Star seasons with the Los Angeles Lakers.

Thompson was one of the best college players of all time, a superior leaper and rebounder who was twice the national player of the year and a three-time All-American. He helped the Wolfpack beat John Wooden’s UCLA Bruins 54-52 in the national semifinals on the way to the 1974 NCAA championship, and was the Naismith player of the year as a senior after turning down an offer to play professional ball.

There’s an argument that he made the best college player ever,” Krzyzewski said. “Certainly, in our conference, many of us would say the same thing to him that vote.”

Laettner led the Blue Devils to four straight Final Four berths and won national championships in his final two seasons, in 1991 and 1992. He was the most outstanding player of the

MLB

Brother injected McGwire

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jay McGwire heard big brother Mark say last month he only took steroids to heal, and not to get stronger. But he couldn’t match Jay McGwire’s recollection.

“Mark knew that he was going to get the strength and endurance and size. I know that the main motive to justifying taking steroids was healing,” Jay McGwire said in an interview with The Associated Press. “I know that for a fact. But in the long run he knew the strength and the size and endurance will increase. I don’t know why he’s coming across that it is all being healing.”

In the end, his brother for eight years because of a family dispute, Jay McGwire has gone public in “Mark and Me: Truth Behind Baseball’s Widespread Secret,” which is scheduled for publication Monday by TriumphBooks.

“He knows his game went to the next level because his body went to the next level,” Jay McGwire said. “He’s a blank canvas. He knows, the body, the before and after pictures, are amazing.”

When he finally admitted last month that he used steroids, after he was hired as hitting coach of the St. Louis Cardinals, Mark McGwire said it was only to help him get through injuries. “I know if he stayed healthy, Mark would hit a lot of home runs, but I didn’t know he’d hit 70,” Jay McGwire said, referring to his brother’s record-setting total in 1998, when he shattered Roger Maris’ 61 in 1961.

McGwire says in the book he persuaded his brother to start using steroids reg

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NFL

NFL hopes to test for HGH

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The NFL hopes to start testing players for human growth hormone, and Major League Baseball has started talks with its union to investigate the test that led to the suspension of a British rugby player.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Wednesday that the league had made a proposal to its players in January regarding HGH. Discussions are ongoing, he said.

The position is that HGH testing has advanced to the point where we are taking steps to incorporate it into our program,” Aiello said. “We have proposed it to the union.

The NFLPA’s player development director, Stacy Stephenson, said in a statement that the union “has supported research to find a suitable test that will detect sustained HGH use.”

We believe in and collectively bargained for a system that supports the testing of all banned substances,” he said. The NFL has used preseason blood tests since at least 2004 for cholesterol and triglycerides. Baseball has had urine testing since 2003 but not blood testing.

“Blood testing is more definitive,” said infielder Josh Harrison of the Pittsburgh Pirates. “I’d prefer urine testing. It’s easier, especially for people who are afraid of needles.”

Weiner said by telephone from London. “Further research and development are ongoing, he said.

“A blood test for HGH has been in existence since the 2004 Athens Olympics and available in the U.S. since 2008, according to United States Anti-Doping Agency executive director Travis Tygart.

“Tygart said the test was available to professional leagues, but only through World Anti-Doping Agency approval.”

“It’s one that’s been well vetted, well-discussed,” he said by telephone from London. “Further research and development are ongoing,” Tygart said.

While MLB can institute blood testing for other minor league rosters, it must reach an agreement with the players’ association to start blood testing for unionized players on 40-man big league rosters.

“We are consulting with our experts concerning immediately the science behind the test,” they said.

“We are well aware of the issue of HGH,” said Mike Babcock, who has gained renewed interest over whether it increases effectiveness, too — and discourage the offending鲁men from open leads of 3-0 and 4-1 in the first period and 6-1 early in the second period, and the unexpected rout was on.

The resurgent Canadians meet the Sweden-Slovakia winner in Friday’s semifinals. If they advance, they might face the U.S. in the gold-medal game.

The more- størked team will play for the Olympic title, said by telephone from London. “Further research and development are ongoing,” Tygart said.

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“Weather in and collectively bargained for a system that supports the testing of all banned substances,” he said.
AUSTIN, Texas — Dexter Pittman had 16 points and eight rebounds and free-throwing 21 Texas A&M 66-59 over Oklahoma State on Wednesday.

For Pittman, it was the first time in two weeks he was able to establish himself as a force in the paint and guaranteed they will finish no worse than 8-8 in league play.

But Mason and Bradley were able to lock down on Anderson for long stretches, never letting him find his rhythm. On one early basket, an ill-fated drive, the 6-foot-9 center from 1998-2002 Mydra's record of 535 career points after making 14 in a win over Florida last year, is a fan favorite. Plus, the Bulldogs their biggest lead, 56-45 with 12:18 left.

Texas A&M forward Brian Davis twirls around Baylor forward Ekpe Udoh during the first half of Texas A&M's 66-59 victory over Baylor on Wednesday night.

Doe Bost had 22 points, including consecutive 3-pointers late, to help Mississippi State win its fourth game in five contests.

Baylor surged ahead 52-39 with 9:17 left. He stopped a quick 10-0 run in the second half to make it 61-59 with 3:50 left. He finished with 12 points, but was limited to just 20 minutes of the game when David Loubeau picked up a foul on a shot in the paint with 12.18 left.

The 6-foot-9 center from Brownsville, Tex., had blocks on consecutive Alabama possessions midway through the second half to turn the momentum. The second, on JaMychal Green, was pulled in by Ravern Johnson, who drove the length of the court and dunked to push the lead to 47-39 with 12.18 left.

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Irish dominating ranked opponents

By JOHN HELMS

Sports Writer

The No. 7 Irish have been on a tear lately, and it did not stop Wednesday, as they swept No. 17 Ohio State 7-0.

Irish sophomore Kristi Frilling continued on her hot streak, winning both her doubles and singles matches. Frilling is unbeaten this season, sitting at No. 1 in both doubles and singles and is ranked No. 23 in the country. Notre Dame as a team swept its doubles matches in taking the doubles' point.

It was an emphatic response by the Irish (8-1) to their biggest win in the program history, as last Sunday the team knocked off No. 1 Northwestern. But as big as that win was, Wednesday's might have been more impressive.

"It's a big deal for us to beat Ohio State," assistant head coach Julia Scaringe said. "It was a very good performance." Scaringe said. "It's easy to have a letdown, and Ohio State is not a team you want to play when you're tired. It was a very good performance."

"We had a lot of injuries during the fall, with a good part of our lineup out," Scaringe said. "They barely practiced."

But since the loss, the girls have come out looking more poised than ever.

"They've been working really hard, doing all the little things they can," Scaringe said.

After the North Carolina loss, the coaches tinkered a couple of the things in the doubles lineup, trying out different combinations of players in No. 2 and No. 3 doubles. The Irish have responded nicely.

"We were losing doubles points earlier in the season, but now things are starting to mesh and click," Scaringe said. "Our doubles now are playing great. The new combinations have made a big difference."

Now, the Irish look poised for their best season ever, which could only be accomplished by outperforming last year's team that was only ousted in the semifinals. For this year's squad, Scaringe said it is a real possibility.

"I think we are better than we were last year," Scaringe said. "It's all going to come down to the little things."

The Irish face No. 14 Georgia Tech Saturday in the Eck Pavilion.

Contact John Helms at jhelms2@nd.edu
Notre Dame was unfazed by forced into desperation mode. While the Panthers struggled the shot clock wound down. Jackson responded Notre Dame points, but half finally cut the Irish lead Woodall jump-shot with three to play. “Everybody came out ready to rebound all night. I think people probably looking at this start of the season as a show-down between two top teams,” Jackson said. Both teams have been inconsistent at best, but we’re still playing for something. We have to go into this weekend trying to put something together before the CCHA tournament.

Notre Dame and Michigan split a home-and-home series back in December, with the Wolverines picking up a 4-1 victory in Ann Arbor before Irish freshman goaltender Mike Johnson’s shutout win at the Joyce. Notre Dame has won four of the last six meetings in the heated rivalry. Injuries along the Irish blue line in that December series forced Jackson to play the infamous “torpedo” offense for a weekend, a system featuring four forwards and a single roving defenseman favored by the Swedish national team. Injuries continue to plague Notre Dame, and the team has faded in recent weeks due in large part to a depleted bench.

Jackson said he believes that a strong series against Michigan should help his squad develop some consistency throughout the lineup, which has shuffled repeatedly as players have moved on and off the injury list. “It’s important for us to have an identity and to pick you up and support the players who have made a name for themselves,” Jackson said. “When you step on the field it’s a great feeling to know there are 17 other girls there to pick you up and support you.” Valdivia said. “Our team dynamics have never been in a better position and which makes each success and win a team accomplishment. “When you step on the field it’s a great feeling to know there are 17 other girls there to pick you up and support you.” Valdivia said. “Our team dynamics have never been in a better position and

Verkaik leads the Knights in scoring with an average of 3.6 per game, and in assists a person could ever imagine. “When I think of my early achievements, Valdivia seems more than ready to lead the greatest team a person could ever have.” Valdivia said. Judging by her early achievements, Valdivia seems more than ready to lead the Irish to success this season.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinneran@nd.edu

Contact Tim Singler at tsingle@nd.edu

Pitcher continued from page 24

“Everybody came out ready to guard their man, we were getting rebounds all night.”

Tim Abromaitis Irish forward

When Notre Dame got a 1-0 lead, the Wolverines answered with two empty-net goals to tie the game at two. A strong penalty killing effort from the Irish in the final minute 37 seconds put the game out of reach.

MIAA continued from page 24 season.
Verkaik leads the Knights in scoring with an average of 18.4 points per game. She also leads the team in blocks, with 3.6 per game, and in rebounds with 9.5 per game. The Belles hope to make it back to the championship game of the MIAA tournament. Saint Mary’s reached the championship game last year.

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ANSWERS sheet enclosed for confidential consultation.

Thursday, February 25, 2010

The Observer - TODAY

page 23

CROSSWORD

Across
1. “Don’t take offense at that” (11)
9. Was free
13. Space fairly difficult odd (8)
14. '83 Dami (9)
16. Major role in “Trily” (5)
17. Performer in a seven-million-

HOROSCOPE

WILL SHORTZ

THE LAST WORD IN ASTRONOMY BY EUGENIA LAST

-EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRATION BORN ON THIS DAY: Hanzi Zion, 4; Edie Adams, 4; Yehuda Manor, 5; Edward James Office, 6.

Happy Birthday: Make your home your focus this day. Money can be made if you invest it wisely. Your current relationship will experience many changes but the end result will be beneficial. Social networking will help you discover new activities and friendships. Make sure what you want personally and professionally. You are under the influence of numbers 5, 6, 17, 28, 39.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll be showing off trying to get where you are and do things to your specifications. Don't waste time trying to get others to stop and notice you. Indeed, do what you make quietly and efficiently for you to one can gain a personal victory.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't be afraid to put your weight around, especially if there is no excuse or reason you can't find some where to be. Your ability to provide others is to the protection of all your personal and financial gains.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Concentrate on the positive changes you can make and on your professional contacts. It's time to make up your own choice or get involved in something that really interests you to approach. If you don't allow someone to wind in your career.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A short connection is good, it's good. Spend time with great souls and search for the edifice in the way. The way to be more successful and a breaking of the way is moving your future to the Sun. You can be more successful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Check on the possibility of turning one of your interests into something more stimulating. Selling and buying property or making a move that will allow you to provide financial or professional success should be considered.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take advantage of everything and anything being offered. Oppor

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Men’s Basketball

Climbing out of a Pitt

Four Notre Dame players score at least 13 points without help of Harangody

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

The Irish bounced back a week after a heartbreaking double-overtime loss to Louisville, upsetting No. 16 Pittsburgh (21-7, 10-5 Big East) 68-53 at the Purcell Pavilion.

Notre Dame (18-10, 7-8) used a balanced scoring attack and strong defensive effort to cruise to a big win. Even with senior forward Luke Harangody missing his third straight game because of a bone bruise in his right knee, the Irish shot, rebounded and defended better than the visiting Panthers.

Junior forward Tim Abromaitis led the Irish with 17 points, and four Notre Dame players scored at least 13. Junior guard Ben Hansbrough tallied 15 points. Senior guard Tory Jackson notched 14 and junior forward Tyrone Nash finished with 13 points and seven rebounds.

“I’m really happy with this group, they played their backsides off,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “The past couple games without Luke it’s been tough, but they’ve really kept it up in practice and I think tonight it paid off.”

The Irish got off to a quick start, winning the opening tip and taking an early 6-0 lead on 3s from Jackson and Abromaitis. While the Panthers quickly closed the lead to two, the Irish would maintain the lead for the rest of the game.

With Notre Dame up 12-10, the starting unit then created a 10-0 run, punctuated by an Abromaitis dunk off a nice feed from Jackson. Abromaitis credited the defensive effort with Notre Dame’s success.

ND SOFTBALL

Valdivia ready to step up her game in her junior season

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

Many little girls dream of being a princess, owning a pony or of becoming just like their moms. For junior pitcher Jody Valdivia, the dream was quite different.

When she was six years old, Valdivia began the game she would grow to love, following in the footsteps of her older brother Jesse, who played baseball.

“I knew that I wanted to do that too, so my parents put me on the softball field,” Valdivia said.

A highly successful high school career both on the field and in the classroom in California gave Valdivia a range of choices for college. The recruiting process brought her to Notre Dame, and from there her path became clear.

“The minute I stepped foot on the Notre Dame campus I knew I was home.” Valdivia said. “The coaches, my teammates and the atmosphere of Notre Dame were unlike any other school I had experienced. The tradition of academic excellence combined with athletic excellence made choosing Notre Dame very easy.

Her first two years provided a growing experience and shaped her to the player and leader she has become. Last weekend at the Southern Miss Mizuno Classic, Valdivia secured three wins for her team and received recognition out in Valdivia’s mind. While she said she will always fondly remember big games and the Big East championship, her best moments have come from playing with her team.

Irish preparing for Wolverines

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

While their season hit a dead end the last few weekends, the Irish at least have a chance to derail their archrivals’ post-season plans.

Notre Dame concludes its regular season this week with a home-and-home series against Michigan, taking on the Wolverines in Ann Arbor tonight before senior night Saturday at the Joyce Center. The Irish (12-14-8, 8-11-7-2 CCIAA) are currently sitting 10th in the CCIAA, while seventh-place Michigan (18-16-1, 12-12-1-0 CCIAA) has an outside shot at a first-round bye in the CCIAA tournament.